

# Zion Lutheran Church Annual Report 2006



**Clear Lake, Iowa**

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# REV. DEAN C. HESS

## SENIOR PASTOR

### Environment

In this section of our reports we talk about the context of our ministry. That is a very broad area. It could involve the international context for Christian ministry and then we might be dealing with issues like the relationship between Christianity and other world religious movements. In recent years that might focus on our relationship with Islam. Or it could focus on our relationship as Americans with other Christians around the world, for us most specifically in Namibia. One could look at our environment nationally and zero in on the context for ministry in the United States. What is God doing in our nation? We could limit ourselves to the State of Iowa, Cerro Gordo County, or even Clear Lake and describe factors in each of those areas that influence or impact our ministry. For, example the Benevolence Ministry Team identified substance abuse as a concern within the context of our ministry in the County and in the City. It was this identified environmental issue that gave rise to the new Celebrate Recovery ministry. One could take an even more sharply focused look at the environment within our congregation, for example the need for more trained leaders. Environment could also be viewed from the context of the national church, the ELCA, or from the Synodical perspective. How are our relationships with the Bishop and Synod staff and with other ELCA congregations in our Synod? One could look directly at the spiritual temperature of the congregation and conclude that more emphasis needed to be placed on Bible study, serving, or stewardship. One important environmental context is the condition of the human heart. What is going on inside of people? What are they thinking and feeling and how does that inform and drive our ministry? All these questions are environmental issues that all of us on the staff discipline ourselves to look at and consider in our regular monthly reports. This is how we stay current and contemporary in a very fast paced and changing world.

### Mission/Values

Mission and values centers on the concern that we keep “the main thing, the main thing”. In a congregation of the size and complexity of Zion it is very easy to get side tracked and lose sight of mission and values. This can happen when challenges or crises emerge and demand our attention in an intense way. It can also happen when opportunities emerge. It is very easy to get so excited or engaged by an opportunity that we start to lose our sense of why we exist in the first place. In a strange sort of unexpected way successes can take us out of mission focus as easily as failures. The sheer magnitude of the work and ministries being carried out each week at Zion can easily overwhelm and preoccupy us so we lose sight of our mission. It is very hard to see the long term perspective which is vital if we are going to remain a congregation focused on our defined mission. As trends and populations in our ministry environment change and evolve it is focus on our mission and values that keeps us faithful.

### High Lights/Celebrations

**Not Alone** In one of our boldest steps we launched the largest and most successful capital campaign in our congregational history.

**The Intersection** Our biggest project ever, remodeling of our new facility.

**New Partners** We welcomed 40 new partners to Zion who mentioned the following reasons for joining Zion: contemporary style of worship services and worship in the park, Bible-centered and moral teaching, large and active congregation, spirit-filled atmosphere, welcoming partners and friendliness, opportunities for growth and for youth, Primetime.

**Director Worship Ministries** Welcomed Mark Harthan to the Zion staff to provide leadership in worship.

**Drama Director** Named Dan May as our new drama director.

**Ministry Expo** Hundreds of people reviewed the ministry and serving opportunities at Zion.

**Pre-Communion Retreat** 53 students and parents attended the pre-communion retreat.

**Zap** We launched a new after school tutoring program to serve Clear Lake elementary students and developed a computer lab to support the ministry

**Discipleship Training School** Three youth from Zion attended YWAM's DTS and are completing the service/mission portion of the program. Sarah Palmer in the Sudan; Elizabeth Calhoun in Borneo; and Molly Brager in Egypt. Emily Brager will become staff at the Orlando Ywam and will be leading mission teams.

**Bell Choir** Launched Zion's new Bell Choir to enhance liturgical worship.

**Prayer Shawl Small Group** Began a ministry of prayer through shawls given to people in need of support.

**J C Crew** Launched a reorganized children's choir.

**Web Site** Started a new Web Site to serve Zion partners and seekers.

**Acts 29** Received thanks and praise from those who attended our conference to help other churches grow.

**LSI** Attended the first Lutheran Social Services "Lutheran Day on the Hill" in Des Moines, and learned about advocacy.

**Namibia** Welcomed Schmelen's new pastor, Pastor Frans Araeb.

**Disaster Response** Took the Zion disaster Response Team to New Orleans to help in the recovery work following hurricane Katrina.

**Habari Yako** Launched a "Habari Yako" night, to inform Zion partners on mission and social issues.

**Senior Ministries Conference** An inspiring success with 77 in attendance.

**Namibian Students.** Two students that Zion has supported at Martin Luther High School in Namibia have passed their national exams which qualify them to attend the University in Namibia.

**Disaster Response** Held our first ever Disaster Response Training sponsored by Lutheran Disaster Response and LSI.

**Liturgical Worship Team** Developed a team to support liturgical worship like the teams that support contemporary worship.

**Sanctuary Technology Upgrade** Thanks to a generous gift to "Not Alone" we enhanced worship in our sanctuary with new video technology.

**Mentoring Program** Started a program for linking caring adults with kids who need mentors.

**Prayer Walk** Health Ministries launched our first ever prayer walk.

**Divorce Recovery Small Group** Reached out to those who were overcoming the effects of a failed marriage.

**Grief Recovery Small Group** Provided comfort and support for those grieving the loss of a loved one.

**Resource Center** Zion assumed operation of the Resource Center in an effort to continue our service to other congregations.

**Generous Stewards** In a year when we faced challenges to meet our budget, in the end, we took in more income than ever before in our history, including the largest December offering of all time thanks to the faithfulness and generosity of Zion partners.

## Operations

**Worship** Our worship teams are working to enhance both our liturgical and contemporary services. Technology upgrades in the sanctuary have already added to our worship. The Bell Choir has added a new rich dimension to the 5:30 and 8:00 services.

**Web Site** Matt Ritter and members of his web site team are helping us develop the usefulness of our Web site. New partner renewal and sermons have already been added and can be down loaded. Soon we will be offering the "Shepherd" via e-mail and on the Web. This will make for quicker and more complete communication and reduce our costs for printing and distribution.

**Intersection** We have decided to develop the Intersection on a “pay as you go” basis. Frankly this will make the development time longer, but it will also make it less expensive and leave us without a big debt. It will take both patience and determination to follow through with this project. This will be a challenge to the congregation because we will not see immediate results from the generous and ongoing contributions to the “Not Alone” Campaign. Despite these challenges I believe we have chosen the best and most economical way to develop the Intersection. Please be patient! Your sacrificed dollars are being used prudently and to maximum effect.

The development is being done in a very careful and thorough way so that this facility will serve our needs for many years into the future. The new youth and gym facilities will be developed first. This will give us much needed room for our youth ministries. But we will also move our late morning contemporary service over to the Intersection gym (until the contemporary worship center is ready). This will allow us to offer a second traditional liturgical service in our current sanctuary. Right now we can not fix a date for when that will occur. But our patience and on going faithfulness now will be rewarded in the future when the Intersection will be an asset to Zion partners of all ages and to the entire community. This building will give us a presence on Main Street and an identity in the community unlike we have ever enjoyed in the past. Many people from the community have spoken to me about the Intersection and understand its potential value to Clear Lake.

**Senior Ministries** We have one of the strongest senior ministries. We continue to reach out to our new neighbors across the street in the senior housing facilities. We foresee the continued expansion of our services to seniors in our congregation and community. Our health ministries will also provide support and services to seniors. We now have more people involved in senior ministries than ever.

**Benevolent Ministries** Our benevolent ministries have always been an important element of our congregational mission. Backed by our commitment of 25% of our income, this year they have grown in scope and significance under the leadership of Steve Fritz. We have seen many new ministries launched and look for those programs to develop through this next year. Our connection with our Namibian friends remains strong and will be enhanced by a visit to Bethanie in early March. Steve, Gary Loos, Tom Thul, and Pastor Derik will be representing Zion and exploring ways for us to deepen our relationships abroad.

**Children’s and Youth Ministries** Our Children’s and Youth Ministries remain two parts of our congregational life that attract many young families. This coming year Pastor Derik, myself, Kristen, and Hugh have begun exploring ways that we can work together even more effectively and enhance our offerings to young people and their families. We hope to take a fresh and thorough look at how to best accomplish our mission with young people. We look forward to leveraging the youth oriented programs that have been launched through Benevolent Ministries this past year (the mentoring and tutoring programs). We have talented and dedicated lay servants and staff working in this area to ensure that our youth are given the faith grounding necessary for them to prevail in the future world.

**Community and Small Groups** We continue to expand and broaden the small groups that we offer. In this past year and now on into 2007 we will see an emphasis upon groups focused on special needs. These groups (Cancer Support, Grief Recovery, and Divorce Recovery, etc) have a tremendous life changing influence on people and are reaching out in some of our most significant caring ministries. The super group is a new phenomenon at Zion (a collaboration of Community Ministries and Educational Ministries) and is offering in-depth adult education and growth opportunities to Zion partners. Celebrate Recovery (a collaboration of Community Ministries and Benevolent Ministries) is very new but already proving to be perhaps one of the most significant ministries launched at Zion in recent memory. It has tremendous potential to change lives, impact families, and improve the quality of life for all Clear Lake residents.

**Zion Staff** We have increasingly been turning to Zion staff for inspiration and leadership in our many ministry areas. I believe our staff is among the very best in congregational ministry today. They have accepted challenges and sacrifices with grace and faith. We have not always been able to reward them in keeping with their talent and dedication. When guests visit our congregation, as I was able to host them just last Sunday and the week before, they are amazed with the quality and depth of our programming and ministry offerings. We face the unusual challenge of having to be “all things to all people”, but the combination of our staff and lay leaders and servants have risen to that challenge in so many amazing ways. I am proud of our congregation and the faithfulness of so many Zion partners working together to accomplish the mission God has set before us.

### Powerful Stories

One of the most gratifying aspects of my ministry is the opportunity to share prayer with Zion partners on Sunday mornings during communion. Partners come forward with an amazing number of sincere and devout requests for intercession, thanksgiving, praise, and confession. It is a real privilege for me to be able to share these very personal moments with our partners. I want to thank them for the faith inspiration, the courage, and warmth they have brought to those precious moments together.

### Questions, Mysteries, Puzzles

2006 was less of a watershed year than an incremental step in the life of Zion. We faced many challenges in 2006 and I believe contended with the forces of darkness for the hearts and minds of many people. 2006 was not all success. We did not win all those battles, but by faith and courage we emerged stronger, better and more effective in mission, and wiser in the ways of the world and more importantly in the ways of God. Thanks to all of you who kept the faith, rose above the temptations to bail out or become cynical. It has been my privilege to serve as your pastor, and I look forward to this coming year. Like the previous year it will not be without its spiritual battles, but if we remember to stay on the right side in those battles we can be assured we will share in the ultimate victory won by Christ.

# PASTOR DERIK C. YARIAN

## ASSOCIATE PASTOR

*“Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.”*

*Isaiah 40:28-31*

### **Environment/Mission/Values**

Our ministry context is fluid, it is constantly changing. Our culture and societal changes are happening faster and faster each year. Our children are forced to grow up and deal with adult issues and problems at earlier ages than they should. Each year we hear of danger, war, attacks, storms, diseases, and disaster after disaster. Yet we are proclaiming the same simple message that has been given to us. God loves *you* so much that Jesus died to forgive *you* of *your* sins so that *you* can live now and forever with Him.

With the constant changes in our ministry environment, we must constantly be changing so that the message is heard and received. What worked when you or I were children probably won't be nearly as effective today. What even worked five years ago is not the answer for ministry today. The audience is in a different place, they have changed – we have changed. This can be frustrating as we must always be innovating and moving forward and what worked before, doesn't today.

As we do ministry it is far too easy to get tired and weary and at times we may even stumble and fall. Too often we see challenges and obstacles and feel defeated before we start. Other times we look at them as someone else's problem or when something doesn't work we blame it on someone else. When we do that we are treading in very dangerous water. The ministry of the church belongs to the entire church, pastors, council, staff, *AND every person who call themselves a follower of Christ*. Being our responsibility, we are called to action. We can not blame it on others or the circumstances we find ourselves working in. No matter how tired or weary we may feel we can never give up or give in, the message is too important.

