

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



NORTH BATTLEFORD, SK.

Annual Report

2024

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Message From Our Chairperson

Zion Lutheran Church of the Battlefords had a solid year in 2024. We were blessed with a very hard working council who rolled up their shirt sleeves to do what needed to be done, and to work with groups of volunteers to get it done. We enjoyed another year of worship, learning, witnessing, service, and support, with the guidance of our Lord and Savior, and with the never-ending support and service of Pastor Sheldon. We are living out our ministries as set out in our Constitution to the best of our abilities and resources.

Our success over the past year is best described as ‘stability’ and ‘strengthening’ the rock on which we stand. In some cases that rock was our building, at other times that rock was our financial position – both needed strengthening at times, and the congregation and volunteers made it happen. Despite several break-ins, our doors (which now need replaced) are still open to the community and welcoming not just in worship, but in the success of our community suppers and clothes give-away. This is truly a ministry that the community appreciates and we thank Jeff Arndt for coordinating this and other outreach ministries.

Our grant monies from the Saskatchewan Synod grant application fund came to an end at the end of 2024. The Synod hopes to issue another call for proposals in 2025 and we intend to apply for grant funding again under one of the funding streams available to support our work in community. We also have extended our partnership for Community Garden and host one in our front and side yard to help with food insecurity in the community.

Zion is a small but mighty Christian community. We, like many other mainstream churches, are suffering from low attendance numbers, compared to membership numbers, and a limited resource base (money and people). Our membership is aging, our revenues are stable at best, and our building is in need of some more maintenance and repair. As Bishop Ali Tote has reminded me, changing our scarcity into abundance can be a challenge, but we must live in faith and the work we are entrusted to do.

In 2024, Council started looking into a long-term planning process – what do we want to look like in 3 years or 5 years? We started thinking about the future of the congregation, our staff, the church building, the land it sits on. At the end of 2024, we decided to move forward with you, the membership, in determining what the future should look like and with God’s guidance and blessings, how we will get there. In the section on goals for 2025, I will discuss this process in more detail.

Blessings in Christ,

Sherry Jimmy
Chairperson

“The Congregational Council shall be the trustees of the congregation and shall have general oversight of the life and activities of the congregation while ensuring that everything is done in accordance with the Word of God and the faith and practice of the ELCIC.” (Part VII Sec. 5 of the Constitution)

Message From Our Pastor

*I thank my God every time I remember you,
constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for you,
because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now.
I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you
will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ.
Philippians 1:3-6*

It has been another awesome year at Zion. Our commitment to ministry is strong, our members are active in every part of our mission, and our community outreach and engagement are deepening. It is good, Lord, to be here.

Daily I give thanks for God's servants that work with me to support the ministry of Zion Lutheran Church. Worship, music, service events, fellowship, parish administration, study and evangelism are blessed to have a dedicated and faithful group of people to shepherd these ministry activities in our congregation. You are a blessing!

I cannot extend enough thanks to the leaders and volunteers that work to repair and maintain our aging building. May hours of labour occur behind the scenes to keep our facility serviceable. Thank you!

I noted in my report last year that our facility requires significant repairs and upgrades. I'm happy to report that we made some progress towards these goals, but some projects (specifically the roof and exterior lighting) remain unresolved.

The Church is the calling and work of God's people. I thank everyone for their support, prayers, time, and energy...Most importantly, I thank you for your commitment to the ministry that God's Word has called us into.

Loralee, Carmella, and Olivia- Thank you for loving me and always being a joyful partner in the ministry to which we've been called.

In Christ,

Pastor Sheldon Gattinger
Zion Lutheran Church
North Battleford, SK.

Year End Outreach Report

Community Suppers

We had monthly community suppers that were well attended. January - May and October to December were chili suppers and June and September were hot dog bbq suppers. June's was sponsored by Discovery Co-op , which was much appreciated . Attendance at these events was between 50 -120 people. These events are a night out for many people and are appreciated. Many thanks to everyone who volunteered from our church community.

Community closet

Free clothing , donated by church members was taken and appreciated by many people in the community , at our community suppers. This ministry helped many people.

Interval House

Toiletries and hygiene products, donated by church members were given to interval house for the benefit of their clients.

Canadian Grains Bank

Cymric Leask did two informative presentations on food security and refugees in March and October, respectively.

Fundraisers

- Choir fundraiser - October 5th - For the food bank . 25 people gathered for a fun afternoon of singing . We also raised \$50 for the food bank and filled up the food bank barrel.
- November 10 - Chickadee songwriters circle fundraiser for Interval house . 25 people enjoyed an evening of songs and stories. \$540 was raised. Thanks to the musicians and audience for their support .

- Community hymn sing - December 15th - We had a fun time after church singing carols , and raised \$45 for the food bank . It was also a good community building event as well. Thanks to Erin Foreman and Kathy Watson for their musical leadership .

I believe Zion Lutheran has been a beacon for hope for many people and organizations in our community. Thanks to all who volunteer and support outreach ministry.

