Thrivent Choice

SEVERAL YEARS AGO, Thrivent changed the way they allocate proceeds to member organizations. Several faithful members tried to donate money to Zion through Thrivent, but were told it wasn't possible.

Thanks to a faithful Zion friend that lives in another state, and our new Thrivent representative Jeff Long, we have worked out all the procedural bugs, and Zion is now part of the Thrivent Choice program. Zion now appears on the list of eligible churches. You can select Zion from the list and make your gift electronically at www.thrivent.com/choice.

Please support Zion with your Thrivent Choice dollars. If you have a Thrivent account, you have Choice dollars. If you don't allocate them to Zion, Thrivent applies your Choice dollars to other organizations as they deem appropriate. You must call Thrivent at least once a year (before March 31) to have your allocation properly made. I hope that all Zion members and friends will take a moment to do so.

Thrivent has been very supportive of late to our St. Michael Liturgical Conference. I appreciate the work that Jeff Long has done on our behalf. If you have questions about your Thrivent accounts, or about the Choice program, contact Jeff Long at 734.455.9272, or the Thrivent Choice program at 800.847.4836. **

Verdi Requiem Community Chorus of Detroit

UHE COMMUNITY CHORUS of Detroit presents the Requiem by Giuseppe Verdi, Sunday,



May 18 at 4:30pm at the Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament. The concert will feature a 175-voice choir and full orchestra, metropolitan opera-affiliated soloists, and is conducted by Dr. Edward

Maki-Schramm. Father Schultz is a member of the Chorus. Tickets are \$35 in advance at www.communitychorusofdetroit.org, or \$40 at the door. ♥

Zion Bible Camp

THE ANNUAL ZION Bible Camp is scheduled for June 23-27 this year. Volunteers are needed to help with teaching, crafts, snacks, and recreation. Please contact Mr. Alan Kroske if you can help. Again this year we are using the excellent curriculum from Pax Domini press, and our good friend Fr. Peter Burfeind of Toledo. Watch the bulletin for more information to volunteer and to register your children, grandchildren, friends, and neighbors.

Zion Church Picnic

can help. 🕸

OGETHER WITH THE conclusion of the Zion Bible Camp, the annual Zion Church Picnic will be held in the Rectory yard on Sunday, June 29, following Holy Mass. Volunteers are needed for providing food, setting up, and cleaning up. Please contact Mr. Alan Kroske or Mrs. Pam Ruffin if you

2014 St. Michael Liturgical Conference

UHIS YEAR'S CONFERENCE is Monday, September 29. The Rev. Dr. Richard Stuckwisch, pastor of Emmaus Lutheran Church of South Bend, Indiana, has agreed to be our keynote presenter.

Fr. Stuckwisch holds three Masters Degrees in Theology, and a PhD in Liturgics and Church History. He is an engaging presenter, a personal colleague, and an editor of *Gottesdienst Online*. He will be presenting on Confirmation and First Communion. Look for more information on the conference in the next issue of the **Trimpet**.



Our St. Michael Committee will be convening in June. If you would like to volunteer to serve on the Conference committee, contact Fr. Braden.

"Blow the Trumpet in Zion" (Joel 2.15)



Zion Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Detroit

May/June 2014

Christ Indeed from Death Has Risen

by Father Braden

CHRIST IS RISEN! This is our glorious Easter cry, the shout of faith that confesses that our Lord has conquered death and the grave, and taken up His life again. The resurrection of Christ is the foundation of the Christian faith. Try as they did, the sealed tomb and armed guard could not keep Him in. And the lies of the Roman guards, bought by the bribes of the chief priests and elders of the Jews, could not eclipse the Truth – the tomb is empty! He is not there. Don't seek Him among the dead. He lives!

The Scriptures record many miraculous acts of Jesus after His resurrection and before His Ascension. It is St. Luke that reports Jesus "also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by *the disciples* during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God." Taking the Gospel accounts together, after Jesus had risen from the dead, Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women felt an earthquake, and then watched as an angel rolled back the rock that sealed the tomb to show them that it was already empty.

