



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

<i>Easter</i>	1
<i>Luther Chapel</i>	2
<i>Prayer List</i>	3
<i>Giving Report</i>	
<i>Birthdays</i>	4
<i>Challenge</i>	5
<i>Membership</i>	
<i>Council</i>	6-7
<i>Adm/Fin</i>	8-9
<i>Parish Ed</i>	10
<i>Calendar</i>	11



Christ is risen, Alleluia! He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

After a year of isolation and uncertainty, Zion is finally opening its doors again for in person worship on Easter Sunday, April 4, 2021, at 9:30 AM. Things will be different to be sure, but the one thing that will be as before will be our ability to gather together to celebrate the Eucharist on the day of Christ’s resurrection!

Our worship will follow the normal setting from our Lutheran Book of Worship, but will be spoken. Hymnals are back in the pews for use by the congregation and bulletins and Celebrate inserts will be available to all. We will hear God’s word, we will pray, and we will celebrate the Eucharist.

We will continue to wear masks when in the nave. Families will sit together but apart from others. We will not sing yet. We will share the peace in place. We will receive the sacrament a little differently. No one is happy about these changes but they are intended to continue to keep us safe.

How we celebrate is not as important as WHY we celebrate. To be sure things will be a little different as we gradually move toward holding worship as we know it. But the message of hope and salvation has not changed. **Christ has risen, Alleluia! He has risen indeed, Alleluia!**

The fellowship and community we all benefit from by gathering together as a community in Christ is more important than we ever imagined. It is what we have missed the most during this past year. As we gather on Easter Sunday, let’s keep this in the forefront as our first positive step in returning to worship. Our glorious building and wonderful organ are ready. Christ’s message of salvation is ready to be heard. Let’s all gather together and rejoice in its hearing.

Christ is risen, Alleluia! He is risen indeed, Alleluia!



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

WORSHIP SERVICES AT LUTHER CHAPEL for Easter Season

3/28/2021 - Palm Sunday Service - in person - 11:15 AM

4/1/2021 - Holy Week - Maundy Thursday - in person - 7 PM

4/4/2021 - Easter - in person - 11:15 AM

WELCA ladies continue to meet the first Saturday of each month at 10 AM at Luther Chapel. We enjoy the bible study in the Gather Magazine, and the fellowship. Please join us!

Next meeting is Saturday, April 3, 2021.

Our ladies are busy again making quilts. The ones that were dedicated will soon be delivered to the Lutheran Community Partners of West Virginia. New quilts and blankets are being assembled now to be sent to Texas for flood/snow victims. Listen for more details on this project. If you have any extra sheets or material, we could always use them. Just leave them in the Social Room.

As our Lenten Project we are putting together baby kits for Children and Youth Services of Indiana County for babies that are discharged to a foster family from the hospital. We need one-sies, pj's, bibs, receiving blankets, burp cloths, small baby bottles, and a small toy. The last time we took some to them (pre-COVID) they were thrilled to receive these needed items. The WELCA ladies have made the diaper bags for all these things. Thanks for your donations and Thanks to Kathy Keller for the great material.

Luther Chapel Council members are working on updating our Constitution. This has to be completed by June, 2021. Watch for more information.

Please remember these folks on the **Luther Chapel Prayer List**: Herb, William, Justin, Enzo, Sarah, Gary, Ava, Laremm, Teresa, Noah, Bob, Sharon, Ann, Tedd, Randy, Janet, Bob, Mike, Judy, Brooke, Betty, Fred, Ralph, Joshua, Judah, Robert, Julie, Michael, Pat, Trish, Lois, Jay, Chuck, Jamie, Christine, Donna, Logan, Mary Ann, Myles, Phyllis, Denise, Leora, Richard, Lisa, Monica, Arlene, Sebastian, Linda, Trentyn, Cindy, Ellie, Elaine, Rick, Kaylee, Peg, Lillian, Ron, Ken, Denise and Ella. Please pray also for police officers, fire and rescue people, active military and veterans, bus drivers, teachers, and those getting ready to go back to school. **(please contact Trudy Taylor 412-480-1292 if you want to add someone or take them off our list)**

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.

