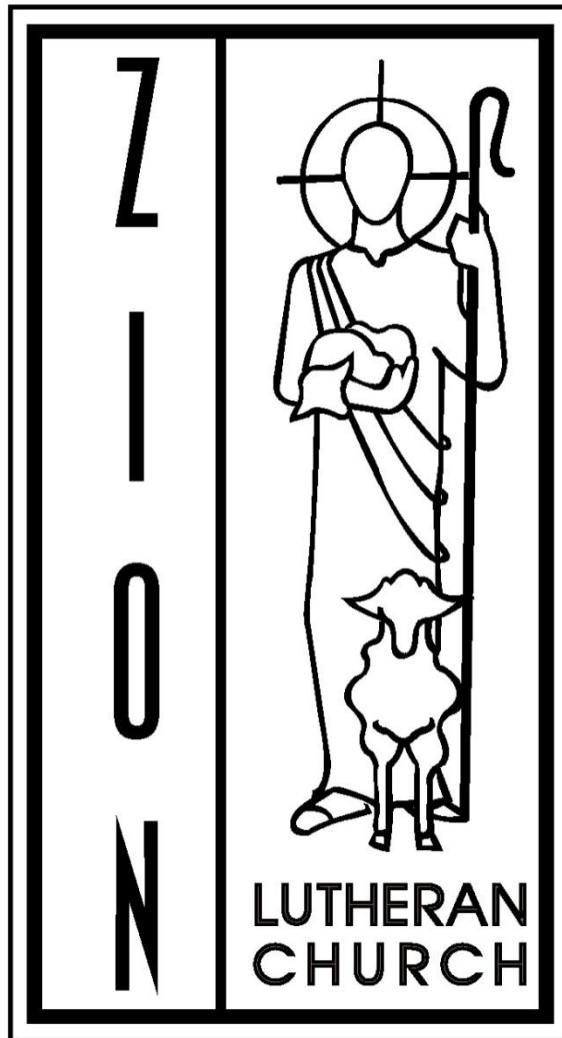


***Annual Report of the Congregation
2020***



***530 Sixth Street
International Falls, MN 56649
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ANNUAL REPORT OF ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH – 2020

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Zion Lutheran Church
Annual Congregational Meeting Agenda
January 31, 2021

1. Call to Order
2. Establishment of Quorum
3. Approval of Agenda
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 - Zion Lutheran Church Budget for 2021
 - Report of Nominating Committee / Motion for approval of ballot
 - Election - Council and Nominating Committee for 2021
9. Other Business
 - Motion to Adjourn
 - Closing Prayer

2020 COUNCIL MEMBERS

NAME	CURRENT TERM	TERM ENDS
Bob Peterson President	1	2021
Carol Schumacher Vice President	1	2022
Doug Anderson Treasurer	1	2023
Elsie Korpi Secretary	2	2022
Jim Stavseth	2	2022
Gail Costley	1	2021
Hunter Wilson	1	2023
June Wilson	1	2022
Belmer Cole	2	2021
Shawn Kelly	1	2021
John Cann	1	2023
Shari Schneider	2	2022

CONGREGATIONAL STATISTICS – 2020

Baptisms	Children	3
Funerals	Members	18
	Non Members	9
Weddings		0
Youth Confirmed		0

Average Weekly Worship Attendance 25
(This includes Nursing home attendance)

MEMBERSHIP

Baptized Membership 12/31/2020	718
Confirmed Membership 12/31/2020	492

ZLC Worship Attendance

	Attendance by Month											
Month	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	*2017	*2018	*2019	*2020
Jan	653	642	649	577	422	520	424	477	497	365	383	242
Feb	732	568	560	480	500	530	482	339	441	548	434	324
Mar	963	630	689	647	960	669	763	735	686	620	705	197
Apr	774	719	907	909	561	868	648	410	851	680	760	0
May	840	738	733	524	491	653	558	607	554	532	475	0
Jun	493	516	430	413	516	512	441	501	544	397	523	0
Jul	436	460	620	621	404	460	491	591	564	431	438	0
Aug	646	631	424	434	373	502	532	445	451	473	397	0
Sep	785	718	685	708	562	532	566	534	450	594	532	0
Oct	701	832	734	513	564	521	427	596	554	493	372	0
Nov	731	593	570	529	515	526	545	451	389	517	429	0
Dec	939	960	924	825	901	834	966	701	672	860	726	0
Total	8693	8007	7925	7180	6769	7127	6843	6447	6653	6510	6174	763
Ave/Wk	164	167	154	152	138	130	137	132	124	128	118	69

*This includes Good Samaritan attendance.

New Members

Baptized in 2020

Landin Thomas Biondich

Niko DeBenedict

Everly Paige Lessard

New Members in 2020 - None

Marriages in 2020 - None

Members – Confirmed - None

President's Report – 2020
Bob Peterson

Wow, what year to remember, 2020? Thank you for your continued support for the ministry of Zion. We paid off the building mortgage in January and were planning a mortgage burning celebration when the pandemic hit in March. We suspended services and meetings at the Church and we were open for appointments only. Thanks to Joe, our SAM, Ted Saxton, John Faith, and volunteers we were able to offer our Sunday service on the radio, live streamed on Facebook and web site, as well on the local access cable channel. We created a Smart Team as recommended by the Synod to give direction to the Council on how and when to reopen our facility and worship services.

Our Call Committee continued to search for candidates and conduct interviews. On July 17th they recommended their candidate of choice. Zion offered the call to Pastor Mark Peters on August 12th and Pastor Mark began serving Zion on September 1st.

I would personally like to thank Joe, our SAM, for his dedicated service to our Zion Congregation and to Good Samaritan. I would also like our great staff: Pastor Mark Peters, Joe, music director, Joelle, secretary, Guy, custodian, and Kris, financial secretary, for all their dedication and hard work. Also, thank you to all the Council Members, ZLCW, Committee members, volunteers, and the membership for the time and talent you give to Zion. I would like to extend a special thank you to my wife, Pam, for her support during the last three years as your President.

