

Zion's *Visitor*
 Zion Evangelical Church
 117 West White Street
 Millstadt, IL 62260-1939

NON-PROFIT
 ORGANIZATION
 U.S.
 POSTAGE
 PAID
 PERMIT #12



Zion Evangelical Church
 Serving in Christ's Name Since 1835

From the Desk of Pastor Darrell



Lenten Schedule

The Lenten Season (which is the 40 fasting / self-examination days before Easter, not counting Sundays) begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14th. The theme for this year's Lenten Services is Jesus' "I Am" statements in the Gospel of John. Through these bold statements, we will come to know Jesus (who he is and what he has done) more fully. The Lenten sermon schedule is listed below:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>JOHN</u>	<u>I AM</u>
2/14	15:01-11	the True Vine
2/21	14:01-11	the Way, the Truth & the Life
2/28	11:17-44	the Resurrection & the Life
3/06	10:11-18	the Good Shepherd
3/13	10:01-10	the Gate
3/20	09:01-41	the Light of the World

During Lent, we are vividly reminded of Jesus' Sacrificial death. As **Phil. 2:5-8**, states, "*Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death — even death on a cross!*"

Through Jesus' sacrificial death, our (that is everyone who places their faith in Jesus) sins are forgiven, and we are made right with God, as **Eph. 1:7** says, "*In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace.*"

We make this special point to lift up Jesus' Sacrifice for three reasons. **First**, to call all people, Christians and non-Christians, to face their sins (*Confess them*), and to change their ways from wrong to right (*Repent of their sins*). **Second**, to call those who have never invited Jesus Christ into their lives, to do so now (*by Faith, trusting in Jesus to truly forgive their sins*). And **Third**, to call us to actively follow Jesus (*live a good life for Him by the power of the Holy Spirit*), and serve Jesus (*build His Church by the power of the Holy Spirit, using our abilities to bring others to Christ and meet their needs*).

Therefore, these Lenten services are really a Crusade for Christ, kind of like a Billy-Graham Crusade. So, I encourage you, young and old, to come. And I encourage you to invite you relatives, neighbors, school friends, and coworkers to come. For **(Rev. 22 :17)**, "*The Spirit and the bride say, 'Come!' And let him who hears say, 'Come!' Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life.*"

Christ's blessings to you and your family;
 Pastor Darrell

February 2024

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We love because He first loved us. 1 John 4:19

CHURCH DIRECTORY
 Office: 618-476-1778

Rev. Darrell Weber, Pastor
 Office/Fax 476-1778, ext. 2
 After hours phone: 618-972-6010
 zion@zionmillstadt.com

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Dave Maeder, Custodian - 618-975-6355
 Church E-Mail: zion@zionmillstadt.com
 Church Website: http://www.zionmillstadt.com

Christian Education
 Heather Kish (27) 618-420-4448
 Jodi Notter (25) 618-698-1890
 Debbie Doerr (26) 618-514-3917

Sisters in Faith
 Meets Sept., Oct., Nov., March, April and May at 12:00 p.m.
 President - Charlotte Mehrstens - 476-1267

Z Team
 Meets every Tuesday morning at 8:30 a.m.
 Coordinator - Gary Shondy - 618-281-6509

CHURCH COUNCIL
 (Every Second Monday of the Month - 7:00 p.m.)

Darren Doerr	(26)	618-980-5055
Annette Hund	(25)	618-719-6306 (Vice Pres.)
Kurt Pellmann	(25)	618-781-0903 (President)
Barb Scharf	(25)	618-973-0289
Joshua Seidlitz	(27)	618-363-4634
Andrew Taake	(27)	618-973-1006
Kurt Tegtmeier	(27)	618-233-8384
Betty Keller Timmer	(26)	618-520-3623 (Secretary)
Sherry Wynn	(26)	618-615-7915

(00) indicates the year that the Council Member's term expires.

Worship Schedule

9:00 AM - Adult Bible Classes/SS/Conf
 10:15 AM - Worship Service

Office Hours

Amanda Frierdich
 Monday through Thursday
 From 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
 Lunch 12:00 - 12:30
 Friday 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.



