

The Herald

Volume 99, Issue 1

January 2012

From The Senior Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

HAPPY NEW YEAR! While it seems hard to say that (time flies by too quickly), I also find great joy in wishing all of you the blessings of God to be with you, guide you, and lead you in 2012. I look forward to our year of worshiping and serving together, and being with one another. Thanks to all of you for being the gifts that you are to the church and to me.

There are many wonderful things happening at Harrold Zion. Please make certain to read all articles and pray about how you can respond. There are a few items I would like to bring to your attention:

1. All Committee and Organization Chairpersons – Our annual chairpersons meeting is at 6:30 PM on Monday, January 2. There is much information to share. Chairpersons unable to attend are asked to send a committee/organization member to attend in your place.
2. You will note the implementation of a worship booklet. Hymnals will still be used for hymns, but this booklet is devised to assist us in our worship. This is especially a benefit to our visitors. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask me about it.

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Installation Service for Rev. Peter Nordby

January 22nd at 4:00 PM

You are invited to the installation of Pastor Peter Nordby as Associate Pastor of Harrold Zion. The service of Installation and Holy Communion will take place on Sunday, January 22nd at 4:00 PM. Preaching for this special day will be Pastor Michelle Nickodemus, who is a friend and colleague of Pastor Peter, a daughter of Harrold Zion, and the daughter of Glen and Marilyn Nickodemus. Please mark your calendars for this special day.



WORSHIP AT HARROLD ZION

Jan. 1st - New Year's Day

One service only – 9:30 AM
Sacrament of Holy Communion

Jan. 8th - The Baptism of Our Lord

Worship – 8:00 and 10:30 AM
Sunday School for all ages – 9:15 AM

Jan. 15th - The Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Worship – 8:00 and 10:30 AM
Sunday School for all ages – 9:15 AM

Jan. 22nd - The Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Worship – 8:00 and 10:30 AM
Sunday School for all ages – 9:15 AM

Jan. 29th - The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

Worship – 8:00 and 10:30 AM
Sacrament of Holy Baptism (10:30 AM)
Sunday School Camp Sunday – 9:15 AM

3. Beginning Saturday, January 8, we will begin a trial time of including a Saturday night service in to our weekend worship schedule. Due to various reasons several have inquired about this, and we want to meet the varying needs of members of our congregation. The service is at 5:00.
4. Thank you for providing a "Merry Christmas" to so many who are in need. Your response has been overwhelming and we are grateful that you have shown the light and love of Christ to those in need.

You truly are a wonderful and faithful congregation. Thank you for your ministry among us. May God bless each of you. I'll see you in church!

In Christ,
Pastor John



SATURDAY NIGHT WORSHIP TO BEGIN

Beginning on Saturday, January 7, 2012, an evening service will be added to our weekend worship schedule. The Saturday service will begin at 5:00 PM.

Several families have inquired about having a Saturday night service. As a result, we will offer this service on a 6 month trial basis and will be reviewed at the end of June.

This service is being added for several reasons;

1. We have several members who work on Sundays. This will allow them to continue worshipping in their own church.
2. There are those who will attend this due to various health reasons.
3. There are times when members are unable to worship on a Sunday morning for various other reasons. This will allow those individuals to continue worshipping in their church.

Please keep this service and ministry in your prayers as we hope it will meet the needs of our members and any others who will be attending this service.

Worship Booklet

Beginning Sunday, January 9th, we will begin using worship booklets to assist us in our worship. Everything except for the hymns, will be found in the worship booklet. Here are some reasons for the use of the booklet:

1. It assists visitors in worship. If visitors are from a non-Lutheran background, it is difficult to follow in one hymnal, let alone two hymnals.
2. It assists families who are working with their children on following the worship service.
3. It gives us more flexibility with the hymnals.
4. It allows us to further focus on the day and season. In addition to the use of hymns to emphasize each Sunday's or season's focus, this will also enable us to use confessions which are written to emphasize the church season, along with some of the prayers used throughout the liturgy. We have a wonderful resource which we belong to, entitled Sundays and Seasons. The liturgy remains in tact, but just offers a few resources that we are unable to use with our current format.

Each Sunday you will be asked to return the booklet since it will be used for all the Sundays of the Epiphany season. You will receive an insert each week which will have Sunday's lessons, along with the announcements, which you may take home.

We ask that we enter into our worship with open hearts and minds, and give ourselves the opportunity to see how this worship aid can enrich our worship life. We look forward to worshipping together as we offer praise to our God, with grateful hearts and joyful minds.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart.

