

**ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
EAST PETERSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA**

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE  
CONGREGATION  
2022**



**ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING**

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2022

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## ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Interim Pastor: The Rev. Pamela J. Carnes

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October 1, 2022

Dear Zion Members,

Our Annual Congregation Meeting will be held on Sunday, November 13, 2022 at approximately 10:15 AM following the 9 AM worship service. Please note the change from the usual 10:30 time to 9 am for this worship service. There will be no Sunday School activities before church. The meeting will also be live streamed, and voting can occur on our zoom page.

Enclosed is the 2022 Annual Report to the Congregation, which includes a report from interim Pastor Pam Carnes, committee reports, profiles of Congregation Council nominees, and the proposed 2023 annual budget. This year we will also be voting on updating our Constitution and Bylaws since that has not occurred since 2012. Please take time to review the Annual Report to see what has happened this year and help us prepare for 2023 together.

In accordance with Zion's Constitution, 33% of the voting membership is required for a quorum. Voting members are defined as those who are confirmed and who, during the preceding calendar year, have communed and made a contribution of record to the church.

On behalf of the Congregation Council, I want to thank everyone for your prayers, time, and talent that you have shared with Zion and the community this year. Our members have shown dedication to each other as well as those in our community and beyond.

We look forward to being together at this important congregational meeting. Together we can discuss and decide upon our budget as well as the future of Zion in 2023. We look forward to seeing you in person or online on Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup> for worship and our meeting.

Sincerely,

Lindsey Wagner  
Congregation Council President

**Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**East Petersburg, PA**  
**Annual Congregation Meeting – November 13, 2022**

**AGENDA**

Call to order – approximately 10:15 a.m. (following 9:00 a.m. service)

Announce Quorum

Devotions – Pastor Carnes

Approval of November 14, 2021, Meeting Minutes

Treasurer's Report

2023 Budget Presentation

Committee Reports: Address any questions or concerns

Recognition of Outgoing Council Members

Presentation and Election of Council Nominees

Unfinished Business

New Business

Church Constitution and Bylaws

Election of 2023 Synod Assembly Representatives

Adjourn with the Lord's Prayer

**ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES**  
**November 14, 2021**

**Call to Order:** Council President Lindsey Wagner called meeting to order at approximately 10:30am. A quorum was noted. Quorum has been met.

This meeting is being presented in person in the Sanctuary and on Zoom via livestream and telephone.

**Remarks from Council President Lindsey Wagner:** Noted that Sallie Sell is Parliamentarian and Jen Sterner is secretary. The meeting is being recorded to help with the minutes.

**Devotions** by Pastor Carnes

**Approval of minutes:** A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the November 15, 2020, Annual Meeting. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** **Barb Breneman:** per the 2021 treasurer's report, as of the end of September our total giving in 2021 (39 Sundays), was \$177,822 dollars. As you see from last year's numbers (also 39 Sundays), our total giving in 2021 is behind 2020's total. If we look at expenses for 2021, we see our total was \$165,619. Our expenses last year were more at \$180,226. Keep in mind, we didn't have an organist since April-May of 2021, nor an expense for a pastor since mid-august. We have expenses now but that is for one month reflected in the September numbers. That is significant when you look at the salary and for the pastor, the insurance. Moving down the sheet on the treasures report, this is just the summary of our restricted accounts. As a reminder, there are some things we don't use to just pay any bill and those would be things for the memorial account, special property projects and our cemetery funds. So those balances if there is an expense it is paid out of those funds. And they are \$38,196.

**Budget:** **Don Long:** Thanked Barb for her work all year long and her help in upgrading our QuickBooks along with Shawn Serfass. These are challenges times, and it makes it hard to determine why some numbers are what they are, but we are trying to forecast the budget for the days ahead. As Barb said, on the one hand we may not be thrilled that our giving is not meeting budget but it in a way our spending is less. So, if they are both less, we remain in the black. We are blessed to not be eating away at our resources. Our giving is adequate to serve that objective. As we look forward, I want to thank everyone involved in the budgeting process. All the committee chairs, and leaders in other ministries that have provided the requested information to prepare the budget. The request was to ask people to be prudent/conservative considering these new uncertainties we are facing. Thank you for your cooperation and help. It is more likely we will approach spending at the budgeted level next year. It feels like we are trying to return to normal in some ways with some ministries and activities trying to get back on track. And with that goes spending some of the budgeted funds. Likewise, as Barb pointed out, three staff positions that we had been filling on a week-to-week basis with supply people have now been filled. I would point out that in the last three of five full years we have underspent our budget. Even in the two years that we slightly overspent, the overspending was by less than \$2000 so I would like to think we have some track record of budgeting responsibly.

I would like to make a couple comments:

- There was a structural change on the budget itself. Council was approached to organizationally combine Service Ministry and Benevolence. Service Ministry is a defined

committee within the constitution, Benevolence is not. You will see both within the same section of the budget which is different than in the past. I don't think there's a great deal of significance to that but if anybody feels further comment should be made on that I certainly defer to anyone chiming in who is closer to Service Ministry/Benevolence than perhaps I am.

- One of the items that Pastor Carnes referenced this morning was the call committee. You will see that we have a budget line of \$2000 for the call committee. That is the same level that was budgeted a few years back when we went through that process. At that time, we spent \$1700 dollars but with consideration to inflation, we budgeted \$2000 again.
- In terms of the aggregate, it is \$92,150 higher for 2022 than 2021, which is 3.6%. And knowing what we know today, I would characterize that as constraining, responsible, and conservative. I would suggest the 3.6% budget increase is well within what is considered inflation of our day right now. I believe we as a congregation have been responsive to needs when they are defined and put before us.
- Our operating cash that is not otherwise restricted is nearly \$40,000. That provides some level of comfort.

Finance Committee proposed a new policy to Council this past week and Council approved. We have some funds that we invested when we had the blessing of the Glatfelter bequest three years ago. Our investment advisers have suggested that we not be too quick to grab money out of there but that we let that fund get a couple years of stability under its belt. We've adopted a policy where every year in September, we'll do a calculation of what is an advised distribution from that fund, to help meet the budget or fund some new special undertaking. With the calculation under this new policy that we worked with our investment advisors to come up with, we would potentially have \$17,333 coming out from that fund for 2022. This policy is not intended to limit our access, the funds are not restricted, but to provide some rational way to draw and use those funds.

Charlie Houck made the motion to accept the budget. All those in favor of accepting the 2022 budget. Please signify by saying Aye. Opposed, none. Motion carries.

**Committee Reports:** Committee reports were part of the Annual Report. Lindsey opened the floor to any questions or concerns about these reports. Betty Sementelli had one question regarding council. How are the positions filled?

**Lindsey Wagner** - If someone leaves in the middle of the year, our Constitution states that Council can appoint those, and at the next congregational meeting, which is today, then we as a congregation vote to fill the positions for the rest of the term.

In terms of discerning who the new members would be:

- We had two volunteers.
- We announced the council openings in the bulletin.
- I got up and shared it during announcements that we have an open council spot for anyone who is available.
- Our two volunteers came to meetings and Council voted and accepted them.

No further questions

**Recognition of Outgoing Council Members:** Lindsey – Next, I would like to recognize three individuals who are completing their term on council. Would Lee Ober, Marilyn Schappell and John Snoke please stand. These three individuals had a very interesting few years on Council. Who would have guessed this pandemic would have happened? Lee and John served 2–3-year terms, Lee served two

of those years as president and was a mentor to me this year. John helped start the Safety Committee and was our liaison for many years to Worship and Music, as well as Service Ministry. Marilyn is finishing a three-year term and was our liaison to Christian Education and the Cemetery committee. I want to thank them for their years, their hard work, extra meetings, and dedication to our congregation and during this pandemic and all these changes we've had. Please join me in a round of applause. Thank you!

