



# Harbinger

January 2023  
Volume 155 Number 1

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For our large family, to afford family vacations, we either stayed with relatives or camped. We had a Sears tent/trailer, which had a tent that folded out onto the ground. One night we found a campground listed in our Rand McNally Road Atlas in the middle of Nowhere, South Dakota. It was an empty field with one outhouse and no other campers! It was already dark and the next town was thirty miles away. To make matters worse, all night long we heard a wailing cry of some animal that kept circling the campground. I have never been so scared and expected a wild beast would tear into our tent. Every time I almost fell asleep, that howling in the darkness resumed. Years later, I heard the same cry in a zoo, and figured out the animal was a bobcat. Most likely we were safe at the time, but there was no way to know it then.

We all have had similar moments in our lives. No matter how much we try to calm down or be rational, there are situations in which we are scared, afraid, or worried. It is easy for someone, at such a time, to tell us to just pray and turn it over to God, which is what we should do, but it isn't always as easy as that ... is it? Sometimes the darkness and the unknown can rattle us to the core. But the reason for a baby in a manger in Bethlehem was to bring us assurance we are never alone, no matter how scary the dark might be. When you remember which kitchen drawer holds the flashlight, a power outage isn't quite as disturbing, is it? In the same way, remembering the light Jesus' birth has brought into our darkness can change any of our forays into shadows or darkness. Long ago, wise men followed that light and basked in the glow of the surprise of their lives. And we always do as well. It might not come as quickly as we would like, but the more time we spend in proximity to the light Jesus brings will change any of those scary and fearful times of life. The cry of a baby in Bethlehem we cannot see is more comforting than the darkness we can see. It is always a matter of deciding which noises that surround will be the ones we cling to. My vote goes to the gentle cry of baby Jesus in that Bethlehem manger!

Pastor Seeber

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## Christmas and Epiphany

In the first centuries of the Church, Easter was celebrated as the primary festival of Christianity. Sunday is the new Sabbath as Sunday is the day Jesus rose from the dead. Christmas is bigger in our culture, but that reality came about hundreds of years later.

The nativity (birth) of our Savior gradually became an important celebration in the life of the Church. After Emperor Constantine declared Christianity the faith of the kingdom, he chose December 25th as the birthdate of Jesus. He took a Roman festival (Saturnalia) which had celebrated a gradual ending of the darkness of winter, and instead made it a celebration of the true Light of the World -- Christmas, or the Christ Mass.

Christmas begins a 12 day cycle concluding on Epiphany (January 6.) Sundays during this time are part of the Christmas season, and the altar color is White. You might notice that our altar paraments for Christmas are different than the white of Easter.

December 26th is a day in which the Church remembers Saint Stephen, the first martyr of the early Christian Church (see Acts 6:8-7:2.) And remember Saul, who held the cloaks of those stoning Stephen, became Paul after his conversion. When Dec. 26th is on a Sunday, the altar color could be red, which is the color associated with martyred saints.

December 28th is the Festival of the Holy Innocents (Matt 2:13-18.) When the Wise Men inquired of Herod where the new king was born, he became jealous. He wound up murdering as many young boys under the age of two as he could, hopeful of erasing any threats to his throne. During this time, Mary and Joseph fled to Egypt with Jesus, a difficult story to consider, and yet a reminder of the threat that Jesus is to those dependent on earthly power. (Even today!)

January 1st is the day in which the Church has remembered the naming of Jesus. In the Jewish tradition, it was on the eighth day that a son was circumcised (as a sign of the covenant) and named. Mary and Joseph named their miracle baby, Jesus.

Many of you have seen Xmas instead of Christmas (prompting calls to keep Christ in Christmas.) But the first Greek letter of Christ is "chi" (which is written with an X.) Mass is the word for the worship service. And so from the time of the middle ages the Church has used Xmas as a way of writing Christ Mass (or the day of worshipping the Christ.) So, if you know the Greek origin, Xmas DOES keep Christ in Christmas.

Of greater concern is how WE keep Christ in Christmas each and every day of the year!

