

THE GUIDING LIGHT

MARCH 2024

Celebrating God as We Serve Others



Monthly Newsletter

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
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Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday
9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Every Sunday 10:00 am Worship & Sunday school

Third Sunday 10:00 am Living Stones Worship

Third Wednesday 10:30 am Mid-week Worship

All Sunday morning services are available on Cogeco TV on Sunday mornings as well as our YouTube page and after the service on the Facebook page. YouTube (live streamed), Zion Lutheran Pembroke Facebook, Zion Lutheran Church Pembroke, Cogeco: community channel and broadcasts of previous week's service.

From the Pastor's Desk

The Joy of Lent

Have you ever thought about the joy in sacrifice that Lent provides? Most of us don't delight in sacrifice; in fact, in our daily lives, we often do our best to avoid challenges and practices that push us outside of our comfort zones. In Christianity, there is a beautiful irony between joy and sacrifice, and we are presented with a wonderful opportunity to embrace this uniquely during Lent. In one of his Lenten messages, Pope Francis shared, "Lent is a fitting time for self-denial; we would do well to ask ourselves what we can give up in order to help and enrich others by our own poverty."

While giving up sweets in favor of healthy snacks for Lent is a common and noble endeavor, the goal of Lent should not only be a spiritual excuse to lose weight! In choosing acts of self-denial, we are saying "no" to things in order to get into the practice of saying "no" when inclined towards sin, ultimately deepening our faith and our relationship with the Lord.



(From The Pastor's Desk Cont'd)

Victory can be found when we deny ourselves and pick up our crosses and hardships in order to grow closer to Christ!

Therein lies the joy. When we grow closer to God by denying our will, we say “yes” to a life of abundance with Him. Our God is a benevolent God; He will not hold back His grace from those who honor Him and choose challenging things to grow and give Him glory. Christ even tells us Himself, “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”

Without question, Lent is a time for conscious penitence and spiritual preparation for Easter. And it is important to remember that God loves us whether we make Lenten changes or not. At the same time, Lent provides us an opportunity to make God a greater part of our life, and to take our faith to new levels.

Stewardship is a God-centered way of life — a spiritual way of living that, above all, acknowledges God’s presence in all we do.

Lent is a time for every one of us to do more than simply deny ourselves; we need to welcome God into our lives in greater ways so that when we get to Holy Week and Easter, we have an even greater appreciation for the sacrifice the Lord made for us.

Talk about pure joy!

May you and your loved ones enjoy a holy and joyous Lenten journey.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Pastor Scott



THANK YOU!!

Do you have a family member or friend who has had contact with someone from our Pastoral Care Group? Have you heard about this group but are not quite sure what they do? Here is some information that may help you understand this ministry at Zion.

The Pastoral Care Committee is a dedicated team of volunteers who work to help the pastor in ministering to members of Zion who are isolated, bereaved, residents of seniors’ facilities and patients in hospitals.

The Pastoral Care Group employs a variety of different outreach mechanisms, including phone calls, personal visits, and sending cards (sympathy, thinking of you, and get well).

Members attend a monthly meeting to get updates on the need of the congregation from the Pastor and one another.

The group also provides worship assistance to the Pastor during communion services in both long-term care and retirement homes.

Members:

Pastor Scott Schellenberger, Karen Gauthier, Sandra Graham, Martha McKibbon, Diane Rull, and Cheryl Sack

We want to sincerely thank The Pastoral Care Committee for being a part of this most important ministry. Our congregation is blessed to have you!

FROM THE OTHER PASTOR

More about Evangelism

Jesus said:

“Go, and MAKE DISCIPLES of all nations, BAPTIZING them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, TEACHING them to observe all things that I commanded you.”

We call that the Great Commission. It’s the mission of the church to go – to make disciples – to baptize – and to teach people to obey Jesus. The Great Commission has four imperatives:

(1) Go.

(2) Make disciples.

(3) Baptize.

(4) Teach – specifically, teach people to obey Jesus’ commandments.

That isn’t just the CHURCH’S job – it’s my job – and it’s YOUR job too! Each of us has a different set of friends and neighbors and co-workers – and Jesus calls each of us to go – to make disciples – to baptize – and to teach.

You might be thinking, “Well, that might work somewhere, but it won’t work here.” But it can work here. Churches that emphasize inviting your friends to church grow – and churches that don’t emphasize those things shrink. It’s that simple.

These days Christians tend to be skittish about this sort of thing. The reason we’re skittish about evangelism is that we think of evangelism, as I just shared, as door-to-door calling and hard selling. Most of us have had people knock on our door or call us on the phone to sell us something – whether the something is magazines or Jesus – and we don’t like it. We don’t like to be on either end of a hard sell. We don’t want to be the person DOING the calling and we don’t want to be the person BEING CALLED.

But Jesus didn’t tell us to do cold calling. He didn’t tell us to do hard selling. He said, to be exact: love God, love others.

If you’re happy in your church, then please invite others to join you. It’s not rocket science. It’s simple. We don’t have to make this harder than it is.

Enjoy this time of evangelism and invitation... who knows you just might be the difference in someone's new or ongoing relationship with God!

See you at church,

Pastor Sue

From Your Treasurer

Zion's Income and Expenses as of Feb.27, 2024

The weekly amount of \$6,106.00 is needed to cover our budgeted costs. Of this weekly amount approx. \$4,539.00 has to come from e-transfers, PAR and regular offerings and \$1,567.00 comes from hall rent, office admin. fees, interest, general reserve, house rentals, solar panels and other revenue.

