
Zion Lutheran Church
23 E. Rooney Ave.
Appleton, MN 56208

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August 2022



Psalms 113:3
From the rising of the
sun unto the going
down of the same the
LORD'S name is
to be praised.

- ❖ **Pastor Art Wiese: 320-212-1487**
 - ❖ **Pastor Art Wiese Email:**
abwiese@tds.net
- ❖ **Vicar Sara Larson: 320-598-3722**
 - ❖ **Vicar Sara's email:**
sjlgal@frontiernet.net
- ❖ **Office Manager: Demi Roiland**
- ❖ **Church Office: 320-289-2216**
- ❖ **Email: zlcappleton@gmail.com**
- ❖ **Website: Appletonzion.com**
- ❖ **Facebook: Zion Lutheran Church**
- ❖ **Custodians: Larry & Diane Kepner**
 - ❖ **MV and Borgund Email:**
bmvsecretary@mchsi.com
- ❖ **Facebook: Minnesota Valley Lutheran**

Zion, Borgund and MN Valley

*This is the day the Lord has made, let us
rejoice and be glad in it.*

Psalm 118:24

August 2022

Zion President:

Dan Smith

Vice-President:

Tim Ehrenberg

Secretary:

Matt Tollefson

Treasurer:

Brenda Oyen

Council Members:

Aaron Koosmann, Lynn Henkelman, Lisa Johnson,
Kenzie Givold

Borgund President:

Phil Skurdahl

Vice President:

Ron Sigdahl

Secretary:

Kelly Vaala

Treasurer:

Tamie & Brian Bremseth

Minnesota Valley President:

Dale Lien

Vice President:

Scott Sieg

Secretary:

Dawn Olson

Treasurer:

Karin Moen

Zion Broadcasts:

KQLP 92.1FM Radio: 1:00 pm

Channel 8: 3:00 pm

Borgund, MN Valley Broadcasts:

Madison Radio 92.1: 7pm Sundays

MN Valley Lutheran YouTube site: MVLC

Worship

Media Com: 2pm Sundays Channel 8

All Are Welcome!

8:30am MN Valley, 10:30am

Borgund, and 10:30am Zion

Give Thanks for All

God's Wonderful Blessings!!

²⁹But wanting to justify himself, [the lawyer] asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" "...³⁶Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" ³⁷He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise." – (Luke 10:29,36-37)

Dear People of Borgund, Minnesota Valley and Zion,

It has been a good three months getting to know you and getting myself back into the rhythm of weekly leading worship and preaching. Thank you for your patience with me and the warm appreciation with which you have responded. I have much enjoyed the opportunity to work with you.

A few weeks ago, we heard the story of the Good Samaritan. Many of you liked my children's sermon interpretation of it using stuffed animals, which I called the "Parable of the Good Lion." In my story, it was a ferocious lion who helped the beaten and injured sheep he found by the side of the road. That's much better than eating it! The point, of course, is that the answer to the question, "Who is my neighbor?" is "Anyone who needs my help." This might be someone who lives in our neighborhood, or resides down the street, or dwells in another country, or occupies a spot on the other side of the world. And it includes people who are our friends, and members of our families, and people in our communities, people whom we do not know and people we consider to be our enemies. In other words, everyone, like us or not.

When the lawyer answers correctly, "The one who showed him mercy," Jesus responds by saying, "Go and do likewise." This is where most of us get stuck. We don't mind helping people who are near to us or, who are part of our group, but we have trouble helping those who are completely different or who are far away. Worse still, are those we consider to be enemies. In my interpretation of the story, the difference between Jews and Samaritans was likened to school rivalries. We used to have grandchildren who played for KMS and LQPV, sometimes on the same field or floor at the same time. That makes it hard for Grandma and Grandpa to cheer equally for both sides. But Jesus gives us no choice. He simply says, "Go and do likewise." So, we cheered for the "Saints" and we cheered for the "Eagles" and we hoped no one got hurt too bad!