Peace ,

Jeff Arndt
Outreach Worker

Year End Letter From Bishop Ali Tote



January 15, 2025

To Congregations of the Saskatchewan Synod of the ELCIC

Bishop's AGM Letter to the church in the SK Synod

Dear pastors, deacons, council chairs, council members, sisters, brothers, siblings,

I am grateful to you all for your faithful work in ministry. Our synod is healthy because you are healthy, and you are healthy because our synod is healthy. This relation of interdependence is rooted in the gospel where Jesus calls us to love and care for one another, care for the world and for creation. We have all been charged with the holy task of proclaiming the gospel, and congregations are the kitchens where the gospel is healthily packaged and served to the world.

On behalf of the Saskatchewan Synod, I would like to start by thanking each of you for your commitment to Christ and to the gospel. I seize this opportunity to encourage you to attend your faith community worship and gatherings very regularly, every week/Sunday if possible. I also beg you to invite people in your circle of family and friends to participate with you in your faith community opportunities such as worship, educational, service, or social events. At home, do not shy away from discipling your children and raising them intentionally in the faith. It is for their good to be exposed as much as possible to the gospel, the life-giving gospel that sustains us when our will fails us. Pray with them daily!

Lastly, I implore you to be generous in your support of the church. Generously give to your faith community, to the institutions of our church like CLWR, Lutheran Theological Seminary (LTS), Lutheran Collegiate Bible Institute (LCBI), Luther College, Kinasao, and other worthy causes. The work of the synod also needs a strong support from congregations and members of the church in the synod. Please, increase your benevolence so that the work and ministry of the synod and the larger church can continue to be done, especially given the exciting opportunities that are ahead of us.

God is faithful, and the Holy Spirit is leading us. Do not be distraught or alarmed but put your confidence and faith in Christ whose body we are a part of! Let's journey in love embracing all people with the love of Christ that knows no boundaries

Abundant blessings in Christ,

Rev. Dr. Ali Tote

Bishop

Saskatchewan Synod ELCIC

2024 Congregational Council

Chairperson

Sherry Jimmy

Vice Chairperson

Sherri Dzeylion

Treasurer

Rodney Munn

Secretary

Cymric Leask

Members at Large

*Krystle Brock
Lori Graupe
Tracy Jensen*

Parish Statistical Report

February 1, 2023 to January 31, 2024



In-person Worship Services

53 Sunday Services
13 “special” services (i.e.: healing, Lenten, Advent)
Average Attendance: 45



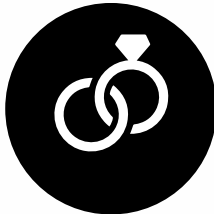
Online Bible Studies

33 weekday online bible studies



Baptisms

Beckett LaFreniere- April 21, 2024
Tyan Butz & Vaughn Butz (Child)- July 14, 2024



Weddings

William Rochlow & Traylene Moore-Wright- August 17, 2024



Funerals

Anita Rentz- Feb. 16, 2024
Darlene Bird- Feb. 24, 2024
Linda Gatzke- March 18, 2024
Ewald Millar- April 15, 2024
John “Jack” Alm – Oct. 11, 2024
Sophia Parkinson- Nov. 16, 2024



Zion Lutheran Church Membership

Baptized: 351
Confirmed: 337

As members of the body of Christ and because of God's unconditional love, Zion seeks to nurture all peoples through worship and community and to walk with others in their journey through the realities of life.

Committee Reports

Building and Capital

Purpose of the committee

- Oversee the church building and grounds, ensuring proper maintenance and repair of both.
- Recommend repairs and capital cost purchases to Council as required.
- Provide supervision of janitorial, custodial and maintenance staff and contractors.
- Ensure all equipment of the church is in good repair.
- Oversee leases and purchase agreements.
- Develop and maintain an inventory of capital and operational assets for insurance purposes and as per the Tangible Capital Asset Policy.

2024 Activities

- We have had a few setbacks with the church building this year. With three break-ins where there was damage to the outside doors, windows in the sanctuary, and the office doors it has been a year of fixing. With the help of volunteers to clean, replace doors, and window we have the place back in order. Council is looking into the cost of changing the lighting around the building to deter thieves from entering the building.
- The sidewalks and weed control continues to be maintained by a private contract.
- Thank you to Daisy Adams for her continued work taking care of the janitorial duties, and being available when needed.
- The Battlefords Family Health Centre has continued using the land for garden plots. They had a good group of gardeners again this year. The church was busy throughout the summer with programs run by the BFHC. They had some scavenging of plots, which disheartened some of the gardeners. Even with the loss harvest, this year was plentiful.
- Thank you to Daisy Adams, Rod Munn, Ian Hamilton, and Murray Jensen for volunteering your time and knowledge to get the church back in shape. As well as the church council, and other congregants who were able to clean the space when it was in shambles.

Report Submitted by Tracy Jensen

Human Resources

Purpose of the committee

- The HR Committee is responsible for Zion's staff, contractors and volunteers, and ensuring that processes are in place to oversee recruitment when needed and ongoing relationships between council and staff, contractors and volunteers to carry out the duties and responsibilities required within Zion ministries.

The HR Committee, together with Council, focused on supporting Jeff Arndt in the newly created Outreach Worker position in which he was hired at the end of 2023. The position, funded through a Saskatchewan Synod grant, was created with the intention of building a sense of community in and around Zion Lutheran Church of the Battlefords. Jeff was integral in utilizing the space and resources of our church community to help our congregation be stewards of God's grace, mercy, and love in the Battlefords. The HR Committee intends to apply for the Saskatchewan Synod grant on a yearly basis moving forward to continue supporting Zion's Outreach Ministry.

