

ANNUAL REPORT 2023



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

OPENING LITURGY

Son of God, Eternal Savior

Recognizing that our faith is a living, busy, active and mighty thing, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with each of you.

And also with you.

Teach us to love you with all our heart, soul, mind and strength.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Descend on our hearts, that we may love others in the ways Jesus loves us.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Empower us to be enthusiastic in pursuing your vision for our congregation.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Move us to engage issues in our community in Christlike ways, and to pursue deep and authentic relationships with those with whom we serve and partner.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Strengthen us to face the barriers we encounter in doing your work, learning to work with others amid disagreement.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Give us the ability to adapt to the cultural, economic and social changes that occur in the neighborhoods we serve.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Guide us to be a healthy congregation that learns from its failures as well as its successes and offers wisdom to others.

Receive our prayer, O God.

As we strive to become the church that we proclaim to be, raise up leaders who focus on the gospel of freedom, forgiveness and reconciliation as given to us through God's indescribable act of love in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Renew us daily in our baptism, that we may discover vitality in our relationships with you, each other and those we serve in the world.

Amen.

1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,
2 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, so may we for oth - ers live,
3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and Prince of peace;
4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,

Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race,
Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed; free - ly may your ser - vants give,
hush the storm of strife and pas - sion, bid its cru - el dis - cords cease.
Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race:

you our head, who, throned in glo - ry, for your own will ev - er plead:
Yours the gold and yours the sil - ver, yours the wealth of land and sea;
By your pa - tient years of toil - ing, by your si - lent hours of pain,
by your pray - ing, by your will - ing that your peo - ple should be one,

fill us with your love and pit - y, heal our wrong, and help our need,
we but stew - ards of your boun - ty held in sol - emn trust will be,
quench our fe - vered thirst of plea - sure, stem our self - ish greed of gain,
grant, oh, grant our hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth your will be done.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship, 655

Text: Somerset C. Lowry

Music: IN BABILONE, Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen, 1710;

arr. Julius Röntgen

Text and music are in the public domain. May be reproduced without restriction.

St. John's Lutheran Church
Little Suamico, WI 54141

Annual Report to the Congregation

2023



Our Mission:
Gather-Grow-Go

Table of Contents

Agenda	5
2024 Candidates for Church Council	6
Secretary's Report	7
Treasurer's Report	8
Various Financial Statements	9-17
Auditor's Statement	18
Pastor's Report	19-20
Council President's Report	21
2024 Service Groups	22
Family & Youth Ministry Report	23-24
Brotherhood Report	24
Building and Grounds Team Report	25
Memorial Fund Team Report	25
Outreach (Evangelism) Team Report	26
Nominating Team Report	26
Stewardship Team Report	26
Worship Team Report	27-28
Youth and Education Team Report	29
Women of the ELCA (WELCA) Report	30
Membership & Pastoral Acts for 2023	31
Pandemic Statistical Corrections	32
2023 Team Members	33
Annual Financial Report	34
2024 Proposed Mission Plan (Budget)	35-37
Notes Page	38
ELCA Closing Messages	39-40

Addendums:

Updated St. John's Lutheran Church Constitution, Membership Directory, Signed Auditor's Statement

2024 Congregational Meeting Agenda

St. John's Lutheran Church of Little Suamico, Wisconsin
Annual Meeting Agenda
January 28, 2024

Call to Order – President Betty Stevens

Opening Devotion – Pastor Stacy Malzhan

- I. Agenda Review
- II. Secretary's Report
- III. Pastor's Report
- IV. Treasurer's Report
- V. Budget Presentation and Approval
- VI. Elections
 - i. Election to the Church Council (vote for three)
 - ii. Election to the Nominating Committee (vote for two)
 - iii. Election to the Synod Assembly (vote for two)
- VII. Old Business
 - i. SCRIP Update by Angie Larsen
- VIII. New Business
 - i. Review and approval of revised Constitution
 - ii. Two volunteers needed to attend the Woodside Annual Meeting (Lutheran Homes), taking place in November 2024
 - iii. Two volunteers needed to attend the Shawano Conference Meeting at St. John's Lutheran Church, taking place February 4, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. (snow date February 11, 2024)
- IX. Election Results
- X. Questions, Insights, Suggestions
- XI. Closing Prayer

2024 Candidates for Church Council

Curt Anschutz

Sara Beth Holman: Member of St. John's Lutheran Church for 18 years. I'm married to Todd, and we have a daughter, McKenna, who is 27 years old and a son, Carter, who is 16. I'm the Director of Financial Aid Solutions and on the College Board at Lawrence University. *Hobbies and Interests:* Reading, gardening, sewing, spending time with family. *Which of our ministries do you consider effective, life-giving, and faithful to the gospel?* While all ministries are important, I believe that growing and strengthening the stewardship of our congregation's time, talent, and financial resources is imperative. By actively stewarding these resources we are saying "Yes" to educating and fostering faith in our youth, to supporting our music ministry, and to being a more vibrant presence in our community. We are saying "Yes" to everything we see for the future of our ministry. *What do you see as the three top challenges facing our faith community as we look to the next five years?* 1. Growth- securing and developing the resources to become a more visible presence in and beyond the community we serve. 2. Retention- keeping current members engaged, attending, and giving. 3. Finances- our current financial situation is not sustainable; we must move toward a balanced budget. *Why are you interested in serving on the church council?* Serving on church council is one small way I can give back for all that St. John's gives to me.

Amy Spaude: I have been a member of St. John's since 1998. I am married to Scott and have 2 adult children: Ryan and Kaitie. I am currently starting my 38th year as a dental hygienist and I am continuing to work at Green Bay Periodontics and Implants. I love upcycling almost anything with crafting and knitting. People say I know how to make a fabulous cheesecake too.

