

ANNUAL REPORT

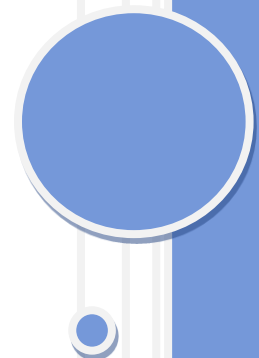
Annual Report for 2016

Zion's Lutheran Church 354 Zion Church Road Shoemakersville, Pa

Congregational Dinner and Meeting

01/22/2017

Please bring this copy of The Annual Bulletin of Reports along to the Meeting.





AGENDA

ZION'S LUTHERAN CHURCH CONGREGATION MEETING SUNDAY, 22 JANUARY 2017 (Rain Date 29 January 2017)

- I. Opening Devotions
- II. Presentation of the Agenda
- III. Secretary's Report
- IV. Auditing Committee Report
- V. Treasurer's Report
- VI. 2017 Proposed Budget
- VII. Elections
 - A. 2016 Nominating Committee Report
 - B. Church Council
 - C. Nominating Committee
 - D. Audit Committee
- VIII. Pastor's Report
- IX. Committee(s) Reports - Updates and/or corrections
- X. New Business
 - A. Labyrinth presentation (Ruth Ann Eyer)
 - B.
 - C.
 - D.
- XI. Report of Election(s)
- XII. Installation of Council Members
- XIII. Adjournment

Church Council: Pastor Bruce Osterhout, Jim Hirko, Brian Moroney, Eileen Puglia, Bill Deibler, Cleta Borkey, Brad Doklan, Mitch Shestok, Susan Lutz, Joe Leone, Jerry O'Brien, Dawn O'Brien

COMMITTEES – January 2016

Altar Guild: Linda & Paul Weidner, Ruth Hoppes, Pat Potts, Ruth Wilhelm, Wanda Hoherchak, and Kim Olszewski

Budget & Finance committee: Joe Leone, Sandra Moroney

Christian Education Committee: Pastor Bruce, Ruth Bensinger, Faye Heckman, Jim Hirko, Vernie Noecker, Erin Seidel, and Henry Seidel

Endowment Committee: Ruth Bensinger, Daniel Geist, Mabel Fry, Mary Mengle, Sandra Moroney, Pastor Bruce Osterhout, Mitch Shestok,

Fellowship Committee: Tina Blake, Cleta Borkey, Brenda Hartman, Fay Heckman, Wanda Hoherchak, Eileen Puglia, Mike Puglia, Mitch Shestok, and Dawn O'Brien, Council Liaison.

Personnel Committee: Carol Rothermel, Mark Dreibelbis, Bettie Hirko

Property Committee: Michael Puglia, Brian Moroney, Gary Rothermel

WELCA: Betty Hirko, Wanda Hoherchak, Virginia Werley, Tina Blake, Kim Olszewski

Welcome & Outreach Committee: Wanda Hoherchak, Susan Lutz, Mitch Shestok, Virginia Werley

Worship & Music Committee: Cleta Borkey, Janine Dreibelbis, Ruth Ann Eyer, Susan Kauffman, Sandra Moroney, Don Ryan, Barbara Seidel, Steve Turner, Wellesley Keal and Ruth Wilhelm.

Annual Minutes from January 17, 2016

The meeting was brought to order by President, Jim Hirko at 12:32 PM. The attendance was 57.

- I. Devotion was provided by Pastor Bruce Osterhout
- II. Presentation of the Agenda – Mitch Shestok asked for an open discussion to discuss C.12.05.C. This was added to the new business section under letter D.
- III. Secretary's Report – A correction to the minutes for the annual meeting on January 18, 2015 was made. Rita Decker's term on audit committee should be a 3 year term. John Smith's term on audit committee should be a 2 year term. Virginia Werley made a motion to accept the report with corrections and Janine Dreibelbis seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- IV. Elections
 - a. 2015 Nominating Committee Report was given. Currently we have 5 positions open (1 – 1 year term, 4 – 3 year terms)
 - b. Church Council
 - i. Brian Moroney – 1 year term
 - ii. Eileen Puglia – 3 year term
 - iii. Mitch Shestok – 3 year term
 - iv. Susan Lutz – 3 year term

One 3 year term is still open and no one was willing to run for that position at this time.
 - c. Nominating Committee
 - i. Bettie Hirko – 3 year term – January 2016 – 2019
 - d. Audit Committee
 - i. Gary Rothermel – 3 year term – January 2016 - 2019

Jeanette Heckman made a motion to close nominations. Dan Geist seconded the motion. Motion passed.

- V. Pastor's Report as written – Mitch Shestok mentioned that a typo occurred with spelling Don Ryan's name and before Karen Freeman's name the word das should be as. Also, Family Promise was held at the church the week of December 20-27. Dan Geist inquired if we would be continuing with the Saturday services, and he stated that we will be continuing.
- VI. Committee Reports – Mitch Shestok has made a motion and seconded by Henry Seidel that all committees that are listed in the constitution are listed on the annual report on page 3. Motion passed.
 - a. Fellowship Committee – The committee has asked for help with the coffee bar.
 - b. Property Committee – Mike Puglia thanked the volunteers who help with the various projects that go on at church. Please consider filling out the

Time and Talent Sheet. If you are able to help volunteer with the Property Committee, Mike Puglia explained that a project to consider for a Capital Campaign would be our roof. John Smith also explained that a Heating Study has been done in the past. At this time, our heating system is ok but we should also be considering the fact that we may need to look at our heating system. A question was raised by Mitch Shestok as to what happened with the goals that were created. Eileen Puglia explained that a group met to work on the wording of the goals and assigning dates for completion. Pastor Osterhout explained that we are currently working on the goals. Jim Hirko commented that copies of the goals will be made available for anyone who would like a copy.

- c. Personnel Committee – Sandra Moroney complimented the committee on finding our choir director
 - d. Community Garden – Eileen Puglia mentioned that the committee still has room for additional committee members and volunteers to help in the garden. She also thanked everyone for their help.
 - e. Endowment Fund Committee – Joe Leone, Mabel Fry, Mary Mengle, Ruth Bensinger, Mitch Shestok are members of the committee. \$2700 was spent this past year. Distributions were made for a safe purchased for holding weekly collections, local outreach programs, re-keying the church and new key box, rebidding of the carbon filter, Hamburg EMS, Shoemakersville Pool and Family Promise. \$3400 will be able to be spent for the 2016 year. This money is to cover the “out of the box” type coverages.
 - f. Annual Report – Mitch Shestok asked if the 2015 Membership record was reviewed prior to the annual report being compiled. Brian Moroney explained that Elaine Schroeder was working on this, but since she has left we aren’t sure how much was done. Mitch mentioned that per the constitution if someone hasn’t communed within 5 years, they are to be removed from the roll. This will be looked at in the next year.
- VII. Auditing Committee Report – Dan Geist, Rita Decker, and John Smith audited the books and found that all books balanced.
- VIII. Treasurer’s Report – Sandra Moroney mentioned that we paid off the air conditioning fund and we made a big comeback at the end of the year to help pay off some of our deficit. Motion to accept the treasurer’s report as presented was made by Jeanette Heckman and seconded by Carol Rothermel. Motion passed.
- IX. New Business
- a. Constitution Amendment – A motion was made by Mitch Shestok and Sandra Moroney to vote on the three Constitution amendments as one body. Motion passed. A motion was made by Sandra Moroney and seconded by Janine Dreibelbis to approve the amendments as presented in the annual report. Motion passed.