~Proverbs

JANUARY CLOTHING DRIVE

The Annual January Clothing Collection will be held again this year for the entire month, and will benefit the Salvation Army. You can drop off clean, gently used adult and children's clothing in the Communication Center. Please use sturdy bags and do not make them too heavy. You can also take bags to the Salvation Army Building at the corner of East Otterman & St. Clair Streets in Greensburg, & place them in the receptacles that are provided in the parking lot.

MEETING OF ALL COMMITTEE AND ORGANIZATION

CHAIRPERSONS – JANUARY 2ND

A meeting of the chairpersons of all Harrold Zion committees and organizations will be held Monday, January 2nd, at 6:30 PM in the Social Hall. At this meeting, calendars and guidelines for 2012 will be reviewed, along with information concerning year – end reports. If the chairperson is unable to attend, please make certain that there is representation from your committee(s) present. If there are any questions, please contact Pastor John at 724-610-1441.

THE WOMEN OF THE ELCA

We are changing our name. Even though we will not be meeting until March, effective January 1, 2012, we will be known as The Esther Circle, taken from the Old Testament book of Esther. We will still have the same format at our meetings including devotions, order of business and Bible study. We will continue to have our outreach projects. We will still be a part of the Women of the ELCA in that we financially support the church at large. Our planned meetings will be March, April and if necessary, May then August through December. Our meetings will be continue to be held on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM in the Meeting Room. As always, we invite and encourage all women of our congregation to join us.

Sonshiners' Luncheon

Wednesday, January 11th at 12:00 Noon

The Sonshiners' January Luncheon will be held at **Hoss's Restaurant**. A sign up sheet will be available in January.

Let us love one another, for love comes from God. ~ 1 John 4

Marriage Preparation Class

Saturday, January 21st at 9:00 AM

A class for all those planning to be married at Harrold Zion in 2012 will be held in the Nave. All couples who are to attend should have received a letter with detailed information. If you did not receive one, and plan to be married in 2012 at Harrold Zion, please contact Pastor John (724-837-7327).

Z.E.S.T.

Sunday, January 15th at 12:00 Noon

Our ministry for singles of the parish, will meet for a luncheon on Sunday, January 15, at 12:00 noon at Giannilli's in Carbon for a luncheon. We will also make plans for the remainder of the year. Please contact the Church Office (724-337-7327) if you plan to attend. We hope to see you there!

Camp Sunday During Sunday School!

Sunday, January 29th at 9:15 AM

While the weather outside is frightful, it is already time to begin making preparations and sharing information for summer church camp. All children Grades 1-6 will meet in the Fellowship Hall to engage in some of the activities that take place at a week of summer church camp. Pastor John will meet with all families who are interested in having their children attend church camp. All Sunday School classes for those under Grade 1, and Grade 7 and older, will be held as usual.

ANNUAL REPORT ARTICLES DUE

All year end reports (from committees and organizations) are due in the Church Office no later than Tuesday, January 10th. If possible, please email them to tammy@harroldzion.org.

OFFICE HOURS

Please note that the Office will be closed Friday, December 30, 2011 through January 2, 2012. The office will reopen Tuesday, January 3rd.

LET IT SNOW! – CANCELATIONS

During our snowy season, meetings are often canceled due to the inclement weather. For those committees, organizations, and ministries that may need to cancel a meeting, we ask that you decide by 3:00 PM if you will cancel. If you wait until after that, the parking lot may be plowed unnecessarily. If you are going to cancel your meeting, please call Bob, our snow remover. All Organizations and Committee Chairpersons have been provided with this number. If you need the phone number, please contact Tammy at 724-837-7327. Please be sure to notify your committee/organization members of the cancellation. Thank you for your cooperation!



STEWARDSHIP NEWS

We offer our thanksgiving to all of you for being wise and faithful stewards of all that are entrusted to our care. We are truly blessed by each and every one of you.

It is also our joy to thank you all for your response to our annual stewardship appeal. We are pleased to give the following results and compare them to the appeal in 2010.

2010 – As of Christmas 2010, we received 90 pledges. By the time the last of the pledges were received at the church, we had 117 pledges totaling \$135,853.00 for our 2011 Budget.

2011 – As of Christmas, 2011, we received 112 pledges, totaling \$193,557.00 for our 2012 budget. In addition, we received several pledge cards on which people did not indicate a weekly amount, but did promise to financially support the church's ministries.

Pledges are still being received in the office. If you did not return a pledge form, you may still do so.

What a wonderful response from you. What a wonderful growth in pledges for giving of our treasures – of what God has first given us. Thanks be to God.

