



From the Pastor's Cup...

Dear Church Family,

Lent doesn't start for another month (March 2nd is Ash Wednesday), and Easter is about as late as it can be (April 17th), and this morning I heard the first day of spring is in 58 days, so we have a lot to look forward too!

First, we have an extra-long season of Epiphany that ends on Sunday, February 27 with The Transfiguration of Our Lord. Second, Karen and I have made 245 tangible **YOUR NAIL** Lenten meditation gifts for the church family for Ash Wednesday (3/2/2022).

Third, Lenten Sundays' theme will be **HIS NAIL** and Lenten Wednesdays' theme will be **OUR NAIL**, and hopefully the Sundays and Wednesdays will complement each other. Fourth, we will be celebrating many baptisms in this time period. And fifth, whatever amazing blessings God will shower upon us on our way to Easter.

Karen and I have registered for the Nebraska Synod's Assembly June 2-4 in Kearney at the Younes Conference Center. This year, besides the normal stuff, we will be calling a new bishop to office to replace Bishop Brian Maas. We wish Bishop Brian all the best in his new call.

We also have five senior high youth traveling to St. Paul/Minneapolis to attend the ELCA's National Youth Gathering **Boundless: God Beyond Measure** July 24-28. Please know these youth will come back with a greater sense of the larger church along with being spirit-filled!

God bless, Pr. Jer

What's So Amazing about Grace? by Philip Yancey, is a a ten part DVD series on God's GRACE. It will be starting Sunday, January 2nd at the 9 am at Coffee & Fellowship. It is a follow up to Philip Yancey's **Vanishing Grace** shown last November and December, which was well received.

Phillip Yancey's use of stories and modernized parables help paint a picture of grace that, if we are honest, we knew already...but I never really envisioned. This book and DVD series, and the idea he presents are both game changers for the Christian community, and in our society today it couldn't be more relevant.

Sunday, January 30, 2022 – The Art of Forgiving: *Responding with Grace When It Seems impossible* **Sunday, February 6, 2022** – Skin Deep: *The Power of Grace to Penetrate Racism* **Sunday, February 13, 2022** – Grace Put to the Test: *Grace in the Face of Disagreement* **Sunday, February 20, 2022** – Grace Abuse: *Cheapening Grace and Robbing of Its Power* **Sunday, February 27, 2022** –The Church Backslides: *How Legalism Corrupts Grace* **Sunday, March 6, 2022** – Dispensing Grace: *How Can We*

Do It?

Sunday, March 13, 2022 –

Counterforce: *Grace Set Loose in the World*

We will begin each Sunday morning with prayer concerns from the group. A brief introduction of the DVD session is approximately 15 minutes long. This will be followed by a group discussion on the DVD and the topic presented. All are invited!

Sincerely Pr. Jer

8th GRADE CONFIRMATION WEDNESDAYS IN FEBURARY 2022

Reminder to pick ASAP your Bible verse and My Faith Project for Confirmation Sunday on April 24, 2022. My Faith Project is explained at the end of this booklet.

2/2/2022 6-7 p.m. – Temptation, Trial and Deliverance (The Lord's Prayer) Video Clip by The Skit Guys – Dennis

Bible Text: Luke 4:1-15; Exodus 15:1-18; Matthew 6:9-13; 1 Chronicles 29:11-13

Lesson Focus: God promises to save us from evil and temptation and to hear our prayers always.

Big Question: God will really save me from all evil?

Key Words: DISCIPLINE, DELIVERANCE, REDEMPTION, AMEN, GLORY, POWER

Snack & drink plus staying the hour: Smith family

2/9/2022 6-7 p.m. – Connecting with God thru Prayer

Video Clip by The Skit Guys – World vs. Christian Prayer

Bible Text: Psalm 23; 51; 150; Luke 11:1-13

Lesson Focus: When we pray, no matter how we pray, we open a connection with God.

Big Question: How do I know God is listening?

