



## A Message from the Zion Lutheran Council President :

“In the beginning when God created the universe”; the opening sentence in the greatest book ever written, the Holy Bible. This book recounts God’s creation of our wonderful world and the humanity to whom it was entrusted. It also chronicles the triumphs and tragedies of that humanity through the ages, culminating in the death and glorious resurrection of His beloved Son and the promise that He will return in glory.

In the beginning; so starts the story of five German immigrant families who, in a tremendous leap of faith began a new church, built to resemble the cathedrals of Europe and which weathered triumphs and tragedies during 140 years of its’ history. Today that church stands poised for another story.

In the beginning there was a vision, perhaps viewed by some as an impossible dream, to repurpose Zion’s underutilized property and facilities to provide affordable housing to the Appleton community. As I am sure everyone is aware, there will be bumps in the road as we proceed, but with the strong faith that has endured for those 140 years, we can make the housing project a reality. Positive steps have already been taken. To assist in this worthy endeavor, we are considering having Pastor Jake serve on the development team and work with the project manager, Bonnie Nussbaum. (Please be aware that does not mean he returns in any pastoral capacity at this point, and I would hope everyone will honor that).

This is also an opportunity to say a sincere Thank You to all those dedicated individuals who made our Lenten meals, our wonderful Palm Sunday brunch and the Good Friday ecumenical service so successful. It is truly heart-warming to see the willingness of our members to give of their time, not to mention the delicious food, in order to create Zion’s community of faith and fellowship.

“May the grace of Lord Jesus be with everyone.” The last line in the greatest book ever written and so may His grace be with us all!

-Sue Bunkert



Zion Lutheran Church

# April 2024

**Monday, April 15, 2024**

**Monday, April 1**

**Wednesday, April 3**

**Sunday, April 7**

Acts 4:32-35; Ps 133  
1 John 1:1-2:2; John 20:19-31  
Choir Rehearsal 8-8:45 am  
**Worship Service 9:00 am**  
followed by  
**Coffee Hour**  
Sunday School & Confirmation

**Monday, April 8**

**Tuesday, April 9**

**Wednesday, April 10**

**Sunday, April 14**

Acts 3:12-19; Ps 4  
1 John 3:1-7; Luke 24:36b-48  
Choir Rehearsal 8-8:45 am  
**Worship Service 9:00 am**  
Followed by  
Coffee Hour  
Sunday School & Confirmation

**Monday, April 15**

**Wednesday, April 17**

**Thursday, April 18**

**Sunday, April 21**

Acts 4:5-12; Ps 23  
1 John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18  
Choir Rehearsal 8-8:45 am  
**Worship Service 9:00 am**  
followed by  
Coffee Hour  
Sunday School & Confirmation

**Wednesday, April 24**

**Thursday, April 25**

**Sunday, April 28**

Acts 8:26-40; Ps 22:25-31  
1 John 4:7-21; John 15:1-8  
Choir Rehearsal 8-8:45 am  
**Worship Service 9:00 am**  
followed by  
Coffee Hour  
Sunday School & Confirmation

**Submissions due for May's calendar**

**Office Closed for Easter Holiday**

Tower RingerZ Rehearsal 4:15pm

**Second Sunday of Easter**

Pastor Asher O'Callaghan  
Assisting Ministers: Wendy Sachs  
Reader: Paula Staedt  
Acolyte: Ava Dorn  
Musician: William Surtees  
Opens: Jim Schley  
Closes: Gwen Schwandt

Finance Meeting 6:00pm

Zion Mutual Homes Meeting 10:00am

Tower RingerZ Rehearsal 4:15pm

Worship and Music Committee Meeting 7:00pm

**Third Sunday of Easter**

Pastor Kathryn Schreitmueller  
Assisting Minister: Tom Meltz  
Reader: John Meyer  
Acolyte: Lily Gruselle  
Musician: Heather Watney  
Opens: Greg Pettigrew  
Closes: Tammy Mossholder

Parish Council Meeting 6:30pm

Tower RingerZ Rehearsal 4:15pm

Lunch Social 11:30

**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

Pastor Jan LaVake  
Assisting Minister: Deb Reis  
Reader: Jim Schley  
Acolyte: Alexa Rusch  
Musician: William Surtees  
Opens: Gwen Schwandt  
Closes: Jim Schley