**Presentation and Election of Council Nominees:** This year we have five Council seats to fill. In April, we had the resignation of Sallie Sell and Steve Witter. Thank you to Sallie and Steve for your years of service to the council. With the 2 resignations in the middle of the year, Council appointed both Charlie Houck and Sam Maurer to fill in the positions for the rest of this year. Our constitution allows council to appoint members to fill the position until the next annual meeting. So, we have two spots available to finish off that term, which is one year. Sam and Charlie have both agreed to finish filling that, but we need to vote on that. Charlie and Sam have agreed to fill in the last year of their term. Will you two please stand? Then there are three three-year terms, and the nominees are John Chester, Janet Hoover and Barb Ross. Their biographies were all provided in your packet. Would you three also please stand? Are there any additional nominations from the floor? Seeing none, is there a motion to close nominations? Shawn Serfass made a motion to close nomination. Kathy Fitz., second. Nominations are closed with no additional nominations. The nominees are elected by unanimous consent. Congratulations and thank you for your service!

**Unfinished Business:** Lindsey - There is no unfinished business.

**New Business:** Lindsey - For new business. We are very happy to have Pastor Carnes with us. She's done a great job coming in in September, but it is time to create a call committee to find our next pastor. Our Constitution states that we must elect one Member from Council and five other members to create this committee. We also decided to have an alternate like we have in the past. This committee will terminate upon installation of the newly called pastor. The following members have been nominated for this committee. Please stand as I say, your name. Our Council representative is Lisa Flood. Other members include Bev Bachman, Connie Bloss, Jessica Gumbert, Phil Hartenstine and Lee Ober and the alternate Ed Irwin. Are there any additional nominations from the floor? Seeing none, is there a motion to close nominations? Ann Ober motion to close nominations. Sallie Sell, Second. All in favor of closing nominations, say Aye. Opposed, none. Nominations are closed. With no additional nominations, the nominees are elected by unanimous consent. Congratulations and thank you very much!

Is there any other new business? Pat Crawford— like to remind everyone to not forget your envelopes. Those boxes with the envelopes in it are new numbers for older boxes.

Before we adjourn, I would like to thank everyone that helped me as president this year. Stepping in as president in April was a surprise, and I've had so many people step up to help me out. I appreciate everyone's prayers and encouragement. Please also thank my husband, as he had to do some extra parenting deeds as I was here for interviews and meetings. So please thank him. I would also quickly like to thank all of Council. Will the members of the 2021 Council, please stand be recognized. Mary Chesters, Lisa Flood, Charlie Houck, Don Long, Sam Maurer, Lee Ober, Marilyn Schappell, John Snoke and Pastor Carnes. Thank you so much for your help this year. It's been a crazy year and I really appreciate everything you have done for us. There are many other people that have helped me out this year that I want to thank but I want to respect your time, thank you all for your help!

I am very happy and proud with what we have accomplished this year. I really think we're in a good spot going forward and next year is our 175th anniversary! So here we go, ready to celebrate that!

Is there a motion to adjourn? Shawn Serfass motions to adjourn. Ann Ober, Second. All in favor say, Aye. Opposed, none.

Please stand and adjourn with the Lord's Prayer.

Minutes submitted by Jennifer Sterner

**Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church East Petersburg**  
**Treasurer's Report - Overview of Key Comparative Financial Info**  
**YTD September, 9 Mos., 2022 v 2021**  
(10/10/22)

	<u>2022 - 39 Sundays</u>	<u>2021 - 39 Sundays</u>	<u>'22 Fav/ (Unfav) to '21</u>
Revenue:			
"Restricted" revenue:			
Memorial Fund	535	3,835	(3,300)
Cemetery & Mem Garden	750	1,350	(600)
Spec'l App'd Prop Projs	<u>3,617</u>	<u>5,046</u>	<u>(1,429)</u>
	4,902	10,231	(5,329)
Unrestricted & other revenue	<u>172,369 **</u>	<u>168,941</u>	<u>3,428</u>
Total of giving	<u>177,271 *</u>	<u>179,172</u>	<u>(1,901)</u>

\* Excludes receipt of final distribution of bequest received in 2018

Expenses:			
Total Pastoral Ministry	70,784	61,063	(9,721)
All other	<u>122,374</u>	<u>104,556</u>	<u>(17,818)</u>
Total expenses	<u>193,158 **</u>	<u>165,619</u>	<u>(27,539)</u>
Unrestricted & other rev more/(less) than exps	<u>(20,789)</u>	<u>3,322</u>	<u>(24,111)</u>

\* YTD, 9 months, pro rata 2022 Budget is \$197,730 (annual Budget \$263,616)

Summary of restricted giving balances:			
Memorial Fund	13,599	14,303	(704)
Spec'l Approved Prop Projects	3,570	6,372	(2,802)
Cemetery Fund	<u>19,471</u>	<u>17,521</u>	<u>1,950</u>
	<u>36,640</u>	<u>38,196</u>	<u>(1,556)</u>
Cash available for operating expenses	<u>14,691</u>	<u>39,166</u>	<u>(24,475)</u>



**ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH EAST PETERSBURG, PA  
PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2023 (10/13/22)**

	<u>2022 BUDGET</u>	<u>YTD '22 SEPT ACTUAL</u>	<u>ACT'L % OF BUD'T</u>	<u>PROPOSED 2023 BUD'T</u>	<u>\$ CHANGE</u>	<u>% CHANGE</u>
<b>ZION'S OUTREACH MINISTRIES</b>						
Benevolence:						
LSS Mission Support	15,500	11,628	75.0%	13,000	(2,500)	-16.1%
Lancaster Co Council of Churches	525		0.0%	300	(225)	-42.9%
LutherCare	525		0.0%	-	(525)	-100.0%
Community Meals	1,800	545	30.3%	1,000	(800)	-44.4%
Lutheran Camping Assoc	525		0.0%	(525)		-100.0%
East Petersburg Fire Co	300	250	83.3%	300	-	0.0%
Pastor's Outreach & Discretionary	500	-	0.0%	(500)		-100.0%
Service Ministry	50		0.0%	50	-	0.0%
Other Benevolence	-	5,737	#DIV/0!	-	-	#DIV/0!
<b>ZION'S TOTAL OUTREACH COMMITMENT</b>	<b>19,725</b>	<b>18,160</b>	<b>92.1%</b>	<b>14,650</b>	<b>(5,075)</b>	<b>-25.7%</b>
<b>ZION'S REGULAR MINISTRIES</b>						
Witness Commitment - Evangelism						
Newspaper Ads	2,300	745	32.4%	500	(1,800)	-78.3%
New Member Brunch, etc	600		0.0%	300	(300)	-50.0%
Backpacks	600		0.0%	400	(200)	-33.3%
Stephens Ministry	500		0.0%	500	-	0.0%
Misc	400	500	125.0%	200	(200)	-50.0%
	4,400	1,245	28.3%	1,900	(2,500)	-56.8%
Service Commitment						
Fellowship Comm - Gen'l	500	206	41.2%	300	(200)	-40.0%
Youth & Family Ministry Committee	1,000	-	0.0%	100	(900)	-90.0%
	1,500	206	13.7%	400	(1,100)	-73.3%
Education Commitment						
Lesson materials & supplies	500	-	0.0%	150	(350)	-70.0%
Vacation Bible School	500		0.0%	100	(400)	-80.0%
Camping/camperships	1,500	1,500	100.0%	1,500	-	0.0%
Library	100		0.0%	(100)		-100.0%
Confirmation	400	-	0.0%	200	(200)	-50.0%
Adult Education Materials	250		0.0%	150	(100)	-40.0%
Miscellaneous	400	30	7.5%	(400)		-100.0%
	3,650	1,530	41.9%	2,100	(1,550)	-42.5%
Worship Commitment						
Altar Supplies	600	327	54.5%	500	(100)	-16.7%
Music	1,000	576	57.6%	1,000	-	0.0%
Devotional Booklets	300	533	177.7%	460	160	53.3%
Piano / Organ Maintenance	1,000		0.0%	-	(1,000)	-100.0%
Choir gifts	150	-	0.0%	(150)		-100.0%
Guest Musicians	1,000	810	81.0%	1,500	500	50.0%
Liturgy Licenses	1,200	514	42.8%	1,200	-	0.0%
Banners	300	110	36.7%	-	(300)	-100.0%
Miscellaneous (incl Bulletins/Sponsorships)	200	1,994	997.0%	300	100	50.0%
	5,750	4,864	84.6%	4,960	(790)	-13.7%
Other Ministries						
Zion's Quilters Ministry	150	48	32.0%	-	(150)	-100.0%
Skeins & Scones Ministry	500	-	0.0%	300	(200)	-40.0%
	650	48	7.4%	300	(350)	-53.8%
<b>ZION'S TOTAL REG MINISTRIES COMMITMENT</b>	<b>15,950</b>	<b>7,893</b>	<b>49.5%</b>	<b>9,660</b>	<b>(6,290)</b>	<b>-39.4%</b>
<b>ZION'S SUPPORT TOWARD ITS MINISTRIES</b>						
Pastoral Ministry						
Salary	50,000	37,680	75.4%	50,000	-	0.0%
Housing Allowance	19,000	14,250	75.0%	19,000	-	0.0%
Automobile Reimbursement	2,400	2,389	99.5%	3,500	1,100	45.8%
Continuing Education	700	500	71.4%	700	-	0.0%
Health Insurance	5,952	3,897	65.5%	5,352	(600)	-10.1%
Death & Disability Insurance	1,644	1,233	75.0%	1,270	(374)	-22.7%
Pension	8,966	6,725	75.0%	8,996	30	0.3%
Social Sec Supplement/reimb	5,720	4,290	75.0%	5,720	-	0.0%
	94,382	70,964	75.2%	94,538	156	0.2%
Subtotal - Pastoral Ministry	94,382	70,964	75.2%	94,538	156	0.2%
Operational Ministry						
Pastoral Supply	800	360	45.0%	800	-	0.0%
Organist/Choir Director	24,000	18,000	75.0%	24,480	480	2.0%
Dues/Cont. Ed/Day Away	500		0.0%	500	-	0.0%
Organist Supply	650	600	92.3%	650	-	0.0%
Parish Secretary	13,671	12,115	88.6%	13,724	53	0.4%

**ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH EAST PETERSBURG, PA  
PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2023 (10/13/22)**

	2022 BUDGET	YTD '22 SEPT ACTUAL	ACT'L % OF BUD'T	PROPOSED 2023 BUD'T	\$ CHANGE	% CHANGE
Financial Secretary	1,423	1,067	75.0%	1,452	28	2.0%
Treasurer	1,423	1,067	75.0%	1,452	28	2.0%
Sextons	13,379	10,035	75.0%	13,646	268	2.0%
Supply Sexton	1,029	1,286	125.0%	1,050	21	2.0%
Council Secretary	637	478	75.1%	649	13	2.0%
Social Security	4,172	3,235	77.5%	4,238	66	1.6%
Subtotal - Operational Ministry	61,684	48,243	78.2%	62,642	958	1.6%
Other Operational Expenses						
Office Supplies	1,300	698	53.7%	750	(550)	-42.3%
Copier & Printing	3,400	2,511	73.9%	3,300	(100)	-2.9%
Comp hard/software & Web	2,000	397	19.9%		(2,000)	-100.0%
Tele & Wifi	3,600	2,837		6,650	3,050	84.7%
Acctg software (other bus exp)	700	688			(700)	-100.0%
Postage	1,150	668	58.1%	300	(850)	-73.9%
Offering Envelopes	600	648	108.0%	700	100	16.7%
Insurance Protection	8,750	4,654	53.2%	7,550	(1,200)	-13.7%
Payroll Service	1,700	1,072	63.1%	1,600	(100)	-5.9%
Synod Convention	800	345	43.1%	800	-	0.0%
Bank & merch fees	600	481		675	75	12.5%
Kitchen & misc	600	893	148.8%	250	(350)	-58.3%
Subtotal - Other Operational Expenses	25,200	15,892	63.1%	22,575	(2,625)	-10.4%
Property & Building Expenses						
Electric	5,000	3,954	79.1%	5,000	-	0.0%
Water / Sewer /Trash	5,000	3,843	76.9%	5,200	200	4.0%
Natural Gas / Fuel Oil	8,500	6,981	82.1%	9,650	1,150	13.5%
Janitorial Supplies	1,500	960	64.0%	1,250	(250)	-16.7%
Lawn Care (inc Cem & Edge/Mulch)	6,750	4,123	61.1%	9,150	2,400	35.6%
Tree service	1,500		0.0%	1,200	(300)	-20.0%
Heating & Cooling Systems Maint.	1,900	1,479	77.8%	1,825	(75)	-3.9%
Elevator Maintenance & Inspection	1,000	1,673	167.3%	1,050	50	5.0%
Fire/Smoke Alarm & Emerg Gen Maint	525	1,286	245.0%	875	350	66.7%
Emergency generator main	400			460	60	15.0%
Snow Removal	2,750	1,394	50.7%	2,500	(250)	-9.1%
Parking lot maint	500		0.0%	250	(250)	-50.0%
Exterminator Service	850	592	69.6%	870	20	2.4%
Maintenance & Improvements	6,500	4,550	70.0%	5,000	(1,500)	-23.1%
Subtotal - Property & Building Expenses	42,675	30,835	72.3%	44,280	1,605	3.8%
Safety Committee	2,000	281	14.1%	1,200	(800)	-40.0%
VISION FOR FUTURE COMMITMENT, ETC						
Call Committee	2,000	-		1,000	(1,000)	-50.0%
Non-budgeted, Council approved		891		-		
ZION'S TOTAL COMMITMENT - TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSE	263,616	193,159	73.3%	250,545	(13,071)	-5.0%
CEMETARY FUND - Repairs	800	800	100.0%	800	-	0.0%

SPECIAL PROPERTY MAINTANAINCE/IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS FUND (projects to be undertaken as funds are available according to priority and order determined by Property Committee):

Nave carpeting	13,400
Replace Parish House Storm Door	1,000
Bell Tower window	1,382
Sump pump	3,308
Nave ceiling repair	2,640
Seal and Re-Line Parking Lots	2,250
Sidewalk and Curb Replacement	10,000
Connect emergency generator to alarm	2,000
Total	35,980

MEMO - Power Pack

2,000

This is a commitment by Congregational Council for \$2,000 each of 5 years 2020-2024, motivated by a bequest & not to require other giving.

## **INTERIM PASTOR'S REPORT 2022**

One of the first classes I taught on my arrival to Zion was confirmation class October, 2021. When we got to November two youth were ready to be confirmed. Each of them affirmed the faith of their baptism. On Christ the King Sunday, Johnathan Flood was confirmed with the support of his family and the congregation. In December, Dolcy Whitcraft was confirmed with the support of her family and the congregation. It was my joy and privilege to work with them. It was so wonderful to be with you, and to preside over that beautiful in person Christmas Eve liturgy.

Even though we gathered for in person worship, we still live streamed the worship service on line. The technology came in quite handy when there was to be inclement weather on January 9<sup>th</sup>. The day before we prerecorded the liturgy, so we could worship together in the safety of our home on that icy January morning. A most important interfaith gathering was held on January 27. All the churches and the pastors in East Petersburg ministerium were invited to participate in and attend a Holocaust Remembrance hosted by Temple Beth El on zoom. There were several youths that were present and participated in the Remembrance. It was a wonderful opportunity to come together and to support our Jewish neighbors, as our Lord has commanded us to do.

As we moved through the winter and got ready for Lent Jim Riggs and I met, as we do still to select hymns appropriate for the season of the church year and to look ahead to the next season. Jim is a careful planner as I am. We work well together and both of us appreciate the rich variety of the liturgical calendar for worship and music that all of the seasons bring. I am grateful for Jim's dedication and the breadth and depth of his experience.

With the resignation of one of the secretaries, we needed to add a new person to the staff. That person is Sherry Barnhart. She began her duties in February. She and Cindy Miley work well together, and with me. I am grateful for the work that they do. They both are quite helpful to me.

Lent began in March. Jim and I chose Evening Prayer from the Lutheran Book of Worship as our liturgy. The theme was Via Dolorosa-Way of Sorrow. This was the path through Jerusalem Jesus was led, on his way to the cross. My sermons each week were based on the readings of each of the stations of the cross. Just after the Wednesdays in Lent, we marked Holy Week with two very powerful liturgies with incredible special music both for Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. Easter Sunday, April 17, was an incredible liturgy full of significant scriptures, hymnody and music from Jim, the choir, and trumpeter. It was joy-filled worship with such beauty.

