LADIES DEPARTMENT



<u>LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY</u> LEAGUE

Women in Mission - Zion Lutheran Mission Valley



Bible Study times each month....

Esther Circle-2nd Tuesday of the Month-9 am Ladies Aid-1st Thursday of the Month-2 pm Rebecca/Ruth Circle-1st Monday of the Month-10 am. Each Bible study group or circle has ongoing activities they are involved in, such as the kits, quilts, Ladles of Love, etc. But to participate, you do not have to belong to a circle...



ESTHER CIRCLE

Esther Circle met on Tuesday, January 14, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. for its regular monthly meeting. Present were Iris Heller, Darla Sifford, Gail Woytasczyk, Shelley Sharp, Michelle Wendel, Irene Heinold, Eva Cooke, Darlette Mathisen, Shirley Gisler, Barbara Schmidt, Judy Faulkner, Bettye Pribyl, Linda Kickendahl, and Sherilyn Arnecke.

Hosts were Gail & Michelle. **Bible Study** was led by Barbara from *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly*, "God Sees Our Story-Therefore Rejoice!" [Winter, 2025]

Business: LOL: Esther A will serve on Saturday, February 1. Tentative menu: Spaghetti & Meatballs, Green Salad, Garlic Bread, Dessert, Fruit Cups. Sewing: January 21. ChiliFest will be January 24 with a Chili Cookoff. General LWML Meeting will be January 28 with speakers delivering information on Hospice. Esther has devotions. Women's Retreat will be January 31-February 2.

Cards were sent to W.A. Afflerbach, Alan Wendel, Cliff Startz, Ken Sifford and Gene Rydell.

Offering: \$119.00

All ladies of Zion are invited to join us on the second Tuesday of each month as we study the Word of God! Next meeting will be Tuesday, February 11, at 9:00 a.m. Hostesses are Carolyn & Priscilla.

Sherilyn Arnecke, Secretary/Treasurer

REBECCA/RUTH CIRCLE

Rebecca/Ruth Circle met January 6th at Gloria Buchhorn's home. Weather turned cold and Gloria invited us to her home. Started off the New Year with the first Bible Study, "The Third Article Steadfast in Christ," Woman's Winter Quarterly and Gloria was Bible Study Leader. There were 11 members present: Gloria, Sherri Bluhm, Pat Harper, Shelvy Schneider, Debbie Meyer, Sheron Alex, JoNell Martin, Winona Klacman, Alice Cockrell, Denise Afflerbach and Seda Weaver.

Debbie led **Business Meeting**: Sewing Day
Tuesday, **January 21**st will be at 9am; Friday, **24**th
Chili Fest; Tuesday, **28**th LWML General Meeting
6:45pm. Speakers will be Denise Afflerbach and
Hilary Lucas on Hospice of South Texas.
Rebecca/Ruth Circle will be hostess serving crackers,
meat & cheese tray, coffee, hot chocolate
w/marshmallows, cookies, Chex mix, and chips will
be served. Devotions by Esther Circle. On **January 31**st- **February 2**nd is the Lone Star Women's
Renewal Retreat at Camp Lone Star in La Grange,
Texas. Registration deadline January 17th.

We discussed the option of "Secret Pals" again this year or have Prayer Partners. Pat made a motion that we choose Prayer Partners each month. We voted and motion carried. Each month we will draw a name and pray for that person.

With the Lenten season approaching, we decided on **April 9th** we would do the Lenten Meal. On **March 1st** Rebecca/Ruth will do Ladles of Love and at our February meeting decide on the meal.

Cards were sent.

Meeting closed with Gloria playing on the piano, "Lord Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word," and The Lord's Prayer was said.

Rebecca/Ruth Circle will meet again on Monday, **February 3rd** at 10am. Bible Study will be "God Sees Our Story, Therefore Rejoice!" on page 18 of the Winter Woman's Quarterly Magazine. Sheron will be Bible Study Leader. All women of Zion are invited to come and join us for Bible Study and Fellowship.

Winona Klacman, Secretary

The Messenger, February 2025

LADIES AID

Ladies Aid met on January 2nd at 2pm at church. Present were Gail Woytasczyk, Barbara Schmidt, and Eva Cooke. Barbara had the Bible Study, "Third Article-Steadfast in Christ".