- b. Media Committee Amendment – Bottom of page 33. This should have been listed as a continuing resolution for the media committee. This will be brought before the February 2016 council meeting, and a 2/3 vote will need to take place for this to be able to move forward. Jerry O’Brien mentioned that committee members will be needed; if anyone is interested, please contact Jerry. A discussion took place about the fact that the media committee currently does not have a line in the budget and they felt that most of the expenses would go through property committee. Mike Puglia expressed concern about having the expenses coming through property and feels that the media committee should have a line item. Bettie Hirko would like the media committee to have a line item and see that people step up and become part of this committee and have this group take our church to the next level in terms of media. Sandra Moroney will add an income and expense line and list it as zero until the committee is formed and we know which direction the committee will be going in 2017.
- c. Anniversary Pavilion Project – The 50th Anniversary of this building will be in 2019.
- d. C.12.05.C – Mitch Shestok mentioned that if the budget is beyond 10% of the annual budget, it needs to be brought to the attention of the congregation. A motion was made by Bettie Hirko and seconded by Linda Deibler that there is no point in discussing this topic. Motion passed.

X. 2016 Proposed Budget

- a. Simply Giving - Joe Leone did a presentation on Simply Giving which is through Thrivent, and this is our online giving program through Vanco Services. It was mentioned about possibly creating something that can be placed in the offering basket mentioning that you contributed online. (A little book mark type thing that could be kept in the pews or maybe in the back of the church for people to pick up prior to church starting and place in the offering basket during the collection)
- b. Profit and Loss Summary Trend Analysis – Joe Leone presented this analysis.
- c. Sandra Moroney mentioned that on line item #93 on page 30 should have been budgeted for an amount larger than \$1800. It should be increased to \$3600. We will add \$1800 to the general income to make it \$201,800. A motion was made by Bettie Hirko to accept Sandra Moroney’s recommendation.

The meeting was suspended at 2:27 PM due to the lack of a quorum.

The meeting was reconvened on February 14, 2016 at 11:50 AM with 56 people present.

The meeting started with reading the motion that was on the floor prior to our suspending the meeting. The motion was made by Bettie Hirko to accept

Sandra Moroney's recommendation and seconded by Clea Borkey. Motion passed.

- d. Discussion ensued about our decrease in benevolence. Henry Seidel and Sandra Moroney explained that we pay a percentage each month towards benevolence. Our benevolence last year was 9.43% and is down this year to 6.66%. Nancy Drescher made a motion to restore the benevolence to the 9% of the budget which would mean adding \$5,798 to our budget and was seconded by Rita Decker. Voted in favor – 21, Opposed – 28, Abstention – 1. The motion did not pass.

Joe Leone made a motion that if we are in the black and have met all our obligations and have additional funds, we would provide to the Synod additional funds up to the 9% of our budget. This was seconded by Bettie Hirko. One person opposed. Motion passed.

- e. A motion was made by Carol Rothermel to accept the budget and seconded by Bettie Hirko. Motion passed.
- f. In response to our deficit last year, Sandra Moroney reported that at the December & January council meetings it was discussed about borrowing from the Vanguard Account to start the year in the black. A discussion ensued about if we should borrow the money or not. Carol Rothermel made a motion to transfer \$11,000 from the Vanguard fund to our checking account without paying it back and was seconded by Ruth Ann Eyer. Opposed-2, Abstention-1. Motion passed.
- g. Henry Seidel made a motion giving council authorization to borrow up to \$9,000 from the Vanguard Account and put into our checking account which shall be paid back by the end of 2016 if we enter into a deficit. This was seconded by Ruth Wilhelm. Voted in favor-35, Opposed -9, Abstention-0. Motion passed.

- XI. Report of Elections – Everyone has a majority vote and was elected to their positions.
- XII. Installation of Council Members – Pastor Osterhout would like to install the council members during the worship service instead of at this meeting where more people are present.
- XIII. Adjournment – A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Gary Rothermel and seconded by Dan Geist at 12:43 PM. Motion passed

Respectfully Submitted,
Tiffany Gruber, Council Secretary

Personnel Committee Annual Report for 2016

The Personnel Committee handles issues pertaining to compensated employees. They communicate concerns by or to the employee regarding the fulfilling of their duties.

The personnel committee advertised the administrative assistant position vacancy and interviewed the chosen candidate, then recommended her to church council for action. The financial secretary and payroll clerk vacancies were advertised in the bulletin. Personnel committee checked into using a payroll service in place of a payroll clerk and recommended Paychex to church council. Employees now get their pay directly deposited into their bank account.

In December, the Personnel Committee presented the staff with an array of baked goods in appreciation of their good work and dedication to their position.

The staff at Zion's includes the cleaning team: Ruth Hoppes, Karen Mengel and Brian Moroney

Administrative Assistant: Amanda Grow

Organist : Don Ryan

Choir director: Don Ryan

Brass and bell director: Steven Turner

Pastor: Pastor Bruce Osterhout

Zion Lutheran Church Endowment Fund – 2016

The committee revised the charter based on the current state of the congregation. It instituted a fund request form as well as recording of meeting minutes. Distributions made during the year were for: \$400 - Honduras mission trip, \$250 - Family Promise and \$100 - IHartHarvest, Inc. If there are ministry related opportunities which need funding, please contact the church office for a fund request form and forward it to a committee member.

Pooled Investment Trust

11/30/2015	Earnings	Withdrawals	Change in Market	11/30/2016
\$67,983.16	\$0.00	\$3,400.00	\$0.00	\$64,583.16

M&T Account

11/30/2015	Earnings	Deposit	Withdrawals	11/30/2016
\$1,175.84	\$3.94	\$3,400.00	\$750.00	\$3,829.78

Facebook Statistics Report 2016

Zion's Facebook: "<https://www.facebook.com/ZionsChurch/>"

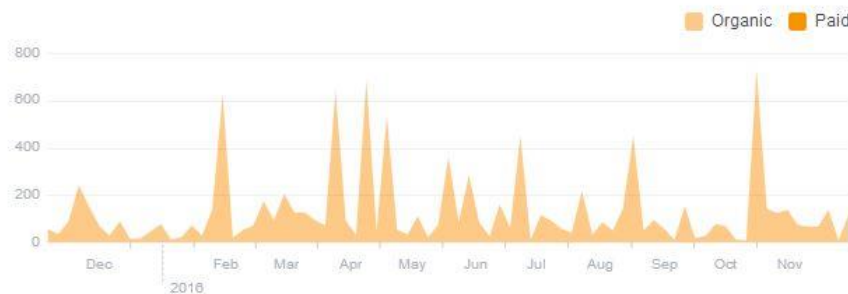
Yearly Statistics - December 2015 thru November 2016

Facebook Likes: 175 Total - 146 (on 11/6/2015) increased to 175 (on 12/4/2016)



Total Reach

The number of people who were served any activity from your Page including your posts, posts to your Page by other people, Page like ads, mentions and checkins.