Offerings	32,050.00
Missions and Outreach	334.00
Other Donations	685.00
Solar Income	661.26
Other Earned Income	1,898.22
Fundraised for general use	0.00
Total Income to Feb.27	35,628.48
Benevolence Expense	0.00
Directed Gifts Expense	0.00
Committees Expense	241.25
Utilities Expense	4,125.67
Church Insurance	0.00
Property Maintenance	2,439.55
Other Operating Expense	5,578.19
Net Payroll	18,534.12
Benefits Expense	6,221.62
Expense Total to Feb.27	37,140.40
Net as of Feb.27,2024	(-1,511.92)

To all that attend Zion,

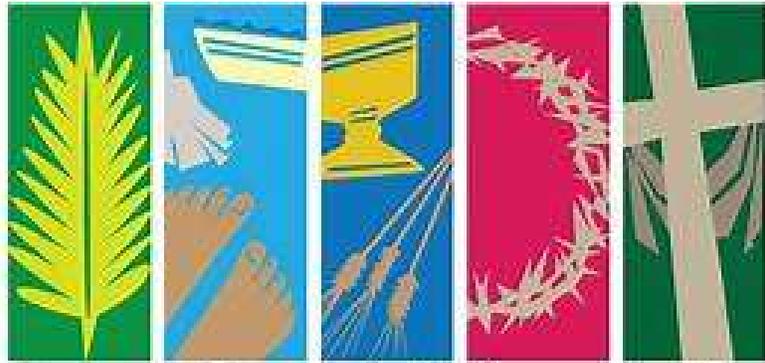
AS YOUR TREASURER I WOULD ASK THAT YOU SUPPORT THE GENERAL FUND.

All of us in this congregation are helping and working together in faith. We have been rewarded with the riches of a good life here. Your generosity helps us continue our call to serve as a Christian. We are a family here, helping each other and our community.

If you cannot attend, we have set up e-transfer to the church's office e-mail zionoffice@nrtco.net for online donations. You can still mail your cheque or arrange to drop off at the office. **Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR)** is another way to give weekly whether you're away or here. Contact the church office at 613-732-8792 for more information. Thank you for your prayers and continuing support. May God bless you and keep you safe,

Your treasurer, Gerry Vandersleen

Zion Lutheran Church Pembroke



Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday March 24th 2024 10:00 am

Soup and Sandwiches Wednesday March 27th
6:00 pm

Maundy Thursday Service with Laying on of
Hands and Holy Communion Wednesday
March 28th 7:00 pm

Good Friday Service March 29th 10:00 am

Easter Sunday Services March 31st

8:00 am and 10:00 am

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES

Wednesdays at 7:00 pm beginning February 21st until March 20th.

LENTEN BOOK STUDY

Remember: God's Covenants and the Cross – Join us during Lent to journey through a time of reading and reflection about God's covenant with us. We will meet starting **February 20th** on **Tuesday afternoons at 1 pm** in the lounge. Cost for the book is \$25. See Pastor Scott for more info.

SOUP AND SANDWICH SUPPERS

Wednesdays beginning February 21st at 6pm. If you would like to donate food on any of these occasions, please see the signup sheets outside of the kitchen door. Freewill offerings collected will go to Pembroke Social Agencies.

EASTER WEEKEND SERVICE TIMES:

Maundy Thursday: March 28th 7:00 pm

Good Friday: March 29th 10:00 am

Easter Sunday: March 31st 8:00 am & 10:00 am

MORNING SOCIAL

Join us on **Wednesday, March 13th at 10:00 am** in the Parish Hall for our Morning Social! Come on out for fun and fellowship. Pull up a chair, grab a coffee (or tea) and a snack, and enjoy the company. Bring a friend!

Karen Gauthier and Jill Kellough- Social Ministry Committee

SENIORS EXERCISE CLASSES

Join us every **Monday, Wednesday & Friday at 1:00 pm** in the Parish Hall.

Be Sure to Bring a Friend!

ZION LUTHERAN WOMEN: "I Beg You... Bear With One Another in Love"

Friday March 1st at 2:00 pm World Day of Prayer 2024 at Zion Lutheran Church. Donations to Women's Inter Church Council- WICC



A Challenging Time.

Once again in our church calendar we enter the time of Lent. Those who make New Year's resolutions seem to go astray from promises to themselves. When giving up something for Lent, we are not only making a promise to ourselves but to our Lord and Savior. The majority follow through with their commitments and then reflect on their successes. We are all so habitual in our daily routines that to break the cycle is no easy task. We can relate to what Jesus sacrificed during his thirty-three years on this earth. The ultimate sacrifice would of course be his legacy. We all now await Easter Sunday when once again we can sing alleluia to our risen Christ, receiving the promises of, forgiveness of sins and life everlasting which renews and strengthens our faith. The Christmas season brought joy and jubilant singing, while the Easter season yearly reduces us to mourning and sorrowfulness yet once again, until on the third day we celebrate the miracle of ascension into his Father's arms.

Yours in Christ. Wayne Kirk

Zion Pulse Youth Group



Pizza Party

And

Survivor Challenge Night



Friday, March 22, 2024 6:30pm

Zion Lutheran Church

454 Miller Street Pembroke

Cost: FREE

All are welcome. Bring a friend!

MESSY CHURCH NEWS

March Break Madness!!

March 16th @ 5:00pm - hot dog dinner

March 16th @ 5:30pm - Movie Night Early show – “SHARK TALE”

March 16th @ 7:00pm - Movie Night Late Show – “PAY IT FORWARD”

– FREE –

Bring a camping chair, pillows and blankets for your comfortable seating

Please bring a snack to share
Water and juice will be provided

April Special Messy Church Worship And Sunday School!!

April 7th @ 10:00am – a short worship followed by activities with Kim

April 7th @ 11:00am – Special snacks from Justine after Sunday School.

FREE – FREE

Please bring a friend!