The point is that for us as followers of Jesus, the rule applies at all times and in all circumstances. In Matthew's gospel, Jesus makes the same point by telling the Parable of the Sheep and the Goats (Mt. 25). Here he repeats, "I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." Both groups have a hard time understanding, but he explains, "just as you did it to one of the least...you did it to me." The Samaritans, our enemies, the least, those in need. Seems like we have a lot of opportunities to fulfill Jesus' command.

So, think about the opportunities to do mission work you have before you. Your community orchard is growing and producing food. The berries are ripening. I hope the hungry are coming to pick them. The Foodshelf provides a ready source of other emergency food. You have groups of dedicated crafters knitting, crocheting and quilting, who provide fine works of art that provide physical warmth and emotional support. Other groups work at fundraising events to support a variety of mission projects. You are "supporting congregations" of the Madison Healthcare Services, a facility that I have heard much about, though I have not yet visited it. You are working together to provide a learning environment for teaching a future pastor of our church. And beyond that, through contributions to the SW MN Synod and the churchwide ELCA, you are doing mission work throughout the state, across the nation and around the world.

Even the call process you are involved in to find a new pastor to serve your three congregations is a mission opportunity. As you reach out to your neighbors to make this happen, you are opening yourselves to sharing burdens and working together to bring about the best possible result. I know the process has moved

slowly and has been something of a disappointment so far. I was frustrated too when I was working on your behalf as part of the Synod staff. But I believe that pastor is coming. We just don't know who that pastor is yet. But God does. And God is working now to send him or her in our direction. We'll know when they get here. In the meantime, we'll just keep on being a good neighbor. That's our job!

Peace Be With You,
Pastor Art

Important Message

Dear members of Zion,

I would like to share our church situation in regard to our Tri-Church agreement with MN Valley and Borgund Lutheran Churches. To refresh our memories Pastor Roger and the board agreed to a one-year agreement to have Roger and our Secretary provide Pastoral and Secretary duties to our neighboring churches with Vicar Sara being brought on board as a Seminary student to help with the work load and give her experience in pastoral duties.

That is a very basic review but after one year we had gone through COVID and very little in church experience and the boards of all three churches felt we should give it another year to try a more normal worshipping experience. The two years is coming to a close on October 1st. The church has three choices now.

1. Allow the contract to expire
2. Renew it for some period of time
3. Make it permanent (must be a church vote)

Your Council needs your input on this decision. It is a decision that will impact our church in many ways. Please call or visit your board members who are listed below as well as Pastor Art and Vicar Sara.

Dan Smith – President

Tim Ehrenberg – VP

Matt Tollefson

Brenda Oyen

Lynn Henkelman

Lisa Johnson

Aaron Koosmann

Kenzie Gisvold

Call Committee Report

The Call Committee continues to be prepared to interview prospective candidates for the Pastoral position at Zion, MN Valley and Borgund. As of July 25th, one candidate has been shared to the committee by the Synod office. The candidate reviewed the MSP (Ministry Site Profile) and showed interest in our position. We proceeded to interview this candidate and held discussions after the interview about our impressions, tabling a decision to gather more information. We had our Synod representative Pastor Steve Cook come and meet with a Focal Group made up of our Call Committee and Church Council to go over concerns about calling a new Pastor. Some of the issues discussed were a non-white, English as their second language and feelings of the congregation on a gay or lesbian pastor. The Call Committee decided to proceed with a second interview. Again, we discussed our feelings after the interview and spent another week to make sure our feelings were solid, and faith driven. The Call Committee came to the conclusion that this candidate was not a fit for our church and could not recommend the candidate to our council and then to our congregation.

We are staying prepared for the Synod to provide us another candidate. The process of finding a Pastor is more challenging at this time. There are few Pastors available and many churches seeking a Pastor. The Call Committee is committed to do the best job we can to find a Pastor to benefit and serve all our Parishioners to increase their relationship with Christ. We ask for you prayers on this journey.

-Faithful enrichment to all, Kevin Skjei

Members of Call Committee:

Zion: Kevin Skjei, Dennis Beyer, and Laura Thomson

MN Valley: Amber Omland

Borgund: Ron Sigdahl

Upcoming Dates:

- August 7th: Pentecost 9
- August 10th: 7pm Joint Council mtg. @ Borgund Lutheran
- August 14th: Pentecost 10
- August 17th: 1pm Prayer Shawl (Tentative)/ Swift County fair August 17th thru the 21st
- August 21st: Pentecost 11
- August 28th: Pentecost 12/ 7pm Joint parking lot service at Zion

Attention!! Newsletter!!

