



# The Voice of Zion

November 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

Adult Bible Class at 8:45 am

Sunday School for All Ages: Sunday 9:00 – 9:50 am

Sunday Fellowship at 9:30 am

Sunday Worship at 10:00 am

Sunday: Ladies Community Bible Study: 1:00 pm

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

Quilters: Each Wed. at 1:00 pm



## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

November 1, 2021

Members and Friends,

Ham Dinner is behind us and was successful. Thank you to everyone who worked together to make this happen. Other area "festivals" seem to have gone well also. It was definitely great to see so many family and friends out to enjoy the events.

Thanksgiving is a time with family and friends. Take time to appreciate all the abundance that we often take for granted. Enjoy this special time.

Veterans Day is November 11. Remember those who served and those who are presently serving. We could not be living in the freedoms we have without their sacrifices. Thank you to all Veterans.

Enjoy this holiday season.

Your Church family loves you and prays that we all stay safe. In the meantime: *Wash your hands and Say your Prayers; Jesus and germs are everywhere.*

Keep Praying,

Respectfully,

Judy Newman

[jbeloat@swbell.net](mailto:jbeloat@swbell.net)

(210) 416-2286



### Zion Lutheran Church

#### Council Minutes

October 10, 2021

Present: Judy Newman, LeeAnn Hart, Scott Hunsicker, Raymond Heath, Eddie McDaniel, Jacob Schuetz, and Pastor Greg Knippa

Absent: Candy Faulk, Floyd Santleben, and Hilton Stinson

I. Opening Prayer – Pastor Greg

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

**III. Treasurer's Report** – The Treasurer's Report was reviewed and discussed. LeeAnn made a motion to approve the report as written and discussed. Eddie seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

**IV. Pastor's Report** – The Pastor's Report was reviewed and discussed. Pastor Greg highlighted many items. Pastor mentioned that he will be on vacation October 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> and Pastor DeHaven will officiate for him in his absence.

#### **V. Committee Reports**

##### **A. Property**

- i. **Cross Hedge** – The project is on hold.
- ii. **Playground Fencing** – The project is on hold.

**B. Ham Dinner** – Judy related that we had 658 food plates sold equaling \$6580.00, the Silent Auction has to date \$5000+ in sales, and the Rummage Sales are continuing. Details to follow on final totals since bills are still being paid. Scott mentioned that Cheri is going to research the cost to employ a company to put up tents and take them down in lieu of us doing the same and discuss this option with the Ham Dinner Committee.

**C. Evangelism and Outreach Committee** – Judy and Gaye Belcher will lead the committee and facilitate its creation and ministry.

#### **VI. Old Business**

**A. Zion's 170<sup>th</sup> and 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversaries** – There will be a special service and potluck for the 170<sup>th</sup> anniversary. There will be bigger event for the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Suggestions are to have a special service with former pastors present, potluck, new directory and cookbook. Judy recommended that we get started early and ask for volunteers to serve on planning committee for these events.

#### **VII. Unfinished Business**

**A. Council Terms** – Floyd (1<sup>st</sup> term) and LeeAnn (2<sup>nd</sup> term) have another year on the council. Judy, Scott, Eddie, Raymond, Hilton, Candy, and Jacob will have fulfilled their commitment to the council in January 2022. Raymond and Hilton decided to run for reelection as a 2<sup>nd</sup> term. Eddie and Candy did not. Council

members were encouraged to reach out to members to run for election on the council.

#### **VIII. New Business**

- A. Audit Committee** – Judy will contact Carol Mangold and Anthony Stinson to serve. Raymond volunteered to serve and facilitate the audit.
- B. Lutheran Military Veterans Ministry (LMVM)** – We received a request for a donation from LMVM, who is a faith-based non-profit organization who provides counseling and seminars for the military. Their operating concentration is Northwest USA, with nothing in Texas. The Council decided to pass on this opportunity.
- C. Refrigerator Storage** – It was recommended by Floyd at a previous meeting that we entertain the idea of purchasing an onsite walk-in refrigerator and freezer to accommodate our gatherings and events. Raymond and Floyd volunteered to research this recommendation.
- D. Pictorial Directory** – Janice has done some preliminary research for the directory, however we would have to provide the photos. LeeAnn and Janice will meet to discuss other options.