Lay Liturgist Schedule for February

We have 12 liturgists who read the Scriptures: *Joy Dormeier, David Harres, Tracy Holmes, Linda Hopfinger, Annette Hund, Sean Mahoney, Kay Mehrstens, Vicki Pellmann, Joyce Tastad, Richard Trent, Dave Woehlke, and Marjie Weber.*

We are looking for more volunteers to read the Scriptures during our Worship Services. If you are interested, please contact the Church Office (476-1778) to be signed up. The Lay Liturgist schedule is given below. To make a change, contact someone listed below.

Feb. 4	Dave Woehlke	618-719-3616	dlwoehlke1959@Charter.net
Feb. 11	Dave Harres	618-806-9567	twigsharres@hotmail.com
Feb. 18	Joy Dormeier	618-401-3484	skyfarmjoy@gmail.com
Feb. 25	Tracy Holmes	618-791-5922	tlholmes1971@gmail.com

Lenten Meals

Due to the low turn out for our Potluck Lenten meals last year, our Council has decided to have only 3 Lenten meals - those hosted by: the Council on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 14th; the Z-Team on Wednesday, Feb. 21st; and the Sisters-in-Faith on Maundy Thursday, March 28th.



“What Can Wash Away My Sin? (Nothing But the Blood of JESUS),” by Robert Lowry (1876)

What can wash away my sin? *Nothing but the blood of JESUS;*
 What can make me whole again? *Nothing but the blood of JESUS.*

Refrain

Oh! precious is the flow That makes me white as snow;
 No other fount I know, *Nothing but the blood of JESUS.*

For my pardon, this I see, *Nothing but the blood of JESUS;*
 For my cleansing this my plea, *Nothing but the blood of JESUS*
 Refrain

Nothing can for sin atone, *Nothing but the blood of JESUS;*
 Naught of good that I have done, *Nothing but the blood of JESUS.*
 Refrain

This is all my hope and peace, *Nothing but the blood of JESUS;*
 This is all my righteousness, *Nothing but the blood of JESUS.*
 Refrain

Now by this I'll overcome, *Nothing but the blood of JESUS;*
 Now by this I'll reach my home, *Nothing but the blood of JESUS.*
 Refrain

Glory! Glory! This I sing, *Nothing but the blood of JESUS;*
 All my praise for this I bring, *Nothing but the blood of JESUS.*
 Refrain

Note: In our Hymnal this is #223, and it only has the verses 1-4. I found the following description of this hymn at: <https://www.hymnologyarchive.com/nothing-but-the-blood-of-jesus>

“Nothing but the blood of Jesus” ... comes in part from **Heb. 9:22**, which says, “*Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins*” (ESV). More importantly, no one else’s blood could achieve the kind of once-and-for-all forgiveness offered by Jesus. **Eph. 1:7** tells us, “*In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace,*” and in the same passage of Hebrews we see the permanence of this gift versus the cyclical offerings of the old law, since “*he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself*” (**Heb. 9:26**).

Zion Evangelical Church

February 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3						
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		



Bunco Game!

\$5.00 Bunco
Sunday — February 18
1:00 pm

Trinity Lutheran Church
503 E. Washington
Millstadt, IL

Doors open at 12:30 pm.
 Elevator available.

For reservations or more information, please call Sharon at 618-476-3299. Leave a message with your name, telephone number and number of players.



February

Saturday, March 9th

TRIVIA NIGHT

Father Freund Parish Center
423 West Madison
Millstadt, IL



Doors open 6:30 p.m.
Play starts at 7:00 p.m.
\$15 per person (includes 10 mulligans)
6 - 8 people per table
Bring your own snacks & beverages
Soda available for purchase
(popcorn provided)



For reservations or information
Contact: Stacy Woehlke
Call/text 618-719-5512
e-mail: trivia@zionmillstadt.com



Proceeds benefit
 Zion Evangelical Church

MEMORIAL HOSPITAL BOOK BAZAAR 2024

Collection of books began will start back up on Tuesdays and Thursdays, January 9th through March 16th, 2024.

