



The Voice of Zion

January 1, 2019

A MEMBER CHURCH OF LUTHERAN
CONGREGATIONS
IN MISSION FOR CHRIST (LCMC)

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*Our Mission: We unite to bear witness to
and receive God's love through Jesus Christ,
by worship, fellowship, education, and
service*

Office Hours: Tuesday thru Friday 9:00 am -2:00 pm

Sunday School for All Ages: Sunday 8:45 – 9:30 am

Sunday Fellowship at 9:30 am

Sunday Worship at 10:00 am

Tuesday: Ladies Community Bible Study: 7:00 pm

MOPS: 2nd Tuesday of each month: 6:45 pm

Quilters: Each Wed. at 1:00 pm



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

January 2, 2019

Dear Members and Friends:

What a wonderful time of year. If you were able to enjoy our Christmas Eve service you have a fresh understanding of our Savior, Jesus Christ. What a blessing to worship here.

As we close out 2018 we look forward to a new and refreshing 2019. But, please let's not forget that January not only begins a new year but it is a time to remember our founding. Zion Lutheran Church was organized on January 29, 1852. This will mark our 167th birthday. What a wonderful history we have of serving God and our fellow man.

Please don't forget our Annual Meeting. It will be January 20th immediately following our Worship Service. This is your opportunity to be part of the "business" of the church, and to review the goals for the year and see our progress. It is important to our congregation that we have input from all members so please make plans to stay after church for the meeting.

As a congregation we continue to see growth in our membership. This is reflected in the increased attendance and our participation in the various ministries (committees and projects). How Blessed we are.

Please feel free to contact me or any of your council members if you have questions or suggestions. We appreciate your continued support to keep Zion moving in a positive direction.

God's Blessings to each of You,

Respectfully,

Judy

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Zion Lutheran Church
Council Minutes
9 December 2018

Present - Richard Crain, Scott Hunsicker, Dewayne Boyles, Chris Filline, Jackie Moss, Pastor Greg Knippa, Wayne Benke, Judy Newman, Chuck Hart

Absent - Jacob Schuetz

I. Opening Prayer

- a. Jackie Moss led the council in the opening prayer

II. Minutes

- a. A partial version of the minutes from the November meeting was included in the meeting packet. A correction had been made to include the two suggestions received by the church office regarding a possible building expansion plan. Motion by Richard Crain to accept the corrected minutes, second by Jackie Moss, the motion carried.

III. Treasurer's Report

- a. A copy of Jackie's report was included in the meeting packet. Jackie pointed out the unusually high gas bill and reported that after discussing with the city, the billing was incorrect due to a miss-read. The account will be reconciled. The attendance numbers for the year have been updated to indicate the correct attendance. Motion by Chris Filline to accept the report, second by Richard Crain, the motion carried.

IV. Pastor Greg's Report

- a. A copy of Pastor Greg's report was included in the meeting packet. Pastor Greg mentioned the following items from the report.
- b. The Advent services are focused on the hymns of Advent
- c. The December 12th service will examine the hymn "Hark, a Thrilling Voice is Sounding" which is based on Luke 1: 76 - 79

- d. Would like to see the building committee get going
- e. Dec. 26 - 27 will find the pastor and his family in Houston visiting Alicia's family.
- f. The VBS curriculum has been selected for the 2019 edition. The theme of the program is "Set Sail".

V. Committee Reports

- a. Property
 - i. Narthex update - only the repair of the church front doors and the painting of the Fellowship Hall restrooms remains to be completed. Richard will remain in contact with the contractor to get the job completed.
 - ii. The main work needed to get the heating system in the church repaired has been completed. Wayne Benke will have the contractor back to inspect the Narthex furnace.
 - iii. Wayne Benke will work to get the Fellowship Hall light fixtures converted from fluorescent to L.E. D. before the end of the year.
- b. Nominating Committee
 - i. Chuck Hart, Dewayne Boyles, and Jackie Moss are leaving the council at the end of this year.
 - ii. Richard Crain and Chris Filline are completing their first terms and are both running for re-election.
 - iii. Judy Newman and Chuck Hart are soliciting candidates to run for council.
- c. Cemetery
 - i. Anthony Stinson and Scott Hunsicker met with Russell Guinn of Tondre-Guinn funeral home to discuss the damage to the old Zion cemetery in October. Russell assured them that the funeral home would make reparations for

the damage. They also presented Russell with a recently developed "cemetery use document".

- ii. Judy Newman is continuing to review the "cemetery use document".

