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## Here Is What's Next!

At our August meeting, the Administrative and Finance committee (A&F) discussed what should be next for Zion. We had a follow up discussion on the congregation's comments at our recent special congregational meeting and two things spoke to us loud and clear.

First, we as a congregation, are deeply committed to protecting our current location at Church and Sixth Streets. The overwhelmingly positive votes on the property committee's three proposals for further renovations on our windows, roof, and kitchen made a statement to the Administration and Finance committee that our membership has a deep historical attachment to our current building and wishes to do all that will be necessary to protect it for our future congregations.

Second, we believe that our future as a congregation will be more secure if we can expand our professional ministry. Beyond the weekly services, strengthening our current membership and attracting new membership will require us to gain the support of additional ministry who can provide the necessary hours and professional leadership to develop programs for these goals. This would include programs to improve congregational participation in volunteering for committees, social outreach and education as well as programs to attract new membership through community activities designed to promote Zion as a relevant source to find a path to Christ.

To address the first issue, Administration and Finance will be proposing additional funding through our current and benevolence giving (budget) to fund additional facilities upgrades. We still have the stained glass window renovation project on our property plan and other projects will surely present themselves. Over the past years, we have used the generous legacy gifts we received to fund our renovation projects, but we must begin to build a more intentional funding path for our future needs. The best way, as the committee sees it, would be through intentional funding through our regular budget giving.

The second issue, additional ministerial support, will require us to show that we are committed to supporting the additional ministry that we clearly need to restore life to the congregation. By making this an intentional commitment within our budget, we can demonstrate to both the Synod and any future candidates for ministry that we are both committed and able to support the ministry that we say we want and need. This will require us to increase funding within our staff salaries and benefits section to show our ability to provide funding for this long term goal.



You will all have received, by this writing, a letter from Stewardship detailing the 2023 current and benevolence income goal. Your generosity through 2022, provides confidence that we can not only attain these budget goal increases but sustain them as well. But, the burden will be easier to bear if more of us could join the current group of 78 families who have been supporting our current budget.

There are still 46 families who responded to our 2021 communication stating that, YES, they did consider themselves members of Zion Lutheran Church in Indiana PA. Now is the time to provide Zion with what you can to help us secure our future.

Think about it!

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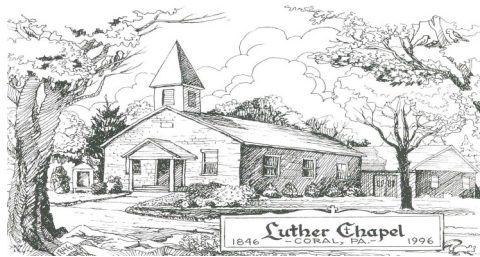
### **Remembering 9/11 at Zion**

On Sunday September 11, 2022, Zion and the Indiana Area Guild of Organists will host a program of remembrance for 9/11 (aka Patriot Day) at 3:00 PM.

Local first responders have been invited to share in hearing and singing patriotic hymns and writings.

Let's show our support for these selfless community heroes and remember those who gave the last full measure of devotion in service to our country by attending. Our Trinity 321 partners have been invited as well.

Zion's Recreation and Fellowship committee will host refreshments "On the Lawn" next to Zion following the program.



## News from Luther Chapel - Part of the 3-2-1 Ministry—September

### Luther Chapel Information

Bishop Kurt Kusserow, serving the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod, has recently received multiple credible allegations of sexual misconduct perpetrated by Pr. James F. Cook, who died in 1993. The men who shared the allegations were teenagers at the time. Pr. Cook served Luther Chapel Lutheran Church from 1954 to 1964. This matter is being disclosed to the members and friends of Luther Chapel Lutheran Church as part of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's commitment to respond to allegations of sexual misconduct with public disclosure to provide care for anyone who has been hurt. You may contact Bishop Kusserow by phone or text at 724-689-2596 or by mail at the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA, 1014 Perry Highway, Suite 200, Pittsburgh PA 15237. Thank you.

### **Zion Announces Advent/Christmas Worship Schedule**

Zion Council, at its August meeting finalized service schedules for the upcoming Advent and Christmas season.

Beginning on **Wednesday November 30, 2022** Zion will hold its first of four Advent devotions. These devotions will continue each Wednesday through the four weeks of Advent.

Zion will hold its Christmas Eve service on **Saturday December 24, 2022 at 7:30 PM**

Zion will hold services on Christmas Day at our normal Sunday time of 9:30 AM

No services will be held on **Saturday December 31, 2022**

Zion will hold services as normal on **Sunday January 1, 2023**

We will provide additional notice of our worship schedules in future newsletter issues.

