

ZIONEWS
December, 2022



December, 2022

Zion Lutheran Church
401 Riverview Ave.
Glendive, MT 59330

Zion's Mission Statement:

*As a body of believers, created by God,
redeemed by Christ, empowered by the Spirit,
we are called to bear witness*

*ZIONEWS is published monthly by:
Zion Lutheran Church
401 Riverview Ave.
Glendive, Mt. 59330*

*www.zionlutheran.us
(Live stream Sunday 10 a.m.)
406-377-3369*

Check us out on Facebook

*Pastor Brenda Frelsi
pastorbrendaf@yahoo.com
307-258-6149*

Phone Directory:

406-377-3369 or 1-800-607-5131

Ext. 1 - Office Administrator

Ext. 2—Pastor

Ext. 3—Youth & Family Ministry

Ext. 4—Furniture Room

Ext. 5—Loaves & Fishes and Salva-
tion Army

Church Hours:

**Monday-Thursday 9am-12pm,
1pm-3pm
Friday 9am—12pm**

2022 Zion Council Members:

President—Kevin Miller

Vice President—Gail Ring

Treasurer—Steve Merrill

Secretary—

Brian Cullinan

Don Zimmerman

Norm Unterseher

Adele Idso

Nancy Korb

Pastor Brenda Frelsi

Bill Hanley

Rita Frank

Kristie Stanhope

Vern Deaton

PASTOR'S PAGE



As I write this, it is becoming real to me that December will be our last month together. With that in mind, I hope we can make it a wonderful Advent and Christmas season!

Our children will be assisting us this year as we prepare our hearts for Christmas by introducing the theme for each of the candles we light. There will be a short skit, then a litany for the congregation. The children will then lead us as we sing "Away In A Manger," helping us to keep looking forward to the day we celebrate Jesus' birth.

Our Choir will also help us prepare for Christmas. The Choir Cantata will be Dec. 11. This is always a special Sunday in Advent, and I hope for many of us to be there to be led by them in song.

Christmas Eve will feature 2 worship services. The first will be at 5 pm and will be designed for children and families. The second will be at 7 pm and will be our Candlelight service. Of course, there is no requirement to attend either service – both are open to anyone who wishes to worship at that time.

We will meet at 9 am on Saturday, Dec. 3 to decorate the sanctuary. This is always a lot of fun, and open to all ages. Somehow, treats always arrive at the same time, so come to help decorate and to enjoy Christmas snacks.

It is still hard to imagine that this will be our last month together. I sometimes wonder at the wisdom of the Holy Spirit, when she stirs our hearts to move in a direction that we never imagined. At the same time, I also know that the Holy Spirit has not let me down in the past, so I can't imagine why it would do so now. I also know that Zion will be OK as you prepare for a new pastor. Zion has been in Glendive for over 100 years, caring for its members and for the community. I pray that Zion will still be here 100 years from now still nurturing the faith of its members and reaching out to the community. I know I was fortunate to be here for the 3+ years that I was your pastor. We endured Covid, worked together to worship and to serve others, and had a lot of fun doing God's work in Glendive. The strength of any congregation is its members, and Zion has members that are committed to growing in faith and in caring for its neighbors. That will keep you going as you work together to prepare for the next pastor and as you receive this new pastor and grow to love them.

My goal has never been to be the best pastor you have ever had. Instead, it has been to be the best pastor you need at this particular time. I believe my energy was just the kind of energy Zion needed and my laughter helped us as we endured social distancing. In the same way, your next pastor will be just who you need for the time that they are here. I hope you love them just as much (maybe even more!) than you have loved me. I pray you are open to learning from them, working with them and exposing them to the uniqueness of Glendive and its people.

Please pray for me as I enter the unknown territory of the call as the Associate to the Bishop. I know that I will constantly pray for you as you work through the interim time between now and when your next pastor arrives!

I write to you as Paul wrote to the people of Ephesus, "I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ." Ephesians 1:3-6

Blessings to you!

Pastor Brenda

Worship



Advent Themes: We will begin each worship service with the lighting of our Advent Candles, helping us count our way till Christmas. Our Sunday School children will help us focus on the people (and angels) of Jesus' day who were involved in the birth of Jesus. This year's themes will be:

Advent 2 – Dec. 4 – Bethlehem Candle

Advent 3 – Dec. 11 – Shepherd's Candle

Advent 4 – Dec. 18 – Angel's Candle

Christmas Eve Services will once again be at 5 and 7 pm. The early service will be geared for our young people and the 7 pm service will be our candlelight service. Christmas Carols will play a large role in each service, and both will contain the Christmas story from the Gospel of Luke. Of course, you are welcome to attend either service, no matter what your age happens to be!

