



# The Voice of Zion

January 1, 2021

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: 6:30 pm

MOPS: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month: 6:30 pm

Quilters: Each Wed. at 1:00 pm



## PRESIDENT'S LETTER



January 1, 2021

Members and Friends,

Thank you, Zion members and friends. You have survived during this very stressful 2020 and continued to support Zion in many ways. Thank you.

As we begin the New Year we are optimistic that 2021 will return us to a "normal" life. Spending time with family and friends, going out to eat, hosting a BBQ in the back yard, etc. However, we are not exactly sure when we can host a "mask burning party" so don't let your guard down, and stay safe!!

But, do not forget that January begins a new year but it is time to remember our founding. Zion Lutheran Church was organized on January 29, 1852. This will mark our 169th birthday. We have a wonderful history of serving God and our fellow man. Happy Birthday, Zion.

Our Annual meeting will be held on January 17th immediately following Worship. This is your opportunity to be part of the "business" of the church. It is important to our congregation that we have input from all members so please make plans to stay for the meeting.

Judy

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Zion Lutheran Church  
Council Minutes  
December 13, 2020

Present: Judy Newman, Jacob Schuetz, LeeAnn Hart, Scott Hunsicker, Hilton Stinson, Eddie McDaniel, Pastor Greg Knippa, and Pastor Ed Truelson

Absent: Candy Faulk, Richard Crain, Raymond Heath and Rodney Reus

I. Opening Prayer – LeeAnn Hart

**II. Minutes** – The minutes were reviewed. Motion was made by Eddie and seconded by Hilton to approve the minutes as written, and the motion carried.

**III. Treasurer's Report** - The Treasurer's Report was reviewed. LeeAnn made the motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as written. Eddie seconded the motion and the motion carried.

- A. Postage Meter** – Pastor Greg told us that the postage meter is up and running.
- B. PPP Loan Forgiveness** – Judy related that we have been officially forgiven for the PPP loan and have received confirmation from the bank.

**IV. Pastor's Report** – The Pastor's Report was reviewed and discussed. Pastor Greg noted these items:

- A. A/V Media Director** – Pastor Greg explained that Andrew is looking into filming and producing a documentary style historical and present day visual tour of Zion Lutheran Church. Once done he will publish it on Zion's website, Facebook, and YouTube.
- B. Facebook Live and U-Tube** – Pastor Greg told us that we had 1806 Facebook, and 57 YouTube views in November.
- C. Special Request from LaCoste Elementary** – Pastor Greg related that Mary Lopez, a teacher from LaCoste Elementary and her family lost their home to fire and lost everything. He and Judy decided to hold a one-time offering for her on 12.13.20. After the service, we collected \$426.00. After discussion, Pastor Ed motioned to give an additional \$547.00 to make it a total of \$1,000.00 to gift to her and her family. Jacob seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote. Hilton and Jacob suggested that if the benevolence account has more than \$500.00 in it after this donation to the Lopez' that we could consider gifting them more money.
- D. Restarting Events at Zion** – Pastor Greg explained the Zion Quilters will meet on Wednesdays at 1 PM, MCARC (the Ham Radio Group) will meet on the second Saturday of the month, the exercise group will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5:30 PM beginning in January in the annex, and all following Covid-19 recommendations.

**E. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 7:00 PM on 12/24/2020** – The service will be a hymn service with the Bell and Adult Choirs participating.

## V. Committee Reports

### A. Property

- i. Remodel Knippa's bathroom** – Scott told us Seth Sherrill is submitting a bid for the remodel of the bathroom. Seth's first estimate was \$8000.00-\$8500.00. He is willing to do the work for the remodel asap. Eddie made a motion to begin the work on the remodel of the Knippa bathroom, Pastor Ed seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.
- ii. Carport for the Parsonage** – Hilton explained to us that he found a company in Hondo that has exactly what we need for the carport at the cost of \$4200.00 for a 29 gauge tin roof with 30' x 26' x 8' dimensions. After discussion, Eddie made a motion to begin the work on the carport, Pastor Ed seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.
- iii. Tree Planting** – Richard and Scott told us that this effort has been put on hold until January or February when the season for tree planting is more conducive.

