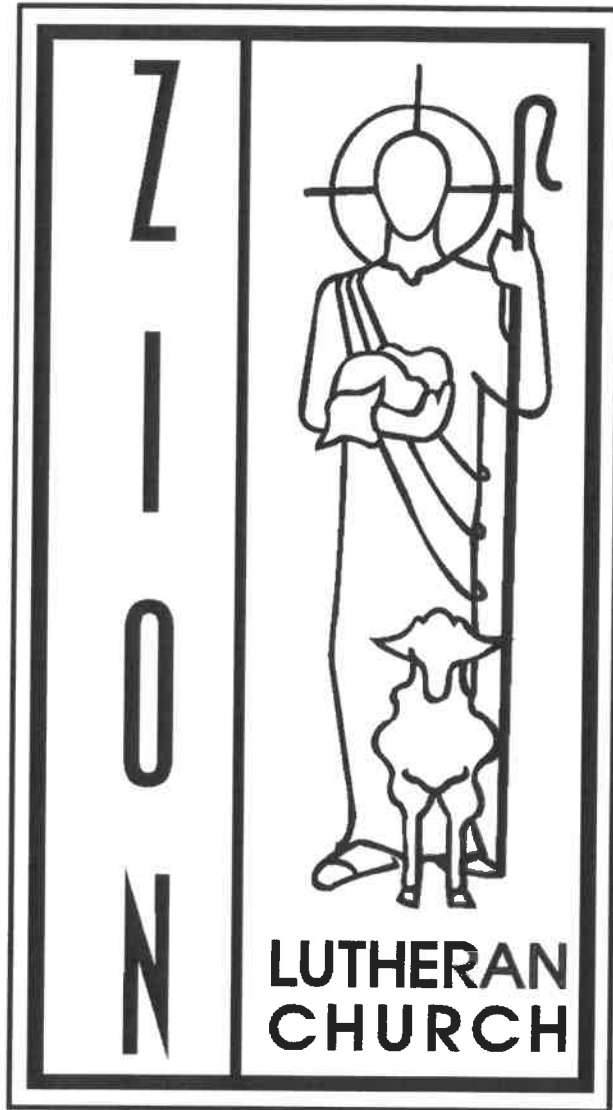


**Annual Report of the Congregation
2021**



**530 Sixth Street
International Falls, MN 56649
218-283-9865**

ANNUAL REPORT OF ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH – 2021

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Zion Lutheran Church
Annual Congregational Meeting Agenda
January 30, 2022

1. Call to Order
2. Establishment of Quorum
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Opening Devotions – Pastor Mark Peters
5. Officer Reports
 - President’s Report
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 - Minutes from Previous Annual Meeting - 01/31/2021
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 - Statement of Income and Expense for 2021
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6. Ministry Reports
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7. Committee/Partner Ministry Reports - Highlights of 2021
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8. Proposals for 2022
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 - Report of Nominating Committee / Motion for approval of ballot
 - Election - Council and Nominating Committee for 2022
9. Other Business
 - Motion to Adjourn
 - Lord’s Prayer

2021 COUNCIL MEMBERS

NAME	CURRENT TERM	TERM ENDS
Carol Schumacher President	2	2024
Shawn Kelly Vice President	2	2024
Doug Anderson Treasurer	2	2023
June Wilson Secretary	2	2022
Marva Fairchild	1	2022
Brooke Joslyn	1	2023
Hunter Wilson	2	2022
Tawnya Schoewe	1	2024
Len Peterson	2	2024
Elsie Korpi	2	2022

MEMBERSHIP

Baptized Membership 12/31/2021 736
Confirmed Membership 12/31/2021 492

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

In the beginning of 2021, we were still worshipping virtually. For the remainder of the year when we were able to worship in house, the attendance was nominal, at best, averaging fewer than 30 people per week. We still had good viewership from our live-streaming, but no way of accurately reporting it.

President's Report – 2021
Carol Schumacher

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times".....and so begins Dickens' Tale of Two Cities. And so has the year 2021 been for our Zion Lutheran Church family. It was the best of times because we entered the year with our first called pastor in over 2 years and it was the worst of times because the pandemic was still going strong and we couldn't even have in-person services. So we continued with on-line services through our FB streaming and we were able to continue to minister to our congregation and to the community. Our services were enhanced by the music provided by the voices of both our new Pastor and our music director Joe, as well as by his keyboard talents. Ted Saxton of Small Town Tech was instrumental in getting our on-line stream up to speed and we have many "hits" from all those tuning in, even from as far away as Africa!

The year got better when in the Spring we were able to reopen the church and go back to having services with social distancing and masking. We organized a Smart Team to give us guidance as far as safety during the pandemic, which included Dick Peterson, Charles Helleloid, Kris Foss, Joe Belanger and Pastor Mark.

As we headed into summer Pastor Mark was able to discover the advantages of living in the north woods by an amazing lake and was able to take advantage of all our area has to offer.