Also in April, on the Sunday after Easter, after months of instruction, Sean Fetzer and Sophia Sidoti affirmed the faith of their baptism with the support of their parents and the congregation. I was very glad to work with them and enjoyed getting to know them. As part of my ministry to the community I accepted an invitation to be part of the Lancaster Lebanon Habitat for Humanity, Faith and Community committee. This committee is part of the capital campaign, "Open Doors."

Two new members joined Zion church in May, Jack Leshner and Shirley Groff. It was great to welcome them into the congregation.

When we moved into June the first thing was the Lower Susquehanna Synod Assembly on June 3-4 via zoom. Many thanks to our voting members for serving: Pat Crawford and Phil Hartenstine. That was followed by our Pentecost celebration with the liturgy of Word and Sacrament, as well as beautiful decorations. On June 19 we changed worship settings and moved from setting 3 in Evangelic Lutheran Worship to setting 10. That remained in place until September 11 when we went back to setting 3.

In July and August, I could slightly increase the number of visits, because not all the committees met over the summer months, and there was less preparation time needed because of fewer meetings. I also did my first house blessing, since I arrived at Zion. It was for Bernice and Harlan Redcay's new home at St. Ann's. During August I took racial justice training via zoom. This is required for every pastor and deacon on the roster of active ministers of Word and Sacrament and Word and Service.

September's arrival meant that Sunday church school would begin again. I started up once more the lectionary class for adults. I started a Bible study on Paul's letter to the Galatians which meets on Wednesday nights at 7p.m. I am also taking an online class offered by Luther Seminary entitled "From Holy Rage to Holy Hope The Pastor as Public Leader, Congregation as Healing Community. ". I attended the "Faith Leaders' Legislative Day at the Capital in Harrisburg on September 12. This event was hosted by Rep, Mike Sturla. It was informative, and I came home with incredible resources and contact information from everyone who presented to us. On September 11 we kicked off the festivities for the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary with an indoor picnic. It was great fun and very well attended.

In October as part of our anniversary celebration October 2, featured the Good Shepherd window in the children's message and the sermon. Rev. Dr. Christopher Rankin, pastor of Trinity, United Church of Christ, preached the sermon on October 9. Rev. Beth Martini, Assistant to Bishop Dunlop, of the Lower Susquehanna Synod will preach on October 16 when we will dedicate a new fair linen for the altar and a hand painted water color with the anniversary logo. The final celebration for the anniversary will be on Sunday, October 23 with a festival liturgy of Word and Sacrament with a buffet lunch to follow at Bent Creek Country Club. On October 30 there will be a liturgy of Word and Sacrament as we mark the 505<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation.

I wanted to point out some of the highlights of the year. It is an honor to serve you and to serve with you in ministry. I am grateful for my time with you. I hold all of you in my prayers. May the peace of God dwell in you richly.

Yours in Christ's service.  
Rev. Pamela J. Carnes

## **PASTORAL ACTS**

### **Funeral Services**

Grace Phillips – February 15, 2022

Clara Kissinger – May 20, 2022

### **Confirmations**

Johnathan Logan Flood – November 21, 2021

Dolcy Amelia Whitcraft – December 12, 2021

Sofia Aileen Sidoti -April 24, 2022

Sean Isaac Fetzer – April 24, 2022

# **CONGREGATION COUNCIL - PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

## **Congregation Council Members:**

Lindsey Wagner (President)

Pastor Pam Carnes

Mary Chesters

Janet Hoover

Sam Maurer

Council recording Secretary: Jennifer Sterner

Charlie Houck (Vice-President)

John Chesters

Lisa Flood

Don Long

Barb Ross

Our council members are the leadership for our church. They serve as liaisons to our committees, attend regular meetings and make important decisions to help our congregation conduct our business. Please thank a council member! I especially want to thank Sam Maurer who stepped into this council spot mid-term and his time on council will end in December. His help especially restarting the Fellowship committee is greatly appreciated. Thank you so much for your dedication to our church!

## **2022 YEAR IN REVIEW:**

This year has been a busy year as we are slowly getting back to normal after COVID. In January we installed 5 new council members. Charlie Houck and Sam Maurer will serve one-year terms while John Chesters, Janet Hoover and Barb Ross began 3-year terms. We also created two new temporary committees for the year – 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee (Mary Chesters chair) and the Constitution/Bylaws Update Committee (Lindsey Wagner chair).

In February, we hired Sherry Barnhill to replace Deb Manning as parish secretary. Sherry has been working Mondays and Tuesdays while Cindy Miley continues to work Wednesday and Thursdays.

This spring, council looked at our monthly newsletter to decide what is best moving forward. We looked at the current process, numbers, costs, and opinions along with talking with our parish secretary Cindy Miley. Council decided that the best way to move forward is to make the monthly mailing digital. Starting in August, the newsletter is now emailed to most members. Any members that do not have that available will still receive it in the mail and extra printed newsletters are also put in the narthex each month.

In August, Pastor Carnes' one-year interim contract with Zion was ending. Council unanimously approved to extend it one year or until a pastor is called and Pastor agreed to continue at Zion. We also were excited to honor Pastor Carnes in September to help her celebrate the anniversary of her 25<sup>th</sup> ordination. We presented her with a Good Shephard stole and served refreshments after church.

This year many of our council members have been involved in planning our 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary. This summer we begin by selling anniversary t-shirts as well as weekly bible verses to go with the theme: Great is Thy Faithfulness. The official kick-off began September 11<sup>th</sup> with a pot-luck and trivia. Many other activities including a concert by Vocal Harmonix as well as guest pastors – Pr. Chris Rankin from Trinity UCC East Petersburg and Pr. Beth Martini Assistant to the Bishop of the Lower Susquehanna Synod. The finale will take place on October 23<sup>rd</sup> with a special luncheon at Bent Creek and we will have many members and former Pastors in attendance.

One other task council has been working on this year is updating our constitution and bylaws since it has not been done since 2012. I, Lindsey, have been adding in all of the updates from the last four ELCA gatherings as well as working with the synod to bring it up to date. This should be ready to present at our annual meeting in November.

As we begin to look at 2023, we pray for God's guidance and give thanks for His many blessings!

Sincerely,  
Lindsey Wagner, Church Council President

## **DIRECTOR OF MUSIC - James Riggs**

Mark Harter provided prelude and carol accompaniment on trumpet on Dec. 12, 2021, and percussion players Joan Miller, Joan Appleyard, and Andy Fetzer joined the anthem as well. Our guest musician on Christmas Eve was Bill Powers, flute; we had one service only, a service of Holy Communion, two choir anthems, candlelight, and solo by Alyssa Wagner, who also served as cantor.

On March 13, we held our first concert of the new season as COVID-19 seemed to be waning. Eastern Connecticut University Chamber Singers sang an excellent and varied program. We experienced good attendance and a very appreciate audience, and the Worship & Music Committee provided a nice reception afterwards.

Lent began on March 2, and we selected LBW Evening Prayer as the format for the Wednesday mid-week services. Choir rehearsals were held after the service. During Holy Week, the musical element of our worship was amplified by soprano Jessica Rife on Palm Sunday, cellist Steve Witter on Good Friday, and trumpeter Michael Eckersley on Easter Sunday, in addition to our wonderful and dedicated choir members.

In June, Director of Music Jim Riggs participated in an online professional development course, a 3-day Composer's Symposium. The focus was on the art and craft of musical composition, primarily grounded in a sacred music context.

During the summer we featured musicians Ron Bellamy (handbells), Matt Mangus (tenor), Steve Witter (cello), Saralee Riggs (mezzo-soprano), Alyssa Wagner (treble voice), Amy Christmas (clarinet) and a men's quartet (Phil Hartenstine, Dan Bohler, Jim Riggs and Steve Witter). In addition, the choir gathered for a pick-up anthem on July 31.

Jim and Saralee Riggs wrote a Jubilee Hymn for proposed use during the 175th Anniversary celebration and submitted it to the Music and Worship Committee for consideration. They approved its use at the Anniversary services.

Fall choir rehearsals began on September 8, and the choir sang at the Anniversary kick-off service on September 11, offering an anthem with flute accompaniment provided by guest flutist Morgann Davis.

