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Zion's Budget Update

Income for July was \$13,049.31 or 96.10% of budget expectations. Our year-to-date income is still 3.22% above budget. Expenses were \$12,808.10 or 84.90% of budget expectations. Our year-to-date expenses are 6.97% below budget. This has allowed us to continue to add to our 2021 budget surplus.

Several factors have impacted our budget in 2021, allowing for this surplus:

1. Continued issues with the COVID-19 situation, reduced our 2021 expenses:
 - A. Parish Education was completely on-line through the 2020-21 Sunday school calendar. This lowered their expenses to 41.63% below expectations. With the resumption on in-person Sunday school in the fall of 2021 expenses are expected to increase during the fourth quarter.
 - B. Recreation and Fellowship has been unable to schedule activities. Their 2021 expenses are 48.31% below budget expectations. With fall activities already being planned, expenses are expected to increase in the fall of 2021.
2. Loss of Pastoral support due to the resignation of Pastor Sarah has reduced our personnel expenses to 12% below budget expectations.

So before we pop the champagne corks, let's remind ourselves of where we really are.

1. So far in 2021, we have been unable to provide in-person education for our young congregation members. Parish education is an important mandate of our "statement of purpose" in our constitution. We are now ready to re-start this important element of our church life, but we lack the necessary volunteer support to adequately fulfill this mission.
2. So far in 2021, gathering together as a community of Christ, has been, to say the least, a challenge. Planning special events and recreational activities has been hampered by the pandemic. As we move into the fall and schedule our first event, we are hopeful that the congregation will turn out.
3. Pastor Sarah's resignation left us without 32 hours of weekly pastoral support. Yes, this has been a positive for our budget. And yes, during the pandemic it was difficult to provide pastoral care to the congregation as in-person contact was discouraged. But the reality is that we are now left with Pastor Tedd's 12 hours of weekly pastoral support. Worship services, committee meetings and special services take up much of this allotted time. Little is left for other important pastoral outreach to the congregation. This is the reality of a "Part-Time" Pastoral ministry.



4. In addition, our volunteer Eucharistic ministers were unable to continue their work during the pandemic, as the congregation members they served the most were also the most vulnerable among us and unable to receive the sacrament as was our monthly mission to do so.
5. But the biggest impact the pandemic has had on us has been our lack of participation. Church attendance has been greatly reduced and understandably so, but we have a more serious shortage of volunteers. Without volunteers we lack the ability to staff our committees. Our committees are the life blood of our congregation as they provide the support for all we do. Here are a few of the areas where volunteers impact our everyday church life:
 - A. Worship and Music uses volunteers to plan services and select hymns, set up the altar for each service, provide worship support as assisting ministers, choir members, ushers, lay readers, acolytes, and communion preparation and clean up.
 - B. Parish Education uses volunteers to prepare educational curriculum, teach Sunday school classes and provide educational support to those seeking confirmation.
 - C. Recreation and Fellowship uses volunteers to plan social events and provide support to the congregation through other special events like funeral dinners. Volunteers are needed to staff the kitchen for these events for food preparation, food service and clean up.
 - D. Property committee needs volunteers to support the on-going work of our Sexton as he keeps the building plant and equipment in good working order. When necessary, bids need to be secured for repair work and the building is in constant need of attention to keep it safe and secure for the congregation.
 - E. The office staff needs volunteers to help with the monthly newsletter and any special mailings that need to be prepared for distribution to the congregation.

A mailing was recently sent out to you asking for your support for Zion's 2022 budget. Pledges have already started to come in and your support for Zion and its ministry is greatly appreciated. Your continued generosity will allow us to continue God's work in our community. In addition to your contributions, we ask that you consider volunteering for one of our congregational support committees. Volunteering for one small activity or committee task will help lighten the load for the few dedicated members of our congregation who have continued to serve you tirelessly during these last months. Please consider giving your time as well as your financial support. We guarantee it will make Zion an even better place to celebrate and worship.