2024 Outreach Activity Highlights:

- We hosted 10 community suppers throughout the year (every month except July and August) with between 50-120 people from Winder Crescent and area breaking bread with us each instance. Our June's meal of barbecued hotdogs was even sponsored by Discovery Co-op! Praise be to God for those that helped feed our community members who are hungry.
- Clothing donations were collected from congregation members throughout the year for a "Community Closet" at each community supper. People coming for supper could take free clothing for themselves and their family members. The closet was accessed and appreciated by many people in our local community. Praise be to God for those who donated clothing to keep our closet stocked for those in need.
- Many items, including toiletries and hygiene products, were donated by congregation members to help people who were accessing safety at the Interval House of the Battlefords throughout the year. Praise be to God for those who helped people feel comforted during the difficult times in their lives.

- Musical fundraisers were held throughout the year which helped support various ministries in our community. A choir fundraiser was held on October 5th with all donations going towards the North Battleford and Area Food Bank; \$50 was raised alongside a barrel of non-perishable food items. A Chickadee Songwriters Circle was held on November 10th which raised \$540 for the Interval House of the Battlefords. A Community Hymn Sing was held on December 15th with \$45 raised for the North Battleford and Area Food Bank. Praise be to God for the musicians, participants, and audience members that change the lives of others with their time, talents, and treasures!

The HR Committee continues to support and sustain the ongoing work of Pastor Sheldon and Daisy, our other two (2) staff members, as well as contractors Keith Mackrell and Dale Jensen who assist with snow removal and parking lot maintenance. Our church continues to be blessed with a strong volunteer membership that carries out multiple ministries within the church and community at large.

Report Submitted by Cymric Leask

Communications Report

Purpose of the committee

- Oversee the church's online communication channels; Recommend and oversee the implementation and use of virtual services and meeting platforms
- Implement a registration process to track attendance at in person and virtual events
- Communicate key messages from Congregational Council meetings and recommend communication mediums to maximize the message
- Communicate key financial updates to the congregation following Council approval
- Bring to Council any communications received and recommend response.

In the modern digital era, social media has become an essential tool for communication and information sharing. Platforms such as Facebook, TikTok, and Instagram have transformed the way individuals, organizations, and religious institutions connect, interact, and share their messages.

Facebook continues to be our main communication channel and, at this time, is where our largest online presence can be found. On our page with 603 followers (and growing!), we communicate upcoming church events, post weekly Gospel readings and sermons, and Pastor Sheldon leads weekly Bible studies. Additionally, we can be found on TikTok (@battlefords_lutheran). Our church is new to TikTok, but we recognize its potential as a powerful tool for spreading our message to a broader audience, especially younger generations. We plan to continue using TikTok to share short sermon clips, and behind-the-scenes glimpses into church life.

Efficient communication management within the church is crucial for fostering engagement, transparency, and accessibility. We will continue to embrace digital tools to enhance church communication and better serve the congregation.

Continued thanks to Methodius Dusyk for maintaining our church website and to Aidan Voigt for editing the Gospel and sermon recordings to post on our social media channels. We also appreciate the contributions of all volunteers who help manage our digital platforms and keep our online presence vibrant and impactful.

Report Submitted by Krystle Brock

Ministry Liaison

Purpose of the committee

- Engage each ministry and determine their connections or synergies between them to strengthen ministries individually and collectively. Actively engage each ministry in fulfilling their roles in worship, learning, service, support, and witness

As a faith community, our ministries focus on worship, learning, witness, service, and support. Ministries supporting our worship include the work of the altar guild, the choir, and the music ministry/hymn selection committee. Ministries supporting learning include Sunday School and Senior Youth. Ministries of witness and service include the work of the Women of Faith, the Long-Term Care Worship Team, and our Community Suppers. A ministry of support is the Prayer Sisters. Highlights from each of these ministries for the past year are below.

Altar Guild

The altar guild changes banners and altar cloths according to the Church Season. They also ensure adequate communion supplies, organizing individuals to make Communion bread, and they prepare the elements for Communion each Sunday. Thanks to those dedicated to this ministry. There is a need for interested volunteers in this ministry.

Choir

Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns and songs of the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. Colossians 3:16

The choir is privileged to continue singing for the Sunday services, leading the congregational singing and for Communion. The Communion hymns are chosen from the Bible and Gospel readings as set out on the ELCIC Lectionary Scripture Readings, coordinating with Pastor Sheldon and the Church's Music Committee.

Weekly Communion hymns are chosen from the church's hymnaries: Evangelical Lutheran Church hymnal, With One Voice, Renewing Worship, The Other Songbook, CCLI music website and sheet music from the Church's music library, following copyright regulations.

For the safety of choir members, choir practice day and time was changed to Wednesday mornings. For choir members not able to attend practices, I text the Sunday Communion hymn video to familiarize them to the hymn.

We as choir members are blessed to practice and sing songs in praise to God, finding wisdom, comfort and God's words that apply to individual needs of choir members. In our practice time, we have a prayer time where choir members bring their life's concerns and problems, bring them to God in prayer, have support with ongoing prayers from fellow choir members. At one of the practices, it was suggested we should call rehearsals "Share, Prayer and Praise". We leave practices "singing to God with gratitude in our hearts".