Then our Lord Jesus was seen by the women, who He sent to tell the Eleven that He is risen. But the Eleven didn't believe the wom-

Continued on page 2



Christ, our Passover, is sacrificed for us. Let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

1 CORINTHIANS 5: 7-8

from the Alleluia for Easter

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en. At the women's report, Peter and John raced to the tomb to find it empty. Then the risen Christ appeared to two of His disciples on the road to Emmaus.

Jesus miraculously entered the locked room where the disciples hid. There He bid them peace, and showed them His hands, His feet and His side. He breathed on them, and for the third time gave to them the Office of the Keys. He ate a piece of broiled fish in their sight. A week later He appeared to them again, and satisfied Thomas' incredulity.

He appeared to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias early one morning, and at His bidding they were given a miraculous catch of fish. (St. John records that this was the third time that Jesus appeared to His disciples after He was raised from the dead.) After they had eaten, Jesus graciously restored Simon Peter with His three-fold command to "Feed my lambs... Tend My sheep... Feed My sheep." Then He appeared to the Eleven on the mountain in Galilee, and instructed them to baptize and teach.

St. Matthew records that during the same forty days after His resurrection, the "many holy people" whose tombs had broken open at the death of Jesus and who were raised to life, went into Jerusalem and appeared to many. St. Mark's expeditious treatment of the events of the life of Christ summarizes what happened next: "So then, after the Lord had spoken to *the Eleven*, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God."

St. Luke's account in the first chapter of the Book of the Acts of the Apostles provides a bit more detail. For forty days after His resurrection, Jesus showed Himself to the Eleven. He taught them. He directed them to return from Galilee to Jerusalem, and there to await "the Promise of the Father, which you have heard from Me." The Eleven asked Jesus if He was about to restore the kingdom to Israel, an indication that they still didn't understand that His Kingdom is not of this world. After He promised them again that the Holy Spirit would come upon them, He ascended into heaven.

While the Scriptures accurately record the historic accounts of the acts of our Lord after His Resurrection, it is more than simply a history lesson. The Resurrection of Jesus proves His Divinity. It proves that His Word is truth. It proves that He keeps His promises. He is worthy of your trust. He died for your transgressions, He was raised for your justification. After He rose from the dead, He provided many compelling proofs, working miracles and teaching, and then He returned to His rightful throne at the center of heaven.

In His Ascension, He opened heaven to you. Believing in Him, baptized, hearing His Word, receiving His Holy Absolution, eating and drinking His Body and Blood, you too will rise from the dead. This is the Christian hope. This is our consolation as we endure the tribulations of this world, even as we face death. Jesus Christ defeated death. For you, dear Christian, He has won eternal life.

Forty days after the Feast of the Resurrection, the Church celebrates the Ascension of Our Lord. This year at Zion a special Mass will be celebrated on Thursday, May 29 at 7pm in the Church. Ten days later, on the fiftieth day, we will celebrate Holy Pentecost, the fulfillment of the promise Jesus made to the Eleven that they would receive the gift of the Spirit. Pentecost is Sunday, June 8. It has been the tradition of Zion for many years to confirm in the faith those young men and women who have been preparing for Confirmation. This year three of our youth catechumens will be confirmed on Pentecost, and three will continue in their studies and be confirmed this fall.

Join us, won't you, as we celebrate the five weeks of Eastertide, and on the fortieth day after the Resurrection of our Lord the Feast of the Ascension, and ten days later Whitsunday, the Feast of Holy Pentecost.

"Christ indeed from death has risen, our new life obtaining. Have mercy Victor King, ever reigning!" (From the English translation of the great Easter Sequence "Victimae Paschali," sung during the Octave of Easter before the reading of the Gospel.)

Favorite Hymns

by Father Schultz

3N FIFTEEN YEARS serving as an organist in Lutheran parishes, the most frequently asked question that comes to me has been: "What's your favorite hymn?"

This is a difficult question. Not because there are so many hymns to choose from.

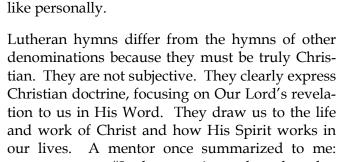
In my early years, I would come up with the titles of a half-dozen hymns that I thought were my favorite.