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22 July 2021
Mary Magdalene, Apostle

Dear Synod,

It's been a while since my last update to you on my cancer treatment and health. I have completed three 21-day cycles and part of a fourth cycle of chemotherapy. Testing indicates the multiple myeloma is in a "very good partial response" state and I am able now to move to the next step in my treatment protocol which is a stem cell transplant. The transplant process will begin with the mobilization of my stem cells via medication and then collection via apheresis. The timeframe for this process is August 6-11, 2021.

On August 16, 2021, I will be admitted to University Hospital – Cleveland for three weeks. During this timeframe I will receive a high dose chemotherapy medication followed by receiving back my stem cells. The remaining time in hospital will center around recovery and infection prevention. I will then be discharged but must remain in the Cleveland area for an additional three weeks for observation and appointments at UH with my care team. Patri will take FMLA during this time to be with me and be my primary care provider. Both three-week periods may be extended or shortened based on my body's abilities to rebound from the various medical treatments. It is my expectation that I will be discharged to my home by the last week in September.

A friend recently reminded me that those who give find it hard to receive. This is true. Yet, I can say with confidence your prayers, notes, cards, texts, calls, emails, etc. have sustained me and my family during this time of diagnosis and treatment. I am motivated to keep a positive attitude and to see each step in this process as a step closer to becoming active and present in our synod once more. Again, I am reminded to receive your gifts but I find my depth of gratitude towards all of you hard to express. So I must let the words, "thank you" embody all.

And so we pray:

God of all mercies, we humbly thank you for your goodness to us and to all that you have made. We praise you for keeping us and all things in your care, and for all the blessings of life. Above all we bless you for your immeasurable love in redeeming the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. We pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies that with thankful hearts we may praise you, not only with our lips but in our lives. For you send to us in our need those who care and look out for us. Bless them in their love for us. Bless the hands of those who work for our health. Bless the minds of those who search for our healing. Bless the feet of those who come to us in our need. Bless the eyes of those who look after us. Bless the hearts of all who serve; fill them with compassion and patience; and work through them for the betterment and well-being of all. We ask all of this through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit be all worship and praise, now and forever. Amen

Thank you.

Called to Serve,

-Bp. Lozano



**Northwestern
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of the
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in
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**ASSISTANTS TO THE
BISHOP**

**Rev. Harold O. "Jake"
Jacobson**

Rev. Dr. Sandra K. Jones

**Office Manager
Ellen Shulin-Rutherford**

COMPANION SYNODS

**Karagwe Diocese of the
Evangelical Lutheran
Church in Tanzania**

**The Protestant Church in
Central Germany**

June 25, 2021

Zion Lutheran Church
100 S. Sixth Street
Indiana, PA 15701-7342

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Pentecost greetings to you in the name of our risen Savior, Jesus the Christ.

It is with great pleasure that we write this letter on behalf of the Synod Council and the churchwide organization, to thank you for faithfulness in meeting 90% of your mission support commitments for 2020.

During this time of pandemic, and modification, creation and invention of a variety means to gather as God's people, the faithfulness of your members and leadership to ensure that the mission support commitments were met to the best of your ability are a blessing. The pandemic added many unexpected and undue pressures to our congregational lives and your faithfulness demonstrates the giving hearts of God's people.

For many years, our Synod has been a beacon of stewardship for the ELCA, and your extraordinary efforts to do your utmost to meet your mission support commitment, once again demonstrates the heart and faithfulness of the people of your congregation and this Synod at large.

Your support models, that we give not because we should, but because we are aware of the grace provided to us by our merciful and loving God, and that giving is a faithful and thanks-filled response to that never-ending love.

Grace, peace and mercy to you, our dear sisters and brothers, and our deepest thanks for your generosity and faithfulness.

In Christ,

Ron King

Roland D. (Ron) King
Treasurer – Northwest Pennsylvania
Synod of the ELCA

Zion's On-Line Ministry Update

On Wednesday August 18, 2021, a committee was established to formulate a plan to formalize Zion's on-line ministry. This is now an important part of the worship experience for many of our members and upgrades are needed to our current equipment to improve the audio and video quality of the live streamed worship services. The committee has received seed money for equipment purchases and several ideas were discussed concerning ways to enhance our current process.