VI. Old Business

- a. Ministries Sunday / Time and Talent - Judy has completed her review of the sheets
- b. Safety Procedures - Chris reported that he is continuing to investigate and review the information he has received. He will have summary/plan to present to council by February.
- c. Building Committee - Chuck Hart, will get underway in January
- d. Financial Audit - Marisela Boyles has been working with Jackie to review the bank accounts on a regular basis. Jackie will contact the participants in the last Audit to develop a committee to conduct the annual audit of the church finances.
- e. Insurance - Chris Filline is reviewing the current policy to ensure we are appropriately covered.
- f. Annual Meeting - January 20, 2019. Judy will ask Janice to e-mail the leaders of the various ministries requesting written reports to include in the Annual Meeting packet.

VII. New Business

- a. Proposed budget for 2019. Jackie Moss presented a preliminary budget for discussion; several changes were recommended and adopted. The council voted to recommend the proposed budget to the congregation for approval at the Annual Meeting.

VIII. Ushers

- a. January - Chris Filline with Richard Crain assisting
- b. February - Wayne Benke with Chuck Hart assisting
- c. March - Richard Crain

IX. Next Meeting

- a. January 13, 2019
- b. Opening prayer - Scott Hunsicker

X. Close with the Lord's Prayer

- a. Motion by Jackie Moss, second by Chris Filline to adjourn. The council closed the meeting by praying the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Chuck Hart, Council Secretary



**Treasurer Report for
Zion Lutheran Church**

Greetings,

For November Zion Lutheran Church has a net loss of \$2,594.76. This includes an over-charge by the City of Castroville Utilities of over \$1,000. Zion now has a credit with the City that we will use up over the next several months. Please let me know any questions and I will answer them the best I can.

	<u>November 2018</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Total Income	\$ 13,196.85	\$181,271.95
Total Expenses	<u>15,791.61</u>	<u>182,035.24</u>
Net Income	<u>\$ (2,594.76)</u>	<u>\$ (763.29)</u>

I am very proud to be a part of Zion and pray that God continues to use and bless Zion in His work.

Blessings
Jackie Moss

From Pastor Greg's Desk:

"Happy New Year!" is the greeting that typically rings out when the clock hands touch midnight (or, in a digital age, when the numbers reach 12:00) to usher in January 1.

Unfortunately, the happiness we wish one another often tends to be elusive. I once asked a relative of mine if he was happy; and his response was, "I'm on the way." Most of us would agree with that: we're on the way, but haven't arrived. Interestingly, the Declaration of Independence promises us, not happiness itself, but "the pursuit of happiness." And sometimes happiness runs really fast, and we feel continually outdistanced in the pursuit. Life can

sometimes seem like a greyhound race, with us as the hounds and happiness as the mechanical rabbit that stays always out of reach. The one difference: greyhounds retire and get adopted, while our race toward happiness never seems to end.

Ultimately, the only genuine happiness is found in God. "In thy presence there is fullness of joy, in thy right hand are pleasures forevermore" (Psalm 16:11). He made us in His own image, so that we can live in His friendship and fellowship forever. The Christian diagnosis of unhappiness is well expressed in the great prayer of St. Augustine: "Thou hast made us for Thyself, and our hearts are restless till they rest in Thee." While we're chasing the mechanical rabbit, God is chasing us. And true happiness comes, not when we catch the rabbit, but when God catches us and makes us His own.

For the believer, our hope for the future doesn't fade. Because our hope ultimately doesn't mean dreaming of more cars in the garage. It means moving toward the wonderful future that God has planned for us--a future of walking with Him every day in this life, and living with Him forever in the next. As 2019 begins, we rejoice in God's promise: "I have plans for you...to give you a future and a hope" (Jeremiah 29:11).

The Christian message gives our lives a deep sense of purpose: to live with God in a relationship of love in this life and the next. The love of Jesus gives our lives value: we are worth so much to Him that He shed His precious blood for us! Our "meaning want" is filled when we think upon "the Son of God who loved me and gave Himself up for me" (Galatians 2:20).

"Happy New Year" does not consist in more possessions, more prosperity, more choices. These things can bring discontents of their own. No, a "happy new year" is one in which we draw near to God who in Christ has drawn near to us. A happy new year is not one in which we chase the mechanical rabbit of happiness, but one in which we keep our eyes focused upon Jesus Christ, who loves us, who died for us, who lives to pour God's joy into our lives. He is our happiness.

May you truly have a happy new year! God loves you and so do I!

In Christ,
Pastor Greg



Sunday Bible Study

Our study continues regarding the names/attributes of God. Please join us as Carol Mangold facilitates the study and discussion. Join as we explore God's Word for us today.

