



# Zion Lutheran Monthly



July 2013

## The Budget Gospel

It may not be the most attention-grabbing headline, but please bear with me. On June 23<sup>rd</sup>, the members of Zion voted unanimously in favor of the budget recommended to them by the Church Council and Budget Committee. OK, so what's different about this budget than any other budget Zion has passed in its 116 year history? A couple of things, actually. A couple of things that I think are interesting enough to warrant a front-page newsletter article.

The total budget exceeds \$500,000. This is an important milestone. It's actually not a statement about growth (dying congregations can theoretically still bring in the bucks), but about increasing ministry! We believe the Lord would have us do more—and do more through us—this coming year than last year.

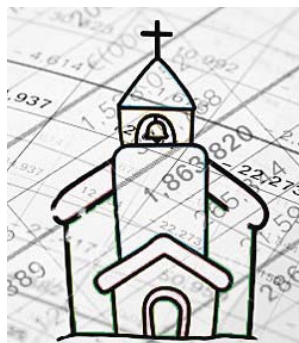
Also, the financial priorities that were outlined in the budget reflect the spiritual priorities of the congregation. A member of the congregation who has seen his fair share of "Budget Battles" and who has served in numerous leadership positions in the past, after the budget was approved, leaned over to me and said: "This is no longer 'our' church, it is God's church."

No longer content to let "what's in it for me?" dictate our ministry priorities, we are making decisions based on "what's in it for the Gospel of Jesus Christ?" This is a good place to be! "Is this to my personal liking?" is a silly criterion to have when seeking to grow in the faith of the one who, in the words of St. Paul, "became nothing, taking the very nature of a slave."

And we are no longer content to let "this is MY church" thinking dictate our ministry priorities. As people who have been given the Great Commission to make disciples of all nations, "will this share the Gospel of Jesus Christ?" has become our mindset.

Neither "inreach" or "outreach" oriented, but Gospel-centered and Christ-focused, we ask the Lord of the Church to continue to guide and bless what we believe he has purposed us to do.

All the best,  
In Christ,  
Pastor Duncan McLellan



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## The Zion Lions Softball Schedule:

- May 2nd @ 6:45
- May 7th @ 8:15 and 9:45  
(Double-Header!)
- May 15th @ 8:15
- May 21st @ 8:15
- May 30th @ 8:15
- June 5th @ 8:15
- June 13th @ 6:45
- June 18th @ 8:15
- June 26th @ 8:15
- July 10th @ 8:15
- July 17th @ 6:45
- July 23rd @ 6:45
- Aug. 1st @ 6:45

Come out and support the team!



# Church, Mission & Synod (CMS) & Plate Finances



## Voter's Meeting - Outcome

On June 23, 2012 the Voter's of Zion approved the 2013/2014 fiscal budget that included:



- Overall budget increased from last budget by 14%
- Average salary increases of 3% for church and school staff
- Support for Vicar ministry and outreach programs
- Support for youth ministry programs
- Increase in school tuition and number of students
- Additional teacher salary for a new class

We were pleased to present another break-even budget (\$515,860 expense equal \$515,860 revenue), but we were especially pleased to announce for the fiscal year that we had no carry-over expenses. We ended the year with a surplus of \$5,217. The surplus will be used to support the Vicar program. The Preschool continues to be self-funded. This year's financial picture was accomplished throughout the year with increased Church, Mission & Synod (CMS) giving, special gifts and strong expense controls.

Just a reminder, as we enter into summer vacations we tend to see giving decrease, so we encourage you to remember Zion while you are away on vacation, since our expenses don't go on vacation. Please continue to pray for Zion that we are able to end this new budget year with a positive cash flow.

Special thanks to the Budget Committee:  
Neil Ackerman - Chairman, Kim Luedeman, Dick Wible, Dwight Weldon, Mike Sterba and Pastor.

Chairman  
Bob Schmidt

### Let's Honor The Lord With Our Giving

*"Remember this, whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly.  
And whoever sows generously will also reap generously."*

2 Corinthians 9:6



## *Meals on Wheels of Peters Township is Starting Service in Bridgeville!*

With the closure of the Bridgeville Meals on Wheels kitchen in Bridgeville, some seniors are getting meals from the Carnegie kitchen, but many clients are no longer receiving service. Meals on Wheels of Peters Township is expanding meal service to the Bridgeville area starting June 17. We are ready to accept clients now and are also urgently seeking drivers. Meals will be picked up at our kitchen at 245 E. McMurray Road, above the Peters Township Fire Department.



We offer a week (Monday-Friday) of hot regular or diabetic meals for senior citizens, consisting of soup, entrée (meat, vegetable, and starch), salad, dessert, and milk for a cost of \$15/week. If you include a second meal with a sandwich, juice, and a cookie every day, the cost is \$18/week. We add no salt to our food and can accommodate some other special needs as well. The only requirement for service is that the client have trouble shopping or cooking.