I have heard the call to serve in our congregation before and it has once again been placed on my heart. I know I have the abilities for leadership and communication that are necessary to guide and support St. John's as it goes forward in ministry. It is a blessing to see new families joining us, children coming back to Sunday school and confirmation. We need to embrace the challenges of finance, stewardship and sharing of talents. There are still too few members doing far too much of the heavy lifting in this congregation. We have opportunities to serve and grow in our corner of the world. We need to discern what we are called to do even if it is only baby steps forward. I hope we can determine the best path forward together. Change is inevitable and while it can be stressful, I hope that I can add a new voice, logic to understand and a heart to guide me in the best interests of St. John's.

Secretary's Report 2023

St. John's Lutheran Church of Little Suamico, Wisconsin
Annual meeting minutes
January 29, 2023

Call to Order-President Betty Stevens at 09:59 a.m.

Quorum of 62 members present, 4 members virtually present

Agenda Review-Betty of reports, service groups, information-Betty

Opening Devotion-Pastor Stacy Malzhan

Secretary's Report from 01-23-2022 accepted as written and **to include Pastor Stacy's Pastoral** report with addendum to her report to include recognition of eleven new members. Pamela Krumrei made a motion to accept reports as written including addendum, Tim Peters seconded, motion unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report-presented by Steve Larsen with a recognition of Kelly Deau and Kelly Stellmacher as church auditors. Tim Peters motioned to accept the report as written, Doug Malueg seconded, motion unanimously approved.

Budget Presentation and approval -Steve Larsen explained/reviewed the annual financial report.

Discussion on the floor: to clarify that money earned in 2022 from auction and Packer stand profits has been placed within the general fund and money will be allocated from that balance to assist to lower budget deficit. Two Packer game stand profits have not been recorded or collected yet.

Pastor Stacy's pension/insurance costs decreased due to single coverage changes.

Deficit budget also reflects payment for the LYO leader position (\$14,000) which begins in 2023.

Tim Peters motion to accept the budget as written, second by Andy Dorn, all in favor with exception of one member, so passed.

Elections: Church Council, Nominating Committee and Synod Assembly Representatives

1. Church council (vote for three) Nominating committee of John Warren and Nancy Valentine present Michelle Marchand (presently on council having served last year of vacant seat), and Rob Urbaniak as runners for two vacant three year term seats.

Floor open for one vacant nomination brings Pastor Stacy to nominate Barb Dorn as council write in, second by Doug Maleug. Barb accepted the nomination.

Call by Betty Stevens, second by Shari Seidl to cast unanimous votes on ballot as written, including Michelle Marchand and Rob Urbaniak and write in Barb Dorn for council; John Warren and Nancy Valentine to the nominating committee; Karie Peters and Nancy Valentine to represent the congregation at Synod Assembly.

62 Written ballots distributed to all and two closed votes to members online given. Unanimously approved to accept three nominees to council, two to nominating committee and two to Synod Assembly as written, including write in Barb Dorn for council.

Other business:

1. Need for two volunteers to attend November 2023 Woodside Annual Meeting. No volunteers/nominations from the floor. (Pastor informed all that Amy Spaude has been our representative the past two years.)
2. Two or more volunteers needed for the Shawano Conference Meeting February 5. An explanation of conference dynamics by Pastor Stacy. Pamela Krumrei and Nancy Valentine volunteered to represent as of today's date.

Questions, Insights, Suggestions from the floor:

Rob Gleffe strongly encourages everyone to continue to collect and donate aluminum cans to the church as this is a valuable resource to assist with church expenditures. If anything other than aluminum beer or soda cans are donated, please place those aluminum items in a separate bag to ease his sorting and recycling can be done within private households.

Closing prayer-Pastor Stacy

Meeting adjourned at 10:40 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shellie Virtues

Council Secretary

Treasurer's Report 2023

St. John's Lutheran Church
TREASURER'S REPORT
For the twelve Months Ending December 31, 2023

Beg Bal Checkbook	1/1/2023	<u>\$ 118,926.62</u>	
Deposits		\$ 204,843.15	This includes all deposits (auction, Packers, aluminum cans, etc.)
Disbursements		<u>\$ 304,448.18</u>	This includes \$85,000 invested in the money market account
Checkbook balance 12/31/23		\$ 19,321.59	
Money market balance as of 12/31/2023	\$86,874.29	<u>\$ 86,874.29</u>	investment plus \$1,874.29 dividends reinvested as of 12/31/2023
Total bal. of General checking acct and Money market account	12/31/2023	<u>\$ 106,195.88</u>	
Designated- Good Samaritan		1,467.51	
Designated - Memorial		2,880.92	
Designated- Mission		1,097.33	
Designated- Stained Glass		1,624.00	
Designated- Outside Flowers		872.67	
Designated-Technology		3,410.49	
Total - Designated Accounts		<u>11,352.92</u>	
ACCOUNT BALANCES			
Checking		<u>106,195.88</u>	
TOTAL ALL FUNDS		<u>\$ 106,195.88</u>	