I want to offer a special thank you to Kris Helleloid for all of her years as Financial Secretary and to Pam Peterson for graciously taking on that position. Thanks also to Guy Johnson for his continuing service as our snow shoveler, among other things, and to the other volunteers who have stepped up to keep our church running smoothly, especially the morning office staffers, the Monday morning counters, and Pat Smyithe for taking communion to members at home, and to the council members for their willingness to attend meetings and do the business of the congregation - Shawn Kelly, Doug Anderson, June Wilson, Marva Fairchild, Brooke Joslyn, Tawnya Shoewe, Hunter Wilson, Len Peterson, and Elsie Korpi.

Our hopes continue for healing, health, and the welfare of all and more of the best of times for all, through the grace of our Lord.

Peace, Carol Schumacher

**Zion Lutheran Church
Annual Congregational Meeting
January 31, 2021 11:45 am**

Place: Backus Auditorium

In Person and by Zoom

Opening comments: Pastor Peters informed everyone that Meet & Greet meetings will be scheduled so he has a chance to meet everyone. Of course, we can call the office at any time to schedule a time to meet with him. Summer camp may be held with other local congregations as well as maybe combining with other youth programs. He extended his thanks to the Smart Team for their constant monitoring of the COVID-19 situation.

Call to Order: A quorum having been established, Vice President Schumacher called the meeting to order:

Agenda: VP Schumacher asked for any amendments to the agenda. None were presented and Gail Rognerud made a motion to accept the Agenda, second by Marva Fairchild. Motion passed

Devotions: Pastor Peters referred everyone to the January Newsletter regarding his article on Martin Luther and his 1521 95 Theses. We all look forward to being together whenever and wherever.

Officer Reports:

President Bob Peterson - written report

Congregational Meetings: written reports

01/26/2020 Annual Meeting: Secretary Elsie Korpi - Motion to accept by Pam Peterson, second by Marva Fairchild, Motion passed

08/12/2020 Special Congregational Meeting - Pastor Call and Financial Package, recording Secretary Gail Costley - Motion to accept by Elsie Korpi, second by Jay Hokenson, Motion passed

Treasurer/Financial Secretary - written reports - Motion to accept by Len Peterson, second by Shari Schneider, Motion passed

Ministry Reports:

Pastoral Acts/Membership Information - written report - Correction by Elsie Korpi,

Elsie Korpi is listed as Secretary - should be Gail Costley, report amended with Motion to accept by Nancy Cann, second by Marva Fairchild, Motion passed

Worship Attendance - written report - Motion to accept by Elsie Korpi, second by Pam Peterson, Motion passed

Committee/Partner Ministry Reports - written reports

Education, Worship and Music, Stewardship, Evangelism, Call Committee, Property and Grounds, ZLCW, Voyager Lutheran Ministry, Community Café. (A comment as made by Pam Peterson regarding the Evangelism discussion concerning a possible name change: the Evangelism Committee is established in the constitution so the name must remain, unless the constitution is amended.) - Motion to accept by Jay Hokenson, second by Tyler Borgen, Motion passed.

Budget: Vice President Schumacher - concerns expressed regarding \$25,000 increase and no allocation to secretarial position. Pastor Mark Peters reported that following Joelle's departure, the church is currently evolving. Plans are to have member volunteers man the office and get out the newsletter. Joe will be handling the day-to-day needs of the office and leading, training, and managing volunteers. Motion to approve by Gail Rognerud, second by Carol Belanger, Motion passed.

Nominating Committee:

Council: Ballot - 3-year term: Nominees - Brooke Joslyn, Tawnya Schoewe, Len Peterson, there being no further nominations - Motion to elect nominees by Nancy Cann, second by Elsie Korpi, Motion passed

Council Vacancies - Nominees - Doug Anderson and John Cann, there being no further nominations Motion to elect nominees by Gail Rognerud, second by Sheri Schneider, Motion passed.

2021 Nominating Committee: Nominees: Gail Costley and Sheri Schneider, there being no further nominates - Motion to elect nominees by Marva Fairchild, second by Pam Peterson, Motion passed

Other Business - Adjournment: There being no further business, Motion to adjourn by Jim Stavseth, second by Jay Hokenson, Motion passed. Closing Prayer - the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,

Gail L Costley

Zion Lutheran Church
Statement of Income & Expense
January 1 – December 31, 2021

INCOME

OFFERINGS

	<u>Actual 2021</u>
Sunday Envelope Offering	\$147,560.18
Sunday Loose Offering	6,537.00
Sunday Initial Offering	224.00
Christmas Offering	1,035.00
Lent & Easter Offering	1,750.00
Thanksgiving Offering	110.00
Memorials	105.00
Operating Fund Offering	0.00
Miscellaneous Offering	0.00

TOTAL OFFERINGS \$157,321.18

OTHER INCOME

Building Use	\$0.00
Custodial Fees	300.00
Interest Income	6.05
Thrivent Funds	784.00
Miscellaneous	16,334.01

