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Epiphany...Let's continue the Journey

With Christmas in our rear-view mirror, we move into the season of Epiphany. Epiphany and the Sundays that follow get a little short changed. They fall during that dark period of winter. The weather is depressing and so are we as we see Lent on the horizon in the church calendar. We tend to wonder through the Sundays after Epiphany with an eye toward planning our celebrating Easter with the arrival of spring. We have seven weeks to cover the coming of the Magi, baptism of Jesus, the presentation of Jesus at the temple, calling of the disciples and the ministry of Jesus. It doesn't seem like we give these events the time and attention they deserve.

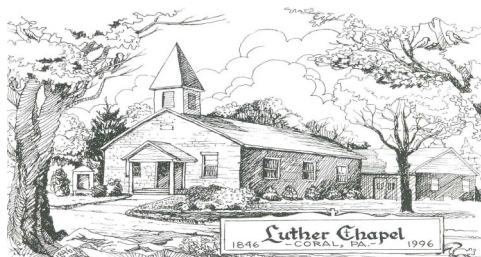
In 2023 as we squeeze in the baptism of Jesus right after the new year, the Magi have almost become an afterthought on the church calendar. We did our part at Zion by placing our "three wise men" in the east as they "traveled through the nave to pay homage to the baby Jesus. We finally got around to moving them inside the altar rail on January 7th. In years past, during the service closest to January 6th, we would ask the children to move the Magi from the back of the nave to near the manger as the congregation sang "*We Three Kings*". Maybe we could revisit that tradition next year. The Magi bring gifts of gold (royalty), frankincense (sacrifice) and myrrh (death). The significance of their presence in the Gospel story is that these "gifts" legitimize Jesus' divinity and foretell his death and resurrection to new life.

There are some other lesser festivals that get lost in the process as well. One of those lesser festivals falls on December 28. It commemorates the killing of the holy innocents. This is a day of remembrance for those infants murdered in Bethlehem by King Herod who after hearing of the baby Jesus birth by the Magi, saw the him as a threat to his reign.

This commemoration was highlighted in a book, "The Other Wise Man" a novel by Henry Van Dyke. I first "read" this book in sixth grade. Well, my sixth-grade teacher, Miss Hamill, actually did the reading and our class did the listening. The main character, Artaban the Median was a priest of the Magi. Artaban sees the star in the eastern sky and plans to accompany his colleagues, Gaspar, Melchior, and Balthezar to Jerusalem, bringing gifts to the new king of Israel. He sells his home and all his possessions to buy his gifts (a sapphire, a ruby, and a pearl) for the new king. As he goes to meet his friends, he comes upon a Jewish man outside the walls of Babylon who is ill and near death. He stays to help him, giving the man all of his food and water, when learning of Artaban's journey, the man tells him that the birth of the King of Israel is to be in Bethlehem not Jerusalem.

Artaban arrives at the meeting place too late to accompany his three fellow travelers and must return to Babylon for supplies to make the journey solo. He sells his sapphire to fund the journey. When he arrives in Bethlehem the streets are deserted and there was an eerie quiet. He comes to a small stone cottage. Through the open door, he hears a baby crying. He enters but learns that his friends have come and gone and the baby and his parents had left for Egypt. While at the cottage, the soldiers, ordered by Herod to search the town for all children of a certain age and kill them arrive in Bethlehem. As the soldiers approach the cottage, Artaban offers his ruby to the captain of the guard in exchange for their passing by the cottage. Artaban goes to Egypt and many other places searching for the new king. He finds much hunger and despair and spends the next thirty-three years of his life searching for the king while ministering to all he comes upon. Finally in Jerusalem during the Passover, he finds a girl in the streets being dragged by soldiers. She falls at his feet telling him that she is to be sold into slavery. He hands her his final gift for the new king, the pearl, to ransom her life. As they are standing together, the earth begins to shake and a roof tile falls, striking the aging Artaban in the temple. As he lays dying, he hears a small and still voice. In answer he asks "Not so my Lord. For when did I see you? Then the voice responds "Verily I say unto you, inasmuch as you have done it to the least of these, you have done it unto me."

In his lifetime of searching, Artaban lived the life Jesus intends for all of us. A life of caring for others, feeding the hungry, clothing the naked and standing up for those who are oppressed. Let us spend our Epiphany journey in the spirit of Artaban, that other wise man.



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

Hello from Luther Chapel.

Our council meeting was held after Service on Sunday Jan 22. This years officer are Dale Keller, President: Gary Alsop, Vice President: Linda Alsop, Financial Secretary: Darlene Beatty, Secretary: Kathy Keller, Treasurer.