Christmas morning worship will be at 10 am. During this service, we will continue our celebration by singing carols and reading of God's promises fulfilled in the birth of Jesus.

Announcements & Thank You's

KUDOS TO ZION KIDS

Corbin Gabbert was recently selected by audition for the all-state choir that gathered in Bozeman to practice and perform October 19th. The choir was directed by Dr Anton Armstrong of St. Olaf College In Minnesota.

Jaylin Silha and Mallory Robinson are part of the DCHS Volleyball Team that heads to Divisionals in Sidney on November 2-4.

Thanks to Rita Hanley for being willing to work with the Ranger Review to add our events to their announcement page.

Thank you Women of the Chancel Guild for always making sure our sanctuary is prepared for our worship services. Fall is the time when the colors of our banners and paraments change often and you are always willing to make sure everything is correct.

A letter from Allen Hansen LPA/FIC Board Member:

As a member of the Freedom in Christ Prison Ministry Board, I wish to express my personal gratitude for the continuing contributions Zion Lutheran and the Women of the ELCA have made to keep this important ministry viable.

Since the onset of Covid, FIC has been challenged to maintain contact with inmates. Pastor Rob has been regularly called when inmates request counseling, experience bereavement, or are dying and pass. But regular worship, Bible study, and volunteer visitations are negatively impacted and oftentimes cancelled on short notice due to staff shortages and restrictive Montana State Prison policies. Pastor Rob works in an almost constantly tense environment.



Pastor Pot Luck:

December 11th after Worship we will be having a potluck. Please join us to say goodbye and good luck to Pastor Brenda.



Youth sales-

The youth will be selling t-shirts and sweatshirts with the Zion Lutheran name on them. All sales will be final as of December 4th. There are three colors to choose from grey, marine green, and navy. Price is determined by what style you would prefer. There are order blanks in the coffee area of the church. All sales must be prepaid. Delivery will be around the 18th of December.

Our church is an important part of the community and we want people to recognize who we are. For every sale a dollar will be donated to the cancer society. If you see a youth ask them about this, or put your name on the list, and the third option is to stop before or after church to help in this outreach program.

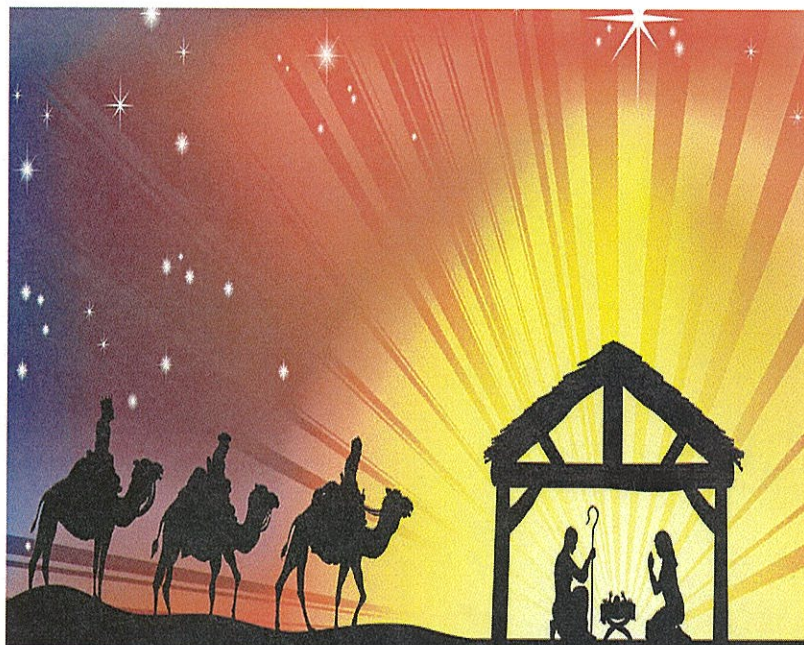
Thank You!

Youth and education committee.

Family Night – Beginning in December, we will hold our Family Nights on the third Wednesday of the month so that our youth are free to attend Glendive's Common Ground, which is on the first Wednesday of each month. In December, we will meet at the church for dinner at 6 pm, then board a hay wagon to go Christmas Caroling. We will return to the church for dessert and hot chocolate. Be sure to dress warm! Friends are welcome.

