



## **Zion Lutheran Church**

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# January

## **2012**

**PLAN TO ATTEND**

**ZION'S ANNUAL MEETING**

**FOLLOWING WORSHIP**

**ON**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 2012**

## Our Discipleship Together

### The Seven Marks of Discipleship

☞ Pray

☞ Worship

☞ Study

☞ Invite

☞ Encourage

☞ Give

☞ Serve

### Jesus Christ is The Same \_\_\_\_\_

*Each winter as the year grows older,  
we each grow older, too.*

*The chill sets in a little colder;  
the verities we knew  
seem shaken and untrue.*

This is the first verse from hymn 628 in With One Voice. It is written by William Gay. This is an amazing verse in that it captures so well what can often be our experience of this time of the year.

The next verse describes what can sometimes be the cause of these feelings:

*When race and class cry out for treason,  
when sirens call for war,  
they overshout the voice of reason  
and scream till we ignore  
all we held dear before.*

But then comes the audacity of the next verse.

*Yet I believe beyond believing  
that life can spring from death,  
that growth can flower from our grieving,  
that we can catch our breath  
and turn transfixed by faith.*

How can such a thing be proclaimed; to believe that life can spring from death, that growth can flower from our grieving, and that we can catch our breath? Certainly Hebrews 13:8 provides a glimpse of the answer: "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." This Jesus, who was engaged in the lives of so many before he died, continues to be engaged in lives, including ours. And this Jesus promises to never abandon us. He is the one who makes life spring from death.

...(continued)



## Jesus Christ is The Same \_\_\_\_\_

(continued)

This hymn contains two more verses: one that contains yet another proclamation of faith, and the final one, which is a prayer asking for renewal. I encourage you to look it up next time you are in worship. This hymn is a gem! *Pastor Keith*

Text: William Gay Music: Annabeth Gay © 1971 United Church Press  
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## ELCA Youth Gathering News \_\_\_\_\_

Youth mission trips aren't a vacation, but an important ministry of the entire congregation. Our youth enlist the support of Zion members in many ways—as adult advisors, through prayer, and financial support. Zion's Youth Group will be selling stock certificates to help get them one step closer to their mission trip and the ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans. This is a fun way for members of our congregation to make an investment in the youth of Zion and help support youth ministry. We believe this idea has benefits that go beyond fundraising because it helps to give others ownership in the mission trip. Through the stock sale, Zion members can purchase stock at the cost of \$15 for 1 share or \$25 for 2 shares. In addition to the joy of helping our youth, the stock holders will receive our official stock certificate and newsletters. They will also receive a postcard from youth while they are on the road, describing the work we are doing and sharing the mission experience. You will also be invited to attend a stock holder's dinner to be held in the fall that will feature a visual presentation from the trip, first-hand accounts from the youth of their experiences, and the finest cuisine. Please consider purchasing stock when we begin selling shares on Sunday, January 29. Thank you so much for all of your support and prayers as we prepare for our trip to New Orleans. For more information, contact Carla Clarke 715.732.0002 or Lisa Knopik 715.735.3994.



## Summary Minutes of Zion Lutheran Church Council Meeting

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**PASTOR'S REPORT:** There were 2 funerals in November: John Johnson and Adeline Zoellner.

This past September Pastor Kolstad began a 3 year term on the Synod council of the Northern Great Lakes Synod.

Our Savior's Lutheran Church will no longer participate in the Thursday evening service at Luther Home.

So far, the Lay School for Mission has 31 students signed up; with 2 students being from Zion.

### NOVEMBER FINANCIAL REPORT:

The General Fund balance decreased \$3,332 giving us a year to date decrease of \$18,533. Capital Campaign Fund balance decreased \$662 from \$33,602 to \$33,000. Debt and Community Children receipts were \$1,496 and dispersed as follows: \$150 to Synod, \$300 to DAR and \$748 to Thrivent for additional payment on loan principal. Community Children/Fortune Lake has a balance of \$4,331 all but \$800 of which will be paid directly to Fortune lake Lutheran Camp at the end of December. Thrivent Loan payable balance is \$63,347 per loan schedule after the 11/15/11 payment, with an additional \$748 paid at the end of November.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

#### Personnel Committee:

Reviews of the secretary, custodian, choir director and Pastor will be completed.



## Summary Minutes of Zion Lutheran Church Council Meeting...(continued)

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The Volunteer Coordinator's 3 year period will be done in March 2012. The committee determined it would be beneficial to have the Volunteer Coordinator remain on staff, using Capital Campaign funds into 2012 for this part-time salary.