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### **Leadership Changes at Zion Council**

At its August meeting, Zion council accepted, with regret, the resignation of our Secretary Brian Mehus. Sue Dickson has been elected through unanimous acclamation to serve out Brian's term as secretary. Zion council wishes Brian well and gladly welcomes Sue to her new responsibilities.

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SAVE THE DATE!! BOSCOV'S.... Once again will have "Friends Helping Friends" on Wednesday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, from 8 AM to 11 PM. Shop at the Johnstown, Altoona, Butler or Beaver stores and receive 25% off most merchandise and 10% off small appliances. All you need is a \$5.00 donation (and Zion gets to keep 100% of this donation) and in return you get this 25% Shopping Pass. So tell your friends, family and neighbors to save that day for a fun shopping day. It's a great way to start your Christmas shopping.

To purchase your pass contact:

Kim Balcerak      724/388-2341      [winnow@verizon.net](mailto:winnow@verizon.net) or

Bev                      724/465-5597      Zion Lutheran Church office

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Thank you from the Back to School Bash

A big thank you to Zion members who donated school supplies for the Back to School Bash. You generously gave; 88 boxes of Crayons, 66 Pencil Boxes, along with some Pencils and pouches. I was so proud of your generosity. Zion was one of the few churches to give to this local cause. The 312 children recipients thank you too!

Although Zion was not giving out clothing, or new socks and underwear as in years past, we participated in other ways. The kitchen was used to make and store the over 400 sandwiches needed for the "Grab n Go" lunches for the children and families, and Zion was open, and served as a "Restroom stop" on the day of the Bash for anyone along the block long event. Thank you to Barry, Peggy and Dave for being our door watchers. (So handy to have bathroom access when they placed the Fire Department display with the large, flowing water hose just outside our building!)

Sue Dickson

### **How Do I Get a FOB?**

On Sunday September 11, 2022 we will be offering opportunity to any member who does not yet have a door FOB to acquire one. Please come to the church office after the Sunday 9:30 service to receive your Fob. Fobs require a \$5.00 security deposit to cover loss or damage.

Fobs send a signal to the master lock system recognizing that the user's authorized to access the building. The fob system has several conveniences. Doors can be unlocked for special services such as weddings and funerals allowing others outside the Zion family to access the building. Fobs can also be deactivated remotely at the church office, so unlike a key, if it is lost, once it is deactivated, access will be denied.

Recent events have required Zion's council to recognize the importance of providing security for those who use our building for non-church service purposes. Protecting our staff, the children attending our pre-school and the outside groups who use our facility for meetings is one of the central goals of our council. To achieve that goal we need to secure our doors to prevent access to anyone who would plan to do harm to those inside.

The fob system provides that security while still allowing ALL members free and unfettered access to the building whenever they wish to enter.

Do I need a Fob to attend Church?

NO.

The church will be open for all services, providing access through the red doors on Church and Sixth streets and the main doors on Sixth Street. No Fob required. However, if you require handicapped access for services through the parking lot door, you will need a Fob.

Our goal is to provide free access to all of Zion's worship services while protecting those inside our building during the week. We ask all Zion members to help us to keep Zion safe.

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### **How Do I Let The Church Know I Need Them?**

Since 2018, Zion has been in a shared ministry with two other congregations. Our ministry situation is part time. What does this really mean?

We do not have a full time Pastor, ministerial care is not "On Site" at the church office.

We currently "share" ministerial care with our other ministry partners, Luther Chapel and the IUP Campus Center.

WE must take that first step to make sure that critical information reaches the church so that ministerial care can be provided when events in our lives require it.

So, how can we help?

The first step is to contact the office (724-465-5597) and provide your name, contact information and need for ministerial care.

If you need ministerial care and the office is closed, the phone numbers and e-mail addresses of ALL church council members are published in both the newsletter and weekly bulletin. PLEASE, reach out to one of us. We can help.

**In-Person Worship Attendance and On-line Viewing Last Month**

<u>Service Dates</u>	<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Sunday</u>	<u>On-Line Viewing</u>
July 30 and 31	21	27	85
August 6 and 7	17	38	63
August 13 and 14	14	18	39
August 20 and 21	22	25	62
August 27 and 28	19	27	0

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Members of Zion's Family,

As you may, or may not have heard, our sexton, Jerry Ruffner, plans to retire at the end of the year. The work that Jerry has done and continues to do is indispensable to our church family. Due to Jerry's fastidious organizational skills, he has compiled a journal of his many duties. This journal will be a valuable resource for his successor.