We pray for your continued support to Zion in the new challenges that 2021 will bring.

In Christ,

Bob Peterson, President

**Zion Lutheran Church
Annual Congregational Meeting
January 26, 2020 10:30 am**

President Peterson called the meeting to order at 10:35 am. A quorum of 50 members in attendance was established.

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Lloyd Arveson, seconded by Pam Peterson, and carried unanimously.

Opening devotions (followed by prayer) were given by Joe Belanger, SAM with scripture taken from I Corinthians, Ch 12 on “One Body, Many Parts”. ¹²The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ. ¹³For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body – whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free – and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. ²⁶If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. ²⁷Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

OFFICER REPORTS

President’s Report - See Page 6 of Report.

Secretary’s Report - With no additions or corrections to the Annual January 27, 2019 Congregational Meeting Minutes, a motion to accept the minutes as written and presented was made by Garner Wiley, seconded by Maxine Corrin, and carried unanimously.

Treasurer’s Report - Statement of Income & Expense for 2019: Total Income, \$183,259.57; Total Expense, \$152,034.13; with Income Less Expense of \$31,225.44. Balance Sheet for December 31, 2019: Fund Balance/Equity, \$3,350,471.50; Total Liability & Fund Balance, \$3,404,471.72; and Dedicated Account Balance of \$47,678.74.

President Peterson reported that \$19,306.39 has been paid down on the Thrivent Loan and that the balance shown of \$3,318.86 was also paid. That now makes us “mortgage free”. This “*good news*” brought applause from the Congregation. He thanked Kris Helleloid, Financial Secretary, and Shari Schneider, Treasurer, for their dedication and hard work.

A motion to accept the Treasurer/Financial Secretary’s Report for 2019 was made by Ward Merrill, seconded by Mike Stanich, and carried unanimously.

MINISTRY REPORTS

Report from Joe Belanger, SAM - Attended the Annual Synodically Authorized Ministers Meeting with Bishop Thomas Aitkin last week. Says he has had to meet some personal challenges. Recently received \$500 cash in camperships, a check to sponsor three radio broadcasts from a couple who do not belong to Zion, but listen faithfully. We have 100-200 people listening to our live streaming of Sunday's services. Both are incredible outreaches. Thanked the youth for their participation. And, thanked everyone for the love and support shown to him.

Pastoral Acts/Membership Information - See Page 4 of Report.

Worship Attendance - See Page 5 of Report.

COMMITTEE/PARTNER MINISTRY REPORTS (Highlights of 2019) - See written reports on Pages 16- Page 24.

Call Committee - No written report.

Pam Peterson addressed the Congregation with "Since we are not getting any new candidates, do we want to look at the Proclaimed roster of candidates?" Marva Fairchild and Tim Gerlach expressed their support.

Ward Merrill, from the Call Committee, stated that the Committee interviewed two candidates both of whom accepted positions elsewhere – that they have not received any new inquiries. He stated "There is not a broad field to look at...that he would personally entertain taking a look at the Proclaimed list and open it up to the Call Committee."

Gail Costley stated she didn't feel that the written and oral comments received were a valid count since there was not a vote taken. Asked "Can we call a Congregational meeting, vote, and come back?"

Russell Strand - "We cannot afford a full-time pastor. Look at our financial statement. What can we afford? We've been down this road before. We have air conditioning units that need to be replaced at a cost of \$20,000+. We need to start thinking outside of the box. We do not want to go down the road to financial ruin."

President Peterson - "There are ways. We are in the Call Process with the Synod. We are close to having money in the budget for a pastor. I feel that with an ordained pastor, our membership will increase."

Jim Stavseth - "Back in 2016 - 2017 we went to the Synod to get help. We took a look at collaborating with First Lutheran when Pastor Bruce Carlson was serving as an Interim Pastor. I would like to be able to talk to a pastor, but there isn't anyone here to talk to. Don't know what the answer is. If you take the nursing home out of the count, we are shrinking."

PROPOSALS FOR 2020

Zion Lutheran Church Budget for 2020

Proposed 2020 Budget - Projected Total Income, \$174,800.00; Total Expense, \$174,412.00; with Income Less Expense of \$388.00. Future projects - Air Conditioning and Restroom Renovations.

With no further questions or comments, a motion to accept the Proposed 2020 Budget as presented was made by Pam Peterson, seconded by Gail Costley, and carried unanimously.

Report of Nominating Committee/Motion for Approval

Pam Peterson advised Congregational members to familiarize themselves with the rules in Zion's "Constitution & Bylaws" and that copies are available in the office. Asked the question "Are we satisfied with what the Constitution says on what constitutes a member?" Voting members are confirmed members and shall have communed in this Congregation during the current or preceding year and shall have made a contribution of record to this Congregation. Members who have satisfied these basic standards shall have the privilege of voice and vote at every regular and special meetings of the Congregation. Membership can be terminated from the roll due to inactivity. (See Membership, Chapter 8.) Are we off track on these requirements? A member can contribute in many different ways. Amendments can be made. "There is a procedure that needs to be followed and is outlined in the Constitution", stated President Peterson.

Election - Council and Nominating Committee for 2020

Several members were called to fill the open spots on the Nominating Committee and the two spots on the Council. Those called were not receptive to serving at this time.

Outgoing members on the Nominating Committee are Stacey Cann, Maxine Corrin, Pam Peterson, and Pat Smythe. They are not eligible for consecutive re-election.

Note: The Zion Lutheran Constitution requires that there be two outgoing Council members to serve on the Nominating Committee. When this is not possible, the ELCA recommends that this position be filled with a former Council member as to comply with the intention of the Constitution. These candidates must also be ratified by the Congregation at its Annual Meeting.