The committees are Linda (music and worship), Dale (property), Darlene (parish education and evangelism), Gary (outreach), Linda (stewardship, Kathy (finance), Linda, Sarah, and Kathy (WELCA).

We send a BIG thank you to Sarah Shaffer for serving as treasurer the last 6 years and welcome Linda back to our council.

Our condolences to Pastor Tedd on the death of his father, Betty Gallo on the death of her husband Jim and to Lisa and Pam on the death of their father. And to Diane and David Brown on the death of his sister, Linda.

January 25 WELCA ladies will meet at the church at 2:00 for quilt making.

February 5 is set to audit our books after worship. Anyone who wants to help is welcome to help.

Annual Congregational Dinner and meeting will be held after worship. The meat, rolls and drinks will be provided.

Youth group will have a meeting February 10, 2023 from 6:00 to 8:00. A fun service project is planned. Please come. All are invited.

Memorial Fund

At its January monthly meeting, council discussed how best to address the balances remaining in our undesignated Memorial Fund (\$23,565.20) and our Endowment Fund Interest (\$5,061.94). Since no members accepted nomination to the committee tasked with the disbursement of these funds, council has decided to act in the absence of committee membership to address the issue.

Memorial fund money that is give in memory of someone without restriction is deposited in the Memorial Fund (unrestricted) dedicated account. This restricts the use of the money for budget expenses but provides flexibility as the money can be used to fund extraordinary expenses within the church or for outside ministry. Endowment Fund interest income is handled in the same fashion.

Under our by-laws (C13.07.A05), suggestions are given for disbursing these funds:

1. Extraordinary programs/ministry initiatives within the congregation
2. Special projects within the local area wherein the congregation resides
3. Special ministries within the Northwestern Pennsylvania Synos, ELCA
4. ELCA churchwide ministries.

There is no requirement that these funds need to be disbursed each year. In fact, it has been several years since any purpose for the funds has been suggested.

Council is asking that our membership give thought to potential uses for these funds. The four suggestions above are intentionally broad and are not meant to be restrictive. Council hopes that we can receive a few suggestions prior to our annual meeting in November at which time the congregation will consider the requests and take action on funding some or all of them.

Worship and Music committee announces changes to weekly bulletins

Beginning with our Lenten season, the worship and music committee will be introducing a new look to our weekly bulletin.

First, we will be returning to the pre-printed bulletin covers. We will still be inserting the "Celebrate" but the bulletin will be expanded to include the confession, and the creed. This will be much more user friendly, especially for visitors, as the congregation will not have to flip back in the hymnal to refer to these rites of the service.

In addition, the new bulletin will include the KYRIE, GOSPEL ACCLIMATION, THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, LORD'S PRAYER, AND LAMB OF GOD. The committee hopes that these new changes will enhance your worship experience. We especially look forward to hearing from you concerning the new changes. Let us know what you think!

Open Council Seats Filled

The two remaining seats on Zion's council have been filled. Pernell Bowersox and Sheri Bowersox have each agreed to serve three-year terms and will be installed at council's February meeting. The two council seats were left vacant when the nominating committee was unable to secure enough candidates to stand for council positions at our 2022 annual meeting and no floor nominations were offered.

Zion's Council

Term Ending 2023	Term Ending 2024	Term Ending 2025
Kevin Huston	Rik Wissinger	Dory Campbell
Kim McCullough	Shirley Horner	Pernell Bowersox
Becky Slade	Sue Dickson	Sheri Bowersox

Zion's 2022 Budget Recap

At its January monthly meeting, Zion Council reviewed the final numbers for our 2022 budget. Final income for 2022 was \$199,914.68 which was a 27.11% increase from our 2022 budget projection. Within that income, Zion's 2022 current and benevolence contributions totaled \$188,804.05. This was \$34,422.05 above our 2022 pledge amount. In addition, we received above budget incidental monies from our loose offering and holiday offering categories.

Our 2022 budget had anticipated a surplus of \$13,702.24. Due to this increased income, we realized a \$41,861.80 surplus for the year 2022.

Our expenses for 2022 totaled \$158,052.88. This was a 10.09% increase over 2022 budget projections. The increased budget expenses were due to higher than budgeted costs for electricity, elevator repairs and service and unanticipated repairs to the building. The largest building repair expense concerned repair and sealing of the nave slate roof in the late fall. This expense lengthened the life of our current roof by five years and will allow us to postpone the expense of replacing the roof.

Copies of our final 2022 budget are available upon request in the Zion office.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Trinity 3-2-1 will be celebrating Ash Wednesday on February 22, 2023 at 7:00 PM at Luther Chapel.

There will be NO Ash Wednesday service at Zion this year.