Business meeting reviewed upcoming events and sent cards to those who need our thoughts and prayers.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, February 6th at 2pm at church. Come join us for fellowship and Bible Study on the 1st Thursday of every month.

Eva Cooke, President



Unloading & Mike loading into one of the containers ready to deliver.



LADLES OF LOVE

Esther A is in charge of Ladles of Love in February. If you would like to participate in a group or form your own group, please talk to Sherilyn Arnecke.

Sherilyn Arnecke, Chairperson









l-r: Eva Cooke, Darla Sifford, Sherilyn Arnecke, Mike Rathje, Irene Heinold, Darlette Mathisen, Marti Rathje (Mike & Marti Rathje manages the OGT in the Houston area)

THANK YOU

A **BIG** Thank You to everyone for all the donations for the Orphan Grain Train. The many, many boxes and bags of clothing, school supplies and coats were loaded up into a 22' stock trailer on Sunday, January 12th for much needed supplies for disaster relief to North Carolina or possibly California. They were delivered Monday, January 13th to their warehouse in Pasadena Thank you again for your support.

Orphan Grain Train – "Thank you so much for all the donations. We are thrilled to have your support and know they will be greatly appreciated by those in need."



Each month the ladies of the church are collecting a different item as one of their projects for Victoria Christian Assistance Ministry (VCAM). For the month of **February**, LWML is collecting **Boxes of Macaroni and Cheese.** We are asking the congregation to help with this project. It would be very much appreciated. There is a box in the **Narthex near the Ladies Restroom** for your donated item. Please help restock the shelves at VCAM. If any questions, contact Eva Cooke, project chairperson.

Want to thank everyone for contributing food for all these people in need.

Eva Cooke, Chairperson

Thank you, thank you. For the month of December, 35 lbs. Cans of Soup were collected for VCAM!



SEWING DAY

Sewing Day was rescheduled for Wednesday, January 29th due to the weather.

Our next regular Sewing Day will be **Tuesday**, **February 18th**, at 9am in the multi-Purpose Room. Eva Cooke & Irene Heinold, Chairpersons

YOUTH DEPARTMENT





Please join us for Sunday School and Adult Bible Study at 9am.



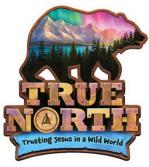


LITTLE DISCIPLES

Little Disciples has resumed again and is a program for kids and their parents ages 4-10. Kids will learn to grow in their Faith and serve others through the "4 L's": Lunch, Lead, Learn, and Laughter.

We will meet after church on Sunday, February 2^{nd} . We'll provide a light lunch, or feel free to bring your own.





Mark your calendar! Vacation Bible School is right around the corner – June 1st-5th! "Trusting Jesus in a Wild World". Ultimate Alaskan adventure and point kids to Jesus, a faithful friend we can always trust. He's our True North.





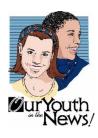
Calling all campers ages 8-18! June 8th-13th – There will be a Parent/Camper meeting after church on Sunday, January 29th and February 2nd. If you are interested in going to Camp Lone Star, deadline soon. If have any questions, please call Ann Heller 361-772-4832.

Theme "Defined". Together, we'll explore what the Bible says about who God is, who He says we are, and what that means for our lives.



CAMPERS' BAKED POTATO FUNDRAISER

On Sunday, March 9th, the campers will have a Baked Potato Lunch after church. It will include a potato, chili, cheese, sour cream, bacon bits, a dessert and a drink. The cost will be \$7.50. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex starting February 16th for attendances so know how many to prepare. Please plan to attend to help fund our campers. If any questions, please contact Ann Heller.





CONGRATULATIONS TO BOTH Emmy and Olivia Heller on achieving A Honor Roll for the 2nd 9-week grading period at Mission Valley Elementary School. Emmy is in the 2nd grade and Olivia is in the 1st grade. They are the daughters of Jacob & Ann Heller. GO MUSTANGS!



If your children have any news like school recognitions, honors, sports, achievements this year that you would like to share, please submit them to the church office. Throughout the year, please submit special happenings. We love to hear about our children.