The Newsletter will be posted on our website at appletonzion.com under "Join Us" at the beginning of every month. Thank you! 😊



Minnesota Valley WELCA will be meeting Tuesday, August 9th at 9:30am at Madison Mercantile.



There will be a VBS Family Song Celebration on our last night, at 7:30pm on Wednesday, August 3rd at Zion Lutheran Church with an Ice Cream Social following in the basement. All are invited to celebrate with us that evening!

If you have a Thrivent Gift Card, you'd like to donate to VBS please call Hope Schmidt for any details you might need in your application. Thanks so much for your support!

Office HOURS

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday Thru Thursday 8:30am – 4:30pm
Friday CLOSED

+++

FOOD SHELF HOURS:

Closed Monday
Tuesday need volunteer (Call Office)
Wednesday 10:00am – 5:00pm
Closed Thursday & Friday

Zion Taping Schedule

August 7: Wade Schmidt
August 14: Hope Schmidt
August 21: Vacek Family
August 28: Ritchie Voorhees

Zion Altar Guild

Flower Committee

-Cheryl Schmidt

Communion Committee

-Connie Stotesbery, Sandy Tatge

Parament Committee

-Kathy Skjei

"KNITTERS AND CROCHETERS"

The Zion Prayer Shawl Ministry Team is in need of some help to make Prayer Shawls, 30" x 60". We have yarn and supplies at Zion that you can pick up and do your own pattern or we can assist you with ideas. Check in the office or call a Prayer Shawl member and we can get you started. Your time and talents are very much appreciated. You may call the church office at 289-2216 if you have any questions.



August 2022 Borgund, MN Valley & Zion

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>*Announcements due by 8am every Wednesday morning</p>	<p>1 Church Office open Monday thru Thursday 8:30am-4:30pm</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 7:30pm VBS Family Song celebrating the last night of VBS. Ice Cream Social following in the basement @ Zion</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>
<p>7 Pent 9 10:30am Borgund 8:30am MN Valley 10:30am Zion Worship</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9 9:30am MN Valley WELCA mtg. @ Madison Mercantile Restorative Justice Mtg.</p>	<p>10 7pm Joint Council Mtg. @ Borgund</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>
<p>14 Pent 10 10:30am Borgund 8:30am MN Valley 10:30am Zion Worship</p>	<p>15 MN Valley Meals on Wheels Aug. 15th thru Aug. 19th</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 FAIR 10am AppleRidge 1pm Prayer Shawl</p>	<p>18 FAIR SWIFT COUNTY FAIR 17TH THRU THE 21ST</p>	<p>19 FAIR</p>	<p>20 FAIR</p>
<p>21 Pent 11/FAIR 10:30am Borgund 8:30am MN Valley 10:30am Zion Worship</p>	<p>22 Meals on Wheels Aug. 22nd thru Aug. 26th.</p>	<p>23 Restorative Justice Mtg.</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 11am Funeral for Barb Walton Info for Newsletter due</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28 Pent 12 10:30am Borgund 8:30am MN Valley 10:30am Zion Worship 7pm Tri-Church parking lot service @ Zion</p>	<p>29 Meals on Wheels Aug. 29th thru Sept. 3rd</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>



We need your Help at the Zion Food Stand!!

August 17th-21st

Sign-up on the bulletin board by the church office or contact the Church office a 320-289-2216.

This is a great fundraiser, and we need everyone to make it successful!!

Profits go towards donations to: Bible Campers, Zion General Fund, Missions, Radio Fund, Cancer Transportation, Appleton Hospice, Lutheran Social Services, Lutheran World Relief, Heartland Girls Ranch, Hope Harbor, Tornado Disasters, Reach Out for Warmth, Safe Avenue and Some Place Safe. That is a tremendous amount of charitable aid we accomplish together! Let us do it again!! We need potato peelers at church or can do from home starting Wednesday thru Sunday of Fair week. Please always bring peeled potatoes back to the church **NOT** to the Fair Stand. Remember to totally cover them with cold water. We also need people to spray down the stand a week before the Fair. Wash dishes in the stand and counters after it has been sprayed down and dish towel washing.