Respectfully submitted by Steve Larsen

Discretionary & Designated Fund Balances 2023

Name of Fund	Date	Trans Description	Withdrawals	Deposits	Balance
Good Samaritan-Designated	1/1/23	Beginning Balance			\$ 804.91
	9/3/23	Deposit - kingdom come donations		181.00	
	9/13/23	Kingdom Come Food Pantry - Invoice: donation from 9/03/23	181.00		
	10/1/23	Deposit - Noisy offering 10/01/23		150.28	
	10/15/23	Deposit - Noisy offering 10/15/23		158.63	
	10/22/23	Deposit - Noisy offering 10/22/23		128.41	
	10/29/23	Deposit - Noisy collection 10/29/23		96.68	
	11/5/23	Deposit - noisy offering feeding a child		55.19	
	11/9/23	- Good Samaritan-Designated	25.00		
	11/12/23	Deposit - shoeboxes		25.00	
	11/16/23	- Good Samaritan-Designated	50.00		
	11/19/23	Deposit - Shoe box build		50.00	
	11/21/23	Deposit - Ecumenical Partnership for housing		280.00	
	11/27/23	Deposit - Noisy can offering - feed a child		59.88	
	11/28/23	ELCA - Good Samaritan-Designated	675.00		
	12/3/23	Deposit - Noisy offering medical clinic supplies 12/3/23		66.97	
	12/9/23	EPH - Invoice: EPH COLLECTION NOV23	280.00		
	12/17/23	Deposit - noisy offering - medical clinic December 2023		96.56	
	12/21/23	donation to good Samaritan account from auction proceeds 2023		525.00	
	12/31/23	Ending Balance			\$ 662.60
Name of Fund	Date	Trans Description	Withdrawals	Deposits	Balance
Donations-Memorial Fund	1/1/23	Beginning Balance			\$ 2,819.75
Designated	8/2/23	Bruce Russell - Invoice: Global Rec 255993		28.50	
	10/8/23	Deposit - memorial tree leaf Justin Yakes		50.00	
	11/1/23	Global Recognition - Donations-Memorial Fund	15.00		
	11/12/23	Deposit - Kozlovshy memorial fund		31.50	
	12/8/23	Global Recognition - Donations-Memorial Fund	33.23		
	12/31/23	Ending Balance			\$ 2,881.52
Name of Fund	Date	Trans Description	Withdrawals	Deposits	Balance
Donations-Other Designated	9/18/23	donation from brotherhood for 150th anniversary		500.00	
	9/21/23	Tracey Krumrei - Invoice: 150th ann banner	193.07		
	10/21/23	Steve Larsen - Invoice: 150th food 10/08/23	261.17		
	10/26/23	Amazon - Donations-Other Designated	26.35		
	10/29/23	Lucinda Anschutz - Invoice: 150th anniv supplies	341.85		
	10/29/23	Deposit - Cahoon offering 150th 10/29/23		150.00	
	10/29/23	Deposit - WELCA donation feather flag		26.35	
	10/30/23	Betty Stevens - Invoice: 150th reimbursement	180.00		
	10/30/23	Stacy Malzhan - Invoice: 90681116	73.16		
	10/30/23	WELCA 150th donation		500.00	
	12/31/23	Ending Balance			\$ 100.75

Name of Fund	Date	Trans Description	Withdrawals	Deposits	Balance
ELCA Malaria Campaign- Designated	1/1/23	Beginning Balance			\$ 10.00
	12/31/23	Ending Balance			\$ 10.00
Name of Fund	Date	Trans Description	Withdrawals	Deposits	Balance
Mission-Designated Fund	1/1/23	Beginning Balance			\$ 1,097.33
	12/31/23	Ending Balance			\$ 1,097.33
Name of Fund	Date	Trans Description	Withdrawals	Deposits	Balance
Stain Glass- Designated Fund	1/1/23	Beginning Balance			\$ 1,624.00
	12/31/23	Ending Balance			\$ 1,624.00
Name of Fund	Date	Trans Description	Withdrawals	Deposits	Balance
Technology Fund Designated	1/1/23	Beginning Balance			4,503.88
	7/19/23	- Technology Fund	797.49		
	9/10/23	Kim Dunks - Invoice: auction 2023	295.90		
	12/31/23	Ending Balance			\$ 3,410.49
Name of Fund	Date	Trans Description	Withdrawals	Deposits	Balance
Evangelism funds- Designated	1/1/23	Beginning Balance			
	1/30/23	Closed the C.O.M.E. bank account		1,845.21	
	12/15/23	Stacy Malzhan - Invoice: exps Apr 23 to Dec23	20.44		
	12/31/23	Ending Balance			\$ 1,824.77
Name of Fund	Date	Trans Description	Withdrawals	Deposits	Balance
Outside Flowers- Designated	1/1/23	Beginning Balance			\$ 850.15
	3/20/23	Deposit - EASTER FLOWERS 2023		554.75	
	4/10/23	Schroeder's Flowers - Invoice: 190519	555.25		
	6/12/23	St John's Lutheran Church - Invoice: outside flowers 2023	286.98		
	11/26/23	Deposit - poinsettias (warren)		54.00	
	12/3/23	Deposit - poinsettias fleck and possley		72.00	
	12/10/23	Deposit - poinsettias order cash		166.00	
	12/17/23	Deposit - poinsettias purchase 12/17/23		18.00	
	12/31/23	Ending Balance			\$ 872.67
Name of Fund	Date	Trans Description	Withdrawals	Deposits	Balance
Thrivent- Discretionary Fund	3/8/23	Deposit - Thrivent dollars 3/08/23		71.00	
	4/7/23	Deposit - Thrivent grant money 04/07/23		355.00	
	11/7/23	Deposit - Thrivent grant money 11/07/23		12.00	
	12/31/23	Close Discretionary Funds to General Fund per Year End	438.00		
	12/31/23	Ending Balance			\$ -