COMMITTEE NEWS



LRPC met on January 12, 2024, after church. Garrett Adcock presented the committee with a rough draft for the parking lot in order to be able to get a turnkey bid from Lester Meier. Garrett will get a bid for an asphalt parking lot and a cement parking lot. It was also discussed about getting a bid from a welder to cut down the swing set in the playground.

Pat Zmeskal was present and ask us to take care of the parking lot striping in front of the sidewalk. Also, she reminded the committee that we are to do a walk around the church to report on repairs that may be needed and present to council.

Dismantling of the playground should start in January with weather permitting.

Meeting was adjourned.

Terry Depine, Secretary



Zion Outreach notes of 1-7-25

Opening began with prayer led by Pastor. Members signed cards to send out. Past minutes were reviewed for an overview of our plans. Chilifest detailed planning is foremost of the docket. All items and good stuff was covered. The list in Narthex was checked. Tim Meyer is ready to cook chili. We hope to have a crowd and a good chili cook-off competition!

Other business covered included giving out copies of updated goals and action tables until a future meeting, approval of proposed budget on 1-7-25, pledge of monetary support from budget for brochures, etc. for CPR event in Feb., and update on visitors.

Pictures for future pictorial directory update will be done on Feb. 16, 23, & Mar 2 before or after church service. The background will be a blue color. Prayers we send for those who are ill and/recovering from surgeries.

Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at 7pm. Meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Judy Faulkner, chair

CONGREGATION NEWS



Congratulations to Hayden and Morgan Webel on the birth of a son, Hanson Lane, born January 14, 2025. He weighed 7.8 lbs and 20 inches long. Proud grandparents are William and Lana Webel.



TREASURER'S REPORTS

A copy of the 2024 Annual Treasurer's report is available in the Narthex on bulletin board for any member who wishes a copy.



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The 2024 Financial Statements are being distributed by Teresa Boswell. If you did not receive one or have a question, please contact Teresa. Financial Statements not distributed personally; you can pick them up in person in the church office.



ZION PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

Pictures for the 2025 Pictorial Directory will be taken on these dates:

Sunday, February 16th Sunday, February 23rd Sunday, March 2nd

Our directory is in the planning stage. We want to see your smiling faces there so please plan ahead and get ready on these dates. We can do this before or after service. Thanks. I will be there.

Note: This will be a family/individual pictures taken by Judy. We have a nice backdrop. I can give you the poses from my phone right after we take them.

Judy Faulkner





NEW MEMBERS/BIBLE CLASS

I have had several people speak to me asking about my next new member class. If you would like to learn more about what it is to be a Lutheran, to become a member of Zion, or just review for yourself what you learned a long time ago, please let me know! We have already started classes at 7pm in the Adult Sunday School room off of the library but feel free to join us. We will meet weekly for about 8 weeks every Wednesday. Any questions, please contact me. Pastor Meyer



CHURCH ANNUAL PICNIC

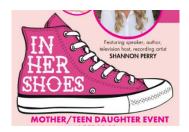
Zion is seeking the position of Picnic Coordinator for after Easter. You and your committee have the opportunity to decide on events, create the fun, and designate the recipient of the proceeds. Everyone can get involved and make it a time of celebration. We all join in to help. In our history, we were known as the friendly church under the oaks and renown for our picnics. Thank you for your considerations. Please contact the church office.



CALIFORNIA FIRES

You have seen on the news the devastation by the fires in the Los Angeles area of California. We continue to keep in our prayers those who have lost much, those who continue to fight the fires, and those who provide aid and comfort to those in need. If you choose to donate to fire relief, make sure you do due diligence and confirm it is a legitimate agency who makes maximum use of your gifts. You can offer financial support our sister LCMS Pacific Southwest

District and their relief agency at https://www.psd-lcms.org/. There are links there to donate on-like, or you can mail a gift to Pacific Southwest District – LCMS, 16355 Laguna Canyon Rd. #300, Irvine, CA, 92618, in the memo line write, "SoCal Wildfire Relief." One hundred percent of funds donated will be used to support the congregations, schools, and individuals who have been affected by the fires. Any excess funds will be saved for future emergency/disaster relief.



