

Zion UCC Consistory Meeting Agenda

Call to Order at 7:05 pm by John P. (Vice-President)

Attending: Pastor Elizabeth, Dave D. (on Zoom), Debby W., Elena C., George D., and Bob S., Robin F., John P., Jeff Q., and Ted C (Trustees rep). **Absent:** Kelly and Pierre. **Guests:** Brooke B and Ken V.

Community Building

Devotion and Lord's Prayer

Approval of Consistory Meeting Minutes: motion to approve by Debby and seconded by Bob. All attending members approved.

Treasurer's Report

As of 9/2/25 there is a balance of \$72,304.57 in the operating account and \$62,907.53 in the restricted funds account.

The revenue for August was \$16,084.27 and the net income was \$-1316.05. In comparison:
The revenue for August 2024 was \$14295.90. The net income for August 2024 was \$1,373.64.

The YTD Revenue is \$156,299.72 and the YTD Net Income is \$18,560.32. The YTD 2024 Revenue was \$137,249.68 and the YTD 2024 Net Income was \$11,277.84.

Notable P&L events in August:

- 51710 Pastor's FICA \$1407.46 - 2nd quarter payment
- 53900 CE Miscellaneous \$300.00 – Rally Day Bounce House
- 54502 Treasurers Supplies \$243.70 – Printer ink & postage
- 54504 Office Supplies \$270.41 – Office chair for the Administrator
- 60001 OWCM \$1287.75 - 2nd quarter payment
- 60002 Western Area \$950.00 - 2nd quarter payment
- 60008 NY Conf. Per Capita \$300.00 - 2nd quarter payment

The addition of the Administrator position will have an impact on the expenses inclusive of the bottom line for the rest of the year. This position was not budgeted into the 2025 position and will therefore act as a negative factor for the rest of the year. Having said that, we remain in a sound financial position given the current structure of our expenses.

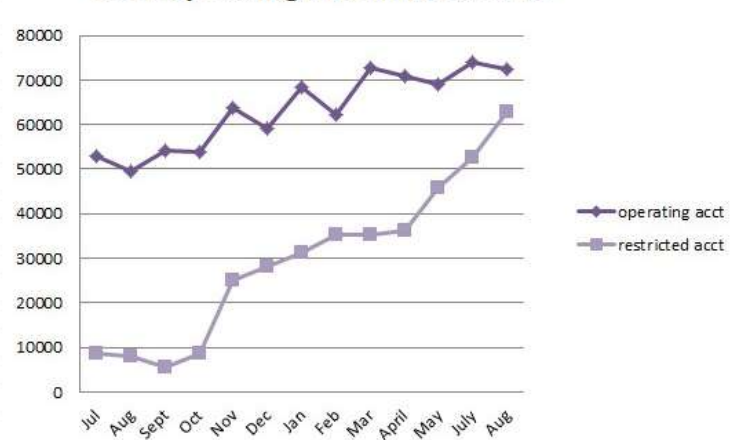
Kalee's Member in Discernment (MID) update

This is Kalee's last update: She passed her Ecclesiastical Council with flying colors, and we're planning her ordination on October 5th, 3pm.

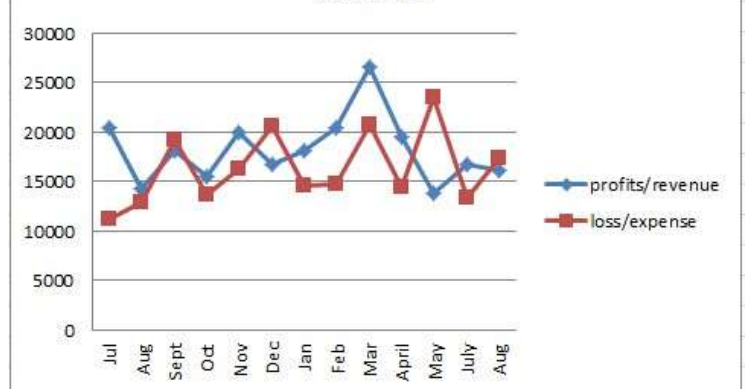
- We have purchased Kalee an Alb (white robe with rope) and stole to give her at her Ordination.
- We will ask the choir to sing and the praise band to play at her ordination.

Review Draft of Bylaws (Constitution): Ken V: Reviewed the new by-laws of Zion UCC. It follows the format of the Constitution. By law, we do not need to have both. Consistory "owns" the By-laws and can amend or review it

Zion Operating Accounts 2024-25



Zion Operating Revenue/Expenses 2024-25



after discussion. Trustees are the legal arm of the church and are caregivers for the property of the church. Consistory is the governing body of the church. The new budget will begin every January. Consistory and Trustees will review the new by-laws and suggest any changes if needed. After this, the Consistory will do a final review and approve to send this to the congregation who will vote on the new by-laws at the annual meeting in January 2026.