The season of Christmas runs until January 6th, which is called Epiphany. Epiphany means revealed, (as any light will do.) Epiphany commemorates the visit of the wise men from the East to see the infant Jesus (Matt. 2:1-12.) This has traditionally been called the Christmas of the Gentiles and is celebrated in the Eastern Church as a greater day of celebration than December 25th, for on this day Christ was revealed to the entire world! In the early Church, Epiphany, Easter, and Pentecost were the major festivals!

Epiphany uses green as its color, for life and growth and the spreading of the Gospel throughout the world. Epiphany continues until just before Lent. The Sunday of the Transfiguration concludes the Epiphany season. Ash Wednesday and Lent follow during the next week. So, now you know!

A blessed Christmas and Epiphany season to you and all whom you love! And when the trees come down, keep the joy of this season as the reason for each and every day of your life. What a gift has been given!

## What Makes Us “Lutheran?” / Part 4

### Worship

Worship literally means “the worth of.” In our context it proclaims God’s value to and for us. Worship has always been essential to the need for faithful people to connect with God.

In the Old Testament, worship was based on sacrifice, or surrendering something of value to display our love to God.

At Sinai, the law taught true worship is revealed in how we live every moment of our lives. How we love one another reveals the gift of God’s love for me! Some criticize all of the laws, yet their primary function was to help God’s people understand every aspect of life is a time of worship. How we live our lives shows the worth of God’s love for us and our love for each other.

There has always been an individual and corporate aspect to worship. For people of the Old Testament, the temple became the place of sacrifice. The synagogue became the center for learning and prayer. After Pentecost, as the Church spread and grew, corporate worship followed the model of the synagogue, with psalms, scripture, and prayer. Baptism became the sacrament of initiation into the faith, and Holy Communion was celebrated at every gathering.

By the time of the Reformation, formal worship had become mechanical and seen as separate from the call for daily worship. Luther and the other reformers spent much time bringing fullness back to the time of corporate worship, and involving everyone, and not just priests, in meaningful ways of participation and understanding.

We follow a calendar year in which the first half of the year (Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter and Ascension) focuses on the life and ministry of Christ Jesus. The second half of the year (Pentecost) focuses on the spiritual growth of each Christian and the

Church in which we are all one.

During that same liturgical pattern there is a three year cycle of readings, based on Old Testament, a Psalm, New Testament letters, and the Gospels. Matthew, Mark, and Luke are the primary Gospel readings in each of those three years, with John being interspersed throughout each year. This pattern allows for much of Scripture to be read over a three year cycle.

Every Christian denomination and congregation wrestles how it is best to worship when we are all gathered together. There is no perfect or only way, as long as we are guided by God and respond as faithfully as we are able.

Lutherans tend to be slow to change, which is more a sense of respecting the past and not being quick to throw out the baby with the bath water. Change for the sake of change can result in losing much of value for the sake of immediate comfort levels. On the other hand, we must always guard against worshipping tradition and history rather than the God who is active and prophetic in every season and generation.

Our goals in corporate worship are to keep God (not me) as the object of attention, responding in joy and praise for his grace. Scripture guides our time together as it does our time apart. We value the liturgical church year as helping to guide the seasons of our lives. Worship is to be participatory, rather than a spectator sport. It is traditional, in that it understands and respects the past, while at the same time seeking excellence and relevance in every expression and form.

Our worship is focused on love for God and neighbor. In our time together as one, we are nourished and strengthened to be sent into our daily living as the Church in God’s world. Just as God’s love never ends, neither should our worship. Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

## Worship Help for Parents and Children

*(It is OK for everyone else to read too!)*

### The Sharing of Peace / Offering

In Jesus' day, sacrifices were brought to the temple as a sign of people's love for God and desire to surrender something of value to show that love. Christians kept that practice and brought gifts to share in worship. Some brought bread and wine for communion, others shared to take care of the needy in their midst or in other congregations. In the "Sharing of Peace" we remember this practice and participate in our way today. (COVID has taken this away for awhile, but when we resume, what a joy that will be!)

Jesus said, "So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift." (Matt. 5:23-24 ESV) In other words, if anything stands between you and a neighbor, something stands between you and God! If we can't "give" to each other, how can we expect our "gifts" to God to have any real meaning? If we truly love God, we will truly love our neighbor.