Tower RingerZ Rehearsal 4:15pm

Historical Central Neighborhood Book Club 6:30pm

**Fifth Sunday of Easter/First Communion**

Pastor Jake Czarnik-Neimeyer  
Assisting Minister: Gwen Schwandt  
Reader: Pennie Reis  
Acolyte: Charlee Weiland  
Musician: William Surtees  
Opens: Gene Wiese  
Closes: Gwen Schwandt

# Zion Council Minutes

Minutes of the Council Meeting of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Monday, February 19, 2024 at 6:30 pm

Present: Sue Bunkert, Ray Pittman, Gail Hunter, Tammy Mossholder, Kyle Moseng,  
Tommy Meltz, Kandie Wilz

Guests: Melvin Klarnar, John Gill, Arne Carlson, Carl Abendroth,  
Bonnie N. and 2 others, Karen Farlow

Melvin: Voiced his concern about the how difficult it was to get choice dollars for wife from Thrivent to Zion.

John: Prepared a spreadsheet of numbers about the foundation. He voiced his concerns about how serious Zion needs to be about the future.

Meeting called to order at 6:32 pm

Opening Devotion: Gail Hunter

Approval of Agenda: Motion made and approved.

Approval of Minutes: Motion made and approved.

Committee Reports: Motion made and approved.

Property: New Voices women's choir interested in renting the basement of Zion and Parish House. Also renting and using the Sanctuary for rehearsals. Trout Museum is moving – other organizations in there also may be interested in the space.

Flat roof being on today 2-19. Next plan to fix tiles where there is water damage. The bathroom needs attention.

There are 2 quotes for the lift to replace it completely. It is beyond repair. They don't have parts for it.

Zion Mutal Homes: Hand out was given.

Worship & Music: No report given. We have coverage for the month of March for Pastors. We have coverage for Maundy Thurs., Good Friday, and Easter Sunday. Soup suppers for Lent is being organized by Gail Hunter and volunteers.

Finance: No report given. Motion made to give Kimberly a gift card for exceptional work for past months.

Old Business: Motion made and approved.

Affordable Housing Initiative: Bonnie N. – Neighbor Works in Green Bay seminar there is a bunch going up on Friday. Options given for assessment, GLCI report in March with guidance with making decisions. Buy ½ price program from 40% in 10 years to help repurposed. It's a 9-month program – we need more people involved. It's a faith base program-what is our mission and what is our vision about buildings and land. Adult forum during fellowship to create more involvement and interest. Motion made to spend \$375 for program for our mission and vision and approved.

New Business:

Meeting with Pastor Asher O'Callaghan: March 11th meeting is a zoom meeting and majority wants face to face with him. Sue will reach out tomorrow to him to reschedule for are their candidates for part time pastor, partnering with another church, interim pastors for Zion. She will be in contact with council members of what is planned.

Next Meeting: March 18,2024 at 6:30 pm

Devotion to be led by: Ray Pittman

Motion to dismissed at 7:38 pm

Lord's Prayer said respectfully.

Respectfully submitted by Gail Hunter

These minutes have not been approved. They will be approved at the March 18, 2024, at 6:30 pm Council meeting.

# Raise Right Fundraising

Raise Right. What is it? It is a fundraising program where you purchase gift cards. Who doesn't need a gift card for something. Here is how it works. It has been predetermined how much less Zion would pay for each retailer gift card on the list. When anyone orders a gift card from a retailer, they pay the actual amount of the gift card but when Zion pays Raise Right, they subtract the predetermined percentage & that is what Zion pays. The difference is what Zion keeps. They do charge a shipping fee so when an order is placed, I need to make sure the savings Zion gets covers the cost of shipping. It usually takes about 2-3 days after ordering the gift cards to get them, so the turnaround is fast. I am hoping to have some gift cards on hand so you could get one right away. There is a list of all the gift cards available at church in the narthex. If you would like to receive the list of all retailers & can't get to church, please contact me & I can either email it to you or send it to you in the mail. If you have any other questions or would like to order any gift cards please contact me. Remember gift cards can be used for gifts, projects or for your everyday use. Thank you to anyone who has purchased them in the past & I hope many more will decide to purchase them in the future.