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, Ron Anderson, Liesl Andrie, Jessica Badowski, Tamie Blank, Becky Bono, Peter Broad, Susan & Bob Butchkoski, Jim Chapman, Adam Chilenski, Jeff Davis, Paul Davis, Donald Dustin, Akou Ester, Beth Ford, Harry Ford, Heidi Good, the Guella family, Gene Hartzell, Chris Howard, Dan Howard, Diana Howard, Michael Kowchuck, Richard Lamberski, Ronda Leasure, Bishop Michael Lozano, Prisca Maier, Karl & Dorrinna Martini, Judy Matsko, Marvin McClure, Paula Miller, Dave Nycum, Shawn Otto, Loretta Piper, Scott Potterask, Bob Reifsteck, Jason Roney, Coleen Seagren, Aurora Shultz, Gladys Smith, Deborah Stephens, Denny Swanson Jr., Bob Tierney, Brett Tyger, Kristine Volpatti, Jane Williams, Dominic Yensi.

We pray for all those currently serving in the military especially, Zachery Horner, 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.

Prayers for our family and friends is a cooperative effort

We at Zion, are privileged to pray for you and your loved ones and friends. Please be sure to let us know of your prayer requests. And it would help us so much if you could update us on the status of those on our prayer list.

We want to continue praying for those who are in need, to give thanks to God for those who have been healed and to pray for any family if they lost a loved one. That can only happen if YOU keep in touch with Zion's office and update us regularly.

You can speak to Beverly Monday through Thursday from 9AM until 2 PM or email her at zionlutheran@comcast.net.

Thank you in advance for your partnership in this prayer venture.

NOTE: Zion council discussed our prayer list management at their recent monthly meeting. Council has suggested that a quarterly review be conducted on the prayer list. With that in mind we need your help in verifying that ALL who continue to need our prayer support remain on the list.

GIVING REPORT: MONTH OF JANUARY

Needed for January operating budget:	\$ 12,899.74
Received in January:	<u>\$ 17,497.80</u>
Amount Still Due for January:	\$ -4,598.06 Over Budget

Does not include end of month giving

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>
January 1	0	20	55
January 7 and 8	16	23	48
January 14 and 15	14	29	53
January 21 and 22	18	27	48

Special Congregational Meeting Announced

Zion Council has called a Special Congregational Meeting to take action on several amendments to our Constitution. These changes were discussed at the 2022 Annual Meeting and the congregation, by unanimous voice vote authorized council to call for a special meeting to finalize adoption of the proposed measures.

The congregation will meet on **Sunday March 26, 2023** following our 9:30 AM service.

A separate mailing has been sent to all members of the congregation under first class mail. That mailing also included details of the proposed changes. All of the proposed changes were also included in the February newsletter.

Members who have questions concerning the proposed changes to the constitution should contact any council member or officer for clarification.

THANK YOU FROM JERRY RUFFNER

I want to thank everybody in the congregation for recognizing my retirement from Zion Lutheran Church.

I'm grateful for all the cards and gifts that I've received from members and friends alike. A special thanks to everyone for their collective effort in providing me with that gracious send-off gift that was given to me at the luncheon. It was a really nice lunch, and I enjoyed the company of all those who attended. A big delight for me was the cake!

I was always content with my job here as Zion's Sexton and never really wanted to work anywhere else. The people of Zion have always been good to me, and I've enjoyed the many perks that they've provided me with. Ladies of the kitchen — thank you for all those take-home goodies from numerous soup lunches and dinners that you worked so hard on through the years.

Although retired, I'll still be around and will continue to attend Saturday evening services and serve as bell ringer and a reader. Of course, I will also continue to conduct my annual fund-raising film festivals in the Fall. See you there!

Jerry

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

February Birthdays

Adam Hess
Amanda Creps
Benjamin Gibbons
Bernard Lockard
Betty Stancombe
Caitlin Mumau
Caroline Anderson
David Harber
Dorothy Moreland
Grant Hess
Jim Belford
Logan Lundberg
Luke Shively
Maggie Dugan
Peggy Schrock
Rachel Bowersox
Sheri Bowersox
Tyler Kmetz

Hello friends of the NWPAs Synod Green Team. We send this message to encourage your support for a chapter of Interfaith Power & Light (IPL) in NWPAs. IPL is interested in forming a chapter in NWPAs and is seeking interested individuals and faith communities. IPL is a national organization that "...inspires and mobilizes people of faith and conscience to take bold and just action on climate change. Interfaith Power & Light envisions a stable climate where humans live in right and just relationship, interconnected with a healthy, thriving, natural world."

Interfaithpowerandlight.org

Currently IPL consists of 40 state IPL affiliates, more than 22,000 faith communities, and more than 6,500,000 people of faith.