Key Words: INTERCESSION, CONFESSION, BLESSING, SUPPLICATION

Snack & drink plus staying the hour: Sullivan family

2/16/2022 6-7 p.m. – Serving Others thru Vocation

Video Clip by The Skit Guys – Rich Young Ruler

Bible Text: Colossians 3:12-17

Lesson Focus: God calls us to mercy and serve others in all we do.

Big Question: I don't know what I want to do when I'm an adult, so how can I have a vocation now?

Key Words: VOCATION, AVOCATION, CALL

Snack & drink plus staying the

hour: Behrens family

2/23/2022 6-7 p.m. – Theology of the Cross/Theology of Glory Video Clip by The Skit Guys – Sheep & Goats

Bible Text: 1 Corinthians 2:1-13

Lesson Focus: God overturns human expectations.

Big Question: What's so great about the cross?

Key Words: THEOLOGY, THEOLOGY OF GLORY,

Installation of New Council Members -During Worship January 23, 2022. Kristi Dorn, Neal Meints, and Cindy Parde were installed as new members of council along with current members: Gary Wiese, Pam Trauernicht, Brenda Gronewold, Alan Folkerts, VeAnn Jurgens, and Paul Remmers. We ask God to Bless their ministry in our congregation. **Please Thank** our departing council members Linda Blackwell, Tracy Lidolph, and Eric Parde for their service on Council.

New Council Officers

Gary Wiese, President
Pam Trauernicht, Vice Chairman
Brenda Gronewold, Secretary
Christy Dorn, Treasurer

Zion Lutheran Church Council Minutes January 5, 2022

Meeting was called to order by President Linda Blackwell

Members present: Linda Blackwell, Brenda Gronewold, Alan Folkerts, VeAnn Jurgens, Tracy Lidolph, Eric Parde, Paul Remmers, Pam Trauernicht & Gary Wiese

Pastor Jer shared: Regroup – New Year.... New Beginning?

Motion made and seconded to accept minutes from the 12/08/2021 meeting.
Motion made and seconded to accept meeting agenda for 1/05/2022 meeting.

Upcoming Weddings:

- 05/07/2022 - Caylee Lueders & Connor Mason
- 06/11/2022 - Jayde Carstens & Jared Marsh
- 06/18/2022 - Dillon Buss & Cari Lineweber
- 07/09/2022 - Nicole Busboom & Nathan Bartels

Upcoming Baptisms:

- 1/9/2022 Della Elizabeth Dorn daughter of Tandon & Kayla Dorn
- 1/30/2022 Micah Lee Jensen son of Josh & Brooke Jensen
- 1/23/2022 Mavis Jo Dorn daughter of Devin & Camille Dorn
- 2/13/2022 Eloise Ann Blecha daughter of Tim & Angie Blecha
- 4/10/22 Finn O'Brien Sturek son of Kelly & Brittany Sturek

Homestead Cluster Bishop Nominating Meeting

St. John's Lutheran Church February 5, 2022

Celebrating God's Work in Progress – Old Business

- Bookkeeping position update – Continuing discussing opportunity with some individuals. Hope to secure before annual meeting.
- Annual meeting agenda items.
 - New well for church grounds - Parsonage? Continued maintenance needed to maintain quality water.
 - Addition of garage/storage area south of parsonage? Update/improve for larger vehicles & church storage for snow blowers, lawn mower, etc.

- Remaining money in Parish Hall Remodel fund: \$6206.76; Use for Parish Hall Bathrooms? Upstairs flooring?
- Elevator repair – inspection of the elevator revealed that it seems to be working at this time.
- Committee duties list– guideline for each committee to follow including committee list members, duty list, contacts, etc.
 - allow for smooth transition of changing committee members
 - Update/review job descriptions and duties of Zion’s staff.