## **PARISH COUNCIL NOMINEES**

### **Camron Mondock**

Hello! My name is Cameron Mondock and I have been a member at Zion in East Pete since 2005. I grew up in this church, getting confirmed in 2008 and spending many years as a worship assistant during services. Over the years I've thoroughly enjoyed my many experiences at Zion, including signing in the choir, participating in community meals and assisting wherever needed. In 2017 after graduating from Pennsylvania State University, I moved to Boston to begin my sales career with Oracle. Last fall I relocated back to Lancaster and it has been a joy to be able to attend services again at Zion. Fortunately, I am able to work remotely for my new company, Smartsheet. I look forward to working together with the council to progress key initiatives and continue our success!

### **Lindsey Wagner**

I was born and baptized Lutheran at the First Lutheran Church in New Oxford, PA. I then had my membership transferred to Zion – East Petersburg in 2006 now that I live in Lancaster County. Since joining, I have been very active. I have done a lot with the youth- overseen the Middle School Youth Group, taken students to Maine on a mission trip, and taught Sunday School. I have also been the director for the Christmas pageant for the last 9 years along with volunteering at our VBS and now Trinity UCC. I have been on council since 2020 and president for the last year and a half.

Outside of church, my family keeps me quite busy – husband Larry, Alyssa age 11, and Evan age 8. In our free time we enjoy playing games as a family, traveling to visit my sister in Florida and going to Hershey Park. Professionally, I teach 7<sup>th</sup> grade math at Conestoga Valley Middle School and am one of the co-advisors for the Technology Student Association. Outside of school I am a 19-year member of the Elizabethtown Kiwanis Club doing community service in the area and coach Alyssa's field hockey team.

### **Charles Houck**

I have worked for a number of technology companies in research and development and engineering sales in management or as an individual contributor. I have been a member at Zion for 20 years. In addition to council, I am currently a member of the Stewardship committee, the Worship and Music committee and the Information Technology committee. I was instrumental in creating the new Zion web site and have put Zion's church services online and continue to support those services with the help of other members.

# **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE –Julia Campbell**

Our committee would like you to get involved in the education of our congregation, please join us the 1st Wednesday of each month, except summer. Current members are Julia Campbell, Tom Campbell, Janet Hoover and Marilyn Schappell and Pastor Carnes.

Last year members of the congregation decorated a tree in the narthex with 35 hats, 26 pairs of gloves/mittens, 5 scarves and 99 pairs of socks which were given to Carter and McRae Elementary school, these items are greatly appreciated because of the great need in their school. Joan Kessler also made many hat and mitten sets that were donated to Hempfield School District.

Don't forget our church library! We have many good books of all topics for you to pick from, you can pick one up on your way home after church.

## **Adult Forum – Pastor Carnes**

There had not been an adult class while Pastor Carnes was teaching confirmation. With no confirmation students this year, Pastor Carnes has started an adult class on Sunday mornings at 9:00 using the Lectionary for that Sunday.

## **Confirmation Ministry – Pastor Carnes**

Pastor Carnes worked with the remaining confirmation students whose study was interrupted by the pandemic, Jonathan Flood was confirmed in November and Dolcy Whitcraft was confirmed in December. Following a few more months of study Sean Fetzer and Sophia Sidoti were confirmed in April.

## **Summer Camping-Janet Hoover**

This past summer we again offered camperships for all students to attend a week of camp. Norah Smith, Alyssa Wagner and Evan Wagner all attended camp at Camp Kirchenwald.

## **Sunday School-Julia Campbell**

We started out the year with a full roster of teachers but unfortunately we are only bringing in 2 or 3 children. Lindsey Wagner did a great job of putting on a Christmas Pageant with the few children that we have.

## **Youth Ministry - Lindsay Wagner**

This year, Zion continued to help Trinity UCC in East Petersburg with their annual community Vacation Bible School. For a week in July, both children and adults joined together in person for the theme



Wade in the Water and raised over \$1800 for the Navajo Water Project. Lindsey Wagner served as a teacher and a few Zion children also participated this week.

## **EVANGELISM COMMITTEE – Ann Ober**

With a talented and committed group of members, the Evangelism Committee remained strong in their efforts throughout the year. The members of this committee are: John Chesters, Mary Chesters, Lois Jordan, Susan Kametz, Lisa Flood, Bonnie Stebbins, and Ann Ober. Pastor Carnes also attends all meetings and supports the work of this group.

Ongoing limitations associated with Covid continued to impact the frequency and size of gatherings in 2022, the work of the Committee had to be innovative and ever changing. We were able to welcome new member Jack Leshner. His partner, Shirley Groff also became a member of Zion with her new member installation being held in her home due to her advancing health decline.

Several key initiatives were sustained throughout the year. Prayer cards that include scripture or words of inspiration were given out with Grab N Go meals. There was also an increased effort to include these folks in Zion, by passing out our newsletter, and flyers on special events and activities during our 175 Anniversary. There was a feature newsletter article that included several of these folks who stop by Zion weekly.

The Circle of Caring Prayer List, and the year-long Grief Program remained active spiritual outreach initiatives championed by Evangelism. The Committee also continued to send cards to members experiencing illness or grief, and to communicate with our sister congregation in Tanzania.

A significant effort put forth by this committee in 2022 was its involvement in the planning and execution of Zion's 175 anniversary. In keeping with our mission, we initiated a scripture emphasis that went with the overall theme: Great is THY Faithfulness. Bible passages that attest to God's Faithfulness were printed and distributed, one per week for fifteen weeks, and these were also featured in the bulletin each week. Packs of the remaining copies were attractively assembled into booklets to be distributed as part of Evangelism.

The Committee also encouraged the presence of Zion in the E. P. fall celebration. Not only did we participate in the parade, but Zion also hosted a table at the Civic grounds afterward.

We also advocated for a sharing of information on the beautiful stain glass windows in our sanctuary. Thanks to the work of Bonnie Gable, and also her daughter-in-law Kim Gable, information on the windows was put into a booklet as part of the anniversary celebration. They had gathered information on the individuals and families who had donated these windows, and Pastor Carnes added details on the Christian symbolism featured in the various windows. This information was highlighted by way of brief comments made prior to the start of six church services during the anniversary celebration.

Another aspect of Zion's Anniversary was featuring members' Faith Stories in our newsletter. These are personal attestations of what the Zion experience has meant to the individual authoring the story and were first featured in a booklet published when Zion celebrated its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Faith stories offer powerful testimonials as to the value and meaning of faith in the lives of Christians. Plans are to continue Faith Stories in the new year and look for ways to increase the use and distribution of these testimonials.

Thanks to the efforts of Charlie Houck, Zion's presence, including promotion and outreach through social media has been advanced to beyond State of the Art. A wealth of information and resources is now available online and we are now able to push out messages to the congregation and community. This capability has long been a goal of our committee. In conjunction with these advances, the Committee is attempting to augment and complement these information streams so that we regularly also reach non-users of the internet.

Always a highlight of the year for the Committee members, is our backpack project. Thanks to the efforts of Susan Kametz and the Chesters, the Committee was well stocked for the task of packing school supplies into 50 backpacks for young students. A message of encouragement from the church is included in each backpack. After these backpacks were blessed, they were delivered to the Hempfield School District for distribution to needy students. There also was a small number of backpacks that went to the children at The House of Ferdinand in Manheim.

As we look forward to the new year, the Evangelism Committee is challenged to create new and impactful ways of fulfilling our mission in a drastically changing world.

## **FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE- Sam Maurer**

Over many years the Fellowship Committee of Zion was a vibrant part of our church by planning fun and exciting events for the congregation to enjoy together as family.

In 2022 we held a game night on January 15<sup>th</sup> and a kite flying event in April which were well attended. These fun activities brought us all together, created a congregational family bond, and also brought the community into our congregation.

Many events want to be planned and executed next year in 2023. Your ideas and help are essential. The Fellowship Committee is in need of volunteers to help plan and work these events. If you are interest in joining this committee please contact the church office at 717-569-1359 or by email at church@zionep.org.

