



*We are a welcoming, caring
community, called by Christ, and
enabled by the Spirit,
to share God's love by living our
faith*

It's back



Soup'r Sunday
September 9
11:30ish

Meet Mount Zion's new pastoral intern

Leanne Darlington

September is a time of new beginnings and new routines and here at Mount Zion it is no different! I am excited to begin my journey in ministry with each of you as your Intern for the next year!



My name is Leanne Darlington and I live just outside of Tavistock, a short 35 minutes drive from Waterloo with my husband Greg and our three children. We celebrated our 25th wedding anniversary in August. Greg works as an owner-operator and is employed with Woodcock Bros., a trucking company located in Sebringville and travels mostly to the United States each week. Our oldest son Thomas graduated from Conestoga College this past spring with a diploma in Mechanical

Engineering-Welding and Robotics. He accepted a position as a Welding Engineer in Research and Development at a company in LaSalle (just outside of Windsor) in June and lives in Amherstburg. Our middle son Clayton is entering his second year of studies at the University of Guelph studying Software Engineering. Our youngest daughter Heather is about to start grade 12 at Huron Park Secondary School in Woodstock, she hopes to study Equine Sciences in the future. Completing our home is our dog Chester and our cat Rainbow.

If someone would have told me 25 years ago that in the year 2018 I would be preparing for my Internship and a life in the ministry I would have literally laughed out loud! My faith was always very important to me, but I never felt I had the qualities or call to be a minister. I have always been involved in the church; my home congregation is Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church in Sebastopol/Tavistock. It is the church where I was baptized, confirmed and married, and where each of our children were baptized and confirmed. I grew up participating in the youth group, singing in the choir, and teaching Sunday School. As an adult I was employed as the Sexton for almost 10 years and volunteered on many committees within the church, including Church Council. I also participated in the Sunday morning service volunteering with the Sanctuary Guild and acting as a Communion Assistant, Lector and Lay

Leader when the Pastor was on holidays. I became very comfortable in front of the congregation and many times felt the presence of God while participating. Every so often one of the ladies of the congregation would mention to me after a service saying, “that I missed my calling, I should have become a Pastor.” Each time I would smile politely and say, “Thank you, but I do not think so.” Looking back, I believe that each of those ladies planted a seed of faith within me, gently leading me to ministry growing both my faith and confidence.



Leanne and her family

Entering the ministry was not an easy decision for me; however, after many sleepless nights, much discernment and many conversations with God, I decided to test the waters by enrolling in some undergrad classes at Wilfrid Laurier University. After completing the required 10 undergrad courses in the spring of 2106, I applied to WLS as a mature student to begin my studies in the Master of Divinity program. In Sept 2016 I began full time studies at WLS (now Martin Luther University College) where I learned how to prepare and preach a Sunday sermon using my newly learned Greek, Hebrew, and exegetical skills. I learned about theology and worship, and what it means to be a Lutheran in both the times of Reformation and in the year 2018. I also improved my pastoral skills by taking a basic unit of Certified Pastoral Education and completing some courses on family therapy and grief. In taking these courses I learned much about my relationship with others, with God, and how I see

myself in the world. The 2 years I spent at the Seminary changed my life, and I am truly thankful to have been given the opportunity to share and learn with both my colleagues and professors.

This brings me to September 2018 and the beginning of our time together! I will be completing my Internship both at Mount Zion and the House of Friendship in Kitchener. I look forward to meeting each of you and building new relationships along the way. I also look forward to working with the many committees at Mount Zion and participating in worship. I am truly excited to be given the opportunity to grow in faith and skill with your congregation!