As the committee indicated at the beginning of the stewardship appeal, we also realize the importance of sharing of the time and talents of our members as well. We will be looking at this later in the new year. But to all of you who serve in any way at Harrold Zion, thank you.

Well done faithful servants!

Harrold Zion Youth presents *"Mystery at Haldeman High"*

Mystery dinner on Saturday January 28th and Sunday January 29th



It is the 20 year class reunion for the alumni of Haldeman High. Old grudges, heart break, lost loves, and dangerous actions will lead to a mysterious incident at the reunion. Who dun it? Can you solve the mystery before the detectives? The play is unique in that before the final scene plays out, you (the audience), will have a chance to question and write down who you think committed the crime.

The meal will include salad, rolls, baked ham, rigatoni, parsley potatoes, and dessert. Due to limited seating in the social hall, with the stage area, the youth will be performing two plays. The first, on Saturday, January 28th, will begin with dinner being served at 5:00 PM and the play starting shortly thereafter. The Sunday, January 29th, performance will be at St. Luke's in Youngwood (Pastor Peter's congregation) at 5:00 PM with the same schedule as Saturday. Harrold Zion members can sign up for St. Luke's if you are not able to make Saturday's show. Tickets will go on sale starting with the first Sunday in January until Sunday, January 22nd. The cost will be \$10 per family/group to reserve your seating for the play and a free will donation will be collected at the play. Monies collected will support the youth program, ELCA Malaria Eradication Campaign, and the National Youth Gathering.



DESSERTS FOR THE YOUTH MYSTERY DINNER

As previously announced, our youth will be hosting a Mystery Dinner on January 28th & 29th. We are asking for donations of various treats for dessert. If you would like to make a yummy dessert for the Dinner, please sign up in the Communication Center. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Lisa Miller at 724-797-6004.

Youth Lock-In!!!

Friday, December 30th at 9:00 PM
Youth, grades 6 and up, are you afraid you'll get bored over Christmas break? Do you need to get out of the house? Well, have no fear because plans are underway to have a LOCK IN on Friday, December 30th into Saturday, December 31st from 9pm to 9 am. Bring some warm clothes as we may head outside for some winter fun. Also bring a wrapped White Elephant gift to share. A White Elephant gift is not something you buy, but is a funny, goofy, or even nice item that you have no use for and want to get rid of. Sign up now - bring your friends.

FUN AT HOTSHOTS

JANUARY 8TH, 1:00PM

Youth of all ages are invited to meet at Hotshots in Mount Pleasant for an afternoon of sports, fun and safe mayhem!!! Cost is \$8.00 per person. Talk with Lisa Miller if you have any questions. As with all Children and Youth events, if the cost will prevent your participation, please talk with Pastor Peter or Pastor John. Sign up now!!!

TEA PARTY FOR "THE GIRLS"

GAME DAY FOR "THE GUYS"

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH, 1PM

Sometimes there are things that guys like to do - like playing dodgeball and video games on the big screen. And sometimes there are things that the girls like to do - like dressing up and having a tea party. Well, on Saturday, February 11th from 1 to 3 pm, we'll be gathering to do both events simultaneously - girls upstairs, guys downstairs. This is for 5th graders and under. Girls, if you want to dress up in your favorite Tea Party Dress that would be great. If you want to bring your favorite doll to share in the experience that would be great too. Guys, you should probably wear warm clothes - with hats and gloves and boots - because if we have some snow we might head outside for some sledding and snowball fights. Sign up on the bulletin board so we can make plans. Invite your friends!!!



Youth Retreat at Camp Lutherlyn!

Friday, Feb. 17th - Sunday, Feb. 19th

All youth, grades 6 and up, are invited to a fun weekend at Camp Lutherlyn. Our confirmands are "required" to attend, but the retreat is open to all youth. The confirmation class from St. Luke's will be joining us again this year. Please, please, please bring along warm clothes - hats, boots, and gloves - as we will be heading outside. Costs are pending at this point. As soon as we get more info, we will let you know. We will leave HZ at 6:30 PM. Sign up - friends are welcome!



Associate Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

Many people, including me and maybe you, at the stroke of midnight on December 31st will make a resolution. We will make a firm commitment to start something or to stop something. "I will start eating foods that are good for me" or "I will stop eating things that are not so healthy." Or, we may make a firm solid commitment to do something more or to do something less.

For a number of years, I thought that making a resolution was stupid – not a good word but that's the one that came to mind. I thought that way, I believe, because whenever I made a resolution, I kept it for only a few days or at the most for a few weeks.

As we move toward that stroke of midnight this year though, I think that there are some good aspects surrounding making resolutions.