First English Lutheran Church is hosting an event on March 8th called "In Her Shoes" from 8:30am to 3pm. This is a non-denominational Christian Mother/Daughter retreat for girls (12-18) and their mothers. The speaker of the event is Mrs. Shannon Perry. Tickets are \$22 per person and that includes all retreat supplies, breakfast and lunch. Tickets are limited and can be purchased online as well as purchase from our church office. If you have questions, feel free to call First English Lutheran Church.

See flyer.



CHURCH PARKING LOT

When you park at church, please keep in mind those who would benefit from parking closer to the doors of the church and fellowship hall. Consider parking on the north side of the parking lot or the south side of the church, saving the closer parking spots for others. If you need these spots, use them! If it's merely a convenience, save the spaces for those with mobility-related struggles. As a reminder, the spots marked "Handicapped" are reserved on Sundays with those who have handicapped tags on their cars. Thanks for helping care for the needs of others!

The Messenger, February 2025



RECYLING INK CARTRIDGES

How do we get rewards for recycling ink cartridges? As a Reward Member of Office Depot, the church gets \$2 back in program rewards for each ink cartridge that we recycle, up to 10 cartridges per month. Qualifying purchases include any product or service purchase made in store or online. All brands of ink qualify for recycling rewards. This helps with the rising cost of supplies for the church. There is a basket on a shelf in the Narthex between the Men's & Ladies' Restrooms for your cartridges.



MISSION VALLEY SCHOOL PLAYGROUND

As the congregation knows Zion and Mission Valley School have experienced a long enduring partnership as "neighbors". We have shared such things as parking space and Fellowship Hall usage. Occasionally, it has been asked if our congregation can utilize the school's playground which is currently located on our leased property. Verification came from Randy Meyer VISD Deputy Superintendent on March 1, 2024, stating, "Zion Lutheran Church is welcome to utilize the campus playground after school hours and weekends. As with any public school property, the district cannot be held liable for injuries that happen on school property. VISD is pleased to be able to work together for the good of the Mission Valley community." So yes, you have permission to use the playground at your own risk.



Did you know Pastor podcasts his sermons on-line at https://podpoint.com/woodencrosses? You can listen on-line or download a sermon and listen later. If you

prefer a written copy, he also blogs his sermons (and other miscellaneous writings) at

https://crossesandwoodshavings.blogspot.com/. Feel free to use and share these resources with friends and family!

Entire Service on: Zion's Facebook page http://www.facebook.com/zionmissionvalley/

*****We are trying to "boost" our social media (Facebook) and internet presence. If you are a Facebook user, go ahead and give us a "Like" at facebook.com/ZionMissionValley. We are posting several times a week with various memes, quotes, Q&A, and interesting articles. "Like" and share what you see, whether it's Sunday's service or a goofy meme! Also, be sure to click on the church webpage, https://zionlutheranmv.org/ and let it load up. You don't even have to read it! It drives the algorithms to keep us closer to the top when people do searches for churches in the Victoria area.



Visit our website at: www.vcamvictoria.org or our Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/vcam.org/ for VCAM services or news.

Services Provided for December 2024

Households Served – 1470, Total Number in households – 3857, Food Boxes – 1320, Basic Needs – 3704, Home Delivery – 26 Homeless Served – 147, Homeless Visits – 711, First-time VCAM clients Served – 63

2024 Number of Services Provided – 26,333 2024 VCAM Clients Affected by Services – 59,259 2024 1st time VCAM Clients/Households – 1,017

Blessings...Marc

Clients come on a once-a-month basis, while our homeless population is served on a daily basis.

All services are provided free.

Please continue to refer those who require our services to VCAM & please continue to support.

"Providing hope when things seem hopeless..."



PRAYER LIST

To add another person's name to our prayer lists, you must be a member or active worshipping guest of Zion and identify yourself as the one requesting prayer for someone else. It is your responsibility to gain this permission! The church office reserves the right to edit prayer requests for publication.