Our organization has been delivering meals in the Peters, Canonsburg, and Finleyville areas for 39 years. We are currently delivering about 160 meals a day. We make much of our food from scratch and strive to serve a healthy, attractive meal. Meals are delivered between 11:00 and 1:00 every weekday, including all holidays.

Check our website at [www.mowpt.org](http://www.mowpt.org) for menus and other information. Call us at 724-969-1000 for information or to sign up. Please share this information with anyone who needs help with meals and call us to volunteer to drive once a week!

- 1 Lawson Luedeman
- 2 Shelley Killinger
- 3 Karen Bauer
- 3 Joann Brookfield
- 3 Corey Larson
- 5 Timothy Albert
- 7 Eric Rose
- 8 Roxanne Burgh
- 8 Valarie Derosa
- 8 Megan Hartman
- 8 Richard Trudel
- 9 Neil Ackerman
- 9 Florence Boehme
- 10 Anthony Vallelunga
- 11 Susan Dragan
- 11 Clara Hayes
- 11 Dione Vallelunga
- 12 Mamie Papeaka
- 14 John Oelschlager
- 15 Brad Boyle



- 15 Robert Liberatore
- 16 Timothy Albert
- 16 Tommy Gielarowski
- 18 Amanda Gardner
- 18 Emily Trentini
- 19 Lindsay Kovach
- 20 Paul Hayes
- 20 Tim Wood
- 23 Lara Luedeman
- 24 Doris Oelschlager
- 26 Ella Hunsberger
- 26 Kristen LaJeunesse
- 30 Eric Hunsberger



- |    |                                |      |
|----|--------------------------------|------|
| 7  | Vince & Ginny Kimberland       | 1995 |
| 16 | Tom & Shirley Bicusky          | 1999 |
| 16 | Norman & Helen Erbrecht        | 1949 |
| 17 | John & Katie Gielarowski       | 1993 |
| 20 | The Rev. Donald & Diane Matzat | 1963 |
| 26 | Paul & Nancy Klemash           | 1980 |

# Stephen Ministry Corner

God has opened some big, heavy door for Zion's Stephen Ministers. And what we have found behind those doors is a mission and ministry field so large we can scarcely begin to scratch the surface of meeting its needs.

Concordia of the South Hills has given us the green light to meet with some of their residents. Some of the residents we have met with are in the "memory unit," and are suffering from different levels of dementia. Others are in hospice care. One is a retired LCMS Pastor. Being able to bring Christ-centered care, prayer and His Word to these special people is a privilege and a blessing for our Stephen Ministers. Being used by God to share his love to people experiencing the ravages of age blesses the Stephen Minister as much (if not more than) the person receiving care.

Please keep your Stephen Ministers in your prayers.

If you would like to know more about how you can become a Stephen Minister, please contact the Church Office or Pastor Duncan.

If you would be interested in receiving care and having a Christian brother or sister walk with you through the difficult times you find yourself in, please contact Pastor Duncan.



Thank you all so very much for the wonderful celebration you had for my 25th anniversary. I couldn't have imagined how accepting the chance to play for a "few" weddings in the summer of 1987 would change my life! I feel that my entire adult life has been entwined with Zion. I have always felt so welcomed by this congregation and supported in my learning of Lutheran liturgy. I appreciate the many

friendships that I have here and especially want to thank this wonderful choir. I hope we continue to make beautiful music to the Lord for many years to come!

Gratefully,  
Paula

# Service Participants

## JULY

DATE	TIME	GREETERS	ACOLYTES
July 7	9:00 AM	Bob & Bernice DeBoe	Mitch Fitzgerald
July 14	9:00 AM	Brian & Megan Pasquini & family	Grant Geregach
July 21	9:00 AM	Bill & Carole Schrag	Sydney Harris
July 28	9:00 AM	Bob & Diane Schmidt	Jennifer Fitzgerald
August 4	9:00 AM	Jay & Kim Anderson	Ryan Harris
August 11	9:00 AM	Wayne & Barb Oechslein	Josiah Ackerman

<b>ELDERS</b>	Paul Klemash, Jay Anderson
<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>	Clara Hayes, Mary Hutula, Penny Miller
<b>USHERS @ 9:00 am</b>	Steve Gauer, Joe Gielarowski, Loren Ludeman, Jim Oelschalger

## AUGUST

<b>ELDERS</b>	Frank Vallelunga, David Hutula
<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>	Volunteers
<b>USHERS @ 9:00 am</b>	Susan Dragan, Rachel Klemash, Lois Sauro, Andy Weldon

If you are unable to participate on the assigned date, please find your own substitute and notify the church office (412) 221-4776 or secretary@zlc.org of the change.