For one, resolutions do give us a chance to evaluate our lives – to step back and think about what we might need to change, what we need add, what we need to do differently. It's always good to stop and contemplate who we are, what we're doing with our lives, and how we can improved not only our lives but the lives of those around us.

Come to think about it, a resolution sounds an awful lot like repentance - like saying to our God, "You know what, God... I realize that this aspect of my life is not good or that part of my life needs to be different and I'm wanting to change. Forgive me and help me to be who you want me to be."

Making resolutions (repentance?) also provide us with those all important teachable moments for the children and youth that are a part of our lives. If they know that we are looking to live life better, if they know that we are conscious of leading healthy, faithful, life-giving lives – that can certainly rub off on them. They will see that we value life, and have respect for the life that God has given to us and those around us.

The other thing about resolutions is that they give us a chance to think about the firm, solid commitment that God has made toward us. Remember, resolutions are about following through, staying the course, and standing by the commitments that we make.

Certainly that describes that little child whose birth we just celebrated. Jesus followed through with the task that had been laid before him – that of walking the path to the cross to die for us. Jesus, I suppose, could have said, "This is stupid. Why am I doing this and why am I doing this for them!?" And yet Jesus stayed the course and stood by his commitment to love us fully even to the point of giving his own life. Wow!

I'm probably going to make a resolution this New Years Eve. I'm not exactly sure what it will be. Hopefully it will be life-giving to me but more so to those around me. But, even if I don't make a specific resolution as that stroke of midnight nears – the very least I can do is to give thanks to our God for following through each and everyday with his love for us.

Happy New Year and Peace out,

Pastor Peter

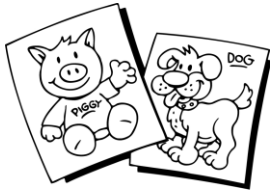
Thank you to all who supported our fundraising efforts for the 2012 National Youth Gathering. We look forward to your continued support. Please stay tuned for more details about future fundraisers.

Things in the works for our YOUTH...

March 24
A Lock In with *Captive Free* for 6th grade and up!!!

March 25
Captive Free will perform during Sunday School!!!!





PRESCHOOL News

All About Kids Preschool would like to thank Harrold Zion for all of their support during 2011 and in previous years. Thanks to all members who made cookies, volunteered to help and served on the board. Many other things got done and we thank those people as well. We couldn't have done it without everyone's generosity. Thanks to the Church staff for all their support and patience.

We will be starting our Fall pre-school registration soon and details will follow in the February newsletter.

All About Kids now has a Facebook page, so if you are a Facebook member, check us out by typing in *All About Kids Preschool*. Friend us! Like Us! Comment! Check for updates! Post Pics! We only ask that if you want to post pictures just put your own child up, and no other children's pictures. The Preschool will only post pictures of the staff and different crafts that we make or activities that we do.

Thanks so much,

The staff of All About Kids Ms. Lisa, Ms. Kelly, Ms. Sharon and Ms. Diane

Among our members

WEDDINGS

Julie Carnahan & Sean Rukse,
married November 26th

BIRTHS

Evangelina Eismont, daughter of
Amy & Joe, born Nov. 28th.

Elita Moose, daughter of
Barrett & Chelsea, born Nov. 24th.

MEMORIALS

A gift of money was given **in loving memory of William Kebe** by Karen & Denny Henry and Wayne & Doris Kebe.

THANK YOU

I would like to thank all for the thoughts and prayers for my recovery and also the ladies who made the afghan for me.
~Jerry Huntsberger

We had another successful campaign for Hannah's Socks! As a congregation, we collected 495 pairs of socks. Thank you so much for supporting this mission. God bless you all!
~Donna Dorsey

We received a letter from "Hannah's Socks": "Dear Rev. Smaligo, We want to thank you. Your congregation gave generously to Hannah's Socks. As Hannah's parents, we are grateful for that. More people than ever are asking us for help, and we are happy to oblige. Your congregation's support helps make that possible. On behalf of Hannah and the board of directors, we wish all of you a blessed Christmas.
~Doris & Vic Turner

The Women of the ELCA extend a huge thank you to all who purchased Christmas gifts for the Mental Health Association. As always, it was a tremendous success and was greatly appreciated by the staff MHAWC. We were asked to share a message from a person who had been a resident at Torrance State Hospital: He told the staff that many people would not have received a gift if it were not for Operation Reindeer. Thank you again for your participation and we are looking forward to another great year in 2012.