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE - Don Long**

A focus of the Committee in 2022 has been on the situation of our Operating Expenses exceeding our Unified/Unrestricted/General Fund Giving. More particularly, for the 9 months ended September 30, 2022 our deficit (excess of expenses over related revenue) is \$20,789. To share the concern, the Committee put articles in the Newsletter twice to raise awareness and, hopefully, generate more giving to reduce the magnitude of the deficit. More recently, the Committee has been particularly focused on the preparation of a 2023 Budget for recommendation to Council and, in due course, to the congregation. The required timing of this report is such that the 2023 Budget is a work in process. However, individuals with input into the Budget were asked to carefully consider requested amounts in efforts to avoid, or minimize, reduction or elimination of programs and ministries while at the same time achieving a reduced total Operating Expense Budget. Most respondents submitted budget requests that appeared to reflect such efforts, while there are clearly many costs that cannot be reduced and are even subject to recent high inflationary pressures. It appears a Budget will be

finalized that is less than that of 2022, BUT likely greater than current related giving levels. Everyone is encouraged to review more financial information contained in this same mailing packet (more detailed actual September information and the proposed 2023 Budget), as well as other information presented at the Congregational meeting. We ask the Congregation to prayerfully consider the challenges 2023 might present.

In addition to the Committee's annual efforts in overseeing the Budget's preparation, the Finance Committee has continued to support the many ministries of Zion by overseeing the accounting for the Church's income and overseeing the appropriate disbursement of funds for expenses according to Budget guidelines. More specifically, the Committee typically:

- ensures, in cooperation with the Stewardship Committee, the proper allocation and recordkeeping of our members' giving;
- reports financial information to Council and the committees each month;
- addresses requests for non-budgeted and Memorial items, when asked;
- monitors the church's investments and insurance coverage;
- offers advice periodically on financial matters and direction; and
- works cooperatively, along with the Treasurer, with periodic audits of the Church's financial records and practices.

In closing, we **greatly** appreciate Barb Breneman's service as our Treasurer – THANK YOU, Barb! Also, special thanks to Shawn Serfass for again serving as Zion's Auditor in 2021 and undertaking the next annual audit currently. Other current members of the Finance Committee include John Chesters Lee Ober and Harry Radcliffe. Thank you all for your valued efforts and services, notably to Lee for performing desired "independent" reconciliation of our bank accounts!!

## **HEALTH, SAFETY & SECURITY COMMITTEE - John Snoke**

The function of this committee is to identify issues that could affect the health, safety or security of Zion's members and/ or guests and then recommend possible solutions to Church leadership.

The Committee is relatively new to Zion, functioning "officially" for about three years. This year the Committee has concentrated on creating an "Emergency Operations Guide" for Church staff in the possibility there would be an emergency which might imperil one or more of our congregants or guests. This document is complete except for a complete evacuation plan.

We have also dealt with Covid related issues and other Church health, safety, and security concerns. This past January, five of our group were re-certified for CPR administration and AED usage by the Manheim Twp. Fire/Rescue team.

The Committee has also met with representatives of the East Petersburg Fire Department and discussed occupancy issues. They now have a copy of our building plans on file in case of fire issues. We hope to renew our acquaintance in the coming months with some instruction on how to best use our fire extinguishers.

This past July, we invited a representative of the South Central PA Task Force (SCTF), Mr. George Giangli, Chair, to inspect both the Church and the Parish House for safety and security issues and possible ways to remediate them.

The Committee is currently focusing on his subsequent report to us on ways and means to strengthen Zion's safety and security measures. This report (32PPs) identifies our strengths and weaknesses in terms of an emergency and gives options to mitigate the problems. The Committee is currently considering security issues highlighted in the report and working to prioritize and remediate them working with Council and the Property Committee.

Committee members include: Pastor Carnes, Cheryl & Sam Maurer, Lee Ober, John Snoke, Bonnie Stebbins, Mary Chesters and Todd Swiontek. If anyone is interested in this essential work in protecting Zion's worshippers/guests, please see one of the preceding member for details. The Committee meets once a month on the third Saturday of the month at 10:00 AM.

## **OUTREACH COMMITTEE - Lee Ober**

*“Is not this the fast that I choose: to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house;” Isaiah 58: 6, 7*

As suggested by Church Council, this year our Service Ministry Committee was changed to become the committee of Outreach. This committee unites several activities and considers and guides our efforts that bring support and benevolent aid to all ages, regardless of age or origin. Our major emphasis is in local community projects. We discuss how we could help Home on Ferdinand, Love INC of Lancaster County, Habitat for Humanity and Low Income Housing, Transitional Living, and various projects and Appeals from our Lower Susquehanna Synod and ELCA. Inspiring participation amongst all our members is our goal. By combining our Community Meals (Grab&Go) program, the Clothing Bank Program, the Service Ministry programs and other Community Aid and Benevolence programs, Outreach best describes the efforts of the newly named committee. Our members are Vickie Swiontek, Lois Jordan, Carole Fetzer, Dan Bohler, Lee Ober, Janet Hoover (Council Liaison) and Pastor Carnes. The participation from each of these members is greatly appreciated.

**Grab & Go Meals** program under the leadership of Vickie Swiontek:

We are in our 19th year of managing the Community Meal Ministry of Zion Lutheran with a large team of faithful volunteers who share responsibilities for providing nutritious meals. We have continued with the Grab & Go Lunch format in 2022 offering meals from the parking lot on Mondays from 11:30 am – 12:30 pm and have seen the need grow this year so that we are often providing 55 - 60 meals a week to our neighbors.

We are very appreciative to all the individuals and groups who prepare the wonderful meals that are served! Many of our Meal Providers are our own members of Zion and include the Mauer team, the Fetzer team, Evangelism Committee, Church Council, Lois Heller, Janet Hoover, Pat Crawford, Phil Hartenstine, Vickie Swiontek, Linda Witter, Steve Witter, Zion's Angels, ZEST, Mary Ann Hess, Glenn Hess, and the Outreach Committee. Our Community partners who also provide meals are Cindy Miley, Sherry Barnhill, Vicki Harter, St Matthew Lutheran, Trinity UCC, Dutchland Derby Rollers, Faith United Methodist, East Pete Mennonite, and Grace E. C Church.

Our Community Meal Managers are: Alvie and Carole Fetzer, Lois Heller, Barb Ross, Sue Kametz, Lois Jordan, Polly Kirchoff, Flo Prokay, Marci Mondock, Ann Ober, Lee Ober, Cindy Miley, Vickie Swiontek, Arlene Wilhelm, and Holly Hackett. Volunteers are needed to join this dedicated group and we welcome you to join us in this mission to feed our neighbors.

We are supported in this ministry by donations of fresh vegetables from our wonderful Donation Garden and at Christmas time we partnered with the talented members of our own Skeins and

Scones committee who provided the Grab & Go participants with handmade scarves, hats and mittens which were very much appreciated!

**Clothing Bank** under the leadership of Carole Fetzer:

The clothing bank is located in our church basement. We encourage and accept donations of a variety of suitable clothing for families and individuals aiding both men, women, and children. To arrange access to the Clothing Bank, please call the Parish office for appointments or visit the clothing room on every Monday from 11:30am to 12:30pm, corresponding to our weekly Grab&Go lunch distributions at the church.

**Service Ministry** under the leadership of Don Bohler here are the various activities:

- November 2021 - Harvest Home Special food bank appeal and weekly collection.
- December 2022 - Support Lutheran World Relief.
- March 2022 - congregational support of Lancaster homeless shelter Transitional Living Center
- Lent 2022 - A special advertised effort in support of the Hempfield Area Food Pantry.
- All year - ongoing food collection, dropped off at church Library to support the Hempfield Area Food Pantry located in Landisville.

Our Outreach committee greatly appreciates the congregation's support of these many projects. A special thanks to Harlan and Bernie Redcay and others who deliver the food to the Hempfield Area Pantry for distribution to those in need of food aid.

## **PROPERTY COMMITTEE - Rick Miller**

Meeting Date/Time: Typically, the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Members: Rick Miller (Chairman), Ed Irwin, Sam Maurer IV, Todd Sillaman and Lee Ober (Congregational Council Representative). Grounds Maintenance Sub-Committee: Kim and Jeff Gable. Sexton: Doug Stoner. Supply Sexton: Phil Hartenstine.