Please drop off books at the Hospital Warehouse or you may bring them to church and arrangements will be made for pickup. Please, NO encyclopedias. Thank you!

Come join us...

Concordia United Church of Christ
 7600 State Route 163
 Corner of 163 & Concordia Road
 (Millstadt)

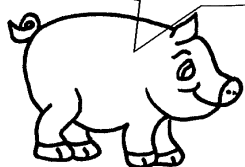
PANCAKE & SAUSAGE BREAKFAST
 (Pancakes: Buttermilk, Oatmeal or Gluten-Free)

February 24, 2024
 7:00 am to 10:00 am

Adults - \$9.00
 Children - \$6.00
 Under 5 - Free

All You Can Eat!!

Baked Goods For Sale



Also embedded in this hymn, in the refrain and in the second stanza, we see the unique idea of a *cleansing* blood, two ideas otherwise incompatible, but found in a description of the great multitude of heaven, who *“have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb”* (Rev. 7:14). In the third stanza, the denial of good works comes from passages like Eph. 2:8–10. In the fourth stanza, the hope and peace expressed by Lowry are expressed in passages like Titus 2:13, which calls Jesus *“our blessed hope,”* and Romans 5:1, which says, *“since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”* Any righteousness we might hope to attain is imparted to us by Jesus (2 Cor. 5:21). Stanza 5 describes an overcoming faith (1 John 2:13–14, 4:4, 5:4–5). Lastly, the appropriate response to such a gift is exuberant praise (1 Peter 1:3–7).

The Evangelical Catechism Traditional Orthodox Edition of 1896

I am continuing the series of articles on the 1896 edition of the Evangelical Catechism, republished in modern English by the Evangelical Association in 2018. This article covers the 15th of 52 weeks in the catechism. This continues the section on the Christian Faith. Weeks 14 through 19 focus on describing God’s character and nature.

Week 16 is composed of question 47.

47. What is the meaning of: God is holy?

In His being and in His will God is good and pure; therefore He loves only that which is good and pure; but judges and condemns that which is evil. Matthew 19:17; Isaiah 6:3; 1 Peter 1:15-16.

May you be blessed as you examine this founding statement of our Evangelical faith and heritage.



Pastor’s Vacation

Marjie & I are going on our first ever cruise. We are going on a *“Love like you mean it marriage cruise”* put on by Family Life. We depart from Miami and go to the Cayman Islands, Jamaica, and Ocean Cay - MSC Marine Resort, before returning to Miami. And, we are travelling with good friends, Rev. Rick & Marilyn Mortimer.

We fly out early Sunday morning, Feb. 4th, and return Sunday evening, Feb. 11th. Evangelical Association Pastor, Rev. Dawson Miller (from Columbia, IL) will lead Worship on Feb. 4th. And, Lay Pastor Gary Franke (from our sister Church, Bethesda Evangelical Church in South St. Louis) will lead Worship on Feb. 11th.



Women’s Sunday – Sunday, February 18

Sunday, Feb. 18, will be our Women’s Sunday at Zion. Women from Zion will participate in leading many aspects of Worship (10:15 a.m.). We intend to recognize Zion’s Women: Board of Christian Education (BCE), Church Council, Creative Souls, Liturgists, Missions Committee, Musicians, Prayer Chain, Sewing Circle, Sisters-in-Faith (Women’s Fellowship), Sunday School Teachers, Sunday School Christmas Program, Vacation Bible School, Zion’s many fund raisers, including Trivia Night, Garage Sale, Wurstmart, and Z-Team.



Trivia Night & Silent Auction – Saturday, March 9

Our annual Trivia Night & Silent Auction is scheduled for Saturday, March 9, at 7:00 p.m. It will be held at the Father Freund Parish Center at St. James Catholic Church (405 W. Madison in Millstadt).

We are looking for donations for the silent auction. Please bring them to the church office during business hours (M-F, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.). See the flyer in the Visitor for more details about the Trivia Night and Silent Auction.