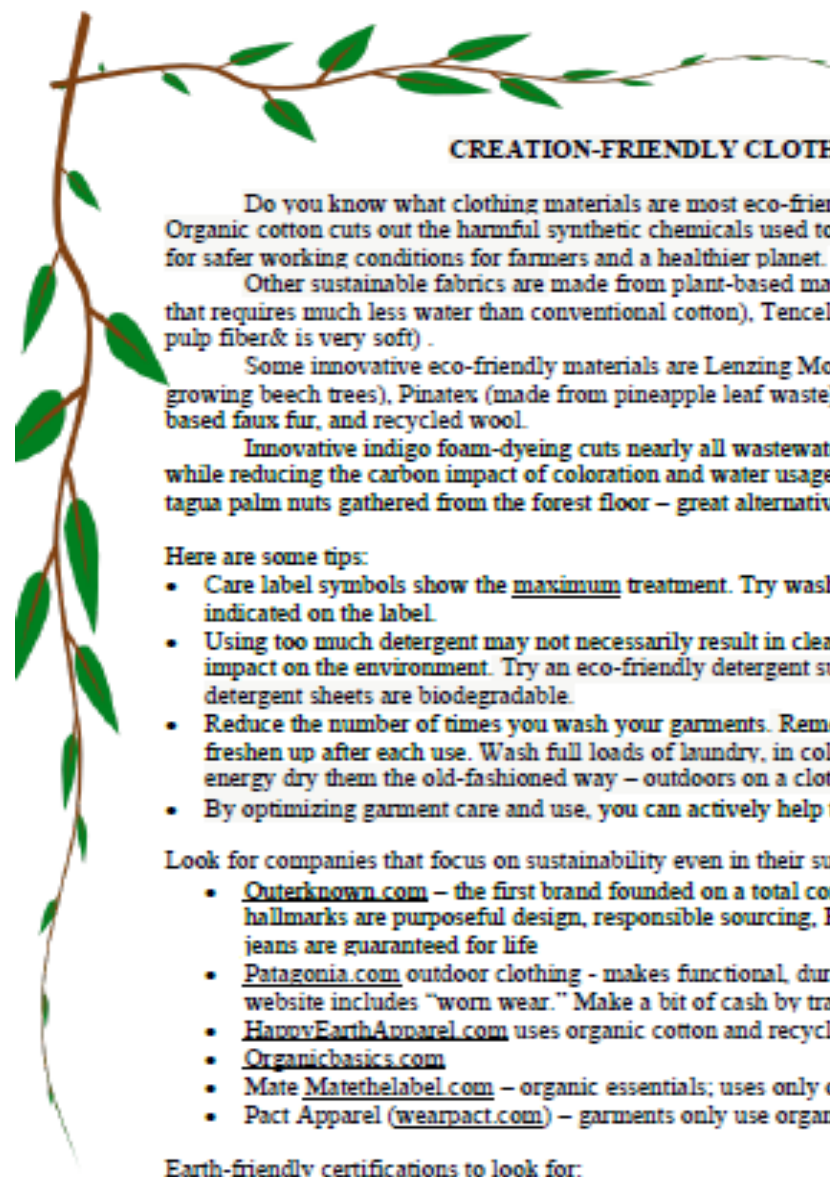
Pennsylvania is one such state affiliate (PAIPL.org).

PAIPL now has several affiliate chapters elsewhere in PA, including the Pittsburgh SWPA chapter, which has a Chapter Meeting coming up on Wednesday, 1/25, 6:30pm. Please see below for the registration link for the Jan 25 meeting and circulate to your friends.

[https://paipl.salsalabs.org/
PittsburghSouthwestPAIPLChapterMeeting01252023/index.html?
eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=55a3dc73-2a56-49fd-81cc-1ed11eb4eb56](https://paipl.salsalabs.org/PittsburghSouthwestPAIPLChapterMeeting01252023/index.html?eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=55a3dc73-2a56-49fd-81cc-1ed11eb4eb56)

If you are interested in being a part of the formation of the NWPAs chapter, please contact Kathy Hrabovsky, who is cc'd on this email.

Peace to you, from your friends at the NWPAs Synod Green Team.



Green Corner

NWPA Synod Green Team

CREATION-FRIENDLY CLOTHING TIPS

Do you know what clothing materials are most eco-friendly? Organic cotton is rated tops! Organic cotton cuts out the harmful synthetic chemicals used to grow conventional cotton, making for safer working conditions for farmers and a healthier planet.

Other sustainable fabrics are made from plant-based materials like hemp (low impact crop that requires much less water than conventional cotton), Tencel Lyocell (made from recycled wood pulp fiber& is very soft) .