Remember all those requesting prayer: Prisca Maier, Jim Chapman, Sherman Lockard, Shirley Horner, Sande Shotts, Kevin Widdowson, Ruth, Cliff, Karen Holland, Laurie Pate, Loretta Piper, B. Tamski, Beth Grafton, Ken Vinton, David Kunkle, Allison Miller, Jenn Rising, Joe Rising, Adam Chilenski, Dennis Turner, Kristine Anderson Volpatti, Kathy Yerep, Ken Campbell, Gene Shotts, Prisca Maier, Tom Bush (Becky Slade's brother), Dominic Yensi, Dave Malin, Tom Brown, Dave Nycum, Karen Davis, Susan Butchkoski, Lonnie Cogar, Jeannine, Petras Family, George Schulze, Denny Swanson, Jr, Jeannie Park, Martha Chapman, Paolo Schianchi, Ron Anderson, Billie Kurtz-King, Bill Johnston, Liesl Andrie, Peter Broad, Bob Reifsteck, Fred Schrock, Bob Butchkoski, Edward Chapman, Dirk Grafton, Nancy, Abby Bowser, Jim Muller, Royce Walters, Rochelle Calvetti, Jacqueline Davis, Judy Matsko, Kim Walls, Katrina Albright, Quinn Santini, Heidi Good, Bill Mechling, Lisa Vavro, Elaine Park Davis, Leonard Black, Nolle Battick, Ronda Leasure, Janice & Rich Olsen, Linda Kanyan, Annah Hill, Gene Hartzell, Guella Family, Betty Nicolette.

For all those serving in the Military and those who have served, especially: Zachery Horner ((grandson of Shirley Horner), Maria Dinuzio, Mark Collins, Stephen Davis, 1st Lt. Chad Beighley (nephew of Dory & Ken Campbell), Matthew McEldowney (grandson of Richard & Shirley Bush), Corey Feretti, Franklin Feretti.

PLEASE REMEMBER THE HOME-BOUND AND MEMBERS IN NURSING HOMES, KEEP THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS.

Roberta Buchanan, Ruth Nelson, Geraldine Shatzer, Marietta (Mo) Foltz, Marie Campbell, Royce Walters, John Carloni, Bea Ruth.

We grieve with the family of Isabel Roof. Isabel passed away Monday, February 22, 2021. Services will be private.

We also grieve with the family of Ernest Fricke. Nancy called to let us know that he passed away on Friday, February 26, 2021 (his 87th birthday). If you would like to send expressions of sympathy, Nancy's address is 924 Parkside Court, Chambersburg PA 17201. Her phone number is 717-267-5097.

GIVING REPORT: MONTH OF MARCH

Needed for March operating budget:	\$ 13,470.83
Received in March:	<u>\$ 11,353.00</u>
Amount Still Due for March:	\$ 2,117.33

Does not include the end of the month giving

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Nancy Malacarne
Dave Nycum

Dirk Grafton
Hannah Rethi

Kathy Gibbons

Kay Thorell

Linda Malin

Gianna Krznaric

Rebecca Gibbons

Jeffrey McCullough

Sally Calvetti

Sarah Schroth

Fred Schrock
Kristianna Shearer

Lois Hoffman

Pernell Bowersox
Liliana Woomer

Mason Otto

Carol Barry
James Richburg

An Update on the “Congregational Challenge”

As of the newsletter publication date, Zion has received 36 pledges toward our “Congregational Challenge” to erase our budget deficit. The pledge period ends April 15th, so there is still time to submit a pledge. We have had a difficult 12 months and our inability to gather for worship has been especially hard on all of us. It is a testament to the faith of our congregation that through these tough times our being separated has not diminished our faith or our concern for Zion’s staff and building. A heartfelt thanks to all who have pledged so far. Your pledges offer hope that Zion will continue to be an active part of our worship lives. Please give this serious consideration if you have not yet made a pledge. Remember, every dollar you pledge becomes two dollars toward Zion’s budget deficit.

Evangelism Committee Sends out Mailing to Update Membership Information

The Evangelism committee recently sent out a membership mailing, asking for updated information from the congregation. Why is this important? After a year of no in-person church, it is clear that we need to modernize our data base. Our only method to reach out to the congregation during the pandemic was our monthly newsletter. The infrequency in which the newsletter reaches all of our membership, creates communication gaps. We were unable to get important information to the congregation concerning building access and worship schedules in a timely manner. Improving this is a goal of the 2021 Evangelism committee. We will also be adding some new Zion e-mail addresses, so that you can reach out directly to our Evangelism committee when your contact information needs updated in the future.