Report Submitted by Kathy Watson

Music Ministry/Hymn Selection Committee

Worship is a "work of the people", where we gather together to pray, praise and proclaim the goodness of God in our life and world. Zion is blessed to have many faithful and capable worship leaders, who freely give of their time and talents. Our worship leaders gather bimonthly to craft meaningful liturgies, select hymns, and prepare for seasonal changes. We strive to create meaningful worship services that work to bless God and draw people towards the goodness of God's presence.

Please consider joining with us in a leadership capacity to bless our worship together for the glory of God.

Report Submitted by Pastor Sheldon Gattinger

Sunday School

The Sunday school program runs from September until May with children excused from worship during the sermon to attend. Leadership is shared with children enjoying singing, learning and crafts. In December, the Sunday School and youth led a Christmas themed worship service. The Children's message included in our weekly worship, and led by Pastor Sheldon, is an integral part of the faith development of our Sunday School children. Thanks to those volunteering to teach Sunday School and to the families who support the program.

Senior Youth

The Senior Youth group had the opportunity to attend two events at Kinasao. They are also fundraising and preparing to attend the Canadian Lutheran Anglican Youth (CLAY) gathering in August 2025 in Saskatoon. Thanks to the congregation for supporting their fundraising efforts.

Women of Faith

This past year, the women of faith served lunches for 4 funerals. We also hosted one bake sale and have used the proceeds to support a couple of our regular charities. We also hosted a farewell lunch for Ray and Lois Seib as they moved to Saskatoon.

Report Submitted by Donna Roske

Long Term Care Worship Team

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. 2nd Corinthians 2:3,4

Many members of the Zion Lutheran Church LTC team experienced problems that God was with them, helping during these times. Because of God's daily support, the LTC team members faithfully brought; monthly Worship/Communion services to the three Long-Term Care facilities in the Battlefords: Battleford District Care Center, The Villa Pascal and River Heights Lodge, in a meeting area or taken individually to their rooms if they're not able to attend, as well as to church members in the hospital or shut-in at their homes. These members shared God's love and blessing because they themselves had experienced them.

The Worship/Communion services are set up in partnership with each facility's Recreation staff with allowances for health restrictions. Each service started with hearty, familiar gospel songs and hymns led by team members. The service followed Bible readings and Gospel from the previous Sunday with the devotional for the previous *Sunday's Eternity For Today*. Individual members give the Bible readings, prayers and administer Communion. As in our Church, we have an open Communion.

This is a vital ministry. LTC residents are in their end stage of life. Many have had history of faithful attendance, many don't, some are alone with no support, some with close family and some have past hurts. Psalm 71 tells us, "*Do not cast me away when I am old; do not forsake me when my strength is gone.*" Our mission is to bring God to them right there in LTC, to bring God's word, peace and comfort to them, telling them that they are not forgotten by God or the Church.

Communion services are a favored LTC activity with many repeat residents attending. Team members have formed friendships with residents. Each team member receives blessings for their participation.

Vivian Seib continues as the coordinator and worship leader. Other members include: Darlene, Murray, Brian, Donna M., Doreen, Joyce, Jane, Janet, Thelma, Kathy and George.

Report Submitted By Kathy Watson

Community Suppers

The Congregation has hosted monthly suppers open to the community for most months this past year. The food was purchased with the Anti-Poverty grant money and supplemented with donations from church members. The work was done by volunteers who signed up to cook, serve, clean, entertain, deliver flyers, or help with the distribution of clothes. This truly is a ministry of outreach with many families and individuals attending regularly. Both food and clothes have been gratefully received. Thanks to those who have volunteered faithfully and to Jeff Arndt who, in his role as Outreach Worker, did much of the behind-the-scenes organization for these suppers.

Community Garden

Zion continues in its partnership with Battlefords Family Health Centre to support the Community Garden. This past year we increased the land available for the garden to include the land on the south east side of the building. Our contract with Battlefords Family Health Centre runs until September 2026. We provide land and water (at cost) while Battlefords Family Health Centre oversees the operation of the Garden and does lawn care from May long weekend until August 31 each year. The goals of the community garden are to teach gardening skills, build community and support food insecurity.

Through this partnership, as a congregation, we are providing a ministry of outreach and service to our community. There are opportunities for congregation members to volunteer with the garden. If interested, reach out to a council member for additional information.

Prayer Sisters

The women of the congregation continue to support each other through a ministry of prayer. Each year all interested women are invited to join the Secret Prayer Sisters. Those who sign up are paired with another woman and encouraged to pray for their partner throughout the year.

Our mission states that “as members of the body of Christ and because of God’s unconditional love, Zion seeks to nurture all peoples through worship and community and to walk with others in their journey through the realities of life.” Reflecting back on the past year, the ministries of our congregation have actively lived this mission. Thanks to all who have supported the ministries of our congregation.

Report Submitted by Lori Graupe

Saskatchewan Synod Convention

Delegate Report

The Saskatchewan Synod (ELCIC) met for its tri-annual convention (May 30-June 1, 2024) in Saskatoon. Zion Church was represented by 2 delegates: Pastor Sheldon and Ian Hamilton. At the convention, the Church gathered to prayerfully elect and celebrate our new bishop, Ali Tote.