Name of Fund	Date	Trans Description	Withdrawals	Deposits	Balance
Aluminum Cans-Discretionary	6/1/23	Beginning Balance			
	6/25/23	Deposit - aluminum cans 06/25/23		565.61	
	9/3/23	Deposit - aluminum cans		235.00	
	12/31/23	Close Discretionary Funds to General Fund per Year End	800.61		
	12/31/23	Ending Balance			\$ -
Name of Fund	Date	Trans Description	Withdrawals	Deposits	Balance
SCRIP-Discretionary	1/1/23	Beginning Balance			
	1/23/23	Deposit - proceeds from Script bank account		2,000.00	
	12/31/23	Close Discretionary Funds to General Fund per year end	2,000.00		
	12/31/23	Ending Balance			\$ -
Name of Fund	Date	Trans Description	Withdrawals	Deposits	Balance
Auction1-Discretionary	2/1/23	Beginning Balance			
	2/7/23	Multi Media Channels, LLC - Invoice: 94622	54.00		
	5/18/23	Postmaster - Auction1-Discretionary	63.00		
	6/4/23	Deposit - Auction checks donations		400.00	
	6/12/23	Impact Northeast WI - Invoice: 2975853	34.34		
	7/19/23	Deposit - Raffle tickets deposit # 1		740.00	
	7/19/23	- Auction1-Discretionary	797.50		
	7/24/23	Department of Administration-G - Invoice: raffle 2023	25.00		
	7/27/23	Deposit - Raffle tickets deposit #2 7/27/23		300.00	
	7/28/23	Deposit - auction business donations 7/28/23		590.00	
	7/31/23	Dan Freis - Invoice: Sams tables 2023	369.14		
	8/2/23	Department of Administration-G - Invoice: class b raffle licen	25.00		
	8/7/23	Deposit - Auction Raffle tickets deposit # 3		480.00	
	8/15/23	Deposit - Auction business donation Howard Fabrication		100.00	
	8/28/23	Deposit - raffle tickets deposit # 4 8/20/23		1,820.00	
	9/7/23	Deposit - raffle ticket # 4 9/7/23		500.00	
	9/8/23	START UP MONEY AND RAFFLE PRIZES	6,500.00		
	9/9/23	Deposit - redeposit start up money and difference of raffle prizes		3,040.00	
	9/9/23	Deposit - Auction proceeds day of 9/9/23		18,356.50	
	9/10/23	Kim Dunks - Invoice: auction 2023	1,203.30		
	9/10/23	Kim Dunks - Invoice: auction 2023	198.34		
	9/10/23	Deposit - auction food sold next day9/10/23		150.00	
	9/10/23	Deposit - silent auction deposit 09/10/23		271.00	
	9/11/23	Bill Walla - Auction1-Discretionary	100.00		
	9/11/23	ACME Pickers - Auction1-Discretionary	440.00		
	9/13/23	Weber Bowling & Awards - Invoice: 071723sw19	1,384.43		
	9/17/23	Ashwaubenon Retired Fire Co. 2 - Invoice: tent auction 23	685.00		
	9/17/23	Karie Peters - Invoice: consign auction 23	140.70		
	9/19/23	Postmaster - Auction1-Discretionary	66.00		

	12/15/23	Kingdom Come Food Pantry - Invoice: Auction donation 23	525.00		
	12/15/23	NE WI Families of Children with - Invoice: donation auction 23	525.00		
	12/21/23	donation to good Samaritan account from auction proceeds 2023	525.00		
	12/31/23	Close Discretionary Funds to General Fund per Year End	13,086.75		
	12/31/23	Ending Balance			\$ -
Name of Fund	Date	Trans Description	Withdrawals	Deposits	Balance
Packers Concession Income	1/4/23	Deposit - Packer concessions from Cowboys Game 11/17/22		1,595.65	
	1/4/23	Deposit - packer concessions from Titans Game 11/13/22		1,635.83	
	1/15/23	Deposit - Packer concessions tip 1/8/23 game		42.00	
	1/19/23	Deposit - Packers concessions from Rams Game		1,310.09	
	1/22/23	Deposit - Packer concessions tips Viking game		50.00	
	2/10/23	Deposit - packers concessions Vikings game 1/1/23		1,793.54	
	2/10/23	Deposit - packers concessions Lions game 1/8/23		1,434.54	
	3/13/23	Deposit - packers additional concession stand donated		83.34	
	8/20/23	Deposit - packer concession tips 8/19/23 game		20.00	
	9/14/23	Deposit - Packer concessions family night 8/5/23		647.74	
	9/27/23	Deposit - packer concessions from pre season game #1		716.69	
	10/4/23	Deposit - second preseason game 8/26/23		892.68	
	10/8/23	Deposit - Packer concession tips		23.00	
	10/26/23	Deposit - Packer concessions saints game 9/24/23		1,500.05	
	11/3/23	Deposit - concession from lions game 9/28/23		1,423.15	
	11/12/23	Deposit - packers tips cash 11/5/23 game Rams		30.00	
	11/19/23	Deposit - packer tips cash		43.00	
	11/26/23	Deposit - packer concession tips cash		15.00	
	12/6/23	Deposit - Packer Concessions 10/29/23 Vikings Game		2,195.88	
	12/14/23	Deposit - Packer Concession from Rams game 11/05/23		1,414.04	
	12/28/23	Deposit - Packer Concessions from game 11/19/23		1,523.17	
	12/31/23	Deposit - packer concession tips 12/31/23		26.00	
	12/31/23	Close Discretionary Funds to General Fund per Year End	18,415.39		
	12/31/23	Ending Balance			\$ -