2022 Completed Projects – through 9.30.22

- Contracted with Weaver Energy to replace the boiler igniter motor and a circulator motor for the LAARS boiler.
- Contracted with Lancaster Elevator to replace the emergency power pack in the elevator.
- Installed the driveway snow markers.
- Contracted with DynaTech to install our new emergency generator.
- Repaired the light switches in the Parish House Barn.
- Coordinated with Vocal Harmonix to have their risers moved to the basement of the Social Hall and to have their additional risers stored in the Parish House Barn.
- Contracted with EH Gochnauer & Sons to repair the through-the-wall heater/cooling unit located in the "counting-room."
- Prepared and posted an *Emergency Contact Information for UGI* document.
- Contracted with Rubio's to perform our annual shrub and tree trimming.
- Installed a new hand railing on the steps located at the west end of the second-floor hallway of the Education Wing.
- Contracted with Lancaster Elevator to replace the door operating system, stop roller.
- Installed a doorbell at the east entrance to the main church facility.
- Maintained our authorized Key Listing.

- Coordinated and contracted with Signarama to repair/renovate our exterior sign board that is located at the corner of Lemon and Broad Streets.
- Contracted with Roots Nursery to plant a replacement tree in honor of Pastor Krause's 25<sup>th</sup> ordination anniversary.
- Prepared and submitted a letter of apology to the East Petersburg Fire Company for working with us through the numerous false fire calls that were initiated in February and March.
- Contracted with Weaver Energy to replace the boiler pressure release tank for the LAARS heating system.
- Researched, selected and contracted with a new fire/smoke alarm monitoring service – Yarnell Security Systems.
- Arranged to have the old pitcher's-mound and the pile of dirt located in our upper lot removed.
- Coordinated with our Sexton to provide Supply Sexton coverage during his 2022 vacation days.
- Replaced numerous venetian window blinds in the Parish House.
- Eliminated three handicapped parking spaces in our upper parking area and coordinated the replacement/installation of appropriate signage.
- Coordinated with the Mennonite Home to receive the donation of a credenza and a small end table that was used to re-decorate the first floor of our Education Wing/Narthex.
- Supported the volunteer who agreed to re-paint both the interior and exterior of the garden fence.
- Consulted with the Finance Committee to select a new alternative energy provider for our main facility and the Parish House.
- In preparation for the kick-off of our 175th Anniversary Celebration, contracted with Rubio's to edge and mulch our grounds.
- In response to a request from the Safety Committee, prepared exit signage documents.
- Contracted to have the motor of the first-floor, nursery restroom exhaust fan replaced.
- Prepared and submitted the proposed 2023 Property Committee Budget.
- Performed and documented the annual performance evaluation for our Sexton.
- Contracted to replace the internal exhaust line of our emergency generator.
- Coordinated the annual inspection of our elevator.
- Repainted numerous sections of our exterior hand railings and light fixtures.
- Contracted with Weaver Energy and EH Gochnauer & Sons to perform the annual preventative maintenance of our heating and cooling systems.
- Prepared and submitted the Property Committee's annual report.
- Contracted with S.A. Way to replace the shut-off valve of our main water line.
- Contracted with McCarty's Seal Coating to seal and repaint our upper driveway and parking areas.
- Coordinated our pest control needs for both our main facility and the Parish House with Ehrlich Pest Control.
- Prepared and submitted a constitution update document regarding the responsibilities of the Property Committee.
- In response to a mandate from East Petersburg Borough to replace our Lemon Street curb and sidewalks, created and maintained an ongoing dialogue - which as of the writing of this document, the details were still to be determined.

On behalf of the Property Committee, I would like to recognize:

- Kim and Jeff Gable for their dedication and hard work as they continue to provide volunteer services to keep the exterior landscaping of our facilities looking great.

- Doug Stoner for his service and conscientiousness as he performs his duties as Sexton.
- Phil Hartenstine for agreeing to serve and doing an excellent job as our Supply Sexton.
- Our secretaries, Cindy Miley and Sherry Barnhill, for their assistance and always being available to support the Property Committee.
- The entire committee for attending and participating in our monthly meetings, volunteering for work parties, assisting with projects, and coordinating the services of our vendors.

## **STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE – Charlie Houck**

**Mission statement** Promote the expression of Christian faith in daily living, by communicating the Christian use of time, talent and treasure, to support the congregation's local, church wide and worldwide ministries and to lead all members to higher levels of proportionate giving for the Lord's work."

**Members:** Lois Jordan, Jack Fitz, Charlie Houck, Lee Ober, Shawn Serfass

### **Accomplishments:**

- We supported online giving on our website and from a mobile app.
- Updated credit card donations to our online giving system that is provided by Vanco.
- Completed the conversion of the Give+ app to the Vanco Mobile app.
- Supported the Finance committee in creating next year's budget.

### **Initiatives:**

- As the Stewardship Committee, it is our charter to encourage all to take on responsibility not only for an efficiently run ministry but to be better stewards in this world and leave it better than we found it through good service.
- We provide financial and spiritual updates in the monthly newsletters and with the individual quarterly financial statements that are prepared by the Financial Secretary to ensure our congregation is informed of our giving as the year progresses.
- We track the funds that are dedicated to church operating expenses and report positive or negative trends as compared to a weekly prorated budget goal to Council and the Congregation by reports and bulletin board listings.
- We strive to encourage and inspire members to volunteer their time and talent for various committee positions.
- We expect to continue the series of presentations on Stewardship in 2023 with a focus on volunteering.

### **Future Plans:**

We are always looking for people to count the Sunday offering and make the bank deposit. Counting the offering does not require any financial training but does require some time following the

service on Sundays. We are looking to fill open committee positions and Sunday support positions including but not limited to Usher, Altar setup support, and Lectors. If you are willing to serve in any of these capacities, please step forward and make your desire known.

#### **Status on giving level:**

We strive to inspire the congregation to be consistent in their giving. Our giving so far this year as of the end of September is ahead of 2021 but behind 2020. We refer you to the Financial reports supplied by the Finance committee for financial detail. We are hopeful that as attendance improves post covid so will the giving. We want to express our thanks to our members who count the offering that is collected each week and make the bank deposit.

#### **Status on volunteering:**

As the attendance of regular Sunday service continues to be lower each year, we find that fewer people are volunteering to support our ministry. The result is a select few people are providing the support required to support our Sunday worship requirements and we would like to have more volunteers. Zion has always supported many outside charities with our time and talent and we find those activities are also stretched in filling positions. We ask your assistance to get involved in a committee, council, or any of our charitable organizations. If you would like to become more involved, please contact the Pastor.

## **WORSHIP/MUSIC COMMITTEE- Lisa Flood/Barb Ross**

### **MEMBERS**

Dan Bohler, Mary Chesters, Kim Gable, Charlie Houck, Deb Miller, Jim Riggs (Director of Music), Lisa Flood & Barb Ross (Co-Chairs)

### **COORDINATORS**

Mary Chesters and Deb Miller (Altar Care & Acolytes), Kim Gable (Altar Flowers), Kim Gable and Alvie Fetzer (Decorating), Lisa Flood (Council Representative), Charlie Houck (I/T, Sound), Lee Ober (Ushers), Barb Ross (Lectors), Jim Riggs (Music, Choir, Cantors, Concert Series)

This committee oversees and encourages congregational involvement in all aspects of Zion's worship. Working closely with the Pastor and Director of Music, we strive to create meaningful worship experiences, in keeping with our Lectionary, for all who share with us in worship. The committee oversees music ministry, acolytes, lectors, nursery attendants, altar care and ushers, seasonal sanctuary decorations, the inventory of candles, communion and baptism supplies. The Worship & Music Committee has specific responsibility for music, altar care (including communion set-up and clean-up), special music guests, equipment (piano & organ and other Zion owned instruments).

With the addition of a new Interim Pastor and new Director of Music at the end of 2021, came a surge of energy in the life of our congregation and this committee. We once again were able to return to in-person services, and the Adult Choir returned to the choir loft with 14 members. The Christmas Eve candlelight communion service was especially meaningful as we celebrated worship with the Saint James Liturgy and were able to once again sing beloved Christmas hymns together.

Under the leadership of Music Director Jim Riggs, in March of 2022 we held our first public concert since pre-Covid days, when we welcomed the very talented Chamber Singers of Eastern



Connecticut State University. Our committee hopes to revive the "Music at Zion" concert series, and currently has a concert planned for December 11, 2022, when we will host "Rosetta's Tones" here at Zion.