If there is anyone in our church family who would like to be considered for the position, starting in 2023, please contact Rik Wissinger @ 724-840-2335.

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**GRADUATION OOPS (Again)**

Incorrect information was given for the following graduate. We apologize for this.

Alyssa McCormick—2022 graduate from Pitt—Pittsburgh in Dental Hygiene. Good luck to you.

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Zion Lutheran Church  
100 S. 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Indiana, PA 15701  
724-465-5597

Dear Parents,

Welcome to an exciting Sunday School Year. There have been some changes. We are using the Whirl Curriculum. We have honored your wishes to have Sunday Church School every other Sunday starting September 11, 2022. Sunday Church School begins at 10:30 am – 11:30 am/12pm. There is a little bit of wiggle room as we are combining two to three lessons on one Sunday to accommodate every other Sunday meeting request. We will also have a children's bulletin available for the Sundays there is no SCS classes.

We will be implementing 1-2-3 Magic as our behavior modification plan. A separate letter has been included in your registration packet for you to review. Any questions please contact Pastor Tedd or Jennifer Rising.

The COVID-19 safety plan continues to be in place. Please plan to wear a mask. We have masks available if you forget, as well as tissues and hand-sanitizer.

SCS children will be involved in a variety of activities. Please send a paint shirt for your child with his/her name on back of the collar. We will plan to keep these at the church during the school year. Should they become soiled, and need washed they will be sent home to be cleaned. Please remember to return them for other activities.

If you have any questions please contact me at (724)-465-5597 (church office) or 724-762-1146 (cell). Thank you for your time and consideration.

Love in Christ,  
Jennifer Rising, DCE

## Whirl Classroom Year Gold 2022-2023

Date	Lesson	Verses
September 11, 2022	In the Beginning God's Covenant	Genesis 1:1-2:4 Genesis 6-9
September 25, 2022	Abraham and Sarah  Rebekah and Isaac	Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; 17: 1-7, 15-16; 18: 1-15; 21:1-7 Genesis 24
October 2, 2022	Jacob Joseph and His Brothers Joseph in Egypt	Genesis 25:19-28, 27:1-40; 32:22-31 Genesis 37: 1-28 Genesis 39:20-41:57; 45:3-11, 15
October 16, 2022	Deborah Elijah and Elisha	Judges 4-5 2 Kings 2:1-15
October 30, 2022	Esther Daniel	Esther 2:5-18; 3:1-6; 4:1-17; 8:1-17 Daniel 6
November 13, 2022	Jonah Isaiah's Words	Jonah 1; 2:1-2, 10; 3:1-5, 10 Isaiah 2:1-5
November 27, 2022	The Annunciation Mary Visits Elizabeth	Luke 1:26-38 Luke 1:39-55
December 4, 2022	Jesus is Born Simeon and Anna The Wise Men	Luke 2:1-20 Luke 2:22-40 Matthew 2:1-12
December 18, 2022	Jesus is Baptized Many Follow Jesus	Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 Luke 5:1-11; 6:12-16; 8:1-3
January 8, 2023	Jesus Blesses Children Jesus Teaches about Prayer	Mark 10:13-16 Matthew 6:5-15
January 22, 2023	Jesus Heals a Paralyzed Man Jesus Calms the Storm	Mark 2:1-12 Mark 4:35-41
February 5, 2023	The Widows Offering	Mark 12:38-44
February 19, 2023	The Transfiguration The Good Samaritan	Luke 9:28-36 Luke 10:25-37
March 5, 2023	The Prodigal Son	Luke 15: 11-32
March 19, 2023	The Parable of the Sower The Greatest Commandment	Matthew 13:109, 18-23 Matthew 22:14-23; 23:26-56
April 2, 2023	Luke's Holy Week	Luke 22:14-23; 23; 23:26-56
April 16, 2023	Jesus Is Risen Thomas Believes	John 20:1-18 John 20:19-31
April 30, 2023	The Great Commission The Holy Spirit at Pentecost	Matthew 28:16-20 Acts 2:1-21
May 14, 2023	Saul's Conversion	Acts 9:1-20
May 28, 2023	Many Parts, One Body	1 Corinthians 12:12-31



Zion Lutheran Church  
100 S. 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
Indiana, PA 15701

2022 – 2023 Sunday School Year

Sunday School Registration:

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ D.O.B. \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # (s): \_\_\_\_\_

What grade is your child entering in school this year? \_\_\_\_\_

Medical: Please list any medical conditions, allergies, etc.