The job will concentrate more on communication, so that information about Zion is coordinated and available through every possible source.

**NEW BUSINESS: Budget Draft:** The proposed budget draft was formatted on the actual expenses of 2010 and projected expenses of 2011. There was extensive discussion with concerns raised regarding the General Fund balance decrease during the year. When final income numbers come in the council will recommend a budget for 2012 to the congregation.

### ANNUAL MEETING:

The Annual Meeting will be held January 29, 2012 following service.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Benchley,

Council Secretary



## Missional Planning Minutes

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The Missional Planning Committee met on December 6, 2011.

Much discussion was held regarding the Volunteer Coordinator position currently held by Sarah Rabideau. We reviewed the original job description. Sarah compared it to her duties, and while her duties match closely she offered insight into things she thought could be modified.

1. Sarah is still adding information to Zion's database; she suggested there should be a yearly requirement for all active programs to email information to coordinator on current volunteers.
2. Acolyte. Volunteer should create schedule and make weekly calls not the coordinator.
3. Coordinating funeral lunches should be the work of volunteers not the coordinator. Nancy Benchley will be making every member calls to see who can assist with this work, and she is hoping to have a new concept implemented in January.
4. Community Services. Sarah believes the coordinator should be involved in community functions, and help connect congregation members with available resources. She currently works with Zion's Harvest of Hope Community Garden, UW Extension, UW Marinette, and the M&M Area Community Foundation.
5. Youth. Is currently establishing relationship with youth and creating programs to enhance those relationships.
6. Support Groups. Establish get-togethers for various people needing support with various aspects of life.



## Missional Planning Minutes

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7. Feedback – Rather than surveys check out other congregations and see “how they do things” to get ideas.

8. COMMUNICATION. Maintain communication throughout all programs. Announcements need to be centralized to coordinator; research ways on improving communication within the congregation. Coordinator will send secretary announcements to be printed for bulletin and slides.

9. Change title to Community Outreach Coordinator or something that more closely resembles the duties undertaken.

This position was originally contracted for 3 years, and ends in March of 2012. Sarah wants to continue in the position but on a year to year basis rather than a 3 year contract. Everyone agreed this is a vital position in our congregation and should continue.

Suggestion was made that Karen Houdek staff a table in the Narthex to dispense final 2011 statements enabling the congregation to meet her, and again, saving Zion postage.

The next meeting will be held on January 17, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. We will discuss the music/cantor position, suggest a new name for the volunteer coordinator, and review the updated website.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Sylvester



## Worship & Music News

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Check it out!

If you go in the fellowship hall you will see our new choir folder unit built by Pastor Rick DeBenedetto as a gift to the choir. It is awesome and was badly needed. Thank you Pastor Rick!

You will also notice a new keyboard with stand, bench and speaker that was purchased in memory of Jack Anderson. This keyboard will be used for outdoor services, choir rehearsals and can travel with us for special occasions.

We have sold the baby grand piano and will use those funds to purchase a humidifier for the piano in the chapel. This is needed so we will have less maintenance on that instrument.

A huge thank you to the Senior Choir for all their hard work this fall and their awesome performance on Christmas Eve. We are so blessed to have Rachel Rosenfeldt as our accompanist as she tickled those ivories on over 50 pages of music that evening.

We had several members that sang with us just for the Christmas season and some that go south for the winter. New choir members are always welcome. We will begin rehearsals on Wednesday, January 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

We are still looking for members to be part of the Worship & Music Committee and small hymn selection groups that meet twice a year. If you would like more information please contact Ann Buscher.

Ann Buscher



## CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN JANUARY 2012

January 2

Debra Harding

January 3

Tyler Brooks  
David Francour

January 4

Mary Hayward

January 5

Kyleigh Durocher  
Adison Rosenfeldt  
Daniel Zuehls

January 6

Sarah Pecard

January 8

Rhonda Bromund

January 10

Johanna Zuehls

January 13

Oliver Swenson

January 14

Gerald Peterson

January 15

Marilyn Gould  
Diane Slack  
Bethany Wolf

January 16

Timothy Bauer

January 17

Eric Olson  
Maryellen Radloff  
Roger Utke

January 18

Regina Boucher

January 19

Nicholas Race

January 20

Kathy Heimbuch

January 21

Drake Schutt

January 22

Shawn Limberg

January 24

Pam Lund  
Tatem Schroeder  
Ben Wydeven

January 25

Bev DeGroot  
Denise Despins

January 26

Colleen Madden

January 27

Ralph Anderson

January 30

Shirley Kaufman



Happy  
Birthday

