

**ZION LUTHERAN  
CHURCH  
ANNUAL REPORT  
ASHLEY, ND  
2025**





Annual Report 2025  
Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
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# *Meet the* **STAFF**

## **Our Staff at Zion Lutheran Church**

SAMs – Amanda Nitschke  
Financial/Parish Secretary – Krystina Schnabel  
Organist & Choir Director – Steve Glaesmann  
Treasurer – Krystina Schnabel  
Custodian – Lana Schaunaman  
Grounds Keeper – Myles Melom  
Sexton – Krystina Schnabel

## **Our Volunteers at Zion Lutheran Church**

LYO – Amanda Nitschke  
LYO Treasurer – Crystal Schaunaman  
Confirmation – Amanda Nitschke  
Food Pantry – Amy Schlepp  
Food Pantry Helpers – Sonja Schnabel and Fern Schauer  
VBS Leader – Breigh Schlepp  
Bible School Teachers – Ashley Lehr, Kayla Arlien, and Stephanie Spitzer  
Altar Guild – Lana Schaunaman, Carol Fey, Fern Schauer, Joan Overbo, and Mavis Schock  
Kitchen Committee – Amy Schlepp, Rhonda Piatz, Karen Himmerich, Jackie Klipfel  
Video Taping Ministry – James Heupel and Denny Hoffman  
Endowment Committee – Terry Ulrich, Lana Schaunaman, Fern Schauer, Lorraine Ehley, and Jim Heinrich  
Quilters – Janet Dalke, RoseAnn Rothfusz, Mary Smith, and Fay Mindeman

# Zion Lutheran Church Council

President – Gary Wolff

Vice President – Donna Eszlinger

Secretary – Megan Rau

Other Council Members – Eric Heupel, Devonia Fischer, Savannah Lippert, and Michele Miller-resigned August 2025.

## Committees

### **Cemetery Committee**

Chairperson – Gary Wolff  
Eric Heupel

### **Education Committee**

Chairperson – Megan Rau  
Savannah Lippert

### **Worship & Evangelism Committee**

Chairperson – Donna Eszlinger  
Devonia Fischer

### **Stewardship Committee**

Chairperson – Donna Eszlinger  
Megan Rau

### **Buildings & Parsonage Committee**

Chairperson – Gary Wolff  
Eric Heupel

Each Committee chair shall set meeting times and report at council meetings.

Zion Lutheran Church  
Annual Meeting  
Sunday, January 25, 2026  
Agenda

1. Call meeting to order: President Gary Wolff
  - a. Annual Congregational Meeting Opening Liturgy
2. Devotions
3. President's Report
4. Secretary's Report
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Budget Committee Report
7. Nominating Committee Report
  - a. Call for nominations from the floor
8. Endowment Committee Report
  - a. Need one volunteer
  - b. Moving Endowment Distribution to July Meeting
9. Election of Council Members (2 – 3 year terms, 1 – 2 year term)
10. SAMs Report
11. Old Business
  - a. Windows/Door Replacement
  - b. Flooring
12. New Business
  - a. Offerings
13. Election Returns (if needed)
14. Closing Prayer/Meeting Adjournment

Council to meet and elect officers after the annual meeting. The next scheduled council meeting will be decided at this time.

**If you want your giving report, please contact the church office.**

## Annual Congregational Meeting Opening Liturgy

Today our congregation gathers in prayer and hope to begin another year of ministry. We bring with us the memory of a year like no other, even as we move into a future that we cannot yet imagine. Yet even now, as in every age, God is our refuge and strength. In times of plenty and want, in times of conflict and peace, in times of growing and pruning, we remember:

**God has called us for such a time as this.**

We remember the past year with lament and gratitude. We have lost so much, and so much still feels uncertain. We have also witnessed God's hand at work in new and unexpected ways. We delight at hidden seeds bearing surprising and wonderful fruit. When our own resources fail, when we cannot predict the future, when we must rely on God alone, we remember:

**God has called us for such a time as this.**

We celebrate this moment, and the many ways God has held us together as a community. We give thanks for the gift of our church building and the welcome it provides, even as we bless God for the marvel of technology and the new bonds of connection it makes possible. When our bodies need sanctuary, when our minds need expanding, when your grace must transcend our limitations, we remember:

**God has called us for such a time as this.**

We look ahead to the road we will travel together this year. We anticipate and receive with joy the new gifts God's love has planned. We pray for the grace to let go of what has served its holy purpose. When we are trailblazers or followers, when we are seekers or visionaries, when we must walk by faith and not by sight, we remember

**God has called us for such a time as this.**

And so, we pray: Grace our meeting, O God, with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the Spirit who has guided the church from the beginning, the Spirit of our risen Lord Jesus, the Spirit who sends us as healers and restorers of your beloved world. You are the source of our life together. You are the rock and cornerstone.