February Birthdays



Shaun Green	02/02	Art Wynn	02/15
Bob Seidlitz	02/03	Les Mehrtens	02/16
Brady Arnold	02/04	Dylan Wilson	02/18
Mary Lou Peter	02/04	Eileen Brovan	02/19
Garry Haas	02/05	Evan Arnold	02/22
Taylor Forbeck	02/07	Tyler Wilson	02/24
Sue Kreher	02/07	Carol Albert	02/25
Barbara Scharf	02/07	Emma Kuester	02/25
Evan Wessel	02/11	Pearl Griebel	02/27
Terry Grossmann	02/13	Drew Kish	02/27
Stacie Grootenboer	02/14	Lucille Reece	02/29
Kasey Launius	02/14		

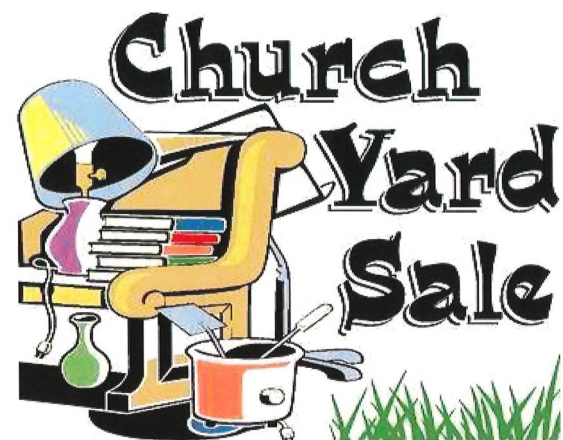


Bill Savering's Ordination

In spite of the extreme cold on Sunday, January 14th, we ordained Bill Savering. In the above photo are: Pastor Darrell*, EA Licensed Pastor Gary Franke*, Pastor Dean Klossner, Rev. Dr. Mark Friz*, Rev. Jim Barnes*, Rev. Bill Savering*, Rev. Dr. Rick Mortimer*, Rev. John Roberts*, Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Willey, and EA Licensed Pastor Dave Johnson. Note: "*" indicates they have preached here at Zion.

Bill has begun serving as the Interim Pastor of 2 churches near Owensville, MO: St. Paul - Cooper Hill and St. James - Charlotte.

Bill will be living in the Owensville area 4 days a week and be back at his home outside of Waterloo the rest of the week. Barb will stay close to her mom, Loraine. So she will be with Bill every other week.



**Church
Yard
Sale**
Saturday, May 4th
8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Looking to declutter your home?

Send unwanted items our way.

Drop off Tuesday mornings or call the Church office (476-1778) to schedule a pickup for bigger items.

Zion Church is located at:

117 West White Street, Millstadt



The Z Team started vacation on December 19th by having breakfast at Reinhardt's. 16 guys attended.

We then had our Christmas Party at the VFW. Everyone enjoyed the food and the evening. A big thanks to Debbie Doerr and Helen Vigna for making the table decorations. Thanks to Kathi Trent for providing the games. Big thanks to the guys and gals who donated all the free food. Thanks to the ladies who made the desserts for the party.

Vacation ended January 2nd for some. There is one guy who didn't go on vacation - Gary Hammel continued to check on the boiler. Big thanks Gary!

We took down and stored the manger scene.

Some young trees were trimmed up.

Christmas green boxes were put away in the basement.

We have been working on the outside water hydrant that was dripping, but we can't find the right parts. We will have to wait until Spring.

Gary Shondy

Oak Hill Nursing Home

Shirley Brandenburger
Pearl Griebel

Our Lady of the Snows

Betty Baltz

Garden Place at Millstadt

Marianne Baltz
Marilyn Beil
Dianne (Muskopf) Mehrmann
Dottie Rickard

The Atrium of Belleville

John Kalbfleisch

The Villas of Holly Brook

Don Mueller

Freeburg Care Center

Arlene Dohrmann

February Anniversaries (50+ years)

