

Zion UCC Consistory Meeting Notes November 11, 2025

Call to order: By Dave at 7 pm.

Attending: George, Debby, Robin, Bob, Dave, Cheryl, Kelly D and Pastor Duffy (came at 8 pm).

Debbie G, Laurie M, and Ray G attended until 7:43 p.m. as representatives of the Parish Pastoral Relations Committee (PPRC). Debbie outlined the purpose of the committee, explaining that if anyone in the congregation has concerns about church matters, they may approach her or another member before issues escalate. She emphasized that all conversations remain confidential. The session evolved into a Q&A focused on communication between the two boards, with additional questions about how the committee addresses concerns raised by members.

Angie S. was also in attendance to observe a Consistory meeting.

Absent: John, Jeff, Pierre, Elena, and Ted (Trustee Rep).



* Snowplow bids were reviewed with Ray prior to his departure from the meeting. Four requests for estimates were sent out, with responses received only from Lunds and Red Rose Snowplowing. Both quotes came in higher than last year. Following discussion with Ray, the decision was made to continue with Lunds, given their proven track record of reliable service on our lot in previous years.

Approval of last month's Consistory Meeting minutes: Motion to approve last month's meeting notes were passed by all attending.

Treasurer's Report

As of 11/7/25 there is a balance of \$66,230.74 in the operating account and \$27,938.79 in the restricted funds account. The operating account balance also includes the expense of the 11/14/25 payroll.

The revenue for October was \$13,546.71 and the net income was \$-1194.19. In comparison: The revenue for October 2024 was \$15,491.86. The net income for October 2024 was \$1,778.08.

The YTD Revenue is \$187,418.12 and the YTD Net Income is \$9779.31. The YTD 2024 Revenue was \$170,847.11 and the YTD 2024 Net Income was \$12,345.80.

I want to clarify any confusion people may be having over the revenue accounts. At the end of September, the Church started using a credit card. That card balance is automatically deducted from the General Fund Account on the 14th of each month. Some of the authorized users charge items applicable to the Restricted Funds Accounts. These expenses are paid back to the General Fund. So as not to overstate revenue, since

these funds transfers are not new revenue, I am using account 43000, reimbursement collection, as a pass-through account. All revenue and expenses relating to the Restricted Funds Account for credit card charges are passed through this line item to keep things clearly separated.

Notable P&L events in October:

53420 Sunday School Supplies \$679.53

54000 Admin. Exp. – Other - \$-7888.00 – This is a positive and are the monies the Trustees agreed to cover relating to the Memorial Park

56001 Plumbing Repairs – \$893.00 – Grease trap work

56005 Building Maintenance - \$267.00 – air vent, boiler room door

We continue to maintain a surplus. The budget is tracking as expected. As stated last month, the only unbudgeted expense expected to be forthcoming will be the plaque recognizing the Memorial Park donations. Any costs not covered by donations will be paid for directly from the General Fund.

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

Pastor's Report

-Pastor is flying to Boston on Thursday and driving home late Saturday night. She has a wedding in Western Mass at 3pm on Saturday, so she will officiate the wedding and then drive home after dinner. She is heading out to Boston first to see her Grampy who just moved in with her mom at 93 years old.

-She will be away on vacation from November 27-December 6. Angie will be preaching on November 30 (first Sunday of Advent). Rev. Kalee Mielke will be on call for me that week.

-Recordings for the pageant begin next weekend, so make sure to sign up soon!

-Advent/Christmas Schedule:

- November 30 - Advent 1, Hope. Angie Staniszewski preaching
- December 7 - Advent 2, Peace
- December 14 - Advent 3, Joy. Children's Sunday and new member service at 10 am.
- December 21 - Advent 4, Love
- December 24 - Christmas Eve, one service at 5pm. We'll have to recommend that people park on the side streets if they come early and are able to walk. We should run the Facebook/Instagram ad again if Consistory wants to approve \$ to do so. Discussion: as it did seem to increase attendance last year, George made a motion to use \$100 to advertise on social media about our service. Bob seconded and all attending members approved.
- December 28 - One Service at 10a., Larry Benn Preaching (she will be in Massachusetts with family).
- January 4 - One Service at 10am and Annual Meeting

Trustee's Report (Ted) -no report

Fundraising, Stewardship, and Outreach (John)- John is out of town. He will give an update on the Meat raffle and the Rummage sale at next month's meeting.

Committee Reports

- Christian Education & Missions - (Kelly) – Sue C. reported that the date for taping the Christmas pageant with the kids is November 22. The kids are learning the songs they will sing for the December 14 service.
- Health Ministry - (Debby)- The cookbook is currently at the publishers, and we have started pre-sales. We have 200 books being published and pre-sales are 68 books already sold! There are over 200 recipes. It is titled, “A Taste of Heaven”. Cost is \$20 a book. Will make a great Christmas gift!

A. Upcoming Educational Session on Senior Care Planning

Presented by: Oasis Senior Advisors

Date: Saturday, November 22 Time: 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Cost: Free for members, family, and friends

Planning for senior care can feel overwhelming—especially when it comes to finances. This session will help prepare you by covering:

What Medicare and Medicaid cover—and what they don’t

How to plan financially before care is needed

Strategies to protect family assets

Guidance on navigating long-term care insurance

- Memorials - (George) - There were no donations this month. Current balance: \$1968.41
- PPRC/Personnel - (Cheryl) -no report as the committee were here in person tonight.
- Community Assistance Ministry - (Jeff)-no report
- New Member - (Dave)- next New Member dinner is November 18.
- Environmental Ministry - (Jeff)- no report
- Network of Religious Communities - (Pierre) -no report
- Community Dinners - (Bob) - The last dinner was a success, with all meals served. To better meet demand, it was decided to ask Rick to prepare 175 dinners for the next event. Any leftovers will be offered to members who would like one or distributed to individuals visiting the food pantry on Tuesday, ensuring none go to waste. Bob will follow up with Rick regarding this adjustment for the upcoming dinner.
- Food Pantry - (Jeff)- no report
- Coffee Hour - (Ted)- no report

Old Business

- Rental Policy is still in process; tabled until next month
- Consistory Handbook is tabled until the Bylaws have been revised and approved in January. A decision was made to begin work on the manual. Debby, Kelly, and Cheryl will take the lead on this project and will present the completed manual, which can be updated as needed over time.

New Business

- Annual Reports need to be into John by December 8th. Please notify all committee chairs.
- Set Date for Christmas Decorating. Decision was made to do Friday November 22 at 6:30 pm. Come and help us decorate our church for the season! Pizza will be served.
- 2025-26 Season Snow Plowing Quotes - did earlier in the meeting.

- We need to seal and re-stripe the parking lot. We should get three quotes and have it done as soon as possible. John can create an RFP document to send out. Will ask John to create the RFP document for the three quotes which Thoman being one of the companies we ask (did it last time).
- Consistory should look into having rugs shampooed. – tabled till next month
- Purchase request from Dave Dubbert: Chair Dolly for Classroom 1 (76" x 19" x 39"; capacity 50 steel chairs) - \$325. Dave Dombrowski offered to have Men's Fellowship cover the cost of this (thank you!)
- Zion Memorial Park Plaque-The plaque quote was reviewed, and the design was examined. It was decided to request an estimate for a wood plaque featuring gold-textured nameplates. John will provide the cost details soon.

Adjourned at 9:19 pm

Next Meeting: December 9 at 7 pm.

Respectively Submitted,

Debby Williams

Consistory Secretary