**You have called us for such a time as this.**

**O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

(ELW, p. 317)

## **President's Report**

### **Gary Wolff – Council President**

As I look back at the year in review we as a council feel we have been blessed very well at Zion Lutheran. To start with we feel Amanda is doing a great job as our SAM along with the partners at Calvary in Minnesota. Amanda can perform all the duties necessary for a congregation like regular worship services, communion, confirmation, weddings, and funerals which are all things that are needed to keep a congregation complete. Amanda is also continuing to take classes and attending seminars to further her education. The council would also like to thank the entire staff for all the hard work they do and the many volunteers that help wherever needed on a weekly basis.

As for improvements throughout the year we installed new flooring on the east entrance and both bathrooms it was a struggle but the job is complete. Moving forward we still want to work on windows and doors, but until the economy stabilizes that will have to wait. I would like to thank the outgoing council members for all their hard work the past three years it has been a pleasure to work with all of them.

I would also like to thank everyone for their financial support as you know we have a large facility and it takes a lot of money to keep everything up and running smoothly. We ask for your continued support moving forward and we hope everyone will have a blessed year in 2026.

Thank you,

Gary Wolff, Zion Lutheran Council President

## Zion Lutheran Church Annual Meeting

February 2, 2025

Meeting Led by Jennifer Neu

Began meeting with reading the Annual Congregational Meeting Opening Liturgy

Member sign-up sheet. Need ~30. 45 members present. Refer to signature page.

**President's Report:** Jen read.

**Secretary's Report:** Congregation reviewed Annual Meeting minutes from February 11, 2024 and Semi-Annual Meeting minutes on July 21, 2024. Motion to approve both minutes was made by Carol Fey and second by Gary Wolff. Motion carried.

**Treasure's Report:** Congregation reviewed 2024 Treasure's Report. Motion to approve was made by Eric Heupel and second by Melanie Troup. Motion carried.

**Budget Report:** 2025 Budget Report was reviewed by the congregation. Motion to approve was made by Denny Hoffman and seconded by Terry Ulrich. Motion carried.

**Endowment Committee Report:** Terry Ulrich stated that members have been unavailable and they will be meeting soon. Fern Haugen made comments on confirmation of Endowment distribution of funds confirmations. The council will make better notes in the meeting minutes when endowment funds are used.

**Council Member Elections:** Nominations from the floor: Gary Wolff, Michele Miller, Rose Ann Rothfuz, Savannah Rohrich and Megan Rau (all accepted). We need 4 members for a complete council. Rebecca Hehr is stepping down due to changing churches. Jennifer and Don's terms are up. There are 4 positions open to meet a recommended 5-7 member council. Ballots have been made and passed out. Congregation to select 4 out of the 5 individuals.

**SAMs Report:** 46 SAMs in our Synod currently servicing churches around the state. We are currently on the list for future pastoral applicants. When there is an applicant, our church will be listed as an option for them. Amanda also read the Sam's Report.

### **Old Business:**

Flooring update. The east entry flooring and men's bathroom flooring will begin at the end of February. Funds are mostly paid for through donations.

Calvary update from Kia Kisthart – Calvary Partner Network Coordinator. They currently service 11 churches. So far church feels fulfilled and satisfied with Calvary services. Plan to continue. Was previously told annual contract amount would be \$5,400 as noted in 2025 budget. Kia informed the annual contract amount would remain at \$4,000. Motion to approve 2025 budget pending the Calvary amount change for 2025 from \$5,400 to \$4,000 made by Donna Heupel and second by Jackie Klipfel.