Discerning God’s Will – New Business

- Recycling shed was damaged in the recent wind storm, with very little salvageable. We would need to replace rather than.
- Doesn’t seem to be cost efficient to replace at this time.
- Time and Talent sheets. Will distribute new Time & Talent Sheets and recreate list of volunteers.
- Chair in the church office needs to be replaced. We will look into this and locate options.

Ministry Team Report as of 1/05/2022

- Financial-General Fund-
Balance on hand 12/01/2021 \$80162.45
- Income- \$30,634.89 Expenses- \$17,811.57
- Balance on hand- 12/31/2021-- \$92,985.77
- Sinking Fund - \$139,008.99
- Seminary Fund - \$30,734.59
- Thrivent Mutual Funds - \$2,640.03
- Immanuel Vision Grand \$4609.01
- Open Savings - \$12604.70
- Memorial Balance - \$10,728.57

Motion was made to approve the Financial and Ministry Team reports.

Next council meeting will be Wednesday, February 9, 2022

Devotions – 7:00
Committees – 7:05
Council – 7:30

We closed with the Lord’s Prayer

Respectfully submitted, *Brenda Gronewold*, Secretary

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Worship Committee: Did not meet.

Parrish Education: Members present: Jess Ideus, Heather Hippen, Kate Meints, Lindey Gronewold, Laura Ideus

Old Business: Order Winter Curriculum

Preparation for Christmas Eve Program

Sunday School Teacher Gifts

New Business: New members for upcoming term

Curriculum for next Spring

Need to have more volunteers for Substitute Sunday School Teachers.

Youth Committee: Carrie Reed, Brenda Gronewold, Council Rep.

New Business: Boundless God Beyond Measure 2022 Youth Gathering, July 23rd to July 29th. Cost \$390 + (hotel 50/night) + travel expense = approx. \$700/student.

Check on \$100/person from LYO, 5th Sunday January offering/Temple talk.

Park Board: Did not meet.

Property & Management: Doug Parde, Tracy Lidolph & Paul Remmers, Council Rep.

Old Business: Parsonage basement wall, done.

Parrish Hall basement was, done.

Light bulb N side upstairs, done.

New Business: North stair glass window upstairs North side

Coal doors leak water, fellowship doors.

Outside cross lights.

Memorial Committee: Did not meet.

Endowment Committee: Members present: Amy Wallman, Kelly Lenners, Stan Lenners, Eric Parde, Council Rep.

Treasurer reported a balance of \$154,187.18.

New Business: New carpet for future project in church

Table conversation on Stain Glass Windows in future (3 years)

Replacements for members – Amy Wallman, John Busboom.

Ask members to replace these 2 terms.

Hospitality Task Force: Did not meet.

Publicity: Did not meet.

Willie and Anna Meints Youth Endowment Fund.

Committee members: Doreen Wallman, Steve Oltman, DeAnn Oltman, Terry Gronewold (Council representative) Balance as of **Dec.28, 2021 – \$373,367.22.**
Preston Meints (Edward D. Jones @ Friend, NE.)

Zion Lutheran Church ANNUAL MEETING 1/16/22

Meeting was called to order by President Linda Blackwell
A quorum of 70 members were present to vote.

Minutes from the 2021 Semi-Annual meeting were read by secretary, Brenda Gronewold.
General Treasurer's report was given by treasurer, Pam Trauernicht. Motion was made and seconded to accept minutes and financial reports.

Committee reports were given. Motion made and seconded to accept committee reports. Motion carried.

Ballots were presented. Names for church council were Kristi Dorn, Neil Meints and Cindy Parde. Jordan Freeman was nominated on the ballot or Auditing committee. Pastor and Karen Gilbreath, and Alnora Daubendiek were added to the ballot for Synod Assembly Delegates. Todd Bohlmeier, Paul Busboom were added to the ballot for Nominating Committee.

Election was held and ballots collected.