Yours in Christ,

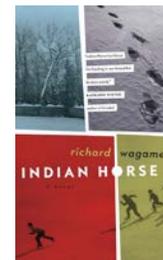
Vicar Leanne

Book Study

The Indian Horse,

by Richard Wagamese

**Wednesday October 17th
at 2 PM in the Glebe Room**



This fall we are reading Indian Horse by Richard Wagamese. Indian Horse was a 2013 Canada Reads Selection, and a First Nations, Metis and Inuit Literature winner. Richard Wagamese traces the decline of a culture and a cultural way with compassion and insight. He describes the horrors of residential school and how the game of hockey helped a young boy survive. He has written about love, family and the power of spirit. We think this book study will be powerful and informative. All are welcome. There will be light refreshments.

Put this date in your Calendar!!

LITURGY

Bytes

Many of you may remember a few years ago we had something at the beginning of our worship service called a "Ministry Minute." The purpose was to bring a little clarity to why we do some of things we do during worship. This is the first of what we hope will be an ongoing series and perhaps bring some understanding to things we might take for granted. These will be neither lengthy, nor scholarly but hopefully informative. Before I begin I want to recommend an excellent website by Mirko Petricevic called "Why Liturgy" which can be found at www.whyliturgy.ca.

The Sign of the Cross

The practice of making the sign of the cross dates as far back as the second century. As such, it is deeply rooted in Christian tradition and is observed in the Roman Catholic, Orthodox, Oriental Orthodox, Lutheran, Episcopalian and some of the other Protestant churches as a prayer, blessing and remembrance of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

In the Small Catechism, Martin Luther advised readers to make the sign of the cross to both begin and end their day saying, "God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit watch over me." It is a blessing and a symbol of our deep connection to the Holy Trinity. Today, many of us make the sign of the cross in remembrance of our Baptism or, as we receive the Benediction recognizing that we are blessed.

There are whole sections in scholarly books devoted to the significance and meanings attached to the practice of making the sign of the cross and while it is not actually a part of our liturgy, it was once very common and remains a perfectly natural thing to do for any who choose to do so.

Family Friday Night Suppers



All Kinds of food for all kinds of families

Sept 21, Oct 19, Nov 23 & Dec 14.

Pastoral Acts

Funerals

Bernice Ludwig passed away on June 24, 2018 at the age of 94. Her funeral was held here at Mount Zion on July 3. Bernice was one of our charter members and had been a part of this congregation from its very beginnings.

Edith Giertz, a longstanding member, passed away on June 29, 2018 at the age of 87. A private graveside service and interment of ashes was held at Parkview cemetery on July 26, 2018.

Baptism

We welcomed **Monroe Susan Willow Dahle**, daughter of Christopher and Rebecca Dahle, into the fellowship of the church through baptism on Sunday, July 15, during worship.

Weddings

Sandra Lynn Wood and **Shelly Ann Blanchard** were united in marriage on June 9, at the Wilmot Rod and Gun Club. Sandra is the daughter of Rita Schaus and Pastor Philip was the officiant at the wedding



Mount Zion Café

Come and bring a friend to the Mount Zion Cafe

The Mount Zion cafe offers seniors the opportunity to socialize over a cup of tea or coffee. At about 11:30 a.m. a scrumptious lunch of home-made soups and breads is available. From time to time you might find live music to enjoy while lunching with friends both old and new.

Sept 12 & 26 Oct 10 & 24 Nov 14 & 28 Dec 12
10 am - 1 pm

Meet Clair and Zack our Choral Scholars

By Bill Gastmeier, Chairperson Worship and Music Committee



Have you seen or heard some youthful faces mixed in with the choir faithful on a Sunday morning? If so, you have noticed one of our choral scholars!

Mount Zion has graciously and enthusiastically sponsored a

choral scholar program for several years, and this fall we want to put the program in a bit more focus by introducing them to you. The choral scholars are vocal music students from Wilfrid Laurier University who attend choir practice and sing with us on a regular basis. To date we have had five young people participate in the program and this fall we have two choral scholars, both of whom were with us last year. They are Claire Dingy and Zack Evans-Whitley and here is what they have to say about themselves.