**VIII. Ushers** – The congregation is helping to have ushers each Sunday.

#### **X. Next Meeting**

- A.** Next Council Meeting – November 14, 2021
- B.** Opening Prayer – Candy

**XI. Adjournment and Close with the Lord's Prayer** – LeeAnn moved to adjourn and Raymond seconded the motion. All agreed.

Respectfully Submitted,

LeeAnn Hart, Council Secretary

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## Treasurer Report for Zion Lutheran Church

For September 2021, Zion Lutheran Church has a net loss of \$-776.17. Please let me know if you have any questions, and I will answer them the best I can.

	<u>Sept 2021</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Total Income	\$20,327.60	\$141,494.09
Total Expenses	<u>21,103.77</u>	<u>159,428.19</u>
Net Income	\$ -776.17	\$-17,934.10

Respectfully,  
Jacob Schuetz

**FROM PASTOR GREG ...**

### **‘Going All In’ with Thanksgiving**

‘To the max,’ ‘pedal to the metal,’ and ‘nothing in reserve’ are several more slang terms that express a total commitment to a cause or undertaking. If one were to poll Americans as to what that means for them in connection with their Thanksgiving Day activities, no doubt many would answer they were ‘going all in’ with a day of football or ‘leaving nothing behind’ on the dinner table.

King David would have been amazed, if not shocked, for he put high value on actually giving thanks. Many are the psalm verses where he gives praise and thanksgiving to God for His wonderful works and words. But there is one incident in David’s life when he especially ‘gave it all he had.’ It is recorded in the second book of Samuel (chapter 6), with a parallel account in 1 Chronicles 16.

Years before, the ark of the covenant had been captured by the Philistines. Because the ark had caused them nothing but trouble, these heathens finally sent it back to Israel just to be rid of it. There “the Lord...blessed the house of Obed-Edom and all that belongs to him, because of the ark of God” (2 Samuel 6:12). This was so because the ark was the symbol of God’s presence among His Old Testament people.

David was determined that the ark should be brought to its rightful place—Mt. Zion in Jerusalem. But before the procession to take it there had gone six paces, it was halted as the king sacrificed a bull and a fattened calf—so much

was his heart full of rejoicing and thanksgiving! [When was the last time we stopped in the middle of our drive to church—or of doing something else important—to remind ourselves of God’s forgiveness, goodness, and mercy?]

After the impromptu sacrifice the procession resumed. Godly emotion and joy prevailed. David took off his royal garments and donned the common clothes of a priest. Then the king danced before the Lord with great might: pedal to the medal, nothing held back, giving it all he had!

Nothing in the record indicates God was displeased with this exuberant display of joy and thanksgiving. In fact, God inspired His king to compose Psalm 105 in connection with this very occasion. “Oh, give thanks to the Lord! Call upon His name; make known His deeds among the people. Sing to Him, sing psalms to Him; talk of all His wondrous works” (vv.1,2).

Nevertheless, there was one who was very displeased with David’s public behavior—Michal, his wife. She thought it thoroughly undignified and shameful that the king be seen leaping, twirling, and dancing before the Lord—and not wearing his kingly robes to boot. Obviously, she showed herself to be Saul’s daughter—having no appreciation for things that make glad the hearts of God’s people. “How glorious was the king of Israel today...shamelessly uncovering himself,” she needled.

To this sarcastic and biting comment David responded: “It was before the Lord.... Therefore I will play music before the Lord. And I will be even more undignified than this, and will be humble in my own sight” (v. 21). Nothing was going to stop the king from giving praise and honor to his God, certainly not his wife, and not even more self-abasement.

Michal paid a great price for her indiscretion, for she “had no children to the day of her death” (v. 23). What a warning against taking true thanksgiving lightly!