2023 Brotherhood Financial Report

Beginning Balance as of 1/1/2023

\$ 5,782.77

Income

1/23/2023	donation for riding lawn mower	\$ 337.00
1/30/2023	Donation from WELCA fro Riding Lawn Mower	\$ 2,000.00
1/30/2023	Donation for Riding Lawn mower	\$ 1,550.00
2/22/2023	donation riding Lawn Mower	\$ 369.00
2/27/2023	Deposit	\$ 50.00
5/1/2023	Deposit proceeds from Booyah-Spring	\$ 2,027.00
6/26/2023	Deposit	\$ 20.00
10/23/2023	deposit proceeds booyah - Fall	\$ 1,839.00
10/31/2023	deposit proceeds booyah - Fall	\$ 72.00

Total Income

\$ 8,264.00

Expense

2/14/2023	CHECK #3010-northwoods Power & equipment llawn mower	\$ 4,800.00
3/1/2023	Check # 3011-Mike babak - chopper blades for lawn mower	\$ 158.45
4/17/2023	check # 3012 - Mike Babik -supplies for Lawn mower	\$ 331.24
4/25/2023	Check# 3013-Curt Anschutz Mower Supplies	\$ 199.09
5/1/2023	transfer to WELCA to issue check to Karie Peters for Training	\$ 282.50
5/21/2023	Check# 3014 - Mike Babik Mower Parts	\$ 159.14
5/21/2023	Check# 3015 Doug Malueg- Weed n Feed Fertilizer	\$ 108.00
9/18/2023	transfer to General Account \$500 for 150th anniversary and \$1,000 for Karie's Continued Education	\$ 1,500.00
12/16/2023	Check # 3016 Curt Anschutz mower Gas and Supplies	\$ 493.00

Total Expenses

\$ 8,031.42

Ending Balance 12/31/2023

\$ 6,015.35

Submitted by
Rob Gleffe

2023 LYO Financial Report

Beginning Checking Balance 1/1/2023

\$ 3,355.64

Date	Description	Income	Withdrawals	
1/31/2023	Seroogy's Candy Bar Purchase for VBS Fundraiser		\$ (480.00)	\$ (480.00)
2/10/2023	Luigi's Pizza for LYO Pizza/Movie Night		\$ (30.10)	\$ (30.10)
2/11/2023	Skittles for LYO Room Candy Machine (Festival)		\$ (6.31)	\$ (6.31)
2/16/2023	Compassion Child		\$ (114.00)	\$ (114.00)
3/2/2023	Seroogy's Candy Bar Purchase for VBS Fundraiser		\$ (432.00)	\$ (432.00)
3/6/2023	Compassion Child		\$ (38.00)	\$ (38.00)
3/7/2023	Ministry to Youth Bible Study Resources		\$ (8.00)	\$ (8.00)
3/11/2023	Dollar Tree- LYO Room Easter Decorations		\$ (15.83)	\$ (15.83)
3/14/2023	Seroogy's Candy Bar Deposit #1	\$ 384.00		\$ 384.00
3/20/2023	Seroogy's Candy Bar Deposit #2	\$ 96.00		\$ 96.00
3/23/2023	Seroogy's Candy Bar Deposit #3	\$ 96.00		\$ 96.00
4/3/2023	Seroogy's Candy Bar Deposit #4	\$ 308.00		
	Syrup Sales	\$ 100.00		\$ 408.00
4/6/2023	Compassion Child		\$ (38.00)	\$ (38.00)
4/11/2023	Seroogy's Final Cost Reimbursement Deposit	\$ 28.00		\$ 28.00
	Syrup Sales	\$ 80.00		\$ 80.00
4/18/2023	Costco Laptop Purchase		\$ (859.81)	\$ (859.81)
4/24/2023	Syrup Sales	\$ 85.00		\$ 85.00
	Check 3014: to Karie for Laptop Accessory			
4/24/2023	Reimbursement		\$ (76.47)	\$ (76.47)
5/4/2023	Congregation donations for OAHS	\$ 170.00		\$ 170.00
5/4/2023	Check to OAHS (#3015)		\$ (170.00)	\$ (170.00)
5/6/2023	Compassion Child		\$ (38.00)	\$ (38.00)
5/8/2023	Syrup Sales	\$ 70.00		\$ 70.00
5/17/2023	Dollar Tree- VBS Donations		\$ (36.27)	\$ (36.27)
5/24/2023	ELCAYM Annual Membership		\$ (95.00)	\$ (95.00)
6/3/2023	Dollar Tree		\$ (67.26)	\$ (67.26)
6/6/2023	Harvest Fest Vendor Application Fee		\$ (50.00)	\$ (50.00)
6/5/2023	Compassion Child		\$ (38.00)	\$ (38.00)
7/3/2023	Amazon- Printer Ink		\$ (24.15)	\$ (24.15)
7/5/2023	Compassion Child		\$ (43.00)	\$ (43.00)
7/18/2023	Amazon- VBS Shirt for Melanie Dunks		\$ (13.55)	\$ (13.55)
7/18/2023	Costco Laptop Return	\$ 859.81		\$ 859.81
7/18/2023	Best Buy- Dell XPS Laptop Purchase		\$ (1,403.13)	\$ (1,403.13)
	Best Buy- Tax Refund	\$ 73.15		\$ 73.15
8/4/2023	Compassion Child		\$ (43.00)	\$ (43.00)
9/5/2023	Compassion Child		\$ (43.00)	\$ (43.00)
9/7/2023	Ministry to Youth Bible Study Resources		\$ (3.00)	\$ (3.00)
9/12/2023	Sparkhouse: Remind Me Again Facilitator Guide		\$ (34.46)	\$ (34.46)
9/12/2023	Amazon: Remind Me Again Student Book		\$ (10.86)	\$ (10.86)