Items the convention discussed:

- The retirement of (former) Bishop Sid Haugen
- The role of the Lutheran Theological Seminary (Saskatoon) and pastoral training
- How to better serve and support rural congregations

The theme for this convention was based on Ephesians 4:4: One Body One Spirit One Hope. It was joy to be with our brothers and sisters in Christ to celebrate the gifts of the Spirit and the work of our Church. Thanks be to God!

Report Submitted by Pastor Sheldon Gattinger

Finance Report

Purpose of the committee

- To oversee the day-to-day financial business operations of Zion Lutheran Church
- Plan, coordinate, oversee and report on Fundraising activities as approved by Council
- Ensure the Charitable Status of Zion Lutheran Church is in good standing at all times
- Ensure compliance with the Corporations Branch requirements
- Advise Council on Debt Reduction strategies and recommendations
- To enhance financial accountability to the Congregation through communications strategies recommended to and approved by Council.

Notes relating to comparison current year operating results to previous year.

- After removing from current year revenue the \$7,791 we received in grants, we realized an increase in revenues of approximately \$6,516.
- After removing from current year expense the \$6,500 wage and benefits paid to Jeff for his Community Outreach program paid for grants received, 2024 operating expenses were approximately \$9,218 greater than operating expenses realized in the previous year.
- As a result, our net operating surplus was reduced from the prior year results by approximately \$2,702.
- The increase in revenues was a result of increased offerings of about \$5,000 over the previous year and about \$1,500 other income from expense recoveries, rents and other sources.
- The increase in expenses over the prior year was generally due to:
 1. An 3% increase in Pastor Sheldon's salary and benefits.
 2. An increase in professional accounting fees of \$875
 3. An increase in facility repairs and maintenance that includes about a \$1,600 expense related to break-ins last fall.
 4. The current year expense of registration and costs relating to our attendance at the Synod convention in Saskatoon, approximately \$2,000.

It was a challenging year for our cash flow and chequing account balances, with a number of months we relied on our approved overdraft to pay our bills.

Having recognized these challenges I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to our congregation members and possibly on-line supporters for your generous financial support that allowed us to achieve a surplus and a positive bank balance at years end.

Report Submitted by Ian Hamilton

2024 Financial Reports

Zion Lutheran Church of the Battlefords Inc
Balance Sheet Prev Year Comparison
As of December 31, 2024

02/12/25

Accrual Basis

	Dec 31, 24	Dec 31, 23	\$ Change	% Change
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Chequing/Savings				
Bank Operating	3,406.48	20,798.38	-17,391.90	-83.6%
Credit Union Equity	2,890.88	2,717.52	173.36	6.4%
Youth Savings account	2,055.73	12.93	2,042.80	15,798.9%
Total Chequing/Savings	8,353.09	23,528.83	-15,175.74	-64.5%
Accounts Receivable				
GST recoverable	933.80	526.85	406.95	77.2%
Total Accounts Receivable	933.80	526.85	406.95	77.2%
Total Current Assets	9,286.89	24,055.68	-14,768.79	-61.4%
Fixed Assets				
Accum amort Building	-54,005.88	-54,005.88	0.00	0.0%
Accum amort Eauip	-70,031.76	-70,031.76	0.00	0.0%
Building	358,477.54	358,477.54	0.00	0.0%
Furniture/Equipment	136,344.95	123,134.26	13,210.69	10.7%
Land	17,860.28	17,860.28	0.00	0.0%
Total Fixed Assets	388,645.13	375,434.44	13,210.69	3.5%
Other Assets				
Discovery Co-op equity	164.04	164.04	0.00	0.0%
Total Other Assets	164.04	164.04	0.00	0.0%
TOTAL ASSETS	398,096.06	399,654.16	-1,558.10	-0.4%
LIABILITIES & EQUITY				
Liabilities				
Current Liabilities				
Accounts Payable				
Accounts Payable	4,925.04	4,910.75	14.29	0.3%
Total Accounts Payable	4,925.04	4,910.75	14.29	0.3%
Other Current Liabilities				
Accrued Liabilities	2,562.97	2,562.97	0.00	0.0%
Payroll Liabilities	1,936.97	1,816.59	120.38	6.6%
Payroll Remittances	3,268.31	-3,304.06	6,572.37	198.9%
Restricted donation	0.00	22,180.95	-22,180.95	-100.0%
Total Other Current Liabilities	7,768.25	23,256.45	-15,488.20	-66.6%
Total Current Liabilities	12,693.29	28,167.20	-15,473.91	-54.9%
Long Term Liabilities				
Mortgage	0.00	11,842.16	-11,842.16	-100.0%
Total Long Term Liabilities	0.00	11,842.16	-11,842.16	-100.0%
Total Liabilities	12,693.29	40,009.36	-27,316.07	-68.3%
Equity				
Equity in Capital Assets	375,434.44	375,434.44	0.00	0.0%
Interfund transfer	25,961.95	25,961.95	0.00	0.0%
Unrestricted Net Assets	-41,751.59	-27,968.97	-13,782.62	-49.3%
Net Income	25,757.97	-13,782.62	39,540.59	286.9%
Total Equity	385,402.77	359,644.80	25,757.97	7.2%
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	398,096.06	399,654.16	-1,558.10	-0.4%

Zion Lutheran Church of the Battlefords Inc
Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison
 January through December 2024