Zion Lay Ministry

Women of the Word and Prayer Chain Coordinator:

Linda Plante

Altar Guild: Carol Mangold, Cheri Boucher', Diane Hibbs, Frances Bippert

Quilters: Flo Balmer, Frances Bippert, Ruth Felty, Jane Scheffler, Diane Perreault, Karen Balmer, Suzanna Feliciano

Prayer Blanket Stitchers: Cheri Boucher', Lahoma McDaniel, Suzanna Feliciano

Sunday School: Children: Pat Davila, Danae Kohlleppl;
Youth –Emily Bippert; *Young Adult* – Rod Moss;
Adult – Carol Mangold

MOPS: Jana Urbanczyk

Garden Granny: Marcia Hart (Children's Message)

Music Director: Pete Martinez



Medina Valley Nursing Home Service Schedule:

Jan. 10, 2019 – 10:30 am Worship and Holy Communion

Jan. 24, 2019 – 10:30 am Worship and Holy Communion

(Typically, the services are on the second and fourth Thursday of each month.)



Flowers

Jan.6

Evelyn Smith

In memory of her husband, Morris Smith

Jan. 13

Kenneth & Clara Ricks

In memory of Cody and Jeff Ricks,

Clarence and Wanda Stein, and
Jason Loessburg

Jan. 20 *Marvin Kriewald*
In memory of Loved Ones
Jan. 27 *Vera Steubing*
In memory of Loved Ones

Krause, Ryan Sprauer, Nathan Stinson, Paul Stinson,
Pat Sheehan and Garrett Wurzbach.

Please remember in prayer our members and friends in nursing homes and hospitals: Harvey Kunze, S.P. Martinez, Catherine Tschirhart, and Lee Ann Wurzbach.



ASSISTANTS

Jan. 6 Alicia Knippa
Jan. 13 Frances Bippert
Jan. 20 Ed Truelson
Jan. 27 Diane Hibbs
Dec. 23 LeeAnn Hart

Please lift up our homebound members in prayer: Bonnie Stein and Addie Smith.

Please remember our members and friends who are ill or injured: Please remember our members and friends who are ill or injured:

Please remember our members and friends who are ill or injured: For the Family of Gilbert Haby; Don Hudspeth; For the Family of Virgil Jungman; For Karla; Bobbie Martinez



January Birthdays

1/1 Gail Owen	1/3 Michelle Bippert
1/6 Ronald Bartlett	1/10 Bill Armstrong
1/12 Samantha Linton	1/12 Debbie Jones
1/13 Reed Whittington	1/13 Emily Smith
1/14 Jana Urbanczyk	1/16 Wayne Benke
1/18 Andy Keller	1/19 Daniel Melton
1/19 William Stege	1/19 Kyler Urbanczyk
1/20 Paul Stinson	1/20 Kimberly Stiteler
1/20 Ed Truelson	1/21 Addie Smith
1/23 Mikaela Cotham	1/25 Richard Crain

*******Deadline for Bulletin Items*******

Wednesday, 10:00 am



**Pastor Greg's
Corny Corner**

A preacher was completing a temperance sermon. With great expression he said, "If I had all the beer in the world, I'd take it and throw it into the river!" The congregation nodded their approval. With even greater emphasis he added, "And if I had all the wine in the world, I'd take it and throw it into the river, too!" The people clapped and were saying "Amen." And then finally, he concluded, "And if I had all the whiskey in the world, I'd take it and throw it into the river!"

As he sat down, the song leader then stood up quite cautiously and announced, "For our closing song, let us sing Hymn #365: "Shall We Gather at the River."



Please Remember in Prayer:

Zion Lutheran Church Prayer Request

Please pray for a period of drying out where rains have flooded the soil; and employment for those who seek work.

Please pray for our members, friends and neighbors in public and military service: Sarah Bippert, Joshua Bradley, Jeff Burges, Mikela Cotham, Chris Filline, Aaron Grigsby, Cody Haegelin; Sam Heath, Katie Johnson, Dorsey Krause III, Matthew



How Will You Be Remembered?

On September 20, my world was rocked with news that my mom had stage III-IV pancreatic cancer. While the doctor said her life could be extended through chemotherapy, her cancer was inoperable and likely terminal. Over the past three months, Mom has suffered through chemo with incredible grace. Even though the cancer and its treatment has taken so much from her, we are so grateful for the getting to spend some quality time with Mom since her diagnosis. However, the end of her life on this earth is very much on our minds.

During one of my recent visits, Mom asked if I would be willing to have a role in her memorial service. Suddenly my mind began to race as I thought about what to say about the woman who gave me birth; who changed my diapers and bandaged my wounds; who counseled me and coached me; who taught me about Jesus and living life with purpose; who always stood behind me as I grew to be a husband, father, and pastor.

And then it struck me – check that – God smacked me in the noggin with the truth about Mom from His Word: *“We love because he first loved us.”* (1 John 4:19) As I reflected on my mom’s life, I realized that this verse is how she will be remembered. Through all of her life as a daughter, sister, wife, mother, grandmother, aunt, friend, co-worker, deaf educator, artisan, school volunteer, 4-H leader, refugee resettlement volunteer coordinator, MOPS mentor, and in countless other roles, Mom loved others with Jesus’ love because Jesus’ love for her had conquered her life in its entirety. The life she has lived she lived no longer for herself, but for Him! And all who have the privilege of knowing Glennis Paulson Formwalt can testify to this truth!