## VII. Old Business

- A. Safety Procedures - Security Training by James Maddock** – Because of the coronavirus pandemic, this still on hold. Pastor Greg volunteered to obtain James Maddock's phone number.
- B. Boy Scout Troop 310** – Jacob told us that because of the pandemic, the Boy Scouts are not meeting, and do not know when they will be meeting in the future.

## VIII. Unfinished Business

- A. Covid 19 policies and procedures** – All agreed that everything is working well and Council did not feel that any changes need to be made at this time.
- B. Gideons** – Judy explained that a special one-time offering was held on 11.29.2020 in efforts

to support the Gideons. \$383.00 was collected at that time and allowed the Gideons to purchase either 77 large bibles or 256 small bibles.

	<u>Nov. 2020</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Total Income	\$ 24,328.82	\$185,194.17
Total Expenses	<u>13,414.16</u>	<u>175,679.76</u>
Net Income	\$ 10,914.66	\$ 9,5145.41

Respectfully,  
Jacob Schuetz

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**FROM PASTOR GREG ...**

Dear Friends in Christ Jesus,

It's a new year: Happy new year! What does this mean? Well, in a worldly sense, it means it's time to make all sorts of resolutions about your life and how you'll live it during the next 365 days. "I'm going to lose weight." "I'm going to devote more time to my wife, or children, or the whole family." "I'm going to take up photography, or knitting, or bird watching, or bicycling." "I'm going to spend time in the word of God every day."

It is a good thing to seek to do better in your life. If you feel like you've let yourself go physically over the last year (or several), committing to a regimen of right eating and exercise is a salutary thing to do. If you've noticed that you and your spouse are just going through the motions, or the kids don't act like you're a big part of their lives anymore, it's a very good thing to seek to build up those relationships through quality time spent building memories and experiences together. If you find your prayer life as nonexistent and your knowledge of God's Word even worse, it's quite commendable to resolve to keep to a schedule of personal or family devotion during the next 52 weeks.

But when you fail to keep the lofty goals which you've set (and I think this is a safe assumption to make), please don't despair! Even though God wants you to nurture your relationships with your family and take care of your body, His gift to you after all, and continue to come to Him and hear His word in your devotional time and the church service, He doesn't expect you to do these things to be saved! His relationship with you is sealed in your baptism, where He gave you the fruits of Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection.

Remember that all these good works are those prepared beforehand by the Lord for you to do in serving your neighbor. You work out so that you can be healthy enough to care for others. You study God's word so that you can be prepared to give an answer for the hope that is in you. You work on your family relationships so that you can gently lead your wife and children in a Christian way. But God has taken

**IX. New Business**

- A. Annual meeting** – January 17,2021
- B. Proposed budget** – Jacob, Myra Hunsicker, and LeeAnn will meet on January 19<sup>th</sup> at 9 AM to discuss and propose a budget.
- C. Council Elections at the January 17, 2021 Annual Meeting** – Richard Crain's 2<sup>nd</sup> will expire, Pastor Ed and Rodney Reus decided not to run for reelection. LeeAnn Hart volunteered to run for a second term.
- D. Nomination Committee** – Hilton, Judy, and LeeAnn graciously volunteered to motivate other members to run for council.
- E. Bonuses to employees for Christmas** – Bonuses to employees: Pastor Greg, Janice Hodgson, Pete Martinez, and Andrew Knippa were discussed. After discussion about amounts, LeeAnn moved to grant the bonuses to the employees as discussed. Hilton seconded the motion and the motion carried.

**X. Ushers** – All council members are available as ushers.

**XI. Next Meeting**

- A.** January 10, 2021 – At which time we will be approving the proposed budget.
- B.** Opening Prayer – Pastor Greg

**XII. Adjournment and Close with the Lord's Prayer** – Jacob moved to adjourn and Eddie seconded the motion. All agreed.

Respectfully Submitted,

LeeAnn Hart, Council Secretary



**Treasurer Report for  
Zion Lutheran Church**

For November 2020, Zion Lutheran Church has a net income of \$10,914.66. Please let me know if you have any questions, and I will answer them the best I can.

care of the salvation part – we’re saved by grace through faith, not by works! He is pleased by the Good Works that believers do – but not because they earn His favor. Rather, He loves the fact that they do them in faith – they work their works believing in Jesus’ salvation! I am praying for you in this new year! Please remember me in your prayers, too.