Some innovative eco-friendly materials are Lenzing Modal (soft material made from fast-growing beech trees), Pinatex (made from pineapple leaf waste), mushroom-based leather, plant-based faux fur, and recycled wool.

Innovative indigo foam-dyeing cuts nearly all wastewater out of the jeans-making process while reducing the carbon impact of coloration and water usage Natural buttons can be made from tagua palm nuts gathered from the forest floor – great alternative to plastic.

Here are some tips:

- Care label symbols show the maximum treatment. Try washing at lower temperatures than indicated on the label.
- Using too much detergent may not necessarily result in cleaner laundry, but has an unnecessary impact on the environment. Try an eco-friendly detergent such as Earth Breeze; its liquidless detergent sheets are biodegradable.
- Reduce the number of times you wash your garments. Remove stains manually, and air clothes to freshen up after each use. Wash full loads of laundry, in cold water when possible. To save energy dry them the old-fashioned way – outdoors on a clothesline!
- By optimizing garment care and use, you can actively help to reduce your carbon footprint.

Look for companies that focus on sustainability even in their supply chain. Here are some examples:

- [Outerknown.com](#) – the first brand founded on a total commitment to sustainability. Their hallmarks are purposeful design, responsible sourcing, Fair Labor practices. Their S.E.A. jeans are guaranteed for life
- [Patagonia.com](#) outdoor clothing - makes functional, durable and repairable clothing. Its website includes "worn wear." Make a bit of cash by trading your gear in to live again.
- [HappyEarthApparel.com](#) uses organic cotton and recycled fibers and no-plastic packaging
- [Organicbasics.com](#)
- Mate [Matethelabel.com](#) – organic essentials; uses only organic and non-toxic material.
- Pact Apparel ([wearpact.com](#)) – garments only use organic cotton

Earth-friendly certifications to look for:

- GOTS – Global Organic Textile Standard – at least 70% certified organic fibers
- Fair Trade Certified – clothes have been produced meeting strict economic, environmental & social standards, including working conditions, funding for community development, etc.
- Standard 100 by OEKO-TEX – certified harmless for human health
- Bluesign – made by using resources responsibly, with sustainable chemistry, creating minimal impact on people & environment.

HAPPY HUNTING!

nwpasynodgreenteam@gmail.com

<https://www.northwesternpsynodelca.org/nwpa-green-team.html>

MINUTES OF THE CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

December 12, 2022

I. Call to Order- The meeting was called to order at 6:28 pm with a prayer.

Attendance: Kevin Huston, Kimberly McCullough, Kim Balcerak, Becky Slade, Gail Sechrist, Pastor Tedd Cogar, Sue Dickson, Rick Wissinger, Shirley Horner, Dory Campbell.

Guest: Beth Seal

II. Devotions – Devotions were led by Shirley Horner.

A sign-up list for future devotions was passed around.

Jan – Sue Feb – Kimberly March – Kim B April – Becky May – Rik June – Gail

July – Shirley Aug – Kevin Sept - Oct – Kimberly Nov – Dory Dec - Becky

III. Approval of November minutes – Motion to approve, Rik. Second, Kim B.

IV. Communications: None

A. Pastors' Report -

B. Facebook/Web Site – Sheri was working on the FB page. Dory offered to do that but she will check with Sheri to see if she wants to continue. Pastor said he will check with Christopf Maier to see if he is will to continue managing the Zion Website. Some updates are on the site so he may be doing it.

V. Review of Financial Report (November 2022).

November income was slightly less than budget. Expenses for the month showed property expense and office equipment running high. Kevin will check with Bev on the office equipment expense. This year is still on track to have a surplus. This year so far \$37,500 surplus for the year to carry into 2023. If we add the \$32,000 listed under Special Focus envelope from 2021, we have an amount of approximately \$74,000 that is being reserved. We need to discuss and get input on uses or where to dedicate these funds in savings.

Motion to approve financial report and send for audit by Rik and second Kim B.

VI. Committee Repor

A. Standing Committees

Administration and Finance – Kevin Huston

Annual Meeting – 2023 Budget was approved. We had some late pledges so the budget is shown with the new expected income.

Welcome to new member- Dory Campbell

MINUTES OF THE CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL—cont

Election of Council officers: All agreed to continue 1 more year.

Treasurer – Gail Sechrist

Financial Secretary – Kim Balcerak

Secretary – Sue Dickson

Vice President – Rik Wissinger

President – Kevin Huston

Kevin agreed to stay on as President, but can no longer do Assisting Minister.

Installation of council members and officers will be at the Sat Dec 17 service.