IN OUR COMMUNITY

PANCAKE/BUCKWHEAT & SAUSAGE BREAKFAST

JANUARY 21, 2012, 7 AM TO 12 NOON

Hosted by Boy Scout Troop 457 of New Stanton

At the New Stanton Fire Hall

Adults \$6.00, Children ages 6-12 \$3.00, and

Children under age 5 FREE

ALL YOU CAN EAT



**Happy
New Year
from Our
Staff!**

2012 COUNCIL MEMBERS

President – Glen Nickodemus
Vice President – Kevin Torrance
Secretary – Melissa Houston
Financial Secretary – Tammy Hilland
Treasurer – Andy Koehl
David Aumiller
Linda Boyer
Jack Cope
Louise Henry
Paul Kanouff
John Millward
Chad Rosensteel
Rob Welts
Brad Zundel

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES FOR 2012 COMMITTEES

Cemetery Committee:

Jack Cope

Children & Youth Committee:

Brad Zundel

Christian Education Committee:

Melissa Houston, Brad Zundel

Evangelism Committee:

Linda Boyer, John Millward

Fellowship Committee:

Linda Boyer, Melissa Houston

Finance Committee:

Jack Cope, Chad Rosensteel

Investment Committee:

Glen Nickodemus

Preschool Board:

Paul Kanouff

Property Committee:

Jack Cope, John Millward,
Kevin Torrance, Rob Welts

Social Ministry:

Linda Boyer

Stewardship Committee:

Chad Rosensteel

Worship & Music Committee:

Louise Henry

Vision & Mission Committee:

Paul Kanouff, Brad Zundel

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Website: harroldzion.org

**HAROLD ZION EVANGICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
MINUTES FOR COUNCIL MEETING, DECEMBER 12, 2011**

CALL TO ORDER: Council members present include Linda Boyer, Jack Cope, Melissa Houston, Wendy Miller, Glen Nickodemus, Kevin Torrance, Jim Norris, Rob Welts, Chad Rosensteel, Joan Gordon, and 2012 Council members: Louise Henry, Paul Kanouff, John Millward, and Brad Zundel. Others present were Pastor John, Pastor Peter, Andy Koehl, and Tammy Hilland. Denny Henry was absent and Dave Aumiller was excused. The meeting was called to order by Glen Nickodemus at 6:40 pm with a prayer by Pastor John.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: A motion made to accept the minutes as amended by Jack Cope was seconded by Linda Boyer. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MOST RECENT TREASURER'S REPORT: A motion made by Jack Cope to accept the report was seconded by Kevin Torrance. Motion carried.

PASTOR JOHN'S REPORT: In addition to meetings, worship planning and participation, and visitations, Pastor John officiated at 3 Baptisms, 1 wedding, and 3 funerals (either officiated or participated in them) since the last council meeting. Pastor John attended the brunch for a new singles ministry at the church. The beginning of this ministry was very well received. The group is developing wonderful plans for the new year. Pastor John met with some of those who are interested in having a Men's Group Prayer Breakfast begin at Harrold Zion. Plans are underway to have it begin in the new year. Plans are finalizing for the Christmas season. Letters were sent out to our homebound, inviting them to the December 19 service. Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services are planned and the information was submitted to the secretary. Fliers were sent home with all the pre-schoolers, inviting their families to worship with us Christmas Eve. We have adequate battery operated candles for the children's 4:30 Christmas Eve service this year. It is proposed that we use light sticks in future years, as they are lower cost and maintenance free compared to the battery operated candles.

Council will be installed at both services on Sunday, December 18. Pastor John offered appreciation to Joanne Gebhardt and Mary Lou Millward for their willingness to host a fellowship event following the Christmas program on December 18. Pastor John presented a plan for Pastor Peter's office. In cooperation with Tammy, it has been suggested that the second desk in the Secretary's office be taken out and the copier be put in its place. The council and committee mailboxes can be moved over to the proposed new library location at the rear of the nursery. That would make the space of the current copy room available for Pastor Peter's office.