Claire says:



“I grew up in Quispamisis, New Brunswick, and moved to Waterloo in August 2017 to attend Wilfrid Laurier University. I have been studying voice for 14 years and had the pleasure to work with two wonderful vocal instructors, Deantha Edmunds-Ramsay and Monette Gould before moving away for school. I

am also very fortunate to have been a part of many choirs over the past 10 years, including the Saint John High School concert choir, and the Rothesay-Kings Rotary Girls Choir. I am very passionate about the intersection of music and language, and have a particular interest in German Lieder. I am also very fond of brass instruments, and played trumpet in the New Brunswick Youth Orchestra for their 2014/2015 season.

Everyone I have met in my time so far at Mount Zion has been incredibly warm and welcoming. It has been

an absolute delight to become acquainted with this community over the past few months.

The Choral Scholar Program has allowed me to engage with the community in a way that would be otherwise quite difficult for me as a young person who is not from the Kitchener/Waterloo area. I also feel that my time so far at Mount Zion has been a very enriching experience in my growth as a musician, and that my perspectives on sight reading and choral repertoire have been significantly expanded due to the opportunities I’ve been given as a choral scholar.

As music students, we tend to become rather isolated within our own social circle. Getting involved with the Choral Scholar Program is an excellent way to remain connected with the local community, while employing our knowledge and love of music in new and fulfilling ways.

I began singing with Mount Zion in February of this year. I was introduced to the Choral Scholar Program by my friend Zack Evans-Whitley, the tenor Choral Scholar at Mount Zion. I expressed great interest in taking part in the program and was connected with Scott Knarr through Zack.”

Zack tells us:

“I was born near Mount Zion and went to Grand River CI where I finished with honours, several awards, and with one of the top five overall averages in my cohort. I studied nanotechnology engineering at the University of Waterloo for two years before transferring to become a music major at WLU. I've worked a wide variety of jobs from performer and pianist for hire, chemist and undergraduate research assistant, Audio Engineer, software developer, composer /songwriter and busker. I also volunteer in local kindergarten classrooms.

I love all kinds of music classical, jazz (most of my 15 years of piano and 2 years of voice study before attending WLU for music), musical theater, electronic

music, film, game, and "media" tracks. I've developed a taste for music from many corners of the world as well. I'm really fascinated with audio and music recording, mixing, and production. Outside of music, my passions are storytelling, cooking, exercise and nutrition, gardening, and anything I can do to put a genuine smile on someone's face (I know that sounds corny, but it's true). I hope to use my skills and talents as a musician and a storyteller to inspire as many people as possible to follow their dreams, live with love in their heart, and never lose grasp of their imagination, even after they become "grown-up".

I love that Mount Zion is community oriented and accepting of diverse natures. Every Sunday one of the morning announcers reminds us that everyone, including visitors of any background, are welcome to join the congregation for communion. This statement never fails to put a smile on my face - including and accepting all different kinds of people in our love and in our faith is extremely important to me, and so Mount Zion's open arms attitude means a lot.

The choral scholar program brings me a way to get to know people I might otherwise never have met, and an opportunity to share the skills I'm building in University with my community every week. That's really important to me. I also get to learn a lot from watching Deacon Scott lead our rehearsals and performances, guiding us through everything from the weekly hymns to his own original compositions. What I appreciate most about the choir is that I feel accepted and welcomed. Everyone is so overwhelmingly friendly, and supportive. On top of that I get opportunities to contribute beyond just singing in the tenor section, by performing duets, solos, or working on a couple of other personal projects. The choral scholar program has also touched other people in my life, like my family members when they attend on Sundays, or the friends I've been able to invite to the choir to share my experiences with.

I started at Mount Zion in fall 2017. For me, faith is all about love and caring for one another, through our similarities and our differences. Being able to include and embrace people from different backgrounds and

with different ideas into our community, as well as being understanding and accepting of those who might have different beliefs or faiths is the most important lesson of all."