God promises he will sustain us – God will provide our strength – God will give us the ability to soar, run, and walk wherever he leads us as we hope (“wait” or “trust” in other translations) in Him. But that is the key – hoping, waiting and trusting in the Lord. We must work hard as the body of Christ, we should give our all to the cause, but in doing so we cannot rely solely on our own understanding, ideas, or effort as we move forward in ministry. If we hope, wait, and trust God we will be refreshed, renewed, and sustained and our ministry will be all that God intends it to be.

### **Highlights/Celebrations**

#### *Children's and Youth Ministries*

- The future of the church is in our hands, it's been said that the church is always one generation from extinction. Every parent or relative needs to teach the faith to their family, the church is here to partner with them, but ultimately it is their responsibility – too often though, this responsibility is neglected. We must each make it a priority to minister to and with the youth and children around us.

- Please make a point to read the director reports of Children's and Youth Ministries.

#### *Education Ministries*

- Adult Education
  - o The Adult Education ministry team has tried some new approaches this year. We have revisited some successful courses used a few years ago and integrated some super groups into the Sunday morning education offerings. These groups serve two roles, they are Bible based classes and they incorporate and introduce small group values to a broad spectrum of people.
- Confirmation
  - o Thirty-eight students affirmed their baptism this year. As I read each of the 38 faith statements I was amazed at the articulation of their faith and the way they were able to put it into action. As I think back to my own affirmation of baptism – I knew the answers to the questions, but I don't recall having the depth of faith these students share and apply. It is exciting to see these young adults confess their faith and then see them serve in the church.
  - o This year we have 71 students and 26 adult volunteers. Lives are being changed through the impact of these small group leaders. The time and energy they invest into the students has an eternal impact that starts today. I thank God for their dedication and service.
  - o In addition about ten members of the student band provide opening worship for the students.

## **Operations**

I am excited as we look forward to the next year. Each day we take a step forward, at times it seems the steps are small or even insignificant - but we are moving - each step counts. Each push on the flywheel builds momentum and helps us continue into the future.

As we move forward it is important that we reinforce our current ministries so that they remain strong and vibrant. This year we will need to give extra emphasis in the youth areas in preparation to the move into the new facilities at The Intersection. If the church is to prevail in the coming years it is imperative that we share our faith with the younger generations.

This year promises to be pivotal in our ministry together. I am always amazed as I look back and see what God has done, even in times which I didn't feel were anything but ordinary. How much more profound will God's work be as we look around and see him acting each day. As the construction continues on our facilities and in our lives, we start to see pieces come together as our community is transformed.

*The grace of the Lord Jesus be with God's people. Amen.  
Revelation 22:21*

In His service,  
**Pastor Derik**



Isaiah 40:31

# STEVE FRITZ

## DIRECTOR OF BENEVOLENT MINISTRIES

### Environment

This year Benevolent Ministries saw the addition of many new programs and partnerships. With the addition of these programs and partnerships we also saw the increase in involvement by Zion partners in Benevolent works. Benevolent Ministries also continues its established programming. Continuous programs, new programs and partnerships have offered Zion partners many ways of serving.

### Mission / Values

We must continue to broaden our concept of giving. We must move beyond simply giving money, and include giving our time, our energy and our talents.

### Highlights / Celebrations

**Mentoring:** Zion Lutheran Church in conjunction with Mason City Youth Task Force and a grant from the state of Iowa, stated the Clear Lake Mentoring Program. Becky Finstad was hired as the Clear Lake coordinator and has put in many hours of work to make this program happen. This program gives Zion partners the opportunity to play a positive role in the lives of the youth in Clear Lake.

**New Orleans Trip:** In May seven Zion Members went to New Orleans to help with the recovery effort after Hurricane Katrina. The group spent one week, “mucking” two different homes that were under ten feet of flood waters. The sight of the destruction, the stories of those who experienced the devastation, the smells of all that smelled and the eeriness of the deserted houses, will stick with each of us for a very long time.

**Disaster Response:** On November 5<sup>th</sup>, twelve people attended the Disaster Response Training conducted here at Zion, by Lutheran Disaster Response. The workshop covered what LDR does, what it means to volunteer with them and training to be a LDR volunteer. Attendees were very interested in the continued development of a disaster response plan for Zion and we will continue to work toward a comprehensive plan for Zion, so that we can respond to disasters; locally and nationally.

**ZAP:** ZAP (Zion’s After-school Program) started October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Twenty 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Graders spend Tuesday and Thursday afternoons at Zion getting help with their homework. The program utilizes some 25 different volunteers, substitutes and van drivers to help tutor the students. We have a waiting list for students, so the more volunteers we get the more kids we can help.

**Computer Lab:** 14 computers were graciously donated to the ZAP program and 8 of them are up and running as a computer lab in the Health Ministries room. The computers were put to good use by the summer school group and we hope to expand the lab in the future.

**LSI in DSM:** On Tuesday March 21<sup>st</sup>, a group of 6 people from Zion went to Des Moines to participate in Lutheran Social Services “Lutheran Day on the Hill”. Members of our group had the chance to speak with each congressional leader from our local districts. Over all it was a good day of advocacy, fellowship and networking. A special thanks to Kermit for helping organize and all those that joined us.

**Y.W.A.M. / D.T.S and even S.O.M.E:** Over the past year, Zion has seen six youth enter the field of mission work. The Zion youth signed up with Youth With A Mission and completed Discipleship Training School and then spent 3 months “in the field” doing out-reach, service work and evangelism. Three of the youth continued on with additional training in the School of Missions and Evangelism and one, Emily Brager, is now on staff with YWAM leading mission groups. Benevolence has allocated money to help support youth that feel God’s call to do this mission work.

**News from Namibia:** Schmelen has a new pastor!! After some time with out a pastor in Bethanie, the ELCRN appointed a new pastor to Schmelen this past April. Pastor Frans Araeb will now be serving at Schmelen.

**Namibian Students:** Two students that Zion supported at Martin Luther High School in Namibia passed their national exams which qualify them to attend University in Namibia. Both Hendrik Frederik and Joanne Bois are planning on attending at the National University and studying Business Management

**Habari Yako:** Once a month on a Thursday night, the Director of Benevolence Ministries presents a documentary film on a current topic or issue the world is facing. The idea is to raise awareness and give discussion to topics not always covered in everyday news or discussions.

**The Resource Center:** On July 1, 2006 The Lutheran Resource Center re-opened its doors as The Resource Center, with Zion's BMT serving as their governing board and new Director, Karen Harthan. The Resource Center has been able to establish and maintain a financially sound environment. The RC is initiating numerous new programs as well as maintaining current programs. The biggest changes have come with a new Ecumenical and local mission emphasis. In this The RC is inviting and visiting community inter-faith organizations within a 50 mile radius of The Resource Center and offering its services to all congregations not just the Lutheran congregations. To accommodate and welcome these new congregations The Resource Center is making available more resources appealing to the broader partner base as well as expanding in the area of music for traditional choral and available on-line options.

### **Operations**

Over the past year the Benevolence Ministry Team has gathered many ideas and strategies to help foster an environment of giving in its broadest sense. Together with other Christian organizations and our own partners, we are building a forum to help our brethren help themselves to meet spiritual, emotional and physical needs. The BMT will continue to strive forward in developing a number of ministries to address the needs in our local community and those of our brothers and sisters in Bethanie, Namibia.

Steve Fritz

# HUGH WEBB

## DIRECTOR OF CHILDRENS MINISTRIES

### Environment

The landscape for Children's ministry continues to change at a very rapid pace. One very influential factor is the faster "aging" or "aging up" of our kids. Our children are exposed to more things at an earlier age than any of the previous generations had to deal with. Psychologists have also identified a psychodynamic situation called *aspiration*. Aspiration is the term used to describe kids aspiring to be older. And all of this is reinforced and fed by the world in which we live. One of the results of these factors is that the methods used to reach and teach kids has had to change. If we want the youth and children to know that Jesus can be relevant in their life....right now....we need to be informed about the world in which they live.

### Mission/Values

Our mission in PrimeTime is..."To supplement the family in their efforts to lead children into a fully-devoted relationship with Jesus Christ". Besides the obvious value of this endeavor, children are great evangelists. When they are excited about their faith and their church, they naturally invite their friends. This was further reinforced recently by noted Christian researcher George Barna. When asked what practical things he would do to reach those outside the church, Barna responded "...I'd focus the majority of our outreach resources on children, not adults. Few adults get converted. The vast majority of people who ever embrace Christ do so when they're young, usually before they hit the teen years. Every adult who's interested in doing meaningful ministry would be encouraged to find a way to serve the kids in the church and community. And I'd do whatever we could to empower the kids to share their faith with their family and friends."

### Operations

- **PrimeTime:** To date this has been an up-and-down year with PrimeTime. Our "registered" enrollment of students has been steady, however, the attendance has been poor. Many students experience competing activities on Sunday as more sporting activities are now scheduled on Sunday.
- **Allright:** Our after-school ministry program for 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders continues to be blessed with approximately 70-90 students each week. This past year we honored the 6<sup>th</sup> graders on their last day of Allright in May with a gift bag. It is

hard to let go of these students! We also were able to have our annual hayride in October before the weather turned too cold. Our greatest challenges with this program continue to be the lack of volunteers and not enough space.

- **Student Band:** Wow, what a blessing!!!! The members of the student band continue to bless us all with their time and talents. Each year we must say Good-Bye to our seniors and welcome the new band members. I am continually amazed at the dedication of these students to serve. The Student Band serves PrimeTime every Sunday, confirmation every Wednesday and Student Impact twice a month. In addition, the Student Band has led worship twice this past year.
- **Outloud:** The Outloud students continue to do an excellent job of providing opening worship music for the students in PrimeTime 321 and Pee-Wee PrimeTime. Again this year we have had a high school student lead this ministry with an adult to provide guidance and encouragement.
- **Acting Up:** This new drama ministry has been a struggle because of the lack of leadership. We have not had an adult step forward and volunteer to head this new ministry and consequently it has been very difficult to maintain a consistent group of volunteers to serve in this ministry.

## Powerful Stories

This year one of the Advent services (Dec 13) was also the PrimeTime Christmas program. We wanted to have the Outloud students open the service/program with one of the songs they use with the students on Sunday morning. Earlier that Wednesday afternoon, one of the Outloud students (a 7<sup>th</sup> grade boy) had injured his collarbone at school and was in pain. However, he asked his mother if he could please come to the program and help with the opening music before they took him to the emergency room for treatment. He wasn't able to clap his hands or jump around but he wanted to live up to his commitment and serve that evening. We are all blessed to have this young man (and hundreds more like him) to be a part of this community of believers.

Serving the King Together,

Hugh Webb  
Director of Children's Ministries

# AMY PALMER

## DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

### ENVIRONMENT

Our culture has developed a sense of urgency around nearly every aspect of our everyday life. We experience frustration if we have to pull aside while waiting for a fast food order in the McDonald's Drive Thru. Many of us pay a monthly fee for DSL so our computer/internet will move along at a faster pace. We get impatient if we choose the slower check-out line at the grocery store. Time certainly is one of our most precious commodities – and the more tasks we can “microwave”, the more activities we can fit into our day.

### MISSION & VALUES

Biblical Community remains one of those things that we just can't “microwave”. It takes dedicated, ongoing time commitment from everyone who chooses to follow God's commands and be a part of it. It takes time to nurture our relationship with Christ, build relationships with others, and serve according to the purposes God gave us. May we all develop a sense of urgency around these things – actions that will make and grow disciples for His Kingdom.