-Lynn Walter

## Blessing Box/Free Little Library

We are looking for donations for the Blessing Box and Free Little Library as part of our community outreach. We have seen an increase in use recently, and your donations are so important for members of our community in need. If you have any non perishable food items or books you would like to donate, please leave them in the narthex. If you are a Thrivent member, you may be able to apply for an action team grant for \$250 to purchase supplies for the Blessing Box and/or Free Little Library. The church office staff can purchase the supplies or arrange for a volunteer to do it for you if necessary.

## Thank You from Zion

Thank you for your service to our supply pastors who served in March: Pastor Karen Jewell, Pastor Kurt Hoffman, and Pastor Kathryn Schreitmueller.

Thank you to all who assisted with the Lenten dinners and the Palm Sunday Brunch.

Thank you to Karen Dimer who led the Lenten pamphlet study during the Lenten season and to all who attended.

Thanks to those who helped lead our Wednesday evening Lenten services: John Meyer, Jim Schley, Stephanie Draheim, Wendy Sachs, and Gwen Schwandt

Thank you to Lynn Walter for all of her hard work creating the bulletins for worship services.

Thank you to Lynn Walter and Janice Staedt for volunteering to cover office hours.

Thank you to Janice Staedt for her work with our membership files in Shepherd Staff.

Thank you to all of our musicians: Heather Watney, Pam Keane, Cheryl Meyer, Wendy Sachs, Deb Reis and William Surtees

Thank you to those who have volunteered to serve as assisting ministers in March: Wendy Sachs, Tom Meltz, Deb Reis, Grace Van Eyck, and Gwen Schwandt.

Thank you to all who donated items for our Blessing Box.

Thank you to Jim Schley for all of his work coordinating Easter flowers and palms for Palm Sunday.

Thank you to all who have helped with snow removal.

# **Affordable Housing Project Update**

## **April 2024**

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**Bonnie received notice from Cheryl Meyer, the Choir Director at Zion, that the Affordable Housing Project would be the recipient of the Good Friday Ecumenical service offering on March 29th. Bonnie spoke to pastor Ben Morris from Emmanuel United Methodist Church and shared an overview of the Affordable Housing Project with him as he will be talking about it at the services.**

**The Good Futures Accelerator Course to guide Zion congregation members through a faith-based process of making decisions about their Mission and their property has arrived.**

**Bonnie attended a Zoom hosted by Harriet Redman who started Special Needs Housing to address the difficulties families face finding suitable housing for their loved ones with special needs.**

**On Monday, March 11, 2024, Generative Local Community Institute (GLCI) hosted a feedback session to present their feedback and recommendations regarding the Affordable Housing Project. GLCI proposed Zion develop a plan that would generate \$15,000 in monthly income from use of its campus. The five key areas to be addressed are; Parish House (parsonage), the empty lot on the southeast corner of the southern block of Zion campus, Zion Mutual Homes, the empty lot on the northern block of the Zion campus and the combined school buildings. Next steps include Zion making a decision about whether to go with the model that's exclusively housing or the model that is housing and small businesses and Zion granting permission for the Development team to pursue funding solar panels on Zion Mutual Homes.**

**Bonnie and JD Gildemeister met with Jon Searles from WHEDA to learn more about what WHEDA has to offer in terms of funding for our project.**

**Bonnie and Kandie Wilz were part of a group that toured the Gateway Collective project being built in Green Bay.**

**Zion Church Council met on Monday, March 18th, and made decisions related to getting the Parish House rented out. Karen Farlow will be contacting the City of Appleton to have a free assessment of the building prior to renting it out. Bonnie was tasked with reaching out to local architect for initial assessments and drawings for the project. Bonnie met with Shannon French and gave him a tour of the available property. Shannon French submitted a proposal for conceptual design for the entire Zion property, breaking it down into the various parcels. Funds for Mr. French's work will be coming from one of the two grants we currently have in place.**

**There was a roundtable meeting, Development Team meeting, Neighborhood Advisory Team meeting, Ad Hoc Team meeting and Planning Team meeting. The Neighborhood Advisory Team offered to go door-to-door to neighbors to talk about the project and asked the Planning team to create talking points for them to have uniformity of information being shared.**