PULSE MINISTRY

PULSE MINISTRY consists of three different programs. Every generation is invited to worship and to Messy Church, Youth Group, and worship. The worship Service is called “Living Stones”.

MESSY CHURCH

Messy Church is a program that runs on the **first Monday of every month 5:30 pm – 7:30pm**. Our next Messy Church will be held on **Monday March 4th, at 5:30pm**. It includes Food, Crafts, Games, Faith Talk, and Fun!



YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group happens on the **4th Friday night of the month at 6:30 pm**. This year we will be doing some off-site events. There may be costs for these events but normally there is no cost. All friends are welcome. Youth beginning at confirmation age and up are welcome. The following Youth Group get together will be **Friday March 22 at 6:30 pm** for Pizza Party and Survivor Challenge Night.



LIVING STONES WORSHIP SERVICE

The Living Stones Worship service is a service that is interactive and led by members of the congregation who play guitar and sing. It happens in the gym on the **3rd Sunday of the month at 10:00 am**. Our next service will be on **Sunday March 17th at 10:00 am**.

Would you like to help out? We are looking for help with reading, projection, video support, musicians, and skits. Do any of these opportunities speak to your heart? This is a great way to serve and help give back to the church community.

CRAFT NIGHT

March 15 @ 7:00pm

We will be making individualized mugs or plates

Cost per craft is \$5



Craft Night sign –up sheet posted at the church. Please sign up to indicate which craft you would like and/or how many.

March Madness

Thanks to all who were able to donate to the Fembuary drive. Now we look forward to March Madness!

March Madness (protein products: peanut butter, beans, canned tuna, whey powder, protein bars, etc.)

April-No-Fools (underwear: briefs/shorts for men and women - no thongs pls!)

Maaaaayyy-BEE (hotel sized containers of shampoo, conditioner, soap/shower gel, body lotion, hand sanitizer and sun screen - all to smell sweeter!)

June truth (kid's snacks - granola bars, individual puddings, fruit cups, etc. - no candy pls!)

A Message from the Mutual Ministry Committee

A Message from the Mutual Ministry Committee

The Mutual Ministry Committee met on February 15 to begin a Ministry Review with Pastor Scott. We are following the five-step process outlined in the Ministry Review guide from the Eastern Synod. Once the process is complete, a report will be made back to council as appropriate.

However, we began our meeting discussing a matter of concern regarding an anonymous letter received by Pastor Scott. In discussion with Pastor Scott, this is not the first type of such communication he has received; the handwriting is similar amongst the various notes and letters. Pastor Sue has indicated that she also has received such communications at times.

The matter is very concerning due to the nature of the comments and the language used. The pages of the Pastor's Report were torn out of the Annual Report and certain phrases were underlined and comments made either beside or below the phrases.

While not all comments will be referenced, the Mutual Ministry Team feels it is important to share some of them to give the congregation further context.

Here are a few examples:

- (Pastor's report, page 4) "Some things have become simpler, yet others more complex. But through it all, we've continued to wrestle. And that's a good thing." Comment- *no sick of it and you.*
- (Pastor's report, page 5) "I am very proud of how the people of Zion have become such a hospitable and caring congregation." Comment- *but not our ministers.*
- Comments (written on the bottom of the Pastor's report, page 5) *You think your the Boss but members of Zion are the Boss we pay you both your salary- so sit down and listen...*

That a member of our congregation would feel it is appropriate to disrespect one of our Pastors in this manner is disappointing to say the least. This type of behaviour is considered not only inappropriate but unkind.

Our Church's Constitution outlines the various steps in the process of reconciliation and discipline of a member, when the member has engaged in conduct that is unbecoming a member of the body of Christ. Please be aware that this matter has been brought to Congregational Council and is being addressed in due process.

Anyone who has questions, or issues, regarding the Pastor(s) can approach any member of the Mutual Ministry Committee, in confidence, or a member of church council. Writing anonymous letters to critique the Pastor is not the way to address issues.

We are one body with the purpose of doing Ministry together.

Pam Duplessis, Karen Gauthier, Gerry Vandersleen, Mona Zadow

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

454 Miller Street

Pembroke, Ontario

Church Council Meeting Minutes

January 10, 2024

Present: Susan Dupuis, Karen Gauthier, Jill Kellough, Jamie MacKinnon, Pastor Scott Schellenberger, Gerry Vandersleen (treasurer).

Excused: Erica Deloughery, Michael Lange, Pastor Sue Nevile, Kathy Nieman, Denise Schizkoske

- 1. Opening:** The meeting was opened at 7:00pm. The opening devotion was given by Karen Gauthier.
- 2. Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was reviewed. Additions: mutual ministry/personnel committee, office computer.
Motion to approve agenda: Karen Gauthier. Seconded: Jamie MacKinnon.
- 3. Approval of Minutes:** The council meeting minutes of December were reviewed previously via email. Motion to approve minutes: Jill Kellough. Seconded: Susan Dupuis.
- 4. Finance Report:** Treasurer Gerry Vandersleen reported there is a deficit of \$20 000.00 for yearend. The year's financial report will be prepared and appear in the annual report. Council discussed the 2024 budget in preparation for the annual general meeting.
- 5. Pastors Report:** Council Report January 2023

Statistics

Deaths in December/Jan – Flora Schrie, Ruth Thom

Seniors Home Services – 1

Services – 1 midweek Holy Communion Services

Evening Book Study: Heaven and Earth: Incarnation to Advent – 12 participants Christmas Eve Services

Attendance – 3pm-216, 7pm-76, 10am- 50ish

Pulse Ministries

Youth Group Leaders – New members Maria and Hunter Denney and Maria's sister Brook will be helping. They are in their mid-twenties. I am quite excited about this. Maria and Hunter are enthusiastic and will be a positive influence on the youth.