Tell us about your child. Likes, dislikes, strengths, weaknesses, participation in sports and/ or leisure activities, hobbies, membership to organizations [i.e. scouts, 4-H, etc.]

I have read and understand the 1-2-3 Magic behavior plan:

Sign & Date \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Parents,

We are at a juncture in the life of Zion's Sunday Church School that we need to discuss children behaviors and consequences. For the most part we are blessed that our children interact well with each other and adults. But when inappropriate behaviors do occur, it needs to be addressed in a loving manner but firm manner. It is recommended that during Sunday Church School 1, 2, 3 Magic behavior modification program be utilized.

1, 2, 3 Magic is a behavior modification program. When an undesired behavior occurs, it addresses with saying "one" to the child and the behavior we would like them to do. For example, Vincent is running through the church. The SCS Teacher or another adult might say, "Vincent that is one. We walk in church not run." Maybe later Vincent decides to take someone's possession and refuses to give it back. The SCS Teacher or another adult might say, "Vincent, that is two. We need to ask if we may use someone's things, not take them." At this point Vincent would be reminded that if he gets to three, he will need to go to "Time Out". "Time Out" may look like sitting in a chair away from the other students or standing facing a wall away from the other students. Some call it the "Remembering Wall". Whether it is a "Time Out" sitting in a chair or standing at the Remembering Wall, a timer is set for 2 to 3 minutes. This allows the child to calm down and think about the behavior that put him or her in "Time Out". When the timer goes off, Vincent would be asked if he understood why he was in "Time Out" and if he does not then the teacher/adult would talk with him about it. Vincent would return to class and participate with the other children.

Should the inappropriate behavior be more substantial like hitting, throwing scissors, etc. it would be an automatic "Time Out" and a note/ phone call home and notification to the Pastor.

This will be discussed with the children at our first Sunday Church School date. A poster will be placed in the SCS Classroom area as a reminder. We would greatly appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

In Christ's Love,

Parish Education Committee

PRAY for those who suffer oppression, death, and tragedy. Please pray for those who travel. Please pray for those who serve in the armed forces and for their families. Pray for peace for all peoples.

We especially pray for especially Katrina Albright, Leo Ambrisco, Ron Anderson, Liesl Andrie, Carrie Ankenny, Jessica Badowski, Noelle Battick, Leonard Black, Tamie Blank, Becky Bono, Abby Bowser, Peter Broad, Tom Brown, Tom Bush, Susan & Bob Butchkoski, Rochelle Calveti, Jim Chapman, Alexis Chapman, Adam Chilenski, Lonnie Cogar, Deb Cosgrove, Jacqueline Davis, Jeff Davis, Paul Davis, Donald Dustin, Dale Ebner, Akou Ester, Beth Ford, Harry Ford, Scott Giuffre, Heidi Good, the Guella family, Gene Hartzell, Annah Hill, Shirley Horner, Chris Howard, Dan Howard, Diana Howard, Bruce Jenkins, Bill Johnston, Linda Kanyan, Michael Kowchuck, Tom Krapsho, Billie Kurtz-King, Pam Laney & family, Ronda Leasure, Bishop Michael Lozano, Prisca Maier, Karl & Dorrinna Martini, Judy Matsko, Marvin McClure, Tracey McEldowney, Darla Mechling, Paula Miller, Jim Muller, Betty Nicolette, Dave Nycum, Janice & Rick Olsen, Shawn Otto, Elaine Davis, the Petras family, Loretta Piper, Scott Potterask, Bob Reifsteck, Jason Roney, Rylan Rummel, Quinn Santini, Christian Santos, Paolo Schianchi, George Schulze, Coleen Seagren, Sande & Gene Shotts, Denny Swanson Jr., B. Tamski, Bob Tierney, Dennis Turner, Brett Tyger, Lisa Vavro, Kristine Volpatti, Kim Walls, Jane Williams, Dominic Yensi, Carl, Cliff, Jeannine, Nancy & Ruth, Deborah.

We pray for all those currently serving in the military especially, Zachery Horner, Maria Dinuzio, Mark Collins, Chad Beighley and Nicole Beighley, Matthew McEldowney, Corey Feretti and Franklin Feretti, and Stephen Davis.

We also pray for comfort and peace for our homebound including Geraldine Shatzer, Marietta (Mo) Foltz, Marie Campbell, Royce Walters, John Carloni, and Bea Ruth.