PASTOR PETER'S REPORT: Our Malaria Dodgeball and Claiming the Youth Room events on Wednesday, November 23 went very well. In playing the Malaria Dodgeball the youth learned of the significant impact that Malaria has on third world countries. We began discussion on how we, as a congregation, may be of help in the fight against malaria. We also spent some time that night "claiming" the youth room. We did a fair amount of decluttering and decorating. Also, we put together an air hockey table that was donated. We do thank the Rosensteel family for donating a football table too. It's getting much use. I have been checking with the other groups that use the youth room to make sure that any changes we make to the room will still provide for its use by others. We also had a great time at our Christmas Carnival on Saturday, December 3rd. We had approximately 35 youth who enjoyed our VBS style afternoon. I want to thank the many, many youth and adults that helped to make is a successful day. A portion of the donations given will go to help buy mosquito netting for those in malaria prone areas of the world. Thanks for your support. Upcoming ministry: December 30 and 31: youth lock in, January 8: Hotshots from 1 to 4pm, January 28 and 29: Mystery Dinner, February 11: Game Day (boys) and Tea Party (girls) 1 to 3pm, February 17 to 19: Winter Retreat at Lutherlyn, July 18 to 22: ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans!!! Other Things: as the year comes to an end I want to say how much I appreciate the staff at Harrold Zion. There is a clear focus among all the staff as to what good ministry in Christ's name is all about. To God be the glory, for the good things He has done. I am excited for my installation service with holy communion at 4pm on Sunday, January 22. I am especially excited that Pastor Michelle Nickodemus - friend and colleague- will be preaching! Pastor Nickodemus is the daughter of Glen and Marilyn Nickodemus, HZ members.

COMMUNICATIONS: Harrold Zion received a thank you from the Westmoreland County Food Bank for our donation of food and non-food items given during our November Harvest Home Food Drive.

AUDIT REPORT: no report.

CALL COMMITTEE: no report.

CEMETERY COMMITTEE: The cemetery trustees recommend the following price changes beginning January 1, 2012. The price of one space for members will be \$500 plus \$100 for perpetual care equaling \$600 (a \$50 increase). The price of one space for non-members will be \$650 plus \$100 for perpetual care equaling \$750 (a \$100 increase). The perpetual care fee that used to be voluntary will now be mandatory. The cost of opening a grave for a burial will be \$800, and the cost of opening a grave for a cremation burial will be \$500. The cost of a duplicate deed will be \$50. A motion made by Chad Rosensteel to accept to these price changes was seconded by Melissa Houston. Motion carried. The committee reported that they plan to deposit ten percent of the proceeds from the sale of cemetery spaces and regular equipment amortization payments, into a dedicated equipment replacement fund. This will help assure that funds are available to purchase new equipment when older equipment has reached its useful lifetime. A long term goal is to increase the cemetery operating cash on hand (not including the cemetery investment fund) to be built up to \$50,000 to carry operations through years with low income and high costs due to mowing etc. The Cemetery Committee requested that council determine if Thrivent Choice Dollars could be directed to the Cemetery Trust Fund. Glen Nickodemus volunteered to find out if this is possible. The cemetery committee requested that the congregation be made aware that they can make contributions to the cemetery trust fund as they desire. A motion was made by Chad Rosensteel and seconded by Melissa Houston to place notification of this possibility in the newsletter twice a year and allow members to use pew envelopes for this purpose. Motion carried. These envelopes may be placed in the collection on any Sunday.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH COMMITTEE: See Pastor Peter's report.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE: The children and youth have been working with their teachers, and under the leadership of Jayne Steiner. The program, which will be held on December 18 during the 10:30 service is a wonderful program based on the birth of Christ.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE: The three emergency exit doors in the nave have been installed. There are still some minor adjustments to be made.

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE: Pictures of new congregation members (since the last pictorial directory) will be taken and provided to members to allow them to update their directory. The December meeting of the Sonshiners will coincide with the Shut-in Service on Monday, December 19. The Sonshiners will provide a lunch following the 11am service for members and shut-ins and their families who attend the service. The January meeting will take place at Hoss's Restaurant on Wednesday, January 11, 2012. Plans are being made for the June bus trip to the Sight and Sound Theater in Lancaster to see the production of Jonah.

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE: no report.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: no report.

INVESTMENT COMMITTEE: The committee met on November 6th. After reviewing cemetery income and expense data for 2006 through 2009, the committee recommended to invest the Cemetery Investment Funds in a balanced fund to provide annual income for cemetery operations and growth of the account. After a review of balanced fund performance in general, and a more in depth review of two Fidelity and three Vanguard balanced funds, the Vanguard Wellesley income Fund was selected. The forms are being completed to make this investment.

MISSION AND VISION COMMITTEE: no report.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: no report.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: The Personnel committee recommended a 1% service bonus for Church Staff based on 2011 salary compensation. This bonus is to be paid by year- end 2011. The bonus is for church staff currently employed. This is a one-time bonus that will not be included in the 2012 merit increase calculation. Melissa Houston made the motion that we present to the current church staff a one-time 1% bonus for the 2011 year and Chad Rosensteel seconded. Motion passed but was not unanimous. Motion was by Jack Cope to donate \$1,000 to World Hunger in Pastor Free's name and was seconded by Linda Boyer. It will be presented on December 18 at both services.