Youth Retreat “Duct Tape and Sticky Faith” – Youth will be going on retreat to Four Seasons at Camp Lutherlyn Feb 9-11 2024. Cost is \$60 per youth. We will also be having a **skating party** at the Pastors' home on Jan 17 beginning 630pm.

We have received another grant from Eastern Synod for **confirmation camp** again.

Adult retreat – An adult retreat at four seasons has been book **for March 1-3 2024**. Theme : Open Doors” Cost \$100 per person.

Bishop's Retreat

Pastor Sue and I will be away Feb 4-7 to attend the Bishop's Spiritual Retreat. Pastor Michael Hackbush, Padre, will be presiding over worship on Feb 4. Pastor Leena Jensen will be covering any Pastoral emergencies.

Worship and Music Meetings have been moved to the Monday before the council meeting.

Lenten midweek Services – Feb 13 – Shrove Tuesday – Pancake Supper

Feb 14 – Ash Wednesday service 700pm

Wednesday Feb 21 and following – Soup and Sandwich Dinners at 6pm –Youth will be assisting again.

Services at 7pm

World Day of Prayer Service on March 1 hosted by Zion.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pastor Scott

Pastor Sue's report:

Dec 4 - Messy Church

Dec 10 - silent auction

Dec 12 - Baby and Me

Dec 12 - council social

Dec 13 - social coffee hour

Dec 17 - Christmas Open House

Dec 18 - Congregational Christmas Program and potluck

Dec 24 - Christmas Eve Services

Jan 3 - ZLW meeting / presiding

Jan 8 - messy church

Jan 9 - Baby and me

Jan 10 - Social coffee hour

Jan 10 - praise band practice

Jan 10 - Prayer and Meditation group

*on Mondays I set up for seniors exercise at 1pm

*have been spending time planning and working on the 2 upcoming retreats:

youth retreat - DUCT TAPE and an adult retreat - OPENING DOORS

6. Correspondence:

- A Christmas card was received from the Pembroke Horticultural Society with thanks for assistance with their Christmas tea (use of dishes, tea and coffee urns, use of the kitchen for clean-up).
- A letter of thanks was received from the Bernadette McCann House for the monetary donation, which goes directly to helping clients who are struggling.
- A letter of thanks was received from St. Joseph's Community Foodbank for the generous donations, which help to provide meals to families with no other options.
- A letter of thanks was also received from the Robbie Dean Counselling Center for the donation, which is used to fund operational expenses that help keep the doors open for the almost 5 000 people they have helped to date.

7. Committee Reports- nil.

9. Ongoing Business:

- New council members- the list of people who may be willing to sit on council for a two-year term was discussed. Council members will contact these individuals to inquire. There will be 5 vacancies on council beginning in March.

10. New Business:

- Request from worship and music- a request was received from the worship and music committee regarding an honorarium for Diane Hammel. Although council is appreciative of all the hours Diane contributes, council feels this would set a precedent and have decided not to honour the request.

- An email was received from Gayle Seegmiller regarding errors in the Christmas Eve service bulletins. Corrections are required and will be made available in the near future.
- Bishop's retreat- A request has come from Pastor Sue for assistance in sponsoring her attendance at the Bishop's Retreat as her fee is not covered. Council in agreement with this request.
- The date for the Annual General Meeting will be February 18, with February 25 as an alternate snow day.
- Mutual ministry/personnel committee Karen was contacted by Blaine regarding the need for performance reviews for staff and a Ministry Review, with resources published by the Eastern Synod. A brief discussion was held as to who would be responsible for these reviews. Once the Synod documents are reviewed, Karen will follow up with Susan to discuss further.
- Office Computer- a new computer is needed for the office as June has been unable to access the email account on several occasions. Gerry indicated to contact the computer tech to assess what the situation is.

Motion to adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm. Moved by Jill Kellough. Seconded by: Jamie MacKinnon.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 13, 2024, at 7 pm. Devotions will be given by Kathy Nieman.

**Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
454 Miller Street
Pembroke, Ontario
Church Council Meeting Minutes**

February 13, 2024

Present: Erica Deloughery, Susan Dupuis, Karen Gauthier, Jill Kellough, Michael Lange, Jamie MacKinnon, Kathy Nieman, Pastor Scott Schellenberger, Denise Schizkoske, Gerry Vandersleen (treasurer).

Excused: Pastor Sue Nevile

- 8. Opening:** The meeting was opened at 7:00pm. The opening devotion was given by Kathy Nieman.
- 9. Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was reviewed. Additions: under new business- website, endowment. Motion to approve agenda: Karen Gauthier. Seconded: Michael Lange.
- 10. Approval of Minutes:** The council meeting minutes of January were reviewed previously via email. Motion to approve minutes: Kathy Nieman. Seconded: Jill Kellough.
- 11. Finance Report:** Treasurer Gerry Vandersleen reported on the comparative income statement that regular offerings are down \$1 773 from this time last year along with parish hall rental income. Our net income is approximately the same as it was this time last year.
- 12. Pastors Report:**

Council Report February 2024

Statistics

Deaths in Jan/Feb – Flora Schrie, Ruth Thom, Jack Zadow

Seniors Home Services – 1 – 1 was cancelled due to outbreak

Services – 1 midweek Holy Communion Services

Service Attendance – January 28 – 98 Feb 4 – 97 Feb 11 - 99

Pulse Ministries

Sunday School – We are finally having a return and some new children coming to Sunday School.

Youth Retreat - The retreat to Four Seasons at Camp Lutherlyn Feb 9-11 2024 was cancelled. Instead we did some activities at the church on Feb 10.