TOTAL OTHER INCOME \$17,424.06

TRANSFER FROM DEDICATED FUNDS

Sunday School	\$0.00
Vacation Bible School	0.00
Education (Other)	0.00
Camperships	0.00
Youth	0.00
Radio Broadcast	4,870.00
ELCA World Hunger	290.43
Community Café	440.73
Special Missions	0.00
Evangelism	0.00
Worship/Devotional Materials	306.10
Building Improvements	25,373.26
Miscellaneous	2,811.88

TOTAL TRANSFER FROM
DEDICATED FUND \$34,092.40

TOTAL INCOME \$208,837.64

EXPENSE**MISSION PARTNERS**

NE MN Synod/ELCA Mission Support	\$1,600.00
Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry	800.00
ELCA World Hunger	290.43
Community Café	440.73
Special Missions	0.00

TOTAL MISSION PARTNERS \$3,3131.16

PROGRAM & MINISTRY

Radio Broadcast	\$4,420.00
Sunday School	0.00
VBS	0.00
Education (other)	0.00
Camperships	0.00
Youth	14.95
ZYP Scholarship	0.00
Seminary Student/Support	0.00
Hospitality	0.00
Evangelism	0.00
Music-Zion Strings	0.00
Music-Chimes	0.00
Music-Organ/Choir	842.88
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	0.00
Stewardship	200.00
Worship/Devotional Mat'ls	3,528.12
Miscellaneous	925.00

TOTAL PROGRAM & MINISTRY \$9,930.95

ADMINISTRATION

Advertising	\$1,575.10
Convention Expense	75.00
Mileage	683.28
Office sup/Equip/Main	9,234.94
Postage	2,025.34
Financial Services	871.78
Pastor Travel/Lodging	372.85
Employer Share FICA	2,384.62
Miscellaneous	385.09

TOTAL ADMINISTRATION \$17,769.49

CHURCH PROPERTY

UTILITIES

Garbage Services	\$501.93
Electricity	3,046.97
Natural Gas	5,696.25
Water	803.74
Telephone/Internet	3,183.70

TOTAL UTILITIES \$13,232.59

MAINTENANCE

Custodial Service	\$3,334.65
Custodial Supplies	582.565
General Repair- Improvement	29,683.29
Musical Instruments	377.00

TOTAL MAINTENANCE \$33,977.50

PROPERTY

Insurance: Property -Work Comp	\$6,798.00
Thrivent Loan - Interest	0.00

TOTAL PROPERTY \$6,798.00

TOTAL CHURCH PROPERTY \$54,008.09

STAFF

PASTOR

Continuing Education	\$580.00
Pension/Major Medical	36,274.68
Salary - Housing Allowance	66,269.00

TOTAL PASTOR \$103,123.68

CUSTODIAL SUPPORT

\$224.00

MUSIC COORDINATOR/OFFICE ADMIN.

\$29,997.35

PASTORAL SUPPLY

\$950.00

SUPPORT STAFF TOTAL \$31,171.35

STAFF

TOTAL

\$134,295.03

TOTAL EXPENSE \$220,134.72

INCOME LESS EXPENSE -\$10,297.08

Zion Lutheran Church
Balance Sheet – December 31, 2021

ASSETS

LIQUID ASSETS

TruStar Operating Checking Account	\$25,585.41
TruStar Dedicated Checking Account	51,082.45
Cash on Hand - Operating	1,328.00
Cash on Hand - Dedicated	<u>0.00</u>
TOTAL LIQUID ASSETS	\$77,995.86

FIXED ASSETS

Building and Contents	<u>\$3,320,351.00</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$3,398,346.86</u>

LIABILITIES

SHORT TERM

Operating Accounts Payable	\$0.00
Federal Payroll Withholding	639.90
Minnesota Payroll Withholding	122.00
Pastor Withholdings	<u>-83.32</u>
TOTAL SHORT-TERM LIABILITIES	\$678.58

LONG-TERM

Thrivent Loan	\$0.00
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DEDICATED FUNDS PAYABLE

Dedicated Funds Payable	<u>\$51,082.45</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$51,082.45