President Peterson: "We have two (three year terms) positions open on the Council. We currently have twelve members, need to fill two. Duties of Council members are spelled out in the Constitution."

C12.01 – The voting membership of the Council shall consist of the pastors and not fewer than 12 and not more than 14 members of the Congregation including the officers of the Congregation. Any voting member of the Congregation may be elected, subject only to the limitation on the length of continuous service permitted in that office. A member's place on the

Council shall be declared vacant if the member a) ceases to be a voting member of the Congregation; or b) is absent from four successive regular meetings of the Council.

Joe Belanger, SAM entertained a motion to nominate Hunter Wilson to the Council. Motion to approve was made by Jim Stavseth, seconded by Mike Stanich, and carried unanimously.

Garner Wiley and Tim Gerlach volunteered to fill two spots on the Nominating Committee. Motion to approve was made by Maxine Corrin, seconded by Pam Peterson, and carried unanimously.

Pat Smyithe added "We could go back over the list if *contribution doesn't have to be just monetary.*" With there being no further nominations from the floor, the Council will appoint; per President Peterson.

OTHER BUSINESS

Discussion ensued on the next step to take...do we need another comment period in order to welcome all input and comments...or can we move forward and call a special Congregational meeting? Do we need to set up a special committee to make sure that appropriate information gets out to the Congregation? President Peterson referred it to the Call Committee and it was agreed to put on the agenda for the upcoming February Council Meeting.

Comment by Pat Smyithe - "I find it difficult to understand the Constitution." President Peterson reiterated that it spells out what the Synod does and what the Congregation does. Amendments can be made. There is a procedure that needs to be followed that is spelled out in the Constitution.

It was again pointed out that we currently have a contract with Littlefork Lutheran in which Pastor Berry is serving as a mentor for Joe Belanger. We have the opportunity to explore more options with them. Joe, SAM stated he will not be pursuing the seminary. His contract ends on December 31st and the Synod will extend it as long as we stay in the Call Process, per President Peterson.

Other comments/questions: That if we separated from the Synod we might have to find another place to worship if the church building were to go back to the Synod. We will have a new Bishop soon...the Constitution could change. Can we have a part-time SAM and maybe a retired pastor? Another option would be to hire an interim pastor. President Peterson stated "There are opportunities that we can explore."

Motion to adjourn made by Russell Strand, seconded by Garner Wiley, and carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Elsie Korpi, Council Secretary

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
MINUTES OF SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
AUGUST 12, 2020 – 6:16 p.m.

Purpose: Pastor Call - Financial Package

Place: Backus Auditorium
Zoom with preregistration

A quorum having been established, President Peterson called the meeting to order:
Devotions – SAM – Joe Belanger – Ephesians 4 – Answer your call with unity, one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism. Live to the ability of our gifts from God.

President Peterson gave thanks to the Call Committee (Adam McIntyre – Chairman, Madison Foss, Ward Merrill, Dawn Piekarski, Gail Rognerud, Kara Schneider, and Gail Costley) for their service.

President Peterson made a motion to Extend a Call to Reverend Mark Peters, second by Craig Moe.

Ward Merrill spoke on the Committee’s recommendation of Reverend Mark Peters. Reverend Peters matched the five most critical tasks identified in our Ministry Site Profile and he was the Committee’s Candidate of Choice based on those strengths. When asked about hospital visits, Reverend Peters referred to them as ‘nuts and bolts ministry.’ Zion would benefit from Reverend Peters’ expertise and leadership skills.

SAM Joe Belanger said he was voting ‘yes’ as he would, among other things, be a good fit for our community.

President Peterson then presented the financial package and made a motion to accept the package, seconded by Nancy Anderson. Discussion followed then time allowed for completion and collection of written ballots.¹

SAM Joe Belanger gave a closing prayer.

There being no further business, upon Motion by Craig Moe, second by Jim Stavseth, motion carried and meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Gail L Costley, Secretary

¹ Ballots - Extend the Call - passed by more than a 2/3 majority - Financial Package - passed by more than a 2/3 majority

Zion Lutheran Church
Statement of Income & Expense
January 1 – December 31, 2020

INCOME

<u>OFFERINGS</u>	<u>Actual 2020</u>
Sunday Envelope Offering	\$146,254.50
Sunday Loose Offering	2,888.00
Sunday Initial Offering	130.00
Christmas Offering	1,880.00
Lent & Easter Offering	1,514.00
Thanksgiving Offering	255.00
Memorials	810.00
Operating Fund Offering	0.00
Miscellaneous Offering	0.00
TOTAL OFFERINGS	\$153,731.50
<u>OTHER INCOME</u>	
Building Use	\$325.00
Custodial Fees	150.00
Interest Income	20.97
Thrivent Funds	700.00
Miscellaneous	88.92
TOTAL OTHER INCOME	\$1,284.89
<u>TRANSFER FROM DEDICATED FUNDS</u>	
Sunday School	\$0.00
Vacation Bible School	0.00
Education (Other)	0.00
Camperships	0.00
Youth	0.00
Radio Broadcast	4,890.00
ELCA World Hunger	356.13
Community Café	866.10
Special Missions	1,069.00
Evangelism	0.00
Worship/Devotional Materials	2,197.25
Building Improvements	6,648.68
Miscellaneous	249.85
TOTAL TRANSFER FROM DEDICATED FUND	\$16,277.01
TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$171,293.40</u>

EXPENSEMISSION PARTNERS

NE MN Synod/ELCA Mission Support	\$1,600.00
Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry	800.00
ELCA World Hunger	356.13
Community Café	866.10
Special Missions	1,069.00

