

The Zion & Carpio Church Newsletter January 2024



Zion Lutheran Church
413 Dewey Street
PO Box 98
Berthold, ND 58718
Phone: 701-453-3650

Carpio Lutheran Church
200 2nd St W
Carpio, ND 58725
Phone: 701-468-5941

Pastor:

George Schuessler
(701) 453-3121
(701) 720-6839

Carpio Worship: 9am
Fellowship/S.S.: 10am
Zion Worship: 11am

*Our Mission is to proclaim
the good news of God to
all people so that, they will
become disciples of
Jesus Christ*

"A BLESSED NEW YEAR"

Rev. George Schuessler

For many New Year's Eve and New Year's Day are a marking of time, a moment to put into perspective what has been and to dream and make resolutions about what could be. Too many look at the transition from 2023 to 2024 as a passage of time in the rhythm of life as the old preacher would say, "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven." (Ecclesiastes 3:1) But the old preacher expresses this truth, "I know that whatever God does endures forever; nothing can be added to it, nor anything taken from it; God has done this, so that all should stand in awe before him." (Eccl. 3:14) In other words, perhaps we should put New Year's Eve and New Year's Day into the season of Christmas, into the receiving of the "Messiah", the "Christ", the Son of God!

The Apostle Peter puts it this way, "Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance." (2ND Peter 3:8-9) The Apostle John says, "Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever." (Revelation 1:4b-6) The Angel Gabriel announced to some shepherds in

the Judean countryside long ago, "Do not be afraid; for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." (Luke 2:10-12)

Yes, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day are more than a marking of time, a reflection on the rhythm of time, and a dreaming of what should be. These days are part of the twelve days of Christmas. These days are for receiving and trusting in the awesome love and peace of God in the person of Jesus who is the "Alpha and the Omega, who is and who was and who is to come." (Rev. 1:8)

This New Year's renew or for the first time open your heart to receive the love and peace of God in the Babe of Bethlehem and leave all the "vanities" of the world behind. Let all of us join in the faith of the Psalmist who prays, "Long ago you laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. They will perish, but you endure; they will all wear out like a garment. You change them like clothing, and they pass away; but you are the same, and your years have no end. The children of your servants shall live secure; their offspring shall be established in your presence." (Psalm 102:25-28)

You are a beloved child of God! Live secure in God's presence in 2024. The world's "vanities" will come and go, but rest assured and join the Apostle Paul and all the faithful witnesses who have gone before us in being convinced, "that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:38-39) Have a Blessed New Year of 2024!

ZION SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School is every Sunday at 10am unless otherwise noted

January 7 – The Mustard Seed

January 14 – No SS – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

January 21 – Jesus & the Children

January 28 – The Widow's Mite



CARPIO SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School is every Sunday at 10am unless otherwise noted

January 7 – John the Baptist

January 14 – No SS – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

January 21 – Jesus Goes to Nazareth

January 28 – The Disciples



Nights of Christmas

December 27 - 28 - 29

Lakeside Christian Center, Lake Metigoshe



Midnight Groove Orchestra
December 27



Sunday Saari
December 28



Steve Harmon
December 29

7:00 pm
each evening



Metigoshe
MINISTRIES



CONFIRMATION

Class Location alternates every week between Carpio & Zion
All Class times are 7:00pm unless otherwise noted

1/3	Carpio	Session 2 – “The Reformation”	Memory Work	Galatians 3:28
1/10	Zion	Session 3 – “Reformers”	Memory Work	1 st Corinthians 3:11
1/17	Carpio	Session 4 – “The Lutheran Confessions”	Memory Work	John 11:27
1/24	Zion	Session 5 – “Adiaphora”	Memory Work	1 st Corinthians 10:23
1/31	Carpio	Session 6 – “Luther’s Small Catechism”	Memory Work	1 st Corinthians 15:3-4

LUTHER LEAGUE

Luther League is meeting on January 28th – leaving from Zion parking lot at noon for lunch and bowling.