Many will celebrate Thanksgiving Day with family feasts [nothing wrong with that; even David later distributed to every person a loaf of bread, a piece of meat, and a cake of raisins.] David gave thanks for God’s covenant faithfulness and His wondrous works. To Adam and Eve, Israel, and the Gentile nations God was indeed faithful in sending His own Son to be the atoning sacrifice for all sin. Christ Jesus ‘went all in’ for us with His substitutionary obedience and death. As He delivered Israel from her physical slavery, so through Christ He has set us free from slavery to sin, the power of

Satan, and the curse of death. Bless the Lord, O my soul! God is in His Zion. Glory in His holy name!

Surely there is reason enough for speaking, singing, shouting, making a joyful noise and even some dancing before the Lord. The New Testament apostles encouraged the same attitude by exhorting us to “give thanks in everything” (1 Thessalonians 5:18); to give thanks “continually” (Hebrews 13:15) and “always for all things to God the Father” (Ephesians 5:20); to have hearts “overflowing with joy” (2 Corinthians 8:2), “singing and making melody in our hearts to the Lord” (Ephesians 5:19). Okay, so no mention of dancing, but surely, surely, ‘going all in’ with Thanksgiving!

Your servant in Christ Jesus,  
*Pastor Greg*

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### Library Corner

Greetings from your church library, we have some videos and DVD's to check out and watch now that weather is getting cooler. Check the church website for titles and descriptions. Also, the holidays are coming and we have advent devotionals for adults and children. We also have Bible studies available for you if you'd like to do independent study of God's word in the comfort of your own home. So many options - check out the website to see all your library has to offer.

Cathy Hangartner

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### HAM DINNER 2021

The 2021 Ham Dinner was a success. We were blessed with beautiful weather the entire weekend.

“Thank You” so much to ALL who helped to make this event happen. Friday was a day for clean up and set up.

Potatoes were picked up to take home and boil. Saturday the potato salad got made, Haby's bread was picked up, coleslaw dressing was mixed, and cut cakes starting coming in. The Pastor provided a short service for those who would be busy on Sunday with the Ham Dinner. “Thank you” Pastor. Sunday was the BIG DAY—814 ham dinner plates were served. Some of those plates were donated, however, to the Police Department, the band members, and some outside helpers. Part of the Ham Dinner proceeds will be donated to the Hondo food pantry.

Zion had a full day of activities—the Rummage Sale had a building full of items to shop for, the food line was running steady, the Silent auction had numerous items to bid on, the children's area was busy, beautiful quilts were on display and raffled, LOTS of tea was served. Surprisingly, despite the pandemic, we did have quite a few people stay to dine-in.

The *Joyful Noise* band was again on-site to add to the festivity of the event. They are a delight to listen to and add lots of energy. “Thank you” to Fritz Pittman for making that contact again this year.

“Thank you” to the generous CASH donations from several church members, as well as True Value. “Thank you” to Bill Stege for his generous donation of the 400 pounds of potatoes and for some of the paper products inventory.

“Thank you” to Janice in the office. She is always a big help with assisting me in coordinating things and finding information.

The Ham Dinner event is a HUGE undertaking for Zion, but the Ham Dinner Committee and MANY church members worked diligently and made it happen! We did a few things differently this year—no Raffle, cakes were baked AND cut at home, and a number of people peeled the potatoes at home and brought them Saturday boiled AND peeled. That all worked out so well. Cutting cakes ahead of time was a HUGE time saver, and everyone who brought their potatoes already peeled enabled us to get the potato salad made earlier than planned.

"Thank you" ALL again!!! Next year will be even better.

RAFFLE WINNERS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

QUILT RAFFLE WINNERS

1. Sandra Tondre (Castroville)
2. Shirley Basham (San Antonio)
- 3.

MINI-HAM RAFFLE WINNERS

- |                     |                       |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Alicia Knippa    | 4. Bonnie Armstrong   |
| 2. Cindy Keller     | 5. Robert Wagenknecht |
| 3. Karen Poissonier | 6. Sharon Rogers      |

*Cheri Boucher`  
Ham Dinner Co-chair*

**SILENT AUCTION**

**A BIG THANK YOU** to those many people that donated such wonderful items for the Silent Auction. We had over 140 items that brought a lot of attention. The quilt the Zion Lady Quilters made brought the highest amount for the day. The Traeger Grill donated by Hilton and Cindy Stinson brought the second highest amount. The bicycle donated by the Medina County Radio Operator Club had quite the bidding war. It was such a popular item they donated 4 more bicycles. A BIG thanks to them. We had so many wonderful items for children, Artists, Antique Lovers, Collectors, Bird Lovers, Quilters and Gardeners.