### **New Business**

**Window project.** Condition of windows was discussed. Windows have not been repaired by the previously approved individual. They are in desperate need to be replaced/fixed. Quote from House of Glass in Aberdeen is \$128,000 for all windows in church. Window and Door AND Anderson Windows in Bismarck will be doing quotes this week Wednesday Feb 5. Discussed multiple year project and only spending X amount each year. Was favorable with congregation but need other 2 quotes to make decision. Also discussed east entry double doors and moving to one single 48" door rather than 2 double doors. This needs to be ran by the state fire marshal to make sure we still meet fire code. Eric Heupel will report back when he hears from the fire marshal on door AND on what is recommended for upstairs windows that need to have open/close capabilities. It was decided the

congregation does not want to wait until the semi-annual meeting to confirm projects. Motion to give council authority to make decisions on window/door project pending additional quotes and recommendations from state fire marshal on open/close windows including fund distribution made by Ali Harriman and second by Kevin Nitschke. Motion carried.

Election Results: New council members are Michele Miller, Megan Rau, Savannah Lippert & Gary Wolff.

**Additional Business:**

Fern Haugen asked if an offering is taken for Wednesday night church service. Amanda stated initially she set offering dish out and was paying for meals herself. With it getting spendy, she decided to put donation dish for LYO and for the church and have LYO pay for food. All donations were placed in LYO dish. Currently one donation plate is set for LYO for food.

Discussion by a congregation member was had about the duties/responsibilities of the Parish/Financial Secretary/Treasurer. Concerns were that one individual was handling money in the church. It was confirmed the duties/responsibilities are being met without complications. There was no further discussion.

Motion to adjourn with the Lord's Prayer made by Megan Rau and second by Ali Harriman.

Respectfully submitted,  
Devonia Fischer  
ZLC Council Member

July 13, 2025  
Semi-Annual Meeting

Meeting called to order by President Gary Wolff.

Amanda led in scripture and prayer.

Approve minutes from Annual Meeting held on February 2, 2025. Motion by Duwayne Dollinger and second by Gerry Rau.

**Pastor's Report**

- Attended Synod assembly end of May
- We will be updating the constitution in August
- Messy Church – Amanda is implementing this to help incorporate everyone's beliefs.

**Window/Doors Update**

- We are still waiting on bids for the window and door project. Due to the tariffs the companies are not willing to give bids at this time as the materials have gone up 15-20%.
- A small claim will be filed to try and collect our funds that we initially paid McCleary Lumber.

**Flooring Project**

- The flooring that was ordered was damaged.
- Chris Stanley will be installing the flooring and has already re-ordered the product.

**Endowment Committee**

- Approve minutes from the Endowment Committee held on February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Motion to approve by Kevin Nitschke and seconded by Larry Henrich.

**Call Committee**

- We need two church members to volunteer: No members volunteered.
- The paperwork is all completed and submitted.

**Re-writing Constitution Committee**

- We will be re-writing the constitution as required every two years. Four members are needed to complete this project.
- Volunteers: Jackie Klipfel, Savannah Lippert, Megan Rau, and Amanda Nitschke.

**Wednesday Night Suppers**

- A profit of \$1,176.50 was profited from the Wednesday Night Services.
- Wednesday Night is when the parents with kids worship vs on Sunday Nights. The attendance ranges anywhere from 30 to 60+.

**Parsonage**

- We have had someone request to rent it, but as a tax-exempt entity it creates some issues. We are looking into traveling nurses using the house.
- The church is currently completing maintenance.
- Do we have a clear deed for the house?

Motion by Savannah Lippert to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Ashley Lehr. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Megan Rau  
Council Secretary