TOTAL MISSION PARTNERS \$4,691.23

PROGRAM & MINISTRY

Radio Broadcast	\$4,690.00
Sunday School	0.00
VBS	0.00
Education (other)	58.60
Camperships	0.00
Youth	0.00
ZYP Scholarship	0.00
Seminary Student/Support	0.00
Hospitality	0.00
Evangelism	0.00
Music-Zion Strings	0.00
Music-Chimes	107.85
Music-Organ/Choir	0.00
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	120.00
Stewardship	580.98
Worship/Devotional Mat'ls	4,621.35
Miscellaneous	242.00

TOTAL PROGRAM & MINISTRY \$,10,420.78

ADMINISTRATION

Advertising	\$767.75
Convention Expense	675.00
Mileage	660.68
Office sup/Equip/Maint	10,804.14
Postage	2,239.31
Financial Services	875.86
Call Committee	6,847.89
Employer Share FICA	4,488.54
Miscellaneous-(Admin)	746.00

TOTAL ADMINISTRATION \$28,105.17

CHURCH PROPERTY

UTILITIES

Garbage Services	\$654.05
Electricity	3,167.97
Natural Gas	6,166.60
Water	607.13
Telephone/Internet	<u>2,725.51</u>
TOTAL UTILITIES	\$13,321.26

MAINTENANCE

Custodial Service	\$1,879.26
Custodial Supplies	520.75
General Repair- Improvement	11,210.21
Musical Instruments	<u>137.00</u>
TOTAL MAINTENANCE	13,747.22

PROPERTY

Insurance: Property -Work Comp	\$4,275.00
Thrivent Loan - Interest	<u>18.93</u>
TOTAL PROPERTY	<u>\$4,293.93</u>

TOTAL CHURCH
PROPERTY \$31,362.41

STAFF

PASTOR

Continuing Education	\$0.00
Pension/Major Medical	11,731.20
Salary - Housing Allowance	<u>51,880.70</u>
TOTAL PASTOR	\$63,611.90

SECRETARY \$8,170.20

CUSTODIAL SUPPORT \$232.00

MUSIC COORDINATOR \$18,016.82

PASTORAL SUPPLY \$270.00

TOTAL STAFF \$90,300.92

TOTAL EXPENSE \$164,880.51

INCOME LESS EXPENSE \$6,412.89

Zion Lutheran Church
Balance Sheet – December 31, 2020

ASSETS

LIQUID ASSETS

TruStar Operating Checking Account	\$41,585.22
TruStar Dedicated Checking Account	50,781.99
Cash on Hand - Operating	1,002.50
Cash on Hand - Dedicated	<u>50.00</u>
TOTAL LIQUID ASSETS	\$93,419.71

FIXED ASSETS

Building and Contents	<u>\$3,320,351.00</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$3,413,770.71</u>

LIABILITIES

SHORT TERM

Operating Accounts Payable	\$5,059.57
Federal Payroll Withholding	869.76
Minnesota Payroll Withholding	<u>125.00</u>
TOTAL SHORT-TERM LIABILITIES	\$6,054.33

LONG-TERM

Thrivent Loan	\$0.00
---------------	--------

DEDICATED FUNDS PAYABLE

Dedicated Funds Payable	<u>\$50,831.99</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$56,886.32

FUND BALANCE

FUND BALANCE/EQUITY	<u>\$3,356,884.39</u>
TOTAL LIABILITY & FUND BALANCE	<u>\$3,413,770.71</u>

**Zion Lutheran Church
Contribution Analysis
01/01/2020 to 12/31/2020**

Count	Cumul Count	Pct.	Cumul Pct.	Total	Weekly Range	Monthly Range	Yearly Range
119	119	43%	43%	\$0.00	No. Contributions	No Contributions	No Contributions
20	139	7%	50%	620.00	0.01 -1.00	0.01 - 4.33	0.01 - 52.00
19	158	7%	57%	2,174.00	1.01 -3.00	4.34 - 13.00	52.01 - 156.00
7	165	3%	60%	1,470.00	3.01 -5.00	13.01 - 21.67	156.01 - 260.00
21	186	8%	67%	8,455.00	5.01 - 10.00	21.68 - 43.33	260.01 -520.00
23	209	8%	76%	15,331.00	10.01 - 15.00	43.34 - 65.00	520.01 - 780.00
13	222	5%	80%	11,740.00	15.01 - 20.00	65.01 - 86.67	780.01 - 1040.00
10	232	4%	84%	11,722.50	20.01 - 25.00	86.68 - 108.33	1040.01 - 1300.00
12	244	4%	88%	17,307.00	25.01 - 30.00	108.34 - 130.00	1300.01 - 1560.00
6	250	2%	91%	9,715.00	30.01 - 35.00	130.01 - 151.67	1560.01 - 1820.00
5	255	2%	92%	10,095.00	35.01 - 40.00	151.68 - 173.33	1820.01 - 2080.00
2	257	1%	93%	4,435.00	40.01 - 45.00	173.34 - 195.00	2080.01 - 2340.00
6	263	2%	95%	15,144.75	45.01 - 50.00	195.01 - 216.67	2340.01 - 2600.00
6	269	2%	97%	17,314.00	50.01 - 60.00	216.68 - 260.00	2600.01 - 3120.00
0	269		97%	0.00	60.01 - 70.00	260.01 - 303.33	3120.01 - 3640.00
2	271	1%	98%	7,635.00	70.01 - 80.00	303.34 - 346.67	3640.01 - 4160.00
1	272	0%	99%	4,175.00	80.01 - 90.00	346.68 - 390.00	4160.01 - 4680.00
1	273	0%	99%	4,750.00	90.01 - 100.00	390.01 - 433.33	4680.01 - 5200.00
3	276	1%	100%	20,020.00	100.01 -200.00	433.34 - 866.67	5200.01 - 10400.00
0	276		100%	0.00	200.01 - 300.00	866.68 - 1300.00	10400.01 - 15600.00
0	276		100%	0.00	300.01 - 400.00	1300.01 - 1733.33	15600.01 - 20800.00
0	276		100%	0.00	400.01-500.00	1733.34 - 2166.67	20800.01 - 26000.00
0	276		100%	0.00	Over 500	Over 2166.67	Over 26000.00