Thank you to Cindy Stinson for helping to get all the items tagged and the bid sheets filled out. Also, thanks to Lee Ann Hart for helping to man the auction as she has every year and Alicia Knippa for being the cashier at the end of the auction. I also wanted to thank the many Zion members that helped to set up tables, tents and hauled items out to the tables. It takes so many moving parts to put the Silent Auction on and you all helped to make it so successful.

Blessed by you all,  
Myra Hunsicker  
Silent Auction Chairman

**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: Adriana Calk; Candy Faulk; Youth: Emily Bippert*

*Adult: Carol Mangold.*

*Children's Sermon: Marcia Hart*

*MOPS: Jana Urbanczyk*

*VBS Coordinator: Alicia Knippa*

*Church Librarian: Cathy Hangartner*

*Kapellmeister: Pete Martinez*

*Multi-Media Ministry: Andrew Knippa*

*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*

November 7 *Evelyn Smith*

In memory of her husband, Morris Smith

November 14 *Diane Perreault*

In memory of Bob Perreault and their  
Wedding anniversary

November 21 *The Day Family*

In memory of Mr. & Mrs. Adolph Wurzbach,  
Mr. & Mrs. Phillip Day, and Kathleen Feuille

November 28 *Rodney Reus*

In memory of his parents' anniversary – Rudy  
and Nora Reus



November 7

LeeAnn Hart

November 14

Alicia Knippa

November 21  
November 28

Cheryl Griggs  
Cynthia Malone



## November Birthdays

11/2	John Hathaway	11/4	Carl Santleben
11/7	Andrew Knippa	11/9	Larry Wagenknecht, Jr.
11/9	Robert Fluitt	11/11	Samuel Heath
11/13	Kaitlyn Burges	11/13	James Denman, Jr.
11/13	Anthony Stinson	11/14	Katie Robbins
11/14	Kelci Seay	11/16	Paul Pittman
11/17	Nathan Griggs	11/17	Kathy Smith
11/18	Corrie Pittman	11/19	Jenna Bippert
11/19	Sophie Santleben	11/24	John Langston, Sr.
11/25	Eldon Balmer	11/26	Sue Grigsby
11/26	Sharon Pittman	11/27	Samwise Smith
11/29	Joanna Burges Linton		

embrace this nation that is in turmoil, and or all people in the U.S. and throughout the world to return to the One True Triune God. These are recent prayer requests: Pastor Jon Bielfeldt and the family of Kathy Bielfeldt; Bill & Frances Bippert; Joyette Cameron, Jackson DeAttly; Bryce Formwalt; Lillian Pittman; Kenneth & Clara Ricks; Emilie Stege; Bonnie Stein; Betty Steubing; Edward Wood.

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

**Wednesday, 10:00 am**



**Pastor Greg's  
Corny Corner**



**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, Paul Stinson, Pat Sheehan and Garrett Wurzbach.

**Please remember in prayer our members and friends in nursing homes and hospitals:** Lillian Pittman, Herbert Richter and Bonnie Stein.

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

**Please remember our members and friends who are ill or injured:** Prayers for calm, peace, and cooperation to



**My sincerest apologies to anyone who got injured last week when we scheduled the bake sale and weight watchers for the same evening**



# Mission Moment

by Pastor Bryce Formwalt  
Director of Mission Growth



## Sabbatical Time

This article is going to be a little different than most. This month I share from my hurting—yet hopeful—heart as I look forward to what I think may be one of the most significant seasons of my life and ministry. In case you have not yet heard, I am extremely honored to be able to take a sabbatical for the first time in this my 20<sup>th</sup> year of ordained ministry and 7<sup>th</sup> year of ministry here in LCMC Texas. I will be taking two months of sabbatical and two weeks of vacation time and will be totally unplugged from my job responsibilities from November 1 through January 15.