# 2025 Zion Lutheran Church Treasurers Report

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH 2025 ANNUAL REPORT			
EXPENSES			
	Benevolence	\$4,000	
	Dues & Subscriptions	\$5,429.00	
	Christmas Bags/Sunday School Supplies	\$200.00	
	Worship Supplies	\$2,322.55	
	Supplies(kitchen, office, building supplies)	\$615.07	
	WSI	\$100.00	
	North Star Insurance	\$10,016.00	
	CNA Security Bonding	\$359.00	
	Outside Services - Pastors	\$100	
	Calvary Partnership	\$4,000.00	
	Flooring Project	\$21,951.91	
	Piano Tuning	\$0.00	
	Office Supplies/Postage	\$1,224.46	
	Parsonage Mowing & Grounds Maintance	\$80.00	
	Repairs & Maintance/ Labor - Church	\$228.95	
	Worship Supplies	\$5,096.10	
	Propane Tank	\$2,120.00	
	Wednesday Meals	\$821	
SALARY			
Pastor	Salary	0	
	Soc Sec Allow	0	
	Cell Phone Allow	0	
	Mileage	0	
	Cont. Education	0	
	Req. Pension	0	
	Health/Disability Ins.	0	
	Housing Equity	0	
Custodian	Salary	\$10,575.00	
	Taxes	812.81	
Parish/Financial Sec.	Salary	\$18,700.00	
	Taxes	\$1,774.80	
Treasurer	Salary	\$3,000	
Sexton	Salary	\$1,800	
Choir/Organist	Salary	\$3,557.64	
	Taxes	\$272.16	
SAMs Minister	Salary	\$36,000.00	
	Taxes	2,218.50	
	Cont. Education	\$1,350.00	
	Mileage	\$791.00	
	Travel Expenses	\$332.00	
Grounds Keeper	Salary	\$4,635.00	
	Taxes	\$351.14	
ND Tax Comissioner		\$124.00	
Cemetery Mowing		\$10,080.00	
<b>CHURCH &amp; PARSONAGE</b>			
Church	Electric/Heat	\$7,410.67	
	Propane	\$13,105.47	
	DRN	\$1,155.87	
	W/S/G	\$1,452.14	
Parsonage	Electric/Heat	\$307.29	
	Propane	\$543.90	
	DRN	\$15.06	
	W/S/G	\$949.53	
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$179,978	
INCOME			
	Sunday Offering	\$72,748.09	
	Wednesday Offering	\$2,704.74	
	Coffee Offering	\$1,037.85	
	Cemetery Plots	\$750	
	Donations	\$29,520	
	Memorials	\$2,805	
	Nursing Home Offering	\$90	
	Wedding Fees	\$150	
	Funeral Fees	\$475	
	MCB interest	\$266.47	
	Thrivent Choice Dollars	\$2,575.79	
	TOTAL INCOME	\$113,122.94	

## Zion Lutheran Church – Ashley, ND 2026 Budget

PROPOSED BUDGET 2026	Expense	2025	2026
		Actual	Budget
<b>CURRENT EXPENSE</b>			
	Bible Camp Registration	250	250
	Christmas Program Supplies	300	300
	Cont Ed/Conv/Seminars/Dues/Sub	7000	7000
	Church	0	0
	Electric	6200	6386
	Heating Fuel/Propane	9250	9528
	Telephone	1050	1082
	W/S/G	1200	1236
	Education (youth/adult)/Confirmation	530	546
	Insurance (Prop/Workers comp)	11000	11330
	Miscellaneous	250	250
	Fellowship Supplies(Coffee)	150	150
	Office Supplies/Postage	4000	4120
	Parsonage Utilities	1600	1600
	Sunday School	100	100
	Taxes/ Special Assessments	500	600
	New Equipment	0	0
	Worship Supplies	5900	6000
		Subtotal	49280
			50477
<b>MAINTENANCE</b>			
	Church & Grounds/Labor Repair	2000	2000
	Custodian Salary	10575	10575
	Grounds Keeper Wages	4500	4500
	Equipment Upkeep	5000	5000
	Janitorial Supplies	1000	1000
	Parsonage & Grounds	1000	1000
	Rural Cemetary Upkeep	10080	10382
	Zion Cemetary Upkeep	3600	3708
		Subtotal	37755
			38165
<b>SALARIES &amp; BENEFITS</b>			
<b>Pastor</b>			
	Salary	57742	59474
	Soc Sec Allow	3876	3992
	Cell Phone Allow	0	0
	Mileage	500	515
	Req. Pension/health benefit	16000	16480
	Housing Allow	0	0
	Continuing Educat	2000	2060
Secretary	Parish Secretary Salary/financial	20100	20100
Treasurer	Treasurer Salary	3000	3000
Choir	Choir/Organist Salary	4800	4800
	Special Speakers	1000	1000
	FICA	2678	2758
		Subtotal	111696
			114180
<b>BENEVELANCE</b>			
	WND Synod, ELCA	4000	4000
	Bible camp support	530	546
	Lutheran Social Serv	1030	1061
	Camp of the Cross	530	546
		Subtotal	6090
			6273
		TOTAL EXPENS	204821
			209095