Corner Store – If you are looking for stocking stuffers, be sure to check out the corner store in the church narthex. Profits help our youth with trips and retreats.





Happy 50th Anniversary to Jim & Gladys (Trangmoe) Spalding who were married at Zion. A donation to the Church for their anniversary was given by Lilla Flesjer & Thomas Trangmoe.

Memorials for November

In memory of Gordon Kolberg

From Marie Meland For Loaves & Fishes

From Gert Kolberg & Family for Loaves & Fishes & Salvation

Army

From Avis Anderson for the Memorial Fund

In memory of Ruth Idso

From Marie Meland for Loaves & Fishes

From Avis Anderson for the Memorial Fund

From Georgia Norderud for Loaves & Fishes

October Financial Report

	<u>Oct 22</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Tithes/Offerings	#####
Total Income	#####
Expense	
Benevolence - fundraiser disbur	4,350.00
Insurance Expense	
General Liability Insurance	949.08
Health Insurance	<u>1,347.02</u>
Total Insurance Expense	2,296.10
Landscaping Expenses	160.00
MDU	517.32
Ministry Expenses	464.22
Miscellaneous Expense	78.60
Office Equipment	346.18
Pastors Housing	133.33
Payroll Expenses	6,992.03
Pension	709.21
Postage and Delivery	120.00
Pulpit Supply	200.00
Telephone/Internet Expense	100.80
Water	<u>316.08</u>
Total Expense	#####
Net Ordinary Income	#####
Net Income	#####



STATEMENT

check-
ing

8/31/2

022

47,695.47

sav-

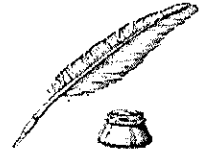
ings

8/31/2

022

108,039.10

THE MINUTES



Zion Lutheran Council Minute
November 9, 2022
7:00 p.m.
Fellowship Room

MISSION STATEMENT: As a body of believers, created by God, redeemed by Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit, we are called to bear witness to God's love..

IN ATTENDANCE: Nancy Korb, Rita Frank, Gail Ring, Bill Hanley, Don Zimmerman, Kristie Stanhope, Norm Unterseher, Kevin Miller, Pastor Brenda Frelsi, Steve Merrill, and Adele Idso

Call to Order: President Kevin M. Called the meeting to order.

Devotions: Pastor Frelsi conducted the devotions.

Secretary's Report: Steve moved, seconded by Rita to approve the minutes of October 12, 2022. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Steve presented the financial report as of October 22. Bill H. moved, seconded by Don Z. to approve the report.

Pastor's Report: The second family night was well-received, and better attended. The next one is "Breakfast for Dinner". Pastor preached at the Methodist Church, as well as at Zion, on Reformation Sunday. She is hoping to secure new LPA's. Advent begins on November 27. The children will have a part in the candle lighting, in place of the Children's sermon. There will be two Christmas Eve Services this year, plus a 10:00 a.m. one on Christmas Day. Pastor will be Traveling to see Sarah and the new baby Dec. 12-17. She may cancel worship on Dec. 15, or have someone read her sermon for the 18th. Decorating for Advent is Saturday, Dec. 3, at 10:00 a.m. Ministry actions: Funeral for Gary Schlenz. GMC worship participants may have more that aren't Lutheran. A letter of resignation from Pastor was distributed. Pastor's last day at Zion will be December 25, as she has accepted the call from the Montana Synod to be the Associate to the Bishop, as of January 1, 2023.

Communications: A letter was read from NRIT, which provides continuing education classes for pastors and lay people. They request that this service be included in our annual budget. No action taken. Oakland Insurance provides "Church Mutual" insurance, which will cost \$139/ month. There are no other options available for our church.

Committee Reports:

Property & Management (Vern, Steve M., Bill M. Don Z.) A leaf sweeper has been purchased. The boiler has not been checked yet.

Evangelism & Stewardship (Penny Z., Rita H., Kristie S., Kevin) No report

Social Ministry (Rita F., Brian C., Adele) No report

Youth & Education (Nancy K., Bill H., Norm U., Danielle W.) The youth will be selling t-shirts and sweatshirts. There have been two Family Nights. They are reviewing their goals.

Worship (Norm, Gail) Decorating for Advent will take place on Saturday, Dec. 3 at 10:00 a.m.

Old Business: Work continues to replace openings on the council. An executive committee consisting of Kevin, Steve M., Gail, and Adele will be devising the 2023 Budget. Steve M. moved, seconded by Norm to accept the "Church Mutual" proposal, and to complete payments monthly. A thank you to Avis Anderson was signed, for her funding the Prayer Garden clean-up, and for the lights for the bushes. Since the Pastor will be leaving, Norm recommended there be an audit. Don Z., Don Idso, and Deb Schwartz did the last "Internal audit".