### HIGHLIGHTS/CELEBRATIONS

**Acts 29 & Beyond:** Sandy Nyhus did a great job organizing this leadership event held last April.

Attendance was lower than in the years passed, guiding our decision to put the event on hold for the coming year. Other event ideas for gathering Zion volunteers and leaders may be explored.

**Capital Campaign:** My contribution to the campaign was mostly by working on the production of our campaign video alongside Stephanie and Tom Thul and the producer/director Mark Clement. It was so inspirational hearing the many life-changing stories of Zion participants!

**Celebrate Recovery:** Supported by Benevolence, Pat Meints and Brook Hayes joined me in August at the Celebrate Recovery Summit at Saddleback Church in California. There, we were inspired to launch their “Loving an Addict” small group into a program ministry that will encompass a broader range of people wanting to recover from other “hurts, habits & hang-ups”.

**Christ-Life Solution Small Groups:** This ministry continues to function under the leadership of Linda Scarrow and Marie Webb. A Phase 1 and Phase 2 were offered –with plans to do the same in 2007.

**Church-wide Ministry Expo:** In September, we held this first-time event that highlighted all of Zion's ministries. The goal was to raise awareness of opportunities to serve and get connected. At least several people did get plugged into a new ministry area—making it a worthwhile event to continue in the future!

**Divorce Care/Singles Ministry:** A group of people met regularly to assess the needs of Zion singles – turning the focus to beginning a Divorce Care group last fall. We celebrate that this DVD curriculum facilitated by Gayle Jaben has been well received; and we may revisit some of the other singles ministry ideas down the road.

**GiftLink:** A total of 27 people participated in a January and October spiritual gift training and consulting process.

**GiftLink (Youth): “It's Your Thang”:** With the teamwork of Pastor Derik, Kristen, and several volunteers, we worked to assess and enhance the spiritual gift training and consulting process for 9<sup>th</sup> graders at October's Confirmation Retreat.

**New Partners Orientation:** Thirty-two people participated in two orientation events this year. Bob and Lonnie Foell have come on board as leaders of the New Partner Ministry Team—bringing “membership class” experience from their previous church near Minneapolis.

**Small Group Basic Training:** This training was offered twice – including thirteen participants.

**Small Group Consulting:** I enjoyed working with several churches throughout the year—by phone and in person—sharing Zion's experiences and insight to this ministry. Sharing from that perspective always gives me refreshed appreciation for where we are at.

**Super Groups:** Four short-term groups studying Beth Moore curriculum and one using a James MacDonald resource met – involving over 100 participants in these weekly, in-depth Bible studies. Thank you to Linda and Mark Shepp for facilitating these groups! We also celebrate that most of the DVD curriculum has also been put to use by several of our small groups.

**We Care Super Huddles:** We held two of these inspirational/training events for leaders & future leaders of our adult small groups. We experimented with a new format of including breakout choices –which was well received.

**Willow Creek Small Group Conference:** Three Zion participants had their first-time experience at the conference in September. It was just again a very inspirational and educational opportunity!

## **OPERATIONS**

**Celebrate Recovery T.E.A.M.:** This new ministry team was formed last fall to function as the administrators of Celebrate Recovery. The T.E.A.M. acronym is as follows and consists of members: Matt Brinkman & Slim Meints (T=Training), Brook Hayes (E= Encourager), myself and Steve Fritz (A= Assimilation), and Pat Meints & Julie Stauffacher (M= Ministry Leader). The goal will be that apprentices will be identified for these key roles so that there will others to keep the program going.

**Community Ministries Tactical (CMT) Team:** This team currently involves Joy Olson (administrative support), Scott Johnson & Naomi Nowland (communications), and Renee Ritter – whose role is shifting on the team. We recently said “good-bye” to Gary Loos who is very active in other ministry areas. Gary helped to establish and grow the New Partner Team and assisted with the administration of GiftLink. I will be now be putting effort into growing a new GiftLink Team with the leadership of Steve Nicklaus. We will also be recruiting for new roles on the CMT Team in order to give more administrative support specifically to Small Group Ministry.

**Ministry Connection Team:** This task small group including Lonnie Foell, JoAnn Norem, and JoAnn Welsh, meets twice a month to contact people for the purpose of connecting them to service and/or small groups at Zion. By phone calling, tracking ministry interest and recording ministry involvement in our database, it helps us to not lose touch with people wanting further connection.

**We Care Small Groups:** We continue to maintain approximately 40 adult small group groups – although quite a bit of movement has occurred this past year. Eight groups disbanded due to various reasons – with just several groups actually multiplying (launching. Many new groups got started and we especially celebrate the diversity of those groups: Moms-n-Tots, Prayer Shawl Ministry, and a college-aged group are just a few. Maintaining and growing the coaching structure continues take quite a bit of energy – yet proves necessary in supporting our groups and leaders. While the CMT Team (above) focuses on the administrative part of Small Group Ministry, the coaches focus on the relational and information sharing aspect of supporting the ministry. I am thankful to have many encouraging people around me in the coaching and division leader roles!

## **LOOKING AHEAD . . .**

I am still assessing the activity of 2006 in order to set some goals for the coming year. It is my continued aim to help others create environments for healthy Biblical community (as healthy as it can get on this side of heaven anyway). I keep dreaming of the day where everyone in our community has the opportunity to belong . . . to be known, loved, served and challenged to grow in their faith—and to turn around and do that for others. It's a great dream!

In grateful service to Him,

Amy S. Palmer, Director of Community Ministries

# GAYE SCOTT

## DIRECTOR OF SPECIALIZED MINISTRIES

### ENVIRONMENT

How do we involve people—initially on a non-threatening, surface level, but eventually on a deeper, faith level??? And how do we encourage those people who are already involved to grow??? These are questions that I struggle with in all areas of Specialized Ministries.

### MISSION/VALUES

It is our ultimate goal to “Make Disciples, Grow Disciples” and therefore we must continually seek new ways of doing this.

### HIGHLIGHTS/CELEBRATIONS/OPERATIONS

**Zion Women of the ELCA** - Nine monthly programs were presented: Chyrl Bergivg talked about today’s youth; Marlene Bartlett presented a program on “Pairs/Pears”; Zion partners put on a skit about various baskets of blessing; NIVC & Opportunity Village clients participated in a style show; Doug & Beth Snyder of Forest City shared their musical talents; Gail Kittleson talked about “Blessings in Disguise”; Dick & I shared our thoughts on Joy through the format of a fictional radio show; Joey Van Zomeren brought us up to date on the Homeless Shelter; and our own women participated in two Christmas skits. We had a successful bake sale, and were very happy to purchase 200 new padded folding chairs for the Fellowship Hall. In spite of spending several thousands dollars for the chairs, we were still able to give away \$2150 at the end of the year—all out of the women’s own budget! Our Do Day ladies made almost 600 quilts in 2006, and we also sent away many kits to Lutheran World Relief. In addition to funeral lunches, we served one Lenten and one Advent supper. Circles never wonder what Bible study to use, or what service project to pick! (*See Norma Johnson’s report.*)

**Senior Ministries** - Elderberries met monthly to be: a) informed on a variety of topics, such as services available from the Department of Public Health; Zion’s Benevolence ministries; a report from our new mayor on city activities, including an on-scene demonstration from Clear Lake’s new ambulance; nutrition; and also reports from Clear Lake’s Superintendent of Schools and the President of Waldorf College; b) be entertained with memories from February’s “Celebration of Love” and a musical program by Cliff & Norma Stephenson; and c) be inspired by the High School choir at our Christmas Luncheon and monthly devotions by various partners. A “Welcome to the Neighborhood” get-together was held at the new Lake Plaza (bakery!) Apartments, and we went on 2 bus trips this year: Spam Museum, and the musical “Church Basement Ladies”. Another highlight of the year was our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual senior conference, “Ripening in Faith”, which we hosted in partnership with Immanuel of Forest City this year at Zion. Gloria Swanson from Prince of Peace in Burnsville was our speaker, and we had many participants attending from Forest City as well as a few from the surrounding area. Our Senior Ministries Team members have been involved in surveying some of our elderly partners to see

what their needs are. We are also beginning the study of a new book in our team meetings (“Engaging in Ministry with Older Adults”.) This team is very much engaged in ministry!

**Health & Caring Ministries** – Health Ministries, while still very new, experienced a transitional year in 2006. We lost some team members and gained others. We are still seeking to discover our own identity and mission at Zion, but did sponsor Blood Draws in February and August for the Blood Center of Iowa (which involved working in the canteen), and a Blood Pressure Clinic in February. We also began a “Prayer Walk” around the different levels of our building, but have put that project on hold while we determine how to proceed and move it to the new building. Our attention in 2007 will focus on developing a congregation-wide wellness program. In the meantime, we continue to remember those who have serious health concerns and new babies with a card and memento, and we try to spotlight different health and wellness issues by means of a bulletin board and occasional tips in the newsletter.

There is no lack of “caring” going on at Zion. Hospital visitors make daily visits to those hospitalized in Mason City; Communion Visitors offer home communion on a monthly basis to all shut-ins; and the Visitation Committee visits or sends cards to those who have been hospitalized or had a death or new baby in the family. Richard Scott (yes, we are related—by marriage!) makes frequent calls on Zion partners, and is a great asset to this ministry. In fact, his absence during his recovery from a mild stroke in May was plainly felt. If you are concerned about a fellow Zion partner and believe they could benefit from a visit, please let me know and we will arrange one.

Other ministries that come under “Health & Caring” include our Prayer Chain, Prayer Vigil, and God’s Word for Today (a daily telephone devotional available at 357-6446). I am the staff liaison for these areas.

**New Projects/Ministries** – Anita Langholz felt the call to start a Grief Support Group, and did so this fall. It was well-received and she plans to have another class this spring. Eventually, it is hoped that former participants will lead new groups.

Lorene Hansen gave up her volunteer service at the Village General Store in order to spend time with her new non-impact aerobic exercise class held in our Fellowship Hall from 9:15 to 10:00 on Monday and Friday mornings. This is convenient mostly for Seniors, but also certainly fits as a Health project. I started coming to it myself, and find it very enjoyable!

Sherry Wilcox is another partner who felt a strong call to develop a Prayer Shawl ministry at Zion. This has proven to be very successful, and I can personally attest to how meaningful it is to receive a shawl when we got one following Dick’s stroke. I am a resource person for this group, with requests for referrals.

**SUMMING IT UP.** . . . Sometimes I feel absolutely overwhelmed by all the meetings I have, and blown away by the statement “Oh, *that’s* Specialized Ministries!” But I celebrated my 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary at Zion this fall, and just need to remind myself that it is still *God* and *His people* that are the reason for my being here!

By Grace Alone,  
*Gaye*

# BRIDGET MOE

## DIRECTOR OF WORSHIP MINISTRIES

### **Environment**

”There is a time for everything, a season for every activity under heaven. A time to be born and a time to die. A time to plant and a time to harvest. A time to kill and a time to heal. A time to tear down and a time to rebuild. A time to cry and a time to laugh. A time to grieve and a time to dance. A time to scatter stones and a time to gather stones. A time to embrace and a time to turn away. A time to search and a time to lose. A time to keep and a time to throw away. A time to tear and a time to mend. A time to be quiet and a time to speak up. A time to love and a time to hate. A time for war and a time for peace.” Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

### **Mission/Values**

A healthy indicator of growth in any area of life is change. Change is frequently viewed as negative, and people often approach it with fear. Ironically, once people are given an opportunity to adjust, they feel that the new implementation is an improvement. Zion’s worship ministries have faced a variety of changes this year. Most of these changes have been for the better and some are still in their infancy stages.

### **High Lights/Celebrations**

Thanks to everyone who has served this past year! Choirs, ushers, communion servers and preparers, worship team members, soloists and instrumentalist, sound and video operators, lay readers, lay assistants, acolytes, bulletin and power point preparers, pew stuffers, and other various tasks. Our community worship experience does not just happen by chance! It takes committed volunteers to fill many roles that contribute to excellence in our worship.