### **GIVING REPORT: MONTH OF AUGUST**

Needed for August operating budget:	\$ 13,106.25
Received in August:	<u>\$ 18,663.40</u>
Amount Still Due for August:	<b><u>\$ -5,557.15 (over budget)</u></b>

### **SAVE THE DATES**

October 29—Reformation Intergenerational Event—more info to follow

November 4—Jerry Ruffner's annual Film Festival—move info to follow

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Aurora Blank  
Benj McEldowney  
Carol Guba  
Colin Carloni  
Dan Heggenstaller  
Diane Howard  
Don Seagren  
Ed Chapman  
Irene Wallaert  
Isaac Miller  
Jacob Gill  
Jean Casaday  
Jeannie Park  
Josh Widdowson  
Kallen Snyder

Karen Jones  
Kim McCullough  
Lilliana Blank  
Mack Kuhne  
Margaret Buckshaw  
Marietta Foltz  
Matt McEldowney  
Rhett Snyder  
Richard Thorell  
Roberta Ryan  
Ron Anderson  
Ross Nycum  
Tracey McEldowney  
Wynne Kmetz

## MINUTES OF THE CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

July 11, 2022

Call to Order- 6:34pm

- A. Opening Prayer**
- B. Attendance** K. Huston, B. Slade, B. Mehus, G. Sechrist, R. Wissinger, K. Balcerak, Pr. Tedd, S. Dickson, S. Bowersox, D. Keith. Excused absence- S. Horner. Unexcused absence- K. McCullough
- II. Devotions** –G. Sechrist, August- S. Horner
- III. Approval of May minutes**- Approved with edits that were suggested. M/ R. Wissinger- 2<sup>nd</sup>/ K. Balcerak
- IV. Communications-**  
Thank you card from Friends of Whites Woods. Grateful for assistance to meet in social hall 6/27. Pastors Report- Personal prayer request. Tammi Blank hospitalized- family requesting prayers. Working on 9/11 service county wide first responders.  
Facebook- Sherry Bowersox no update.
- V. Review of Financial Report (June 2022).** Financial report looks good. Caught up with current and benevolence with Synod. Property is running higher than anticipated; gas bill is running over budget but should even out as the year progresses. Electricity is running over budget. There is an empty refrigerator that is plugged in and running. It will be unplugged once Jerry is notified; in case there is ice buildup. There is a budget surplus. M/ send for audit- S. Dickson, 2<sup>nd</sup> K. Balcerak
- VI. Committee Reports**
- A. Standing Committees**
- Administration and Finance** – Budget items for interest income- There isn't an exact line for that as it is donated to worthy causes; it isn't counted as income. What happens to donations dedicated to Zion if it ceases to be? Congregation would determine what to do. If people leave money, the family may dictate how it should be distributed. The executor may have to determine it. This situation would come up now with other entities.
- Staff Support** – R. Wissinger- No more interest in the sexton position. Motion to place an ad in the newspaper in September if none is found. M/ D. Keith, 2<sup>nd</sup> B. Slade
- Nominating Committee** – Working on gathering names.
- Constitution Review-** K. Huston- Roof proposal, slate roofs should last a long time with proper maintenance. Perhaps think about structuring an intentional mechanism to fund maintenance for the building. Maybe set up a continuing resolution to use budget surplus to use for building maintenance.
- Audit Committee** – B. Slade- None
- Evangelism /Stewardship** – K. Huston. K. Gaylor requested to send out prayer and sympathy cards. K. Huston gave her a list of members who replied to the census. Trying to get people from the prayer committees to get a list to her to send notes. 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter results 13% have already donated all of their pledged donations for the year, and most are at 40-50%. 78 givers in Q1. 74 givers in Q2. Some people have donated their pledge amount at once in Q1, so the numbers for Q2 are encouraging.
- Parish Education** – Gail Sechrist- Aug 13- VBS- Parables in the park.
- Property** – 3 major projects were approved. Painting of the church doors has been completed. John Barbor will be contacted to check the status of the donation which would fund the projects.
- Building Use** – S. Dickson- Back to school bash 14<sup>th</sup> year. This year committee has been looking for a place July 11<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> - phone registrations Mon-Fri 10a-2p. Track phone where families will call to register. Going to use a space to register the families. Aug 13<sup>th</sup>- Back to school bash- our kitchen and bathrooms will be used for a backup in case original venue doesn't pan out. M. Sue Dickson 2<sup>nd</sup> K. Balcerak. Motion passes.

## **MINUTES OF THE CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL—cont**

**Recreation and Fellowship** – July 23<sup>rd</sup> 12-4pm Luther chapel picnic. Oktoberfest being planned. Patriots Day event being planned.