The committee is now looking into purchasing a new laptop computer and web cameras to replace the current iPhone system. Tapping into the church's audio system will enable us to improve the sound quality and the video feed will move to the balcony to remove it from in front of the altar.

The committee is depending on those of you who regularly view the service on line to keep us informed on how things are going. We welcome your input as we work together to make our on-line services better.

Zion On-Line Ministry

In-Person Worship attendance and on-line viewing last month

| Service Dates | Saturday | Sunday | On-Line Viewing |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------|--------|-----------------|
| July 25 th (Christmas in July service) | NA | 59 | 231 |
| August 1 st (Luther Chapel Anniversary) | NA | NA | 175 |
| August 7 and 8 | 15 | 29 | 68 |
| August 14 and 15 | 10 | 29 | 102 |
| August 21 and 22 | 18 | 17 | 55 |

Zion's Fall Calendar begins to take shape

As we head into the fall 2021 season, Zion is adding events to its calendar with opportunities for our congregation to learn, dine, and be entertained.

On September 12, 2021, the Zion Parish Education committee will open in person Sunday school. The Sunday school will be re-locating in the former Katie's Closet area. Capital improvement funds were used to have the walls repaired and painted, and new flooring has been installed, giving the space a bright new look for the incoming students. The congregation is encouraged to stop by and view this new learning space for our Sunday school attendees.

On Saturday October 3, 2021 the Recreation and Fellowship committee is sponsoring a congregation event. "Oktoberfest" will be held in the newly renovated social hall. The committee will be providing pork and sauerkraut. Attendees are asked to bring a "German themed" covered dish or desert. The committee will also be providing ice for those who wish to bring their own beer or wine to the event. Music and entertainment will be provided to give the event a more "festive" atmosphere. (Hint: audience participation may be required!)

On Saturday October 16, 2021 Zion's Evangelism committee is sponsoring a bus trip to Sight and Sound in Lancaster PA to attend the play "Queen Esther". For those who have never been to Sight and Sound, be prepared for gorgeous scenery, great visual effects, and yes, even some live animals. There are still a few seats available on the bus so please make sure you don't miss out on the fun. Reservation forms are inside this newsletter.

COVID-19 Masking Plan for Sunday School Sessions

Proposal/Plan: Due to the young population and the current recommendations of the CDC, all students, teachers, parents, visitors, and volunteers will be required to wear masks during Sunday School.

Reasoning: The majority of the students are 12 years-of-age and younger. They cannot be vaccinated at this time. In order to protect all of the children involved in Sunday School classes, the students, teachers, parents, volunteers, and visitors will be required to wear a mask. This also reflects the current CDC recommendations for indoor activity/functions.

Parents will be asked to keep children home if they are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19.

SAVE THE DATE

Remember Jerry Ruffner's Annual Film Festivals? Well, he is planning a festival for this fall. The date will be Saturday, November 6, from 7:00 to 9:00 PM in the Social Hall as usual. Be sure to check October and November's Newsletters for more information.

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: Sharon Twaddle, Marvin, Chris Howard, Dick Smith, Pastor Roy Washill, Paul Davis, Jenn Rising, Bishop Lozano, Jessica (Chapman) Badowski, Prisca Maier, Jim Chapman, Sande Shotts, Ruth, Cliff, Karen Holland, Laurie Pate, Loretta Piper, B. Tamski, Ken Vinton, David Kunkle, Allison Miller, Adam Chilenski, Dennis Turner, Kristine Anderson Volpatti, Kathy Yerep, Ken Campbell, Gene Shotts, 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, Bob Butchkoski, 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, Noelle 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.

GIVING REPORT: MONTH OF AUGUST

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Needed for August operating budget: | \$ 13,470.83 |
| Received in August: | <u>\$ 10,362.00</u> |
| Amount Still Due for August: | \$ 3,108.83 |

Does not include the end of the month giving

THANK YOU

Thanks to all who made the memorial service for Fred a time of comfort and hope in this difficult time.