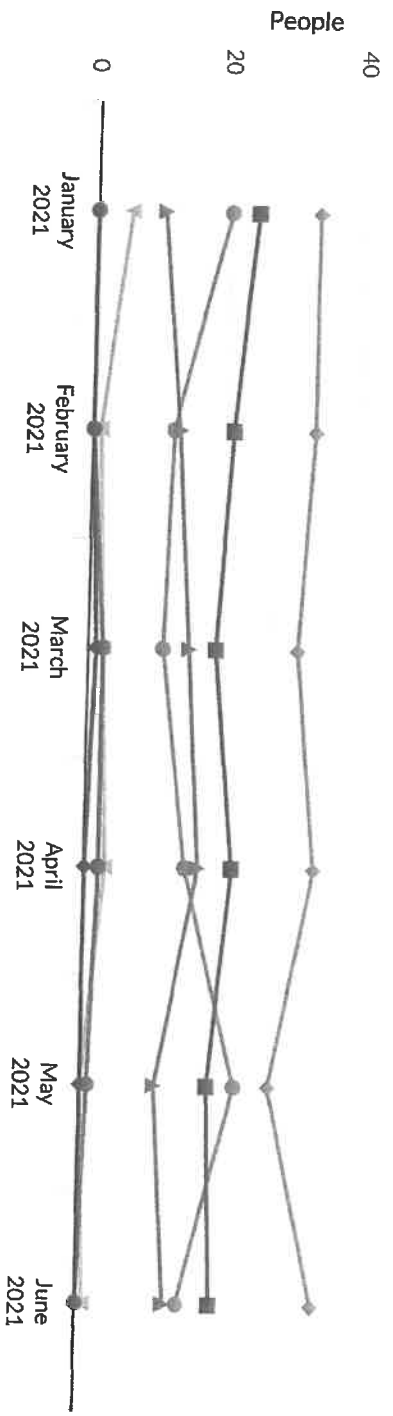
FUND BALANCE

FUND BALANCE/EQUITY	<u>\$3,346,585.83</u>
TOTAL LIABILITY & FUND BALANCE	<u>\$3,346,585.83</u>

Gift Range Breakdown

Trends Report

60



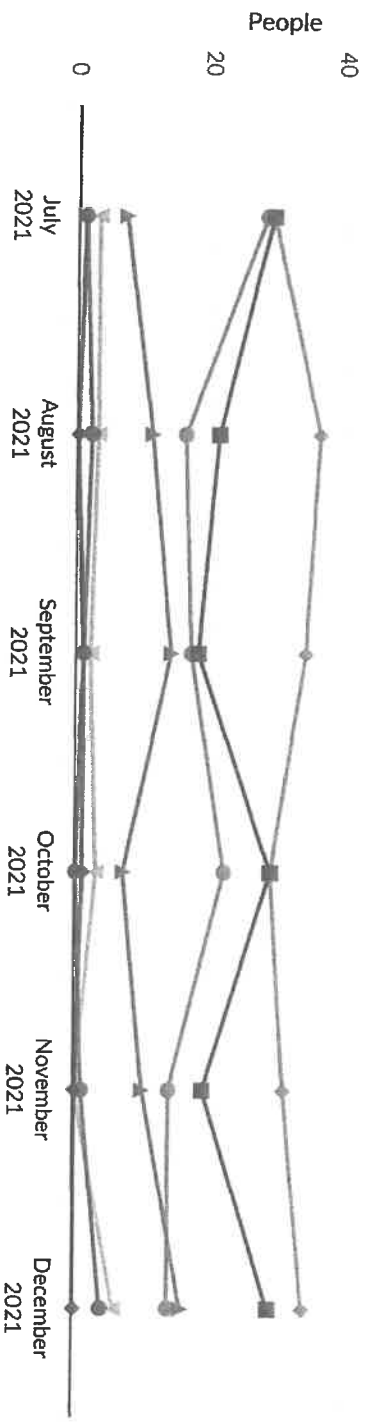
- Number who contributed between \$0.01 and \$10.00 per week
- Number who contributed between \$10.01 and \$25.00 per week
- Number who contributed between \$25.01 and \$50.00 per week
- Number who contributed between \$50.01 and \$100.00 per week
- Number who contributed between \$100.01 and \$200.00 per week
- Number who contributed between \$200.01 and \$500.00 per week
- Number who contributed more than \$500.00 per week

	January 2021	February 2021	March 2021	April 2021	May 2021	June 2021
Number who contributed between \$0.01 and \$10.00 per week	20	12	11	15	23	15
Number who contributed between \$10.01 and \$25.00 per week	33	33	31	34	28	35
Number who contributed between \$25.01 and \$50.00 per week	24	21	19	22	19	20
Number who contributed between \$50.01 and \$100.00 per week	10	13	15	17	11	13
Number who contributed between \$100.01 and \$200.00 per week	5	1	2	3	0	1
Number who contributed between \$200.01 and \$500.00 per week	0	0	2	2	1	0
Number who contributed more than \$500.00 per week	0	0	1	0	0	0

Gift Range Breakdown

Trends Report

60



- Number who contributed between \$0.01 and \$10.00 per week
- Number who contributed between \$10.01 and \$25.00 per week
- Number who contributed between \$25.01 and \$50.00 per week
- Number who contributed between \$50.01 and \$100.00 per week
- Number who contributed between \$100.01 and \$200.00 per week
- Number who contributed between \$200.01 and \$500.00 per week
- Number who contributed more than \$500.00 per week

Zion Lutheran Church
Dedicated Account Balance of December 31, 2021

<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	\$2,492.86
Handbell Choir	\$1,530.94
Zion Strings	\$901.19
Radio Broadcast	\$2,356.00
Organ/Piano Fund	\$10.00
Church Paraments	\$855.03
Sunday School/Confirmation	\$2,200.05
Youth/Camperships	\$4,105.69
Jesus Dollars	\$1,801.20
Recycled Cans	\$1,499.09
Bell Tower	\$5,547.52
Building Improvement	\$16,352.46
Building - Special Projects	\$4,045.00
Technological Improvements	\$5,340.25
Roy Janssen Fund	\$500.00
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>\$73.41</u>
Total	\$51,082.45

Worship Committee

In the beginning of 2021, we were still worshipping virtually, but we still provided full services with Holy Communion on the radio and live-stream. Communion kits were available for people to pick up and participate at home. When in-person worship resumed, members were encouraged to pick up kits to use at home if they were not comfortable or able to attend worship.