# Endowment Committee

By: Terry Ulrich

The Zion Lutheran Endowment Committee was established at the January 2002 Semi-Annual meeting with an appointed board of directors. This fund was established from funds from the Ann Nitschke Ulmer bequest. The interest and proceeds from the Fund were to be designated for specific needs with the congregation with a final decision made by the church council. The present board members are Terry Ulrich, Lorraine Ehley, Fern Schauer, Jim Heinrich, and Lana Schaunaman. Lorrain Ehley's term is up for reelection in 2026.

On February 19, 2025, the board met with Thrivent Financial Associates, Kelly Longden and Jaysen Schlitz, and discussed options with the endowment fund. No changes were made at this time. Some history of the fund was discussed and it was decided to make an annual report at Zion's semi-annual meeting in July. Other business was the disbursement of funds to various youth and other church group expenditures.

The initial Zion Endowment Fund investment was made in the Thrivent Investment AAL Mutual Funds, later placed into Thrivent Moderately Conservative Allocation Fund, where it remains today. The first investment came from Anna Nitschke Ulmer at \$103,105.00, a second bequest of \$500; from the Irene Zimmerman Bitz/ Art Bitz family in 2002. Zion Lutheran also received a bequest from the Marvin and Lenora Vossler family for youth ministry which is also invested in Thrivent. Zion Lutheran has also received gifts from the Edwin Strobel family and the Oscar and Esther Drefs family. In 2008 the church council decided to use the Endowment Fund as collateral for a loan to replace the furnace in the church. Over the years, funds and gifts have been used to put a new roof on the building, a furnace, carpeting, flooring, tables, etc. In the future it will pay for windows, doors, tile flooring, and bathroom remodeling! The list is long for gifts and items that were given or replaced over the years!

Beginning Balance/Thrivent – 1/1/2025	\$159,033.61
2024 Disbursements - \$8976.96	
2025 Disbursements - \$14,000.00	
<b>Current Balance/Thrivent</b>	<b>\$171,686.54</b>
Beginning Balance/ELCA	\$152,033.61
<b>Current Balance/ELCA/Nitschke Ulmer</b>	<b>\$170,974.26</b>
Hometown/Savings	\$649.78
<b>MCB/Cetera/Drefs</b>	<b>\$26,818.96</b>
<b>Total Current Balance – 12/31/2025</b>	<b>\$370,129.54</b>

Terry Ulrich, Chair

Lorraine Ehley, Treasurer/Secretary

## **SAM's Report**

### **Amanda Nitschke – Zion Lutheran Church's SAM**

Fellow Members in Christ,

Being part of a church plant is like watching God unfold a miracle over time. It was not long ago that we, as people, did not even exist. God is gracious! It has been one of the greatest privileges of my life to be part of what He is doing in and through this church. Without question, every church is a unique work of the Holy Spirit, but I am deeply grateful to be part of this one.

I cannot believe another year has come and gone. I feel so many good things are happening in our church, our Wednesday night Modern Family Worship, bible study, changes to the building. I am honored to have been a part of weddings, baptisms, first communion, confirmation, and funerals. It has been a privilege to walk along your faith journey with you.

There's a lot of grace contained within our Annual Report. In this report we recount evidences of God's movement among us, articulate who we are, introduce leaders, provide ministry updates, offer a brief financial recap, and share our prayerful focus for the next season of life and mission together. We hope you find it to be life-giving, faith-building and God-exalting.

We love him, because he first loved us. May He keep us on fire for His supremacy in all things in the year to come. Let's lean on who God is and all that He is for us, in Christ. His promises are true and they cannot fail. He alone is worthy of our days, dollars and devotion. I invite you to join us in being part of seeing that vision become even more of a reality in the days ahead. Together, as always, let's ask Him to do what only He can.

Sending God's Love

Amanda Nitschke

Synodically Authorized Minister (SAM)

# Bishop Letter

Friends in Christ,

Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus.



"I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, *as you are being rooted and grounded in love.*" (Ephesians 3:16–17)

These ancient words from the Apostle Paul gave shape to our 2025 Synod Assembly that was held in Minot in early June. They have continued to shape our shared ministry and mission throughout the year. They remind us that everything we do — from worship and service to leadership and mission — begins with God's deep, steady love.