PRESCHOOL COMMITTEE: The plans for the preschool Christmas program are well under way. The three year old class will offer a brief presentation for their families on the morning of December 22. The pre-kindergarten classes will present their program the evening of December 19. This program includes a retelling of the birth of Christ through scripture and song. The children will also sing for the special Christmas service at 11am on December 19. The children's pictures were taken by Harrold Zion member Amy Booley. The response to the pictures has been very favorable. The pre-school will be extending the pre-K class by 1 1/2 hours per week. This will help the children prepare even more for kindergarten. They are also revamping some of their class space to include learning and activity centers for the children. The time for chapel will be extended so that the arts (music and drama) can be included.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE: Thank you to everyone who gave to the Harvest Home Food Drive in November. Because of your generosity, Harrold Zion gave the Westmoreland County Food Bank \$320 in cash, and 661 pounds of food to help feed the hungry and needy in our area. The result of the December 1 Blood Drive was a collection of 18 units. Thank you to all who gave, and for the volunteers from Church who helped with the drive.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE: The response of the congregation to the fall Stewardship Appeal has been very successful and a good sign of blessings and growth. The following comparison with last year is noted: The appeal in 2010 for the year 2011 resulted in a total (up until spring of 2011) of 117 responses for a total of \$135,853. In contrast, as of the end of November 2011, the current appeal for 2012 has produced 112 responses for a total of \$191,557. Thank-you for your generous response to this appeal. We are truly blessed.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE: Several families have inquired about the possibility of a Saturday night service. The Worship Committee unanimously approved that a Saturday night service be established for a 6 month trial period. It was suggested that the service be held at 5:00 or 5:30pm. There have been people who have offered to volunteer with the leadership of this service. This service will not be identical to the Sunday morning services. Jim Norris on behalf of Word and Music motioned to approve the Worship Committee's recommendation. Second by Kevin Torrance. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS: no report.

NEW BUSINESS: Nomination was made to re-elect Glen Nickodemus as President by Paul Kanouff and seconded by Linda Boyer. Nomination was made by Melissa Houston to nominate Kevin Torrance as Vice President and seconded by Rob Welts. Melissa Houston was nominated as Secretary by Linda Boyer and seconded by Louise Henry. A motion by Rob Welts to close nominations was seconded by Chad Rosensteel. Motion carried. Andy Koehl will continue to act as Treasurer and Tammy Hilland will continue to act as Secretary. Part B of the Congregational meeting will be February 12, 2012 at both services. All committees and outside organizations will meet January 2, 2012 at 6:30pm.

Council meetings in 2012 will be held on the third Monday of each month at 6:30. This is a change from the second last Monday of the month in as scheduled in 2011.

Glen Nickodemus is to call congregation members that worked on the 2010 Audit committee to determine if they are willing to work on this committee for 2011. The audit is scheduled to take place at 6:30 on February 2nd, 2012.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn was made by Wendy Miller and seconded by Kevin Torrance. Motion carried. Council adjourned at 8:55 pm with a prayer by Pastor John. The next meeting will be on January 16, 2012 at 6:30 pm

Please notice that the minutes for the November 21, 2011 Council Meeting are attached separately with this newsletter since they were not available for the December newsletter.

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS – January 2012

Ushers for January: 8:00 AM – Kevin Torrance, Barbara Appleby, Larry Orczeck, Charlie Orczeck
10:30 AM – Brad Zundel, Bitsy Tarris, Ken Gialanella, Kirk Heasley

Altar Guild for January: Dorothy Henry

Sunday, January 1 – One Service at 9:30 AM

Acolytes – 9:30 AM – Alex Lydic, Sarah Kebe, Brittany Canobbio, Rachel Eckles

Lectors - 9:30 AM – Louise Henry

Communion Asst. - 9:30 AM – Marge Nelson, Christian Comm

Greeters - 9:30 AM – Bonnie & Dick Schnupp

Altar Flowers – #1 & #2 available (\$15 sponsorship)

Bulletins – available (\$10 sponsorship)

Eternal Candle – Weller

Sunday, January 8

Acolytes - 8:00 AM – Jacob Iezzi, Connor Lydic; 10:30 AM – Jenna Shawley, Emily Hake

Lectors - 8:00 AM – Linda Boyer; 10:30 AM – Karen Booley

Greeters - 8:00 AM – Larry Orczeck

10:30 AM – Cliff & Sandy Heasley

Altar Flowers - #1 & #2 available (\$15 sponsorship)

Bulletins – available (\$10 sponsorship)