About nine months ago, I felt as though I came to the end of myself. My counselor had encouraged me to ask for help—something I admit that I am not very good at. Faced with feeling completely overwhelmed, stressed, and on the verge of burnout, I decided to take her advice. At the next District Council meeting, I asked for both a part-time support staff person and a sabbatical. What I received from the District Council was an abundance of support and compassion that overwhelmed me. I thank God for the grace given me by these brothers and sisters in Christ! Our new staff hires of Alyssa Moore and Tim Wagner this fall have been instrumental in lightening my workload. I thank God for these coworkers who will help fill the gap along with the District Council and others who have stepped up to help while I am on sabbatical. One lesson already learned is I need to be more willing to ask for help more often!

I have been incredibly blessed by the encouraging words people have offered me as I begin this sabbatical journey. Many pastors and other leaders have expressed how happy they are that I am taking this time. One question I've been asked frequently in recent months has been, "What are you going to be working on?" I do know pastors who have used sabbaticals to write a book or conduct research. My answer has been a simple, "Not working."

For me, not working is going to be hard. I have been neglectful of my physical and spiritual health. I have failed to establish healthy boundaries of regular time off and have neglected time with family and time with God more than I care to admit. I love what I do, but I have developed unhealthy patterns that are not sustainable. So, it is time to hit the reset button on life and ministry. I will be spending time with family, friends, and Jesus. I will be meeting with a Spiritual Director and my counselor. I will go to my doctor, resume moving my body on a daily basis, and seek to establish healthier patterns of sleep. But my biggest need, and the most challenging task, will simply be not working.

So, please pray for me during this time of sabbatical. Pray that God may use it in whatever ways it may be most helpful to Him and His kingdom's work. Pray that I may experience greater health in every aspect of my life so that when I return to work in the new year, I can be a healthier and more effective leader. Thank you for your loving support. And, consider how God may be calling you to embrace your own journey to greater physical, spiritual, and emotional health.

*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)

# November 2021

	<b>Monday 1</b> Pastor's day off	<b>Tuesday 2</b>	<b>Wednesday 3</b> Zion Podcast "Casting for Christ" 1:00 pm Zion Quilters	<b>Thursday 4</b>	<b>Friday 5</b>	<b>Saturday 6</b> Rummage Sale – Youth Building
<b>Sunday 7 <u>Time Change</u></b> 8:45 am Bible Study 9:30 am Coffee/FH 10:00 am <u>Worship</u> 1:30 pm Ladies Bible Study	<b>Monday 8</b> Pastor's day off	<b>Tuesday 9</b> 6:30 pm M.O.P.S. – Fellowship Hall	<b>Wednesday 10</b> Zion Podcast "Casting for Christ" 1:00 pm Zion Quilters	<b>Thursday 11</b>  <b>Veteran's Day</b>	<b>Friday 12</b>	<b>Saturday 13</b>  9:00 am – Noon MCARC Mtg.
<b>Sunday 14</b> 8:45 am Bible Study 9:30 am Coffee/FH 10:00 am <u>Worship</u> 11:00 am Council Mtg. 1:30 pm Ladies Bible Study	<b>Monday 15</b> Pastor's day off	<b>Tuesday 16</b>	<b>Wednesday 17</b> Zion Podcast "Casting for Christ" 1:00 pm Zion Quilters	<b>Thursday 18</b>	<b>Friday 19</b> 9:00 am M.O.P.S. Play Date – Zion Playground	<b>Saturday 20</b>
<b>Sunday 21</b> 8:45 am Bible Study 9:30 am Coffee/FH 10:00 am <u>Worship</u> 1:30 pm Ladies Bible Study 2:00 pm Children of Rep. of Texas – Youth Bldg.	<b>Monday 22</b> Pastor's day off	<b>Tuesday 23</b>	<b>Wednesday 24</b> Zion Podcast "Casting for Christ" 1:00 pm Zion Quilters	<b>Thursday 25</b>  <b>Thanksgiving</b>	<b>Friday 26</b>	<b>Saturday 27</b>
<b>Sunday 28</b> 8:45 am Bible Study 9:30 am Coffee/FH 10:00 am <u>Worship</u> 1:30 pm Ladies Bible Study						

# *The Voice of Zion*

**Zion Lutheran**

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**Castroville, TX**

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