Zion's SMART Team monitored Corona Virus information as it became available, meeting on a regular basis and making recommendations to our council regarding Preparedness Plans for Zion.

Zion Lutheran Church Stewardship Committee Report

Zion's Stewardship Committee met twice in November with Pastor Mark. Committee members include: Garner Wiley, Marva Fairchild, June Wilson and Ward Merrill. In December, Gail Rognerud was invited to join the committee with Shawn and Leslie Kelly accepting an invitation to provide additional input as the committee begins a planning process for 2022. Monthly meetings continue in the new year as the committee awaits approval of the 2022 budget for Zion.

Items accomplished include:

- Brainstorming Stewardship ideas including a "theme" and making Stewardship a year-long priority
- All members reading and discussing the book, *Embracing Stewardship* by Charles Lane & Grace Pomroy
- Reviewing Zion's major accomplishments during 2021 including support for community meal and food programs
- Drafting a new "Stewardship Letter" to the congregation
- Pastor Mark and Ward Merrill each submitting articles on "Stewardship" for the December and January newsletters
- Revision of the "Time & Talent"/pledge form
- Initiating outreach efforts to include members in planning for 2022

The committee welcomes any and all input from Zion members.

Submitted by Garner Wiley, Committee Secretary

1/14/2022

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

Annual Report - 2021

“Meet & Greet” meetings were established to help Zion members & the community to come together at an “In Person” or “Zoom” meeting for a chance to meet & greet our new Pastor, Mark Peters. Guidelines for discussion included some of the following questions: 1) What drew you to Zion? 2) Please introduce yourself & tell the Pastor a little bit about yourself & your family. 3) What would you like to see happen at Zion? Is there any type of group you might be interested in: grief, prayer, bible study, suicide, divorce, widow/widower, or other? 4) What activities would you participate in?

Home communion visits resumed with Pat Smyithe making contacts. Pastor Mark & Pam Peterson will cover while Pat is in Arizona. If the need arises, others will be trained in using the Synod’s “Brief Order for Communion Home Visits”.

A bible study using the ELCA “Daily Discipleship” lectionary themed format was started in July following the evening worship service. Pastor Mark led the study which ran for a few Sundays.

Scheduling of Zion volunteers to assist at the Backus Community Café on the third Tuesday & Thursday of every month continues. We thank all of our dedicated members who have so graciously donated their time to meet Zion’s commitment to the Café & the community. If you would like to volunteer, please call the church office.

Future projects for consideration include:

- Continue to assist Pastor Mark by getting photos of members to add to his member/prayer binder. Help inform him of members needs (whether it be a birth, illness, or death that has occurred in the family).
- Zion brochure to hand out to visitors.
- Welcome baskets.
- Someone on Committee to learn how to use the 360 software.
- Search out a volunteer to keep the website updated on a quarterly basis. Committees could then submit pertinent information for input.
- Zion pictorial directory.
- Reach out to young members that have had newborns during the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Find a member willing to send out a rose & card to the mother & newborn child (Cradle Roll).

Please prayerfully consider joining our Committee. We are in need of new members to help with projects and to help guide us in the direction needed to carry out our Lord’s work. We look forward with hope into the New Year!

Pat Smyithe, Chairperson
Report Submitted By, Elsie Korpi

Property and Grounds Committee
Annual Report - 2021

Throughout 2021 Property and Grounds has overseen and been involved with various projects.

Property and Grounds was looking for more committee members and we currently have Leslie Kelly, Len Peterson, Belmer Cole and Shawn Kelly, and Jeff Rousseau. We still would like to add at least two more to our group.

The Occupational Development Center continues to do the vacuuming of carpets and other cleaning duties of the church. Snow removal and various other task continue to be done by volunteers, members of Zion and we Thank You for your services.

This past fall the church door was having issues with the locking cylinder and Kerry Meyers was called to fix, after looking at the issue it turns out most of the door cylinders are getting worn out and new cylinders have been ordered and will be installed by Meyers; also discussed was to limit the amount of keys made and given out. Property and Grounds has installed a key safe outside of the main doors next to the church mailbox. When Mr. Meyers completes the installation of lock cylinders new keys will be made and given out to Pastor Mark and Joe and other office staff. Anyone wanting to use the church for other events when the church staff are not present still can but a code for the key safe can be given out by Shawn Kelly, Pastor Mark or Joe Belanger for the access of the key for entry. This code can be changed when needed. After a lengthy discussion this was deemed to give it a try after reports of keys being lost and several keys being handed out over several years. Please Contact one of us if you feel you have a better solution to the amount of keys given out or feel you need a key for your services to the church.