**Social Ministry** – S. Dickson- Collection this month items for back to school bash. Wants to get it up and running again. Gather items for family promise. Food pantry will be held this Saturday 10-2pm.

**Trinity 3-2-1** - Rik Wissinger- Luther chapel picnic. Pastor and Rik will look into an intern. It takes a while for the process to happen, so it would be Fall 2023 at the earliest. There are guidelines that Luther Chapel and Zion need to adhere to and need to hash out. There is also a financial commitment; it would be good to think about it for the budget for next year. Coordinate with Other entities of Trinity 321 at the August meeting.

**Worship and Music** –Pastor Tedd-

Dr. Clewell has started her Sabbatical. She has arranged for numerous individuals to fill in once a month. Beth Grafton is helping coordinate the musicians. Dr. Clewell will stop in from time to time to check in. Christmas/ New year's services- Christmas Eve is on a Saturday. Dec 31<sup>st</sup> is a Saturday, New Years day is a Sunday. There are discussions about what to do with the services. Don't anticipate having a 5:30pm Saturday service on Christmas Eve. There could be some changes to the time.

Last Saturday night service was outside. Four people left because the service was outside. Let the general consensus of the people who attend determine when the service will be held outside. There needs to do a better job of advertising when the services will be outside so people who don't like the outdoor service can plan ahead. Maybe have every other Saturday night services outside, or once a month. The Alter guild needs to be notified of it also. Worship and Music wasn't consulted; there was some confusion, and some planning needs to occur as chairs and hymnals need to be moved inside and outside. Maybe set up some pop-up tents to help with the weather conditions. Pr. Tedd is fine either way, but there needs to be a consensus. Worship and Music wasn't consulted, so that preparations can be made to set up and get in place things that need to be done to. It was agreed that the outdoor services will be suspended it until after the next Worship and Music meeting. The newsletter is going to be published shortly thereafter and it could be advertised.

K. Balcerak- Prayers are a little on the political side and are too long. R. Wissinger thinks they are worthwhile. S. Dickson- Dory adds things that are personal to Zion members- she likes it also. She tries to tailor it for Zion. The names have been given by loved ones. Prayer ventures- ELCA- each month have current topics to add into the prayer if one is looking for guidance. The list comes from Bev. It would be good to review the list and when names need removed the list needs updated. B. Slade- Back to intinction communion? No updated guidance from the Synod meeting. R. Wissinger- Uptick in Omicron Variant

**VIII. Old Business** – 29-3 window, 29-4 roof, 29-3 kitchen- all projects were approved to complete once funding becomes available.

**IX. New Business**- 2023 Budget needs to be hashed out. Annual meeting Nov 20<sup>th</sup>. 4pm. With dinner after. Pr. Tedd- Info in next newsletter about abuse allegations which were alleged to have happened 50 years ago at Luther Chapel, the information must be published in the newsletter.

**X. Closing Prayers and Adjournment** M/ K. Huston 2<sup>nd</sup> R. Wissinger.

Submitted by Brian Mehus 7/13/2022.

## **ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**August 3, 2022**

**Members Present: Pastor Cogar, Kevin Huston, Don Seagren, Rik Wissinger, Sue Dickson, Gail Sechrist, Pernel Bowersox, (Absent: Brian Mehus, Kim Balcerak, Beverly Swatsworth)**

### **Committee issues discussed:**

#### **Financial**

1. The committee reviewed the minutes from the July meeting. Motion to approve with correction. (Gail Sechrist's name was misspelled in one location) Wissinger/Seagren
2. The committee reviewed the church's financial report for July 2022. Income for the month was \$12,113.56 (92.43% of budget). Expenses were \$13,076.32 (109.29% of budget). Our financial picture continues to look encouraging. Year to date our income is tracking 29.5% above our budgeted number and our expenses are tracking 5.2% above our budget expectations. The increase in expenses was the result of unanticipated roof repair costs and increased cost for both gas and electric during the first half of 2022. The budget is still maintaining a \$30,694.76 surplus. Motion to send for audit Seagren/Sechrist
3. The committee discussed the recent special congregational meeting. Lack of attendance by the congregation was discussed as a concern as large financial commitments were made with only 32 members attending the meeting.
4. The committee discussed several issues raised at the meeting. First, an intentional budget commitment for "regular preventative maintenance" should be considered for our budgets beginning in 2023. Second, finding help to increase the congregation's numbers through retaining additional ministerial help should be considered for our budgets beginning in 2023.
5. The committee discussed options for adding to our ministerial staff. Options include an additional part time minister at an annual cost of \$45,000 and obtaining a seminary intern at a cost of \$35,000. The committee encouraged our representatives to pursue the intern option with the Trinity 321 committee. Support from Luther Chapel and IUP Campus Ministry is required to move the process forward. The committee further passed a motion asking that council and the congregation show support for this effort through adding an expense line to the 2023 budget for funding this program. Seagren/Sechrist
6. Rik Wissinger asked that the committee consider salary increases for 2023 of 3% for Pastor Cogar, Christine Clewell, Beverly Swatsworth and our part-time custodial position. The committee recommended that these increases be forwarded to council for their approval.

