

**Zion Lutheran Church**  
Hummelstown, Pennsylvania  
**CHURCH COUNCIL**

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Minutes of the December 17, 2009 Meeting

Regular Council Meeting:

Lynn Danilowicz	Charles Will
Chris Ehmann	Deacon Marsha Roscoe
Edward Engle	Pastor Darlis Swan
Liz Joyce	Bonnie Rudi, Pres.
Deb Kepner	Michael Good, Sec.
Greg Seitz	Nancy Hartman, Finance
Don Sheaffer	Taylor Wamsher, Youth Group

Excused Absence:

John Alwine	Jill Kiessling
Lori Beaver	David Sonner
LuAnn Doyle	

Call to Order:

The Regular Council Meeting was called to order at 7:02 P.M. by Council President Bonnie Rudi.

Devotions and Prayer Concerns:

Chris Ehmann gave a reading about re-gifting, and about paying forward the most precious gift we received at Christmas.

Adoption of Agenda:

The agenda was presented for inspection by Council President Bonnie Rudi. It was approved as presented.

Secretary's Report:

The minutes of the last Regular Congregation Council Meeting dated November 19, 2009 were presented by Council Secretary Mike Good. The minutes were approved as presented.

Communications:

There were no communications.

## Senior Pastor's Report:

### Pastoral Report – Interim Senior Pastor

**Name:** Darlis J. Swan

**Date:** Nov. 20 to Dec. 17, 2009

#### Highlights and Concerns:

- Thanksgiving for the strength and faithfulness of the Zion Family
- Concern for Zion's members and visitors who need handicap access
- Gratitude for the way Zion's members reach out to others in the community and support new ministries to help others in various parts of the world
- Joy in hearing the stories/witness of young and old about how Zion has been crucial in their faith journeys
- Appreciation for staff and all leaders and how they proclaim Christ in their particular roles/ministries

#### Pastoral Contacts:

Hospital Calls 6  
Home Calls 13  
Office Appointments 3

#### Pastoral Acts:

Teaching ZYG Worship 11/22  
Preside at Worship 13  
Preach 9  
Baptisms 1 Silas Parker Wright 12/6  
Wedding rehearsals 0  
Weddings 0  
Funerals 1 Kenneth ~~Booker~~ 12/7  
BROOKER

#### Administrative Acts:

Meetings Attended 11

#### Churchwide Involvement:

Interfaith Alliance of Pennsylvania – Meeting 12/9  
Lower Susquehanna Synod – Ecumenical and Inter-Religious Relations Committee –  
Conference Call 12/16

#### Continuing Education:

Advent Retreat (Society of the Holy Trinity) – 11/30 to 12/01 – Convent of the Sacred Heart, Danville, PA – Topic: “Presiding at the Eucharist and Eucharistic Prayers”

Diaconal Minister's Report:

Name: Marsha Roscoe

Dates: Nov 19 – Dec 15

Highlights and Concerns:

- The ongoing sense of mission in this congregation continues to serve as a wonderful witness of Christ in our midst.
- Planning on taking some continuing ed courses through Gettysburg Seminary beginning this spring at my own expense.
- Concerned about the decline in attendance this fall.

Pastoral Contacts:

Hospital Calls	2
Home Calls	4
Office Appts.	14

Deacon Acts:

Teaching	6 (Zion Preschool as well as Christian Ed. Opps.)
Preach	2
Weddings rehearsals	0
Weddings (as coordinator)	0
Serve as Deacon at Funerals	0
Serve as Deacon at Baptisms	2 (Nutt, Wright )

Administrative Acts:

Meetings Attended	12
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Churchwide Involvement:

- Working on scheduling a trip to Lantern on the Hill for a contextual visit so I can better see, hear and work with Zion to respond to the needs of this mission site.
- Continue to serve on the Pastoral Advisory committee for the Hershey Medical Center. Working with their team to re-define the chaplaincy standards for the hospital as they apply for re-accreditation in 2010.

#### Youth Report:

Youth Representative Taylor Wamsher reported that the budget is the same as last month (\$5,420.06). The theme of December's Senior High Retreat was "Nearer My God to Thee," and the ZYG Christmas Party is December 20.