As we look back on 2025 across the Western North Dakota Synod, I thank you for the ways we have witnessed together the love of Christ Jesus at work among and through you. People of God, called and sent by God, with faith, courage, and generosity — in small town cafes and office buildings that stand tall along city streets; in communities of learning like our schools and church school classrooms; in holy moments of Christ's healing touch in local food pantries or at a hospital bedside.



We continue to celebrate the growth of synod-authorized ministry across our synod, where gifted lay leaders are helping congregations thrive as witnesses of Christ's love in their communities.



This year also brought continued investment in lay formation, faith-in-daily-life conversations, and tools that help congregations deepen discipleship and embrace their callings. Through your congregation's mission support, our synod supports leaders in transition, strengthens local and global partnerships, and creates spaces of healing, learning, and renewal for people of faith across western North Dakota.

In every corner of Western North Dakota, we see congregations stepping into God's future with hope — feeding neighbors, welcoming newcomers, walking with the grieving, preparing the newly baptized, accompanying youth, and proclaiming good news in word and deed. These everyday ministries matter. They are changing lives.

Thank you for your faithfulness, your generosity, and your trust. Thank you for being rooted and grounded in Christ's love — and for embodying that love in your communities.



May the Holy Spirit continue to strengthen you in the year to come. And may the peace of Christ guard your hearts and minds as you live out the gospel with courage and joy.

Serving in Christ together,

+The Rev. Craig A. Schweitzer  
Bishop, Western North Dakota Synod, ELCA

# 2025 Pastoral Acts at Zion

## **\*Non-Members/ Previous Members**



### Baptisms

Lennon Haupt      Ella Brokaw      Brette Geiszler



### Affirmation of Baptism

Ava Litsey      Tristan Schauer      Calli Schaunaman

### Graduates of Zion 2025

Shane Nitschke   Brody Hoffman   Isabell Klipfel



### First Communion Class

Garrett Schauer   June Schlepp   Harper Litsey  
Kaleb Harriman   Ari Stone   Levi Stone

### First Bibles

Annalie Heupel   Sawyer Jenner   Braelynn Platz  
Emmitt Schlepp   Oaklee Schlenker   Riley Ulmer



### Deaths/Funerals/Burials at Zion



Helen Rothfusz      Peter Helfenstein      Delbert Heil  
Jimmy Graff      Bonita Meier\*      Gladys Wahl  
Mabel Nitschke      Wayne Kaseman      Wilma Tschetter  
Norah Hoffman\*      Delphine Hagel\*      Shirley Arends\*  
Olga Kempf

### Marriages

Tucker Meidinger & Shanni Barrios  
Marshall Lindgren & Ashley McFadgen\*



## Financial Secretary Report

2025		Sunday Offering	Wednesday Offering	Memorials	Donations		
Month	Budget	Received	Received	Received	Received	Total	Difference
JANUARY	\$16,597.08	\$7,083.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,625.00	\$9,708.00	-\$6,889.08
FEBRUARY	\$16,597.08	\$3,229.40	\$105.00	\$0.00	\$2,670.00	\$6,004.40	-\$10,592.68
MARCH	\$16,597.08	\$3,975.15	\$838.00	\$240.00	\$675.00	\$5,728.15	-\$10,868.93
APRIL	\$16,597.08	\$7,128.00	\$540.00	\$0.00	\$550.00	\$8,218.00	-\$8,379.08
MAY	\$16,597.08	\$4,835.00	\$77.00	\$245.00	\$750.00	\$5,907.00	-\$9,717.08
JUNE	\$16,597.08	\$4,933.00	\$0.00	\$1,220.00	\$650.00	\$6,803.00	-\$9,794.08
JULY	\$16,597.08	\$2,893.00	\$0.00	\$20.00	\$2,550.00	\$5,463.00	-\$11,134.08
AUGUST	\$16,597.08	\$3,751.28	\$0.00	\$10.00	\$775.00	\$4,536.28	-\$12,060.80
SEPTEMBER	\$16,597.08	\$4,634.00	\$172.74	\$0.00	\$16,550.00	\$21,356.74	\$4,759.66
OCTOBER	\$16,597.08	\$8,489.51	\$333.00	\$510.00	\$625.00	\$9,957.51	-\$6,639.57
NOVEMBER	\$16,597.08	\$7,455.00	\$274.00	\$560.00	\$550.00	\$8,839.00	-\$7,758.08
DECEMBER	\$16,597.08	\$14,341.75	\$365.00	\$0.00	\$550.00	\$15,256.75	-\$1,340.33
TOTALS	\$199,165.00	\$72,748.09	\$2,704.74	\$2,805.00	\$29,520.00	\$107,840.83	-\$90,414.13