Assigned shifts will be done the 1st of August. Cards will be sent out.

If unable to work a full shift, mealtime help is always needed!!

Shifts are: (13 people per shift)

- Thursday (12pm-4pm) – (4pm-8pm)
- Friday: (11am-4pm) – (4pm-8pm)
- Saturday: (11am-4pm) – (4pm-8pm)
- Sunday: (11am-3pm)

LUTEFISK & TURKEY SUPPER

Wednesday, October 5th
Buffet Style Serving 4:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Zion Lutheran Church
23 E. Rooney Ave.
Appleton, MN

Menu:

Lutefisk
Turkey
Dressing
Real Mashed Potatoes/Gravy
Glazed Carrots
Coleslaw
Homemade Lefse
Homemade Pie

Tickets: \$15.00 - Adults; Ages 4-12 - \$7.00;
3 & Under - Free

Available at Zion Church Office or Farmers & Merchants State Bank

Take-Out Dinners: \$17.00

Available at the Church

First come, first served – NO Call-in orders!!

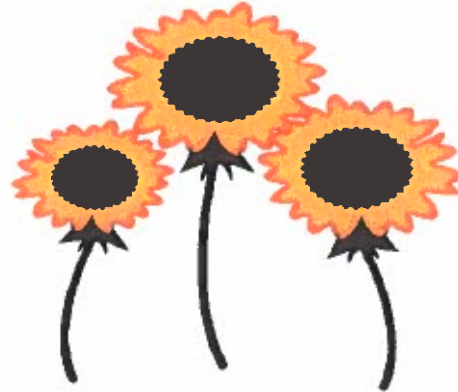
Handicapped Accessible

Youth Group gathers for some summer fun at the parsonage. Not much can beat a little water ball on a hot day!



BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

All of the family of believers at Zion's Lutheran Congregation wish to congratulate all those who have birthdays and anniversaries this month. Remember them in prayer on their special day.



August

ZION (birthdays)

Matthew Tollefson	1
Barb Gens	2
Tanna Rens	3
Josh Benson	4
Layton Thomson	6
Joanne Sorenson	9
Betty Berglund	10
Michael Johnson	10
Audi Schmidt	10
Leo Borstad	13
Raelyn Smith	14
Richard Daly	14
Robert Thompson	15
Jodi Sterud	16
Keith Boettcher	21
Lauren Benson	21
Ruth Rigenhagen	22
Wade Schmidt	23
Luke Vacek	23
Lizabeth Gades	29
William Bergstad	31
Milton Reich	20
Travis Beyer	23
Judy Dehne	29

ZION (anniversaries)

Steve & Leslie Ehrenberg	4
Mark & Linda Stromswold	4
Dale & Carol Erickson	6
John & Jeanette Pfaff	9
Josh & Kris Benson	10
Kevin & Kathy Skjei	12
Bob & Tammy Wilts	19
Greg & Ellen Arnold	23
Ron & Carol Roiger	28
Mike & Deanne Munsterman	6
Dan & Lynette Arnold	9
Jim & Judy Dehne	16
Dennis & Cheryl Beyer	19

If we have omitted or made an error, we're sorry and please forgive. Please call us with any corrections.

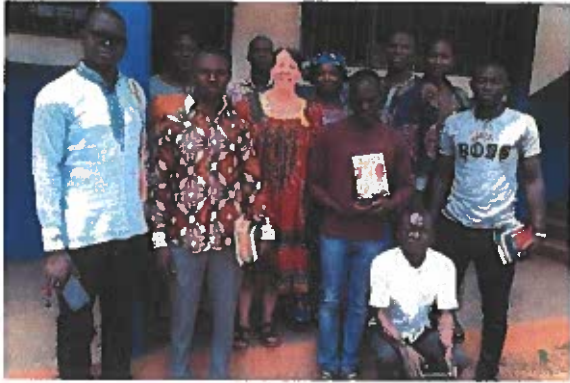
*May our Lord richly bless you and give you
Joy A new year of God's Grace*

July 18, 2022

Dear friends and sponsors,

As the saying goes, "All good things come to an end." And so it is that my missionary service in Cameroon is approaching the end. It is a bittersweet time of "lasts" and good-byes, perhaps best captured in photos.