### **Operations**

In 2006, we added a new worship team and went through a rejuvenation process with the four teams that were already in place. Our teams are committed to leading high quality contemporary worship services. They continue to seek out people with a passion for worship and musical gifts. Worship Team Leaders are: Cheryl Brenton, Jennifer Eden, Paul Langholz, Mark Harthan, Carman Rydstrom, and Nick Schauf. These leaders have an excitement for worship and an evident love for Christ.

Ernie Reineke started the Bell Choir in January with the chimes that the church already owned. In June, the Trust Fund approved the purchase of a new set of Schulmerich Bells which have proven to be an extremely delightful enhancement to our traditional services. In August, the group went to Minneapolis to learn a variety of techniques and how to mix bells with chimes. Lastly, this fall they took on the name “Jubilee Ringers”.

Acts 29 Event was held in April. Thanks to all of the presenters for their commitment to excellence and sharing their expertise with other congregations that are seeking to improve their worship quality!

The Student Band led worship on two occasions this year. They bring a new dimension of enthusiasm and have introduced several new songs to worship.

In an effort to increase visual arts in worship and boost artistic involvement, a new position was formed, Drama and Arts Coordinator. Dan May came to Zion with a variety of drama experience. He has been a welcomed addition and is working hard to develop drama ministry.

The Children's Choirs have done some restructuring. The new choir, known as JC Crew, is under the direction of Melodee Reineke. Melodee has done a fantastic job of involving the kids in music and worship. Karen Harthan continues to share her passion for children and music by serving as the JC Crew Accompanist.

Part of our "Not Alone Campaign" included a variety of additions to our current sanctuary. Steve Hild has worked diligently with a variety of contractors to get these updates and additions in place. We now have 2 projectors, 2 video cameras, a new TV monitor system, a new computer and Media Shout! Software. Thanks to Steve for his continued efforts.

The Liturgical Team is working to restructure the group in an effort to give people a variety of service options.

The Family Choir continues to thrive under the direction of Paul Langholz with Anita Langholz at the piano. The choir sings at our Liturgical, Blended, and Contemporary services. They are a big part of the program and we thank them for their faithful service.

Lastly, this is the part of the report that I'm handing over to Mark Harthan, our New Worship Director. I have been at Zion just short of 3 years and have found my time here to be a complete blessing. I will dearly miss my co-workers and the volunteers that have moved this ministry forward. As seasons change and time passes, my time on staff at Zion is done, but I look forward to the ministry opportunities that my new job will present.

## **LOOKING AHEAD**

We will continue our efforts to expand worship in all areas! Here are some of the things that we are looking forward to:

- 1) We will continue to expand the Jubilee Ringers and the Liturgical Team. With the family choir's help, we will look for different combinations of voices and instruments in an effort to enhance and expand both our liturgical and blended services. Massed choirs, choir and bells, bells with brass, or choir with brass and bells are just a few of the possibilities.
- 2) We will try to develop and test the waters on a new service geared towards the college age or twenty-something bracket. We will add one more contemporary worship team in that effort.
- 3) We will continue to recruit more volunteers in all areas of worship; : instrumentalists, greeters, dramatists, artists, ushers, vocalists, communion preparers, powerpoint preparers/advancers, sound and lighting technicians All are welcome and all will be given an opportunity to serve.
- 4) We will strive to provide as many different worship options as possible. On the Contemporary side, we will pursue the seekers in our community. At the Same time, we will enhance and maintain the integrity of Liturgical worship.

# KRISTEN MEIER

## DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRIES

### ENVIRONMENT

The current senior high and junior high youth are part of a generation labeled “Generation Y”, aka: The Millennials. A defining characteristic of this generation is that there are distinct personality differences within the generation itself; this is different from previous generations, who held similar and consistent personality traits. Due to instant and unlimited access on the web and the fast pace of changing technology, youth are part of a world evolving at an extremely accelerated pace. Therefore, during four years of high school, the life experiences and cultural trends create greater diversity and sub-generations within. The added focus of our consumer based society tends to increase the self-focus of all aspects of life on youth, who already naturally struggle with egocentricity. Their social world revolves around quick paced text messaging and impersonal relationships built through online social networks like *Facebook* and *MySpace*. The Hollywood and professional sports focus of our culture has led to the addition of a new and highly influential friend called the “virtual peer”; this peer ‘without a face’ is any of these larger than life characters and players found in the widely popular Reality TV, the latest MVP, or on the cover of *Glamour* or *Teen* magazines. Parents of this generation are mostly Baby Boomers, and are categorized with an excessive focus on status and achievement. As parents, this focus is often directed toward their children and sometimes transferred into vicariously living through them. They seek to overcompensate in areas where they felt neglected as youth, by more than just providing for their children ‘the haves’, they ‘had not’. They are intent at being present at all their events and place a great significance on rewarding even the smallest accomplishments.

### MISSION/VALUES

Ministry dependent on keeping up with the culture of change opens the door for failure. We endeavor to be technically advanced and on the leading edge of what’s cool to each of these sub-generations, but there is no end or real measure of that success. Essentially, we cannot compete with this cultural. Therefore, our responsibility is to present a constant, unchanging, highly personal, authentic, and reliable foundation of truth, that knowing and serving Jesus Christ is the answer and the missing link for this generation. Therefore, our mission continues to be, to reach the youth with the Love of God by inviting them into a Christ-centered community where they can be transformed by the Holy Spirit and inspired to share Jesus Christ with the world.

### HIGHLIGHTS/CELEBRATIONS

As the 2005 seniors graduated, the freshman and sophomores became the core of Impact. The guys rule!, so to speak– Currently, there are more guys than girls in Impact small groups, and they tend to be the leaders in large group participation as well. A focused effort has been made the past two years to reach out through small and large group to the young men of Zion, involving more male role models and catering some large group aspects to them. However, we can humbly say that it is not just our focus and effort, but it is what God has done in these young men...their growing desire to choose boldly to seek Him.

KickBack IMPACT– During the Summer of 2005, KickBack (our weekly summer ministry for Senior High) was blessed by college youth, who accepted the invitation to become active leaders in the ministry. Their presence provided encouragement and an opportunity for the high school youth to look up. This brought a new dynamic of leadership to the KickBack environment. They also brought a few new fun games and a tweak to our fireside worship, as prayer time evolved from large group prayer involving many, to a time of small group prayer involving all. The high school youth enjoyed having these mentors around and the college youth were given an opportunity to expand their leadership abilities as faith mentors, which has continued into the fall ministry as well.

Youth LINC – this is a new ecumenical youth ministry venture which began as I acted on promptings from God to move individual church ministries of this community toward unity “of” the Body of Christ as we discover unity within the Body of Christ. My invitation to area churches was greeted with a positive response. Two-thirds of this community’s congregations have become actively involved in gathering as leaders and gathering as youth. The newly named **Youth LINC (Youth Living IN Christ)** was created to widen visibility and access to the Body of Christ to unbelievers and to breakdown compartmentalization of faith and ‘the rest of life’ for youth. **Youth LINC** sponsored two events in the fall of 2006, which were well attended (150 youth, plus) and was largely supported by this community’s congregations. The events incorporated student-led worship, testimonies, teaching, games, prayer, and fellowship. We will offer two events in the Spring of 2007 and then step back to evaluate the mission and vision for the 07-08 school year.

### **OPERATIONS IN 2007**

The Big Picture – A need to review the past and look forward, yet retain consistency within the big picture from Zion’s children to youth ministry is needed, as ministries evolve. In the coming months, Pastor Dean, Pastor Derik, Hugh and I will be meeting to look at providing a better flow in and out of each of these ministries as we strive as a team to best serve God’s children from birth to high school graduation.

Task Small Groups – The Student Band functions as this type of small group, providing a service (worship) with the ongoing task (rehearsing to prepare). For several years, we’ve attempted to incorporate more groups of this type within the youth ministry; these are great opportunities for youth to hone talents, interests, and use spiritual gifts. They provide a service within the body and opportunity for continued faith growth. Multi-tasking at its best, right! This year, we look to officially add the Video Production Team (Ztv) to the list of youth task-oriented small groups. This team will serve various areas of Zion’s ministries, through video creation for programming to capturing event highlights. This will provide a new exciting opportunity for youth to get involved in Zion’s ministry.

The HUB – (*This will be the youth ministry core of the Intersection*). We need it!! Sunday is no longer a day of rest and time to focus on God in this community. For the youth, the long ongoing growth of sport “open gyms” and season ending banquets has now paved the way for academic extra-credit opportunities and school group/club meetings. In this highly mobile society, families also use Sunday for weekend adventures and opportunities to recapture “family” in the midst of lives that are over committed and too busy. Unfortunately, this continues to road block our ministry on Sunday nights. The most active youth struggle to remain committed and involved in the large or small group setting. A move to Wednesdays has long been discussed, however, it is currently limited by space and timing, with ALL that happens on in this building on Wednesday nights. A move will likely take place when the HUB is up and running... so, we look forward to the continued progress and involvement of the congregation to bring this dream to fruition.

Mission Impossible becomes Mission Possible – a new adventure in missions!

For the first time, we are pursuing independently organizing our summer Youth Mission Trip; this will include the training and outreach portions. Previously, we have worked with the organization YWAM, who provided training and coordinated outreach details for our team. Because YWAM Bases vary in their emphasis on various aspects of training and outreach, I have long desired to customize our mission trip. The vision for self-sustaining this aspect of ministry has been under consideration for several years, but all the details involved have loomed overwhelming, in the midst of on-going ministry. Myself, accompanied by a team of two Impact alums who were trip participants and have additional experience through YWAM’s Discipleship Training School, will form the planning team. In addition, other Zion young adults (college age) will serve as additional mentoring staff for the team of youth along with other adult trip participants. Training will focus on Biblical teaching, personal growth in various disciplines, team building, and outreach preparation. Our outreach prep will more effectively focus on developing the tools needed for our outreach as well as equipping youth for life in mission back home.

**QUESTIONS/MYSTERIES/PUZZLES???**

It takes a village to raise a child... well, in this setting it take a congregation to raise a Child of God.

Many of you are needed, to pass on the torch of faith in small group and large group serving opportunities within our high school youth ministry. Youth need a spiritual mentor that reinforces what their parents are teaching at home. As a congregation, our role is to come alongside parents and provide that support to them and guide and encourage the youth. We are thankful for all those who have served and are serving God by shepherding the next generation of Christians. The question is... Is this ongoing need seen and will the need to be a light to our youth continue to be met?

# 2006 ANNUAL MEETING

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, CLEAR LAKE, IOWA

January 22, 2006, Annual Meeting Minutes

The Zion Lutheran Church began at 1:30 p.m. on January 22, 2006, with 95 people present, 85 being needed for a quorum. Following an opening prayer of thanks by Pastor Dean, the meeting was turned over to President Brad Watson.

## CALL TO ORDER OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

President Brad Watson called the Annual Meeting of Zion Lutheran Church to order at 1:35 p.m. on Sunday, January 22, 2006 when a quorum became present. There were two additions to the agenda under old business, one by Pastor Dean and the other by Pastor Derik.

## PARISH REPORTS

**SECRETARY'S MINUTES:** Beth Ann Schumacher presented the minutes of the 2005 Annual Meeting to the congregation. There were no comments. Beth Ann Schumacher also present the minutes of the Special Congregational Meeting. There were no comments. Both sets of minutes were approved as written and submitted.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Orlin Kelling first thanked the congregation for its faithfulness as the budget was met this year. It indeed was an answer to prayer. Giving changed slightly during 2005 as partners gave more in regular offering than they did during special services. The report was approved as written and submitted.

**AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT:** Audit Committee members Gary Claude, Kevin Sholly, and Shelly Adams submitted their written report. The committee suggested that the Council consider having a formal audit done of the church books at some time in the future. The Congregation Council will review the suggestion at its next January meeting. There were no other comments or questions. The report was approved as presented.