This is the first of two articles about our choral scholar program. In the next issue we will hear from WLU staff and our own Scott Knarr. Stay tuned over the fall for more information concerning this exciting community partnership and opportunities to be involved and give your support.



November 17, 2018
6:30 pm

Be sure to attend this evening celebrating talent at Mount Zion

Singers ★ **instrumentalists** ★ **chefs** ★
artistry of all kinds.

More information to come
A fundraiser in support of Mount Zion's Choral Scholar Program

To be Neighbour

By: Kristina Kuhnert

As part of the theme 'Liberated by God's Grace to be Neighbour', the workshops this year for Synod Assembly were about racism and stigma. In the first session Bishop Michael Pryse hosted a multi-faith round table discussion with members of Buddhist, Sikh



Mount Zion members at Synod assembly

and Muslim communities. These guests shared their experiences as neighbours, and of being neighbours to others. My biggest takeaway was that it is hard to be neighbours. It is easy to stick with the people, cultures, and systems that we are familiar with. But the first step is to make an effort to ask someone about their life or invite them into our lives. Without effort, questions and conversations, we will miss out on meaningful, enriching relationships and opportunities to be neighbour.

Our Bible studies for the weekend were the story of the Good Samaritan, the Widow's Offering, and Naaman's Leprosy Healed, and were led by Allen Jorgenson and Joy Phillip. These studies prompted us to see those who are not seen, to seek out those who are being overlooked, and to think critically about our own actions in the world. Who would we be in those stories?

The final education session was about race and privilege. Everyone at Assembly was asked to privately

fill out a survey whose answers generated a number from 1-100 indicating how privileged one is. Then we moved to put ourselves in order of 'privilege number'. This exercise showed more than half the group was more than "60% privileged", along with testimony from a diverse group of Lutherans about their experience as a minority in the church, helped many delegates to see with new eyes the 'same-ness' of the church, and the diverse and inclusive neighbourhood that has been neglected.

One of the best parts of Assembly was the Open Mic sharing time where delegates were asked to share New Mission Initiatives, Positive News From their Congregations, or to share about their congregation's experience of being at a crossroads. I heard many many stories of congregations who were thriving and who had found new life through their work of being better neighbours to other communities. Food banks, public meals, child care, care baskets, refugee care, partnership with other faith groups and more. I was delighted to share with the Synod how proud I was to be part of Mount Zion who is working to both support our neighbours, to make those who are new to our church know that they are family, and to be getting increasingly comfortable pushing out of our comfort zones as we seek new neighbours.



Racial Justice Advisory Committee and Event Participants

In a time of uncertainty and discomfort, where many

churches are closing or feel the risk of closing, and where many people are closing their doors, their arms, their hearts, this Synod Assembly called all of us to bring back to our churches the message of hope, of love, and of resiliency. As National Bishop Susan Johnson said, "There will have to be changes. There will be times that we fail. God says, 'Do Not Be Afraid'."

Let us walk forward together, in spite of the fear and hesitation, embracing our ability to do good, share love and show kindness, as we are liberated by God's grace to be neighbour. Especially to those with whom we find it challenging or uncomfortable to be neighbour



Kristina Kuhnert is a member of Mount Zion and was our delegate at this summer's synod assembly. Kristina is presently attending Brock University Teacher's College. She will be returning on a future Sunday morning to tell us more.

Women's Auxiliary of Waterloo

The Women's Auxiliary Annual Meeting will take place on Saturday, September 22, 2018 at the new Martin Luther University College, formerly Waterloo Lutheran Seminary. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. Meeting: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Cost is \$22.00. The theme is "Doors to the Future." Our guest speaker, Rev. Dr. Mark Harris will speak about "From Our Past to the Future."

Business will include ratifying a new constitution and election of officers. We will be entertained by the Stiff Family. Come out and enjoy a wonderful day of worship, fellowship and a tour of the renovated building.

Check out the new web-page at www.martinlutheruniversitycollege.ca

Please see your Women's Auxiliary representative Pat Edwards @ 519-578-1742 to register.