The photo on the left was taken after teaching my final class at the Lutheran Institute of Theology, and the photo on the right is of my last time leading morning worship at the chapel of the Institute:



My last graduation ceremony was Sunday, June 19. The graduation ceremony was also a ceremony of "au revoir" for me and for the Dean of the Institute, Dr. Joseph Ngah, who is retiring.



David and Etienne also had their last day of school in Meiganga, and Schekina finished her student days at the Catholic University of Central Africa in Yaoundé with an associate degree in finance and management.



So perhaps you are asking, what is next for us? Good question! This much we know: We will be leaving Cameroon on August 8 and moving to Saint Paul, Minnesota, where we have found a house to rent. I will be looking for a call to a congregation (probably an interim call to start with) and Eric will be looking for work. David and Etienne will be enrolled in the neighborhood elementary school, and Schekina will probably be doing an internship before going back to college to finish her bachelor's degree. We would be most grateful for your continued prayers during this time of transition!

It is true that all good things must one day come to an end. But by the grace of God an ending is also a new beginning. For the moment, we look forward to seeing where God is leading us and how we can best serve God's mission in the United States.

Although we will be arriving a bit late for the traditional summer "home assignment," depending on when I start a new call, I may be available to visit your congregation in September or October for a speaking engagement. Please be in touch if you are interested in having me come. Although I don't yet know what my new phone number will be, I can be reached at the same e-mail address: elisaajo@msn.com.

Finally, I need to say once more how profoundly grateful I am for your faithful financial support all these years, for your prayers, your encouragement, your cards and gifts, and for the warm welcome extended to my family and me when we have been able to visit on home assignment. Truly, you have blessed us, and your support has blessed our brothers and sisters in Christ in Cameroon. I hope and pray that your support of the ELCA's global mission work will continue.

God bless you all!

+ Grace and peace +

Elisabeth (with Eric, Schekina, David, and Etienne)

Our new address as of August 10:

1480 Canfield Ave
St. Paul, MN 55108

**Zion Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes
June 15th, 2022**

Meeting Called to Order:

Devotions: Delivered during Tri Church Meeting

Approval of Agenda: MSP(Lynn/Lisa)

Approval of Minutes: MSP (Aaron/Lynn)

Treasurer Report/Approval: MSP (Lisa/Lynn)

WELCA Update: Ladies will manage one more year but need help to keep it going. All money earned is given away to church and community (approximately \$7000 per year). Gave \$1000 to family from St. Johns who lost home in Forada tomado with a quilt. Will do Applefest fundraiser for Legion. Gave Legion \$200 for May fundraiser

Old Business

New Business

- a. VBS- July 31st and August 1st at Trinity. August 2nd and 3rd at Zion-Tri Church fundraiser and picnic July 27th at Riverside Park- meal and entertainment. 2 parking lot services in addition to regular schedule- June 26th and August 28th at 7pm-Vicar Sara arranging.
- b. Pursue tri-church permanent arrangement- 3 members to meet from each church to make a decision. Continue to meet in same fashion- all three councils meet on same night together than split apart to handle independent business. Next meeting July 13th at 7pm at Mn Valley.
- c. July 10th- The Council decided not to have church at Zion but instead encourage members to attend either Borgund or Minnesota Valley as we only have 1 minister available that day.
- d. Need to find a replacement for Cindy Carl for the food shelf on Tuesdays.

Presidents Report

- a. Discussions with Pastor Art about pastor candidates

Vicars Report

2 weeks in Colorado- returned refreshed. Completed 3 grad services, 1 confirmation service, set up ecumenical service in Madison Park, participated in 2 youth events, preached at Baccalaureate, completed summer worship plans, assisted living and shut-in visits, worked on new council format and each members responsibilities. Refugee speaking event, IT assistance, spoke with many over storm loss.