#### Treasurer's Report:

Giving for November was \$37,000 (about \$2,000 ahead of budget). Attendance is still lagging behind for the year by several thousand. Interest and dividends are behind by \$120.00 for the year. Rental income for November was \$815.00, less than expected due to the timing of the report being received. Expenses are very close to budget for the year. Committees are still holding the line on spending. If we do well in December we could finish the year around even. People have a tendency to increase giving in December. About \$326,000 has been spent so far on the bell tower.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

##### Finance:

A written report through November 30, 2009 was submitted by Nancy Hartman and Richard Weiss. No Council action was required.

##### Evangelism:

It was reported that the Family Advent Event was very well attended. Those who took part had a good time.

The Good Shepherd program was discussed. Kent Zeller will give a Temple Talk about the Name Tag Sunday effort at the services on January 3<sup>rd</sup>. No Council action was required.

##### Personnel Committee:

No meeting was held.

##### Mutual Ministry:

No meeting was held.

##### Christian Education:

There was no meeting in December. However, Deacon Roscoe mentioned that she will be leading a Bible Study group on the second and fourth Tuesday from 6:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. at Panera Bread. Just bring your Bible and a friend.

##### Property:

Charlie Will reported that Eshelman will be doing the repairs on the cemetery wall. Also, fifteen headstones need to be replaced from the recent automobile incident in the cemetery. The outside brownstone work is completed, and the scaffolding will be coming down after Christmas. Part of the ceiling in the Sanctuary has collapsed. The committee will do temporary repairs themselves. Finally, due to a recent break-in the committee is looking into possible security measures.

#### Social Ministry:

One hundred four baskets were given out at Thanksgiving. Christmas baskets will be passed out on December 21<sup>st</sup>. As of last Sunday (Dec 6), 100 pairs of gloves have been donated. The ELCA has raised \$830.00 so far.

#### Partners With Christ:

Don Sheaffer reported that blankets, gloves, toys, and toiletries have been taken up to the clinic.

#### Stewardship:

No meeting was held this month.

#### Worship and Music:

There was no report given.

#### Activities:

A mid-winter “picnic” is being planned for February and a lunch for the Youth Group seniors in January. They are hoping to have an activity in each month.

#### Strategic Properties:

The committee submitted a recommendation to do the following improvements to the property at 23 N. Rosanna St.:

- 1) Replace kitchen floor tiles (\$100.00)
- 2) Paint 5 rooms and closets with semi-gloss white (\$650.00)
- 3) Window frame repair: remove rotted wood, insulate, reframe, caulk, and paint (\$100.00 pr window for 18 windows).

The motion to approve the repairs was made by Greg Seitz and seconded by Don Sheaffer. Unanimous approval was voiced.

A letter was sent to the Hummelstown Area Historical Society with a proposal for the sale of the Parish House for \$385,000.00. It will probably be rejected, so we may have to look into renewing the lease.

#### Old Business:

The motion was made by Chris Ehmann and seconded by Don Sheaffer to get \$50,000 worth of coverage protection for those who sign checks or have access to money, at a cost of \$113.00 more than we now pay. Unanimous approval was voiced to the motion.

2010 Budget – It was suggested that in the future the raises for staff not be across the board. The Personnel Committee suggested that the Administrative Secretary be given some money toward retirement. A 2% raise across the board was figured in for the staff except the Sr. Interim Pastor and Deaconal Minister. The amount for Supply Pastor was reduced from \$10,000. to \$3,000. the total revenue was estimated at around \$427,000. The projected expenses are \$453,000, and giving a deficit of about \$25,000. Copies of the proposed budget will be e-mailed to Council. A special Council meeting will be held on January 14 at 6:30 P.M. to discuss what changes can be made.

Lynn Knepp has agreed to continue signing checks, with Patti Krow as back up.

The topic of amending Zion's Constitution will be revisited in January.

New Business:

The following nominations were presented for Zion's Financial Officers:

Treasurer – Richard Weiss  
Financial Secretary – Marilyn Curry  
Asst. Treasurer – Nancy Hartman

The motion to approve this slate of candidates was made by Chris Ehmann and seconded by Greg Seitz. Unanimous approval was voiced to the motion.

John Long and Lynn Knepp will be contacted to see if they will again serve this year to audit all funds.

Nomination information sheets will be passed out to those interested.

The Annual Congregation Meeting will be held on February 21,2010 at 7:00P.M.

The motion to adjourn was made by Charles Will and seconded by Don Sheaffer. It was approved by unanimous voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Council then stood and prayed together the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Good  
Secretary