Mount Zion's Volunteers at Trinity Village

When Trinity Village started in the early 1970's, Rhoda Ernst started a program called **Church Porters**. She wanted to help at the new nursing home and found a way that Mount Zion volunteers could reach out to help. She decided the staff needed volunteers to take residents to and from the chapel service each week because most of the residents could not go alone. When Rhoda was 89, she approached the Service Committee to find a replacement for Charlie and her. Even then, there were always a few people who helped but did not go to Mount Zion but were friends of friends.

Today the program is still thriving and 5 to 6 people each week arrive to help with the chapel service in various ways. It is still considered a Mount Zion project by Trinity although we now have help from some members of St. Stephen's and St. Luke's. The Mount Zion people who help as **church porters** are **Hope Eaton, Ed and Ladona Riegert, Bill Brown, Mayda Scoins, Jake Stumper, Jane Schelgel, Judi Harris, Mary Thompson, and Ann Crossman.**

Henriette Stumper plays the **piano** for the service, once a month. **Claudine Carlson** and **Karen Kuhnert** **preside** at the service once a month.

The other volunteer opportunity for Mount Zion members to serve at Trinity Village is to serve at the **Sunday Afternoon Tea**. Every Sunday, Trinity serves a tea for the residents and also for the visitors of residents. Each Sunday a different Lutheran Church serves at the tea.

Trinity Village provides coffee, tea, juice and the servers take cookies or pastries. Mount Zion takes a turn 3 times a year. Some of the Mount Zion members who have served are **Ladona Riegert, Ann Crossman, Hope Eaton, Rhoda Ernst, Joan and Jackie Schweitzer.**

We would love to have you join our team at Trinity. Trinity needs all the help you can offer.

Ann Crossman

Member Profile

Meet Susan and Richard Brubacher

One day in 1964 mutual friends persuaded Richard Brubacher and Susan Stauffer to join them on a double-date. That very ordinary social event started a life journey which has endured to the present day.



At the time, Susan was completing her teaching certificate at Stratford Teacher's College and Richard was working on his accounting

designation at Ryerson Polytechnic (now Ryerson University) in Toronto. Although both had grown up in the Kitchener-Waterloo area, they had never met until that first date.

Susan grew up with a very Lutheran family in Kitchener as the middle child of five, with two older brothers and two younger sisters. Her parents were charter members of St. Stephen Lutheran and she remembers boisterous Sunday evening dinner debates over that morning's sermon. Susan claims to have mostly listened, as her more vocal older brothers exchanged differing opinions with their parents. The combination of a family totally committed to the church, and a pastor who preached love, developed a faith which has provided comfort and strength throughout her life.

Richard was the middle of three boys, growing up Mennonite in St. Jacobs, before it became a tourist trap. The Brubachers traced their deep roots to Swiss German ancestors who settled first in Pennsylvania and then moved to Waterloo County. Interestingly, Susan's roots were also Mennonite, several generations back on her father's side.

While there were historical and doctrinal differences in both faith traditions, there were also many common

elements, one of them being a strong emphasis on the importance of music in worship. In fact, the Mennonite tradition of unaccompanied vocal harmony was something for which Richard had a real gift. His singing talent was nurtured in church, at public school, and at Rockway Mennonite High School where he won enough prize money in Kiwanis Music Festival competitions to finance voice lessons.

Richard's musical experiences included being part of *The Rockway Four*, a high school male quartet that sang gospel and barbershop harmonies in many local churches and community venues. In 1963 they made an LP recording of gospel music called *Beyond the Sunset*, of which a few copies are still available. It didn't hit the top of the pop charts, but gathered a faithful local fan following. Susan remembers that one year of their dating life included 13 weddings where Richard was either a soloist or singing with the quartet.