Your Fans | People Reached | People Engaged

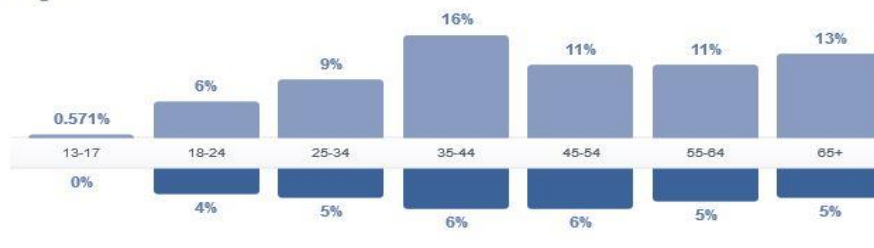
The people who like your Page

Women

67%
Your Fans

Men

31%
Your Fans



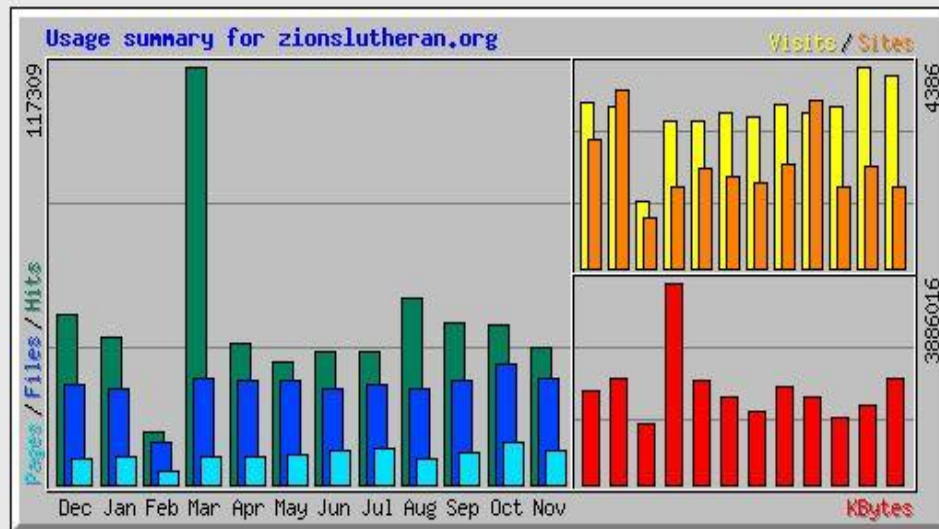
Total reach: High of 352 on March 25th 2016. Michael Puglia – Facebook Admin.

Media Committee Report – 2016

The Media Committee was unable to form in 2016. No one volunteered to join the committee or head it. Anyone willing to do so should contact the Council President in 2017. Submitted by (former) Media Task Force Liaison, Jerry O'Brien

Website Statistic Report 2016

Web Site: "<http://www.zionslutheran.org>"
Yearly Statistics - December 2015 thru November 2016



Summary by Month										
Month	Daily Avg				Monthly Totals					
	Hits	Files	Pages	Visits	Sites	kBytes	Visits	Pages	Files	Hits
Nov 2016	1275	1001	325	139	1790	2056029	4175	9765	30033	38268
Oct 2016	1443	1085	378	141	2220	1515091	4386	11739	33649	44753
Sep 2016	1502	981	291	117	1788	1271367	3528	8740	29438	45079
Aug 2016	1695	862	238	109	3643	1675936	3396	7384	26730	52568
Jul 2016	1199	901	330	114	2243	1895277	3552	10246	27940	37180
Jun 2016	1236	898	308	109	1853	1418118	3284	9251	26952	37096
May 2016	1102	944	267	108	2003	1677718	3363	8291	29272	34175
Apr 2016	1318	970	261	107	2173	1991986	3222	7855	29127	39554
Mar 2016	3784	962	250	103	1749	3886016	3204	7761	29851	117309
Feb 2016	1063	854	257	104	1078	1181526	1468	3610	11958	14895
Jan 2016	1384	893	257	116	3851	2031120	3509	7722	26796	41526
Dec 2015	1538	901	228	116	2790	1794072	3599	7093	27944	47685
Totals						22394256	40686	99457	329690	550088

Michael Puglia – Webmaster

Ministry of Pastoral Care

Pastor's Report 2016

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.” Ephesians 6:10-12

These are confusing times that we live in. How do we practice our faith in our daily lives amidst all of the opinions and all of the arguing going on in the world? Actions continue to speak louder than words, don't they? If they do, then we are speaking loudly!

Jesus said: “The second is this. You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Mark 12:31a

Witness this one 8-day period of activity (during one of the busiest weeks of the year for making holiday preparations, December 16 - December 23, 2016) of the people of Zion's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Perry Township (how we are known on Facebook):

Friday, December 16 – Hamburg Salvation Army Angel Tree gifts were distributed from the Hamburg Field House. Gifts for many had been purchased by members and by the Youth of Zion's. All the Angels on the Tree were taken by Zion's Angels.

Saturday, December 17 – Members and friends sang and performed Christmas carols outside of Cabela's and rang the Red Kettle Bells for the Hamburg Salvation Army unit which helps community families in need throughout the year. Have you visited or volunteered at the new Salvation Army Family Store on S. 4th Street in Hamburg yet?

Sunday, December 18 – Individuals from 3 different families began their “sleeping and eating” at church. The cots came in the morning along with our curious guests. Our week of hosting as a part of the Family Promise of Reading and Berks County had begun.

Monday, December 19 – 5 children in Shoey had enjoyed a visit from Santa the night before; their Christmas suddenly brighter thanks to Shoey Area Lion's Club's Santa deliveries. They were referred to Santa (through United Way) because of Zion's known outreach in the community. Gifts cards to Redner's and Walmart were delivered.

Tuesday, December 20 – Food was hauled from the Greater Berks Food Bank in Shillington to the Hamburg Middle School, loading 4 vehicles and then unloading them. Others helped with the set-up chores inside.

Our Northern Berks Community Garden gifted the recipients with fresh oranges. Our Zion's Boy Scouts were on hand to help take the food out in shopping carts to the vehicles of those who received the food.

Wednesday, December 21 – As Advent drew to a close, Reverse Advent Calendar baskets began rolling into the church office. The Women of Zion's were collecting items to benefit Berks Women in Crisis (now known as SAFE BERKS).

Thursday, December 22 – A fully completed Church Flood Service Emergency Flood Cleanup Bucket was delivered to the church office to benefit this past summer's flood victims in West Virginia, Baton Rouge LA, or in the Carolinas. (Youth 16 and older: watch for the opportunity to participate in Camp Noah, July 8-15, 2017 with Pastor Bruce and other area Lutherans).

Friday, December 23 – Overnight residents at Reading's Opportunity House were served a hot meal by volunteers from Zion's. Zion's members (broken into teams) have been doing this for a long time now.

We, as the people of Zion's Lutheran, accomplished great outreach in these 8 days.