9/20/2023	Seroogy's Candy Bars for Fundraising		\$	(432.00)	\$	(432.00)	
9/24/2023	Harvest Fest Proceeds	\$	380.00		\$	380.00	
9/24/2023	Syrup Sales	\$	60.00		\$	60.00	
9/25/2023	Amazon: Youth are Either Leading or Leaving			\$	(14.72)	\$	(14.72)
10/5/2023	Compassion Child			\$	(43.00)	\$	(43.00)
10/20/2023	Target- Breakfast Club Food (LYO Room Painting)			\$	(19.53)	\$	(19.53)
	Menards- Painting Supplies			\$	(113.09)	\$	(113.09)
10/21/2023	Menards- Primer & Brushes Returns	\$	42.05			\$	42.05
	Menards- Paint			\$	(49.47)	\$	(49.47)
10/23/2023	Seroogy's Sale #2	\$	63.00			\$	63.00
	Syrup Sales	\$	80.00			\$	80.00
10/30/2023	Seroogy's Sale #2	\$	80.00			\$	80.00
11/3/2023	Compassion Child			\$	(43.00)	\$	(43.00)
11/8/2023	Dollar Tree- Shoebox Supplies			\$	(43.78)	\$	(43.78)
11/12/2023	Walmart- Youth Bible Study Supplies			\$	(44.22)	\$	(44.22)
11/12/2023	Operation Christmas Child Shipping			\$	(16.00)	\$	(16.00)
11/8/2023	Square Trial	\$	0.01	\$	(0.01)	\$	-
11/14/2022	Walmart - Youth Dinner			\$	(35.59)	\$	(35.59)
12/3/2023	Compassion Child			\$	(43.00)	\$	(43.00)
12/18/2023	Seroogy's Candy Bar Sales	\$	115.00			\$	115.00
	Syrup Sales	\$	40.00			\$	40.00
11/29/2023	Amazon: Angel Wings for Christmas Program			\$	(38.80)	\$	(38.80)
12/6/2023	Amazon: Nativity Scene Decore			\$	(9.48)	\$	(9.48)
12/4/2023	Norton			\$	(9.16)	\$	(9.16)
12/12/2023	Norton			\$	(105.48)	\$	(105.48)
	Ending Balance					\$	1,294.13

Respectfully submitted by Karie Peters

2023 Scrip Program Financial Report

2023 Script Program Financial report

Beginning Check book Balance as of 1/1/2023 **\$ 4,624.61**

Income

Money earned January 2023 (transferred \$2,000 to general fund)	\$ 1,354.25
Money earned February 2023	\$ (1,144.00)
Money earned March 2023 (increased inventory)	\$ 342.37
Money earned April 2023	\$ 177.25
Money earned May 2023	\$ 158.00
Money earned June 2023	\$ 333.40
Money earned July 2023	\$ (392.00)
Money earned August 2023	\$ 873.70
Money earned September 2023 (added Inventory)	\$ (460.10)
Money earned October 2023	\$ (4.60)
Money earned November 2023 (added Christmas inventory)	\$ (532.18)
Money earned December 2023	\$ 915.87

Total Income **\$ 1,621.96**

Notes

Transferred \$2,000 to General Fund 12/31/23 \$ (2,000.00)

Ending Checkbook Balance 12/31/2023 **\$ 4,246.57**

Submitted by Angie Larsen

2023 WELCA Treasurer's Report

JANUARY 1, 2023

Balance: \$ 10,293.10

Income:				
1-4-23:	Late bazaar sale \$ 50.00	11-17-23:	Bazaar Profit	4,729.00
1-17-23:	Late bazaar sale 601.00	11-30-23:	Replace Bazaar Cash	680.00
1-17-23:	Late bazaar sale 63.00	12-5-23:	Bazaar-craft late sale	10.00
4-25-23:	Lent Supper 107.00			
5-1-23:	Web Transfer by Steve 282.50			
5-2-23:	Eunice Redlin - Pizza Sale 100.00			
7-11-23:	Spring Tea (free will offering) 190.00			
				\$ 6,802.50

Expenses:			
1-15-23:	# 1619: Tracy Krumrei Christmas nursing home gifts	\$	1031.98
1-30-23:	Electronic transfer To Brotherhood for lawnmower		2000.00
2-7-23:	# 1620: Multi Media Channels, LLC 2022 fall bazaar advertising		54.00
2-10-23:	# 1621: Sindi Anschutz 2022 fall bazaar kitchen & craft supplies		765.21
4-14-23:	# 1622: Friends of Little Suamico 1 Bicycle		106.00
4-25-23:	# 1623: Memory Gift - chimes		147.68
4-30-23:	# 1624: Karie Peters CQR Training		564.95
5-19-23:	# 1625: Pastor Stacy Flowers (hand out on Mothers Day)		69.79
7-2-23:	# 1622: Voided		(-106.00)
	# 1626: Reissued to Little Suamico Park and Rec		106.00
7-9-23:	# 1627: Syndi Anschutz (Spring Tea Supplies)		363.23
8-28-23:	# 1628: LIVE LIKE AVA (Benefit)		1400.29
9-10-23:	# 1629: Karie Peters (VBS Supplies)		112.35
9-10-23:	# 1630: Tammy Yates (Fall Auction)		488.32
9-12-23:	Web Transfer by Steve Larson (Ice Cream social/toppings)		200.00
10-17-23:	# 1631: Pastor Stacy (VBS Supplies)		29.98
10-29-23:	# 1632: Karie Peters (Bazaar Flag)		26.35
10-30-23:	Web Transfer by Steve Larson (Anniversary Expenses)		500.00
11-10-23:	Web Transfer by Steve Larson (Fall Bazaar Starter Cash)		680.00
11-21-23:	# 1633 Dolly Parton Imagination library		1500.00
11-22-23:	# 1634: Brenda Walkowiak (Bazaar Meet)		161.00
12-4-23:	# 1635: Syndi Anschutz (Bazaar Supplies)		247.63
12-4-23:	# 1636: Pam Krumrie (Pastor Appreciation Gift)		128.35
12-4-23:	# 1637: Pam Krumrie (Church Entrance Plants)		186.58
12-14-23:	Bank Service Fee		5.53
12-27-23:	Web Transfer by Steve Larson (Bazaar Advertising)		54.00
			\$ 10,823.22