Pastors Report

Settling in, In the building on Wednesdays and Thursdays, available by phone otherwise. Providing pastoral care, assisted living services, working with call committee and tri-church agreement.

Committee Reports

a. Youth Ministries

- i. New Youth group coming along nicely. 4 adult volunteers interested in assisting with events.

b. Evangelism

- i. Raspberries have been staked up to allow for easier harvest in the orchard
- ii. Food Shelf- Served 19 families in May. Postal Services collected 300 lbs of food which was donated to Appleton Food Shelf. Through June 15, we have served 13 families.
- iii. Prayer shawl is open to the community- An ecumenical group gathers, and anyone can receive and participate.
- iv. Quilting-met 1 x September to June- no gatherings over the summer- gave 5 quilts to graduates
- v. IT- still having issues with recording and audio- Will keep at it. Need people willing to record who have some background in computers. Need Wi-Fi extender and replacement headset for Pastor Art. (Pastor Roger's cannot be found.)-Purchases approved.
- vi. Property Use by outside entities
 1. Demi found a printout of the policy about use of the church from other entities
 2. Currently Restorative Justice meetings 2x per month and AA was meeting every Tuesday night.
- vii. Stewardship-monthly newsletters are emailed to all addresses we have, posted on website, and set to shut-ins or those that request them to be mailed to them. A few are printed and left in narthex.

- c. Music & Worship- summer schedule set- new format for summer with familiar songs and simple liturgy style detailed in bulletin and consistent through the summer.

d. Property & Finance

- i. Sedrick sheet rocking parsonage
- ii. Cleaning graffiti off church and police have installed a camera

Adjournment: MSP (Lynn/Brenda)

Closing Prayer

Zion Lutheran Church - June 30, 2022

CURRENT FUND		MISSION FUND	
Receipts:		Receipts:	
Balance Brought Forward	\$8,935.75	Balance Brought Forward	\$770.00
Envelope Offering	\$4,966.66	Envelope Offering	<u>\$85.00</u>
Minnesota Valley Lutheran	\$2,207.26		
Borgund Lutheran	\$1,459.92	Total Receipts.....	\$855.00
Thrivent Choice Dollars	\$400.00		
Pentecost Offering	\$100.00	Disbursements:	
Loose Offering	\$30.00	Total Disbursements.....	\$0.00
NOW Interest	<u>\$0.69</u>		
Total Receipts.....	\$18,100.28		
Disbursements:		BUILDING FUND	
Salaries & Allowances	\$12,734.24	Receipts:	
Utilities	\$786.92	Balance Brought Forward	(\$381.55)
Parsonage Utilities	\$353.12	Envelope Offering	\$165.00
Postage	\$15.30	Thrivent Choice Dollars	\$289.66
Office Supplies	\$354.26	Memorials	<u>\$205.00</u>
Worship Supplies	\$381.78	Total Receipts.....	\$278.11
Janitor Supplies	\$7.49		
Confirmation Flowers	\$15.00	Disbursements:	
Grinnell Mutual	\$800.00	Xerox Corporation	\$131.12
Resale Purchases	\$400.00	Jeff Gades	\$50.00
Interview Expense	\$126.00	Rausch Bros. Granite	<u>\$494.66</u>
Graduation Expense	\$80.61	Total Disbursements.....	\$675.78
Misc. Ads	\$65.00		
Nite Deposit Fee	\$20.00	MISSION FUND BALANCE	\$855.00
Tubbs of Soft Water	<u>\$13.00</u>	BULDING FUND BALANCE	(\$397.67)
Total Disbursements.....	\$16,152.72	CURRENT FUND BALANCE	\$1,947.56
ZION SAVINGS ACCOUNT		CHECKBOOK BALANCE	\$2,404.89
General Savings	\$1,733.45		
Lutefisk Supper	\$4,000.00		
Thrivent Choice Dollars	\$8,017.54		
Peterson Gift	<u>\$5,220.32</u>		
SAVINGS BALANCE	\$18,971.31		