As we share gifts with God (offerings) and God's shares his gift of Holy Communion with us, we also exchange the peace of Christ with each other. This is not just a quick hello, but a reminder of how Christ has welcomed and forgiven me with his love! My response is to reach out with that same love; to be one with you and the God has made himself one with me!

In worship we share that confession and the warmth of that love with each other. Better yet, if there is anyone you have a problem with, don't wait, go to them in private, settle differences, and forgive. That allows our public display of peace to be even more meaningful. As we gather in worship, we truly are one in Christ, and rejoice he has helped

us regain such peace. In sharing his peace, we are given the opportunity to make Jesus' words of forgiveness come to life.

This is what reaching out with Jesus' love looks and feels like. Then, we are truly ready to share gifts with God and receive His gift at the altar. This is serious business, not pretend or for show. If you are not willing to forgive and be forgiven, what meaning does God's gift of grace have for you?) Christ has died to make peace! We must live in peace! As we share the peace of the Lord we are reminded how such a gift is to be shared daily, faithfully, and lovingly!

### For Parents with Younger Children

You know how important it is to hug your kids. They need more than just words. And after moments of chastisement or critique they need even more to know you love them still! When I tell my kids I am sorry, I had better physically show them the same thing. Words without action have a hollow ring. This is what we are doing in worship as we share the peace of the Lord. We are saying to each other, "Jesus loves me, and I want you to be touched by that same love!"

We know how tempers can flare, and voices can be raised in discipline (and then wish we had first counted to ten and maybe not been so intense.) We also know how warm and humbling it is when our little ones come back to us anyway (whether it is the next day or even years later) and say, "I love you Dad! I love you Mom!" We can learn much from them! This moment in worship is no less powerful. Just as we embrace words of forgiveness and love at home, we must learn to do that in worship and our daily living. Liturgy is often something we don't think about, but in the repetition of reaching out this becomes a more natural action of faith. (Just like learning to brush teeth or pick up clothes.) When we do it often and regularly, we do it as naturally as breathing. And what a holy breeze the sharing of peace becomes!

**Book Review.** Christian Caregiving; A Way of Life. Kenneth Haugk, Stephen Ministries. 2020.

This book is inspired by Stephen Ministry, which helps equip Christians in very practical ways to be more prepared to care for each other in difficult and stressful moments of life.

It is easy to read and full of very practical assistance for how to better relate to the people in your life. Christian Caregiving is written as an inspirational guide to help each of us in being helpful to each other.

Whether as parent or child, teacher or student, employer or employee, neighbor or stranger, daily life is filled with interactions with those around us. How, as Christians, can we be the hands and feet of Jesus in those interactions with each other?

When Jesus washed his disciples' feet he did so as a very practical encouragement for his followers to know that they were to do the same every day. And "washing feet" might take the shape of listening, comforting, sharing a cup of cold water, or praying for and with another child of God.

Jesus wanted discipleship to be a way of life, not just an affirmation of faith. He called us not only to be one with God, but to be one with each other. And that is the impetus and the flavor of the content of this book.

Everyday we are in situations where we impact the lives of others, whether we intend to or not. A smile, a pleasant greeting, or a meaningful conversation gives someone else an impression of who you are. Conversely a frown, avoiding eye contact, or ignoring a stranger gives a different impression whether that was your intent or not.

Think about it this way; if Jesus has changed my life, my living (all the time) most likely should reflect that change. It is not something we should even have to think

about turning on or off. Either we are a disciple or we are not. Christian caregiving is the lifestyle we are called to for the sake of Christ and in love to one another.

When a friend loses a job, or faces illness or death, are you able to be as much comfort and assistance as you would like to be? If so, this book can be a practical help.

Stephen Ministry uses the terms care giver and care receiver to speak of the relationships we encounter in daily life. Sometimes we are on one side of the fence and sometimes the other. Each of us would love to have someone near to give us help when we feel helpless or short of answers.

At the same time, we daily are standing next to people who are in need of just a little extra care and you or I might be the only or best option they have. As we remember Jesus' words about washing feet, and aren't certain if we are up to the task or know where to begin, this is a wonderful little book to give you some practical assistance.

We tend to be put off by the major traumas in life, such as death, a diagnosis of cancer, or any other major trauma or loss. And in doing so, we forget that every day, everyone we know is experiencing little traumas, or ongoing recovery and a little love and support is just what the doctor ordered.