This is open to all youth in Grades 7-12 from Zion & Carpio Lutheran.

Ecumenical Prayer for Christian Unity

January 21st at 5pm
St. Ann’s Catholic Church

Soup Supper and Prayer Service

ZLCW

Thank you to all who attended the ZLCW Christmas party. Twenty-seven attended from the Berthold area and Evanger Lutheran Church of Kenmare. Thank you, also, to the Zion Bell Choir for the entertainment and to those that furnished our brunch.

Thank you to Helen Grant for organizing the goodie bags for the Sunday School kids again this year.

ZLCW Executive Board Meeting will be **January 8** during fellowship hour. All are welcome. New booklets will be printed this year. If you are aware of any changes please contact Jill Brown.

Also, thank you to everyone who participated in the Reverse Advent Calendar food drive for the Berthold Zion Food Pantry. There were 377 pounds donated!!



Helpful tools to grow donations for
your organization

Unique AmazonSmile link

Always share your unique link in your email, social media and on your website. When customers sign up for AmazonSmile, they're asked to select one of over a million charities to support. When customers click on your unique link, they skip this charity selection process. Instead, they're taken to smile.amazon.com and are automatically asked if they want to support Zion Lutheran Church.

Your unique charity link: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/45-0377884>

Ready-To-Use web banner

You have access to a web banner that you can post in social media, email, and on your website.

Social media tools

You have access to ready-to-use Facebook and Twitter posts. These tools will help you spread the word on your organization's social media accounts in seconds.

How does AmazonSmile work?

When first visiting AmazonSmile, customers are prompted to select a charitable organization from over one million eligible organizations. In order to browse or shop at AmazonSmile, customers must first select a charitable organization. For eligible purchases at AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to the customer's selected charitable organization.

DECEMBER 13TH, 2023, ZION CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING - 8PM IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

Meeting Called to Order & No correspondences

President Seth Gravesen

Pastor George led us in a word of prayer.

Council members present: Klint Hanson, Gary Gathman, Drew Bryantt, Seth Gravesen, Nicki Shelkey, Janet Gregory, Kyle Schepp, Kylene Hornberger and Pastor George. Members absent: Rachel Schieve and Chad Schweitzer.

REVIEW CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 8TH: Motion to approve the November meeting minutes by Nikki, Second by Janet. Motion Carried. Secretary Kyle Schepp

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Treasurer Kylene Hornberger

November:

General fund beginning Balance: \$46,061.71, November income: \$27,139.52

November expenses: \$9,005.03, General Fund ending balance: \$64,196.20

Pastoral account beginning balance: \$88.00, Pastoral account ending balance: \$511.98

Motion to approve the November financial report by Klint, Second by Drew. Motion Carried.

TEAM REPORTS:

Worship & Music: Music is picked out through January.

Janet Gregory & Klint Hanson

Evangelism: No report.

Nicki Shelkey

Stewardship & Finance: Harvest Fest was successful! Thank you to everyone for supporting Harvest Fest!

Kyle Schepp

Board of Education: 9am Dec. 17TH Sunday School Christmas Program. Sunday school had practice on

Wednesday after school.

Rachel Schieve & Drew Bryantt

Luther League: We went Horn of Plenty shopping and we also purchased items for the Mathew 25 project. We had several Luther League kids that participated in the shopping and it was a great success. We are going to help with the Sunday School Christmas party and Christmas program this Sunday. We are planning a Bowling party for the end of January.

Kyle Schepp

Maintenance & Property:

Gary Gathman, Klint Hanson, & Chad Schweitzer

1. New roof vent was installed.
2. Sanctuary Stain Glass Windows are stored in the far NE Sunday school room.
3. Nov. 14TH Boiler Inspection was a Pass.
4. Maintenance has been done on lights in the hallway of the Sunday school wing.