REQUESTS FOR PRAYERS

- 1. Bill Lagal
- 2. Cole Ohrt friend of Zion
- 3. Holly Corey
- 4. Patricia Gonzales friend of Richard & Joy Alex
- 5. Loma Chandler Karen Wood's sister
- 6. James Morris, Sr.
- 7. JoNell Martin
- 8. Clemmie Cooley friend of Bettye Pribyl
- 9. Ann Pantel wife of Curtis Pantel
- 10. Doug Mendenhall Alexis Mendenhall's dad
- 11. Leonard Denton friend of Pastor Meyer's
- 12. Maudi Garcia friend of Jacki Cooke
- 13. Jeanette Laza cousin of Irene Heinold
- 14. Mary Lee friend of Cass Martignoni
- 15. Lisa Roman niece of Cass Martignoni
- 16. Kamryn McDavid granddaughter of Pribyl's
- 17. Mai Harwell
- 18. Dianne Laser Laura Meyer's friend
- 19. Rose Goebel
- 20. Derek Depine step-son of Terry Depine
- 21. Allie Faulkner Faulkner's granddaughter
- 22. Ken Sifford
- 23. Julie Heinold
- 24. Kay Lagal
- 25. Richard Bludau friend of Reinecke's
- 26. Alissa Blount
- 27. Jodie Schaefer friend of Barbara Schmidt
- 28. Dalhardt Goebel
- 29. Lynn Reiman friend of Irene Heinold
- 30. Becky Debore friend of Irene Heinold
- 31. Glennie Bednorz friend of JoNell Martin
- 32. Chuck Mueller friend of Gloria Buchhorn
- 33. Travis Weaver brother of Ronny Weaver
- 34. Ava Soliz Ann Heller's friend's daughter

- 35. Randy Kersten Peggy Polster's brother
- 36. Jim Krause
- 37. Priscilla Dornburg
- 38. Narmina Ibraghimova friend of Faulkner's
- 39. Pauline Janak
- 40. Emily friend of Ann Heller
- 41. Charles Krueger Cass Martignoni's brother
- 42. Gail Hogan Barbara Schmidt's cousin
- 43. Kenneth & Nancy Hahn Faulkner's friends
- 44. Kathy Lyssy Bancuch friend of Sherilyn Arnecke & Bea Fuchs
- 45. Cindy & Jennifer Henderson Randy Carter's sister & niece
- 46. Todd Kersten Peggy Polster's nephew
- 47. Alan Wendel brother of Mark Wendel



VISITATION

If you are in the hospital or would like a home visit, please call an Elder, Pastor or Church office.



Due to the privacy laws, hospitals no longer notify pastors when a member is admitted or treated. If you know of anyone being taken to the hospital (emergency or otherwise), or who is especially ill, please call an Elder, Pastor Meyer or contact the church office.



Please continue to keep our shut-ins in your prayers and enliven their lives through visits, letters, and cards or phone calls.

Dalhardt & Rose Goebel P O Box 127 Cuero, Tx 77954

James Morris, Sr. 3472 FM 447 Victoria, Tx 77905 Dan & Doris Nugent 5404 FM 236 Victoria, Tx 77905



BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES FOR FEBRUARY

February	1 - Pastor	Jonathan	Meyer
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February 6 – Michelle Wendel

February 7 – Twila Wendel, Kelley Mundy

February 8 – Jason Heinold, Justin Heinold, Pauline Janak, Kevin Kelso

February 9 – Teresa Boswell

February 10 – Kimberly Ramirez

February 14 – Brittainny Harwell, Chloé Blount, Sherry Hornstein

February 16 – Ray Buchhorn, Joseph Burns,

February 17 – Haley Willemin, Hayden Webel Radonna Brown

February 19 – Wayne Polster

February 20 – Brittney Woytasczyk, Adalynn Woytasczyk

February 22 – Gene Rydell, Pastor Les Judge, David Stockton

February 23 – Kay Lagal

February 25 – Travis Reinecke

February 26 – Debbie Gras, Wanda Knudson, Spenser Lassmann, Darla Sifford, Aria Raby