New Business: Temple talk for November will be shared by Steve M. and Nancy Korb. A letter of resignation from Vicki Ulrich, Church Secretary, was distributed. Her last day will be Dec. 27th. Steve moved, seconded by Rita to accept her resignation. The motion passed. Discussion was held on a job description, for the secretary, and for Steve M., treasurer, to have the checkbook that has been kept in the church office. Also, the topic of having two credit cards was discussed.

Discussion, in the absence of Pastor Frelsi, was entertained to allow her to have the laptop purchased by Zion, to allow her to store her belongings in the parsonage until as she is able to come and get them. Zion will pay the utilities for

the parsonage. Steve moved to pay her benefits to January 1, so there will not be a gap in coverage. The motion passed. The next meeting will be at **6:00 p.m.** on December 14, in order to have a zoom meeting with the Bishop.

The meeting was Adjourned with the Lord's Prayer and Zion's Mission Statement.

DEC 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				01	02	03
				6:30 Men's Bible Study 1:30 Deborah Circle 6 Worship	2:30 Makoshika Wellness	9 Christmas Decorating 10-2 Furniture Room- Barb
04	05	06	07	08	09	10
10 Worship Sunday School Scouts	9 Quilters 5 Loaves & Fishes-Nancy S. & Don		8:30 Zoom Bible Study 10 Circle of Prayer 4 Confirmation	6:30 Men's Bible Study 6 Worship	2:30 Makoshika Wellness	10-2 Furniture Room- Avis
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
10 Worship Cantata Sunday School 11 Potluck 2 GMC Worship Scouts	9 Quilters 5 Loaves & Fishes-Dan & Sharon	1:30 Memorial Committee Meeting	8:30 Zoom B.S. 10 Circle of Prayer 2 Chancel Guild 6 Youth & Ed. Mt. 4 Confirmation 7 Council Meeting	6:30 Men's Bible Study 9:15 Grandview 6 Worship	1:30 Sarah Circle 2:30 Makoshika Wellness	10-2 Furniture Room- Sharon/Karen S.
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
10 Worship Sunday School Scouts	9 Quilters 5 Loaves & Fishes-Dave & George		8:30 Zoom Bible Study 10 Circle of Prayer 4 Confirmation 7 Family Night	6:30 Men's Bible Study Zionews Deadline 6 Worship	2:30 Makoshika Wellness	Merry Christmas! 5 Worship 7 Worship 10-2 Furniture Room- Closed
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Merry Christmas! 10 Worship	9 Quilters 5 Loaves & Fishes-Jo & Brian		8:30 Zoom Bible Study 10 Circle of Prayer 4 Confirmation	6:30 Men's Bible Study Zionews Folding 6 Worship	2:30 Makoshika Wellness	Happy New Year! 10-2 Furniture Room- Closed

WORSHIP LEADERS

December, 2022*****

Reader: Steve & Debbi Kaul

Usher: Paul Shearer & Kent Wangsness

Deacon and Sound

December 4	Deacon: Dave Svenvold, Danielle Wold & Easton Wold Sound: Steve Merrill
December 11	Deacon: Steve Kaul, Norman Unterseher & Wyatt Sager Sound: Bill Miller
December 18	Deacon: Bill Hanley, Kyle Voss & Paul Shearer Sound: Sheila Kennedy
December 24	Deacon: Steve Merrill, Tracy Gabbert & Cindy Gabbert Sound: Bill Miller
December 25	Deacon: Norman Unterseher Sound: Paul Shearer

Deacons/Sound Systems Persons- Please find your own subs then let the office know for bulletin listings (377-3369).

Deacons-Tracy & Cindy Gabbert 939-4222, Angie & Tyler Silha 377-7242, Steve Merrill 365-6722, Paul Shearer 939-2872, Dave Svenvold 377-4075, Kyle Voss 687-3040, Bill Hanley 941-2958, Wyatt Sager (Youth contact Christina) 365-7004, Norm Unterseher 377-5376, Danielle Wold 687-1572/701-770-3518, Easton Wold (Youth) 687-1572. Steve Kaul 941-0503,

Sound System: Bill Miller 377-4752, Sheila Kennedy 365-8738, Gary Lundman 377-5962, Steve Merrill 365-6722, Paul Shearer 377-2117