Final Balance: \$ 6282.38

2023 Auditor's Report

Auditor's Statement

We have carefully examined and reconciled the statements of all financial entities connected with St. John's Lutheran Church and its ministry. We have determined that all books are in good order and correspond to deposits and expenditures as well as all bank statements.

Little Suamico, Wisconsin

January 16, 2024

Kelly Deau

Julie Eichman

Kelly Stellmacher

A signed Auditor's Statement was not yet available at the time of first report printing. Please be sure to pick up a copy of the signed statement to add to your Annual Report. These may be obtained from the Main Office as of January 21, 2024.

2023 Pastor's Report

Remember

After Moses died and Joshua led the Israelites into the promised land, the Lord said to Joshua, "This day I will begin to exalt you in the sight of all Israel, so they may know that I will be with you as I was with Moses." That day, the ark of the covenant was carried by the priests in front of all the people and into the Jordan River. As their feet entered the river, the waters stood still in a single step. The ark of the Lord and more than 40,000 of the people of Israel crossed the Jordan River on dry ground – not a foot was wet. The Lord then ordered Joshua to take twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan and set them up in Gilgal - these twelve stones a reminder for generations to come of the works of the Lord. (Joshua 3:7-4:25)

God tells the people, over and over in psalm and story, in dialogue and in prose, to remember.

Remember

Remember the works of the Lord. Remember the goodness of our God. Remember that God has been with us, that God is with us, that God will forever be with us.

God gives us ways to remember. The rainbow after the rain. The twelve stones of Gilgal. The people in our community who share their stories of God in their lives. The cross behind the altar. The bread and wine given in remembrance of Christ. That baptismal mark of Christ on our forehead that can never ever be removed. Remember.

Richard Rohr states that our remembering will be the highway into our future, the straight path of the Lord as promised by John the Baptizer. This remembering, even though a source of both pain and hope, gives us the energy and power to keep moving into God's promise, the dream, the vision of what can be and what's beyond this moment, just on the other side of the river.

This past year we remembered and celebrated our 150th anniversary. What a beautiful year of remembering and a day of celebration. It seems that many things are coming around to what it was prior to the pandemic. Upon my arrival, I had to step up to many things as we didn't have the *normal* participation of our faith community as we did before. Now that we are seeing growth again and many people with new gifts, it allows me to focus on other needs of this congregation. Many of you notice how many are with us by how closely you are sitting to one another or come to find your *normal* spot in the pew is taken. Thank you for being open to something new in your Sunday experience. Our average weekly attendance is trending up to 90-100 per week.

I am excited to see more families and thankful for the leadership of our Youth and Education Team for helping in all things for children, youth and family ministry. The money our congregation invested in youth leadership has been priceless. Council has begun work for an endowment fund of the gift of money that remains from the sale of the parsonage as well invested that money for the benefit of our ministries.

I have been called to preach and teach the word of God and to shepherd St. John's to be a just and loving community. We are doing this ministry together and each year, I am blessed to witness to how this family

of faith welcomes new faces and cares for those in our midst and strives to do the same outside our building walls. Part of my pastoral acts reflects: 2 weddings, 4 confirmed into St. John's, 11 baptisms, 9 new member families for a total of 17 individuals, and sadly 6 of our faith family we laid to rest. This is all the ministry of St. John's as the body of Christ.

You may not have set 12 stones out, as Joshua did, but you have a wonderful building that represents parts of the past of St. John's and the hope of the future. A strength of St. John's is being inviting and hospitable and we are working to continue to grow that back. But as we invite people into our midst, it is the body of Christ that is responsible to continue to reach out to those who say yes to the ministry of Christ and yes to what St. John's is. Sometimes we all need reminders of how important each person is to the work we do in Christ's name.

Now, we may not have an ark to transport with us to remind us of God's promises, but we are called and claimed children of God, in baptism, who are set apart, holy people. We are called to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ in what we say and what we do. We still have much work to do in continuing to invite others into the mission and vision we share. We Gather, to hear the good news and grow in the knowledge of Jesus Christ at work in us and our lives. To share the good news, we need to be mindful of our self-immersion and growth in God's Word. Resources available include daily devotions, prayer, bible study, attending worship. We Grow as the body of Christ as we invite people into ministry. We are then empowered to Go and share the good news of God's kingdom on earth. When we do these things, it makes our relationship stronger with God and with one another and we open ourselves even more to the work of the Holy Spirit in us.

Friends, remember what God has done, what God is doing and listen to where the Holy Spirit is leading us. Thanks be to God!

Reverend Stacy Malzhan



2023 Council President's Report

Isaiah 41:10

“So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.”

Dear Members and Friends,

The year 2022 started with emerging from Covid; Renew22 was spent reestablishing teams, programs, processes and in-person worship and activities at St. John's. Our 150th Anniversary in 2023 was celebrated with an emphasis on outreach and ministries. The year of Ministry23 saw a substantial increase in areas of outreach. Now we are in 2024, with the opportunities for continuing to build and grow. There is a good foundation in place for Forward24.