We are generous in our in-kind giving to others. We give our warm smiles, our willing backs, our capable minds in service to the world. We network with others in our mission in our community to reach out with love to those in need: people close by us in our neighborhoods, people around our county, and people across our nation, as you can see from the illustrative sentences above.

As the people of Zion, we put our faith into action in the world. We talk and walk the faith road daily. We worship together each week. We study God's Word. We sing God's praises. We pray our prayers. We remain hopeful because we know that the victory has already been won. We know how it ends, regardless of the current conditions.

As you read this annual report, may it be more than statistics to you. May it be more than just following procedure. May it be about our joint witness, our shared legacy of generosity. May it be about the mission of love that our congregation forwards, about the lives that are touched, about the message of hope that is given. May it be about our collective witness to Jesus Christ, about our gifts being used to God's glory.

If you are not already an active participant in all that Zion's does, please step up and help us reach out in this new year of 2017. New Council members are needed to help lead the congregation forward. Meetings are once a month. . Offering counters are needed Monday mornings each month. Sunday School and Adult Bible study participants are always encouraged.

We will need garden volunteers come spring, potato harvesters come the fall. There will be grass to mow. We will need to plan for our Morning Bible School in June for our children to enjoy. We welcome Senior Adults who love to gather in fellowship.

Bells and Brass instruments need to be “blown” and shaken to the Glory of God. There are musical notes to be sung, giving praise. The Time and Talents sheets of the past are not helpful anymore. Busy people just check what they are already doing. Not enough people complete them at all. We will search for new ways to get the word out to you as to what our faith community needs to help it grow stronger.

Step out in love in 2017. Volunteer. Don’t wait to be asked. Be brave. We are mostly all volunteers, you know. Ask questions. Find out what needs to be done to make our congregation stronger. Be a warrior for Jesus in the 21st century, using the armor that you have been given.

“Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet, put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Ephesians 6:13-17

I am Yours in Christ, Pastor Bruce

Some 2016 Accomplishments as I reflect on the Past Year, both personally and professionally:

+ Our Zion’s “War on Hunger and Poverty” (published in the January 2017 newsletter) outlines all of our work in helping others with food and the necessities of life. This was shared in the newsletter to help prepare members for reading all of the Annual Reports from the Committees. Two families of the congregation were helped through life transitions using the Charity and Emergency Fund.

+ As a delegate from the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, I attended the ELCA Assembly in New Orleans, Louisiana for one week, back in August. I learned much about our wider church at that event.

+ My spouse celebrated her First Ordination Anniversary. Julie continues to serve with the people of Trinity Lutheran Church, Wernersville. She traveled to Honduras with 11 others (Two from Zion’s). We continue to figure out, together, how to manage the work of 2 busy congregations. She broke her leg/foot on Friday, December 2. This has slowed us down these past few weeks.

+ I am spearheading the monthly “Faith at the Movies” event at the Hamburg Strand Theatre on behalf of the Northern Berks Ministerium. Following the strong attendance for the movie “Risen” back on Holy Saturday, this monthly event began in September. December 27 saw our largest crowd (49) so far. People have the opportunity to stay and discuss the movie. The Hamburg Strand gets used on an off night, generating some traffic and revenue. The Reading Berks Conference of Churches publicizes the event to a wide audience in their EBLAST each week.

+ Our June Morning Bible School (CAVE QUEST) was great fun. More than 50 of us visited Crystal Cave that Thursday. Good teamwork led by Ruth Wilhelm helped our young people grow in their faith that week.

+ We hosted two weeks of Family Promise, housing families for a week and giving them supper, for one week in May and for one week in December.

+ Mitch Shestok has helped our congregation look at its Parish Register as I continue to get to know all the families connected to our congregation. Mitch did much tedious work that has benefitted our faith community, justifying our handwritten Parish Record with our Church Windows Directory software. This work continues into 2017. Some relationships have been renewed as a result of this.

+ Our youth continue to help serve others, enjoy fellowship, and participate in the life of our congregation. The youth participated in the first area Catechism Retreat at Bear Creek Camp last February. Karen Blandford and Faye Heckman coordinated kitchen duties for the group of 55 people from 10 congregations. (We will go again March 31-April 2, 2017. Register now, please. Any youth in grades 7-12 can go).

+ We hosted friends from Friedens Church, Shartlesville and St. John’s Lutheran Church, Hamburg in October, enjoying joint Sunday School, worship, and a luncheon.

+ Amanda Grow began her ministry with us as Administrative Assistant, at the end of February. Her good spirit, warm personality, and capable computer skills have been a blessing. She had much to learn and that learning continues as she approaches her first anniversary working with our very busy church.

+ To all who have contributed in ways large and small, in the past year, I give thanks to God for you. PB

Pastoral Acts for 2016

Baptisms: Lexie Paige Hoffert, Isabella Denatala, Hailey Denatala, Chase Denatala, Ava Skye Zimmerman, Joanne Busch

Funerals: Elaine Albert, Ella Mae Levan, Robert Gough, Delite Kramer, Harry Sohon, Marguerite Hepner, Edith M. Reppert, Grace Yeager, Terri Yeager, William Albert Jr., James Mengel, Terry Tademy (non-member)

Confirmation: Alyssa Blandford, Paul Engle, Alicia Gough, Veronica Heckman, Luke Mengel

Weddings: Jack Green & Karen Smoker 6/3/16 in Lancaster, Christian Seraphin & Jen Parmer 7/23/16 in Media, Pa

2016 Membership Record

Baptized members Jan 1, 2016	643
Additions during the year:	
By Baptism:	6
By Transfer (Adults)	8
By Transfer (Children)	<u>1</u>
	15
Losses during the year:	
By Death:	10
By Transfer/Removed:	<u>172</u>
	182
Total baptized members, Nov. 6, 2016	476
Confirmed members Jan 1, 2016	634
Additions during the year:	
By Confirmation:	0
By Transfer & Affirmation:	<u>4</u>
	4
Losses during the year:	
By death:	10
By Transfer:	<u>254</u>
	264
Total confirmed members, Nov. 6, 2016	374

Service and Witness Ministries

Women of the ELCA - 2016

Purpose: As a community of women, created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and actions, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world.

The annual Bazaar was held on Nov 19th. Thank you to everyone who helped to make this year's event a success. The profits for 2016 were approximately \$2,600. The funds from the bazaar are used to send campers to Bear Creek Camp. In the past year we paid half membership for 7 children to go to camp.

The congregation made a donation for Harvest Home. We send cards out to the Shut Ins for holidays, as well as sympathy and get well cards. We had a team of walkers that donated to/and supported Relay for Life. We put together Church World Service School Kits for LWR. Gifts were purchased and handed out on Mother's Day. We donated 15 boxes of cookies and \$100.00 toward fruit for the youth to distribute to the shut ins at Christmas. We collected Advent Baskets with personal hygiene items that were donated to Berks Women in Crisis. Thrivent Action Money was used to purchase the baskets. As you can see, we are a busy group of women out doing God's work with the help of God.