PASTOR'S REPORT:

- A. Nov. 1ST – 30TH Ninety Seven in-person contacts.
- B. Nov. 4TH Cont. Ed. at Synod Enrichment in Oak Valley & Visit at Souris Valley, Velva.
- C. Nov. 5TH Birthday & Visitation at Edgewood Vista in Minot.
- D. Nov. 6TH Visitation at Trinity Homes in Minot.
- E. Nov. 8TH Participated in Ecumenical Council meeting at St. Ann's in Berthold.
- F. Nov. 16TH Participated in Mountrail Bethel Home Annual Meeting in Stanley.
- G. Nov. 18TH Attended family funeral for Gertrude Learn in Bismarck. (Day Off)
- H. Nov. 19TH Participated in Ecumenical Thanksgiving Worship in Berthold Baptist.
- I. Nov. 28TH Officiated the Alvis Martinson Funeral in Carpio.
- J. Dec. 6TH We will have completed Unit One in the new Confirmation class material.
- K. December I will be working on Annual Report Items. Please have reports done as soon as possible. Reports have to be done by the 15th of January to make printing for the annual report.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Defibrillator Pads for AED are to be added to the 2024 Budget.
2. Survey Team is Rachel Schieve, Tammi Moen, Chad Schweitzer, and Stan Vangsness, they met on Sunday evening. They are going to get a report put together by the January meeting.
3. We received the bill from All In Construction - Travis Sorenson for a total of \$2375.00 to finish the Sunday school wing windows. We had previously paid him \$2425.00. Motion by Klint to pay the bill in full. Money to come out of special projects fund, Second by Gary. Motion Carried.
4. Some of the entities that we donate to for Bernard Wold Fund are part of the Twice Blessed fund. Twice Blessed will match our donation and give to the entity that we would like to give to. Motion by Kyle to approve we group some of our entities to be paid to Twice Blessed, Second by Drew. Motion Carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Lorna Hanson will audit the books. We are looking for another volunteer. The Audit should be done before the annual meeting.
2. We had some discussion about the proposed 2024 annual budget for the church. Motion to approve the proposed congregational budget for \$123,660.00 by Kyle, Second by Gary. Motion Carried.
3. We are going to add the congregational survey results report to the annual meeting agenda.
4. Motion by Janet to approve that Grace Burke can have her wedding at Zion on October 19, 2024. Second by Kyle. Motion Carried.
5. May Ally Bauer & Trever Hanlan have a Wedding on Oct. 18TH, 2025? Motion by Drew to approve that Ally Bauer and Trever Hanlan can have their wedding at Zion on October 18, 2025. Second by Nikki. Motion Carried.

NEXT ZION COUNCIL MEETING: 8pm January 10TH in the Fellowship Hall.

Adjournment & The Lord's Prayer

SIMPLY GIVING® PROGRAM

Would you find it helpful to have your offerings taken from your bank account as you do other monthly drafts? At no cost to the congregation? Thrivent Financial for Lutherans sponsors a program called *Simply Giving®*, which offers this service for people who wish to have offerings transferred electronically to their church's account. For those who travel, this is particularly helpful in keeping up with their intended offerings, and it will keep you from having to make up the difference later. The Council has approved this program for those who choose to participate in it. Contact the church office for more details.



CARPIO LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

The Carpio Lutheran Church Council meeting was held on December 10th, 2023. The meeting was called to order by President, Stan Vangsness.

The Secretary's report was given by Tammi Moen. Stan Vangsness motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Jeff Moen seconded, motion carried.

The Treasurer's report was given by Heather Feland. Jeff Moen motioned to approve the report as presented. Tammi Moen seconded, motion carried. The account balances are as follows:

Checking Account	\$21,278.11
Thrivent Contingency Fund	\$3,875.54
Thrivent Lindberg Endowment	\$5,215.81

The CLCW report was given by Heather Feland. The CLCW served lunch for the Alvis Martinson funeral. The CLCW will meet on December 17th, 2023 to disburse funds.