**TRUST FUND REPORT:** The written report was submitted. Bill Sorbo asked that the Trust Fund begin to prepare a financial report for the congregation that listed beginning and ending balances, income, increases in securities held, capital gains, and expenses for the year. The Council will pass that request on to the Trust Fund Board for inclusion in the annual report next year. Dave Rasmussen commented that as we expand our ministry, our buildings age, and costs of upkeep increase, it is more important than ever to think of endowments to our church. An endowment to Zion is a good way to continue the growth of long-term ministry. The report was then approved as written and submitted.

## STAFF REPORTS

**PASTOR DEAN HESS** - Pastor Dean highlighted his printed report by thanking the congregation for its faithfulness. He also noted that this coming year would be one of challenge as we begin our new capital campaign. Additionally he shared thank you notes from Luther

Seminary for our support of both Gary Burkhalter and Rebecca Darting. Rebecca is currently completing internship and Gary has completed seminary, has been certified, and is awaiting ordination which he would like to have take place at Zion. In closing his highlights, Pastor Dean made the congregation aware that members of the Council and staff had completed child safety training in October. The report was approved as written and submitted.

**PASTOR DERIK YARIAN** – Pastor Derik highlighted his printed report by noting that child safety is a prime concern in many churches. He stated that he is in the process of developing a process to implement background checks on people who volunteer to work with youth from high school age down. The challenge is to do these checks in a financially responsible way since they require a fee. The report was approved as written and submitted.

## **MINISTRY TEAM/BOARD REPORTS**

### **ADMINISTRATIVE MINISTRIES**

Dir. of Admin. Ministries - (Rev. Dean C. Hess) -Written report submitted and approved.

### **BENEVOLENCE MINISTRIES** –

Dir. Of Benevolence Ministries - (Steve Fritz) - Written report submitted and approved.

### **EDUCATIONAL MINISTRIES**

Dir. of Children’s Ministries - (Hugh Webb) – Written report submitted and approved.

### **YOUTH MINISTRIES**

Dir. of Youth Ministries - (Kristen Meier) – Written report submitted and approved.

### **COMMUNITY MINISTRIES**

Dir. of Small Grp Ministries - (Amy Palmer) - Written report submitted and approved.

### **SPECIALIZED MINISTRIES**

Dir. of Specialized Ministries - (Gaye Scott) -Written report submitted and approved.

### **WORSHIP MINISTRIES**

Dir. of Worship - (Bridget Moe) - Written report submitted and approved.

**BENEVOLENCE MINISTRIES** – Written report submitted and approved. Abigail Schumacher thanked the Benevolence Ministry Team on behalf of the OK House on the NIACC campus as NIACC student ministries work to expand campus ministry there. Don Thompson noted that one area that the team sees as essential is the growth of campus ministries.

**PROPERTY** – Written report submitted and approved.

**ZION WOMEN** – Written report submitted and approved.

**STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE** – Gary Claude and Bill Sorbo used this time to update those present on the selection of our consultant for the upcoming capital campaign. Five different consultants were interviewed by the Stewardship and Finance Ministry Team to assist Zion with its next capital campaign. The Stewardship and Finance Ministry Team recommended Generis

Partners, LLC from Atlanta, GA. Gary Ealy, Sr. would be the consultant/strategist working with Zion. The references were very good. The Ministry Team was most impressed with this consultant since he and his firm offered the following components that The Stewardship and Ministry Team wanted:

1. A Biblical base for the campaign
2. Assurance of devotion to our campaign
3. Willing to be a partner with us
4. Provision for leadership training and assistance to define our lifestyles to commit to mission.
5. A demographic study and assessment of our congregation
6. A Bible study series that can be adapted for several age groups
7. A 6 month check up cycle for the entire 3 year program
8. We will set our parameters and customize our campaign

President Brad Watson thanked all of the Ministry Team directors and team members for their continued service.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Pastor Dean interjected the first added agenda item reminding those present that they should note that the plan of the Clear Lake Community School District to control entry of school buses from other districts into our district could have an impact on our after school youth programs. He asked all present to become informed on the issues.

Pastor Derik presented the second added agenda item noting that the new dining facility/storm shelter at Riverside Bible Camp has been completed.

Ron Loudenberg was called upon to give an update on the progress being made at the old bakery building. He noted that his team which includes Patty Mueller, Wes Wistrom, Pat Meints, Orlin Kelling, Brad Watson, and Lisa Bieber meets twice a month. The final proposal for use of the space is nearly ready to present. He stated that input from the focus groups is helping to guide the possible uses for the space. He and his team are meeting often with the architect from Spencer and the liturgical architect from Wisconsin to make sure that our needs are being met. The broad plan is that the north end of the building will be a youth area and the south end will focus on worship space.

Pastor Dean gave a brief update on the status of Lutheran Services of Iowa (LSI), the largest social service agency in the state of Iowa. LSI is the result of a merger between Lutheran Social Services (LSS) and Bremwood. LSI is in the process of doing some downsizing and reorganizing since funding is lacking. As a result of this reorganization, the Mason City LSI office was closed this fall. He noted that our new benevolence programs will be highly important as LSI modifies its programs.

Pastor Dean updated those present on the status of the Lutheran Resource Center (LRC). He noted that the LRC has been in flux since much of its synod support has been removed and it has been forced to operate based on congregation memberships and benevolence assistance. JoAnn Norem commented that Zion's continual benevolence assistance has been vital to the LRC. Pastor Dean stated that the LRC is in the process of reorganizing. Zion still owns the building housing the LRC and we will continue to rent space to the LRC.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Treasurer Orlin Kelling presented the budget for the 2006 calendar year. He also reviewed the format, which allows for more exact accounting. Orlin presented a formal budget of \$775,084.12 for the 2006 calendar year. A question was asked about the decrease in the amount to be used for postage in light of the recent increase in rates. Pastor Dean stated that it is hoped that as our new website goes into operation, less postage and paper/printing will be needed as more people obtain information online. On a motion from the Council, the 2006 budget was approved unanimously as submitted.

The final item of new business was to review the slate of nominees to fill board/ministry team vacancies. Brad Watson asked for unanimous consent on the ballot. The ballot received unanimous approval. A copy will be included in the recording secretary's records.

Beth Ann Schumacher presented the proposed changes to the current Trust Fund Bylaws that were created by a cooperative effort between the Council and the Trust Fund Board. The changes will bring those bylaws in alignment with our new constitution. There were no questions or comments. Beth Ann asked for unanimous consent on the changes. The changes were approved unanimously.

Pastor Dean thanked the entire staff and Council for its service this past year and relayed a special thank you to John Severtson and Shane Cooney who are stepping down from the Trust Fund Board and to Brad Watson who will be stepping down as President of the Congregation and from the Council. Lisa Bieber will become the President of the Congregation.

The Annual Meeting ended at 2:25 p.m. with a closing prayer by President Brad Watson and the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted  
Beth Ann Schumacher  
Recording Secretary

# SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

## BAPTISMS

Kaysee Lynn Miller  
Trinity Eugene Monson  
Chase James Rose  
Amelia Grace Rosenhamer  
Jordan Roger Dahl  
Hannah Grace Lahner  
Shelby Lynn Marshall  
McKenna Jacquelyn Strike  
Isaiah Ronald August Monson  
Malinda Kay Voortman

## BAPTISMS

Jaden Eugene Wright  
Tenley Marie Monson  
Paisley Sophia Finstad  
Chase William Johnson  
Andrew Allen Theiss  
Chase Ross Duesenberg  
Cody Lee Marshall  
Morgan Renae Sheahan  
Cade Thomas Hartwig

## AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

Taya Jay Amundson  
Adam Reed Brinkmann  
Jadyn Ruby Byers  
Jordan Nicole Crosser  
Faith Olivia Garrington  
Alexandria Jo Hayes  
Paige Jennings  
Zachary Nowland Johnson  
Katie Lynn Kirchhoff  
Whitney Ann Luscombe  
Justin Tyler Mikesell  
Brittany Lee Mumm  
Elizabeth Hannah Reid  
Kimberly Sarah Scherber  
Jason Daniel Sholly  
Amber Renee Smith  
Francesca Marie Taylor  
Alex John Uhlenhopp  
Alysha Marie Walker

## AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

Jeffrey Fredric Arians  
Cameron Lindsey Burtness  
Sierra Jean Craighton  
Elisa Marie Dohlman  
Hannah Jo Hall  
Hailey Marie Huey  
Ryan Daniel Jensen  
Levi Allen Kellogg  
Katie Ann Knutson  
Chelsea Faye Mathews  
Tyler Dylan Mosher  
Kathryn Ann Nieman  
Annette Mary Scherber  
Casey Schwichtenberg  
Alexandra Christine Smith  
Dena Renee Tatro  
Ethan Earl Tindall  
Jacob Nels Vorland  
Harrison Tanner Webb

## TRANSFERRED OUT

Troy & Deb Heller, Kyle, Kirstin, Keeley, Kolby; Mike & Kathy Teigland, Laura, Michael, & Jonathan; Judy Secory, Brittany & Breanna; Catherine Ewers; LaVonne Borchardt; Karen (Johnson) Jurgens; David & Wendy VanVeldhuizen & Desha; Varian & Loraine Barkhurst; Jim Merwin; Jennifer Gunsallus; Ryan & Stacy Kramer, Jakob; Tom Hacker, Christina Calgaard; Max & Penny Beckner, Gina(Grell) Welp, Georgia Norem, Tania Viet; Lindsay Rogers; Carolyn Starling; Al & Sue Nickerson, Andrew; Ellen Anderson; Ron Muhlenbruck; John & Jackie Fieseler; Marcie Mowrey; Gary & Betty Burkhalter, Jennifer & Becky; Justin & Lynnae Latham, Emerson & Jack.

## WEDDINGS

Darwin Luvern Ruitter, & Jane Marie Trayers  
Shawn Lewis Puttmann & Sara Jean Stroup  
Tony Duane Larson & Nichole Kay Kemmerer  
James Joseph Dotzler & Casey Ann Nye  
Levi Thomas DeVries, & Mindy Marie Drew  
Nathan Dean Hess & Anna Christine Roller  
Mitchell John Baum & Kristin Elizabeth Keefe  
Kevin Scott Monson & Michelle Lee Secory  
David Allan Swartwood & Lindsey Erin Gardner

## NEW PARTNERS

John(Jack) Amble  
Don Harty  
Greg & Paula Monson,  
    Luke, Meg & Emily  
Anthony & Amy Brownlee  
Jennifer Knudson  
Steve & Sue Nicklaus  
Ernie & Melodee Reineke, Kirsten & Kara  
Marty & Renae Schmidt  
    Brodrick, Kerilynn & Tonianna  
Sue Wendorf

## NEW PARTNERS

Bob & Lonnie Foell  
Steve & Louanna Lahner  
Kirk & Sandra Pearson  
Darren & Beth Strike  
Lara Groshek  
Trese Lovik  
Tom & Barb Pronk  
Don & Ruth Rodenbeck  
Dale & April Schmitz  
Jon Wendorf  
Ron Charlson

## DEATHS

Frank Baker  
LaVonne Hickle  
Arden (Bud) Madson  
Henry (Sam) Gesme  
Edith Helma Peterson  
Reuben Schramm  
Mildred Wistey

Carroll Anderson  
Lois Maxine Hanson  
Larry Secory  
Ed Vorland  
Jack Wilcox  
Elwood Pilz  
Cheryl Lynn Hanson

## ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH MEMBERSHIP 12/31/06

Baptized - 2034

Confirmed – 1715

Average Worship Attendance -750

# TREASURER'S REPORT

<b>OFFERINGS</b>	<b>2006 Budget</b>	<b>2006 Actual</b>
General Offerings	\$760,905.26	\$762,706.43
Lent/Easter	\$10,103.64	\$11,704.91
Advent/Christmas	\$3,464.37	\$4,536.73
Interest	\$371.30	\$548.49
Facility Usage	\$240.00	\$150.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$775,084.57</b>	<b>\$779,646.56</b>
 Hunger (Thanksgiving)	 \$9,678.12	 \$10,472.09