The two new high efficiency boilers have been installed and are heating the church very well, These boilers are 90 to 95% efficient and will save the church money on natural gas The total cost for material, boilers and labor and removal of the three old boilers was \$34,990.00. A Minnesota Energy Rebate was sent in and we are looking at a rebate amount of approximately \$1,495.00. The Money raised for the new boilers was generously donated in memory of Diane Semmler, and a Kooching County Grant, thr Payment Protection Plan, and our very generous members of Zion.

A new sound system was installed and the money raised for this was through generous donations, the church's old sound system was operated and provided by John Faith.

Property And Grounds were asked about the possibility of a real Christmas tree and one was donated by Gary and Pam Saunders tree farm located at Pelland Junction.

Other items were the painting of Pastor Mark's office and shelving in his office closet.

Discussions of a removal railing for stepping up to the altar have been ongoing and further discussions and plans will be needed.

Please contact myself or another property and grounds committee member if you see an issue that needs fixing or addressed for a safety concern.

also contact one of us if you would like to help us out with Zion's Property and Grounds.

Thank You - Shawn Kelly

**Zion Lutheran Church Women
Annual Report – 2021
Donna Barg, ZLCW President**

Once again , many of our fellowship gatherings and special events were cancelled for 2021. We did, however, continue to hold Bible study meetings and quilting sessions.

By July 4 the church doors were open to funerals and funeral luncheons. Between July 12 and August 28 we served 4 families.

In spite of not having fund raising events, we still fulfilled our proposed 2021 budget items and our circle offerings of \$170.00 was given to the new boiler project. Donations were made to our Stewardship projects, and we were able to put together 88 personal care kits and 160+ quilts.

Thank you to everyone who helped in any way with these mission projects. Our goals for Mission in 2022 are GROWTH, COMMUNITY, AND ACTION.

Donna Barg: ZLCW President

**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
December 31, 2021**

ZLCW CHECKBOOK BALANCE JANUARY 1, 2021	\$ 11,155.45
STEWARDSHIP FUND NET LOSS	(89.12)
GENERAL FUND NET LOSS	<u>(1,419.20)</u>
ZLCW CHECKBOOK BALANCE DECEMBER 31, 2021	<u>\$ 9,647.13</u>

PENNY FUND BALANCE \$101.95

STEWARDSHIP FUND

INCOME

Donations / Memorials	\$ 520.00	
Quilt Sale	<u>270.00</u>	
TOTAL INCOME		\$ 790.00

EXPENSE

Quilt Batting	\$ 429.12	
Project Comfort	300.00	
Personal Care Kit Supplies	<u>150.00</u>	
TOTAL EXPENSE		<u>879.12</u>
STEWARDSHIP FUND NET LOSS		<u>\$ (89.12)</u>

Stewardship Fund Balance January 1, 2021	\$1,806.95
Stewardship Fund Net Loss	<u>(89.12)</u>
Stewardship Fund Balance December 31, 2021	<u>\$1,717.83</u>

GENERAL FUND

INCOME

Donations / Memorials	\$	250.00	
Circle Offering		170.00	
Funeral Luncheons		650.00	
Thankoffering Sunday Offering		347.39	
Crafts/Treasure Sales		4.00	
Cards/Napkin Sales		61.50	
Cookbook Sales		105.00	
Coffee Hour - Good Samaritan		380.00	
Pennies		39.15	
TOTAL INCOME		<u>3,426.24</u>	\$ 2,007.04

EXPENSE

Kitchen and Office Supplies	\$	233.85	
Zion Boiler Fund		170.00	
Zion Radio Broadcast		90.00	
Thankoffering Speaker		100.00	
WELCA Thankoffering Sunday Offering		347.39	
WELCA Synodical Regular Offering		400.00	
WELCA Convention Offering		100.00	
Laurentioan Convention Offerings		225.00	
W.I.S.E. Scholarship		50.00	
Good Samaritan for Coffee Hour		710.00	
Budgeted Gifts			
ALANO	\$	50.00	
Camp Vermillion		350.00	
Community Café		100.00	
LSS of Virginia		100.00	
The Salvation Army		400.00	
Total Budgeted Gifts		<u>1,000.00</u>	
TOTAL EXPENSE		<u>3,426.24</u>	
GENERAL FUND NET LOSS		<u>(1,419.20)</u>	\$ <u>(1,419.20)</u>

General Fund Balance January 1, 2021		\$9,348.50	
General Fund Net Loss		(1,419.20)	
General Fund Balance December 31, 2021		<u>\$7,929.30</u>	

Community Café @Backus Community Center 2021 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!