Zion Lutheran Church
Dedicated Account Balance of December 31, 2020

<u>ACCOUNT</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>
ELCA World Hunger	\$0.00
Falls Food Shelf	\$0.00
Backus Community Café	\$0.00
Special Missions	\$486.82
Chancel Choir	\$3,235.74
Handbell Choir	\$1,515.94
Zion Strings	\$876.19
Radio Broadcast	\$1,801.00
Organ/Piano Fund	\$0.00
Church Paraments	\$1,161.13
Sunday School/Confirmation	\$1,890.05
Youth/Camperships	\$3,101.69
Jesus Dollars	\$1,499.20
Recycled Cans	\$1,367.79
Bell Tower	\$5,547.52
Building Improvement	\$5,779.46
Building - Special Projects	\$4,045.00
Technological Improvements	\$3,091.32
Roy Janssen Fund	\$500.00
Diane Semmler Legacy	\$13,881.19
ZLCW Quilters	\$0.00
ZLCW General	\$0.00
Poinsettia	\$0.00
Easter Lilies	\$7.22
Evangelisms Projects	\$880.52
Miscellaneous Projects	\$97.20
Interest Income Dedicated Account	<u>\$67.01</u>
Total	\$50,831.99

Education Committee Annual Report – 2020

The graduates this year were Hailey Hogan and Riley Kittelson. Although we could not hold a reception, crosses and blessings were mailed to them. With social distancing, no other events took place this year.

Gail Costley

Worship and Music Committee Annual Report – 2020

January – March we met to plan for the Lenten Season, Holy Week and Easter. March was the beginning of the Covid-19 changes so we on the committee curtailed our activities.

We had meetings to plan for services on-line for the rest of the year.

Childrens' sermons were changed to virtual events with Joe, our SAM doing Bible stories online. He implemented the children's service area for when we can continue in-person services and worked to upgrade our digital capabilities for the virtual services we started to stream live on Facebook, as well as on our local access TV channel and the radio broadcast.

Services became virtual on March 22nd with Joe, our SAM, authorized by the Synod to conduct worship services and preside over communion and baptisms, and officiate at weddings and funerals. He also arranged for liturgists and readers at the services and worked with Ted Saxton and John Faith to do the technology piece.

In August we voted as a congregation to call Pastor Mark Peters. He began his ministry to Zion in September. From September through December, we met to plan Advent activities for families, helped by Jaci Nagle and the Education Committee to have the Advent logs available for pick-up at the church and assembled at home. We also enlisted the help of Len Peterson to construct Christmas luminaries to take home and assemble to light on Christmas Eve. We had a number of them in the sanctuary for the Christmas Eve service during the playing of Silent Night.

We would like to thank everyone who stepped up to help out during this difficult period when we have been unable to meet in person for worship and we especially welcome Pastor Mark Peters to our Zion family. In addition, we are so grateful to Joe for being willing to be our Synodical Authorized Minister and allow us to continue having the Word and Sacrament while we were searching for a Pastor. He has been an invaluable guide to our committee and an able leader for the past 2 ½ years.

Carol Schumacher, Chair

**Stewardship Committee
Annual Report – 2020**

In 2020, we continued to utilize the monthly program “Effective Stewardship” which included a giving principle and bible verse for the Sunday bulletins, and an article for each monthly newsletter.

Letters were mailed to the congregation along with pledge cards for 2021.

Thank you for all the ways you contribute your time, talent, and treasures to Zion.

Submitted by: Joe Belanger

**Zion Lutheran Evangelism Committee
Annual Report – 2020**

Our committee didn’t meet but for two meetings this past year due to the Covid-19 restrictions of group gatherings.

We had just gotten the 2 Little Pantry sites going at Health & Human Services and Northland Counseling waiting rooms. Both of these are currently shut down. We will review activating them once restrictions are lifted.

God’s Work Our Hands - GWOH projects were done as restrictions allowed.

Continue to work with Falls Hunger Coalition to find ways we can assist them.

Connecting with Kooch Aging Options- searching out ways to assist with isolation and loneliness of their clients. Perhaps phone calls of cards during the Covid-19 restrictions.

We are working towards becoming active once again. At our December zoom meeting we discussed the possibility of renaming our committee and will keep you updated as we go along.

Pastor Peters shared with us some of his dreams and what types of things he has assisted with facilitating in past parishes. We have a lot to think and pray about to find our direction through and beyond Covid-19.

We, as a group, will consider doing some studies as a group to assist us in finding our direction now and into the future.

May the challenges brought on by Covid-19 allow us to prayerfully look at things differently and allow us to serve our Lord in continued and new ways.

Submitted by: Pat Smyithe

Zion Lutheran Call Committee
Annual Report – 2020

After being established on June 19, 2018; after many meetings, questions, discussions, discernment; interviews; and the selection of a candidate of choice, on July 21, 2020, the committee presented to the council a recommendation that a Letter of Call be issued to Pastor Mark Peters. The rest is history.

Adam McIntyre – Chairman, Gail Costley, Madison Foss, Ward Merrill, Dawn Piekarski,
Gail Rognerud, Kara Schneider

Property and Grounds Committee
Annual Report - 2020

Throughout 2020 Property and Grounds has overseen and been involved with various projects.

Occupational Development Center was Furloughed for a while due to the pandemic and is now back cleaning on a every other week basis. Volunteers for cleaning and snow removal and various other tasks around the Church continue to take place and we Thank Them for their gifts of helping.