Youth will be assisting with the Pancake Suppers and the Soup and Sandwich dinners again this year.

Youth will meet again Feb 26.

We have received another grant from Eastern Synod for **confirmation camp** again.

Adult retreat – An adult retreat at four seasons has been book **for March 1-3 2024**. Theme : Open Doors” Cost \$100 per person. Talk to Pastor Sue for more info.

Bishop’s Retreat: Neither Pastor Sue or I attended the retreat. Pastor Sue went to Waterloo to care for her mother. I stayed behind to offer pastoral care at the death and funeral of Jack Zadow. We will find time to retreat another time.

Worship and Music Meetings have been moved to the Monday before the council meeting.

Lenten midweek Services – Feb 13 – Shrove Tuesday – Pancake Supper (\$673.50 raised for confirmation camp this summer.)

Feb 14 – Ash Wednesday service 700pm

Wednesday Feb 21 and following – Soup and Sandwich Dinners at 6pm – Services at 7pm

World Day of Prayer Service on March 1 hosted by Zion.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pastor Scott

13. Correspondence:

- A thank you letter was received from the Phoenix Centre for Children and Families for the generous donation.
- A thank you note was received from Blaine Sack for the Christmas gift.
- A letter was received from Murray Sell. His concerns were discussed amongst council members. Susan will respond to Murray to address his concerns.

14. Committee Reports

- a. Property-** Gerry took Todd Phannenhour through the one bedroom rental apartment in the Munro Street property to get an estimate regarding repairs. If the estimate is under \$10 000.00, Gerry is looking for council approval on proceeding with the repairs. The issue was discussed amongst council members and council is unanimously in agreement. At present, the Food Bank is not close to raising the money required to purchase the property, so renting the unit would enable us to recoup some of the tax and water costs that are presently being paid.
- b. Mutual Ministry-** the mutual ministry committee will be starting a Ministry Review with Pastor Scott this week. We will be following the five-step process outlined in the Ministry Review guide from the Eastern Synod. Once the process is complete, a report will be made back to council as appropriate.
- c. Worship and Music-** from the worship and music committee meeting yesterday, there was a discussion regarding livestreaming of funeral services, costs, etc.

11. Ongoing Business:

- New council members- three members have accepted the call to be council members: Brent Wolfgram (will decline if goes to a vote), Lisa Campitelli, and Terry Hoffman. Susan has spoken to Justine Lafrance Mutlow and she is potentially interested to sit on council as well.

12. New Business:

- Annual meeting- will be held this Sunday, Feb 18 in the Parish Hall. The chair and mic set up will be done Sunday morning before the service.
- Endowment: the endowment ballot was reviewed. Suggestions were made for making the ballot easier to use. The social ministry committee has suggested the following for outside needs: the Phoenix Centre, First Step Options, Columbus House, St Vincent de Paul. Inside needs include: organ restoration fund, building fund.
- Suggestion for approving meeting minutes. There is an issue with a delay in the approval of council meeting minutes, even though the minutes are sent out shortly after the meeting. At present we wait until the next month's meeting to approve them, and then they are published in the Guiding Light (sometimes it can take up to 2 months). We are suggesting that the approval be done electronically so the minutes can be in the Guiding Light in a more timely manner.
- Nominations for Delegates to the 2025 ELCIC National Convention- applications are available and are due for both lay and rostered delegates by the end of April. Delegates are then chosen and voted on by Synod Council.
- Website- Susan indicates Ryan Schmidt is interested in helping with the church's website. He has the knowledge and is willing to help. Susan will follow up with Ryan on this matter.

Motion to adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 8:33 pm.

Moved by Michael Lange: Seconded by: Denise Schizkoske.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 12, 2024 at 7:00 pm. Devotions will be given by Pastor Scott.

NOTE: February meeting minutes were reviewed and accepted electronically.

Social Ministry Meeting Minutes

Wednesday January 17, 2024 @ 2:00pm

Members Present: Diane Rull, Gayle and Larry Seegmiller, Kathy Godin, Denise Schizkoske, Debbie Sitkiewicz, Jill Kellough, Karen Gauthier, Ellen Vandersleen
Regrets: Pastor Scott Schellenberger

1. Ellen welcomed everyone and opened with prayer.
2. Minutes were approved of the November 20th, 2023 meeting online.
3. Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper (February 13) and Soup and Sandwich Lenten Dinners coming up. Led by Youth. There is a sign-up sheet outside the kitchen door and we encourage anyone who is interested to sign up and help out.
4. Request to hold another Potluck Luncheon. Sunday Feb 18 day of AGM was not approved.
5. We have a Boys and Girls Club Dinner account. 377.78. Discussion was held as what to do with the funds in this account as we are no longer preparing dinners for the club. Suggestion was made to transfer to the outreach account. Ellen was to discuss with Gerry if that was possible. Gerry suggested that we use these funds to send a kid to camp. Will follow up with this discussion at next meeting.
6. Endowment Requests: Around 11 000.00 to be dispersed. 50% inside needs, 50% outside needs.