Peggy Schrock

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Margaret Buckshaw

Roberta Ryan

Tracey McEldowney

Diane Howard

Benj McEldowney

Josh Widdowson

Ed Chapman

Jean Casaday

Kallen Snyder

Wayne Kmetz

Ross Nycum

Ron Anderson

Colin Carloni

Dan Heggenstaller

Karen Jones

Don Seagren

Rhett Snyder

Mack Kuhne

Aurora Blank

Lilliana Blank

Jacob Gill

Isaac Miller

Carol Guba

Jeannie Park

Richard Thorell

Irene Wallaert

Marietta Foltz

Matt McEldowney



ZION ROAD TRIP
“SIGHT AND SOUND” (Lancaster, PA)
“QUEEN ESTHER”

Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021

Time: Will leave Walmart parking lot (near the old Rita’s Ice) 8:00 AM. Arrive back at Walmart parking lot around 11:30 PM and midnight.

Place: Sight and Sound Theater in Lancaster, PA....Set in the opulent yet perilous Persian Empire, QUEEN ESTHER is a captivating tale of beauty and bravery. Experience one of the most riveting Bible stories of the Old Testament as it comes to life with magnificent sets, special effects and live animals.

Price: \$172 per person
\$116 children (ages 4-11)

Price includes tickets to production (will be in center section row D, E & F, (4, 5 and 6 rows back from stage). Dinner after the show will be at the Hershey Farm Restaurant (family style). We will stop at Middlesex Diner in Carlisle, PA for brunch before the show (you are on your own).

Minimum of 36 people are needed to reserve the bus, reservations need to be made by August 31, 2021 and payment due by September 15, 2021. Please make all checks payable to Zion Lutheran Church. For additional information contact Kim Balcerak at 724/388-2341 or winnow@verizon.net, or Zion Lutheran Church at 724/465-5597, zion.lutheran@comcast.net.



**SIGN UP FOR TRIP “QUEEN ESTHER”
Sight and Sound (Lancaster, PA)**

Number of persons attending:

Adult's _____ Children _____

Name of Person Attending:

1. _____

Phone # _____

2. _____

Phone # _____

3. _____

Phone # _____

4. _____

Phone # _____



*Again this year Zion Lutheran Church
will participate in.....*

BOSCOV'S

Friends Helping Friends 25th Anniversary

ONE DAY ONLY

Wednesday, October 20, 2021*

8 AM to 11 PM

(IN STORE ONLY)

For just a \$5.00 pass you get a one day* shopping pass to Boscov's for 25% off most items, 15% off cosmetics and fragrances and 10% off small appliances. This is a great way to start your Christmas shopping, and to spend the day with your friends, family and neighbors. To purchase your \$5.00 pass, see Bev in the Zion office or Kim Balcerak 724/388-2341 or email winnow@verizon.net.