As a reminder we still have cook books for sale. If anyone is interested, please see a member of WELCA. Also, remember to ask for a save-a-tape card at Redner's and bring in the entire receipt. The basket for collection of the Redner's tapes is located in the Narthex.

We welcome the support and participation of all women of the congregation, as we are all members of this group.

Worship Ministry

Worship & Music Committee Report – 2016

The committee met seven times throughout the year to review past services and plan future services. We also addressed feedback from church staff, committee members and the congregation.

This year we updated the funeral checklist and worked on Communion distribution practices. We are currently working on prayer list procedures.

Our committee is encouraging talent in our congregation to participate in Sunday worship services and other services as well. We will look at music, interpretive dance, drama, and storytelling to add to the worship service.

Susan Kauffman - chair

Handbell Choir – 2016

The Handbell Choir meets each Thursday @ 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. under the direction of Steve Turner. This year's members were: Barbara Seidel, Grace Ketner, Lori Smith, Shirlene Epting, Lisa Hartline, Diane Geschwindt, Faye Heckman, Megan Turner and Don Schilke.

Grace Ketner is retiring, and we could use more ringers. If interested, please contact Steve Turner or any member of the choir.

Thank you, Grace, for all the years of dedicated service. We wish you well in the future.

Respectfully submitted
Barbara Seidel

Zion's Brass - 2016

Zion's Brass is comprised of members: Chris Brennan, baritone; Mark Dreibelbis, baritone; Daniel Geist, trumpet; Keith Hertzog, trumpet; Don Schilke, baritone; and Steve Turner, trumpet.

We are under the direction of Steve Turner, who always challenges us, helps us grow as musicians, and without him we would sound like a bunch of "old fifth graders"!

This year we performed at Cabela's for the Salvation Army kettle with the choir. We also accompanied Orcheband at Christmas and Easter, we have also provided music for the Church picnic. We provide worship music every third Sunday of the month at the 10:30 worship service.

If anyone (especially a trombone player) is interested in joining our ministry, please talk to any member of brass. Rehearsal is Thursday nights at 8:00 p.m. in the choir loft. Come join us, have lots of laughs, and learn to be a better musician.

We are always willing to play at any church function as our schedules allow; don't be afraid to ask.

Look for our new album of Orcheband Christmas hits coming from Shaky Jake Records soon.

We will continue to praise God thru our music in 2017.

Macht's Gut

Daniel R. Geist

Altar Guild – 2016

Purpose: To prepare the place of worship, to provide, protect and care for the furnishings of the altar and sanctuary; to develop by example, reverence, dignity, purity, and unity in the parish.

Altar Guild members met in February, July, and October of 2016. At these meetings, plans are made for the cleaning of the altar linens, candelabras, and luminary lamps. All supplies are checked and ordered if necessary.

We want to thank everyone who helped in any way with Harvest Home display. We had a nice variety of food items to be delivered to our local food pantry in Hamburg. Altar Guild would like to give a big thank you to the person who delivered the food to the food pantry for us. We really could use additional help for next year's Harvest Home theme. If interested please contact any member. Members are Linda & Paul Weidner, Ruth Hoppes, Pat Potts, Ruth Wilhelm, Wanda Hoherchak, and Kim Olszewski. We would also like to thank Gary Wilhelm and Richard Mengel for helping.

We would like to thank all the bread bakers.

Plans are made for purchasing and transporting flowers for Christmas, Easter, Harvest Home and Pentecost Sunday.

Our thanks go to Catechetical class members for serving as acolytes and to everyone else that helped in many ways this past year.

Next Altar Guild meeting will be held February 2nd 2017 at 6:30 p.m. in the Church Library.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cleta M. Borkey

EDUCATIONAL MINISTRIES

Christian Education Committee - 2016

We want to thank our Sunday School teachers and helpers for their dedication as they guide our children, youth and adults through their spiritual journey. They are critical in helping to create and grow a spiritual foundation for members of all ages that will benefit everyone.

6 first graders received Bibles in February. 4 Youth and 2 adults, along with Pastor Bruce and his wife Julie, were part of a larger group including other congregations that attended a retreat at Bear Creek Camp. 1st communion classes were held in March with 11 children taking 1st communion on Maundy Thursday.

April's Lenten project raised over \$305 which was donated to Lutheran World Relief in conjunction with the Church World Service School kits assembled by WELCA. We sponsored a wagon at the Children's Fair in Shoey and collected shoes. Graduation and teacher gifts were given out. We want to again thank Ruth Wilhelm, for leading Vacation Bible School and all those that helped make it a success. We had a great week; as an addition to the Cave Quest program, we had 51 people tour Crystal Cave.

Over the summer we sponsored a night at the Shoey Pool. The new Sunday School year kicked off with more than 65 people at Rally Day in September. We also recognized Grandparents Day. Several members shared how their faith grew from Sunday School and into their adult lives.

We welcomed members from Friedens and St. Johns for joint Sunday School classes in October. Later that month, 5 youth were confirmed. We also gave Bibles to 3 new 1st graders in November. We hope you enjoyed the Christmas Program that ended our calendar year.

If you have any suggestions or would like to help with any of our programs or events, please reach out to a committee member. We usually meet the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM. Again, thank you to the teachers and anyone that helped in any way during 2016. Your efforts not matter how great or small, are truly appreciated. We ask for your continued support as we strive to do His will.

Respectfully submitted,
Henry Seidel

Library Report – 2016

Time for the annual report again. Items listed below were either donated or purchased for the church library during the year 2016. Books (adult, young adult, juvenile, and easy reader) = 110, DVDs = 14, Music CD = 1. Not as many items were purchased this year because the stock market was down, which affects our purchasing power.

The following folks regularly volunteered this year in the library: Ruth Ann Eyer, Roberta Ott, Barbara Seidel, and Barbara Shafer. We really had an exciting year. We learned how to use the computer and printer to add "spine topics" on the books and have almost completed them. We also learned how to change the cartridge in the printer. Next year the challenge will be to get the whole collection on the computer. I know we can do it. For several months, we met every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 1:30 P.M.

Other jobs we do include changing the bulletin board, check that items are returned, placed books back on the correct shelves, display appropriate items for the season, have displays in the narthex, and inside & outside the library, tidy up the library, housekeeping (by checking that books are in the correct order on all the shelves), feature books and book reviews in the monthly newsletters. Sometimes we put new items in the church pews for members to preview, and we occasionally move things around in the library to fit everything in and make it more people friendly.

The book club is still going strong and we have very lively discussions about the books and possible future selections. Won't you consider joining the book club? I must admit being part of it made me read books I probably wouldn't have read. I've really enjoyed the books. Book club meets on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 6:30 P.M. We don't meet during the months of Nov. and Dec., because of the busy holiday schedules.

Book Club selections for 2016 are listed below:

Feb. "Orange is the New black" by Piper Kerman
 Mar. "One Light Still Shines" by Marie Monville
 Apr. "The Invention of Wings" by Sue Monk Kidd
 May "The Nightin Gale" by Kristin Hannah
 June "I am Malala" by Malala Zousazau
 July "13 Hours in Benghazi" by Mitchell Zuckoff
 August "Can You Keep A Secret?" by Sophie Kinsella
 Sept. "Walk in the Woods" by Bill Bryson
 Oct. "Rainbows Come and Go" by Anderson Cooper and Gloria Vanderbilt
 Nov. "After You" by Jo Jo Moyes
 Dec. "One Thousand Gifts" by Ann Voscamp

Ruth Ann Eyer

Fellowship and Support Ministries

Youth and Catechism Ministry Report - 2016

Youth in Grades 6-12 continue to be involved in the life of Zion's Lutheran Church. The youth of Zion's serve side by side with adult members in serving God and others.