Social Ministry Inside Need Requests for Endowment Ballot:

1. Phoenix Centre for Children and Families-Pembroke
2. First Step Options
3. Columbus House
4. St. Vincent de Paul

7. Our shut-ins are appreciating the resumption of bulletin delivery once per month with the Guiding Light.
8. Evaluation of Advent Meal December 1st. Many thank you notes were received.
 - a. Menu: Ham, Scalloped potatoes, roasted vegetables, cole slaw, tea biscuits or buns, Pumpkin Pie with whipped cream. Our social ministry team arrived at 8:00 am to prepare the meal. Suggestion for another time when/if we make scalloped potatoes is to start them first. They took 3 + hours to roast in the roasters. We finally served the meal up for delivery at 3:00pm even though the potatoes were somewhat firm. The potatoes did not want to soften. Everything else was cooked in a timely manner. Special thanks to Pastor Sue and Susan Dupuis for coming in to help with preparations. And to June Popke and Jean Rutz for making their tea biscuits and homemade buns. Everything helps to make the meal a special gift.
 - b. Discussion on reusing the plastic microwavable containers. Diane read a report that those containers are not to be reused as the plastic may break down. We do have enough new containers for one more meal. We will discuss what we will do when we wish to make the meal following the next.
9. Next Senior Meal will be April 16. We will start at 8:00 pm.
 - a. Menu: meatballs, mashed potatoes, carrots and peas, tea biscuits and/or buns, 24-hour salad, Lemon Delight.
 - b. Karen and Jill will come in to make the dessert the day before.

10. Coldest Night of the Year: February 24, 2024: We are the host church for registration. Zion's Frozen Few are now registered for 2024. Members who wish to participate were instructed to sign up on line. Ellen wrote a note for the bulletin/Guiding Light and made a verbal announcement on Sunday morning.
11. Exercise Program: Karen gave a report that exercise class is going very well. It is held Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 1:00 via Zoom. Instructor Ardella Schutt from Renfrew leads the class. There is an average attendance of 10 people. There are 30 seniors registered. Seniors report that that they have found much improvement in their mobility and strength since participating.
12. Social Mid-Week Coffee Break: Karen and Jill invite people to come out once per month at 10:00 am for coffee and snacks. Average attendance is 15 people who also enjoy the fellowship and music.
13. Next Meeting Date: Wednesday April 10th, 2:00 pm.
14. Meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

W & M Meeting Minutes - Monday, January 8, 2023

Celebrating God As We Serve Others

Present: Pastor Scott, Pastor Sue, Blaine Sack, Gayle Seegmiller, Lorraine MacKenzie, Diane Hammel, Cheryl Sack, Koit Rull, Ellen Vandersleen, Sandra Graham, Michael Lange, Joan Lehman

Welcome and Opening Devotions: Gayle welcomed everyone and Pastor Scott opened the meeting with a prayer.

Approval of Agenda: Approved

Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes: Approved online

Committee Reports:

Pastor Scott:

- The Christmas Services were well attended this year.
- Setting One will be used until Lent.
- Midweek Worship service will occur on the 3rd Wednesday of the Month (Jan. 17th).
- Living Stones Worship will be on Jan. 21, 2024.
- A Healing Service will be held on Jan. 28, 2024.
- Pastor Scott and Pastor Sue will be away at the Bishop's Retreat in Niagara Falls from Feb. 4th to the 7th. Pastor Leena will cover emergencies. Gayle has arranged for Pastor Michael Hackbush to supply on Feb. 4th. Thank you Gayle.
- The Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner will be held on Feb. 13th.
- Ash Wednesday Service will be on Feb. 14th.
- Lenten Wednesday Evening Services will be from Feb. 21st to March 27th at 7:00 pm.
Lenten services liturgy will be determined soon. Like last year, soup and sandwich dinners will be served.
- A Blended Service will occur on Feb. 25th
- Easter is on March 31st this year.
- Gayle will look after purchasing palms for Palm Sunday.
- There will be a service at Supples Landing on Feb. 15th at 2 pm and at Pinewood on Mar 21.
- Pastor Scott will lead a youth weekend retreat and an adult weekend retreat in February and March. He will be back for worship on Sunday morning on both these weekends.

Blaine Sack: Church Musician

- The grand piano in the sanctuary was tuned December 15th. Because it was 14 months since the last tuning, it required a lot of work. The tuner will be back in March to do additional tweaking. His recommendation is to have the piano tuned twice yearly.

- Singing of the psalms has been well received and appreciated. The mixed choir led on January 7th and the men's choir will lead on the first Sunday of Lent.
- The mixed choir practices on Tuesday evenings at 7:00.
- The men's choir practices on Wednesday evenings at 7:15.
- Blaine prepared an article for the January Guiding Light outlining the work that will be done during phase 2 of the organ restoration. It will also be included in the February Guiding Light. The committee discussed other options for sharing Blaine's summary and keeping people informed.
- Robert Hiller, from Casavant, will spearhead phase 2.. (He was also part of the initial organ restoration).
- Blaine will keep everyone updated as work on the organ progresses.
- Pastor Scott requested a written report be submitted by Blaine at our regular meetings.

Organ Restoration:

- Gayle provided an update on the organ restoration. The total cost of Phase 2 is \$84,062.00. The first installment of \$10,394.29 has been paid leaving \$73,667.71 remaining.
- The current balance in the organ restoration fund is \$55,169.10. This means \$18,498.61 is still needed to complete phase 2.
- An organ restoration committee is needed. Anyone interested in helping can speak with Gayle or Blaine.

Miscellaneous:

Sextons:

- Currently there are 6 sextons with 3 available to do funerals, weddings and midweek services.

Altar Care:

- One more volunteer is still needed. Thank you to those who have already agreed to help out.

Worship Assistants:

- There are 7 regular worship assistants. As well, Gayle and Pastor Sue act as spares.

Ushers:

- The usher schedule is completed up to June. New volunteers are always needed so please speak with Cheryl Sack if you can help out.

- The committee also agreed it would be beneficial to announce and/or put in the bulletin where offerings plates are located.
- During special services the ushers will pass the collection plates.

Equipment Operators:

- Everything is going well at this time.

Technology:

- Upgrades have not yet started. Diane will update the committee when more information is available.
- A report needs to be sent by March/April outlining how the grant money was used.