Pastor's Report: Pastor George has made 97 in-person contacts from November 1st thru November 30th. On November 4th, the Pastor attended a continuing education seminar at Synod Enrichment at Oak Valley and made visits at Souris Valley Care in Velva. On November 5th, the Pastor visited at Edgewood Vista in Minot and on November 6th at Trinity Homes in Minot. On November 8th, the Pastor participated in Ecumenical Council at St. Ann's Catholic Church in Berthold. Pastor George participated at the Mountrail Bethel Home Annual Meeting in Stanley. On November 18th, the Pastor attended a family funeral for Gertrude Learn in Bismarck. On November 19th, the Pastor participated in the Ecumenical Thanksgiving Worship at the Berthold Baptist Church. The Pastor, officiated the Alvis Martinson funeral at Carpio on November 28th. On December 6th, the Confirmation class will complete the first unit of the new class material. During the month of December, the Pastor will be working on annual report items.

Old Business: The Pastor is discussing with Jacey Peterson, Jason Babinchak, and Sarah Babinchak plans for Luther League and crossroads. The Survey Team will be meeting on December 10th, in the evening, to discuss the results of the surveys. Wes Peterson reports the snow blowers are in working condition.

New Business: Marianne Vangsness and Sarah Babinchak will be auditing the church books before the annual meeting. The council prepared the 2024 Carpio Congregational Budget to present at the annual meeting for approval. The annual meeting will be January 28th during the worship service at 9:00 am. The reports will be available January 21st.

The next Carpio Lutheran Church Council meeting will be January 7th, 2024 at 7:00 pm. The meeting was closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Meeting Adjourned

Tammi Moen-Recording Secretary



ZION FINANCIALS – NOVEMBER 2023

Seth Gravesen - President	Gary Gathman	Janet Gregory
Chad Schweitzer - Vice President	Klint Hanson	Nicki Shelkey
Kyle Schepp - Secretary	Rachel Schieve	Drew Bryantt
General Account Beginning Balance		\$ 46,061.71
INCOME:		
	Offerings:	
	11/5/2023	\$ 734.00
\$5,898.00	11/12/2023	\$ 1,069.00
Offering total	11/19/2023	\$ 3,580.00
	11/26/2023	\$ 515.00
	Harvest Fest Sunday	\$ 20,820.00
	Simply Giving – Vanco	\$ 417.15
	State Bank and Trust – Interest	\$ 4.37
TOTAL INCOME		\$ 27,139.52
EXPENSES:		
Western ND Synod		\$ 471.84
Church Mutual - Insurance		\$ 515.19
MDU (Church - \$92.94; Parsonage - \$45.49)		\$ 138.43
Xcel Energy (Church - \$230.99; Personage - \$67.17)		\$ 298.16
SRT (Church - \$87.04; Parsonage - \$63.51)		\$ 150.55
City of Berthold (Church - \$44.50; Parsonage - \$46.00)		\$ 90.50
Visa Payment (stamps \$13.20; CCLI \$367.00; Pictures \$1.20)		\$ 381.40
Metigoshe Ministries (Metigoshe in Motion)		\$ 1,000.00
Farmers Union Oil (batteries)		\$ 7.44
Dakota Fire Extinguisher		\$ 59.81
Julie Deaver (piano)		\$ 300.00
Curt Schumaier (Custodian)		\$ 350.00
Kylene Hornberger (Treasurer)		\$ 650.00
Kershawn Michel (Secretary)		\$ 500.00
1517Media (Insert & Today's Readings 12/03-2/18/24)		\$ 75.17
Kids Academy (Community Birthday Calendar Ad)		\$ 60.00
Gaffaney's of Minot (Yellow Toner)		\$ 149.07
Gary Gathman – reimb for vent supplies		\$ 57.47
George Schuessler - reimb for cable tv		\$ 150.00
Transfer to Pastor Account		\$ 3,600.00
Total Expenses		\$ 9,005.03
General Account Ending Balance		\$ 64,196.20