#### **2023 Budget:**

1. The committee reviewed the letter and pledge card to be sent to the congregation asking for pledges to be made toward Zion's 2023 budget. After discussion, multiple changes were suggested and the committee recommended that this be forwarded to council for final approval. When approved the letters will be mailed the week of August 22nd. The letter will ask for the congregation's pledge commitments by September 30, 2022.

**The Committee's next meeting will be Wednesday, September 7, 2022 at 7:00 PM**

## PARISH EDUCATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

July 27, 2022

Present: Jenn Rising, Jess Baum Mehus

Absent: Beth Wheeler, Gale Sechrist, Tedd Cogar

### **CATECHISM: Update from Jenn**

Catechism Curriculum - Augsburg only offers one consisting of three parts the Large and Small catechisms, the Apostle's Creed and the Lord's prayer. Each having a downloadable teacher's manual and individual student study guides that would need to be purchased for each student. It is a three year program that is supposed to start at age 12 [6 or 7<sup>th</sup> grade?]. Past practice has been to confirm students on Reformation Sunday. However, I know this year confirmation occurred on Pentecost. I will need to obtain the prices of the student study guides. They also have this as a Sunday School curriculum for younger grades leading up to catechism.

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL:**

#### Sunday School Teachers/Volunteers:

No new volunteers

Behavior Plan: We will use 1, 2, 3 Magic Behavior as a behavioral plan for Sunday School. A letter explaining the plan will be sent to families when invitations for Sunday School are sent out on September 1<sup>st</sup>.

Sunday School Calendar and Curriculum: I reviewed the Sunday Church School Schedule. Being that we are combining 2 to 3 stories per meeting, we may need to extend the time allotted to teach it. Some of the stories blend together nicely and may not take as long to combine. I know they are little, but their education should not be rushed. I do believe they need to actively participate with the lesson – games, crafts, science, singing, community service, etc. It is important for them to see the connections. We may need to request parent bring in items; for example, empty paper towel rolls, empty tp rolls, wiggly eyes, various sizes of pompoms, pipe cleaners, craft paper. snack sign up, family photos, individual pictures.....

Using the Summer Blue and Gold lessons with the lessons we typically use for Advent and Easter to create a third rotation.

Sunday School COVID Plan: Continue with plan.

Budget: We will need to purchase additional bibles to go along with the Whirl curriculum.

Bibles – We had discussed ordering the Whirl Story Bibles for the Sunday Church School. If I recall correctly, we discussed ordering 6 for the classroom. Please clarify.

Bibles – Past practice we have provided a Bible for each child as they move up through the grades. This allows for growth – skills & knowledge ability. Past Practice Parish Ed has purchased a Lutheran Study Bible for each catechism student/confirmand. I do not know if Tamie left records of children she gave Bibles to and which ones. I believe we need to take a look at this. We made a promise to each of these children at their baptisms to assist them on their journey learning about Jesus and placing the Bible in their hands. I priced the Whirl story Bibles. They are \$22.99 each; The Whirl Young Reader's Bible is approximately the same price; The Lutheran Study Bible Hard cover is approximately \$35; Soft cover is approximately \$29/\$30. Please note that the soft cover has had the tendency for the spine to split and literally break in half.



## **PARISH EDUCATION COMMITTEE MINUTES—cont**

Children's Story Bibles – 6 for children; 1-2 extra for classroom

Children's Study Bibles – 7 for children; 1-2 extra for classroom

### Intergenerational/Trinity 3-2-1/Special Events:

Intergenerational events:

Reformation: We need to celebrate our roots. I am proposing the last Saturday of October, 2022 watching the movie about Martin Luther and how the Reformation came about. The movie is approximately 2 hours and 15 minutes. A Paint Party using the Luther Rose or Luther Cross as the object to be painted. Michael' crafts has les periodically on canvases. Right now they are a value pack 10 of 8 X 10 canvases for \$12.99. We would paint, brushes, carbon/tracing paper, pencils, shallow cups for paint, newspaper. I know I can use my teacher's discount. Sometimes they have a better coupon that could be used to reduce the cost. Registration would be required for purchasing purposes. Possibly request a \$5 deposit to hold a spot and put toward the cost of materials.