It isn't that we need go out of our way, looking for people to serve. They are already standing next to us, and just as we always hope to have the help we need, each of us every day is the help someone else can benefit from. That is simply who we are and the lifestyle baptism call us into as the hands and feet of Jesus in the world.

This is an easy read, with practical help you will refer to again and again. We have copies of this in our library!

Pastor Seeber

**CAMPUS MINISTRY REPORT: DECEMBER 2022:**

In what seemed like a blink of an eye, the Fall Semester is over. Here is a brief summary of each of our ministry events and activities this past Fall semester.

**MONDAY EVENING DINNER & DISCUSSION:**

Every Monday evening, from 6:00-7:30PM, we had dinner and then a Bible study/discussion on the topic of dealing with Stress and Anxiety. There were between 5-12 WMU students that were part of our Monday evening event. We usually averaged between 6-8 students. The students have developed a warm community together and we will start back in the Spring Semester from 6:30-8:00PM, beginning January 9<sup>th</sup>.

**TUESDAY EVENING COMMUNITY OUTREACH AT THE YWCA:**

From 6-7PM, there were 4 WMU students that volunteered with the kids whose moms are staying at the YWCA shelter for victims of domestic violence. These 4 students are not a part of our Monday evening event, due to class and work schedules. We hit a bump in the road in October when there were 3 weeks in a row where there were no kids at the shelter. Once November came, there were a number of kids at the shelter.

**WEDNESDAY FUNDRAISER FOR VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING:**

From 11:30AM-1:00PM, we sold Popeye's chicken sandwiches at Solid Grounds as a fundraiser for the YWCA and their work with victims of human trafficking. This weekly event also gave me an opportunity to build connections with a wide variety of WMU staff members in Maintenance, Landscaping and Facilities. We were able to do this event into early November and then the cold weather set in.

Beginning in the Spring Semester, I will provide a lunch for the WMU staff members in Landscaping, Maintenance and Facilities twice a month. This will probably take place on Tuesday's.

**WEDNESDAY EVENING VOLUNTEERING AT THE YWCA:**

There were 3 WMU students that volunteered with the kids. However, about halfway through the semester, their attendance dropped off. Rather than continuing next semester on Wednesday evenings, we will focus on volunteering at the YWCA on Tuesday evening.

There are a couple of community outreach projects in the beginning stages. On Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, there were 12 members of the WMU women's basketball team and I that volunteered at Tree of Life during lunch and recess time between 11:30AM-1:00PM. The members of the team loved the event and are hoping to do this again next semester.

Starting next semester, there are 6 athletes and I that will be volunteering at Maple Street Middle School. The dates and times and specifics are in the works. The principal of Maple Street Middle School is also a pastor and is very supportive of our efforts.

God's peace and blessings to you all!

Pastor Mark



# Family Life

## Family Ministry News

### Family Events

**A BIG thank you to Alison Carlson and others who helped out with the Christmas Presentation!!!**

**Chili Cook-off is January 22nd from 11:30am—1:30pm. It might be fun to work as a family to make a winning pot of chili!!**

### **NO TIME LIKE THE....TIME**

One of the most common phrases I hear is “they grow up so fast” or “cherish this time, it goes so quickly.” That’s silly. Time doesn’t change, it is one steady constant in our lives. I recently heard another perspective on this statement: “It isn’t that time goes more quickly, we just spend less time together.” Now THAT is the appropriate statement.

I was fortunate enough to spend a lot of time with my girls before they headed off to school. As they now spend 7+ hours, four or five days a week at school or childcare, I do have much less time with them. Families with older children have even less time because of extracurriculars.

So what? We cannot stop time. We can however be intentional with the time we do have. We can help set healthy boundaries and not ‘waste’ time. We can make sure to build in Sabbath time—time of rest, time to focus on our relationships—as a family, and with God.

# Youth News

## **High School:**

### Bible Study

Resumes Jan 8 at 9:15am!

### Chili Cook-off

January 22nd from 11:30am—  
2pm, plan on attending and  
“hosting” the chili cook-off! This  
fun event is a fundraiser for  
future servant events!