MINUTES OF THE CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

July 12, 2021

Call to Order

- A. Opening Prayer**
- B. Attendance** K. Huston, R. Wissinger, S. Horner, K. Gaylor, G. Sechrist, Pr. Tedd, B. Mehus, D. Keith, K. McCullough, K. Balcerak. Absent- B. Slade (excused)
- II. Devotions** – Pr. Tedd- W. H. Auden- For the time being- read a passage from the book and led a discussion- August- K. Gaylor
- III. Approval of June minutes-** M/ K. Gaylor, 2nd K. Balcerak
- IV. Communications:** Pr. Tedd- Has spoken with an individual who stole money from the women and children’s fund, as well as books that were for sale years ago. They had donated \$40 to the church a few years ago; but felt guilty and they are going to donate \$30 a month for a year. They are working on forgiving themselves. Pr. Tedd is in communication w/ her. **Pastors’ Report-** Both Christmas in July & 175th anniversary for Luther Chapel are upcoming. Hope to have both congregations represented at both events.
- V. Review of Financial Report (June 2021).** Incoming donations are up 3.5%. Zion has received \$26,500 of the budget challenge money so far, \$36,000 pledged; some people are sending in their contributions throughout the year. The budget looks good for the year as expenses are down. The organ needed repaired, and it was more involved than initially planned. Motion to send for audit.
- Budget for 2022** – Ask for pledges from congregation. This has been done in the past, but not for a while. This will allow Ad Fin to begin working on a budget and then fine tune it based on the pledge amount. Judging on responses received from informational update, responses should happen quickly. A letter will be sent out in August with a Sept 30 deadline for response. K. Huston will draft a letter and ask for input.
- VI. Committee Reports**
- A. Standing Committees**
- Administration and Finance** – Kevin Huston
Endowment Fund Policy Guide- Reach out to Ryan Ebner by September to draw something up.
User Names and Passwords- Get usernames and passwords written down and put them in the safe. During the pandemic, some members of the congregation are feeling detached. Should we have a formal way of reaching out to people? How do we go about contacting people? S. Horner & K. Balcerak will coordinate.
- Staff Support** – Rik Wissinger- Vacations are scheduled and approved. Support for Bev? Teaching more about what computer programs are available and what they are capable of.
- Constitution Compliance** – Becky Slade- Absent
- Evangelism /Stewardship** – Kim Balcerak
Zion’s On-Line Ministry – We will continue to reach out online as not everyone has Facebook. Worship & Music will present a budget improving the technology to Council. There is a technological grant available through ELCA that we could work out to cover costs. This may pay for someone with experience to come in and teach some members how to use a laptop and webcams. Some people are unable to come to services due to work, geographical constraints, and are homebound, so an online service is the only way some people can participate.

MINUTES OF THE CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL—cont**July 12, 2021**

Subcommittee to manage –Facebook, web site, on-line worship Membership contact information– follow up with non-responders.

Site and Sound “Esther” trip- Sat Oct 16th. There are 36 people needed to fill the bus. Trip will include dinner at Hershey Farms. \$172 adults, \$116 for 4-11 years of age. The seats are good, in the center section.

Parish Education – Gail Sechrist- Sunday School area paint looks good. Concerned with getting help with VBS. VBS may be canceled if help isn't available.

Property – Dave Keith

Capital Improvement Projects – Sunday school- Patching & painting is complete, Jerry is waiting on a date from Affordable Interiors for flooring installation. The project is supposed to be completed by the end of the month. Some electric outlets need replaced upstairs due to lack of grounding. An estimate for running electric to garage was \$700. The sink & faucet will be replaced by Eagle Air in the upstairs restroom.

ZARP – Committee on “Green Space”

Window Reconstruction- still working on a plan for the project.

Recreation and Fellowship – Kathy Gaylor- Some events are being planned, potluck, Oktoberfest, possibly a cookout in the greenspace area.

Social Ministry – Kathy Gaylor- There is a funeral luncheon upcoming.

Trinity 3-2-1 Rik Wissinger- Letter of progress in last newsletter. Itemized financial structure has been formed. Within a month, and each month thereafter, they will be distributed to each entity. The next meeting is on August 17th. If anyone has anything for Rik to bring up, they can bring it up at the next council meeting.

Worship and Music – Pastor Tedd- Hymns selected through July and August. A planning meeting will happen on July 23 @ 10am for Christmas in July. A question was brought up if there are there any plans on moving back to intinction communion. Pr. Tedd indicated it was not recommended for anytime soon. Any chance of Acolytes coming back? There is discussion about trying to, but nothing solid.

- VII. Old Business** -None
- VIII. New Business** - None
- IX. Closing Prayers and Adjournment**

Submitted 7/15/2021 Brian Mehus

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

August 5, 2021

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

Committee issues discussed:

Financial

1. The committee reviewed the church's financial report for July 2021. Income for the month was \$13,049.31 (96.10% of budget). Expenses were \$12,808.10 (84.90% of budget). Our financial picture continues to look better. Year to date our income is tracking 3.22% above our budgeted number and our expenses are tracking 6.97% below our budget expectations.
2. A question was raised by Kim Balcerak concerning the World Hunger dedicated account. Kevin explained that member contributions to World Hunger are accumulated in the dedicated account each month, then released to the Synod at the close of each month. These monies are then forwarded to the National Church from the Synod with the other synod congregations' contributions.
3. A question was raised asking for clarification on how the "on-line" giving process worked. Kim Balcerak was tasked with researching this with Beverly Swatsworth.
4. A question was raised concerning the current cash balance (\$90,986.70) in the S&T checking account. A motion was made (Rik Wissinger/Don Seagren) to reduce and maintain the checking account at or near \$40,000. Motion passed.
5. The committee discussed making an extra payment to Pastor Cogar of \$400.00 as compensation for providing sermons during his vacation. A motion to recommend this to council (Wissinger/Seagren) was made and passed.
6. The committee discussed making payment to Bastian in the amount of \$50.00 for his providing technical assistance with our live streaming of the Sunday services. A motion was made (Dickson/Balcerak) to recommend to council that we pay this amount and continue to compensate Bastian at a rate of \$10.00 per service until such time that volunteers can be found and trained to take over this process. Motion passed.
7. Rik Wissinger asked that the committee consider salary increases for 2022 for Pastor Cogar, Christine Clewell, Beverly Swatsworth and Jerry Ruffner. The committee will discuss and make recommendations at the August meeting.

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES—cont

August 5, 2021

2022 Budget:

8. The committee reviewed the letter and pledge card to be sent to the congregation asking for pledges to be made toward Zion's 2022 budget. Minor corrections were made and the committee recommended that this be forwarded to council for final approval. When approved the letters will be mailed the week of August 9th.

Other Topics

9. A committee has formed and met to proceed with designs for the "green space" at the former parish house location.
10. The committee recommended that council approve a bid for re-surfacing and re-lining our parking lot at a cost of \$665.00. A motion (Seagren/Wissinger) was made and passed. This will be referred to council for approval.
11. The Sunday school staff is recommending that children attend in-person but wear masks beginning in the fall. The committee will seek council support for this recommendation at its August meeting on August 9th.
12. The committee learned that this year's vacation bible school has been canceled due to lack of leader volunteers.
13. The committee learned that funds were received to be used to upgrade equipment for our on-line ministry.
14. Initial deposit toward the congregation's ELCA Foundation account is ready to be made. Account signatures need to be notarized and accompany the application and check. Kevin will contact a notary to arrange this and inform the signatory to complete the form.

The Committee's next meeting will be Wednesday, September 8, 2021 at 7:00 PM

Zion's Property Committee Work Continues

As we head into the fall 2021 season, Zion's property committee continues to focus on facilities upgrades and improvements.

At this writing, work is being completed on the new flooring in the third floor Sunday school area. Some unexpected costs were incurred when it was discovered that the floor under the removed carpeting was in bad shape. New underlayment was needed to level the floor so that the new vinyl flooring could be properly installed.

With the raising of the parish house as the final step in our ZARP project, the remaining garage structure is now exposed to the street. The property committee has contracted to have the structure repaired and re-painted to give it a "fresh face" when viewed from the street. The wooden shed behind the garage, which is no longer needed will also be torn down and removed. The cost for this work will be \$ 2,950.00.

Zion's parking lot is in need of a new top coat and fresh in painting for the parking spaces. This has been contract for and should be completed before Labor Day, weather permitting. The cost for this work will be \$665.00

The committee is considering some future projects for the fall:

1. The remaining driveway leading from Sixth Street to the parish house garage needs to be either repaired or blacktopped. No estimates have been procured for this at time of printing.
2. The outside door and overhang leading from the Pastor's office, now exposed to the street, needs a new coat of paint. A bid awaiting approval for this work is \$ 700.00.

The ceiling tiles in the Narthex need replacing due to extensive water damage. A bid for this awaiting approval is \$ 500.00.

Our Capital Improvement Fund is in desperate need of additional money if we are to continue to preserve and improve our facilities. Please consider a contribution to the fund. You will surely see the benefit of your contribution in a church building you can be proud of.