Over the years, however, I have come to realize that "favorite hymns" is not really a good way to phrase the conversation. I found that, as I consid-

ered my favorite hymns, the list began to change over time.

The problem with "favorite hymns" is that this designation is purely subjective. As I studied hymnology, I realized that some of my favorite hymns were not really that good. Some of them were simply familiar, or perhaps there was merely something about the tune that I liked, but the text was not strong.

Hymns are a means of confessing and teaching the faith, of praising Our Lord, hearing His Word, and responding to hymn with the words He has given us to speak.



There are good hymns and there are bad hymns;

"What's your favorite hymn?" I've learned to

steer the conversation in a different direction, to

reply with a few examples of strong hymns. My

"favorite hymns" had to change in order to be

hymns that are good hymns, not just hymns that I

strong hymns and weak hymns.

"Lutherans sing what they believe. Other denominations sing what they feel." Every Lutheran hymnal currently in use has weak hymns in it. Christians must examine the doctrine of the hymns they sing.

As we sing together as a parish, and as you sing at home, consider the rich treasure of hymnody that we possess as "the singing church," music that expresses the doctrine of Our Lord, His Son, and His work to save us. We love to sing because we have great hymns that teach, edify, and confess the catholic faith. **



Martin Luther (1483-1546) wrote hymns to teach and confess the faith, such as his hymn on Psalm 46, "A Mighty Fortress."

Zion's Vicar

by Father Braden

SPOKE WITH our Bishop, the Rev. David Stechholz, on the phone in mid-April, and I was delighted to learn that our request for a Vicar for the 2014-15 academic year was granted. The placement service was held April 29 at Kramer Chapel at the seminary in Fort Wayne. We recently received the donation of a very nice bedroom set that will be moved into one of the Rectory bedrooms for use by our incoming Vicar. Look for more information on Zion's Vicar in the next Trumpet.

American Guild of Organists Convention by Father Schultz

UHIS SUMMER, THE American Guild of Organists convention is being held in Boston, June 22-28. I have family members in Boston and will stay



with them during my visit.
This will be my first time to
attend a national AGO convention. The convention
features a number of concerts, worship services, re-

citals, and workshops. I attended a regional convention in Ft. Wayne in 2001, and am looking forward to attending a national convention. ♣

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Birthday Anniversaries

May

- 2 David Kasner
- 2 Gary Schultz
- 8 Anthony Spicer
- 8 Norvass Wisdom
- 12 Andrew Stechholz
- 13 Christina Atkins
- 13 Roderick Atkins
- 17 Earlene Maynarich
- 18 Toijana Steele
- 19 Jason Balaska
- 19 Jean Hein
- 19 Herman (Carl) Luckwald
- 23 David Faerber
- 27 Towana Hooks-Brownlee
- 28 Susan Spicer
- 29 Roger Beaupied

lune

- 3 Carlton Alford
- 4 Jacquenta Williams
- 6 Iavla Williams
- 7 Bobby Kelly III
- 9 Eugene Brown
- 9 Bobby Kelly IV
- 11 Renee Adkins
- 14 James Gramzow
- 14 Ellen Hayden

30 Darwin Terry

- 20 Margaret Alford 23 Pauline Rivard
- 18 Carlton Alford 27 Monica Faerber 18 Margaret Alford
- 29 Shirley Cross
- 18 LaToia Davis-Gray 24 David Faerber 29 Taneisha Cross
 - 27 Brenda Chadwell

May

14 Betty Gill

18 John Sibert

18 Paul Sibert

19 Phillip White

21 Eric Russell

22 Laura Fox

22 Natalie Balaska

22 Daretta Williams

22 Dennis Williams

24 Kevon Williams

29 Anthony Atkins

29 Roderick Atkins

1 Ruthalee Brown

1 Bernadine Cross

3 Jeanetta Bryant

3 Mitchell Clifton

12 Stacy Gray

15 Anna Dalton

17 Andrew Stechholz

24 Ralph Trevino

25 Darin Gray

June

17 Dale Murdock

19 Gregory Durham

21 William Gramzow

- 27 Lisa Hendrickson
- 29 Alex Kiraly
- 30 Rhetta Dillon

Marriage Anniversaries

lune

6 Jason & Jennifer Balaska 7 Robert & Leticia Kelly 11 Silas & Chandra Gray 19 Roger & Jeanne Beaupied

Make Disciples of All Nations

by Father Braden

BEFORE HIS ASCENSION, our Lord commanded the Eleven to make disciples of all nations. Zion has been blessed in recent years to be actively involved in the work of the Church in other countries. As I wrote earlier, my