PASTOR PAYROLL ACCOUNT (JOINT WITH CARPIO)

PASTOR ACCT BEGINNING BALANCE		\$ 88.00
Zion Deposits	\$ 3,600.00	
Carpio Deposits	\$ 3,600.00	
TOTAL DEPOSITS		\$ 7,200.00
EXPENSES:		
Portico (Pastor's Benefits)	\$ 1,781.04	
Mileage – Oct	\$ 419.85	
Pastor George Payroll	\$ 4,575.13	
TOTAL EXPENSES:		\$ 6,776.02
PASTOR ACCT ENDING BALANCE		\$ 511.98



CARPIO FINANCIALS

Not available at printing



BERTHOLD ZION FOOD PANTRY

Tuesday, January 9th
10am-12pm and 5pm-7pm

If the above times do not work for you, you may make an appointment
for an alternate day and time by calling:

Ladora Schuessler - 701-562-0041 or 701-453-3121

or

Carol Rovig - 701-720-6028



LIVE STREAMING INFORMATION

**BOTH CARPIO & ZION LUTHERAN CHURCHES ARE
LIVE STREAMING WORSHIP:**

Carpio Worship is on the Zion & Carpio Lutheran Churches FACEBOOK Page.

Zion Worship is on You Tube by way of Zion Web page,

They will also be posted to be viewed at any time that you choose. For those who choose to use the ON LINE version of worship, your OFFERINGS may be mailed to the Financial Secretary of your congregation.

The names and addresses of both Financial Secretaries are listed below:

CARPIO FINANCIAL SECRETARY:

Marlis Peterson
4230 74TH Street NW
Carpio, ND 58725

ZION FINANCIAL SECRETARY:

Connie Hagen
6101 310TH Street NW
Berthold, ND 58718

Offering Envelopes for "2024" are in your church mailboxes and your offering annual statements for "2023" will be in your church mailboxes later (in January). If you didn't receive envelopes and wish to have some, let me know. If you know of someone who is unable to get theirs, it would be appreciated if you would deliver it to them.

Thanks!

Any questions?

Talk to Connie Hagen, Zion Financial Secretary



Congregation Annual Meeting

January 28th, 2024

Carpio - 9am

Zion - 11am

Annual Congregation Reports

will be available in print on

January 21st at Worship.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

With the mild winter we have had so far it doesn't seem like Christmas is only nine days away. We have had a very busy year as usual. Starting in the first part of January Ladora started her therapy twice a week. Her Physical Therapist name was Collin who was 25 years old, a.k.a., young whipper snapper, and George, a.k.a., drill sergeant both worked together as a team to get me to the point of no more needing to go to therapy. So after 20 sessions of therapy and I graduated to doing therapy at home.

I have also gone from needing to use the wheelchair to currently not even using my cane in the house. I also graduated from using a shower chair and having George be "Thing" from the Adams Family. Because I could not stand, George was positioned at the end of the shower curtain having to squirt the shampoo, lather up my shower puff, and operate the shower hose. It was really nice when I graduated to being able to shower myself without help and no chair.

I am so thankful for my husband who is a great caregiver for me. Also I'm thankful to be able to do most things by myself, just like I used to be able to do.

I have been able to return to my passion in life which is being the director of the Food Pantry and serving people. I have a new co-director, Carol Rovig. Barb Cooper retired and I very much am thankful for her years of service beside me. The Food Pantry continues to serve with an average of 15 families per month. We also put together 15 backpacks each week for children in the Berthold School who are in need of food over the weekend during the school year. Shelly Marum is my assistant with this project as well as Brittney Hanson, the school secretary who hands out the backpacks in the school. I also have other good volunteers who are the very best and are so eagerly willing to help me and the families we serve at the Food Pantry.