Now Mom would be the first to admit she is far from perfect and that she, too, is a sinner in need of God’s mercy and grace in Christ Jesus. But she lives with confidence in the face of death that through Jesus’ death and resurrection she will inherit eternal life as a child of God. And in every way throughout her life to this day, she simply wants everyone to know that she loves them because Jesus loves them, too.


So what are you living for? How will you be remembered? These are questions that I’ve begun to ask myself as I reflect on Mom’s life and legacy. God has gifted each one of us with just one life to live here on earth, so let’s use it for the sake of the Kingdom of God, remembering that *“We love because he first loved us.”*

Pastor Bryce Formwalt is the Director of Mission Growth for the LCMC Texas District. Residing in Georgetown, Pastor Bryce is available to coach congregations on mission. Feel free to contact him with any questions or comments: 512-942-7776 or bryce@lcmctexas.org. Like us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/lcmctexas
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Zion Lutheran Church

For more information call the office at 830-538-6335, Church Office Hours: 9-2 T-F
 For an emergency, please call Judy Newman at 210-416-2286 or Janice Hodgson at 210-859-1954
 Pastor Greg Knippa 254-718-9276 email: pastork7354@hotmail.com www.zion-castroville.org

January 2019

		Tuesday 1 New Year's Day	Wednesday 2 5 am Camp Gladiator 11:30 Sr. Dining Center 1:00 pm Quilters 5:30 pm FITEC- FH	Thursday 3 11:30 Sr. Dining Center 5:30 pm FITEC- FH	Friday 4 5 am Camp Gladiator	Saturday 5
Sunday 6 Epiphany Sunday 8:45 am Bible Study 9:30 am Coffee/FH 10:00 am <u>Worship</u>	Monday 7 Pastor's day off 5 am Camp Gladiator 5:15 pm & 6:30 pm – Camp Gladiator 7 pm Bell Choir	Tuesday 8 1:30 Sr. Dining Center 6:45 pm MOPS - FH	Wednesday 9 5 am Camp Gladiator 11:30 Sr. Dining Center 1:00 pm Quilters 5:30 pm FITEC- FH	Thursday 10 10:30 Nursing Home Service 11:30 Sr. Dining Center 5:30 pm FITEC- FH	Friday 11 5 am Camp Gladiator	Saturday 12 8 AM – NOON MCARC Meeting
Sunday 13 8:45 am Bible Study 9:30 am Coffee/FH 10:00 am <u>Worship</u> 11:00 am <i>Council Mtg.</i>	Monday 14 Pastor's day off 5 am Camp Gladiator 5:15 pm & 6:30 pm – Camp Gladiator 7 pm Bell Choir	Tuesday 15 11:30 Sr. Dining Center 5:30 pm FITEC- FH 7:00 pm Ladies Bible Study	Wednesday 16 5 am Camp Gladiator 11:30 Sr. Dining Center 1:00 pm Quilters 5:30 pm FITEC- FH 7:00 pm Choir	Thursday 17 11:30 Sr. Dining Center 5:30 pm FITEC- FH	Friday 18 5 am Camp Gladiator	Saturday 19
Sunday 20 8:45 am Bible Study 9:30 am Coffee/FH 10:00 am <u>Worship</u> 11:00 <i>Annual Congregational Mtg.</i>	Monday 21 Pastor's day off 5 am Camp Gladiator 5:15 pm & 6:30 pm – Camp Gladiator 7 pm Bell Choir	Tuesday 22 11:30 Sr. Dining Center 5:30 pm FITEC- FH 7:00 pm Ladies Bible Study	Wednesday 23 5 am Camp Gladiator 5:15 pm & 6:30 pm – Camp Gladiator 7:00 pm Choir	Thursday 24 10:30 Nursing Home Service 11:30 Sr. Dining Center 5:30 pm FITEC- FH	Friday 25 5 am Camp Gladiator	Saturday 26
Sunday 27 8:45 am Bible Study 9:30 am Coffee/FH 10:00 am <u>Worship</u>	Monday 28 Pastor's day off 5 am Camp Gladiator 5:15 pm & 6:30 pm – Camp Gladiator 7 pm Bell Choir	Tuesday 29 11:30 Sr. Dining Center 5:30 pm FITEC- FH 7:00 pm Ladies Bible Study	Wednesday 30 5 am Camp Gladiator 5:15 pm & 6:30 pm – Camp Gladiator 7 pm Choir	Thursday 31 11:30 Sr. Dining Center 5:30 pm FITEC- FH		

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