In November we had a Air Compressor that was especially designed back when the newer addition was added 31 year's ago completely go bad and unfix able. This compressor works with the heating system to open and close the Pneumatic Valves when the building calls for heat. Shannon's supplied and rigged up a temporary air compressor to heat the building until one could be found and installed. This information was brought to the council and was approved to purchase a air compressor that was purchased and installed for a price \$3,000.00.

The three Current Boilers are 31 years old and when originally installed, one boiler is no longer in service and the other two are working but not efficient and no guarantee on how much longer they will work, so we asked for a quote from Shannon's and received a quote for two Weil McLain high efficiency boilers. The quote includes removal of the old boilers and installation of new boilers and training for property and Grounds personnel. The new boilers are expected to be 90 to 95% efficient. The new Air Compressor will work with the new boilers. After much thought and questions asked Property and Grounds brought to the Council on 1/19/21 that we put a hold on purchasing the New A/C system in the Sanctuary, at this time as the original A/C quote was going to have heat pumps to help heat the Sanctuary in the early part of fall easing the stress of the boilers and saving on fuel cost. The New boilers price after a Natural gas rebate is \$ 33,495.00. This was approved but nothing will be installed or ordered until new Committee members are installed and meetings held to come up with a plan to pay for this by donations, loans or other ideas scheduled to meet in February. The boilers are available quickly and our quote is good until March.

Building and Grounds plans to revisit the A/C system in The future and heat pumps would no longer be needed to with the A/C system as the new boilers have a heat on demand and will be more efficient. We will plan a spring walk through taking notes of future items that need addressing as funds are available.

Submitted by: Shawn Kelly

Zion Lutheran Church Women
Annual Report – 2020
Donna Barg, ZLCW President

The year, 2020 ended with many cancelled gatherings and special events, but we pressed forward with our mission goals.

Bible studies were held, many quilts and care kits were assembled, and we had our annual Thanksgiving and Blessing of the Quilts Service. In place of our Harvest Bazaar, we had a No-Bake Sale which garnered around \$900.00 for our ZLCW coffers.

We continued to support our Synodical and Conference organizations, local and other institutions, and local needs.

Our mission goals continue to be GROWTH, COMMUNITY AND ACTION. Our goal for Zion is to enable more women to act upon their faith as disciples of Christ in all areas of their lives in 2021.

**Zion Lutheran Church Women
Financial Statement
December 31, 2020**

ZLCW CHECKBOOK BALANCE JANUARY 1, 2020	\$ 11,503.91
STEWARDSHIP FUND NET LOSS	(382.24)
GENERAL FUND NET GAIN	<u>33.78</u>
ZLCW CHECKBOOK BALANCE DECEMBER 31, 2020	<u>\$ 11,155.45</u>

PENNY FUND BALANCE \$62.80

STEWARDSHIP FUND

INCOME

Donations / Memorials	\$425.00	
Quilt Sale	<u>400.00</u>	
TOTAL INCOME		\$ 825.00

EXPENSE

Quilt Batting	\$ 858.24	
Supplies	49.00	
Project Comfort	<u>300.00</u>	
TOTAL EXPENSE		<u>1,207.24</u>
STEWARDSHIP FUND NET GAIN		<u>\$ (382.24)</u>

Stewardship Fund Balance January 1, 2020	\$2,189.19
Stewardship Fund Net Loss	<u>(382.24)</u>
Stewardship Fund Balance December 31, 2020	<u>\$1,806.95</u>

GENERAL FUND

INCOME

Donations / Memorials	\$ 375.00	
All Circle Offering	181.00	
Funeral Luncheons	250.00	
Donations for Coffee Carafes	135.00	
Thankoffering Sunday Offering	201.60	
Harvest Bazaar No Bake Sale	1,095.15	
Crafts/Treasures	34.85	
Cards/Napkin Sales	186.00	
Cookbook Sales	30.00	
Coffee Hour – Good Samaritan	80.00	
Pennies	<u>51.90</u>	
TOTAL INCOME		\$ 2,620.50

EXPENSE

Kitchen and Office Supplies	\$	155.00	
Coffee Carafes		399.52	
Zion Radio Broadcast		90.00	
Card/Napkin Purchase		260.60	
WELCA Thankoffering Sunday Offering		201.60	
WELCA Synodical Regular Offering		400.00	
W.I.S.E. Scholarship		50.00	
Good Samaritan for Coffee Hour		80.00	
Budgeted Gifts			
ALANO	\$50.00		
Community Café	300.00		
LSS of Virginia	100.00		
Salvation Army	400.00		
Congo Orphanage	<u>100.00</u>		
Total Budgeted Charities		\$ 950.00	
TOTAL EXPENSE			<u>2,586.72</u>
GENERAL FUND NET GAIN			<u>\$ 33.78</u>

General Fund Balance January 1, 2020	\$9,314.72
General Fund Net Gain	<u>33.78</u>
General Fund Balance December 31, 2020	<u>\$9,348.50</u>

All Circle Report

Balance on hand 01/01/2020	\$0.00
<u>Receipts:</u>	
Yearly Offerings	\$181.00
Total	\$181.00
<u>Disbursements –</u>	\$181.00
ZLCW budget	(91.00)
Radio broadcast	<u>(90.00)</u>
Balance on hand 12/31/2020	\$0.00



Camp Hiawatha • Camp Vermilion 1105 E. Superior St. Lower Suite, Duluth, MN 55802 800-331-5148 218-666-5465 vlm@VLMcamps.org www.VLMcamps.org

Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry provides opportunities for Christ-centered spiritual growth, leadership development, and outreach in God's great northwoods!