After three years of courtship, Susan and Richard married in July 1967 – a memorable Centennial project! – at St. Stephen Lutheran in Kitchener. Richard jokes that he married “an older woman with a car and good china – almost a dowry.” Both fathers had some concerns about their marriage, however. Richard's dad had unfavourable memories of Lutheran acquaintances, while Susan's had unfavourable memories of Mennonite relatives. Fortunately, they both came around and realized this was a good match. Richard helped things along by taking the appropriate classes and becoming Lutheran through a profession of faith. He and Susan were active at St. Stephen; he was choir director for several years and she was involved in Sunday School and Vacation Bible School.

Susan continued her elementary school teaching career for the next several years while Richard worked locally as an accountant at Raytheon, Van Dresser Industries and McKee Brothers. In 1970 they welcomed their first child, Matthew, followed by daughter Laura in 1973. The next eight years saw two major career changes for Richard – first, a family move

to Burlington where he worked with International Harvester for four years, then a transfer to IH headquarters in Chicago for another four years, during which Naperville, Illinois was home. In every relocation, finding the right church home in which to worship and serve was the Brubachers' first priority; church has always been an essential part of their lives. Richard contributed through vocal music, while Susan took on various teaching responsibilities or organized and planned events, both talents she has always enjoyed sharing.

But with changing economic times, the fortunes of International Harvester were declining, making Richard's future employment in the U.S. uncertain; so in 1984 he accepted a position with Canada Post in Ottawa. The family lived there for a year before returning to Waterloo in 1985, when Richard accepted a position with Electrohome.



Moving back to the Twin Cities marked another big change for the family and their search for a church home. With all the Lutheran congregations in the area to choose from, Mount Zion was high on their list of possibilities. Drawing on previous experience with both

large and smaller congregations, Richard and Susan concluded that the programs and reputation of Mount Zion felt just right.

Pastor Norman Lange was known for his innovative approach to worship and community outreach and a vibrant music program was led by Linda Stromberg. From the beginning the Brubachers were warmly accepted into the Mount Zion family and over the following 33 years, they've witnessed and participated in many changes here. Some of these have included moving services from the original 1960s building (now the Norman Lange Auditorium) to the present worship space and the subsequent additions of our beautiful Canadian-made pipe organ and large commercial kitchen.

They have also witnessed additions and changes in pastoral and management staff and participated in many areas of service. Susan has been active on the Worship & Music Committee, Sunday School and VBS; and for the past 17 years, she has organized volunteers for the Altar Guild, which takes care of communion preparation and cleanup. In addition, she takes charge of changing the seasonal paraments and hangings in the sanctuary and special decorations for festival Sundays. She also enjoys helping to organize congregational dinner events. In addition, she has been an active member of the K-W Chapter of the Canadian Celiac Association, serving on the board and for several years as President.

Richard has long been active as a chorister and soloist, has served for many years as Financial Secretary, and is currently chair of Finance as well as our congregational Treasurer. He also serves on the Finance Committee of Waterloo Lutheran Seminary.

In 2010, Richard retired from his position as CFO and Vice President of Planning & Administration with Christie Digital Systems (formerly Electrohome). Today he and Susan are enjoying their family and four grandchildren. Matthew and wife Stephanie live in Kitchener with daughter Lillian, 14, and son Isaac, 11. Lillian is active in competitive synchronized swimming, and Isaac is finding his niche. Laura and husband Matt Vriezema live in Midhurst, Ontario with daughter Jenna, 16, and son Ryan, 14, who are both involved in competitive volleyball. They consider themselves blessed that both their children and their families are active church members. Retirement has enabled the Brubachers to pursue more hobbies, which include boating and fishing on Georgian Bay and travelling.

Richard and Susan acknowledge that as with most other churches, ours is changing and we need to consider alternatives to what used to be "normal" within our life experience. This can be difficult to accept as we search for the most appropriate means to reach out and experience the fullness of our faith and mission. "We have a rich heritage, but we need to learn how the church can grow its relevance in an increasingly secular world."