Camp Hiawatha • Camp Vermilion

1105 E. Superior St. Lower Suite, Duluth, MN 55802 800-331-5148 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!

Dear members of Zion - Int'l Falls,

Two years ago, before anyone knew what COVID-19 was or how it would change everything, VLM set in motion plans to be intentional regarding our call to be a year-round ministry in God's great northwoods. On April 1st, 2020 we entered conservancy to protect the campers, staff, and the sites and to remain financially stable. Canceling camp that summer and reopening in 2021 at half capacity was part of our plan to come out of conservancy and return to being strategic with our planning. As always, our ultimate goal is to welcome campers into a fun, safe, and Christ-centered experience at Camp Hiawatha and Camp Vermilion.

Looking back through the lens of the last two years, VLM has a new perspective on what we can offer our churches, camper families, and the world around us. As we enter 2022, VLM will be providing year-round leadership to our programs and at our camps with new staff and in new ways.

This last two years have been hard for VLM as they have been hard for many of your ministries. I deeply thank Gretchen, Brett, Richie, Rachel, Kyle, Peg, and Steve and their families. They have given their time and love to God's mission here. The departure of so many staff over the last year poses challenges for VLM, for sure. We will miss these valued team members. However, as we move through this transition of leadership and through the changes revealed during the pandemic, I know that God is up to something.

This next year, our staff and board that will lead us into this next phase of ministry are talented and excited about what is next. You, our member congregations, have shown your love and support for new ways of doing program. And we all know that now, more than ever, kids need opportunities to explore faith, develop friendships, and get out into God's great northwoods! VLM is poised to do great things in 2022!

I thank you for being part of this mission!



Joel Abenth
Executive Director

P.S. The numbers on the other side of this letter share how you are part of a larger ministry. Thank you for what you do for camp. As we safely make camp happen in 2022, I look forward to your partnership!

22 .. 1

VLM in 2021

561

Summer Campers

20 Trips/148 People

Canoe Campers

3587

Retreaters

\$569,931

Annual Fund

\$77,740

Congregational PCMs

\$26,808

Congregational Special Offerings and Grants

**2021 Annual Meeting
February 5th, 2022**

Your congregation has 1
Voting Lay Delegate(s) in
addition to your rostered
Pastors and Deacons.

Congregations please contact
the VLM office (800) 331-5148
by Feb 1st with the names of
your voting delegates that will
be attending.

The **2021 Annual Report** will
be emailed out to the churches
and available for download by
January 25th on the new VLM
Website by clicking the
Resource and Forms page



2021 Participation Report Zion - Int'l Falls

In 2021, Zion reported **491** confirmed members, making your Per Confirmed Member Pledge goal a total of **\$1473**. VLM received **\$1150** in PCM giving from your congregation. Direct congregational support helps to build the foundation of this ministry and directly connects your congregation to the work that happens at camp. VLM also receives vital support from offerings, congregational groups and grants from foundations. This support makes all the difference! We thank you for all your support and participation in God's mission at Camp Hiawatha and Camp Vermilion!

If there are any errors, please contact our office at (800) 331-5148

\$0	Additional Offerings, Grants and Gifts
\$0	Support from Women of the ELCA
1	Number of Summer Campers
0	Canoe Trip Participants
0	Retreat Guests
1	Builder Giving Club Members

**Check out the Newly
Designed VLM Website**

www.VLMcamps.org

**Register for Camp
Book a Retreat
Meet the Staff
Send us your Story!**

Many churches sponsor a cabin or activity area. We thank you for your support of **CV-Maple**. Please let us know what plans you have to organize a work day at camp.

Camp promotional packets will be sent out to your church soon!

VLM@VLMcamps.org (800) 331-5148	
Registrar@VLMcamps.org	Callie Biel
Canoe@VLMcamps.org	
Katie@VLMcamps.org	Katie Anderson
Retreats@VLMcamps.org	Jamie Szamatula
Hiawatha@VLMcamps.org	Trisha Peterson
Vermilion@VLMcamps.org	
Admin@VLMcamps.org	Katie Keller
	Summer Camp Registrations
	Voyageurs Canoe Country
	Young Adult Outdoor Ministry
	Retreats and Rentals
	Camp Hiawatha
	Camp Vermilion
	Duluth Main Office

**VLM will be posting the Program Director and Camp Vermilion Director Positions in the coming weeks.
Please contact one of our staff members above with any questions.**

Budget for 2022 INCOME

		2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2022 Budget
OFFERINGS	Sunday Envelope Offering	\$185,000.00	\$147,560.18	\$178,300.00
	Sunday Loose Offering	5,000.00	6,537.00	5,000.00
	Sunday Initial Offering	0.00	224.00	0.00
	Christmas Offering	3,000.00	1035.00	3,000.00
	Lent and Easter Offering	3,000.00	1,750.00	3,000.00
	Thanksgiving Offering	500.00	110.00	500.00
	Memorials	1,000.00	105.00	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	\$197,500.00	\$157,321.18	\$190,800.00
OTHER INCOME	Custodial Fees	\$375.00	300.00	\$375.00
	Building Use	375.00	0.00	375.00
	Interest Income	0.00	6.05	0.00
	Thrivent Funds	1,500.00	784.00	1,500.00
	Miscellaneous	0.00	16,334.01	0.00
	Subtotal	\$2,250.00	\$17,424.06	\$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	4,870.00	0.00
	ELCA World hunger	0.00	290.43	0.00
	Community Café	0.00	440.73	0.00
	Special Missions	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Evangelism	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Worship/Devotional Mat'ls	0.00	306.10	0.00
	Building Improvements	0.00	25,373.26	0.00
	Line of Credit Reduction	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Miscellaneous	0.00	2,811.88	0.00
	Subtotal	\$0.00	34,092.40	\$0.00
TOTAL INCOME		\$199,750.00	\$208,837.64	\$193,050.00