February 28 – Brandon Alex



CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN FEBRUARY

February 1 – Wyatt Jaeger

February 2 – Gina Jaeger

February 3 – Ricky Roessler, Diane Lassman

February 4 – Pat Harper

February 7 – Cheryl Carter

February 8 – Sherilyn Arnecke, Sherri Bluhm, Lance Woytasczyk

February 9 – Keegan Heller

February 10 – Gavin Johnston

February 13 – Judy Garman

February 14 – Dianna Zmeskal

February 16 – Everett Mitchell

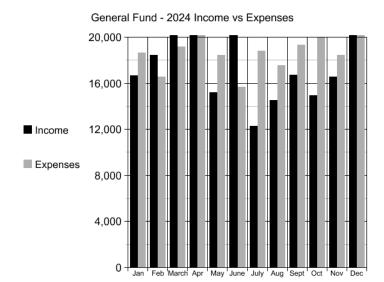
February 19 – Russell Autry, Curtis Pantel, Jordan Klesel, Ashton Kelly

February 25 – JoNell Martin

February 27 – Sara Foster, Nathan Ceballos

February 29 – Cody Parks

CHURCH ATTENDANCE	
Sunday, December 29 th	71
Sunday, January 5 th	86
Sunday, January 12th	104
Sunday, January 19th	62



In the above chart, you can see our expenses and offerings and other income for the past month. Our expenses totaled \$26,249.58; our offerings and other income totaled \$28,730.65 resulting in a budgeted "gain" of \$2,481.07. If you were to go back and look at these numbers for the last 8 months, you would notice the trend that our expenses were greater than offerings and income. In large part, this is due to the incredible increase in our property and liability insurance early in 2024. We share this with you so you are aware of how this is continuing to impact our overall ministry. Even as we continue to thank God for the many blessings He gives to Zion, including those of the financial offerings of His people, the Church Council and Church Office are being as mindful as possible about the stewardship of the church budget.



The Messenger Staff wants to correct any errors and/or omissions. Please let the church office know promptly.



Many of us celebrate Valentine's Day in both fun and serious ways. Children exchange treats and humorous cards with classmates and friends; some bring home handmade cards for the adults in their lives. Romantic partners may go out to eat and present each other flowers, chocolate, a fancy card — maybe even an engagement ring!

As playful as Valentine's Day can be, it's also a great time to remember the serious side of love, as indicated by these quotes:

- "When you love someone, you love the whole person as he or she is, and not as you would like them to be."—Leo Tolstoy
- "You don't love someone because they're perfect; you love them in spite of the fact that they're not." —Jodi Picoult
- "Love ... is quiet understanding, mutual confidence, sharing and forgiving. ... It settles for less than perfection and makes allowances for human weaknesses." —Ann Landers

We can do the difficult work of true love — actions, not just feelings — only because God loved us first. He did (and does) so despite our imperfection, and in Jesus, God shows us how to share true love with others. This Valentine's Day, if you don't remember any other profound quotes, hold this one in your heart:

• "We love because God first loved us."—1 John 4:19 (NCV)



A PRAYER FOR PRESIDENTS DAY

Lord of heaven and earth, we offer you our deepest gratitude for this country and the freedom to worship you. Stir up a sense of stewardship so we all may care for our nation and each inhabitant of it.

We pray especially for our leaders, that you will bless them with wisdom and humility. Prompt everyone in positions of authority to pursue righteousness, justice and the welfare of all.

Remind us of the psalmist's teaching: "Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord" (Psalm 33:12, NRSV). May that promise be fulfilled "from sea to shining sea." Amen.

FYI

CHURCH CONTACTS

Sunday School – Board of Education/Youth Lutheran Youth Fellowship – Board of Education/Youth Altar Guild, Pauline Janak Blood Drive, Church Office Leaders Of Compassion, Shelley Sharp Peggy Polster

Ladles of Love, Sherilyn Arnecke Library, Sherita Miller Memorials, Seda Weaver LWML President, Debbe Meyer Esther, Iris Heller Ladies Aid, Eva Cooke Rebecca/Ruth, Debbie Meyer

Worship/Music Bd., Hilbert Nagel Church Secretary, Seda Weaver Sound System, David Miller Kitchen Cartel, Darla Sifford Board of Elders, David Miller Board of Trustees, Pauline Janak Board of Outreach, Judy Faulkner Board of Education/Youth, Jacki Cooke Candice Clay

Board of Fellowship, Priscilla Dornburg Security & Safety, David Pribyl

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

President, Pat Zmeskal Vice-Pres., Pauline Janak Secretary, Terry Depine Treasurer, Seda Weaver Financial Sec, Teresa Boswell Elder, David Miller Elder, David Pribyl