Learning to serve and care for others is an important part of helping young people grow in their faith. Youth in Grades 7-9 are taught on Sunday mornings during Sunday School as a part of their catechetical instruction. Five youth "affirmed their faith on Reformation Sunday becoming adult members of the congregation. Any youth in Grades 7-9 is welcome to become a part of this instruction program. Youth are recruited to serve as ushers during worship.

Youth participated in The Potato Project, cutting seed potatoes in the spring and harvesting potatoes in the fall. They colored Easter eggs on Good Friday and hid them for the children on Holy Saturday. They helped out with Opportunity House meals. They slept overnight when Zion's hosted Family Promise in May and December. In November and December, they baked goodies and sold them to raise funds to assist a congregational family with Christmas. They assisted with Bible School in June. One youth is a substitute Sunday school teacher. They continue to serve as acolytes during worship services. One youth, Trevor Fegley, led a discussion about Labyrinths, forming a committee and investigating possible locations. Youth participate in the Orche-Band at Easter and Christmas. They participated in the "Share Your Passions" event during Sunday School in January.

Participating in joint youth activities with the youth and adults of other congregations is another important activity that the youth were engaged in. In late February, 2016, about 55 youth and adults from 10 congregations participated in a weekend retreat at Bear Creek Camp learning about the Apostles Creed and enjoying all of the activities that the camp has to offer. A fall event at Friedens Church in Shartlesville included a Water Walk, a campfire, and supper.

As many Zion's youth are busy with school, after school activities, band, and athletics, it is a challenge to get them together. At times, they gathered for fun activities including a trip to Key Quest, working together to find a way out of a room. They ate pizza and enjoyed the church yard. Unfortunately, no youth participated in the Canoe Trip with the Bishop in May on the Schuylkill River, from Hamburg down to Leesport.

There is no formally organized youth ministry committee at this time. The parents of some of the youth work together to carry out the activities that are decided on by the group and by the youth that are interested in participating. Thank you to everyone who has participated in the activities of the past year providing transportation, supervision, and interacting with our young people.

Welcome & Outreach Report – 2016

The committee reviewed their activities in relation to the Church constitution to ensure they were in alignment. It also has taken responsibility for coordinating Family Promise during the year. Thank you cards were sent throughout the year to individuals who have helped the congregation thrive. Notes were also sent to visitors who have worshiped with us. Bulletins were sent on a monthly basis to the shut-ins within the congregation. Monthly notes were sent to college students on a parent-request basis. Handouts were purchased for the Christmas Eve children sermons.

Happy Knotters – 2016

We have given 121 Quilts to different places throughout the year. Lutheran Relief received 71 of those quilts. The rest of the quilts stayed in our area. Some went to shelters, Women in Crisis and Opportunity House. We appreciate all the things that people have donated to help with putting the quilts together. We are always looking for people to help.

Thank you,
Happy Knotters

Fellowship Committee Report – 2016

The Fellowship Committee helps to organize activities for the church, reaching out to all generations, bringing the church family together to enjoy fellowship. We support the Congregational Meeting Luncheon, Easter Egg Hunt, Church Picnic, Coffee Bar, and other events as needed. We appreciate the support of the congregation as members help with contributions of baked goods, covered dishes, supplies and candy, as well as their time to help set up and clean up at each event. We are in need of volunteers to help with set-up, baked goods (homemade or store bought), and cleanup of the Coffee Bar on Sunday mornings. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

The Fellowship committee meets quarterly, before scheduled events, and as needed to prepare for special events. You are welcome to join us in planning and providing fellowship opportunities through the coming year. Volunteers are needed on the committee or to help out with individual events. Anyone interested in joining the committee or helping at an event, please let any of the members know. We also welcome new ideas.

Faye Heckman, Fellowship Committee Chairperson

Property Committee Report – 2016

The report this year will highlight several of the larger issues or challenges faced. They are by no means the only issues addressed by the Property Committee in maintaining the church property on a daily basis. Like your home, there are light bulbs to replace, toilets to unclog or fix, faucets to repair, walls to paint, windows to repair, grass to mow, snow to shovel, on and on. To do this, we are currently relying on a small group of volunteers and need more help. You do not have to become a committee member, but if you can help, please let us know in what areas you can offer assistance. Contact any property member for more information or come out to our next meeting (third Thursday of the month) January 19, 2017 at 7 PM.

Your help will be appreciated.

Highlights of 2016

Heating & AC Systems: A defective outdoor temperature differential sensor was replaced in December 2015 and the pneumatic heating controls adjusted to the new sensor. The repair & warmer weather in the spring helped us accumulate a surplus in our heating fuel account. In November 2016 a circulator pump for the Nave failed (motor capacitor shorted and exploded). As a result of the damage to the motor, a new motor had to be purchased and installed. The fall seasonal service to the furnace has been scheduled, and we should be set for the upcoming winter season. In November 2016 a control board was replaced for an AC unit in the Fellowship Hall that had been out of service for some time. All AC units are now operational.

Water System: December 2015 began our journey as a water supplier and the related DEP reporting. The year did not start out well, as the chlorinator pump failed prior to our registration visit by a DEP employee. We are currently filing our monthly reports and water tests with DEP. In November 2016 the monthly water test failed for positive results present. A request was immediately made to have the chlorinator pump checked on 11/30 and repairs made. We are now doing accelerated testing to ensure our water safety, as required.

Labyrinth Group: Trevor Fegley, a member of Zion's, and a student at Hamburg Area High School, chaired a group of members to explore the possibility of establishing a "Labyrinth" on the grounds of Zion's as his graduation community service project. Trevor explored the roles and responsibilities of forming and working with a committee on a service project, as planning for a labyrinth. A temporary sample labyrinth was constructed on the grounds for the annual picnic so members could get an idea of what a labyrinth is and how it is used in meditation and prayer. The proposal options and estimated costs for a labyrinth project, to be considered by the congregation as a faith community project, can be found elsewhere in this "Annual Report". We hope Trevor gained experience and insight that will benefit him as he moves into adulthood and continuing service to the community.

Comcast Cable & Internet: In December 2015 we entered into an agreement with Comcast to provide cable & improved internet services to the church, with the anticipation of converting our telephone service from Verizon also in March of 2017 when our contract with Verizon expires. Recent issues have occurred with the loss of telephone service for one or more days a week in November for our Verizon service. The conversion to Comcast for telephone service will be made in March, as the Verizon contract expires.

Boy Scout Troop 163 Shed: Our scout troop is in the process of purchasing a larger shed to replace the current old 6x8 shed adjacent to the fuel oil tank off the back parking lot. Placement of the new 10x16 shed will be in the same immediate area and result in the replacement of the current trash area with a new fenced area to the right of the current area. The colors were selected to match the current garden shed. (Editor's Addition: The Boy Scout Shed was delivered and installed on Thursday, December 29. Trash holding area is still in progress.)