Eternal Candle – available (\$5 sponsorship)

Sunday, January 15

Acolytes - 8:00 AM – Haley Soltis, Cami Cook; 10:30 AM – Ben Norris, Nevin Weller

Lectors - 8:00 AM Marjorie Nelson; 10:30 AM – Paul Kanouff

Greeters - 8:00 AM – Deana & Tim Vastell, Jacob, Kimberly

10:30 AM – Bob Baughman, Joanne Lightner

Altar Flowers - #1 & #2 available (\$15 sponsorship)

Bulletins – available (\$10 sponsorship)

Eternal Candle - available (\$5 sponsorship)

Sunday, January 22

Acolytes - 8:00 AM – Molly Anderson, Kasey Williams; 10:30 AM – Olivia Aumiller, Amber Miller

Lectors - 8:00 AM – Kevin Reilly; 10:30 AM – John Millward

Greeters - 8:00 AM – Karen & Denny Henry

10:30 AM – Rita & Curt Heasley

Altar Flowers - #1 Knopsnyder & #2 Free

Bulletins – available (\$10 sponsorship)

Eternal Candle – available (\$5 sponsorship)

Sunday, January 29

Acolytes - 8:00 AM – Elaine Anderson, Caitlyn Comm; 10:30 AM – Fiona Rose, Kelly O'Neill

Lectors - 8:00 AM – Mary Smaligo; 10:30 AM – Mary Lou Millward

Greeters - 8:00 AM – Janice & Bob Bender

10:30 AM – Kathleen & Ron Herrod

Altar Flowers - #1 Elder & #2 reserved

Bulletins – available (\$10 sponsorship)

Eternal Candle – available (\$5 sponsorship)

January 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Holy Communion 9:30 AM-One Worship Service 9:30 AM-Holy Baptism	2 Office closed 6:00 PM-Youth Committee 6:30 PM-Committee & Organization Mtg	3 6:30 PM-Investment Committee	4 10:00 AM-Preschool Chapel 1:00 PM-Preschool Chapel 6:15 PM-Bell Choir 7:00 PM-Adult Choir	5 10:00 AM-Dean Ornish 10:00 AM-Preschool Chapel 7:00 PM-Boy Scouts	6 10:00 AM-Ladies Bible Study	7 5:00 PM-Sat. eve worship
8 1:00 PM-Hotshots	9 5:30 PM-Thyme for Herbs 6:30 PM-Worship & Music	10 9:00 AM-Annual Report Info. Due 10:00 AM-Knitting Ministry 7:00 PM- Compassionate Friends	11 10:00 AM-Preschool Chapel 12:00 PM-Sonshiners at Hoss's 1:00 PM-Preschool Chapel 6:00 PM-Girl Scouts 6:15 PM-Bell Choir 7:00 PM-Adult Choir	12 10:00 AM-Dean Ornish 10:00 AM-Preschool Chapel 6:00 PM-Boy Scout Leader Mtg 6:30 PM-Finance Committee 7:00 PM-Boy Scouts	13 10:00 AM-Ladies Bible Study	14 9:00 AM-God & Country Class 10:00 AM-Social Hall Reserved 5:00 PM-Sat. eve worship
15 10:30 AM-Baptism 12:00 PM-ZEST Luncheon	16 9:00 AM-No Preschool 6:30 PM-Council Meeting	17 No Preschool	18 Preschool Hop-a-thon 06:15 PM-Bell Choir 07:00 PM-Adult Choir	19 10:00 AM-Dean Ornish 10:00 AM-Preschool Chapel 7:00 PM-Boy Scouts	20 10:00 AM-Ladies Bible Study	21 9:00 AM-Marriage Class 5:00 PM-Sat. eve worship
22 4:00 PM-Pastor Peter Installation	23	24 10:00 AM-Knitting Ministry	25 10:00 AM-Preschool Chapel 1:00 PM-Preschool Chapel 6:00 PM-Girl Scouts 6:15 PM-Bell Choir 7:00 PM-Adult Choir	26 10:00 AM-Dean Ornish 10:00 AM-Preschool Chapel 7:00 PM-Boy Scouts	27 10:00 AM-Ladies Bible Study	28 12:00 PM-Mystery Dinner 5:00 PM-Sat. eve worship
29 Mystery Din. at St. Luke' 9:15 AM-Camp Sunday 10:30 AM-Baptism	30	31				

Be sure to check these things out...

- **Saturday Evening Worship Services**
- **New Worship Booklets**
- **Youth Mystery Dinner**

And much, much more...don't miss the exciting stuff going on at Harrold Zion in the New Year!!!



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