	Jan - Dec 24	Jan - Dec 23	\$ Change	% Change
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
Expense recovery	2,789.17	1,515.59	1,273.58	84.0%
Offerings	142,729.53	137,744.43	4,985.10	3.6%
Other Income	636.00	-21.56	657.56	3,049.9%
Receipts				
Grants earned - Operating	7,791.21	0.00	7,791.21	100.0%
Total Receipts	7,791.21	0.00	7,791.21	100.0%
Rents	1,575.00	1,975.00	-400.00	-20.3%
Total Income	155,520.91	141,213.46	14,307.45	10.1%
Expense				
Amortization	0.00	25,961.95	-25,961.95	-100.0%
Benefits				
Continuing Education	600.00	600.00	0.00	0.0%
CPP	4,115.03	3,804.02	311.01	8.2%
EI	1,696.91	1,676.17	20.74	1.2%
Health/Dental	7,512.00	5,220.60	2,291.40	43.9%
Life/LTD	3,422.64	4,268.88	-846.24	-19.8%
Pension	6,084.84	6,084.84	0.00	0.0%
Salaries				
Assistant	6,185.10	614.80	5,570.30	906.0%
Pastor	78,360.00	76,068.00	2,292.00	3.0%
Total Salaries	84,545.10	76,682.80	7,862.30	10.3%
WCB	230.31	222.65	7.66	3.4%
Benefits - Other	0.00	450.00	-450.00	-100.0%
Total Benefits	108,206.83	99,009.96	9,196.87	9.3%
Education/Conference/Convention				
Conference/Convention	2,535.30	531.51	2,003.79	377.0%
Sunday School/VBS	0.00	53.78	-53.78	-100.0%
Total Education/Conference/Convention	2,535.30	585.29	1,950.01	333.2%
Facilities				
Custodial	3,629.44	3,736.50	-107.06	-2.9%
Insurance/Corporation Expense	5,440.65	5,112.59	328.06	6.4%
Repairs and Maintenance	3,227.56	729.00	2,498.56	342.7%
Supplies	674.19	87.35	586.84	671.8%
Utilities	12,796.40	11,974.39	822.01	6.9%
Total Facilities	25,768.24	21,639.83	4,128.41	19.1%
GST Paid	933.80	526.85	406.95	77.2%
Interest Expense	31.82	47.13	-15.31	-32.5%
Office				
Bank Service Charges	392.31	492.15	-99.84	-20.3%
Computer and Internet Expenses	378.94	378.94	0.00	0.0%
Mortgage Interest	252.15	962.91	-710.76	-73.8%
Office Supplies	461.10	384.51	76.59	19.9%
Postage and Delivery	0.00	92.00	-92.00	-100.0%
Printing and Reproduction	1,875.50	2,329.39	-453.89	-19.5%
Professional Fees	3,630.00	2,756.00	874.00	31.7%
Telephone Expense	2,871.15	2,690.12	181.03	6.7%
Uncategorized Expenses	1,846.66	0.00	1,846.66	100.0%
Office - Other	63.59	0.00	63.59	100.0%
Total Office	11,771.40	10,086.02	1,685.38	16.7%

Zion Lutheran Church of the Battlefords Inc
Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison
 January through December 2024

	Jan - Dec 24	Jan - Dec 23	\$ Change	% Change
Personnel				
Vehicle Mileage	2,369.28	2,078.66	290.62	14.0%
Total Personnel	2,369.28	2,078.66	290.62	14.0%
Reconciliation Discrepancies	0.09	0.00	0.09	100.0%
Worship				
Altar Supplies	1,168.67	634.10	534.57	84.3%
Bulletins and Tracts	0.00	1,122.32	-1,122.32	-100.0%
Organists/Music	414.45	459.53	-45.08	-9.8%
Total Worship	1,583.12	2,215.95	-632.83	-28.6%
Total Expense	153,199.88	162,151.64	-8,951.76	-5.5%
Net Ordinary Income	2,321.03	-20,938.18	23,259.21	111.1%
Other Income/Expense				
Other Income				
Bank Interest	196.25	208.62	-12.37	-5.9%
Designated Offering Income				
Building Fund	8,000.00	8,000.00	0.00	0.0%
Grants - Capital purchases	13,210.69	0.00	13,210.69	100.0%
Grants - Community Suppers	1,871.45	0.00	1,871.45	100.0%
Youth	5,655.10	15,251.69	-9,596.59	-62.9%
Designated Offering Income - Other	0.00	21.58	-21.58	-100.0%
Total Designated Offering Income	28,737.24	23,273.27	5,463.97	23.5%
Total Other Income	28,933.49	23,481.89	5,451.60	23.2%
Other Expense				
Community Suppers	1,871.45	1,034.16	837.29	81.0%
Designated Offering Expense				
Youth	3,625.10	15,292.17	-11,667.07	-76.3%
Total Designated Offering Expense	3,625.10	15,292.17	-11,667.07	-76.3%
Total Other Expense	5,496.55	16,326.33	-10,829.78	-66.3%
Net Other Income	23,436.94	7,155.56	16,281.38	227.5%
Net Income	25,757.97	-13,782.62	39,540.59	286.9%

Auditor's Review Letter

To come

Living Our Vision, Mission and Purpose: Looking Ahead in 2025

“As members of the body of Christ and because of God's unconditional love, Zion seeks to nurture all peoples through worship and community and to walk with others in their journey through the realities of life.”