## **Middle School:**

### Confirmation Class

Sunday Class resumes January  
8th. Wednesday Class resumes  
January 11th.

## Echoes

*God IS at work through ~~people~~ in our  
congregation...here is their story:*

You may only visit once or twice a week  
but I am visited every day. My doors  
have been open for many years and  
throughout all conditions. I am...the  
Zion building.

For many years we have accommodated  
community groups. Those groups have a  
great variety...from musical groups to  
boy scouts, antique car clubs to quilting  
parties, book clubs, recitals...the list  
could go on and on. Many of these  
groups have no religious affiliation or  
even member connection anymore but  
we offer our space to be used. It's great  
to be able to offer this space as a form of  
showing God's love.

Currently during the month we have a  
high school jazz group, women's chorus,  
auto restorers, and quilter's block party.  
These are in addition to the many  
member based groups that meet during  
the month.

We are blessed to have a wonderful fa-  
cility to invite people to, and although  
the building doesn't make up the  
Church, it certainly helps us, the people,  
BE the Church.



## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1/2	Anna Griesbach
1/3	David Bierlein
1/5	Lindsey Heineman, Ashlynn Leitz
1/6	Jeanette Meyer, Andrew Wilkins
1/8	Betty Markwart, Daniel Meimers, Ross Nelson, Todd Nuyen, Richard Rakow, Judith Sepanik
1/9	Audrey Dorman,
1/11	Nicole Klein, Linda Rosenthal
1/12	Bob Nutsch
1/13	Zander Woodhams
1/14	Laurel Miner, Joey Proos
1/15	Toni Holt, Todd Ream, Susie Schierbeek,
1/18	Megan Doorlag
1/19	Adam Hendricks, Christopher McGill, Sullivan Miller, Alexander Perry
1/20	Pamela Blochard, Al Doorlag, Rosalind Proos
1/21	Owen Adams, Cameron Hay, Dolores Rink
1/22	Rita Linnenkugel
1/23	Mark Skuratowicz
1/24	James Koning
1/25	Phoebe Miedema, Carol O'Connor
1/26	Laurel Adams, Emma Dorman, Charley Emig, Adeline Powell
1/27	Elijah Field
1/29	Dan Curtiss, Claire Kiessling, Kelsey Klug, Nathan Matheny, Noralyn Pridgeon
1/30	Amy Eastman, John Griesbach, Addalee Wilkins
1/31	Tyler Bowers, Grace Stiegemeyer



The wish list item for  
**January is Beef Stew**

## ART MINISTRY— January / February

Join us for guest artist in BLENDS

**Wed, January 4th @ 4:30p**

**Greg Lookerse**, Asst Prof of Art and Design, Hope College...

Greg will share his motivations and religious perspective displayed through art in a talk on the 4th.

**Artist Bio:** b. 1987—USA Is an interdisciplinary artist, author and educator based in West Michigan. Greg makes mixed media drawings, installations and performance that question the nature of sacred objects. "The studio is a wrestling ring. I see something holy, an icon, temple architecture, or religious practices, and I cannot understand why these materials can be sacred instead of mundane. In order to understand them, I have to isolate them, rearrange them, examine them from every angle, often finding some semblance of understanding. But always in part."

Born / raised in Yucaipa, CA, his BFA is from Biola University and MFA from the School of the Museum of Fine Arts Boston at Tufts University. He's held numerous solo exhibitions and has a current studio at Hope in Holland. Come enjoy & learn more!



# Chili Cook-off

## **Join us!!!**

The next high school youth fundraiser will be a chili cook off! We hope you'll join us either with a pot of chili, or to come taste! Prizes and fun will be had and each donation helps fund future servant events!

Tickets are \$10/person for tasting (kids under 12 are free). Concessions will be available as well!

**Sunday, January 22nd at 11:30am**



### **CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE JANUARY 2023**

Thank you to everyone who submitted names of pastors to consider for the role of Senior Pastor at Zion.

In late November, Michigan District President David Davis, sent us our fourth Call list. It contained the names of 12 candidates, including five pastors who were nominated by our members. The Call Committee met the first two weeks of December to review and discuss the materials provided by the District, as well as, information that we were able to obtain at their church websites. We felt several of the candidates were a good fit and will be interviewing them via computer meeting in January.