Correspondence:

- There was a request to sing the Lord's Prayer every Sunday. After discussion, it was decided that we will continue with the current practice so it doesn't become commonplace and we are mindful of those who prefer saying the words.
- There was also a suggestion to respond to every second petition of prayers with "Lord listen to your children praying". Again, the committee felt that it would become too commonplace if done all the time.

Labels for "The All Creation Sings":

- Labels need to be made for "The All Creation Sings" books.
- Blaine suggested using the template that was made for the Inshallah books.
- Once created, Gayle and several committee members will help put them in the books.

Christmas Eve Issues:

- There was a shortage of real candles this year. Once Sandra determines how many are needed for next year, she will meet with Pastor Scott to place an order.
 - Collection plates should be passed during the services.
 - Additional bulletins need to be printed next year.
 - Service times seemed to work well so the committee will consider having the same times when we meet to discuss next year's services.
 - The silk poinsettias used in the Parish Hall could be used in the church next Christmas. This would eliminate the need for volunteers to water and move real plants each week.
- The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Next Meeting:

- Monday, February 12th, 2024 @ 7:00 p.m.

W & M Meeting Minutes - Monday, February 12, 2024

Celebrating God As We Serve Others

Present: Pastor Scott, Blaine Sack, Gayle Seegmiller, Lorraine MacKenzie, Diane Hammel, Cheryl Sack, Koit Rull, Michael Lange

Regrets: Sandra Graham, Joan Lehman

Welcome and Opening Devotions: Gayle welcomed everyone and Pastor Scott opened the meeting with a prayer.

Approval of Agenda: Technology and World Day of Prayer were added under Miscellaneous.

Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes: Approved online

Committee Reports:

Pastor Scott:

- Attendance for three Sundays in a row were as follows: 98, 97, 99
- Setting 12 in *All Creation Sings* will be used during Lent.
- Lent midweek services will be held at 7:00 pm from February 21st to March 27th. Soup and sandwiches will be served beforehand.
- Monthly midweek worship is at 10:30 am. It is held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month (February 21st).
- Shrove Tuesday Pancake dinner is on February 13th.
- Ash Wednesday service is on February 14th at 7:00 pm.
- Palm Sunday service is March 24th at 10:00 am.
- Maundy Thursday service is on March 28th at 7:00 pm.
- Good Friday service is on March 29th at 10:00 am.
- Easter Sunday services are on March 31st at 8:00 am and 10:00 am.
- The service scheduled at Supples Landing for February 15th at 2:00 pm is cancelled due to an outbreak.
- A service at Pinewood is scheduled for March 21st.
- Pastor Scott will also be leading an adult weekend retreat in March. He will be home for worship on Sunday morning.

Blaine Sack: Church Musician

- A technician will be returning on Friday, February 23rd to do a follow-up check on his tuning which was done on the grand piano in the sanctuary on December 15th, 2023.
- At this time, he has not been asked to tune any other pianos in use at Zion.
- The organ seems to be doing okay since it was last tuned on November 1st, 2023.

- There is no definite date yet for the start of the second restoration phase but it will be sometime after Easter (hopefully in early April).
- A restoration committee has been formed with Gayle Seegmiller as chair. Other committee members are Blaine Sack, Kathy Nieman, Cheryl Sack and Wilmer Verch from property.
- Practices for the Mixed and Men's Choirs will remain on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings during Lent.
- Blaine presented the singing schedule of the choirs for February.
- Hymn sings will be held on the last Sunday of the month. The next one will be on February 25th when Pastor Metzger will play his harmonica. Together with Blaine on piano, we will accompany/sing a predetermined list of some of his favorite hymns.
- With Easter being the last Sunday in March it was suggested to move the hymn sing to March 17th.
- Both choirs agreed to participate in the midweek evening Lenten services to help lead the singing of the Holden Evening Prayer service. Special music will also be shared at these services.
- Singing of the psalms by the choirs has been well received.
- The blended services that have been held in the sanctuary, combining a mix of traditional liturgy and hymns with contemporary songs, have been enjoyed by the congregation with requests to have them happen more often.

Miscellaneous:

Live Streaming of Funerals:

- The live streaming of funerals was discussed in terms of costs associated with this, as well as individuals needed to have this done.
 - There is a special license required, with the cost prorated to the projected number of people that will be in the sanctuary. This will only be available on-line for 24 hours.
 - There will also be a producer (for set up, music copyright reporting and possibly projection) and a camera person required. It is felt that these individuals be compensated since other essential individuals in funeral services are.
 - The discussion was left at this stage, until we see if this becomes a frequent request.

Palms for Palm Sunday:

- Gayle will order the palms for Palm Sunday. It was suggested to order 150 as we ran out of them last year.

Technology:

- Diane Hammel reported that she has been in touch with Shawn Behnke and the parts for the upgrades to the software and computer system have been ordered.

World Day of Prayer:

- Diane Hammel informed us that the World Day of Prayer service will be held in the sanctuary on Friday, March 1st at 2:00 pm. Blaine has been asked to play, Koit agreed to be sexton and Diane is setting up the hymns for the service.

At the end of the meeting Michael Lange informed us that this is his last meeting as council rep as he is going off council.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Next Meeting:

- Monday, March 11, 2024 @ 7:00 p.m.