Wayne & Judith Jones
55 years on the 14th



AMERICAN RED CROSS
BLOOD DRIVE
2024 SCHEDULE
WEDNESDAYS

ST. JAMES
JANUARY 24, 2024
MARCH 20, 2024
MAY 29, 2024
JULY 24, 2024
SEPTEMBER 18, 2024

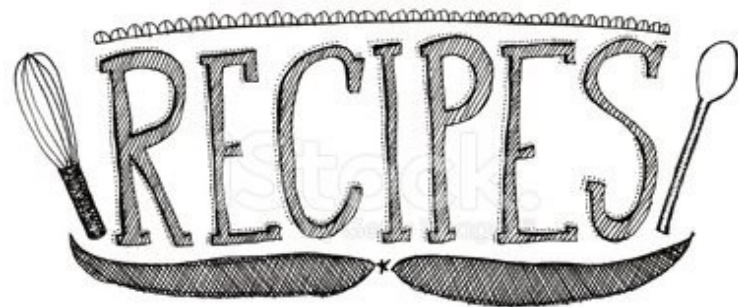
VFW
NOVEMBER 13, 2024

To schedule an appointment
1-800-733-2767 or
visit RedCrossBlood.org
Bring Photo ID

Treasurer's Report

2023	GENERAL FUND - Updated Version					
	2023 INCOME	2023 EXPENSE	difference	BUDGET 2023	2022 INCOME	2022 EXPENSE
January	\$19,575.07	\$27,228.77	\$ (7,653.70)	\$ 20,442.00	\$ 17,103.09	\$ 21,309.34
February	\$19,135.11	\$29,700.64	\$ (10,565.53)	\$ 20,442.00	\$ 17,135.69	\$ 18,881.14
March	\$17,094.66	\$19,708.48	\$ (2,613.82)	\$ 20,442.00	\$ 26,484.04	\$ 20,985.79
April	\$30,417.21	\$28,239.45	\$ 2,177.76	\$ 20,442.00	\$ 18,035.02	\$ 23,939.45
May	\$15,956.14	\$34,598.97	\$ (18,642.83)	\$ 20,442.00	\$ 19,504.14	\$ 17,124.96
June	\$9,208.61	\$16,591.59	\$ (7,382.98)	\$ 20,442.00	\$ 10,515.28	\$ 28,671.99
July	\$23,961.75	\$36,382.84	\$ (12,421.09)	\$ 20,442.00	\$ 19,274.63	\$ 16,962.38
August	\$18,685.51	\$15,040.61	\$ 3,644.90	\$ 20,442.00	\$ 13,571.24	\$ 17,480.61
September	\$17,977.92	\$21,911.42	\$ (3,933.50)	\$ 20,442.00	\$ 18,093.74	\$ 18,977.58
October	\$22,409.09	\$24,934.93	\$ (2,525.84)	\$ 20,442.00	\$ 19,747.35	\$ 21,492.17
November	\$28,167.36	\$24,257.77	\$ 3,909.59	\$ 20,442.00	\$ 20,625.21	\$ 46,594.67
December	\$53,732.24	\$23,060.70	\$ 30,671.54	\$ 20,442.00	\$ 33,857.51	\$ 38,777.17
TOTALS	\$ 276,320.67	\$ 301,656.17	\$ (25,335.50)	\$ 245,304.00	\$ 233,946.94	\$ 291,197.25

Please note: The high 2023 Expense amount is due to the new park building and landscaping (\$16,328.48), new lawn mower (\$11,175.75), fence at the cemetery (\$21,214.73), new sound system (\$1,174.67) and new lights for the tower (\$2,420.00), all of which were purchased with designated funds.



Stuffed Strawberries

- 1 pint fresh strawberries
- 8 oz. cream cheese, softened
- 1/2 cup confectioner's sugar
- 2 T orange juice



Cut the tops off the strawberries and stand upright on the cut side. Make a cut 3/4 of the way down from the tip of the strawberry towards the bottom. Beat together the cream cheese, sugar and juice until smooth. Place in a piping bag. Pipe into each strawberry and arrange on a serving platter. Enjoy!