To: Zion Lutheran Church
530 6th St
Int'l Falls, MN 56649

*Jesus Christ is the same yesterday
and today and forever.*

- Hebrews 13:8

Dear members of **Zion Lutheran Church**,

All I can say is **THANK YOU FOR LOVING YOUR CAMPS** and making ministry to happen. The congregations of Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry opened the doors to Camp Hiawatha and Camp Vermilion in the late 1950s and every year since then. When the VLM Board made the decision to close those doors and our programs due to the Covid-19 pandemic we knew we were entering different waters. It was a hard decision to enter conservancy and it was scary. But it needed to be done, if for no other reason than to continue growing leaders for moments like this.

Even with no campers on site, it felt exciting. We immediately started working to make sure that the organization was strong, the sites were secure, and the staff and volunteers were safe. We were given new perspective on how we could prepare to provide camp in new ways for kids and families.

We know that you have also been navigating these new waters in your own congregation and understand that most budgets and plans were changed dramatically. Even so, **our congregations increased their giving by 25% - amidst a pandemic!** Through your **prayers** and **\$600 financial support** this year, VLM was able to successfully navigate 2020 and enter 2021 in a stronger position. This is allowing your camps to securely move forward in faith. Wow, thank you!

As we move forward, the end of conservancy and a return to gathering around the campfire is coming. In the meantime, we continue to work together for God's mission here.

We are honored to be your camps and look forward to where God is nudging us in the years to come.

See you at camp! (Soon!)

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Joel Abenth'.

Joel Abenth
Executive Director

As a reminder our annual meeting is on February 6th. Details and our full annual report can be downloaded at www.vlmcamps.org/2020-annual-meeting. Please contact us with any questions you may have.

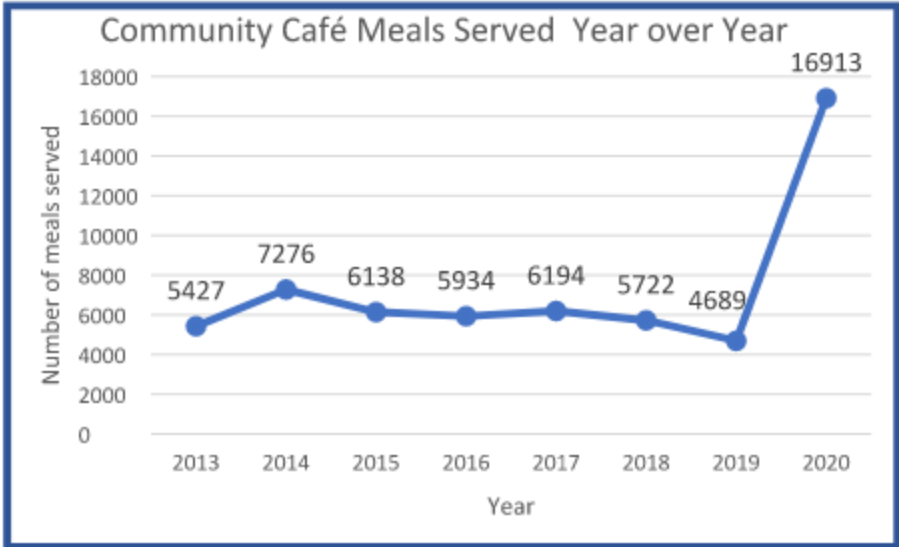
Registration is open for summer 2021! Visit www.vlmcamps.org/summer-schedule to learn more. Member church can take advantage of savings by Feb 15th with the VLM Early, Early Bird Discount!

Community Café @Backus Community Center 2020 Report

Submitted by: Lois Lundin, Executive Director, Backus Community Center

The year 2020 proved to be an exceptionally busy year for Backus Community Center's Community Café. When safety restrictions were set into place as a response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the increased need for meals became evident very quickly. The Backus leadership team deemed the Community Café meal program to be an essential service and was able to keep this program open and operational. The service immediately changed from a "dine-in" service to a curbside "pick-up" service. The serving process continued to evolve as restrictions changed, but everyone adapted and the number of participants continued to grow. The service team was narrowed down to a specific group of staff and volunteers in order to minimize risk to the program and to the guests who came to pick up food. As contributions came in and grants were awarded and nightly numbers began to stabilize, the Community Café staff worked to fine tune the menu to serve more home-style meals that include fresh fruit and vegetables, dessert, and milk with every meal. Our guests tell us how the Community Café is helping meet their needs, and we've found that the face of need is far more diverse than people traditionally think. People need the comfort of good, wholesome food. People need the personal interaction that they get from a friendly voice on the phone when they call Backus. People need the relationships that form with others while they wait to take food home. People need the respect and value that is shown to them by the Backus team. Caregivers need a break from taking care of their aging loved ones; getting a hot meal that they don't have to cook provides a wonderful and much needed relief. People need to help their elderly neighbors who are home-bound; having a chance to bring a nutritious, hot meal to another person benefits both the giver and the receiver. People who have lost their spouses tell us how they appreciate having a good hot meal; they tell us how hard it is to learn to cook or to cook for just one person. There are so many stories; each one gives us reason to keep going!

The graph below shows how our numbers in 2020 have greatly exceeded every year in the program's eight-year history. We are so very grateful for the support of our community. Contributions of time and funds are strong, and we see first-hand how quality of life is improving for our guests as we strive to fulfill our mission. We look forward to 2021 being another strong service year for Community Café!