Update from Safety Task Force (Bob): Classroom doors now have peepholes and the room that has a window in the door has been covered. Doors will be locked during class time. If there is an emergency, the children will be escorted by their teachers to the pumping station on the other side of the 290 so parents know where to go to get their children during an emergency. There will be hallway ushers w/emergency button in hand observing the going on in the main hallway and around the building. There was a sign-up, and we have our ushers for September- December. There will be buttons in the Sanctuary, Sacristy, classrooms and kitchen.

Discussion about numbering the external doors and one external window in each classroom with the classroom number so first responders can identify which door the injured or sick person is in if there is an emergency. The outside window number will identify the classrooms from the outside as well. John stated that the classrooms have all been labeled differently now.

The windows on the outside of the first classroom by the front door, the choir room (which is a classroom during the first service) and the windows in Kuch Hall will all have window film placed.

There will be a safety drill in church one of these Sundays, so the adults and the children know the sound from the emergency buttons and what needs to be done next.

The ladies room now has a bar on the wall for safety. Bob S. installed it.

Pastor's Report

- Ken MacDonald (head usher) reported to me that we had our highest summer attendance in recent history (20+ years) and our highest Rally Day attendance in many years. Our summer attendance was over 100 every week except the week of the mission trip (when many of us were away). Rally Day attendance had 176 adults and many kids.
- She is thrilled to have John as our new Church Administrator. He is learning very quickly and we'll be able to get even more done for the church during the week with him in the office.
- We've had a lot of new people in church lately, so make sure to keep your eye out for new faces and be kind and welcoming!
- There's very little to report other than the fact that things are going smoothly at church and I'm very pleased with all of our volunteers, task forces, committees, etc who are hard at work to make everything possible!

Trustee's Report (Ted-liaison): Tabled a few projects to concentrate on the 2 bigger projects- Kuch Hall renovations and new concrete work. They are redoing some of the bids. They approved the Memorial Park changes.

Fundraising, Stewardship, and Outreach (John): The planning team is meeting on Sept 23. Nov 7 is the meat raffle and Nov.15 is the rummage sale. Outreach: John will be creating a short video series highlighting youth and members who want to participate they will be asked why they chose Zion UCC Tonawanda, what brought you here, etc. to try and draw attention to our wonderful church and why people need to come and check us out.

Committee Reports

- Christian Education & Missions - (Kelly) from Sue Clark: Rally Day was great. Kids loved the firetruck and the bounce house. Room changes were fine. Thanks to all who got the spaces ready

- Health Ministry - (Debby) Blood pressure clinics will start up again starting October 5 in between services behind the Sanctuary. These will be every first Sunday. Our first informational class (Immunity Boosters) was held 9/ 6 with 27 attending (10 were from the community). It went extremely well, and we have invited the instructor to do a different class in March. We are still receiving recipes, so the cookbook continues to be a work in progress.
- Memorials - (George) no changes from last month. Total is \$1,968.41. The Memorial fund paid for the new swing set for the kids that is in the backyard.
- PPRC/Admin - (Cheryl) from Debbie G: I'm sure they are all aware that we hired John Pauling as Church Administrator, we worked with the Safety Committee to rearrange classrooms to make the kids safer and the Safe Church policy should be completed within the next couple of weeks.
- Community Assistance Ministry - (Jeff) no report
- New Member - (Dave) a class will be done in November. Lots of new faces every week. Please continue to welcome them and make them feel how friendly and welcoming our church is.
- Environmental Ministry - (Jeff) the construction started this Tuesday 9/9. It will be a 9th of a mile. There will be 5 trees and a bridge that shows the labyrinth. The cement is going in for the benches which are ordered. More things will be updated every year. Pierre and Kirsten received some pine trees from Cornell which they are donating to Zion. The memorial plaque design is being investigated so it can get ordered for the wall inside the church. James C is pursuing legal action against the original contractor who failed to honor his signed contract with us.
- Network of Religious Communities - (Pierre) no report
- Community Dinners - (Bob) it went well. Had 16 volunteers!
- Food Pantry - (Jeff) John Wagner volunteers for the pantry every Tuesday. He said there were 16 people who needed assistance this week. It was mentioned that Jeff should announce our Food Pantry as there are a lot of new people who may not be aware of it and the slips on the door that can be taken to purchase the items listed. It was also mentioned that people can also support the pantry financially by a cash donation or donating through the Breeze app. Some people split their offering and designate an amount to be used toward the pantry as well.
- Coffee Hour - (Ted) Coffee hour has started back up. Thank you to our current bakers but we really need more people baking (even once or twice a month would be great). There is a sign-up sheet on the board to sign up.

Old Business

- Consistory Handbook is tabled until the Bylaws have been revised. This document will be created after the annual meeting in January as the by-laws need to be approved by the congregation..

New Business

- any? No new business

Motion to adjourn was made by Debby, seconded by Bob and approved by all attending members.

Adjourned at 9:16 pm

Closing prayer: In the Church, for the people, with one another. Amen.

Next Meeting: October 14th.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debby Williams, Consistory Secretary