Celebrating God's Work in Progress – Old Business:

- Linda Blackwell gave an update for the secretary/bookkeeping position(s)
 - Britan Meints has been hired for the secretary position and has received some training.
 - Riley Frerichs has accepted the bookkeeping position, and will begin those duties in the near future.
- Property and Management update by Council Representative, Tracy Lidolph -
 - Stained glass windows estimates/update. These will need to be repaired in the near future to prevent permanent damage. Can be repaired onsite with limited disruption to church activities.

Discerning God's Will – New Business:

- 2022 Budget was presented and previewed. Motion made and seconded. Motion carried to accept the 2022 budget as presented.
- New/additional well for the church. Continued problems with the quality of water on site. Discussed a new well for parsonage, ball park, church, or combination of options. Discuss potential locations, cost, necessary features, etc. Ballots were distributed and a congregational vote to pursuing a new well for Zion Lutheran Church passed.
- Garage/Building South of Parsonage – Original garage was built in 1946. Discuss option to build stand-alone unit south of parsonage, or attached unit replacing current garage. Currently looking at 30*40 unit that would serve as a garage and storage area for church items like lawnmower, snow blower, etc. After discussion an agreement was reached to table the decision, but to move forward researching needs and options available (unattached with breezeway, unattached without breezeway, attached to current parsonage, flooring, placement, etc.) to meet those needs.
- Update of Parish Hall Bathrooms. Linda Blackwell presented a proposal to update both bathrooms in the lower level of the Parish Hall. Mostly cosmetic updates that would update bathrooms to match other décor. This would be paid in part with the remaining funds in the Parish Hall Remodeling account. A motion was made and seconded. Motion passed.

- Parish Hall Flooring (upper level) Linda Blackwell presented the option to update the upstairs flooring in the Parish Hall. Since this tile contains asbestos, it was cleaned and waxed following the construction in the Parish Hall. Council was asked to consider other options for flooring that could update and help with acoustics. Removal of the tile would require special handling due to the asbestos. Options could include carpet, or carpet tiles, but either would complicate routine cleaning. After discussion, and ballot vote, it was decided to leave the upstairs flooring as is at this time.
- Election results –
 - Council members with terms ending in 2025 will be Kristi Dorn, Neil Meints and Cindy Parde.
 - Jordan Freeman will join the Auditing Committee.
 - Nominating committee will gain Todd Bohlmeyer.
 - Pastor and Karen Gilbreath, and Alnora Daubendiek will be representing Zion as Synod Assembly Delegates

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the 2022 Annual Meeting of Zion Lutheran Church. We closed with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted, *Brenda Grenewold*, Secretary

Annual Reorganization Meeting Feb. 9th - All Committees will meet and elect chairmen and officers. If you do elect them, one will be elected for you.

Schedule for 2022 Council Meetings

Wed Feb 9th	Wed Aug 3rd
Tues Mar 8th (Ash Wednesday)	Wed Sept 7th
Tues Apr 5th (Lint Service)	Wed Oct 5th
Wed May 4th	Wed Nov 9th
Wed June 8th	Wed Dec 7th
Jul - no meeting	

2021 Thrivent Action Grant Summary

Thanks to the 20+ members of Zion who wrote Thrivent Grants. This past year alone they added up to over \$10,000 for the year and contributed to over 15 non-profit local community donations, 4 specific families in need in our local community, 6 small group ministry projects, and 12 in house church projects such as VBS, Backpack Blessing Tags, Lutheran World Relief School Kits & Blankets. To those recipients, it mattered!

If you have a project idea for 2022 or are an eligible member interested in writing a grant each worth \$250 please contact a Thrivent Team member for more information.

Elnora Lenners Dorothy Trauernicht Denise Schlake-Ideus
 Mert Rademacher Doreen Remmers Connie Thornburg

***Phillipians 2:4 "And look out for one another's interests,
 not just for your own."***

DIRECT THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS NOW!

Visit Thrivent.com/thriventchoice or call 800-847-4836

In 2021, \$3,913.00 was designated for the Upstairs Parish Hall Renovation Project! Zion Projects have received over \$35,000.00 to date. Thanks to all who have designated these dollars to Zion!