02 Account Management – Kevin would like to look at this in 2023

Endowment Fund re-boot – also work on in 2023. Would like to examine the accounts of the undesignated memorial funds and bequests and look these over to decide appropriate use.

A CD will be coming due in May 2023, we need to plan where to reinvest

Mardelle Fish legacy gift funds will be distributed to Zion in January

Staff Support – Rik Wissinger

New staff contracts- All contracts will be ready to sign by the first of the year. Jim Loughlin will start on Jan 3, 2023.

Jerry retirement – Contributions have come in for Jerry's retirement gift. We are planning on a retirement congratulations dinner for him in January. Dates were discussed, but Rik will speak to Jerry to confirm a date.

Nominating Committee – Don Seagren

Evangelism /Stewardship – Kim Balcerak

Kim showed an example of a small welcome gift bag for guests at services. She made up 6 and has already given out two.

Distribution of Giving Envelopes – They are available at the back of the church to pick up. Those left will be mailed out the beginning of January.

Final 2023 Pledge numbers- The final pledge letter will be going out for 2022, and the 2023 pledge letter will be going out early January. That letter will go to those pledging just to confirm we have the correct information.

Sight and Sound – Kim will look into another trip possibly this spring.

Prayer List review – The list of names discussed at last month's meeting were removed. After the first of the year Sue plans to review the list again for the group of names we have no information on. Bev now has the Excel file and can make changes as she is notified.

Beth Seal – Discussion on expanding our effort toward engaging members. Beth came to the meeting to discuss "Discipleship Ministry". This was a study done at her former Lutheran church in eastern PA. She explained what she learned through a workshop lead by a Pastor Michael Foss. It was a very good presentation and discussion, and an enthusiastic response from the council. We would like to look into this further. For a start Kevin is going to order Michael Foss's book "Power Surge" for the council to read and we hope to have more discussions in the future.

Dory Campbell offered to work with Evangelism

MINUTES OF THE CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL—cont

Constitution – Becky Slade

The congregation meeting date is planned for March 26 to vote on the amendments.

Parish Education – Gail Sechrist

Property- With recent repairs to the slate roof and it adding about 5 years to the life of the roof could there be a delay to replacement. This will be brought up at the meeting also.

Becky has offered to be a representative on the Property committee.

Sue brought up about the 2 kitchen freezers and need for repair. Referred to Property.

Recreation and Fellowship – Shirley Horner

Social Ministry – Sue Dickson

Sue presented a list of local food pantries to donate the remaining funds in our food pantry 02 account. A letter will be written to go along with the donation check.

Motion by Rik and second by Kim B. to make the donations to clear the food pantry account.

Trinity 3-2-1 - Rik Wissinger

The seminary intern will not be here for a few years. No other report.

Worship and Music – Pastor Tedd

On-Line Worship – Waiting for EMB to come and do the fiber optic wiring.

VII. Old Business – nothing

VIII New Business -

Rik and Pastor Tedd explained about a MDiv student who contacted Pastor Tedd and inquired about doing a semester internship at Zion as part of his Masters of Divinity degree.

This seminarian is from Liberty University would be at Zion from January to May for 10hrs/week. Pastor Tedd has talked to the Bishop who has said that there are no restrictions with having an intern from a non ELCA seminary. This was brought before the Administration and Finance committee and presented now to the council. Pastor Tedd has met with him to learn more about his background and reasons for working with Zion. David McCartney grew up with family living locally so he is familiar with Indiana. His background is Presbyterian and Catholic, but right now he is nondenominational. David said he has felt the call to ministry after working in Health Care Management. David and his wife have visited Zion twice and he has said that we have made him feel at home. Pastor Tedd feels that this is an opportunity for this congregation and can also allow us to prepare for our intern in the future.

Asked whether the intern could be ordained, Pastor said not at this time, that once he graduates he would need to do much more coursework and other requirements at an ELCA

MINUTES OF THE CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL—cont

seminary. Asked about concerns being he is going to Liberty University and their very strict doctrine, Pastor stated that after talking with him he is more confident that he has more similar ideas and beliefs to our Lutheran beliefs. Pastor would be working with him, setting his schedule, doing evaluations and overseeing any of his interactions with the congregation.

A motion was made to invite David McCartney to be the intern from January to May by Sue and seconded by Kim B.