Our purpose and objectives are defined in our Constitution, and summarized as follows:

This congregation is a worshipping, learning, witnessing and serving community of baptized persons among whom the Word is proclaimed and the Sacraments are administered according to the Gospel, and whose existence is recognized by the ELCIC.

But what do these words mean in our day-to-day existence as Zion Lutheran Church?

Church Council is embarking on a congregational engagement process to find out what you think, what you foresee, what ideas you have. This process will take many forms as we provide various opportunities for you to have input: we will have a survey, conduct interviews, and have a planning session in the months to come. We will take the findings from what you have to say and shape a plan, then present it back to you for review and validation.

So, be prepared: start thinking about how you would answer questions like:

- From your perspective, what is required for Zion Lutheran Church to sustainably live our mission?
- Looking five years into the future, what are some ways you see the congregation of Zion Lutheran Church serving the broader community? What community needs may we or should we be addressing?
- What ideas do you have to increase income to keep pace with basic operational needs for the church building and ministry?

There will be more to come as we commit to developing a plan for our future and we ask you to be part of it!

**Zion Lutheran Church
2025 Proposed Budget**

Expenses:	
Bank charges & interest	\$ 135
Benevolence	1,500
Custodial	4,000
Education & convention	500
Insurance	5,500
Office supplies	500
Printing & reproduction	2,000
Professional fees	3,600
Repairs & maintenance	2,500
Sub-contracts - Lot & yard maintenance	1,500
Supplies	1,000
Telephone/Internet	3,000
Travel	2,500
Utilities	13,000
Worship & music supplies	1,500
Pastor's salary	80,710
Payroll benefits	<u>24,000</u>
	<u><u>\$ 147,445</u></u>

Zion Lutheran Church of the Battlefords, Inc.

**Annual Meeting
Agenda
Sunday, March 2, 2025
12 Noon**

1. Roll Call to Establish Quorum
2. Opening Devotion
3. Approval of the Agenda
4. Minutes of the March 10, 2024 AGM
5. Business Arising from the last AGM Minutes:
 - a. Audit / Independent Finance Committee Update
 - b. Other
6. Overview of Reports (found in Annual Report)
 - a. Chairperson's Report
 - b. Pastor's Report
 - i. Financial Reports: Finance Committee:
 1. Presentation of Financial Report for 2024
 2. Presentation of Budget 2025
 - c. Committee Reports:
 - ii. Human Resources
 - iii. Buildings & Capital
 - iv. Communications
 - v. Ministry Liaison
 - d. Acknowledge Other Reports
 - e. Saskatchewan Synod Report
7. New Business:
 - a. LCBI Membership
 - b. Congregational Engagement in Long Term Planning
 - c. Appointment of Nominating Committee for 2026 Council
 - d. Other
8. Report of the Nominating Committee:
 - a. Election of Council Members for 2025
9. Adjournment
10. Closing Prayer

Zion Lutheran Church of the Battlefords Inc.
2023 Annual General Meeting - March 10, 2024

1. **Call to Order** by Vice-Chairperson Kerilyn Voigt.
2. **Quorum** established with 25 members attending.
3. **Opening Devotions** led by Pastor Sheldon.
4. **Agenda approval:** moved by Glen Leask that the Agenda be approved as presented. Carried.
5. **Approval of Minutes** of the 2022 Annual Meeting held February 12, 2023. Moved by Etta Meisner that the minutes be accepted as circulated. Carried.
6. **Business arising from minutes:** No business arising.
7. **Reports as presented in Annual meeting**
 - a. Chairperson's Report – Thanks to all who supported her in her role this year. Has been a growing year. Great to see activities increasing.
 - b. Pastor's Report – overview provided by Sheldon.
8. **Financial Report** – Heather Leask presented the reviewed financial statements for 2023. Highlighted donations continue from Canada Helps. Only 4 mortgage payments left and then will be mortgage free. Congregation has been tirelessly giving and that together with grants has allowed us to continue our ministry. Ian highlighted that bank account includes grant money that is accounted for but not yet spent.
Bernie Meisner moved acceptance of Financial Report as presented. Seconded by Rita Broshko. Carried.

9. Committee Reports

- a. Human Resources – Cymric Leask presented overview of report. Focus continues to be on supporting employees.
- b. Buildings & Capital Committee – Tracy Jensen highlighted that the dishwasher was purchased with grant money and has been received. There will be fundraising and application to another grant to cover installation.
- c. Communications Committee – Kerilyn presented overview of report. Grant to upgrade sound equipment and support funding of recording and posting of sermons.
- d. Ministry Liaison Committee – Lori presented overview of report. Great to see so many ministries active again. Recognition of the commitment of many of our members. Thanks to those who submitted portions of this report.
- e. National Convention report – submitted by Jeff & Cymric. Thanks to them both for attending.

Ian Hamilton moved recognition and thanks to all who have worked as volunteers with specific ministries/projects and to council members for moving work forward this last year. Carried.

10. New Business

- a. Presentation of 2024 Budget – Heather Leask presented 2024 budget. Note bookkeeping is currently being done by volunteer, but will be something the congregation will need to think about for future. Budget does not include any info on

capital as this has been funded by grants. Salary increase is due to Outreach worker being added (funded by grant) actual salary increase for existing employees was 3% in compliance with Sask Synod guidelines.