Grounds Maintenance: Top soil was purchased to cover exposed tree roots on the grounds. Clean up of fallen tree limbs, trimming of low hanging tree limbs, and removal of a bush invaded by wild rose and poison ivy, was completed. Fall leaf mulching continues in November. Snow shoveling volunteers needed for the winter.

Refrigerator – Fellowship Hall: Our current refrigerator in the Fellowship Hall kitchen, although only a few years old, has several very slow leaks in the evaporator coil that are not repairable. To repair this unit, the evaporator coil needs to be replaced at about ½ the cost of replacing the entire unit. After researching costs and equipment ratings, the Fellowship Committee decided replacement would best serve the church in the long run and will include a budget item for 2017 to replace the refrigerator.

I hope you found the information provided informative, and if you have any questions, please feel free to ask.

Just one more thing - Too often word of mouth to another church member fails to get repair needs to our attention. When you notice something that needs repair by the Property Committee, please write it in the steno notebook found in the "Property Mail Bin" in the office (include your name in case we have questions). Property Committee members check this book regularly and will evaluate any issue reported. You can check the status of your issue by checking the book – we list what action is needed and when completed. Thanks for your help by reporting issues.

Submitted by:

Michael Puglia
Chair – Property Committee

Prayer Shawl Ministry – 2016

I have 4 people who actively help to knit or crochet. We have made 81 prayer shawls this year. Maybe we can make 100 for next year. We welcome any new people and will supply you with yarn. New donations of yarn are constantly being received and we thank you for it.

Thanks,
Susie Lutz

Northern Berks Community Garden – 2016

First of all, a huge thank you to everyone for all of their support during our 3rd Garden season. Thanks to our volunteers, who come out as often as they can to help in the garden; and thanks to our supporters, who continue to donate funds and supplies, encourage our efforts, and pray for our ministry.

Our new crop this year was acorn squash. It grew well, and was well received at the pantries. We set a new record with 8,224 pounds of produce grown in the Garden this season. This year, produce was donated to the Northern Berks Food Pantry (Hamburg), Schuylkill Valley Food Pantry, Keystone Military Pantry, Hamburg Salvation Army, Friend Inc. Kutztown, Wyndcliffe Apartments and Franklin and Noble Manor residents. Produce was also donated for this summer's Opportunity House meals prepared by Zion's members. In addition, we were able to purchase and donate 20 bushels of apples for the Hamburg and Schuylkill Valley Food Pantries this fall. That's another 900 pounds of produce, for a total of 9124 pounds donated this year. Wow!

Any donations given to us this Christmas season will be used to purchase fresh produce for local food pantries, so we can continue to provide nutritious food to the needy of our community this winter.

The Northern Berks Community Garden continues to be self-sustaining, with no funds used from Zion's operating budget. We continue to run on support from congregation members and community organizations and businesses. We have been truly blessed by the support of our ministry and look forward to our 4th season in 2017.

To join our committee, or to volunteer in the Garden, contact any committee member or email communitygarden@zionslutheran.org. See you in the spring!

Submitted by:
Eileen Puglia, Northern Berks Community Garden Secretary

2016 Committee Members: Wanda Bechtel (Chairperson), David Ketner (Vice-Chairperson), Eileen Puglia (Secretary and Church Council Liaison), Lori Palubinski (Volunteer Coordinator).

Boy Scout Troop 163 Report – 2016



The following is a summary of Boy Scout Troop 163 activities throughout the 2016 year. We hold our Monday evening meetings at the Church primarily to plan for these activities.

We began our year as usual with our annual council-wide Klondike Derby held at Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation. This is an outdoor activity course which teaches Scouts many skills in a competitive and fun way. We then spent the next few weeks doing activities in our meetings and preparing for our March 14th Crossover Ceremony. This ceremony is held annually to welcome our Cub Scouts into the Troop that are advancing from their Webelos II rank. We welcomed six Crossover boys this year! The following week on March 22nd we assisted with the Berks County Food Pantry serving food to the community leading up to the Easter holiday. This is a semi annual community service project for us along with the Christmas Food Pantry service night.

We spent the next couple of Troop meeting weeks while waiting for Spring working on an Automotive Maintenance merit badge as a Troop before prepping to help out at Take Pride In Blue Marsh Day. This is an annual service project in which we participate by joining with other Troops in the local council to assist the Army Corp of Engineers with improvements around the Lake. On May 9th we held a Flag Retirement ceremony during our normal Troop meeting time to properly and respectfully dispose of old and tattered American Flags. We do this annually, or as needed, depending on the amount of flags collected. Please encourage the Zions congregation to turn in old flags to the Troop if they would like us to dispose of them properly!

With Summer approaching the boys look forward to our last meeting before break, and for good reason....our annual last day water battle!! This is a Troop annual tradition to celebrate the coming of Summer. Next on the agenda, Summer Camp! The Troop attended camp from July 17th – July 23rd this year where we enjoyed the outdoors and completed 53 individual Merit Badges. Between scouts 17 attended. Summer Camp was followed by our annual Perry Park car show on August 14th. This annual event is a great fund raiser that finances almost all of our Troop activities throughout the year. We take a short break after the show before starting back up in September for our Fall season.

The Troop started back up on September 12th with a trailer cleanup night to reorganize equipment used during camp and our car show. We also held elections for Troop leadership positions.

The Troop spent October working on various tasks in Troop as well as planning a backpacking trip. We had one of our older Scouts take a three day hike with two of our leaders to complete his Hiking Merit Badge . On November 5th the troop distributed, through door hangers and an automated phone call, approximately 800 requests to the local community for non-perishable food items for the Berks Food Bank. The following Saturday, November 12th five skids of food were collected from the local community and delivered to the Berks Food Bank! This was a record collection in recent years for the Troop! On Monday, November 7th we held a Court of Honor to celebrate recent Scout accomplishments such as Merit Badges and rank advancements.

During the month of December the Troop assisted with the Berks Food Pantry at the Hamburg Middle School on December 13th. Our Troop had a Christmas Party on December 19th before breaking for the Holidays.

During the past few months, the Troop worked with the Zions Committee to replace the old shed that was given to the Troop to use for equipment storage. The she was delivered in mid December. This slightly larger shed will give us enough space for existing equipment plus allow us to remove the large box containing our Cub Scout race track from the Church stage as well as various supplies stored under the stage.

The preceding was just a brief overview of our Troop activities for the year. The Scouts derive much fun and education our boys get out of the Scouting Program. We're all looking forward to another fun-filled year ahead! Below is a listing of our leaders who make this all happen, often behind the scenes. These members, with the help of other Scout parents, have worked hard all year on Troop activities as well as their personal required training to be leaders in the Troop. A listing of training certifications for these leaders was provided to the church over this past summer. We are also looking forward to adding a few members to our adult volunteers in the next couple of months. These individuals are currently working on their mandatory clearances and training before registering with the Troop in 2017.