ATTENDANCE - SUNDAYS

MONTH	ONLINE AVE. 2023	IN PERSON AVE. 2023
January	10	68
February	8	69
March	5	70
April	9	91
May	7	64
June	7	68
July	2	56
August	4	61
September	6	61
October	6	64
November	6	85
December	9	75
Christmas Eve	16	197
Year-to-Date	6	69



Council Meeting January 8, 2024

ATTENDANCE: Council members present were President Kurt Pellmann, Sherry Wynn, Barb Scharf, Annette Hund, Betty Ann Keller Timmer, Darren Doerr, Joshua Seidlitz, Andrew Taake, Kurt Tegtmeier, Pastor Darrell Weber, and Office Administrator Amanda Frierdich. Kurt Pellmann called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Pastor Darrell gave an opening prayer.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Amanda had emailed copies of the Treasurer's Report and Missions Report to members prior to the meeting, and copies of both were also available at the meeting. Annette asked a question concerning a check that had been made directly to the Salvation Army by a Zion member; this will be sent directly to the Salvation Army. Pastor Darrell noted that the total of 2023 Missions donations was almost \$5,000 more than in 2022 – an increase of approximately 33%. Amanda also had revised copies of the September 30, October 31 and November 30 reports. After a brief discussion, Barb Scharf made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, and Sherry Wynn seconded; motion carried. Zion had received a letter from St. James Parish concerning the new rental fees for the Parish Hall. The letter had stated that the rent would be increasing to \$1,000 for activities attended by more than 100 people. Amanda contacted St. James to clarify this. We should have received a second letter, which allows for a lesser fee for smaller organizations. The new rental fee is \$255, plus a \$70 fee for clean-up by St. James after the event. Council authorized Amanda to "make it official" for March 9, 2024. We also received a thank you from the Millstadt Community Choir for the use of our facilities for rehearsals, performances, starting location for the home tour and storage of music, and a \$300 donation.

Mike Germann then joined the meeting with information on a floor scrubber. Mike explained that the Z-Team had tried to clean the floor in the Fellowship Hall, but ran into some problems. He had prices on three machines, and recommended the Timberline S17 Traction Drive Walk Behind Small Floor Scrubber, which costs \$5,999. Discussion followed on some options – possibly hiring a company to steam clean the floor or renting a machine. Barb made a motion to purchase the recommended machine, using the interest from the In Loving Trust Window Fund; Annette seconded the motion. By a vote of 8 to 1 the motion carried. Council will ask the congregation to approve the purchase and use of the In Loving Trust Window Fund interest at the annual congregation meeting on January 21.

BCE Report: Pastor Darrell reported that the BCE did not meet in December, but will meet in January.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: The December 11, 2023 and January 7, 2024 minutes were reviewed by Council. A motion was made by Sherry and seconded by Andrew to approve the minutes; motion carried.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Pastor Darrell had sent his Pastor's Report of his activities for the previous month to Council members. December was a very active month with all of the Advent and Christmas activities as well as nursing home and home visits and communion. Pastor thanked Council for hosting ten pastors from the Evangelical Association who were here on December 13 for the Ecclesiastical Council examination of Bill Saverling; five Zion Council members were also in attendance. Bill's ordination is set for January 14th at 3:00 p.m., to be followed by a light luncheon and desserts, which will be served by the Sisters-In-Faith. Pastor Darrell also noted that the Church's General Fund actually finished the year 2023 "in the black" once adjustments were made for expenses paid from other designated accounts, and the average in-person attendance for 2023 was up three people per service. He suggested that by this Fall we should begin working with the Evangelical Association to get a profile written to begin the search process for his replacement. He noted that the Evan-

gelical Association currently has more pastors than churches. A motion was made by Barb, and seconded by Sherry, to accept Pastor Darrell's report; motion carried.

RENEWING ZION CHURCH: No report at this time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Audit & Budget. (Barb Scharf). The committee, consisting of Mike Hund, Linda Hopfinger, and Stacy Woehlke, will be meeting on Wednesday January 10. Betty and Barb will also be in attendance, since Barb will now be heading this committee.

Long Range Ministry (Andrew Taake). Andrew will now be leading this committee. Council discussed some potential fellowship events for the year.

Missions & Outreach. (Betty Keller Timmer). Pastor Darrell will send out a list of members. Betty will now be the Council member on this committee.