Baptism Anniversaries January trip to Colombia has, by God's grace, born fruit. Pr. Mario Marín, a confessional Lutheran Pastor in the city of Medillín, has used the support from our 4 Carol Matschikowski trip to establish a mission congregation in one of the 11 Michael Quinkert

poorer areas of the city. I ran a slide show at Bible Class in April to share with our Zion family the outreach work Pr. Marín is doing in taking the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the unchurched of Medillín. I am scheduled to visit Pr. Marín again in May. I expect

my trip will be only a few days during the week.

Through LCMS Board of International Mission, there is some additional support available for the Colombia mission, and I hope to get the funds transferred while I'm in Colombia. Pr. Marín is substantially alone in his work, and finds great comfort in our support and prayers. I speak with him on the phone and exchange emails with him several times a month.

Because of socialism, the economic and political situation in Venezuela has deteriorated so badly that, in discussion with the church there, I have decided to postpone my trip. In addition to the dangers of any international travel, the riots and kidnappings in Venezuela are on the rise as the people lack the daily necessities that we take for granted. Unemployment is incredibly high in Venezuela, and the devaluation of the currency due to socialism is so severe that airline tickets have become very expensive, and in some cases flights are simply cancelled. Several airlines have stopped servicing Venezuela. I have been traveling there for the last eight years in support of the church's work to educate Pastors. I have taken groups of members, and our Vicar, to assist in the work of the church in Venezuela. I am very disappointed to have to cancel my trip this summer. We are currently planning to try to make the Venezuela trip in January.

The Bolivian Lutheran Church was founded by Swedish pietist missionaries. Our synod does not have pulpit and altar fellowship with the church there. Through the seminary in Buenos Aires, Argentina, I received a request to teach a course in Bolivia to bring Confessional Lutheran theology to their Pastors, and to make an initial connection with the church there. I'll be in Bolivia the week of July 21. This is an exciting trip, and may lead over time to enhanced communication, and perhaps one day even fellowship, with the Lutherans there. I will travel to Bolivia in my capacity as a Fellow for the Luther Academy. \(\mathbf{9}\)

The Zion Trumpet is the informational and educational news letter of Zion Evangelical-Lutheran Church. It communicates the news of Zion and instructs members in various as pects of the Christian Faith.

The Trumpet is published six times each year. It is free for members of Zion. Non members are invited to contrib ute toward the production and mailing of the Trumpet.

Zion Evangelical-Lutheran Church is a parish of the one, holy catholic and apostolic Church and is affiliated with the English district of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod.

Zion Evangelical-**Lutheran Church**

www.ZionDetroit.org 4305 Military Avenue Detroit, MI 48210-2451

PARISH OFFICE Telephone 313.894.7450 Facsimile 313.894.7871 Church@ZionDetroit.org

THE REV. FR. MARK P. BRADEN, Pastor FrBraden@ZionDetroit.org Mobile 313.404.1883 Home 313.429.9252

THE REV. FR. GARY W. SCHULTZ, Kantor Kantor@ZionDetroit.org

From Zion's History

by Father Braden

HHEN I HAVE a few spare minutes, I enjoy studying Zion's history. In response to my earlier requests, several of our member families have brought old Ordos, Bulletins, Newsletters, membership directories, and artifacts in to the church office so that we can re-establish our historical archives. Our Concordia Historical Institute in St. Louis graciously de-accessioned four boxes of old Zion Bulletins and Ordos, so we can accurately establish our weekly history all the way back to the mid-1940's. It is helpful to me to study our history, especially the old Ordos. From our historical records I'd like to share some information that I find especially interesting:

- ▼ The Chalice that we use on Sundays was dedicated on Sunday, November 27, 1949. It was hand-crafted by the Osborne Company of London, England. The base is adorned with six crystals, and 16 amethysts stud the stem and knop. The Chalice was the gift of the children of Fred Werner, who was called home to be with our Lord on June 23, 1943 A.♣D.
- ♥ On Sunday, December 4, 1949, a special notice ran in the Bulletin asking Zion families to assist in the support and housing of the many displaced and suffering German Lutheran immigrants that were seeking better lives in America. This notice was repeated for many weeks.
- ₱ The hand-carved wooden Paschal Candle stand, still in use today, was donated anonymously in thanksgiving to God, in honor of the mothers of our parish, on April 22, 1951.
- ▼ In the early 1950's, Fr. Runge commonly preached the sermon before the Mass began. The Invocation and Confiteor followed the sermon. On both Christmass and Easter in 1953, an extended Litany was prayed before the Introit. After the early 1960's, the sermon was preached after the reading of the Gospel, in the same place in the Mass that the sermon is preached today. Fr. Runge's practice of preaching the sermon before the Mass was based on a suggestion that Luther made in his explanation of his 1526 German Mass.

If you come across any old Ordos, Bulletins, directories, pictures or artifacts from Zion's history, please share them with us. If you do not want to donate the item to our archives, we'd be glad to carefully copy it and return it. I am especially interested in a picture of Fr. Evans that we can reproduce and frame in the Rectory dining room, along with the pictures of the other Pastors of Zion. I am also very interested in Ordos and Bulletins that date before 1946. **

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Christian Education

UHERE ARE MANY opportunities to study God's Word at Zion. The study of the Holy Scriptures is essential to the life of every Christian. If none of these days or times work with your schedule, please suggest an alternative time to Fr. Braden or Fr. Schultz

SUNDAY ADULT STUDY 11:30AM | UNDERCROFT | Our current study is "A Survey of the New Testament." This class enables parents to study the Holy Scriptures while their children attend Sunday School. Coffee and snacks are provided. Thanks to those who provide snacks. Anyone is welcome to bring donuts, bagels, fruit, etc. to share. This class is for age 13 through adult.

SUNDAY SCHOOL 11:30AM | ACTIVITIES CENTER | Children ages 3-12 learn the Scriptural account heard in the Sunday Mass and portions of the *Small Catechism*. Parents are encouraged to attend the adult study while their children attend Sunday school. Thanks to Alan Kroske and Pamela Ruffin for coordinating Sunday School. Sunday School will recess in June, July, and August. Students are encouraged to attend the Zion Bible Camp, June 23-27.

WEDNESDAY ADULT STUDY Immediately following Holy Mass, this study is reading "Ministry, Word, and Sacraments: An Enchiridion" by Martin Chemnitz (1522-1586), an important leader in early Lutheranism. Coffee and snacks are provided. Often the group goes out to lunch following the study.





YOUTH CATECHISM SATURDAY 10AM | RECTORY | This class teaches the chief parts of the *Small Catechism* to learn the essential beliefs of Christianity as taught in Holy Scripture. This study of the Catechism prepares students in third—eighth grades for First Communion.

WOMEN'S GROUP TWO SATURDAYS A MONTH 1PM | RECTORY | Gathering shortly before 1, we move to the Chapel of the Holy Incarnation in the Rectory to pray the Office of Vespers and then continue with the study. Coffee and snacks are provided. We are currently studying the *Formula of Concord*, one of the documents explaining what Lutherans believe, teach, and confess. All women are encouraged to attend and bring guests.

MEN'S GROUP ONE THURSDAY A MONTH 7PM | RECTORY | Gathering shortly before 7, we move to the Church to pray the Office of Vespers, and then return to the Rectory for our

study. Following the study, there is food and *Gemütlichkeit*. We are beginning a new study of the Solid Declaration of the *Formula of Concord* in May. All men are encouraged to attend and bring guests.