X. Closing Prayer and adjournment at 8:45

Food Pantry Money Distributions

1. \$1,300 food gift cards for Pastor's Discretionary Fund
2. \$2,000 Chevy Chase Community Center
3. \$1,000 Calvary Church Little Free Pantry
4. \$2,000 Love Basket Foundation
5. \$1,000 Creekside Area Food Pantry
6. \$2,000 Salvation Army Food Pantry
7. \$1,000 Homer City UM Church Food Pantry
8. \$2,000 IUP Student Food Pantry
9. \$2,000 Family Promise
10. \$1,000 Indiana Community Garden
11. \$1,000 Alice Paul House

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 4, 2022

Call to order: at 7 pm

Present: Kevin Huston, Pastor Tedd Cogar, Sue Dickson, Rik Wissinger, Gail Sechrist, Pernell Bowersox

December Minutes: Review with a few punctuation changes.

Motion by Rik, and second by Sue to approve minutes.

December Financial Report:

Rick presented a **Trinity 3-2-1 financial statement** that shows payments and monthly costs for 2022 from Zion, Luther Chapel and Lutheran Campus Center for Pastor Salary.

Zion December financials- Zion ended 2022 with \$42,639 income over budget. Expenses were \$14,480 over budget (included the \$11,000 for roof repair). C & B ended with \$34,000 over the pledged amount for 2022. Motion by Rik, second by Pernell to approve report.

Old Business:

Fish Estate – We anticipate this coming in by the end of January.

Online Project – Rik has had to contact EMB computing about the delay in running the wires. They are low in manpower. They hope to schedule running the lines soon.

Parish Ed – Parish Ed would like to get Microsoft office for Word to be installed on the new laptop. Zion may have room on its subscription to allow this. Kevin to check with Bev.

Food Pantry- All letters and donation checks have been sent out. We have started to receive some Thank You notes. Sue is going to get some food gift cards to have on hand. Discussion on guidelines for distribution.

New Business:

02 Account review/reorganization: Some O2 accounts were combined for clarity of use.

Now will be called **Budget Surplus** and includes O2 accounts: Total amount: **\$68,157.20**

Special Focus Envelope (the matching funds special drive from 2020)

Budget Surplus 2022

Transfer to 2023 income (Pre-paid pledges for 2023)

Now will be called **Memorial Fund** and includes: Total amount: **\$23,565.20**

Bequest – undesignated, Other Specials, and Undesignated Memorials accounts.

These undesignated memorial funds have no designated use tagged to them. To present to council for approval. We would also like to ask the congregation, and Memorial Committee for ideas on use.

Intern- Sue asked how Dave will be introduced to the congregation. Pastor said he would ask that Dave write up a bit about himself for the newsletter. He will be introduced at services too. Pastor hopes to have him sit in on some of our meetings as part of his time here.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

WORSHIP & MUSIIC COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 24, 2022

Members Present: Kathy Huston, Kevin Huston, Rik Wissinger, Pastor Tedd Cogar, Jan Cikowski, Sue Dickson, Christine Clewell

Topics Discussed:

- 1.The committee was saddened to hear that Bob Shively has decided to end his long and dedicated choir membership. God's speed, Bob.
- 2.As the choir membership continues to decline, the committee will ask council to assist in finding funds to supplement the Helen Myers scholarship fund, which has been financially supporting the additional non-member voices that the choir is using to provide volume for the churches musical needs.
- 3.The assisting ministers will be encouraged when able to provide cantering at the Sunday service.
- 4.The committee received a report from Dr. Clewell concerning needed repairs for the Kney Organ. The estimated cost of the repairs could exceed \$100,000. The committee will begin discussions with council to explore funding solutions to provide monies for this vital project. Target date for the start of organ repairs will be 2024.
- 5.The committee decided to forgo an Ash Wednesday service at Zion and join with our sister congregation at Luther Chapel for this beginning of Lent celebration.
- 6.The committee reviewed the mid-week Lenten service which will be held at 7:00 PM on Wednesdays during Lent. This service will convene in the office area.
- 7.The committee selected hymns for the Sundays in February.

Recommendation to Council: The committee is seeking advice from council for a plan to fund the needed repairs to the Kney organ. Repairs are scheduled to begin in 2024.

Date of next Meeting: Tuesday February 28, 2023, 7:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Huston

PARISH EDUCATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 17, 2023

Members Present: Becky Slade, Jim Lauglin, Jerry Ruffner, Kevin Huston, Dave Keith, Don Seagren

Committee issues discussed:

Completed Projects

1. 11/16/2022 – Pardee Electric repaired the light fixture above the Church Street glass door. (\$128)
2. 12/9/2022 - 123 Lock installed a new lock on the women's restroom (\$100)
3. 12/13/2022 – Russ Crane completed the re-plaster of the entrance walls of the nave (\$3,650.00)
4. 1/9//2023 – Miller Plumbing repaired the thermostat in the pre-school
5. 1/10/2023 – Don Ross performed an annual inspection on the choir loft chair lifts and a semi-annual inspection on the elevator
6. 1/16/2023 – Miller Plumbing repaired a leak in the kitchen sink and replaced a pipe that was leaking due to a crack.