Sincerely,

Jesse Strausser

Scoutmaster, Troop 163

Troop Leadership: Neil Oswalt, Assistant Scoutmaster; Bryn Kolbe, Assistant Scoutmaster; Traci Heffner, Charter Representative; Sharon Bausher, Treasurer; Jamie Bausher, Advancement Coordinator

Labyrinth Taskforce Report – 2016

The Labyrinth Taskforce has held eight meetings throughout 2016. The first meeting of the Labyrinth Taskforce was held on April 7, 2016. At this time the group consisted of thirteen people. At this meeting the group discussed what a labyrinth is and what it might look like. Several members shared their experiences with a labyrinth and how it may benefit our congregation. At the next meeting members of the group discussed their visions of the labyrinth for our congregation and shared a slideshow of labyrinths in our area. In June, Trevor Fegley constructed a temporary labyrinth at the congregational picnic for attendees to experience what a labyrinth is used for and how it can encourage spiritual growth. In September, Marlene Druckenmiller from St. Paul's in Douglasville visited the adult Sunday School class to share the procedure of how her church created and constructed a labyrinth. At the following meetings, possible locations on the church property were considered for the labyrinth, and research and discussion occurred on each site. The needs and wants of a possible labyrinth were discussed and costs were researched to create a proposal for the congregation. Different businesses throughout the community were contacted by group members to gather costs to form a possible budget. The following proposals were created to provide options and view what materials could be used to create the labyrinth.

Submitted by Lisa Fegley

Taskforce members: Trevor Fegley (chairperson), Lisa Fegley, Mike Puglia, David Geschwindt, Dianne Geschwindt, Barbara Schafer, Ruth Ann Eyer, Barbara Seidel, Pastor Bruce Osterhout

Possible Budget: 3 Possible Proposals

Cost for barrier pattern-\$2,000 estimate

A.R. Adams gave prices for stone/pavers (Free delivery)

Glen Gery bricks are offering bricks/pavers at a reduced rate for the church

Potts gave prices for shrubbery and trees.

45 ft. diameter 25-30 in. pathways

990ft round trip

Line length 578ft

Crushed Stone and edging (bricks)

867 bricks @ \$.65/brick= \$563.55 (A.R. Adams price)

1000 bricks from Glen Gery= \$125

Stone 2 1/2" deep color blue \$647

Stone 2 1/2" deep color red \$1,060

Cost for barrier \$2,000

Total estimate \$3,210.55-\$3,623.55 (A.R. Adams)

\$2,772-\$3,185 (Glen Gery)



Bricks

4.5 X 2,827 = 12,722 bricks @ \$.65/brick = \$8,269 (A.R. Adams)

12,722/1000 = 12.722x \$125 = \$1,590.25 (Glen Gery)

Cost for barrier \$2,000

Total estimate \$10,269 (A.R. Adams)

\$3,590.25 (Glen Gery)



Pavers

2,827X 4=11,308 pavers @ \$.77/paver= \$8,707 + cost of sand base (A.R. Adams)

11,308/1000=11.308x \$125= \$1,413.50 + cost of sand base (Glen Gery)

Cost for barrier \$2,000

Total estimate \$10,707 + cost of sand base (A.R. Adams)

\$1,413.50 + cost of sand base (Glen Gery)

Excavation costs can be estimated from the garden project

Shrubbery for an 8 foot bed

6 arborvitae 4-5 ft. (height) \$20 each \$120

6 daylilies \$10-12 each \$60-72

Mulch \$150

Trees are more expensive \$150+



Administrative Assistant Report – 2016

I want to thank everyone for helping me in my new journey as Zion's Lutheran Administrative Assistant, beginning February 2016. The Church office has had a beautiful make over, well organized and functioning. Thank you to all who have taken the time to help guide me in the office. Thank you to all who have helped me learn how to function as Administrative Assistant. Lastly, thank you to all who have taken the time to help and volunteer in office duties, such as folding bulletins, proofreading, organizing etc. Thank you for your patience and kindness. Looking forward to a Great 2017.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amanda Grow

Our Purpose Statement:

God's Purpose for Zion's is to welcome and empower people
to grow in faithfulness and service to His mission
through the Gospel.

† Jesus is Lord and Savior †

† Honest and open communication †

† Create and sustain healthy relationships †

† Share our faith through our daily life †

† Recognize and encourage people's spiritual gifts †

† Perseverance †

† A congregation united in Christ making Zion's a destination not an obligation. †

Zion's Evangelical Lutheran Church

2016 Adult Choir Report

January 2017

At the beginning of November 2015, Donald Ryan was offered and accepted the Choir Director position, which was being filled by Interim Choir Director, Pastor Julie Osterhout.

The Adult choir continues to provide meaningful and spiritual experiences during worship. During the past year, the members of the Adult Choir have continued their music ministry to the church through their singing of anthems and special music.

From time to time, the choir has been blessed with guests to its ranks. The choir has scheduled weekly rehearsals on Wednesday evenings at 7:15 p.m. and Sunday mornings prior to church. The following people have given their time and talents to the choir during the year through singing or instrumental accompaniment to the choir: Cleta Borkey, Andrew Brett, Mark Dreibelbis, Janine Dreibelbis, Ned Dresher, Paul Gruber, Tiffany Gruber, Samantha Gruber, Jeanette Heckman, Carolyn Hollenbach, Ruth Hoppes, Wellesley Keal *choir accompanist*, Tom Kissinger *trumpet*, David Klemmer, Harley Ludy *bass*, Susie Lutz, Mary Mengle, Brian Moroney *drums*, Sandra Moroney, Bruce Osterhout, Julie Osterhout, Meghan Reimer *oboe*, Cecily Ryan, Michaela Ryan, Christy Ryan, Kyle Schumacher, Barbara Seidel, Don Shilke, Linda Sousley, Steve Turner and Ruth Wilhelm

In 2016, the Choir participated in three services that involved several parishes: Ash Wednesday (Smoke Church), Pentecost (Shoey Churches), and a service in October (St. Luke's). The choir learned anthems that were jointly sung with the other choirs.

During the summer months, Zion's had the opportunity to share in the musical talents of Wellesley Keal, Carol Rothermel, Christy Ryan, Cecily Ryan and Michaela Ryan providing special music during the Offering.

In August, Wellesley Keal's resignation as organist was accepted. Mrs. Keal's talent, inspiration, insightfulness and dedication brought a create deal to the music program at Zion's over the last seven years. In September, Donald Ryan was hired as Interim Organist.

In September, the Ryan family offered special music in worship to celebrate the church's Rally Day. There was organ music, piano selections, vocal solos and duets.

On December 4, Zion's was welcomed by the thirty voiced mixed ensemble Aerial Boundaries from Hamburg Area High School, under the direction of Mrs. Jackson. AB enhanced our Advent worship with selections from the English Carol traditions.

The ministry of music is a special calling. It demands much time, ability and faithfulness. God has given each member special gifts. I have felt fortunate to be able to mutually share in a music ministry with everyone as they share these gifts with Zion's Evangelical Church. We offer ourselves freely to this ministry through music with gratitude and thankfulness.

Respectfully submitted,



Donald Ryan, Director of Music
Zion's Evangelical Lutheran Church