Staff/Parish Relations. (Darren Doerr). Darren was contacted by a person who currently is cleaning two other smaller churches. Darren will pursue this further.

Property & Long Range. (Josh Seidlitz). Josh will be the new head of this committee. Kurt T. suggested a possible use of the parsonage, instead of it being vacant. Council would rather keep it available for the new pastor.

Volunteer Ministries. (Sherry Wynn). Sherry will again head this committee.

Worship & Music. (Annette Hund). Kurt P. complimented Annette in recruiting members who performed prior to the Christmas Eve service.

Cemetery Board. (Kurt Tegtmeier). The tax form that Rich Hof-felmeyer had mentioned at the December meeting has been taken care of. Kurt T. will now be the head of this committee.

OLD BUSINESS:

Property Sale. The Village of Millstadt is asking for a variance for the Church to sell the one-acre from the Church Park – this is a formality to finish the transaction.

EA Renewal Form. By consensus, the annual renewal form was approved.

Ordination Certificate. Because Zion Evangelical Church is ordaining Bill Saverling, Council members signed his ordination certificate.

NEW BUSINESS:

Lenten Meals. Council will prepare the meal for Ash Wednesday, February 14. Annette will make spaghetti sauce, Kurt P. and Sherry will make salad, Darren will bring garlic bread, Andrew will bring the spaghetti, and Barb, Betty and Josh will bring desserts. Several of last year's Lenten meals were potlucks, and the attendance was down at them. We will check with the Sisters-In-Faith and the Z-Team to see if either group would like to serve a Lenten meal or the meal for Maundy Thursday.

Usher Schedule. Barb distributed copies of the 2024 usher schedule, including Council members' phone numbers.

Easter Breakfast. Annette read the 2023 Breakfast Report, and discussion followed for this year's.

Ring of the Bells. The confirmands are to be ringing the bells prior to the start of worship services.

Organ Problem. Pastor will check with Mary Lou Bretsch concerning the problem with the organ.

Meeting Adjourned: There being no further business to be discussed, a motion was made by Annette Hund, and seconded by Andrew Taake to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. Motion carried. Everyone joined hands to close with the Lord's Prayer.

Kurt Pellmann – President
Annette Hund – Vice-president
Barb Scharf – Assistant Treasurer
Betty Ann Keller Timmer – Secretary



Missions Article for February

Thank you for your generous support of our January mission - the Baby Bottle Fund Raiser. The Baby Bottle Fund Raiser supports the unborn life-saving work that takes place through the Life Network of Southern Illinois (<https://www.mylifenet.org>, 722 N. Market St., Waterloo, IL 62298, 618-939-4224). Our Deacon's Fund supports members and non-members in times of urgent need.

Our Mission of the Month for February is African Vision of Hope (AVOH) (<https://africanvisionofhope.org>). AVOH is a Christian organization committed to bringing immediate and lasting solutions to children and families living in extreme poverty in the country of Zambia, a country where about half the population is under age 15 and millions are orphaned and homeless.

In February we also support Blanket+ Sunday (on February 18). Your contributions provide blankets to be used by Church World Service (CWS, <https://cwsblankets.org>), to provide warmth, shelter, and a means of transporting the belongings of people who may be fleeing their homes in time of natural disasters or strife. Five dollars will purchase a sturdy blanket, and we urge you to support this important mission.

Of course, we also want to thank those members who never fail to bring food and household items for the Food Pantry. Bless you for helping the less fortunate with their needs. Be sure to bring your food and household items to church and place them in the collection box. Thank you for sharing your blessings with others!



Dear Church Family,

Thank you all for the many things over the years in support of our family, but a special thank you for supporting our ministry together. It has been a joy and pleasure to serve Christ with you all.

I hope to return shortly after these churches find a settled Pastor.

Love in Christ,
Bill Savering



Please keep the Fellowship Park and Hall in mind for your upcoming events. Call the office or stop by for a reservation form today!

In case of hospitalization or surgery, please notify our church office. When being admitted to a hospital, be sure to mention that you are affiliated with this congregation. This will help us keep you in our prayers and assist you in our ministry of care.