It is important to include the cell phone numbers and e-mail addresses of each member of your household. This will give Zion’s committees the necessary tools to communicate directly with membership when an emergency arises. In addition we will be offering receipt of our newsletter through electronic mail to those who prefer to receive it in this manner. Using this method will allow us to implement changes to the newsletter’s graphics. The added benefit of the e-newsletter is a shorter delivery time and a savings on postage.

Please take the time to fill out the enclosed card. We are asking each household to list all members of the household at their current address. If you have members of your household who have relocated and still wish to be on our membership data base, please provide that information of the reverse side of the card and the committee will make the necessary changes.

APRIL USHERS (9:30 SERVICE)

April 4—Tyson Ellenberger & Pernell Bowersox

April 11—Richard Smith & Jim Slade

April 18—Don & Dawn Seagren

April 25—Tyson Ellenberger & Pernell Bowersox

MINUTES OF THE CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

February 8, 2021

Attendance: Pr. Tedd, K. Huston, S. Horner, K. Balcerak, G. Sechrist, B. Slade, K. McCullough, D. Keith, VIA ZOOM: B. Mehus, K. Gaylor, Pr. Sarah; **Guest:** R. Wissinger **Guest via ZOOM:** Bishop Lozano

Devotions: Led by S. Horner - March B. Slade

Minutes for January were approved. M/S. Horner 2nd/Balcerak

Communications: (A) Administration and Finance met w/ Ryan Ebner with the ELCA Foundation. He is drafting a plan for a gift policy for the congregation and will meet with the Ad-Fin Committee to review before it moving to the Council.

(B) Pastors Report - Pr. Sarah is in the process of recording services for Ash Wednesday. Pr. Tedd is in the process of recording catechism & prayers services. There will be an Ash Wednesday service on Facebook at either 5:30 or 6pm which will be posted. There has been an informal group gathering for Communion for the last few weeks. Pr. Tedd will post on Facebook the next time it is offered; there is not a set schedule at this time. The Pastors also asked if members of the congregation would want to participate in the recording of lessons.

(C) Pastor Sarah's Resignation - Pr. Sarah's husband accepted a call at St. Mark's in Pennsburg, PA and is in the process of moving. Her final day will be February 25th. The council voted and accepted her resignation.

(D) Discussion with Bishop Lozano on future of Trinity 321 Ministry - Nothing is changing. Trinity 321 will remain. Pr. Tedd is scheduled to work 10-12 hrs/wk; he usually works 15-18 hrs. K. Huston - what can we do for pastoral care support? Is it possible to increase Pr. Tedd's hours? Bishop Lozano - it's the beginning of a process. R. Wissinger - The advisory board needs to have a conversation w/the other members of Trinity 321 on the agreement; maybe increasing the percentage of contribution from the other members. Is it possible to increase Pr. Tedd's housing allowance? Is Pr. Tedd willing to work additional hours? Bishop Lozano - The Synod will communicate what ordained resources are available. What can the congregation do to aid Pr. Tedd? There are things that Laypeople can do - additional help with recording & editing video to help relieve the burden from the Pastors.

Financial Report: (a) The financial report for January was reviewed. It will be forwarded to Audit. M/ AdFin 2nd/ Balcerak

Reports:

Administration & Finance: Budget challenge to congregation - An anonymous person contacted Pr. Tedd to issue a challenge to the congregation with closing the projected \$18,000 deficit in the yearly budget that the church is facing. A discussion ensued on the logistics of the challenge and if it was an appropriate time to present the challenge to the congregation due to the challenging time during COVID-19. It was determined that Pr. Tedd and K. Huston would contact the potential donor to discuss the arrangement.

MINUTES OF THE CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL—cont**February 8, 2021**

K. Huston - There are many types of members of the congregation (Voting, Associate, Seasonal) There are 504 total members of Zion. S. Horner and K. Huston volunteered to review the membership rolls to determine if that is an accurate number of members.

Parish ED: G. Sechrist - No report.

Property: Luther Haus demolition is continuing. A handyman for hire is being contacted to get and estimate for updating the Sunday School Rooms. Jerry is in the process of getting a count on the number of non-stained glass windows the church has. Some of them are in such condition that replacement is more feasible than repair. A suggestion was made to get an estimate for vinyl replacement windows. This will help with making the heating of the church more efficient.

Evangelism/Stewardship: K. Balcerak - The Boscov's fundraiser generated around \$101. The Queen Esther show is opening in February in Lancaster.

Recreation & Fellowship: K. Gaylor - nothing to report.

Social Ministry: Nothing to report.