We are hopeful that we will have at least a couple of candidates to present to the congregation in early February. Please continue to keep us and the candidates in your prayers.

### **GRATEFUL HEARTS/THANKFUL HANDS**

Many hands and lots of enthusiasm made our recent bazaar another huge success! Despite the snowstorms, God opened the day with a beautiful sunrise and provided the snow trucks to clear the roads enough for our community members to join us. Again, we heard wonderful comments on the beautiful craft and food items! THANK YOU to EVERYONE who made this day possible. No matter what your contribution was, it was greatly appreciated so very much!!

Our contributions keep coming in, and we have so far made over \$6,000! Next month we will give you the grand total and where the money is being distributed.

We are already looking ahead to next year and contributions can be placed in the workroom.

With very grateful hearts,  
Jayne and Linda Mayer

### **WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP**

Meeting the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 2:00p.m.

Upcoming Readings:

January 17th "Same Kind of Different as Me"

February 21st "The Language of Flowers"

March 21st "The Personal Librarian"

## JANUARY 2023 WORSHIP LEADERS

	January 1 10:00A.M. only	January 8 BAPTISM OF JESUS	January 15	January 22	January 29
<b>Head Ushers 8:00am</b>	Walt Kohnke Rich Rakow	Matt Simmons Alan Sarver	Steve Weber Mark Schoonbeck	Stan Leitz John DuBois	Fred Bierlein Dave Newman
<b>Head Ushers 10:30am</b>		Ken Lundquist Dave Borak	Steve Nuyen Dennis O'Brien	Ken Lundquist Dave Borak	Joe Zerbel Garr Gast
<b>Communion Assistants Saturday 5:30pm</b>	Kathleen Jordan	Roxanne Seeber	Joanne Bowes	Roxanne Seeber	Kathleen Jordan
<b>Communion Assistants 8:00am</b>	10:00a.m.	Matt Simmons	Rita Linnenkugel	Ted Maxson	Mike Schlack
<b>Communion Assistants 10:30am</b>		Steve Butt	Steve Nuyen	Karen Stokes-Chapo	Dana Butt
<b>Acolytes 8:00am</b>		Anna Schoonbeck	Sydney Woods	Emma Hendricks	Gabe Hampshire
<b>Acolytes 10:30am</b>		Myla Bierlein	Noah Bentz	Grayson Field	Nikko Quezada
<b>Cantor</b>	10a Linda Stieve	8a Dennis O'Brien 10:30a Dennis O'Brien	8a Karen Stokes- Chapo	8a Vicki Holt 10:30a Vicki Holt	8a Linda Stieve 10:30 Karen Stokes- Chapo
<b>Lectors 8:00am</b>			Dave Mayer	Jayne Mayer	Carol Daenzer
<b>Lectors 10:30am</b>	Jon Tomer	Alison Carlson	Jill Hamilton	Rollie Preuss	Erin Hampshire
<b>Altar Ministry Saturday 5:30pm</b>	Melissa Noseworthy Phil Rettman	Melissa Noseworthy Phil Rettman		Phil Rettman	
<b>Altar Ministry 8:00am</b>	1. Carol Daenzer 2. Jayne Mayer	1. 2.	1. Melissa Noseworthy 2.	1. 2.	1. Melissa Noseworthy 2.
<b>Altar Ministry 10:30am</b>	1. 2.	1. 2.	1. 2.	1. 2.	1. 2.