IN THE HOSPITAL IN FEBRUARY

CURRENT PRAYER LIST

Pray for strength and healing for the following:

Steve & Gerry Albert, Bruce Alberter, Emily Alberter, Donna Altemeier, Arik Barnes, Linda Barth, Wanda Basse, David Becherer, Marilyn Beil, Roche Beine, Trish Bell, Cindy Bertelsmann, Roberta Billhartz, Lindsay Bourn and Family, Baby Levi Boyle, Joyce Brand, Shirley Brandenburger, Steve Crook, Colsen Davinroy, Roger Davis, Sheila Davis (Jessi Doerr's Mother), Ann Dietrich, Melissa Dietrich, Bill Ditch, Annie Dulle, Brad Dye, Mark Eckman, Mark Emring, Linda Eurgil, Mike French, Fritz Fritzinger, Lynn Gass, Mary (Boerke) Graham, Greg, Pearl Griebel, Baby Adalyn Harres, Rich Heitz, Jack Higgins, Willie Holdener, Charlotte Hooch, Mary Hund, Gary & Sharon Jones, Steve Jones, Joyce Kasper, Nick Kassebaum, Jeff Kistner, Billy Klopmeier, Scott (Barbara Knoth's Son), Jim Kostelac, Elizabeth Koval, Tom & Renee Kreher, Kathy Kuehner, Family of Jessica LaDuke, Lucille Lang, Richard Mad-den, Erin Mahoney, Charlotte Mehrtens, Jan Morrin, Lance Morris, Anna Belle Muskopf, Dean Norrenbern, Andrea Nunnally, John & Karen O'Donnell, Jim O'Saben, Doris Obernagel, Baby Ariela Oliver, Pat Parrish (Wayne Jones's Sister), Janet Pauketat, Stephanie Poletti, Lois Potter, Diane Pulcher, Bruce Reese, Lucille Reece, Dottie Rickard, Rich Riemann, Donna Ritson, Jim Savering's Family (Bill Savering's Cousin), Lucille Schewe, Jan & Cindy Schneider, Jim Scott, Mitch Scott, Janice Seidlitz, Nancy Smith, Shelly Smith, Mike Speichinger, Sharon & Edgar Stallmann, Mary Stevenson, Lisa Taake, Steve Tade, Ray Teliczan, Mike Toenjes, Rich Trent, Elizabeth Tubbs, Baby Ty, Lacey Grace Valentine, Mark Vandermyde, Bill & Donna Ward, Mary Weldele, Joan Wilkins, Jeffrey Willey, Jim Wilshire, Crue Wilson, Marge Woehlke, Bart & Kelley.

SERVING OUR COUNTRY Sgt. Anthony Hanson, Jr., Kenny Wolf, Brandon Lester, Kasey Davis, Joe Morris, Kory Klein and Michael Barnes, Erin Green, Adam Stern, and Derek Ferguson serving overseas; Samantha Glæser, Jesse Eimer, Jason Parrish, Chris Lewis, Sharon Wirth, Al Wirth, Joshua Trent, and Tristen & Stefan Caswell serving in the States.

To add a name to our prayer list, please locate a communication card in the pews. Provide the name, address, phone, and reason for the prayer request - place the card in the offering plate or give it to an usher. You may also contact the church office between 8:30 a.m.- 3:30 p.m. weekdays or by leaving a message on our answering machine. Members of our prayer team will

If you would like to receive prayer chain information via e-mail, contact Barb Hohlt at barbhohlt@aol.com

CUSTODIAN NEEDED

We are looking for a custodian to clean the church. If you know anyone interested, please contact Darren Doerr (618-980-5055). Thank you!



Meal-a-Month Schedule

Let us not forget those who are less fortunate. There never seems to be an end to those who are in dire need. Your help is appreciated.

February
pasta side dishes
peanut butter
canned fruit
cleaning supplies

March
instant potatoes
jelly
Hamburger Helper
Jello or pudding

The Food Pantry is always looking for volunteers. Please consider donating your time to this worthy cause. Call Patti French at 618-660-4255 to sign up.