Your Servant in Christ Jesus ..... *Pastor Greg*



**Library Corner**

Happy New Year from your church library! New and exciting for 2021 is the library website. How do you access? Go to the church website and go to the library section; our complete inventory of books are broken down by departments. There are full descriptions as well so now you can browse from the comfort and safety of your home and save time searching in the library.

We have also moved the library to a separate room off the kitchen in the Fuos house for privacy. There are chairs and table so you can go spend some private and safe time in the new space; come check it out. Finally, I will have devotionals available to check out in the fellowship hall. It’s a new year and a great time to start to spend time daily in the word. There will be individual, family and couple’s devotionals available.

Cathy Hangartner

**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, Suzanna Feliciano, Cathy Hangartner

*Prayer Blanket Stitchers:* Cheri Boucher’, Lahoma McDaniel, Suzanna Feliciano

*Sunday School: Sunday School Director and Children's Teacher:* Pat Davila, *Teacher Assistants:* Sherry Langston; Candy Faulk; *Youth:* Emily Bippert; *Adult:* Carol Mangold  
*MOPS:* Jana Urbanczyk

*VBS Coordinator:* Alicia Knippa

*Garden Granny:* Marcia Hart (Children's Message)

*Multi-Media Ministry:* Andrew Knippa

*Church Librarian:* Cathy Hangartner

*Music Director:* Pete Martinez

*Counting Team Coordinator:* Dorsey Krause



**Medina Valley Nursing Home Service Schedule:**

Services have been suspended until the COVID-19 restrictions are lifted and Medina Valley Health & Rehab Center allows visitors.



*Flowers*

- January 3 *Evelyn Smith*  
In memory of her husband, Morris Smith  
*Dorothy Jean Breezee*  
In memory of her brother, R. Edward Wurzbach
- January 10 *Kenneth & Clara Ricks*  
Cody & Jeff Ricks, Clarence Stein, Jason Loessburg
- January 17 *Marvin Kriewald*  
Loved Ones
- January 24 *Vera Steubing*  
Loved Ones
- January 31 *Mary Griggs*  
Glory of God



- January 3 Alicia Knippa
- January 10 Frances Bippert
- January 17 Marilyn Fluitt
- January 24 Diane Hibbs
- January 31 Anthony Stinson



## January Birthdays

1/1	Gail Owen	1/3	Michele 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	1/18	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
1/23	Mikaela Cotham	1/25	Richard Crain
1/25	Heather Hallenbeck		

**Please lift up our homebound members in prayer:** Bill & Janet Armstrong and Bonnie Stein.

**Please remember our members and friends who are ill or injured:** Prayers for all affected by the COVID-19 virus: patients, doctors, nurses; pray for an orderly re-opening of businesses in our state and nation; pray for all elected officials. These are recent prayer requests: Phil & Lisa Carpenter; the family of Cynthia Davila; Louie & Serena Fonseca; Robert Guerra; Mary Lopez and family; Bobbie Martinez; the family of Guy Turner; Jim Truelson; Judy Weiblen; Sandra Winokur.

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

**Wednesday, 10:00 am**



**Please Remember in Prayer:**

### Zion Lutheran Church Prayer Request

**Please pray for rain where needed, and employment for those who seek work.**

**Please pray for our members, friends and neighbors in public and military service:** Brett Bippert, Sarah Bippert, Joshua Bradley, Jeff Burges, Sara Flanagan, Aaron Grigsby, Cody Haegelin; Sam Heath, Katie Johnson, Dorsey Krause III, Matthew Krause, Ryan Sprauer, Nathan Stinson, Paul Stinson, Pat Sheehan and Garrett Wurzbach.