## **Altar Guild Report**

By: Lana Schaunaman

The purpose of the altar guild is to assist in creating and maintaining a climate of worship for the congregation. The duties of the altar guild are to prepare the sacraments for Holy Communion, maintain candles on the altar, eternal candle, paschal candle, and advent wreath. Care for live floral arrangements, display seasonal banners, change paraments to the proper color for the day or season as indicated on the church calendar, care for baptismal font and prepare napkins to be given to the baptized.

Thank you to the members that served in 2025: Carol Fey, Lana Schaunaman, Fern Schauer, and Joan Overbo.

## **Quilters Report**

Two to four women meet on Wednesday afternoons, weather permitting of course!

Thank you to everyone for the many donations of fabric, sheets, blankets, and pillowcases. Anyone who would like to cut or sew blocks at home is more than welcome to do so.

Thank you to LeRoy and Jason Haas for making deliveries for us!

## **Video Taping Ministry**

The Video Taping Ministry is a service provided for the nursing home and others who are unable to attend services. For those who are members of Zion, it is a way for them to participate in the service. Zion's weekly Worship Service is taped and delivered to City Hall to be viewed on the local access channel (198) on Tuesdays at 3:30pm. Upon request, other services are videotaped, and a viewing is arranged. The Video Taping Ministry consists of James Heupel and Denny Hoffman. Thank you to Donna Heupel for your time in making the DVDs.

## **Food Pantry Report**

By: Amy Schlepp

Greetings from the Ashley Food Pantry!

We have finished another wonderful year with positive connections, full bellies and overflowing gratitude. Our 34 households have taken home over 15,000 pounds of food this year. We continue the partnership with Great Plain Food Bank and receive a truck monthly to help keep our pantry full. Numerous donations are made throughout the year to purchase things locally. The Ashley SuperValu and Ashley Lions have made so many of those purchases possible.

It is with bittersweet happiness that Chellie Kasemen, Sherri Iszler, and Heather Dahl have taken responsibility for the Ashley Food Pantry. It has been such a privilege to work with everyone that I have. The food pantry came into my life as a way I could serve others. I had no idea how much it would fill my heart. Thank you all for the 8 years of support feeding over 50 different households, 120,000 pounds distributed and COUNTLESS memories. It has truly been a gift.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Schlepp

## **Bible School Report**

By: Amanda Nitschke

Sunday school has been named Bible Study for this year. We have bible study on Wednesday nights, following Modern Family Worship, at 6:45 pm. We have 35 kids and 3 teachers, with 2 substitute teachers. The 4th graders received their bibles, and 5th graders received their first communion this year. Bible Study is open to all kids in PreK-6th Grade.

# LYO Jr League Report

By Crystal Schaunaman

<b>2025 JR. LEAGUE REPORT</b>			
<b>CHECKING ACCOUNT #092-478 McIntosh County Bank</b>			
Beginning Balance January 1, 2025			<b>\$ 10,167.37</b>
<b>Deposits</b>			
Coffee & Wed. Night Meals		\$ 379.00	
Endowment Fund		\$ 300.00	
Rummage Sale		\$ 351.89	
Soup & Sand. Fundraiser & Worker Auction			
<b>Total Deposits</b>			<b>\$ 1,030.89</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
LYO & Wed night suppers		\$ 451.04	
Soup & Sand. Expenses			
<b>Total Expenses</b>			<b>\$ 451.04</b>
Ending Balance December 31, 2025			<b>\$ 10,747.22</b>
Submitted by Crystal Schaunaman, Treasurer			

LYO meets twice a month. All students grade 7-12 are invited to attend. At meetings we plan events, visit, and read scripture. We have a game room and a meeting room.