Budget for 2021

INCOME

		2020 Budget	2020 Actual	2021 Budget
OFFERINGS	Sunday Envelope Offering	\$160,000.00	\$146,254.50	\$185,000.00
	Sunday Loose Offering	6,000.00	2,888.00	5,000.00
	Sunday Initial Offering	0.00	130.00	0.00
	Christmas Offering	1,500.00	1,880.00	3,000.00
	Lent and Easter Offering	3,000.00	1,514.00	3,000.00
	Thanksgiving Offering	0.00	255.00	500.00
	Memorials	0.00	810.00	1,000.00
	Operating Fund Offering	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Evangelism Donations	0.00	0.00	0.00
	LOC Reduction Offering	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Miscellaneous Offering	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Subtotal	\$170,500.00	\$153,731.50	\$197,500.00
OTHER INCOME	Custodial Fees	\$700.00	150.00	\$375.00
	Building Use	1,600.00	325.00	375.00
	Interest Income	0.00	20.97	0.00
	Thrivent Funds	2,000.00	700.00	1,500.00
	Miscellaneous	0.00	88.92	0.00
	Subtotal	\$4,300.00	\$1,284.89	\$2,250.00
TRANSFER FROM DEDICATED	Sunday School	0.00	0.00	\$0.00
	VBS	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Education (other)	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Camperships	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Youth	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Radio Broadcast	0.00	4,890.00	0.00
	ELCA World hunger	0.00	356.13	0.00
	Community Café	0.00	866.10	0.00
	Special Missions	0.00	1,069.00	0.00
	Evangelism	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Worship/Devotional Mat'ls	0.00	2,197.25	0.00
	Building Improvements	0.00	6,648.68	0.00
	Line of Credit Reduction	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Miscellaneous	0.00	249.85	0.00
	Subtotal	0.00	16,277.01	\$0.00
TOTAL INCOME		\$174,800.00	\$171,293.40	\$199,750.00

EXPENSE

			2020 Budget	2020 Actual	2021 Budget
MISSION PARTNERS		NE MN Synod/ELCA	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00
		Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry	800.00	800.00	800.00
		ELCA World Hunger	0.00	356.13	0.00
		Community Café	0.00	866.10	0.00
		Special Missions	0.00	1,069.00	0.00
MISSION PARTNERS TOTAL			\$2,400.00	4,691.23	\$2,400.00
OUTREACH -- PROGRAM MINISTRY & COMMITTEES					
		Radio Broadcast	\$0.00	\$4,690.00	\$0.00
		Sunday School	200.00	0.00	200.00
		VBS	500.00	0.00	500.00
		Education (Other)	150.00	58.60	150.00
		Campership	0.00	0.00	0.00
		Youth	0.00	0.00	0.00
		ZYP Scholarship	0.00	0.00	0.00
		Seminary Student Support	0.00	0.00	0.00
		Hospitality	200.00	0.00	200.00
		Evangelism	500.00	0.00	500.00
		Music – Zion Strings	0.00	0.00	0.00
		Music - Chimes	100.00	107.85	100.00
		Music-Organ/Choir	350.00	0.00	350.00
		Pastor's Disc Fund	200.00	120.00	200.00
		Stewardship	500.00	580.98	500.00
		Worship/Devotional	3,000.00	4,621.35	3,000.00
		Miscellaneous	0.00	242.00	0.00
OUTREACH – PRGRAM MINISTRY & COMMITTEES			\$5,700.00	\$10,420.78	\$5,700.00
ADMINISTRATION					
		Advertising	\$1,500.00	767.75	\$1,000.00
		Convention Expense	1,600.00	675.00	1,000.00
		Mileage	2,200.00	660.58	2,200.00
		Office Sup/Equip/Maintenance	8,500.00	10,804.14	8,500.00
		Postage	2,500.00	2,239.31	2,500.00
		Financial Services	1,000.00	875.86	1,200.00
		Line of Credit - Interest	0.00	0.00	0.00
		Employee Share FICA	6,000.00	4,488.54	7,500.00
		Miscellaneous	0.00	746.00	0.00
		Pastor Travel/Lodging	500.00	0.00	500.00
		Call Committee Expense	5,000.00	6,847.89	0.00
		Professional Expenses	0.00	0.00	500.00
ADMINISTRATION TOTAL			\$28,800.00	\$28,105.17	\$24,900.00

CHURCH PROPERTY			2020 Budget	2020 Actual	2021 Budget
	Utilities	Garbage Service	\$600.00	\$654.05	\$700.00
		Electricity	4,000.00	3,167.97	4,000.00
		Natural Gas	6,500.00	6,166.60	6,500.00
		Water	800.00	607.13	800.00
		Telephone/Internet	2,500.00	2,725.51	3,000.00
		Subtotal - Utilities	\$14,400.00	\$13,321.26	\$15,000.00
	Maintenance	Custodial Service	\$5,000.00	\$1,879.26	\$3,500.00
		Custodial Supplies	1,600.00	520.75	1,000.00
		General Repair	1,000.00	11,210.21	1,000.00
		Musical Instruments	500.00	137.00	500.00
		Subtotal - Maintenance	\$8,100.00	\$13,747.22	\$6,000.00
	Property	Insurance: Property & Workers' Comp Insurance	\$9,000.00	\$4,275.00	\$7,000.00
		Thrivent Loan Interest	900.00	18.93	0.00
		Subtotal - Property	\$9,900.00	\$4,293.93	\$7,000.00
CHURCH PROPERTY TOTAL			\$32,400.00	\$31,362.41	\$28,000.00
STAFF					
	Pastor	Continuing Education	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
		Pension/Major Med	15,000.00	11,731.20	39,875.00
		Salary-Housing	55,000.00	51,880.70	66,333.00
		Subtotal - Pastor	71,500.00	\$63,611.90	\$108,208.00
	Support Staff	Secretary	\$13,520.00	\$8,170.20	\$0.00
		Custodial	1,000.00	232.00	1,000.00
		Music Director	18,092.00	18,016.82	28,537.00
		Pastoral Supply & Support	1,000.00	270.00	1,000.00
		Subtotal - Support Staff	\$33,612.00	\$26,689.02	\$30,537.00
STAFF TOTAL			\$105,112.00	\$90,300.92	\$138,745.00
TOTAL EXPENSE			\$174,412.00	\$164,880.51	\$199,745.00
INCOME LESS EXPENSES			\$388.00	\$6,142.89	+\$5.00

Future projects: 1. Furnace 2. Air Conditioner