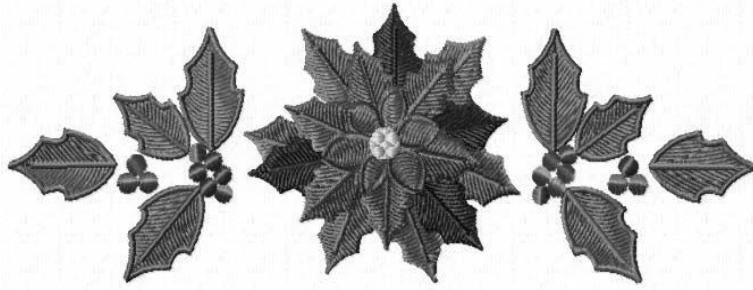
**Please remember in prayer our members and friends in nursing homes and hospitals:** Herbert Richter and Lee Ann Wurzbach.



**Pastor Greg's  
Corny Corner**

### **You Know You Might Be a Lutheran If ...**

- When someone mentions red and green (in terms of Christmas), you immediately think of a battle over hymnals.
- You think Garrison Keillor's stories are totally factual.
- It takes 10 minutes to say goodbye.



## *Poinsettias 2020*

*Christmas Poinsettias. The Poinsettias that decorated our sanctuary for Christmas were donated by the following members and friends:*

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<u>Donor</u>	<u>In Memory/Honor of</u>
Eddie & Dortha McDaniel	Our Parents
Cathy Hangartner	Edna Schenk
Chuck & LeeAnn Hart	Jean Hart
Roy Lee & Eloise Bippert	Leonard & Lucille Bippert
Marilyn & Floyd Santleben, Jr. & Debbie Jones	Myrtle & Floyd Santleben
Pat Davila	Loved Ones
Mary Griggs	
Carol & Dickie Mangold	
Robert & Linda Chester	
Marilyn Fluitt	
Diane Hibbs	Loved Ones
Tom & Jacque Page	Therese Bendele and Tom & Irene Page
Bill & Frances Bippert	Birth of our Savior
Nancy & Earl Jonas	Colby Jonas and O.J. & Margie Steubing
John & Sherry Langston	Our Parents
Pete & Bobbie Martinez	The New Born King
Rev. Greg & Alicia Knippa Andrew & Adam	Parents & Grandparents
Anthony & Suzanne Stinson	Edith & R.Q. Stinson and William Wurzbach
Richard & Judy Crain	Ruble Farmer
Lahoma Mc Daniel	Loved Ones
Madaline & Seth Sherrill	

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# Mission Moment

by Pastor Bryce Formwalt  
Director of Mission Growth



## Do You Believe in Miracles?!?

The 1980 Winter Olympic Games in Lake Placid, NY served as the backdrop for one of the most famous broadcasting calls in sports history. A rag-tag collection of amateurs made up the USA hockey team as they faced off against the best team in the world: the Soviet Union. Team USA seemingly had no chance going into the match. Yet as the final seconds ticked off the clock, the amateurs from the US had defeated the Soviets 4-3. Al Michaels famously asked his audience this unforgettable question: "Do you believe in miracles?!?"

This month we wrap up our four-part series on Jesus' multiplication teaching from the feeding of the five thousand in Matthew 14. We believe that God is calling us to multiply disciples and churches and we've paused to learn all that we can from Jesus' miracle of multiplication. So far, we established that multiplication starts with followers of Jesus being motivated with a burden for others; responding to Jesus' call to do something about it by bringing Jesus what we have; and being obedient to Jesus' command no matter how ridiculous it may seem.

As the story goes in Matthew, when the disciples saw the hungry crowds, Jesus commanded them, "You give them something to eat." "But we only have five loaves and two fish," the disciples responded. And Jesus replied, "Bring them here to me." Then he instructed the disciples to feed the crowd and the disciples were obedient despite the foolishness of Jesus' instruction since it was still just two small fish and five loaves.

Now, we come to the final lesson in this story: believing in God to bring the increase. The miracles of Jesus build our faith that Jesus is who he says he is: the Son of God. With each miracle, Jesus demonstrates his power here on earth to bring about God's will in supernatural ways that defy our human understanding. Along with Jesus' first disciples, we know that not one of us or even all of us working together can feed a crowd of 5,000 with two fish and five loaves. But God calls us not to rely on our own abilities, but on his.