Open Sesame begins wits 49th year with new regional funding

By Carol Ziegler

On Sept. 10th, 2018, Open Sesame Headstart Preschool will begin its 49th year of helping families with special needs children in our community. Most of the preschoolers referred to us come from KidsAbility. The Open Sesame community is comprised of families who have come from many different countries, and this past year they spoke seven different languages.

We have received some good news from the Region of Waterloo in the form of a One Time Affordability Grant for \$9,600. This grant is to be used to support child care maintenance or reduction of fee increase. We plan to use part of the grant to up-date the classroom equipment we use for working with our autistic children. We will also purchase additional items we feel would be helpful in preparing our preschoolers for kindergarten. The fees families pay have also been reduced by \$1.00 per day. We are very grateful for this Grant which we received in July.

At this time I will share a thank you letter we received from one of our parents in May:

"My daughter started attending Open Sesame Headstart Preschool a year and a half ago. We were referred by KidsAbility, since she was receiving therapy there. When our daughter started she was barely able to communicate verbally. She had no interest in playing with other kids and had a hard time with routine. We look at where she is now and we give tremendous credit to the teachers at Open Sesame for helping her develop necessary skills and communication. Having teachers that are so familiar with children on the Autism Spectrum was fantastic. They were able to connect with her and work on a level that she understood, while also challenging her when she needed it. There is a great balance of physical activity and more focused playtime. She has developed a love for the teachers and they are so quick to return that love back. She is now one of the friendliest kids you'll ever meet and has hundreds of

words in her vocabulary. Open Sesame has been such an incredible experience for her and such a great support for myself as well. It is great to have someone on staff who is dedicated to ensuring that the families are supported as well, not just the child. I can't say enough about how great of a preschool Open Sesame has been for our family"

In closing, I will remind you that Open Sesame can always use extra help in the classroom. If you enjoy being with preschoolers and would like more information about volunteering one morning a week from 9 - 12 call our Volunteer Co-ordinator Jana Kelly at 519-888-6837 or e-mail her at sesamevolunteer@gmail.com. You can also call me (Carol Ziegler) at 519-886-6675.

This is a reminder, to the members of the Open Sesame Committee, that we will be meeting on Monday, Oct. 1st at 7 p.m.

The Mountaineer Is a publication of Mount Zion Lutheran Church, 29 Westmount Road, Waterloo.
Editorial Committee: Dennis Eaton, Pauline Finch, Tim Ehrlich, Dave Heldman, Pastor Phillip Mathai, Karen Gastmeier
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Back issues of The Mountaineer can be found at www.mzlc.ca

**The Mountaineer is available either by print or by email. Please email the office if you wish to change your delivery method.
email to: mtzion@mzlc.ca**

A note from Finance

Financial Update – July 2018

Our financial status for the seven-month period ending July 31 reflects a deficit of \$12,444 in the **“Ministry & Mission (current) Account”** compared with a budgeted deficit of \$20,555. The favourable deviation of \$8,111 was due to a higher receipts accounting for \$5,728 and lower expenses of \$2,383.

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Better/ (Worse)</u>
Total receipts	\$158,899	\$153,171	\$5,728
Total Disbursements	<u>171,343</u>	<u>173,726</u>	<u>2,383</u>
Deficit	\$(12,244)	\$(20,555)	\$8,111

Comments:

- Member regular envelope contributions of \$106,640 were \$836 worse than plan.
- Facility and parking net income of \$39,001 was \$5,445 higher.
- Other income was higher by \$1,119 due primarily to \$1,079 in higher than planned earnings on our Endowment funds.
- Disbursements were \$2,383 better overall for the period.
- Of significant note is that **33%** of total receipts are from sources other than regular member contributions, indicating our increasing reliance on rental revenue.

Your support of **Benevolence** to the Synod and other designated causes totalled \$67,183. Included in this are grants of \$9,000 for Open Sesame, and \$25,789 for Six Nations/TRMA Partnership. Regular benevolence totalled \$15,885 which was remitted to Synod. Donations to other causes totalled \$16,509.