MARCH VOLUNTEERS

Worship Assistants

Mar 03- Susan Dupuis
Mar 10- Wayne Kirk
Mar 17- Lorraine MacKenzie
Mar 24- Michael Lange
Mar 28- **Maundy Thursday:** Pastor Sue
Mar 29- **Good Friday:** Wayne Kirk
Mar 31- **Easter Sunday:**
8 a.m. Wayne Kirk
10a.m. Paul Merredew

Sexton

Mar 03- Diane Hammel
Mar 10- Karen Gauthier
Mar 17- Koit Rull
Mar 24- Don Boldt
Mar 28- **Maundy Thursday:** Karen Gauthier
Mar 29- **Good Friday:** Diane Hammel
Mar 31- **Easter Sunday**

Counters

Mar 03- Lisa Campitelli, Karen Gauthier,
David Lehman
Mar 10- Lisa Campitelli, Karen Gauthier,
David Lehman
Mar 17- Gerry Vandersleen, Jean & Kevin Rutz
Mar 24- Gerry Vandersleen, Jean & Kevin Rutz
Mar 28- **Maundy Thursday**
Mar 29- **Good Friday** Kathy Godin, Gerry
Vandersleen, Pam Duplessis
Mar 31- **Easter Sunday:**
8:00 am: Andrew Zadow
10:00 am: Diane Hammel, Pamela
Duplessis, Wilmer Verch

Ushers

Mar 03- Stan & Debbie Sitkiewicz
Mar 10- Amanda Campbell, Ryan Parcher
Mar 17- Peter & Patti Wegner
Mar 24- Kevin & Jean Rutz
Mar 28- **Maundy Thursday**
Mar 29- **Good Friday**
Mar 31- **Easter Sunday:** Allen Rose, Cheryl Sack

Coffee Hour

Mar 03- Debbie & Stan Sitkiewicz
Mar 10- Jill & Al Kellough
Mar 17- Kathy Hoffman, Susan Dupuis
Mar 24- Denise & Barry Schizkoske
Mar 31- **Easter Sunday - No Coffee Hour**

Altar Care

Mar 03- Sandra Graham
Mar 10- Maria Denney
Mar 17- Wendy Schutt
Mar 24- Kathy Godin
Mar 28- **Maundy Thursday**
Mar 29- **Good Friday**
Mar 31- **Easter Sunday:** Carol Boldt

Projector Operators

Mar 03- Rick Gerundin
Mar 10- Ellen Vandersleen
Mar 17- Gerry Vandersleen
Mar 24- Ellen Vandersleen
Mar 31- **Easter Sunday:**
8 a.m. Phillip Vandersleen
10 a.m. Krista Grosskleg

Video Recorders

Mar 03- Ty Phannenhour
Mar 10- Ryan Schmidt
Mar 17- Ellen Vandersleen
Mar 24- Korbin Smith
Mar 31- **Easter Sunday:** Ty Phannenhour

Sound Operators

Mar 03- Todd Phannenhour
Mar 10- Noah Schmidt
Mar 17- Gerry Vandersleen
Mar 24- Brian Smith
Mar 28- **Maundy Thursday**
Mar 29- **Good Friday**
Mar 31- **Easter Sunday:** Todd Phannenhour

March 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 1 pm Senior Exercise Class 2 pm World Day of Prayer 2024	2
3 10 am Worship Service with Holy Communion	4 8:30 am Pickle Ball 1 pm Senior Exercise Class 5:30 pm Messy Church 6 pm Pickle Ball	5 9:30 am Tai Chi 1 pm Lenten Book Study 6:30 pm Tai Chi 7 pm Mixed Choir	6 9 am Music Jam 1 pm Senior Exercise Class 6 pm Soup and Sandwich Supper 7 pm Midweek Lenten Service 8 pm Men's Choir	7 9:30 am Tai Chi 6 pm Pickle Ball 6:30 pm Tai Chi 7 pm Healing Vets	8 1 pm Senior Exercise Class	9
10 10 am Worship Service with Holy Communion	11 8:30 am Pickle Ball 1 pm Senior Exercise Class 6 pm Pickle Ball 7 pm Worship & Music Mtg.	12 9:30 am Tai Chi 1 pm Lenten Book Study 7 pm Mixed Choir 7 pm Council Mtg.	13 9 am Music Jam 10 am Morning Social 10:30 am Mid-week Holy Communion Service 1 pm Senior Exercise Class 6 pm Soup and Sandwich Supper 7 pm Midweek Lenten Service 8 pm Men's Choir	14 9:30 am Tai Chi 6 pm Pickle Ball 6:30 pm Tai Chi 7 pm Healing Vets	15 1 pm Senior Exercise Class 7 pm Craft Night GUIDING LIGHT DEADLINE	16 5 pm Hot Dog Dinner 5:30 pm Movie Night Early Show "Shark Tale" 7 pm Movie Night Late Show "Pay It Forward"
17 10 am Worship Service with Holy Communion 10 am Living Stones Worship	18 8:30 am Pickle Ball 1 pm Senior Exercise Class 6 pm Pickle Ball	19 9:30 am Tai Chi 1 pm Lenten Book Study 6:30 pm Tai Chi 7 pm Mixed Choir	20 9 am Music Jam 1 pm Senior Exercise Class 6 pm Soup and Sandwich Supper 7 pm Midweek Lenten Service 8 pm Men's Choir	21 9:30 am Tai Chi 6 pm Pickle Ball 6:30 pm Tai Chi 7 pm Healing Vets	22 1 pm Senior Exercise Class 6:30 pm Pulse Youth Group Pizza Party & Survivor Challenge Night	23
24 8 am Palm Sunday Worship Service 10 am Palm Sunday Worship Service	25 8:30 am Pickle Ball 1 pm Senior Exercise Class 6 pm Pickle Ball	26 9:30 am Tai Chi 6:30 pm Tai Chi 7 pm Mixed Choir	27 9 am Music Jam 1 pm Senior Exercise Class 6 pm Soup and Sandwich Supper 7 pm Midweek Lenten Service 8 pm Men's Choir	28 9:30 am Tai Chi 7 pm Maundy Thursday Service and Holy Communion	29 10 am Good Friday Service	30
31 8 am Easter Sunday Worship Service 10 am Easter Sunday Worship Service						