EXPENSE

			2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2022 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	290.43	0.00
		Community Café	0.00	440.73	0.00
		Special Missions	0.00	0.00	0.00
MISSION PARTNERS TOTAL			\$2,400.00	\$3,131.16	\$2,400.00
OUTREACH -- PROGRAM MINISTRY & COMMITTEES					
		Radio Broadcast	\$0.00	\$4,420.00	\$0.00
		Sunday School	200.00	0.00	200.00
		VBS	500.00	0.00	300.00
		Education (Other)	150.00	0.00	150.00
		Campership	0.00	0.00	0.00
		Youth	0.00	14.95	0.00
		ZYP Scholarship	0.00	0.00	0.00
		Seminary Student Support	0.00	0.00	0.00
		Hospitality	200.00	0.00	0.00
		Evangelism	500.00	0.00	0.00
		Music - Zion Strings	0.00	0.00	0.00
		Music - Chimes	100.00	0.00	100.00
		Music-Organ/Choir	350.00	842.88	350.00
		Pastor's Disc Fund	200.00	0.00	0.00
		Stewardship	500.00	200.00	0.00
		Worship/Devotional	3,000.00	3,528.12	3,000.00
		Miscellaneous	0.00	925.00	0.00
OUTREACH - PRGRAM MINISTRY & COMMITTEES			\$5,700.00	\$9,930.95	\$4,100.00
ADMINISTRATION					
		Advertising	\$1,000.00	\$,1575.10	\$1,600.00
		Convention Expense	1,000.00	75.00	1,000.00
		Mileage	2,200.00	683.28	2,200.00
		Office Sup/Equip/Maintenance	8,500.00	9,234.94	9,500.00
		Postage	2,500.00	2,025.34	2,500.00
		Financial Services	1,200.00	871.78	900.00
		Line of Credit - Interest	0.00	0.00	0.00
		Employee Share FICA	7,500.00	2,384.62	2,500.00
		Miscellaneous	0.00	385.00	0.00
		Pastor Travel/Lodging	500.00	372.85	500.00
		Call Committee Expense	0.00	0.00	0.00
		Professional Expenses	500.00	161.58	500.00

ADMINISTRATION TOTAL			\$24,900.00	\$17,769.49	\$21,200.00
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CHURCH PROPERTY			2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2022 Budget
	Utilities	Garbage Service	\$700.00	\$501.93	\$700.00
		Electricity	4,000.00	3,046.97	4,000.00
		Natural Gas	6,500.00	5,696.25	6,000.00
		Water	800.00	803.74	800.00
		Telephone/Internet	3,000.00	3,183.71	4,000.00
		Subtotal - Utilities	\$15,000.00	\$13,232.59	\$15,500.00
	Maintenance	Custodial Service	\$3,500.00	\$3,334.65	\$3,500.00
		Custodial Supplies	1,000.00	582.56	600.00
		General Repair	1,000.00	29,683.29	1,000.00
		Musical Instruments	500.00	377.00	400.00
		Subtotal - Maintenance	\$6,000.00	\$33,977.50	\$5,500.00
	Property	Insurance: Property & Workers' Comp Insurance	\$7,000.00	\$6,798.00	\$7,000.00
		Thrivent Loan Interest	0.00	0.00	0.00
		Subtotal - Property	\$7,000.00	\$6,798.00	\$7,000.00
CHURCH PROPERTY TOTAL			\$28,000.00	\$54,008.09	\$28,000.00
STAFF					
	Pastor	Continuing Education	\$2,000.00	580.00	\$1,500.00
		Pension/Major Med	39,875.00	36,274.68	41,003.00
		Salary-Housing	66,333.00	66,269.00	66,333.00
		Subtotal - Pastor	\$108,208.00	\$103,123.68	\$108,836.00
	Support Staff	Custodial	\$1,000.00	\$224.00	\$500.00
		Music Director/Office Adm.	28,537.00	29,997.35	27,008.80
		Pastoral Supply & Support	1,000.00	950.00	1,000.00
		Subtotal - Support Staff	\$30,537.00	\$31,171.35	\$28,508.80
STAFF TOTAL			\$138,745.00	\$134,295.03	\$137,344.80
TOTAL EXPENSE			\$199,745.00	\$220,134.72	\$193,044.80
INCOME LESS EXPENSES			+\$5.00	-\$10,297.08	+\$5.20

Future projects: 1. Air Conditioner