Last week a young TV reporter showed up at the Food Pantry when we were open. She asked if she could interview me and do a video for the news. My helpful volunteers all encouraged me and said I should do it. So I did it and it went well. In fact, people are asking George if he is married to a superstar celebrity. They are also asking me for my autograph. Pretty fun! (The link to the interview is to google, Berthold Zion Food Pantry Crystal Kwaw, link will be KFYP, if you want to check it out.) One of my volunteers ducked behind the shelves, but my co-director Carol stayed with me as we were stocking shelves.

It is really amazing the support we have from our community that we can give away thousands of pounds of food and other necessities needed for daily life. Also a big thank you to the City of Berthold and their generous gift of a warm, clean, one level, private entrance location in City Hall for the Food Pantry. They provide the room rent free and also cover the utilities so that all the funds that come to us may be used for the supplies needed to meet the needs of our families who use the Food Pantry.

Our vacations were spent with family in Wisconsin and some of the time was with family that came to visit us in North Dakota. We so appreciate and enjoy our families.

George's Mom and two brothers had some heart concerns this year, valves, stints, pacemakers, fortunately through faith in God and many answered prayers, all are doing well. George at his annual checkup made sure that the Doctor double checked his heart. Everything sounded good!

For the Thanksgiving weekend we had guests. Ladora's brother Bob with Renea and Andy, and Ladora's sister Margaret were able to join us for cards, good food, and great conversations. We were able to take part in the Great Thanksgiving Feast in the Carpio Lutheran Church hosted by our friends Cathy Armstrong and her daughter Heather Feland and their families. We all felt like a stuffed Turkey following the Feast. Oh, did I say we played lots of cards? Sure a lot of fun!

This year we lost two aunts. George's Dad's sister Clara at age 100 and Ladora's aunt Gertie who's prayers were answered when the Lord took her home. We also lost a very special friend and church organist, Alvis Martinson. These are all greatly missed.

Next year we look forward to a couple of milestones with the 40TH Anniversary of George's Ordination into Ministry and also the 40TH Anniversary of our Marriage.

May God Bless You All,
Ladora & George

Happy New Year ♡ *Happy New Year* ♡ *Happy New Year*



january

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 New Year's Day	2	3 7pm Confirmation Class at Carpio	4 10am Parish Bible Study in Carpio	5	6
7 9am Worship at Carpio with Holy Communion 10am Fellowship/Sunday School 11am Worship at Zion with Holy Communion 1pm 4-H Club Meeting at Carpio 7pm Carpio Church Council Meeting	8 1pm Ecumenical Quilting at Zion	9 10am-12pm Food Pantry Open 5 - 7pm Food Pantry Open	10 10am Ecumenical Council at St. Ann's 7pm Confirmation Class in Zion 8pm Zion Church Council	11 10am Parish Bible Study in Carpio	12	13
14 Soup Pot Sunday in Carpio 9am Worship at Carpio with Holy Communion 10am Fellowship/No Sunday School 11am Worship at Zion with Holy Communion	15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day Year End Reports Due in Church Offices 1pm Ecumenical Quilting at Zion	16	17 7pm Confirmation Class at Carpio	18 10am Parish Bible Study in Carpio	19	20
21 Annual Reports Available 9am Worship at Carpio 10am Fellowship/Sunday School 11am Worship at Zion 5pm Ecumenical Prayer for Christian Unity Prayer Service at St. Ann's	22 1pm Ecumenical Quilting at Zion	23	24 7pm Confirmation Class in Zion 7pm Mary/Martha Circle	25 10am Parish Bible Study in Carpio	26	27
28 9am Carpio Annual Congregation Meeting 10am Fellowship/Sunday School 11am Zion Annual Congregation Meeting 12pm Luther League - Bowling	29 1pm Ecumenical Quilting at Zion	30	31 7pm Confirmation Class at Carpio			