## **EXPENSES**

<b>WORSHIP MINISTRIES</b>	<b>2006 Budget</b>	<b>2006 Actual</b>
Music Copyrights	\$960.00	\$681.00
Park Sound	\$1,000.00	1000
Leadership Training	\$2,150.00	\$2,425.49
Worship Supplies	\$1,800.00	\$2,177.99
Drama Supplies	\$100.00	(\$152.72)
Church Decorations	\$150.00	\$42.80
Worship Director Supplies	\$400.00	\$400.00
Worship Teams & Choir Dir. Supplies	\$2,200.00	\$1,266.71
Postage, Misc.	\$200.00	\$200.00
W & M Equipment	\$300.00	\$536.28
Maintenance Organ/Pianos	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$10,260.00</b>	<b>\$9,577.55</b>

<b>SPECIALIZED MINISTRIES</b>	<b>2006 Budget</b>	<b>2006 Actual</b>
Senior Ministries	\$2,500.00	\$1,475.92
Health & Caring Ministries	\$1,000.00	\$373.73
Leadership Training	\$400.00	\$271.13
Specialized Ministries Misc.	\$200.00	\$95.10
Administration Expenses	\$300.00	\$209.37
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,400.00</b>	<b>\$4,225.25</b>

<b>COMMUNITY MINISTRIES</b>	<b>2006 Budget</b>	<b>2006 Actual</b>
Gift Link	\$100.00	\$307.91
Special Events	\$500.00	\$293.12
Volunteer Appreciation	\$500.00	\$393.96
Leadership Training	\$2,750.00	\$2,545.91
Office Supplies and Postage	\$350.00	\$129.52
Resources & Curriculum	\$600.00	\$997.60
Christ-Life Min. Supplies	\$150.00	\$723.97
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$200.00	\$79.80
New Partner Welcome	\$400.00	\$228.35
Relational Ministry	\$200.00	\$36.48
Small Group Administration	\$700.00	520.82
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,450.00</b>	<b>\$6,257.44</b>

<b>EDUCATION MINISTRIES</b>	<b>2006 budget</b>	<b>2006 Actual</b>
Sixth Grade Retreat	\$300.00	(\$0.80)
Adult Education	\$250.00	\$125.79
Confirmation Resources	\$500.00	\$615.60
Confirmation Postage	\$225.00	\$189.87
Confirmation Equipment	\$100.00	\$0.00
Administration	\$100.00	\$79.10
Library	\$50.00	\$44.97
Lutheran Resource Center	\$375.00	\$346.70
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$1,900.00</b>	<b>\$1,401.23</b>

<b>CHILDREN MINISTRIES</b>	<b>2006 Budget</b>	<b>2006 Actual</b>
Volunteer Appreciation	\$600.00	\$635.22
Student Band	\$100.00	132.21
Outloud	\$50.00	\$142.80
Acting Up	\$50.00	\$32.23
Allright Program 4-5-6 Grades	\$600.00	\$689.98
Leadership Training	\$700.00	\$1,346.49
Prime Time Supplies	\$2,700.00	\$3,711.60
Bibles for 3rd. Graders	\$500.00	\$225.18
Vacation Bible School	\$900.00	\$823.16
Christmas Program Material	\$175.00	\$633.04
Resource Room Materials	\$50.00	\$202.26
Church Nursery Supplies	\$25.00	\$0.00
Children Ministry Equipment	\$200.00	\$0.00
Administrative Exp. & Postage	\$250.00	\$313.28
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,900.00</b>	<b>\$8,887.45</b>

<b>YOUTH MINISTRIES</b>	<b>2006 Budget</b>	<b>2006 Actual</b>
Surge Retreats 7&8 grades	\$200.00	\$321.91
Impact Retreats	\$550.00	\$290.21
Student Music/Drama/Band	\$600.00	\$604.18
Surge Events	\$600.00	\$116.89
Impact Ministry High School	\$2,000.00	\$1,221.86
Chaperones/Lay Leaders	\$350.00	\$0.00
Leadership Training	\$2,700.00	\$1,672.25
Media Materials	\$500.00	\$477.93
Equipment	\$250.00	\$211.27
Relational Ministry	\$400.00	\$427.88
Administration/Postage	\$300.00	\$374.60
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$8,450.00</b>	<b>\$5,718.98</b>
<b>Total Program Ministries</b>	<b>\$38,360.00</b>	<b>\$34,267.90</b>

<b>SUPPORT MINISTRIES</b>	<b>2006 Budget</b>	<b>2006 Budget</b>
Telephone	\$5,200.00	\$5,194.37
Office Supplies	\$14,750.00	\$14,695.07
Misc. Resource Materials	\$150.00	86.84
Postage	\$4,500.00	\$4,424.05
Office Equipment	\$8,300.00	\$2,995.42
Community Relations	\$100.00	\$100.00
Misc. Expenses	\$1,000.00	\$118.15
Advertising	\$100.00	\$279.41
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$34,100.00</b>	<b>\$27,893.31</b>

<b>STEWARDSHIP MINISTRIES</b>	<b>2006 Budget</b>	<b>2006 Actual</b>
Envelopes	\$1,635.00	\$1,634.86
Postage (Envel. & Statements.)	\$200.00	\$624.42
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,835.00</b>	<b>\$2,259.28</b>

<b>PROPERTY BOARD.</b>	<b>2006 Budget</b>	<b>2006 Actual</b>
Building Insurance	\$7,500.00	\$6,494.79
Bus & Van Insurance	\$1,200.00	\$1,105.00
Bus & Van License	\$502.50	\$492.50
Workers Compensation	\$3,500.00	\$3,364.00
Building Maint. Equipment	\$1,000.00	\$388.49
Vehicle Maint. & Fuel	\$1,500.00	\$549.69

<b>Parking Lot Maint.</b>	<b>\$750.00</b>	<b>\$638.75</b>
<b>Church Building Maint.</b>	<b>\$8,400.00</b>	<b>\$16,624.90</b>
<b>Church Building Repair</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>	<b>\$6,048.71</b>
<b>Utilities, Gas &amp; Elect.</b>	<b>\$20,000.00</b>	<b>\$27,088.67</b>
<b>Water, Sewer, Landfill</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>	<b>\$630.69</b>
<b>Keith's Sanitation</b>	<b>\$600.00</b>	<b>\$558.54</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$50,452.50</b>	<b>\$63,984.73</b>
<b>Total Support Ministries</b>	<b>\$86,387.50</b>	<b>\$94,137.32</b>
<b>Total Program &amp; Support</b>	<b>\$124,747.50</b>	<b>\$128,405.22</b>

	<b>2006 Budget</b>	<b>2006 Actual</b>
<b>CONGREGATION COUNCIL</b>		
<b>Staff Development</b>	<b>\$200.00</b>	<b>\$58.30</b>
<b>Staff Nurture</b>	<b>\$200.00</b>	<b>\$264.10</b>
<b>Leadership Training</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>	<b>\$249.00</b>
<b>Synod Assembly</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>	<b>\$231.00</b>
<b>Program Ministry Salaries</b>	<b>\$192,841.49</b>	<b>\$190,341.60</b>
<b>Pastoral Ministry Salaries</b>	<b>\$154,696.48</b>	<b>\$155,079.92</b>
<b>Support Ministry Salaries</b>	<b>\$93,775.64</b>	<b>\$92,542.42</b>
<b>Music Ministry Salaries</b>	<b>\$23,665.67</b>	<b>\$18,157.14</b>
<b>Trust Fund Ministry</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$466,679.28</b>	<b>\$456,923.48</b>
<b>Total Program,Support,Council</b>	<b>\$591,426.78</b>	<b>\$585,328.70</b>

### **ZION WORLD WIDE**

	<b>2006 Budget</b>	<b>2006 Actual</b>
<b>INTERNATIONAL</b>		
<b>International Namibian Students</b>	<b>\$3,500.00</b>	<b>\$3,500.00</b>
<b>Hunger Fund</b>	<b>\$9,678.82</b>	<b>\$10,472.09</b>
<b>Missionary Support</b>	<b>\$8,500.00</b>	<b>\$8,500.00</b>
<b>Namibian Sister Synod/Cong.</b>	<b>\$7,250.00</b>	<b>\$7,250.00</b>
<b>Namibian Leadership Training</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$30,928.82</b>	<b>\$31,722.09</b>

	<b>2006 Budget</b>	<b>2006 Actual</b>
<b>SYNOD RELATED</b>		
<b>ELCA NE Iowa Synod</b>	<b>\$79,000.00</b>	<b>\$79,000.00</b>
<b>LSI &amp; Related Ministries</b>	<b>\$12,200.00</b>	<b>\$8,000.00</b>
<b>Church of Damascus (Prison)</b>	<b>\$1,500.00</b>	<b>\$1,500.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$92,700.00</b>	<b>\$88,500.00</b>

<b>LEARNING</b>	<b>2006 Budget</b>	<b>2006 Actual</b>
<b>Campus Ministries</b>	<b>\$3,000.00</b>	<b>\$3,000.00</b>
<b>I.S.I. (Hansen ISU)</b>	<b>\$1,500.00</b>	<b>\$1,500.00</b>
<b>Waldorf College</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
<b>Riverside Bible Camp</b>	<b>\$4,000.00</b>	<b>\$4,000.00</b>
<b>Riverside Capital Fund Dr.</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>
<b>OK House (Niacc. Min.)</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
<b>Lutheran Student Aid</b>	<b>\$3,000.00</b>	<b>\$1,700.00</b>
<b>Seminary Scholarship Fund</b>	<b>\$10,000.00</b>	<b>\$9,455.81</b>
<b>Zion Youth Mission</b>	<b>\$6,500.00</b>	<b>\$6,500.00</b>
<b>Acts 29 Emerging Church</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$37,000.00</b>	<b>\$35,155.81</b>
<b>LOCAL</b>	<b>2006 Budget</b>	<b>2006 Actual</b>
<b>Zion Direct Benevolence</b>	<b>\$10,500.00</b>	<b>\$15,812.27</b>
<b>Harmony Ranch</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
<b>Opportunity Village</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>
<b>KCMR Radio</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
<b>Benevolence Board Expenses</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>	<b>\$176.25</b>
<b>Interfaith Community Action</b>	<b>\$750.00</b>	<b>\$750.00</b>
<b>Radio Fund Deficit</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>	<b>\$1,605.00</b>
<b>New Mission Opportunities</b>	<b>\$4,348.57</b>	<b>\$4,995.60</b>
<b>Counseling Resources</b>	<b>\$12,000.00</b>	<b>\$11,963.77</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$32,598.57</b>	<b>\$39,302.89</b>
<b>Total Benevolence</b>	<b>\$193,227.39</b>	<b>\$194,680.79</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$784,654.17</b>	<b>\$780,009.49</b>
<b>Non Budgeted Expenses</b>		
<b>Transferred to Emergency/Cash flow fund</b>	<b>\$10,400.11</b>	