Our midweek Lenten services were a time of prayer, reflection and devotions as we followed Jesus in His journey to Golgotha...the "Via Dolorosa", Way of Sorrows. Guest musicians participated in our Lenten and Easter services. Vocalist Jessica Rife on Palm Sunday, Steve Witter on cello on Good Friday, and Michael Eckersley on trumpet on Easter Sunday. Each of these musicians greatly enhanced our worship with their gifts of music.

In June Ron Bellamy returned with his handbells, always a favorite. Vocalist, Matt Mangus and instrumentalist Amy Christmas joined us in July. In August we enjoyed selections from our own Zion members, the fabulous "Zion 4" acapella quartet and the following Sunday a solo by Alyssa Wagner.

All continues to run smoothly with video and sound systems. Under the expert guidance of Charlie Houck, Zion's online presence has been greatly expanded. See his comprehensive report for the Information Technology Committee.

In honor of our 175th Anniversary, "A Jubilee Hymn" was composed by Jim and Saralee Riggs and was sung at our service on October 23. It will now become part of Zion's heritage and a reminder of that special celebration. A guest trumpeter also added a festive touch to our service on that special day.

A new Pentecost banner was recently purchased to replace the former one which had become faded. Also purchased a new Fair Linen for the altar and blue paraments for the Advent season. These were purchased through the Memorial Fund and will replace the ones loaned from Saint Matthew during the time of Pastor Ruth's service at Zion.

This year there will be one worship service on December 24, Christmas Eve, at 7 P.M. It will be a candlelight service including Holy Communion. We will also celebrate with a worship service on December 25, Christmas Day, as it is a Sunday. Worship that day will be at our usual 10:30 A.M. service time.

Our committee is always ready to welcome new members! We continue to seek people to fill the roles of worship assistants, ushers, lectors and acolytes. We will instruct and guide those who wish to participate.

We are grateful for the Coordinators and all the individuals whose hard work keeps things running smoothly at Zion. We especially appreciate Jim Riggs and his dedication to supporting meaningful worship through our music, and his efforts to expand our music ministry.

A special note of thanks to Alyssa and Evan Wagner for their faithfulness in serving as acolytes throughout the year. Also to Alyssa for sharing her talents as cantor and soloist on many occasions.

Our committee thanks Pastor Carnes for her encouragement, guidance and support during this past year. You are most appreciated!

# **TASK FORCE/SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS**

## **MEMORIAL FUND COMMITTEE- John Chesters**

The Memorial Committee is a subcommittee of the Finance Committee. They meet as needed to consider requests and conduct business. It is their duty to see that the Memorial Book is kept up to date and to record the names of all who make gifts to the Memorial Fund in memory of individuals who have died.

The committee follows the established guidelines and procedures for memorial gifts and for the use of memorial funds. Items purchased from Memorial Funds are dedicated and listed in the Memorial Book. For 2022, funds approved the purchase of new blue paraments to be used during the Advent Season.

The committee members are as follows: Kim Gable, Barbara Breneman, Alvie Fetzer, John Krause and John Chesters.

## **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY - Charlie Houck**

**Mission Statement:** Provide technical support to the congregation and support staff to meet technology needs for the purpose of maintaining and improving our ministry.

**Members:** Charlie Houck Randy Schappell

### **Accomplishments:**

- Configured an online presence for our Sunday Service using YouTube while still preserving the Zoom session.
- Performed email maintenance for configuring new users and deleting no longer used email IDs
- Supported Zion's Angels in advertising their BBQ dinner fundraisers
- Supported the 175<sup>th</sup> celebration with Scanning pictures, creating videos, updating the church history, and listing this on the website.
- Provided high quality informative email blasts listing events.
- Acquired new phone number for the elevator
- Created weekly videos for display on Facebook, our website, and in the church narthex that list current events and announcements.

### **Initiatives:**

- Track computing and communications use and manage costs in a manner that will meet our needs.
- Provide technical support when problems arise with any technology system acquired or operated by the church.
- Create an effective online presence so when anyone does a web search for "Lutheran Church in Lancaster PA" Zion is close to if not at the top of the search list.
- Support the Pastor in all their technical needs.
- Improve and update [www.zionep.org](http://www.zionep.org) so prospective new members can find information about Zion and existing members can use it as a resource of information.

- Help all church members to advertise functions on our website and on Facebook.

#### **Future plans:**

- Setup a permanent Zoom meeting area in a room at the church so committees can easily hold meetings to include people who cannot attend in person.
- Improve the Wi-Fi coverage to include all 2<sup>nd</sup> floor classrooms.
- Create specification for CCTV coverage of all access points to the building for possible future installation.
- Create a specification for a church wide public address system for possible future installation.
- Create specification to improve Parish house access in answering the door for possible future installation.

#### **Online worship:**

Now that we are offering unrestricted in-person worship our weekly number of online participants has lowered to average 5-6.

#### **Zion Web site:**

Maintaining the website is an ongoing task that requires weekly maintenance as long as we continue to livestream the Sunday services. We invite members to request assistance in advertising any church function. You can access the weekly service livestreamed to YouTube from the website. We plan on creating a section devoted to the 175<sup>th</sup> celebration with information including but not limited to the church history and videos.

#### **Facebook**

We maintain our Facebook page with regular updates and events. We give a special thanks to Linda Witter for weekly posting spiritual messages. The YouTube based weekly service can be accessed from the Facebook button labeled Watch Video.

#### **Email blasts**

In addition to the regular weekly bulletin email the Secretaries send we create email blasts to alert subscribers to functions or announcements.

## **ORGANIZATIONS & OTHER REPORTS**

### **SKEINS & SCONES: PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY- Kathy Fitz**

Our Prayer Shawl Ministry, "Skeins and Scones," resumed meeting in person this year on the third Wednesday of each month from 1:00-3:00 p.m. We continue to knit and crochet shawls and scarves for anyone requesting them. We also completed many sets of hats and mittens for children in need in local elementary schools. Additionally, we provided a combination of shawls, scarves and hat/mitten sets to our Grab and Go lunch guests last Christmas. We are planning to do the same this holiday season as well. We bless each item that is created before sending it on to its new owner. Our "Circle of Prayer" also continues to be a large part of our meeting time, where we pray for each individual who has received a scarf or shawl from our ministry. This beautiful ministry has provided items to well over 2,000 recipients. New members are always welcome not only from our congregation but from the local community as well. Please join us!

## **ZEST (Zion Embraces Singles Today) - Bev Bachman**

The ZEST ministry has been meeting for breakfast every month at various restaurants. We have between 6-8 core members and would love to have more singles join us for the companionship, social benefits and also the fun and laughter. Since the Covid 19 shutdown we haven't been planning anything extra but hopefully we can soon branch out again. We did provide Grab and Go lunch in August.

## **ZION'S ANGELS/RELAY FOR LIFE - Marcia Eisenhower**

The team continues to be active fundraising for the American Cancer Society with the support of family, friends and members of Zion.

Our fundraisers consisted of drive thru chicken and pork barbecues, a fall mum sale, Zook's meat pie & apple dumpling sale, S Clyde Weaver sub coupons, Valentine candy sale, JB Dawson and Janet Hoover and Judy Knepp working at Hershey.

We thank you for your continued support and would love to welcome new members to our team.

## **ZION'S QUILTERS- Emilie Krause**

Zion's Quilters continue to meet twice a month on Mondays from 1-3 P.M. from September through May.

This past year, four faithful ladies who were with the Quilters since we began in 2004 have now died or "retired". They are Grace Phillips, Nancy Denlinger, Bonnie Gable and Georgie Shank. "Well done, good and faithful servants."

Since the first meeting in 2004, Quilters have averaged sending approximately 100 quilts a year to LWR (Lutheran World Relief). Despite the pandemic and missing several meetings this year, we hope to have close to 100 quilts delivered to the warehouse in Maryland for distribution around the world.

Cotton material without religious and military symbols is always welcome and can be left in the Quilting Room on the second floor opposite the elevator.

Zion's Quilters are: Julie Campbell, Pat Crawford, Emilie Krause, Cheryl Maurer, Marilyn Schappell and Nancy Snoke. The more quilters (sewers or assemblers) we have, the more we can deliver to Lutheran World Relief (LWR) for much needed comfort.