PARISH ED COMMITTEE MINUTES

July 28, 2021

Present: Jess Baum Mehus, Pastor Tedd Cogar, Beth Wheeler, and Jenn Rising

Absent: Gail Sechrist, Dory Campbell

VBS Update: Beth Wheeler

Beth was only able to get one volunteer. VBS is cancelled for this year. VBS date will be moved to Saturday, August 13, 2022 to be held at Blue Spruce Park in a pavilion. The deposit will be transferred for that date. The same theme will be used in 2022 to involve the community and families.

Catechism: Pastor Tedd

No update.

Sunday School Rooms: Jess Baum Mehus

Flooring going in week of August 9-13. (8/4/21 - Received updated from Beverly that the flooring will be started today.)

Plans for moving supplies/organizing the new Sunday School rooms:

No date was agreed upon for having help to move and organize the space based on a finish date of Aug. 9-13. Beth may be able to help week of Aug. 23. Jess will begin work when flooring is done.

**** With flooring starting on Aug. 4, Jess will communicate with the group to check on new availability for help.*

Sunday School Calendar: Jess Baum Mehus

Calendar – Weekly Sunday School will continue. This may change based on teacher availability and help.

Rally day will be on 9/12/21. Sunday School will begin immediately following the Sunday church service.

Sunday School Teachers:

Recruiting teachers: Posts will be put in the bulletin, newsletter, and on Facebook.

Jenn will email Christine about a student to play music.

PARISH ED COMMITTEE MINUTES—cont

July 28, 2021

Sunday School COVID Plan: Jess Baum Mehus

Plan Ideas: Students are not old enough to be vaccinated. All students and teachers will be masked. A plan recommendation will be sent to Pastor Tedd and Kevin Huston.

***With potential increase in COVID-19 cases, in-person Sunday School may need to be re-evaluated due to young population of our students. This will be discussed at the August Parish Ed. meeting.

Rally Day Plan: Committee

September 12, 2021: Simple art project for the kids to use as a decoration in the room. An open house for the congregation may be held. This will be contingent on preparation and COVID-19 cases.

Reformation Sunday: Committee

Oct. 31 - Began discussion of ideas for Reformation Sunday. A play is a possible option. Try to involve the kids in the service. The committee will try to find ways for children to be involved in service at other times, also.

Advent Gala: Jenn Rising

Jenn has offered to plan/organize the intergenerational event. Theme would be symbols of Christmas. Last Saturday of Nov. 27 from 3-5pm. This will consist of craft stations. Volunteers will be needed for each station (Candy cane, wreath, angels; short story and craft).

We will invite Luther Chapel; Trinity 3-2-1. Jenn will send advertisement to Bev to post closer to the date. We will need volunteers to prepare/serve(?) refreshments.

Easter Event – Committee

April 10: Ideas for a new Easter event. Paint party – canvases; carbon paper; and paint pictures or a string art activity. This would be an Intergenerational Event.

"GREEN SPACE" COMMITTEE REPORT

August 3, 2021

Members Present: Sue Dickson, Kimberly McCullough, Kathy Gaylor

An informal meeting was held on Tuesday, 8/3/21, to talk about our visions for the green space.

Overall, we agreed that the area should be designed to accommodate a variety of congregation functions, including, but certainly not limited to:

1. Space for Sunday School classes to gather for study or recreation,
2. Space for congregation celebrations, cook- outs, festivals, games, etc.,
3. Space to accommodate a large rental tent,
4. An area to compliment the social hall for VBS,
5. And a designated small, contemplative area for a 'prayer garden' with benches, aromatic plants, and perhaps a statue or plaque.

We discussed a good use of the sloped area of the lawn just above the sidewalk, and the use of plants and trees to delineate the large flat lawn area to be useful to us and attractive from the street.

Our first step will be to contact Tony Brock, landscaper, and set up a time that he could meet us at the lawn to talk about possibilities and choices of positioning and plantings. We hope to meet with Tony before the end of August. Hopefully, we can have a few flowering trees planted this fall so they will bloom in the spring.