**Orlin Kelling Treasurer**

<b>DEDICATED ACCOUNTS</b>	<b>JAN 1 2006</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>DEC.31 2007</b>
	<b>BALANCE</b>	<b>INCOME</b>	<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>BALANCE</b>
<b>Radio Broadcast KCMR</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$3,900.00</b>	<b>\$3,900.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Flower Account</b>	<b>\$362.64</b>	<b>\$2,157.00</b>	<b>\$2,493.34</b>	<b>\$26.30</b>
<b>Property Reserve</b>	<b>\$934.92</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$934.92</b>
<b>Youth Earned Acct.</b>	<b>\$26,764.37</b>	<b>\$28,841.58</b>	<b>\$24,979.00</b>	<b>\$30,626.95</b>
<b>Future Missions</b>	<b>\$13,596.56</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$13,596.56</b>
<b>Etchen Scholarship</b>	<b>\$7,484.90</b>	<b>\$17,000.00</b>	<b>\$15,500.00</b>	<b>\$8,984.90</b>
<b>Namibia Mission Acct.</b>	<b>\$26,948.70</b>	<b>\$16,437.25</b>	<b>\$6,869.20</b>	<b>\$36,516.75</b>
<b>Disaster Relief Acct.</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Organ/Piano Maintenance</b>	<b>\$11.06</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>	<b>\$11.06</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
<b>Community Outreach Fund</b>	<b>\$1,500.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$1,500.00</b>
<b>Prayer Shawl Ministry</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$1,461.00</b>	<b>\$680.52</b>	<b>\$780.48</b>
<b>Crown Ministry</b>	<b>\$121.55</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$121.55</b>
<b>Zion Technologies</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$404.88</b>	<b>(\$404.88)</b>
<b>Divorce Recovery Group Emerging Church/Acts 29</b>	<b>\$76.00</b>	<b>\$395.00</b>	<b>\$569.43</b>	<b>(\$98.43)</b>
<b>Confirmation Ed. 7/8th.</b>	<b>\$5,163.43</b>	<b>\$10,825.00</b>	<b>\$10,011.50</b>	<b>\$5,976.93</b>
<b>Sanctuary Fund</b>	<b>\$2,625.58</b>	<b>\$1,950.00</b>	<b>\$574.48</b>	<b>\$4,001.10</b>
<b>Prime Time Fund</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$25,000.00</b>	<b>\$30,578.08</b>	<b>(\$5,578.08)</b>
<b>Affirm Baptism Pic/Banq..</b>	<b>\$3,876.33</b>	<b>\$5,253.62</b>	<b>\$8,100.10</b>	<b>\$1,029.85</b>
<b>Seminarian Fund</b>	<b>\$91.09</b>	<b>\$925.00</b>	<b>\$925.59</b>	<b>\$90.50</b>
<b>Misc. Designated Fees</b>	<b>\$14,074.22</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$14,074.22</b>
<b>2006 Capital Campaign</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$1,885.00</b>	<b>\$1,885.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Zion Direct Benev. Minis.</b>	<b>\$24,772.42</b>	<b>\$544,571.65</b>	<b>\$331,016.71</b>	<b>\$238,327.36</b>
<b>Benevolence Holdover</b>	<b>\$16,439.23</b>	<b>\$35,417.10</b>	<b>\$50,098.24</b>	<b>\$1,758.09</b>
<b>Bell Choir</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$23,088.17</b>	<b>\$8,155.08</b>	<b>\$14,933.09</b>
<b>LSI Design Benevolence</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$9,162.38</b>	<b>\$9,162.38</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Mentoring Program</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$385.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$385.00</b>
<b>Beth Moore Study Group.</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$4,080.73</b>	<b>\$5,051.03</b>	<b>(\$970.30)</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$980.00</b>	<b>\$1,426.75</b>	<b>(\$446.75)</b>
	<b>144,843.00</b>	<b>734,715.48</b>	<b>512,392.37</b>	<b>367,166.11</b>

	<b>DEC.31</b>
<b>ACCOUNT BALANCES</b>	<b>2005</b>
<b>CLB&amp;T CHECKING</b>	<b>\$367,166.11</b>
<b>Dedicated Funds Payable</b>	<b>\$367,166.11</b>
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>CLB&amp;T Money Market</b>	
<b>Continuing Education Reserve</b>	<b>\$3,232.88</b>
<b>Memorials</b>	
<b>Designated</b>	<b>\$5,957.04</b>
<b>Memorials undesignated</b>	<b>\$3,679.99</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$12,869.91</b>
<b>Emergency/Cash Flow Fund</b>	<b>\$10,689.97</b>
<b>Resource Building Fund</b>	<b>\$55,829.03</b>
<b>Orlin Kelling Treasurer</b>	

# TRUST FUND REPORT

The Zion Lutheran Trust Fund was established to further enhance the stewardship of Zion by receiving and administering bequests, estates, insurance and other assets perpetually and generating an income source for the ministries of Zion.

The Trust Fund Committee is encouraging Zion partners to offer suggestions for special projects that would be appropriate for the Trust Fund annual distribution. The intent is use a portion of the earnings to nurture new ministries and outreach within our Church.

## **2006 Actions**

In August of this year the Trust Fund was transferred from Piper Jaffray to Raymond James & Associates due to the sale of the Piper Jaffray local office.

A portion of the earnings available this year were used to fund the Prayer Shawl Ministry, the Beth Moore Studies Ministry, the Divorce Care Outreach Ministry, and the new Video Creation & Editing System.

As of 12/31/06, the Trust Fund had a balance of \$334,711. The fund is invested in a balanced portfolio of investment which includes both fixed income and equities in order to achieve both growth and income without significant risk of loss of capital.

Members of the Trust Fund are: Amy Boehm, Delores Mindrup, Gail Robinson, Tom Bieber, and Tim Klang.

# 2007 PROPOSED BUDGET

DESCRIPTION	2006 Budget	2007 Proposed
General Offerings	760,905.26	762,706.00
Lent/Easter	10,103.64	11,705.00
Advent/Christmas	3,464.37	4,537.00
Interest	371.30	548.00
Facility Usage	240.00	150.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>775,084.57</b>	<b>779,646.00</b>

Hunger (Thanksgiving)	9,678.12	10,472.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>784,762.69</b>	<b>790,118.00</b>

WORSHIP MINISTRIES	2006 Budget	2007 Proposed
Music Copyrights	960.00	760.00
Park Sound Contract	1,000.00	1,000.00
Leadership Training	2,150.00	1,600.00
Worship Supplies	1,800.00	1,800.00
Drama Supplies	100.00	0.00
Church Decorations	150.00	0.00
Worship Directors Supplies	400.00	300.00
Worship & Bell Teams Supplies	2,200.00	550.00
Postage	200.00	100.00
W & M Equipment	300.00	300.00
Maint.Organ/Pianos	1,000.00	627.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>10,260.00</b>	<b>7,037.00</b>

SPECIALIZED MINISTRIES	2006 Budget	2007 Proposed
Senior Ministries	2,500.00	1,718.00
Health & Caring Ministries	1,000.00	700.00
Leadership Training	400.00	150.00
Specialized Ministries Misc.	200.00	150.00
Administration Expenses	300.00	300.00
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>4,400.00</b>	<b>3,018.00</b>

COMMUNITY MINISTRIES	2006 Budget	2007 Proposed
Gift Link	100.00	100.00
Special Events	500.00	400.00
Volunteer Appreciation	500.00	400.00
Leadership Training	2,750.00	1,823.00
Office Supplies and Postage	350.00	200.00
Resources & Curriculum	600.00	600.00
Christ Life Ministries	150.00	150.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	200.00	100.00

New Partner Welcome	400.00	300.00
Relational Ministry	200.00	150.00
Small Group Administration	700.00	200.00
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>6,450.00</b>	<b>4,423.00</b>

<b>EDUCATION MINISTRIES</b>	<b>2006 Budget</b>	<b>2007 Proposed</b>
Sixth Grade Retreat	300.00	53.00
Adult Education	250.00	300.00
Confirmation Resources	500.00	250.00
Confirmation Postage	225.00	200.00
Confirmation Equipment	100.00	0.00
Administration	100.00	100.00
Library	50.00	25.00
Lutheran Resource Center	375.00	375.00
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>1,900.00</b>	<b>1,303.00</b>

<b>CHILDREN MINISTRIES</b>	<b>2006 Budget</b>	<b>2007 Proposed</b>
Volunteer Appreciation	600.00	400.00
Student Band	100.00	0.00
Outloud	50.00	0.00
Acting Up	50.00	0.00
Allright Program 4-5-6 Grades	600.00	533.00
Leadership Training	700.00	0.00
Prime Time supplies	2,700.00	2,700.00
Bibles for 3rd. Graders	500.00	200.00
Vacation Bible School	900.00	700.00
Christmas Program Material	175.00	0.00
Resource Room Materials	50.00	0.00
Church Nursery Supplies	25.00	0.00
Children Ministry Equipment	200.00	0.00
Administrative Exp/Postage	250.00	200.00
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>6,900.00</b>	<b>4,733.00</b>

<b>YOUTH MINISTRIES</b>	<b>2006 Budget</b>	<b>2007 Proposed</b>
Surge Retreats (7 & 8 Grades)	200.00	200.00
Impact Retreats	550.00	300.00
Student Music(Drama/Band)	600.00	300.00
Surge Events	600.00	250.00
Impact Ministry (High School)	2,000.00	1,400.00
Chaperones / Lay Leaders	350.00	350.00
Leadership Training	2,700.00	1,395.00
Media Materials	500.00	500.00
Equipment	250.00	250.00
Relational Ministry	400.00	450.00
Administration/Postage	300.00	400.00
<b>Sub-Totals</b>	<b>8,450.00</b>	<b>5,795.00</b>

<b>Total Program Ministries</b>	<b>38,360.00</b>	<b>26,309.00</b>
<b>SUPPORT MINISTRIES</b>	<b>2006 Budget</b>	<b>2007 Proposed</b>
Telephone	5,200.00	5,200.00
Office Supplies	14,750.00	14,750.00
Misc. Resource Materials	150.00	150.00
Postage	4,500.00	4,500.00
Office Equipment	8,300.00	7,900.00
Community Relations	100.00	100.00
Misc. Expenses	1,000.00	200.00
Advertising	100.00	100.00
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>34,100.00</b>	<b>32,900.00</b>
<b>STEWARDSHIP MINISTRIES</b>	<b>2006 Budget</b>	<b>2007 Proposed</b>
Envelopes	1,635.00	1,635.00
Postage (Envel & Quar.)	200.00	200.00
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>1,835.00</b>	<b>1,835.00</b>
<b>PROPERTY MINISTRIES</b>	<b>2006 Budget</b>	<b>2007 Proposed</b>
Building Insurance	7,500.00	6,500.00
Bus & Van Insurance	1,200.00	1,100.00
Bus & Van License	502.50	498.00
Workman's Compensation	3,500.00	3,364.00
Building Equipment	1,000.00	800.00
Vehicle Maint. & Fuel	1,500.00	750.00
Parking Lot Maint.	750.00	640.00
Church Building Maint.	8,400.00	9,900.00
Church Building Repairs	5,000.00	4,700.00
Utilities Gas & Electric	20,000.00	27,000.00
Utilities Water,Sewer Landfill	500.00	600.00
Keith's Sanitation	600.00	600.00
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>50,452.50</b>	<b>56,452.00</b>
<b>Total Support Ministries</b>	<b>86,387.50</b>	<b>91,187.00</b>
<b>Total Support &amp; Prog. Min.</b>	<b>124,747.50</b>	<b>117,496.00</b>
<b>CONGREGATION COUNCIL</b>	<b>2006 Budget</b>	<b>2007 Proposed</b>
Staff Development	200.00	100.00
Staff Nurture	200.00	250.00
Leadership Training	1,000.00	0.00
Synod Assembly	300.00	240.00
Program Ministry	192,841.49	197,856.53
Pastoral Ministry	154,696.48	157,389.55
Support Ministry	93,775.64	98,200.82

<b>Music Ministry</b>	<b>23,665.67</b>	<b>22,912.01</b>
<b>Trust Fund Ministry</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>466,679.28</b>	<b>476,948.91</b>
<b>Total Program, Support, Council</b>	<b>591,426.78</b>	<b>594,444.91</b>

**ZION WORLD WIDE**

**2006 Budget                      2007 Proposed**

<b>International Namibian Students</b>	<b>3,500.00</b>	<b>3,500.00</b>
<b>Missionary Support</b>	<b>8,500.00</b>	<b>8,500.00</b>
<b>Namibian Sister Synod/Cong.</b>	<b>7,250.00</b>	<b>7,250.00</b>
<b>Namibian Leadership Training</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>
<b>Hunger Fund</b>	<b>9,678.82</b>	<b>10,450.00</b>
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>30,928.82</b>	<b>31,700.00</b>