Do you believe that God can bring the increase? As we look at how he calls us to multiply disciples and churches we clearly see that we cannot do so on our own strength. Despite our inadequacies, God invites his followers into what he is up to as he builds his kingdom here on earth as it is in heaven. Even though Team USA's amazing victory over the Soviets was no miracle, I love the question Al Michael's poses: Do you believe in miracles?!? I pray we answer with all faith and enthusiasm: "YES!!!" Now let's get in the game.

*Pastor Bryce Formwalt is the Director of Mission Growth for LCMC Texas District and Program Director of Harvest Workers, an online ministry training program (learn more at [www.harvestworkers.net](http://www.harvestworkers.net)). 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](mailto:bryce@lcmctexas.org).*

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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](mailto:pastork7354@hotmail.com) [www.zion-castroville.org](http://www.zion-castroville.org)

# January 2021



**Friday 1**  
**New Year's Day**

**Saturday 2**

<p><b>Sunday 3</b> 8:45 am Bible Study 9:30 am Coffee/FH 10:00 am <u>Worship</u></p>	<p><b>Monday 4</b> <b>Pastor's day off</b></p>	<p><b>Tuesday 5</b> Garden Granny "Lessons from the Garden" 5:30 pm Exer. Class</p>	<p><b>Wednesday 6</b> Zion Podcast "Casting for Christ" 1:00 pm Zion Quilters</p>	<p><b>Thursday 7</b> 5:30 pm Exer. Class – Fellowship Hall</p>	<p><b>Friday 8</b></p>	<p><b>Saturday 9</b> 8:00 am – Noon MCARC Mtg.</p>
<p><b>Sunday 10</b> 8:45 am Bible Study 9:30 am Coffee/FH 10:00 am <u>Worship</u> 11:00 am <u>Council Meeting</u></p>	<p><b>Monday 11</b> <b>Pastor's day off</b></p>	<p><b>Tuesday 12</b> Garden Granny 6:30 pm M.O.P.S. – <u>Fellowship Hall</u></p>	<p><b>Wednesday 13</b> Zion Podcast "Casting for Christ" 1:00 pm Zion Quilters 5:30 pm Exer. Class – Fellowship Hall</p>	<p><b>Thursday 14</b> 5:30 pm Exer. Class – Fellowship Hall</p>	<p><b>Friday 15</b></p>	<p><b>Saturday 16</b></p>
<p><b>Sunday 17</b> 8:45 am Bible Study 9:30 am Coffee/FH 10:00 am <u>Worship</u> 11:00 am <u>Annual Mtg.</u> 2:00 pm Ladies Bible Fellowship</p>	<p><b>Monday 18</b> <b>Pastor's day off</b></p>	<p><b>Tuesday 19</b> Garden Granny "Lessons from the Garden" 5:30 pm Exer. Class – Fellowship Hall</p>	<p><b>Wednesday 20</b> Zion Podcast "Casting for Christ" 1:00 pm Zion Quilters</p>	<p><b>Thursday 21</b> 5:30 pm Exer. Class – Fellowship Hall</p>	<p><b>Friday 22</b></p>	<p><b>Saturday 22</b></p>
<p><b>Sunday 24</b> 8:45 am Bible Study 9:30 am Coffee/FH 10:00 am <u>Worship</u> 2:00 pm Ladies Bible Fellowship</p>	<p><b>Monday 25</b> <b>Pastor's day off</b></p>	<p><b>Tuesday 26</b> Garden Granny "Lessons from the Garden" 5:30 pm Exer. Class – Fellowship Hall</p>	<p><b>Wednesday 27</b> Zion Podcast "Casting for Christ" 1:00 pm Zion Quilters</p>	<p><b>Thursday 28</b> 5:30 pm Exer. Class – Fellowship Hall</p>	<p><b>Friday 29</b></p>	<p><b>Saturday 30</b></p>
<p><b>Sunday 31</b> 8:45 am <u>31</u>ble Study 9:30 am Coffee/FH 10:00 am <u>Worship</u> 2:00 pm Ladies Bible Fellowship</p>						



# *The Voice of Zion*

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**Church**

**1106 Fiorella**

**Street**

**Castroville, TX**

**78009**