### *Help For Baby Wyatt!*

Baby Wyatt William Wansor, born on April 11, 2013 to Erin Everett, is now more than 2 months old. He was born as an exit procedure almost a month early. Prior to this, on November 30, 2012 before Wyatt's birth he was diagnosed with a genetic disorder called a lymphatic malformation. This has prevented Wyatt from sucking, swallowing, and blocking his airways. Wyatt has been in Children's Hospital since birth.

At Children's hospital in Pittsburgh Wyatt has undergone sclerotherapy and his first debulking surgery of many he may need. He has now recently been moved to the Children's Home in Pittsburgh for a more comfortable stay until the next surgery on July 12th 2013.

We are having a spaghetti dinner on June 30th, 2013 from 12-5 at the Jefferson Firehall to help benefit Wyatt and his family with medical expenses or any special care he may need. Many of you may not be able to attend the spaghetti dinner but still would want to donate to this amazing baby. Please help us show Wyatt and his family the support that surrounds them by donating. Any amount will help and be greatly appreciated!

If you have any further questions about the spaghetti dinner or anything at all, please visit Wyatt's website at <http://www.gofundme.com/2zgi7w> for more information.



# Zion Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Zion women who attended the Pittsburgh LWML Convention are fired up by the Holy Spirit and "Quenched (or renewed) by the Water" of our baptism, the theme of the convention. As a result, these women of Zion want to form an LWML group.

**All women, all ages are invited to join!**

The purpose of LWML is to inspire and equip women to share their faith in Jesus Christ, their loving Savior, with people of their communities and the world. Zion's group will focus on these goals at monthly meetings through prayer, Bible study and devotional materials and service projects.

Our first LWML sponsored project is to supply the new vicar and family with basic household supplies. We are having a Pantry Shower. Items are listed in the narthex with a reminder tab to rip off and take home.

*Items may be placed in a box in the narthex until July 7.*

As a Zion LWML we can easily and naturally share the Good News of Jesus' great love in our everyday living by:

- ~ recognizing there are many opportunities every day to be God's witnesses.
- ~ understanding that everyone is unique and loved by God and He wants us to reach out to them!
- ~ offering service projects for our congregation and our community.

Be watching for more information about Zion LWML.

**Zion Women are Forming a Lutheran Women's Missionary League Group. Our First LWML Project is a Pantry Shower.**



## SANCTUARY UPGRADE MEETINGS:

The Sanctuary Flooring Committee presented its proposal to the Zion Lutheran Church Council at its regular meeting held on June 13, 2013. The Council determined that they would like to obtain feedback from the congregation regarding this comprehensive project to address the need to replace the worn carpet in the sanctuary as well as other related sanctuary upgrades.

On Sunday June 30<sup>th</sup>, informational packets will be distributed between services at the beginning of Bible Study. In addition to details of the proposal, the informational packet will include a brief survey to be returned after review of the proposal. Responses will not be requested on the 30<sup>th</sup>, rather the packet is being provided in advance of several scheduled communication meetings where questions about the proposal will be answered by members of the Committee. Each of these sessions will be no longer than one hour in length and are scheduled as follows.

- 1st Session: Sunday July 7th at 10 am (at the conclusion of the 9 am service)
- 2nd Session: Thursday July 11th at 6:30 pm
- 3rd Session: Sunday July 14th at 10 am (at the conclusion of the 9 am service)

The Committee encourages members to be involved in the process by obtaining the informational packet, attending one of the three communication meetings and returning the completed survey by the end of Bible Study on July 21<sup>st</sup>. We anticipate a Special Voters' Meeting will be called in early August to vote on the final design proposal.



# Zion Lutheran Church

3197 Washington Pike



Visit [ZLCB.ORG](http://ZLCB.ORG)

For updated information throughout the month.

The Rev. Duncan McLellan

# Youth News

There will be a C.A.L.M. meeting on July 21st after Bible Class to go over the last minute items for the trip! Make sure to mark your calendars!



## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### FOOD BANK

Collection for this month's Bridgeville Area Food Bank is **Sunday July 14**. The "item of the month" is Fruit Juices and Drinks. You are also welcome to help at the Food Bank every third Saturday of the month between 7:45 and 12:00 at Bethany Presbyterian Church.

Zion's Vacation Bible school children will be collecting monies in order to bring God's Word to children in India. This year, we are asking Zion's congregation to help out, too! Beginning June 9th, there will be a collection jug for loose change donations. Monies collected will be used towards "God's Word for You" Bible books written in the Hindi language.

### OPERATION KID-to-KID

### VBS

It's not too late to register! Our VBS goes from 9 am to noon from July 8-12. We are excited to see how God uses this ministry to bring people closer to him in Christ!

Please continue to pray for Zion--that we would remain faithful to the scriptures and the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, especially in these increasingly evil days. Also, keep our vicar, David, and his wife, Jenna, and their daughter, Leah, in your prayers as they make the move to Bridgeville. Lastly, please pray for our home-bound members, that the God of all peace would give them comfort and strength to endure and enjoy their last days and years.

### PRAYERS