Worship & Music: Pr. Tedd - Ash Wednesday services will be recorded and posted to Facebook. A copy of the bulletin will be mailed to the congregation. A set of 4 stickers will be included in the mailing to replicate receiving the ashes in person. A long discussion then ensued about in-person worship services. The Pastors stated that preparation must begin soon for Easter Services due to numerous entities being involved for planning. Pr. Sarah indicated that in a normal year, planning begins 3 months ahead for important services. A suggestion was made by K. MCCullough that a determination be made for virtual/in-person worship be made on 2/9 after the Council members sleep on the issue. Pr. Tedd also reiterated that the congregation is able to participate in services by recording the readings.

Old Business: Pushed to next meeting for time constraints.

New Business: Pushed to next meeting for time constraints.

A motion was made to adjourn by K. Huston 2nd by Balcerak

Submitted B. Mehus 2/10/2021

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

March 3, 2021

Members Present: Dawn Seagren, Don Seagren, Kevin Huston, Gail Sechrist, Sue Dickson, Brian Mehus, Pastor Tedd, Beverly Swatsworth (met with K. Huston earlier in the day) **Absent:** Kim Balcerak, Beverly Swatsworth

Topics Discussed:

February Financials There was a discussion about what to do with the Trinity 3-2-1 contribution; next meeting is in May for Trinity 3-2-1. There should be a discussion between all three entities. Housed now at campus ministry. There needs to be a discussion at the Council Meeting on Monday. Pr. Tedd is open to expanding his role during the summer. Need to be prepared to answer questions from congregation about the length of time it will take to find a pastor (2 ½ years). Hoping the Bishop had more suggestions to what to do about the situation. What happens if we do and if it's dissolved? Pr. Tedd said that what is paid in by Zion goes back to Zion.

Budget - Unusually high gas bill - cold temperatures. K. Huston - Math error on 1st three sheets Mission Endowment CD matured \$12,003.44 put it into wrong category. Everything is correct, but math isn't quite right. A couple of additions - special focus envelope Challenge money - \$2,420. We need to strategically plan for future which would help to call a full-time pastor. Take money from large donations and make a lasting legacy from donors for the future to be remembered. Financials were reviewed and approved to submit for Audit. Motion by Don Seagren, Second by G. Sechrist.

ELCA Foundation- Review of Gift Policy - On the title heading, change Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church to Zion Lutheran Church on all of the forms. **Restriction and Release form** - Given to donor for them to sign and approve. Midway through the form: Donor Release - Restriction language "12 months" if the church doesn't use it for that period of time, after 12 months, the unrestricted gift process will begin. Sue Dickson - question about IV - Gift Valuation - do we have to take the gift? If a house is donated full of its contents, do we want to accept it? The church has the right to refuse a gift. Page 8 - Sue Dickson: VIII - "by the Committee" - change language to specify that it's the Administration and Finance Committee. Motion to forward it to Council, Don Seagren, 2nd Dawn Seagren.

On-going congregational issues:

Constitution: Still waiting on final approval from Synod

Trinity 321 Update: Trinity 321 - Notes from Kevin, w/consult from Rik Wissinger. Pr. Tedd plans on doing services every Sunday unless some emergency comes up. Plans on taking vacation time as he's able. The Church needs to reach out to people on an approved list in different areas to supplement Pr. Tedd and cover church duties.

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES—cont**March 3, 2021**

Status of Worship: Vote by council. 4-4 before Kevin voted. Some of Kevin's thoughts were that some people were worried about not meeting being worse than having a good virtual service. Worried about opening up and then having to close again. We can always add singing and other things. We need to worry about our Congregation, not what others are doing. Need to protect the health and safety of our people. We can't force our staff into unsafe situations. It's an extremely tough choice to make; we have to do what's right for us. Think about opening up Saturday night services in the future. Slowly start up and get things going again.

Zion's Budget Challenge: 110 Budget Challenge letters were sent to members for the; 27 have been returned already as of this morning. A reminder will be sent in this monthly newsletter. \$2,420 has been contributed already.

Facebook: K. Huston There have been postings that weren't approved such as an ad for employment for a Pastor. There are a large number of people who have access to the page. Wants to restrict it to a couple of people. Pr. Tedd, Christine - are Administrators right now. Website is down. Fee wasn't paid, Bev got notice, but someone said not to worry about it. Contacted webmaster to reactivate the page. This required an account number and PIN; but we don't have it. We may have to make the website and start from scratch.