Moved by Sherry Jimmy that the 2024 budget be accepted as presented. Seconded by Charlotte Hamilton. Carried.

b. Ian Hamilton presented on Financial Review requirements as both a Federal Charitable Designated organization and a provincial non-profit organization. There is a provision that the organization can dispense of an external audit and a review engagement report if 75% of convened members pass a motion agreeing to this. Annual cost for the audit/review engagement report is about \$3000. Salaries make up the majority of our expenses and can be easily validated. Majority of our other expenses are things like utilities, insurance, etc. that we also can't control and that can be easily validated. For this reason the audit/review engagement report may not be required.

Moved by Ian Hamilton that Zion dispense with the 2023 review engagement report and apply to ISC (? What this stand for) for exemptions from having financial statements reviewed by a professional accountant as long as legal requirements can be met. Seconded by Glen Leask.

Discussion – need to ensure this will still meet requirements of bank and any grant applications; Accounting for revenues is also a risk not just expenses – it was acknowledged that the current audit process does not look at revenues either. Risk for revenue is minimal as very little cash is handled and revenues from donations are validated when receipts issues. Accounting software is being upgraded which will help with accountability. Might be good to have an independent committee review financial statements.

Motion amended by Charlotte Hamilton to add that an independent committee be established to review finances annually. Seconded by Murray Jensen.

Discussion – need to ensure no conflict of interest between the bookkeeper and the finance review committee.

Vote on amended motion – 17 votes in favor, 2 votes against, 1 absence. Motion carried with >75% support.

Note there is an expectation that council will report back to the congregation on operationalization of this motions as the work moves forward.

c. Synod Convention – Will be in Saskatoon May 30 to June 1. Zion can send on delegate.

A new bishop will be elected.

Moved by Rod Munn that Ian Hamilton represent Zion Lutheran at the Synod Convention. Carried.

11. Election of Council Members/Nominating Committee

a. Nominating Committee report – 3 Council members whose term is ending – Heather Leask, Jeff Arndt (although Jeff resigned in November when accepting the Outreach

Worker position) and Kerilyn Voigt. Thanks to outgoing council members for their service. Rod Munn and Krystle Brock have agreed to let their names stand for a two year term. One more name is required for the third vacant position.

Moved by Heather Leask acceptance of the nominating committee report as presented.

Carried.

b. Election of Council Members - There were three calls for nominations from the floor.

Sherry Jimmy was nominated from the floor and agreed to let her name stand. No further nominations presented.

Rod Munn, Krystle Brock and Sherry Jimmy are elected to Council for two-year terms by acclamation.

c. Election of Nominating Committee – Sherry Jimmy agreed to be council representative on the nominating committee, Heather Leask agreed to be on nominating committee. One more non-council member required.

Moved by Shannon Rask that Sherry Jimmy and Heather Leask be elected as nominating committee members with council taking responsibility to find a third non-council member. Carried.

12. Motion to adjourn by Heather Leask.



May 17, 2024

To: All Congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC)

From: Board of Regents, Lutheran Collegiate Bible Institute (LCBI)

Grace and peace to you from our Saviour Jesus Christ.

According to the previous LCBI Constitution and Bylaws (last amended 2015), all congregations of the ELCIC were members of the LCBI corporation.

However, on May 8, 2024, *An Act to incorporate the Lutheran Collegiate Bible Institute* was amended and received assent by the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan. By virtue of this action, membership in the corporation has changed. The current Bylaws read as follows:

PART II MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. The following shall be eligible for membership in the corporation:

- a. any congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC) shall become a member of the corporation upon receipt of an official resolution from the governing body of the congregation confirming the following:
 - i. a desire to become a member of the corporation; and*
 - ii. a pledge to support the ministry of the corporation.**
- b. other Lutheran congregations may become a member of the corporation subject to the approval of the Board of Regents, upon receipt of an official resolution from the governing body of the congregation confirming the following:
a desire to become a member of the corporation;
a plädge to support the ministry of the corporation; and
an äüknowledgement of the Confession of Faith of the corporation.*
- c. individuals who are members of any Lutheran congregation which itself is not already a member, may become a member of the corporation subject to the approval of the Board of Regents, upon receipt of a letter confirming the following:
 - i. a desire to become a member of the corporation;*
 - ii. a pledge to support the ministry of the corporation; and*
 - iii. an acknowledgement of the Confession of Faith of the corporation.**

It is our hope that your congregation will make an application to be a member congregation. As a member, your congregation may designate up to five (5) individuals to attend the Annual General Meeting as voting representatives. Please find the [membership application link here](#).

If your congregation does not wish to become a member of the corporation, there are provisions for an individual to become a member if they are a member of a Lutheran congregation which itself is not already a member. Please share this information with any individuals that may be interested.

If you have any questions regarding membership, please feel free to contact Karen Meagher at membershipsecretary@lcbi.sk.ca.

Yours in Christ,

Murray Nelson, Chair, Board of Regents

LCBI HIGH SCHOOL

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE WORLD SCHOOL

Box 459 • Ash Street & 4th Avenue • Outlook, Saskatchewan, Canada • S0L 2N0

Tel: 306-867-8971 • Fax: 306-867-9947 • Email: office@lcbi.sk.ca

www.lcbi.sk.ca