Official Acts / Membership Updates

(February 20 – April 20, 2014)

Transfer Out: Linda Grams to Ascension of Christ – Beverly Hills, MI (March 25, 2014)

Open House at the Rectory

UHE PARISH IS invited to an Easter Open House at the Rectory on Friday, May 2, beginning at 6:30pm. Guests are welcome, but not required, to bring an appetizer, dessert or drink to share. Please RSVP to Kantor@ZionDetroit.org. ♥

Mother's Day Flowers

#OTTED WHITE MUMS will beautify the chancel on Jubilate Sunday, May 11. Donations may be made in memory of a departed mother or in honor of a living mother. The plants are \$15. Donations are due by Monday, May 5. ♣

Sanctoral Calendar

ZION HAS ONE of the fullest liturgical calendars of any Lutheran parish. It is a wonderful benefit of membership at Zion to learn of our fathers in the faith, and in learning of their lives, and of their tribulations and often martyrdom, to learn of the grace and mercy God shows to His Church Militant. In May and June, there are no fewer than 14 sanctoral observances, offering you the opportunity to join us in worship and to learn more about those who have gone before you in the faith. Many of these observances will be marked with the celebration of Holy Mass. Please consult the calendar in this issue, and join us every Sunday and on special Feasts to receive God's saving Gifts of Word and Sacrament. ▶

Ascension Day May 29

● ORTY DAYS AFTER Easter, the Church commemorates Christ's Ascension, even as Christ ascended into heaven forty days after His resurrection. Join us to celebrate this major feast of Our Lord on Thursday, May 29, with a sung Mass in the Church at 7pm. ▶

Nativity of St. John the Baptizer

Church commemorate the death of the saint as they enter heaven. In addition to the martyrdom of St. John the Baptizer, his nativity is commemorated by the Church because of his important role as the last and greatest prophet, the forerunner of Christ. Holy Mass will be celebrated in the Church at 10am on Tuesday, June 24. The Zion Bible Camp, meeting that week, will also attend the Mass. **

Thank You

by Father Braden

PNE OF THE responsibilities of every Lutheran parish is the Christian education of our children. Zion has been graciously supportive of my daughter Sarah as she has completed her studies at Lutheran High School Westland. I am very thankful for your support. Lord willing, Sarah will graduate from high school before the next issue of the Trumpet is published. She is planning to attend the University of Michigan in Dearborn this fall. I have suggested publicly that the congregation consider taking the support it has budgeted for the last four years, and using it to assist the several faithful families in our congregation that currently have children enrolled in Lutheran schools.

<u>HOLY MASS</u> is celebrated every Sunday and Wednesday at 10am, and on major feasts as announced.

THE DIVINE OFFICE OF MATINS is prayed Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 8:45am in the Chapel of the Holy Incarnation in the Rectory. Matins is not prayed when there is a morning Mass.

COMMUNICANTS ARE BAPTIZED CHRISTIANS who have been instructed in and publicly confess the Evangelical-Lutheran Faith. If you desire to commune at Zion, please visit with the Pastor before approaching the Altar.

<u>PRIVATE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION</u> is available on Saturday from 9-10am or by appointment.

<u>PASTORAL CONSULTATION</u> based on the Holy Scriptures is available by appointment.

<u>THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM</u> is for infants and adults, and may be arranged by contacting the Pastor.

<u>COUPLES DESIRING HOLY MARRIAGE</u> should contact the Pastor before finalizing the wedding date. Bible instruction in Holy Marriage is required. All marriages are conducted by the Pastor according to Zion's usual order.

<u>NEW MEMBERS</u> are received by baptism, confirmation, transfer or profession of faith. Instruction in Luther's Small Catechism and Private Absolution are required for all new members. Visit with the Pastor for further details.

THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND are visited regularly by the Pastor. Please contact the Parish Office if you know of any parishioner in need of pastoral visitation.

<u>PARISH ORGANIZATIONS</u> Adult Choir, Altar Guild, Children's Choir, Jubilate Deo Women's Choir, St. Seraphim Prayer Guild, Society of St. Samuel (Altar Boys), Usher Club, Zion Endowment Board.

DEACONS William Gramzow, III, Thomas Habitz, Jr., Eric Russell; TRUSTEES Roderick Atkins, Gregory Gramzow, Paul Snoes; BOARD OF PARISH EDUCATION Shirley Cross, Alan Kroske, Pamela Ruffin; OFFICERS OF THE VOTERS Roderick Atkins (chairman), Jason Balaska (vicechairman), Kristi Russell (secretary), Jessica Chavez (financial secretary)