Updating Congregation contact information: Letter for current members - keep updated with contact info, and also ask if they want to get newsletter by email instead of mail to save money. If we don't hear back, then we will follow up to see if people are still interested in staying in contact with us. Put multiple names on the letter. Pr. Tedd, change it to members and friends of Zion? A discussion ensued and it was determined that this letter shouldn't include non-members, the purpose is to get an accurate number of membership. Maybe contact friends separately who get communication from us. We don't want to exclude friends, just keep record of an accurate membership list. Don Seagren - Put a self-addressed envelope to make it easier for people to respond.

Handbooks and operating procedures documentation: Kevin will meet with Bev, but hasn't been able to yet.

Old Business - None

New Business - None

Don Seagren - moved to adjourn K. Huston 2nd.

Respectfully submitted, Brian Mehus

PARISH ED COMMITTEE MINUTES**March 3, 2021****Via Zoom 6 PM****Attendance:** Jenn Rising, Beth Wheeler, Gail Sechrist, Dory Campbell, and Jess Baum Mehus**VBS Update:** Beth Wheeler

She has many ideas for groups to invite to participate in VBS. She is holding off inviting them until a venue and date are finalized. Mack Park is booked through August. Dory Campbell will contact Blue Spruce park to see if VBS can be held there.

Sunday School Rooms: Jess Baum Mehus

The renovation of the Katie's Closet space will begin on June 14 after the homeschooling pod has finished. Bids for the repair and painting of the rooms have been obtained. Jess discussed with Beth the possibility of painting a mural on the wall in the main part of the space once the renovation has been finished.

Catechism: Dory Campbell

Two students, Kalise Dugan finishing her second of two years and Kami Dugan, finishing her first year are participating in catechism. The students have eight sessions left for this year. Kami will return in the fall of 2021 for her second year of study. During the summer Kalise will work with Ps. Cogar to write her faith statement. The pastor will give it to Council by August, recommending Kalise for Confirmation on Reformation Sunday 2021. The girls currently meet weekly as their cyber school cycle allows. Once each month they also meet with a pastor. For a service project during the pandemic, the two girls prepared five-finger prayer sheets for children and separate ones for adults with Bible texts for more in depth study. These were posted at the Zion website and Facebook page. To assist Sunday school in having an Easter offering for the congregation, the two students made a video for Zion. They used the Resurrection Eggs, identical to the ones distributed to all SCS students last year, to tell the Easter Story on tape. That was given to Pastor Tedd and Christoph Maier to post as well for Holy Week.

Easter: Jess Baum Mehus

Packets of Easter activities will be prepared and sent to the current Sunday School students. When an updated list of potential Sunday School attendees is received, the Easter packet will be sent to those children, also.

Parish Ed Meeting Date:

Due to schedule conflicts, Parish Ed will begin meeting on the last Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m.

Respectfully compiled by,

Jess Mehus & Dory Campbell

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

				1 MAUNDY THURSDAY	2 GOOD FRIDAY Zion office closed	3
4 EASTER SUNDAY Liturgy Sunday School—On-Line Only	5	6	7 7-Adm/Finance 7-Choir Practice	8	9 Zion office closed	10
11 Liturgy Sunday School—On-Line Only	12 6:30-Council	13	14 7-Choir Practice	15	16 Zion office closed	17
18 Liturgy Sunday School—On-Line Only	19	20 7-Property	21 7-Choir Practice	22	23 Zion office closed	24
25 Liturgy Sunday School—On-Line Only	26	27	28 7-Choir Practice	29	30 Zion office closed	



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
 100 S 6th ST
 INDIANA PA 15701-2736

Phone: (724)465-5597
 Fax: (724)465-4512
 Email: zion.lutheran@comcast.net
 On the web @ www.zionlutherans.com

Date Mailed: March 24, 2021

NON-PROFIT ORG.
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 Indiana, PA 15701
 PERMIT #196

CHANGE SERVICE
 REQUESTED



PASTORS/PASTORAL CARE

Pr 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 (VChair)
 Gail Sechrist (Treas)
 Brian Mehus (Sec)
 Anna Grafton (Fin Sec)
 Kim Balcerak (Asst Fin Sec)
 Becky Slade
 David Keith
 Kathy Gaylor
 Kim McCullough
 Shirley Horner
 Pr Tedd Cogar

NEXT NEWSLETTER MAILED — April 28: Deadline: April 15, 2021

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