Direct Choice Dollars Online

1. Visit thrivent.com/thriventchoice. 2. Click Direct Choice Dollars. 3. Log in by entering your User ID and password. (If you haven't yet registered on thrivent.com, click Register for account access.) 4. Choose the organization to which you want to direct Choice Dollars: a. To direct to a previous organization: • Click Direct Now next to the organization's name, or • Click on the View activity history link, scroll down and click on the name of the desired organization. b. To direct to a new organization, enter keyword(s) like organization name, ZIP code, cause, etc. Click Search. 5. Choose Direct All or enter a specific number and click Direct Now. Follow the prompts on the confirmation page to direct Choice Dollars.

Direct Choice Dollars by Phone

1. Call 800-847-4836 and when prompted, say Thrivent Choice. 2. Press 1 to direct Choice Dollars or 2 to hear Thrivent Choice Dollars program Terms and Conditions. (If prompted, say or enter your phone number and date of birth.) 3. A representative will work with you to direct Choice Dollars.

WORSHIP LEADERS SCHEDULE

February 6, 2022

Acolytes – Kalleigh Bender, Nicole Davison

Reader – Marcia Busboom

Breakfast Club Food – Cindy Jurgens

Special Music –

February 13, 2022

Acolytes – Garret Ideus, Hudson Fikar

Reader – Jerod Ideus

Breakfast Club Food – VeAnn Jurgens

Special Music – Kids of the Kingdom

February 20, 2022

Acolytes – Addison Kastanek, Nicole Davison

Reader – Doug Parde

Breakfast Club Food – Kenny Reed

Special Music – Quartet

February 27, 2022

Acolytes – Cooper Lovitt, Savannah Mahler

Reader – Connie Thornburg

Breakfast Club Food-Diane Oltman

Special Music- Amigos

January Altar Guild: Dorothy Trauernicht, Rose Gronewold, Cindy Jurgens, Carrie Reed, Janet Harms

January Table Troop Volunteers: John and Marcia Busboom, Doug or Rhonda Dorn, Gary Wiese, Duane and Janice Parde, LeAnn Johnson

Feb 7th Snow Brigade #2 – Eric Parde, Greg Robinson, David Meints, Duane Jurgens, Larry Johnson, Jordan Busboom, Hunter Blackwell, Keith Parde, Steve Oltman, Don Schuster

Feb 14th Snow Brigade #3 – Alan Folkerts, Kenny Newman, Alan Wiese, James Meints, Paul Jurgens, Gerald Ideus, Todd Bohlmeier, Brian Garton, Josh Gronewold, AJ Wiese

Feb 21st Snow Brigade #4 – Paul Remmers, James Lenners, Gary Gronewold, Stan Lenners, Billy Harms, Mark Buhr, Larry Gronewold, Dale Zimmerman, Luke Ideus, Justin Hippen

Feb 28th Snow Brigade #5 – Tracy Lidolph, Craig Ideus, Dean Zimmerman, Russ Wallman, Terry Gronewold, Dave Holland, Greg Dorn, Alex Buhr, Mike Busboom, Dan Jurgens

PASTORAL ACTS....

Baptisms:

- 1/9/2022 Della Elizabeth Dorn daughter of Tandon & Kayla Dorn
- 1/30/2022 Micah Lee Jensen son of Josh & Brooke Jensen
- 1/23/2022 Mavis Jo Dorn daughter of Devin & Camille Dorn

Marriages:

- 12/31/2021

Funerals:

- 1/18/2022 Angeline Oltman, age 95
 - 1/26/2022 Shirley G. Gronewold, age 81
-

- **Grace Circle** - will Meet February 9th at 1:30 pm

St. Monica's Donations Wanted – Substance Abuse treatment center in Lincoln is working on a Mother-Child Project. NEEDED: women's clothing new or used any sizes, and children's hangers. Any monetary donations will also be greatly appreciated as we will be building clothing racks and shelves for all of the clothes!