**2006 Budget                      2007 Proposed**

<b>ELCA NE Iowa Synod</b>	<b>79,000.00</b>	<b>79,000.00</b>
<b>LSI &amp; Related Ministries</b>	<b>12,200.00</b>	<b>8,300.00</b>
<b>Church of Damascus (Prison)</b>	<b>1,500.00</b>	<b>1,500.00</b>
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>92,700.00</b>	<b>88,800.00</b>

**2006 Budget                      2007 Proposed**

<b>Campus Ministries</b>	<b>3,000.00</b>	<b>3,000.00</b>
<b>I.S.I. (Hansen ISU)</b>	<b>1,500.00</b>	<b>1,500.00</b>
<b>Waldorf College</b>	<b>1,000.00</b>	<b>1,000.00</b>
<b>Riverside Bible Camp</b>	<b>4,000.00</b>	<b>4,000.00</b>
<b>Riverside Capital Fund Dr.</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>
<b>OK House (Niacc Min)</b>	<b>1,000.00</b>	<b>1,000.00</b>
<b>Lutheran Student Aid</b>	<b>3,000.00</b>	<b>3,000.00</b>
<b>Seminary Scholarship Fund</b>	<b>10,000.00</b>	<b>6,000.00</b>
<b>Student Mission Opportunities</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>6,000.00</b>
<b>Zion Youth Mission</b>	<b>6,500.00</b>	<b>6,500.00</b>
<b>Acts 29 Emerging Church</b>	<b>5,000.00</b>	<b>5,000.00</b>
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>37,000.00</b>	<b>39,000.00</b>

**2006 Budget                      2007 Proposed**

<b>Resource Center</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>3,000.00</b>
<b>Zion Direct Benevolent Min.</b>	<b>10,500.00</b>	<b>10,500.00</b>
<b>Harmony Ranch</b>	<b>1,000.00</b>	<b>1,000.00</b>
<b>Opportunity Village</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>
<b>KCMR Radio</b>	<b>1,000.00</b>	<b>1,000.00</b>
<b>Benevolence Board Expenses</b>	<b>500.00</b>	<b>500.00</b>
<b>Interfaith Community Action</b>	<b>750.00</b>	<b>750.00</b>
<b>Radio Fund Deficit</b>	<b>500.00</b>	<b>500.00</b>
<b>Mission Opportunities</b>	<b>4,348.57</b>	<b>4,162.00</b>
<b>Counseling Resources</b>	<b>12,000.00</b>	<b>8,000.00</b>

<b>Celebrate Recovery</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>4,000.00</b>
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>32,598.57</b>	<b>35,412.00</b>
<b>Total Benevolence</b>	<b>193,227.39</b>	<b>194,912.00</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>784,654.17</b>	<b>789,356.91</b>

**Orlin Kelling Treasurer**

# PROPERTY MINISTRY TEAM

Following are improvements and repairs made to the current facility in 2006:

- 2 new replacement windows purchased and installed
- 2 large trees removed from the east parking lot
- Pavers in center of parking lot removed/saved for future use
- Plans made to replace right front sanctuary door
- Keefe's mowing service approved for Zion's lawn care
- New air conditioner purchased for nursery
- New chair racks ordered

Ministry Team: Virgil Anderson, Dave Delperdang, Orlin Kelling, Jerry Meier, Slim Meints, Joanne Miller

# INTERSECTION MINISTRY TEAM

Work complete and on-going at new Intersection building:

- Roof repair
- New electrical service
- New roof top units (air conditioning and heating)
- Demolition of existing unit heaters, fans, piping, misc. framing
- New gas service and meter
- New water meter and main sprinkler valve (building's sprinkler system)
- Selective demolition of concrete slab

Ministry Team: Ron Loudenburg, Orlin Kelling, Wes Wistrom, Lisa Bieber, Patty Mueller, Pat Meints

# WOMEN OF THE ELCA

There are currently six circles involving over one hundred women. During the past year these women shared the responsibility to clean and supply the kitchen, purchase coffee for use by any group in the church, stock the card and napkin cabinet, serve funerals, host nine general meetings with a program and refreshments, supply cookies and serve Bingo at Good Shepherd as needed, provide a monthly program with treats for Oakwood Care Center, serve a Lenten meal and an Advent meal, provide Christ in Our Home devotional, organize Soap Sunday, sew over 500 quilts, make various kinds of kits for LWR, and other activities.

Circles meet for fellowship and Bible Study the third week of each month. Our current fall and winter study is Hope in God in Times of Suffering.

I would like to thank the following for their contribution towards making this ministry successful:

- All those who have supported our Zion Women's Ministry this year.
- Elise Meier, Secretary of Action, for being the energy behind Do Days sewing, health, school and sewing kits, baby quilts, layettes and Soap Sunday.
- Marcele Schlichting, Secretary of Community, who oversees Good Shepherd and Oakwood and community events.
- Linda Hoppel, Secretary of Growth, who put together our general meeting programs.
- Charlene Lee, Christine Johnson and Janice Whitehurst who keep the kitchen in good working order.
- Verbena Friesleben and Jo Huey who keep on top of which circle is next to serve a funeral.
- Virginia Moffett who kept the card and napkin cabinet well supplied.
- All the circle chairwomen who oversee their members as to leading the lesson, serving refreshments, offerings, and serving funerals.
- Hazel Charlson for serving as Historian.
- Outgoing treasurer Beth Jensen and secretary Jo Dirksen.
- Carolyn Mahaffey who will now take care of the cards and napkins cabinet.

Our Love and Harvest offerings, Bake Sale, regular monthly offerings and special gifts helped to finance the purchase of 200 padded chairs for the Fellowship Hall, which was in our plans for the last few years. We were also able to give money to local and regional charities. Special thanks to Thrivent Insurance for their support.

The officers for 2007 are: President-Norma Johnson; Vice President-Jan Hana; Secretary-Shirley Holstad; Treasurer-Dorothy Lundgren

Thanks be to God for the wonderful fellowship we enjoy as Zion Women and the blessings we have received, which enable us to be a blessing to others.

Norma Johnson, President.

# WOMEN OF THE ELCA FINANCIAL REPORT

## DISHWASHER FUND

Balance Brought Forward 12/31/05	\$5348.13
Interest Earned 2006	<u>42.50</u>
Balance on Hand 12/31/06	\$5390.63

## CONVENTION SAVINGS ACCOUNT

Balance Brought Forward 12/31/05	\$1109.13
Deposit & Interest Earned 2006	<u>206.01</u>
Balance on Hand 12/31/06	1315.14

## GENERAL FUND – 2006 RECEIPTS

Circle Free Will	962.70
ZWELCA Free Will	607.15
Funerals & Memorials	2252.75
Misc. Income	<u>89.80</u>
	3912.40

### ZWELCA Projects

Lenten Supper	512.00
Advent Supper	269.00
Bake Sale	729.21
May Breakfast (no offering)	
Salad Luncheon	147.00
Love Offering	1520.00
Harvest Offering	1716.00
Thank Offering	501.00
Cards & Napkins	1216.70
Lutheran World Relief Blankets	1621.00
Equal Exchange Coffee	<u>11.00</u>
	7821.21

Total Receipts 2006	19,554.82
Balance Forward 12/31/05	<u>5977.92</u>
	25532.74
Disbursements 2006	<u>15936.47</u>
Balance on Hand 12/31/06	9596.27

Committed Reserve	<u>\$ 500.00</u>
	\$ 9096.27

Respectfully Submitted,  
Beth Jensen, Treasurer

## 2006 DISBURSEMENTS

Synod (1/4 Free Will)	\$ 327.75
Convention Expense & Yearly Transfer	215.20
Cluster Dues	25.00
<u>Action Thank Offering (projects)</u>	
L.W.R. Blankets	1621.00
Equal Exchange Coffee	815.80
Good Shepherd Gifts (Bingo, Birthdays, Christmas)	136.28
Do Day Expense	543.07
May Breakfast Expense	152.70
Advent Dinner Expense	
Lenten Supper Expense	237.07
Staff Treats	28.09
<u>Growth</u>	
Augsburg Publishers	819.96
ZWELCA Program Speakers	350.00
“Christ in Our Home”	436.00
<u>Community</u>	
Salvation Army	300.00
Bremwood Home, Waverly	200.00
K.C.M.R. Radio Fund	225.00
Lutheran Resource Center, CL	100.00
Crisis Intervention Center	150.00
Caring Pregnancy Center	150.00
Lutheran World Relief – Baltimore	250.00
First Lutheran Church, Albert Lea	25.00
Zion Christmas Cheer Fund	100.00
Francis Lauer Youth Services	150.00
Pastor’s Discretionary Fund	200.00
Clear Lake Church Women United	100.00
Story Book Projects of Iowa	50.00
K.J.L.Y. Christian Radio, Blue Earth, MN	50.00
School – Needy Children Supplies	100.00
KCMR – Sharathon	75.00
<u>Operational</u>	
Kitchen Expense	609.19
Cards & Napkins	221.07
Funeral Food	1486.24
Misc. – postage, envelopes for mailings, etc.	<u>262.28</u>
	10511.70
Purchased:	
2 large electric roasters	62.27
200 chairs for Fellowship Hall	<u>5362.50</u>
	15936.47

# WOMEN OF THE ELCA - ACTION

In 2006 we made many quilts working every Wednesday of the month except December. We collected soap on Soap Sunday, blankets on Blanket Sunday, and Lutheran World Relief kits in the fall. Some of the ladies made baby quilts for drug exposed or HIV newborns at Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center in Baltimore MD. We also participated in the L.W. R. Coffee Project by buying fair traded coffee from the small coffee farmers and thus helping them to better provide for their families. We also helped in many other areas where needed.

The following items were sent to Lutheran World Relief:

951 Quilts and Blankets -

570 quilts made by the Do Day Ladies

328 blankets from Blanket Sunday 312 = (\$1,561.00 cash donations) and 16 brought in 53 blankets brought in during the year

233 lbs. Of Soap

222 lbs. wrapped soap from Soap Sunday

11 lbs. wrapped soap brought in during the year

55 Health Kits

108 School Kits

11 Sewing Kits

28 Layettes

12 lbs. (12 sweaters)

12 lbs. (24 men's shirts)

Other projects for 2006 included:

40 baby quilts sent to Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center, Baltimore, MD for babies, born to drug moms, that are sent to foster homes

18 baby quilts given to North Iowa Human Services for babies sent to foster homes

18 baby quilts given to Caring Pregnancy Centers for newborns

37 pairs of eyeglasses were given to Lion's International "Eyes for the Needy" project

1,400 Campbell's labels were given to Opportunity Village for electronic equipment

92 lbs. of shampoos and lotions were given to Hawkeye Food Bank

4 lbs. of canceled stamps given to Evangelical Free Church for Latin American Missions

1 box (144) of diapers, 12 rolls of toilet paper, 12 pkgs. of feminine products, 8 prs. of socks, 20 razors, 7 hairbrushes, bandages, shaving cream, lotion, Kleenex, and other misc. items given to Francis Lauer Youth Services for our "In Kind" project this year.

19 rolled bandages sent to a clinic in Mexico

3 comforters, 1 blanket, 10 pillowcases, 15 twin fitted sheets, 5 twin mattress pads and 9 twin sheet sets given to Methodist Women for a homeless shelter in Des Moines, IA.

2 quilts given to Harmony Ranch for their auction

2 quilts given to Riverside Bible Camp for their annual action

Thanks to all who helped with our projects. We want to encourage any of you who would like to help us in this work to come and fellowship with us. We have a lot of fun while we work.

Serving our Lord Jesus Christ,

Elise Meier, Alma Hanley, Christine Johnson  
Charlene Lee and Dorothy Oxley