On Going Projects:

1. The stone steps at the Church Street “red door” entrance will be repaired in November 2022.
2. All materials have finally arrived for the new on-line ministry program. Contractors will now be scheduled to run the necessary fiber optic cable and installation of the new audio and video equipment will begin.
3. Kitchen renovations, approved by the congregation, will commence once funds are received from our legacy benefactor.
4. Window replacement operations, approved by the congregation, will commence once the funds are received from our legacy benefactor.
5. The Nave roof replacement project, approved by the congregation, may be revisited in 2023 after successful repairs and sealing were performed this past month.
6. The committee is posting the coke machine on Indiana's community garage sale in hopes of disposing it.
7. The committee voted to find homes for the two freezers no longer in use. We will start by asking other local food banks if they could make use of the freezers.
8. The committee voted to disconnect and dispose of the water fountain located at the steps above the kitchen

2023 Projects

1. The committee is researching for a vendor to address our ongoing bat infestation problem.
2. The organ loft stairwell on the pulpit side of the nave needs to be re-plastered. This is the final piece of repair work required after our nave entrance leak was repaired.
3. The committee will explore creating a Columbarium in our new green space area. This would be a designated space to allow for a final resting place for ashes.

Available Funds for Projects

Capital Improvement Account Balance: \$ 21,982.27

ZARP Account Balance: \$ 9,046.16 (reserved for green space)

The Committee's next meeting will be Tuesday, February 20, 2023 at 7:00 PM

Formal recommendations to council: NONE

February 2023

Date	Lay Reader	Altar Guild	Ushers	Assist. Min.	Tellers
Feb 4/5	5:30-Karen Gresh 9:30-Jenn Rising	Sat-AM-Jan Cikowski, PM - Bev Wissinger Sun-Kathy Huston	5:30-Rik & Bev Wissinger 9:30-Don & Dawn Seagren	5:30-Kim Balcerak 9:30-Jenn Rising	Kim Balcerak
Feb 11/12	5:30-Jerry Ruffner 9:30-Gail Sechrist	Sat AM-Kathy Huston, PM-Shirley Horner Sun-Sue Dickson	5:30-Shirley Horner, Chuck Rodnicki 9:30-Gary Ellenberger	5:30-Rik Wissinger 9:30-Beth Grafton	Kim Balcerak
Feb 18/19	5:30-Dante Adamson 9:30-Tyson Ellenberger	Sat-AM&PM Sharon O'Keiff Sun-Sue Dickson	5:30-Rik & Bev Wissinger 9:30-Tyson Ellenberger	5:30-Kim Balcerak 9:30-Jenn Rising	Kim Balcerak
Feb 25/26	5:30-Sue Dickson 9:30-Beth Grafton	Sat-AM&PM Louise Buchanan Sun-Becky Slade	5:30-Shirley Horner, Chuck Rodnicki 9:30-Pernell Bowersox	5:30-Rik Wissinger 9:30-Beth Grafton	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	

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
			1	2	3 Zion office closed	4 5:30 Liturgy
5 9:30 Liturgy 8:30 Choir Practice 10:40 Choir Practice Sunday School		7	8 7 Adm/Finance Mtg	9	10 Zion office closed	11 5:30 Liturgy
12 9:30 Liturgy 8:30 Choir Practice 10:40 Choir Practice No Sunday School	13 6:30 Council Mtg	14	15	16	17 Zion office closed	18 Church Audit 5:30 Liturgy
19 9:30 Liturgy 8:30-Choir Practice 10:40-Choir Practice Sunday School	22	21 7 Property Mtg	22 7-ASH WEDNES- DAY AT LUTHER CHAPEL	23 Newsletter Mailed	24 Zion office closed	25 5:30 Liturgy
26 9:30 Liturgy 8:30-Choir Practice 10:40-Choir Practice No Sunday School	27	28 6:30 Worship & Music Mtg			Narcotics Anony- mous meetings Sunday evenings	Alcoholics Anonymous meetings Wednesday evening



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 100 S 6th ST
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Date Mailed: January 26, 2023

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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	Jim Laughlin
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)
 Sue Dickson (Sec)
 Gail Sechrist (Treas)
 Kim Balcerak (Fin Sec)
 Becky Slade
 Dory Campbell
 Kim McCullough
 Pernell Bowesox
 Sheri Bowersox
 Shirley Horner
 Pastor Tedd Cogar

NEXT NEWSLETTER MAILED — February 23, 2023: Deadline: February 10, 2023

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