Advent: TBA

Easter: TBA

Community Service Project: TBA

I am tracking the phone numbers of storytellers as a possibility. I am open to suggestions.

On another note, Grove Chapel no longer offers Sunday Church School for children or adults. Maybe they would be open to joining us for Sunday School and Intergeneration Events. Just a thought for building community.

### **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:**

Date: August 13, 2022 at Blue Spruce Park

Beth – update – "Parable Family Fun Day"

As of now, we have one family (4 people) planning to attend

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

DCE – Jenn Rising will resume role of DCE

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, August 31 at 7 p.m. via Zoom. We will continue to use the same link for the Zoom meetings.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE: NA**

## September 2022

Date	Lay Reader	Altar Guild	Ushers	Assist. Min.	Tellers
Sept 3/4	5:30-Claudia Ditch 9:30-Tyson Ellenberger	Sat-AM Jan Cikowski, PM- Bev Wissinger Sun-Kathy Huston	5:30-Dave & Linda Ma- lin 9:30-Gary Ellenberger	5:30-Jenn Rising 9:30-Beth Grafton	Kim Balcerak
Sept 10/11	5:30-Jerry Ruffner 9:30-Jenn Rising	Sat-AM-Kathy Huston, PM-Shirley Horner Sun-Sue Dickson	5:30-Rik & Bev Wissin- ger 9:30-Dirk Grafton	5:30-Kim Balcerak 9:30-Rik Wissinger	Kim Balcerak
Sept 17/18	5:30-Jim Chapman 9:30-Sue Dickson	Sat AM&PM-Sharon O'Keiff Sun-Sue Dickson	5:30- 9:30-Tyson Ellenberger	5:30-Kevin Huston 9:30-Jenn Rising	Kim Balcerak
Sept 24/25	5:30-Jerry Ruffner 9:30-Gail Sechrist	Sat AM&PM-Louise Bu- chanan Sun-Becky Slade	5:30-Dave & Linda Ma- lin 9:30-Pernell Bowersox	5:30-Kim Balcerak 9:30-Kevin Huston	Kim Balcerak
	Jenn Rising 724-762-1146	Kathy Huston 724-349-4208	5:30 Dave Malin 724-349-3996 9:30 Dave Keith 349-4583 Pernell Boxwersox 349-5639	Kim Balcerak 724-388-2341	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Narcotics Anonymous meetings Sunday evenings				1	2 Zion office closed	3 5:30 Liturgy
4 9:30 Liturgy	5 <b>HOLIDAY—OFFICE CLOSED</b>  	6	7 7-Adm/Finance	8	9 Zion office closed	10 5:30 Liturgy
11 9:30 Liturgy 8:30 Choir Practice 10:40 Choir Practice Sunday School  3:00 PATRIOT DAY SERVICE	12 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>  6:30-Council	13	14	15	16 Zion office closed	17 5:30 Liturgy
18 9:30 Liturgy Sunday School 8:30-Choir Practice 10:40-Choir Practice	19	20 7-Property	21	22	23 Zion office closed	24 5:30 Liturgy
25 9:30 Liturgy Sunday School 8:30-Choir Practice 10:40-Choir Practice	26	27 6-Worship & Music	28 7-Parish Ed	29 Newsletter Mailed	30	



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**Date Mailed: August 31, 2022**

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 Indiana, PA 15701  
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 REQUESTED



**PASTOR/PASTORAL CARE**

Pastor Tedd Cogar 724-422-4676 tcogar@iup.edu

**ZION STAFF**

Dir. of Christian Ed	Jennifer Rising
Administrative Assistant	Beverly Swatsworth
Sexton	Jerry Ruffner
Director of Music	Christine Clewell

**TRINITY 3-2-1 MINISTRY REPRESENTATIVES**

Rik Wissinger  
 Barry Widdowson

**ZION COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Kevin Huston (Pres)  
 Rik Wissinger (Vice Pres)  
 Brian Mehus (Sec)  
 Gail Sechrist (Treas)  
 Kim Balcerak (Fin Sec)  
 Becky Slade  
 David Keith  
 Kim McCullough  
 Sheri Bowersox  
 Shirley Horner  
 Sue Dickson  
 Pastor Tedd Cogar

**NEXT NEWSLETTER MAILED — September 28; Deadline: September 15, 2022**

**THERE IS NOW A LINK ON THE ZION WEBSITE TO ACCESS THE TRUMPET**