Aside from planning, most of the activity will take place next spring and beyond. We understand that there will be work done on the garage, shed, and driveway sometime soon, so we will wait for those projects to be completed first.

A number of very good ideas for detail were exchanged and we will attempt to incorporate many into the finished product. A top priority for us is to design this area in a way that will require a minimum of maintenance by Jerry or others.

Amount of Expenditure: None

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Gaylor

TRINITY 3-2-1 UPDATE

Hello to all

Your Trinity 3-2-1 Advisory Board met on August 17 the discussed/worked on a number of items.

Father Bill Geiger and Ann Marie Schweitzer have painstakingly come up with a straight forward “quick report” that, we feel, will satisfy our three congregations. As with any change, this new report may take some getting used to; but overall, it is more efficient.

The Christmas in July and 175th Anniversary Celebration shared services were a big success so our board members are going to think of other shared services for each quarter.

We also unanimously agreed to recommend a pay increase for Pastor Tedd in the 2022 budgets of all congregations.

Many thanks to all Trinity board members for the consistently good work and support.

Our next Advisory Board meeting is November 16. If anyone has a concern or question that we might be able to resolve, don't hesitate to email or call me.

In Christ's service

Rik Wissinger

FALL IS COMING



September 2021

| Date | Lay Reader | Altar Guild | Ushers | Assist. Min. | Tellers |
|------------|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|--------------|
| Sept 4/5 | 5:30-Jim Chapman 9:30-Sue Dickson | Sat-5:30-AM-Sharon O'Keiff; PM-Shirley Horner Sun-Becky Slade | 5:30 9:30-Pernell Bowersox, Jim Slade | 5:30-Kevin Huston 9:30-Beth Grafton | Kim Balcerak |
| Sept 11/12 | 5:30-Karen Gresh 9:30-Jenn Rising | Sat-AM&PM-Louise Buchanan Sun-Kathy Huston | 5:30 9:30-Don & Dawn Seagren | 5:30-Rik Wissinger 9:30-Beth Grafton | Kim Balcerak |
| Sept 18/19 | 5:30-Dante Adamson 9:30-Claudia Ditch | Sat-AM&PM-Kim Balcerak Sun-Sue Dickson | 5:30 9:30-Gary & Tyson Ellenberger | 5:30-Kim Balcerak 9:30-Beth Grafton | Kim Balcerak |
| Sept 25/26 | 5:30-Josh Widdowson 9:30-Darla Mechling | Sat-AM-Sue Dickson; PM-Shirley Horner Sun-Darla Mechling | 5:30 9:30-Pernell Bowersox, Jim Slade | 5:30-Kim Balcerak 9:30-Jenn Rising | 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

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------------|----|------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 5:30 Liturgy Zion office closed |
| 5 8:30 Choir Practice 9:30 Liturgy 10:45 Choir Practice | 6 HOLIDAY—OFFICE CLOSED (JERRY OFF)  | 7 | 8 7:00 Adm/Finance | 9 | 10 Zion office closed | 11 5:30 Liturgy |
| 12 8:30 Choir Practice 9:30 Liturgy 10:45 Choir Practice Rally Day/Sunday School | 13 6:30 Council | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 Zion office closed | 18 10-12 Food Pan- try 5:30 Liturgy |
| 19 8:30 Choir Practice 9:30 Liturgy 10:45 Choir Practice Sunday School | 20 | 21 7 Property | 22 | 23 | 24 Zion office closed | 25 5:30 Liturgy |
| 26 8:30 Choir Practice 9:30 Liturgy 10:45 Choir Practice Sunday School | 27 | 28 | 29 Newsletter Mailed 7 Parish Ed | 30 | | |



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

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 Fax: (724)465-4512
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 On the web @www.zionindianapa.org
 (New Website)

Date Mailed: August 25, 2021

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CHANGE SERVICE
 REQUESTED



PASTOR/PASTORAL CARE

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

ZION STAFF

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Dir. of Christian Ed. | Jessica Mehus |
| 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
 Rik Wissinger
 Shirley Horner
 Pastor Tedd Cogar