For more info contact Breanna Trauernicht. bretrauernicht@gmail.com

Thank you, Zion Cemetery Board, for the beautiful Flag and the gift certificate for 53 years as caretaker and board member of Zion Cemetery. Irvan Meints

* If you know someone who would like to be included in the Newsletter mailing in the future please contact us **OR** if you would no longer like to receive this mailing please contact Britan at (308)-730-0599 **OR** email at britanmeints@gmail.com **Text Message/Email Alert** - if anybody would like to be added to the church group text message/email alert please let the church know.

February Birthdays

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 Don Schusters
DeAnn Smith | 14 David Rademahcer | 22 Pastor Jerry Gilbreath
Shawn Meints |
| 2 John Busboom | 15 Zackary Hoffman
Crew Meints | 23 Graydon Day
Caroline Ideus |
| 3 Suzy Brown | Curtis Meints | Les Rademacher |
| 4 Irene Busboom
Anora Daubendiek
Michele Kolm
Calvin Remmers
Jeff Winkle | Dennis Remmers
Anthony Schoen | Pam Trauernicht |
| 7 Kelly Lenners | 17 Olivia Wollenburg | 24 Morgan Behrens
Judy Kujath
Caleb Oltman
Vivian Shuster |
| 8 Thees Busboom
Cindy Lieneman | 18 Layton Lieneman
Keith Parde | 25 Austin Gronewold
Brian VonSeggern |
| 9 Hailey Parde | 19 Elliot Mencl
Kim Thornburg | 26 Paul Remmers
Leona Trauernicht |
| 10 Darwin DeBuhr
Leon Jurgens
Kaitlyn Buss | 20 Chad Buhr
Danelle Lenners
Paul Nelson
Jacob Schuster
Braxton Trauernicht
Jamison Wallman | 27 Monica Busboom
Carrye Meints |
| 11 Brynn Sullivan
Jaime Sutte | 21 Marcia Busboom
Evan Buss
Alyssa Jurgens
Amy Parde | 28 Aubrey Wiese |
| 13 Chelsea Horstman
Brittanny Rademacher | | 29 Patti Behrens
Robert Harms
Dustin Trauernicht |

February Birthdays

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| 1 Don Schusters
DeAnn Smith | 14 David Rademahcer | 22 Pastor Jerry Gilbreath
Shawn Meints |
| 2 John Busboom | 15 Zackary Hoffman
Crew Meints | 23 Graydon Day
Caroline Ideus |
| 3 Suzy Brown | Curtis Meints | Les Rademacher |
| 4 Irene Busboom
Anora Daubendiek
Michele Kolm
Calvin Remmers
Jeff Winkle | Dennis Remmers
Anthony Schoen | Pam Trauernicht |
| 7 Kelly Lenner | 17 Olivia Wollenburg | 24 Morgan Behrens
Judy Kujath
Caleb Oltman
Vivian Shuster |
| 8 Thees Busboom
Cindy Lieneman | 18 Layton Lieneman
Keith Parde | 25 Austin Gronewold
Brian VonSeggern |
| 9 Hailey Parde | 19 Elliot Menci
Kim Thornburg | 26 Paul Remmers
Leona Trauernicht |
| 10 Darwin DeBuhr
Leon Jurgens
Kaitlyn Buss | 20 Chad Buhr
Danelle Lenner
Paul Nelson
Jacob Schuster
Braxton Trauernicht
Jamison Wallman | 27 Monica Busboom
Carrye Meints |
| 11 Brynn Sullivan
Jaime Sutte | 21 Marcia Busboom
Evan Buss
Alyssa Jurgens
Amy Parde | 28 Aubrey Wiese |
| 13 Chelsea Horstman
Brittanny Rademacher | | 29 Patti Behrens
Robert Harms
Dustin Trauernicht |