In April, a generous donation of \$15,000 was received in memory of long time member Shirley Hillier which has been placed in the Memorial fund. Special fund balances designated for specific purposes are as follows as of July 31.

Mission endowment funds	\$114,643
Contingency Fund	\$ 30,000
Memorial Funds	\$ 28,900
Youth Fund	\$ 3,779
Music on the Mount	\$ 2,264
Spiritual Retreat fund	\$ 252

Richard Brubacher - Treasurer



Open Council

This is a gathering you will not want to miss as we will hear the report of the Evolution Committee who has been gathering information from a variety of sources about how Mount Zion can move forward and become an integral part of our community.

Who Should Attend?

Committee members and chairs and anyone who has a passion for Mount Zion's future.

Potluck 6:00 pm

Report of the Evolution Committee 6:45 pm



A Charting our Course event

Financial Update – Seven Months ending July 31, 2018

By Richard Brubacher – Treasurer & Chair, Finance Committee

The summaries below reflect the actual cash flows for the seven month period ending July 31, 2018, and the position of our bank accounts. Comparative data is displayed for our budget commitment and the prior year.

Ministry & Mission (Current) Account - Cash Flow Basis

	7 Months - 2018		Comments re: Differences to plan	7 Months
	Actual	Budget		Last Year
Cash Inflow				
Receipts from Members	106,640	107,476	- worse than plan \$836	112,451
Receipts from Facility Rentals & Parking	45,851	39,251	- better by \$5,445	31,336
Rental income reserved to Capital	(6,850)	(5,695)		(6,000)
Other Receipts - (Plate, Endow. Int., grant)	13,258	12,139		9,174
Deficit Reduction Response	-	-		1,060
Total inflow	158,899	153,171		148,021
Cash Outflow				
Disbursements - Staff & operating costs	171,343	173,726		155,508
Total outflow	171,343	173,726		155,508
Net Cash (Outflow)/inflow	(12,444)	(20,555)	- \$8,111 better than Budget Plan	(7,487)
Cash balance (overdraft)	(2,945)	(11,955)		18,691

Benevolence Accounts - Cash Flow Basis

	Actual	Budget		Last Year
Cash Inflow				
Receipts from Members - General Benev.	15,885	14,700		14,556
Receipts for designated appeals	51,298	-	- Incl. Grants \$34,789	28,179
Total inflow	67,183	14,700		42,735
Cash Outflow				
Payments to Synod	15,885	14,075		13,056
Payments to other designated appeals	51,298	625		29,679
Total outflow	67,183	14,700		42,735

Capital Accounts - Cash Flow Basis

	Actual	Budget		Last Year
Cash Inflow:				
Receipts from Members	7,580	5,610		8,353
Transfers from Ministry & Mission acct	6,850	5,695	- Rental income reserved from MM acct.	6,000
Total inflow	14,430	11,305		14,353
Cash Outflow				
Capital Expenditures	33,088	25,000	- HVAC & Lighting replacements, servery	7,491
Total outflow	33,088	25,000		7,491
Net Cash (Outflow)/Inflow	(18,658)	(13,695)		6,862
Cash Balances	29,590	34,553		40,969

Rental Property Account - Cash Flow Basis

	Actual	Budget		Last Year
Cash Inflow:				
Rental Income from Tenants	19,461	14,320	Budget assumed tenant turnover	20,790
Transfers from Capital Account	-	-		-
Total inflow	19,461	14,320		20,790
Cash Outflow				
Current Expenditures - Properties	8,574	10,280		8,012
Capital Improvements to Properties	-	10,204	Improvements deferred	-
Total outflow	8,574	20,484		8,012
Net Cash (Outflow)/Inflow	10,887	(6,164)		12,778
Cash Balances (overdraft)	5,753	(11,298)		(12,287)