**Shaded Boxes indicate assistance needed. Please contact the office if you are available to assist.**

# JANUARY 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> New Year's Day 10:00a Worship	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 9:00 Sewing Group returns based on weather	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 8:00 Men's Bible Study  5:30 Worship
<b>8</b> 8:00 Worship 9:15 SS, Bible Study 10:30 Worship	<b>9</b>  6:30 Endowment	<b>10</b> 10:00 P. Brelje Bible	<b>11</b> 9:00 Sewing Group 4:00 P. Seeber Bible Study 4:15 Dessert First 5:15 Dinner 6:15 Confirmation Class	<b>12</b>  Noon Finance	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 8:00 Men's Bible Study  5:30 Worship
<b>15</b> 8:00 Worship 9:15 SS, Bible Study 10:30 Worship	<b>16</b> ML King Day  6:30 BOD	<b>17</b> 10:00 P. Brelje Bible	<b>18</b> 9:00 Sewing Group 4:00 P. Seeber Bible Study 4:15 Dessert First 5:15 Dinner 6:15 Confirmation Class	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 8:00 Men's Bible Study  5:30 Worship
<b>22</b> 8:00 Worship 9:15 SS, Bible Study 10:30 Worship 11:30 Chili Cook-Off	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 10:00 P. Brelje Bible	<b>25</b> 9a Sewing Grp 4:00 P. Seeber Bible Study 4:15 Dessert First 5:15 Dinner 6:15 Confirmation Class 6:30-8p PreSch Open Hse	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 8:00 Men's Bible Study  5:30 Worship
<b>29</b> 8:00 Worship 9:15 SS, Bible Study 10:30 Worship	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 10:00 P. Brelje Bible				

Zion Financial Report for November 30, 2022

ZION: November Giving exceeded Spending by \$1,655  
 YTD Giving is under by \$18,315; YTD Spending is under by \$9,888

Questions? Please email Don Klug at [dakdsk@msn.com](mailto:dakdsk@msn.com)

Solid Ground: November spending exceeded giving by \$1,715  
 YTD Income under by \$357; YTD Spending over by \$2,227.

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH	Current Month			Year-To-Date		
	Budget	Actual	Over/Under	Budget	Actual	Over/Under
<b>INCOME</b>						
Zion Giving & Misc.	59,817	56,302	-3,515	326,274	307,959	-18,315
<b>EXPENSES</b>						
Zion Staff Support	31,289	31,104	185	186,410	188,162	-1,742
Office Operations	2,206	807	1,400	8,135	9,944	-1,809
Church Property	7,882	7,684	198	45,365	45,989	-624
Education Ministry	1,270	302	968	5,080	5,131	-51
Evangelism/Missions	50	0	50	200	161	39
Worship Ministry	600	280	320	3,000	2,981	19
Other Ministries	510	216	294	1,710	1,671	39
Music Ministry	2,645	2,260	385	13,350	12,020	1,330
Finance Ministry	9,370	6,365	3,005	56,200	53,312	2,888
Zion Haus Ministry	1,133	86	1,048	6,798	1,709	5,089
Missions - General	7,249	5,546	1,703	34,439	29,729	4,710
Total Expenses	64,204	54,648	-9,557	360,687	350,798	9,888
<b>INCOME LESS EXPENSES</b>	<b>-4,387</b>	<b>1,655</b>	<b>6,042</b>	<b>-34,413</b>	<b>-42,839</b>	<b>-8,427</b>

<b>SOLID GROUND</b>						
Solid Ground Income	9,012	8,614	-398	58,772	58,415	-357
Solid Ground Expenses	9,852	10,330	-678	56,766	58,983	2,227
<b>INCOME LESS EXPENSES</b>	<b>-840</b>	<b>-1,715</b>	<b>-1,076</b>	<b>2,016</b>	<b>-368</b>	<b>-2,584</b>

BALANCE SHEET	5/31/2022	11/30/2022	YTD Change
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Cash	70,269	104,517	34,248
Investments	189,391	160,173	-29,218
Other Assets	3,430	-23,063	-26,493
Dedicated Funds	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>263,089</b>	<b>241,627</b>	<b>-21,463</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Payroll	2,616	2,925	310
Dedicated Funds	121,187	142,234	21,047
Unrestricted Funds	139,287	96,468	-42,819
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>263,089</b>	<b>241,627</b>	<b>-21,463</b>

<b>MORTGAGE LOAN</b>	
Balance 11/30/2022	\$525,246.57
Monthly Payment	\$6,350.00
Additional Principal	\$0.00

**Dedicated Accounts with Balances over \$3,000**

Ins. Claim Water	\$3,537	Bazaar	\$6,512
Besser Benevolence	\$5,049	Capital Campaign	\$35,000
Zion Haus	\$3,016	Future Debt	\$13,368
FOJ Fundraising	\$11,826	Youth Ministry	\$4,520
		New Staff	\$49,646

Monthly Publication of

Zion Lutheran Church

January

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