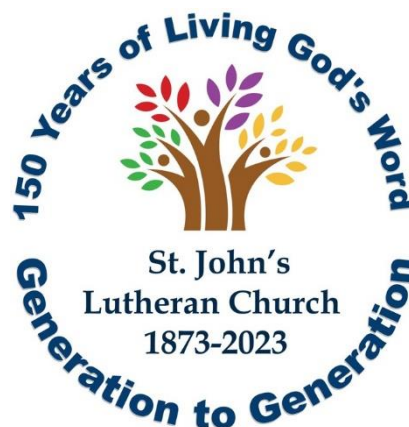
We've come a long way over the past 2 years, with each being better than the last. There's an old Country Western song that says “You have to prime the pump; you must have faith and believe.” And that's what has happened at St. John's. The faithful members and friends have primed the pump by giving generously of time, talent and treasures. It has been the fruits of these gifts and labors that have kept us out of significant financial straits and allowed greater outreach, ministering locally and beyond. Teams are slowly reforming and there are opportunities for service everywhere. This year the Sunday School Christmas program returned as well as a successful Vacation Bible School. St. John's is a busy place.

We have come far. The faithful gather and the numbers are growing. St. John's has been blessed greatly and the Holy Spirit has led us well.

There will always be struggles as our 150 years of history has taught us. Those who've gone before us met challenges, persevered, and grew St. John's on faith, sure in the knowledge of Who was leading and where we were being led, living God's word, generation to generation.

Thank you, THANK YOU, St. John's faithful congregation for all that has been, and is being, done. And especially for the joy and generosity shown in the doing of God's work. We look forward to a happy and blessed 2024.

Betty Stevens
Council President



2024 Monthly Service Groups

<p>January Roger & Eunice Redlin</p>		<p>February Nancy Valentine</p>	
Jessy & Jacqueline Haid	Megan Raymaker	Eric & Mary Ellen Hansen	Bev & Dennis Possley
Jim & Joni Holtz	Sam & Brenda Walkowiak	Lorna Koch	Renee Possley
Bill & Kay Kissinger	Keith Werner	Michelle Marchand	George Zahorik
Keith & Karen Kolstad	Janet Wiegman	Nancy Moes	
Bruce & Jan LaSota			
<p>March John & Mary Warren</p>		<p>April Curt & Sindi Anschutz</p>	
Ashley Bloom	Dennis & Peg Mueller	Mike & Beth Babik	Vic & Sandy Heitzkey
Len & Diana Brickett	Paul & Terri Poradek	Paul Delzer	Mark & Joanne Risso
Doug & Jenn Cassel	Erin Willis	Tim & Julie Eichman	Shari Seidl
Scott & Tammy Kissinger		Darrin & Alyssa Evans	Rick & Nikki Yedica
<p>May Doug & Helen Malueg</p>		<p>June Pam & Tracey Krumrei</p>	
Donn & Marie Behling	Brett & Holly King	Jerry & Sara Arndt	Ralph & Judith Kleczka
Dan & Kelly Deau	Tom & Barbara King	Tina Bergh	Fran Koski
Jake & Nicole Dembroski	Todd & Roxanne Kissinger	Darrell & Carol Brehmer	Desiree Kozlovsky
Shaun & Alana Eder	Scott & Amy Spaude	Dan & JMarie Freis	Lisa Rosenberg
		Arlene Giese	Rick Rosenberg
		Pam Giese	
<p>July Bill & Lee Hoeft</p>		<p>August Tim & Karen Heimerl</p>	
Tim & Brenda Bloom	Kevin & Wendy Smith	Clayton & Brenda Kutska	Ken & Susy Pagel
Brian & Natasha Chapman	Kathie Surges	Robert & Melissa Luedtke	Chad & Kelly Stellmacher
Nick & Kim Dunks	The Urbaniak Family	Riley & Chuck McDermid	Greg & Tammy Yager
Jan Francies	Larry & Lynne Wirtz	Darrell & Chris Naze	Ken Yost
Janet Heider	Jenny Yakes		
Bruce & Betsy Russell			
<p>September Duayne & Pat Rosenberg</p>		<p>October Dave & Ginny Burkart</p>	
Pat Bastian	Todd & Sara Beth Holman	Joe & Lauri Cahoon-Draus	Michael & Kim Mahr
Travis & Renee Falkowski	Steve & Angie Larsen	Bill Foster	Peggy Miller-Ponschock
Stephanie Hakkila	Larry Schmidtke	Rob & Nancy Gleffe	Susan Mittelstaedt
Jim & Brooke Hilbert	Dave Zimmerman	Bill & Kelly Heier	Bob & Linda Slaby
<p>November Pat & Shellie Virtues</p>		<p>December Jerry & Michelle Cooper</p>	
Peggy Bennett	Julie Kroupa	Andy & Barb Dorn	Tyler Sager
Dennis & Dawn Brouillard	Sharon Schultz	Robin Schmit Dorn	Diana Sefcik
John & Dawn Demeny	Betty Stevens	Roger & Cheryl Lambert	Mark & Barbara Seiltz
Doris Fleck	Brian & Anne Virtues	Tom & Chris Lemke	Beth Wentz
		Tim & Karie Peters	

Family & Youth Ministry Report

Dear St. John's Family,

It is with a great deal of excitement that I may share with you wonderful news of growth and renewal in our Youth and Education Programs during 2023!

With the tremendous dedication and hard work of numerous congregation members, Sunday School has been running weekly for our children ages Pre-School to 6th Grade. With a return to the Spark Classroom Lectionary Sunday School program for children through 3rd Grade, classes follow the same topics as Sunday Worship and Pastor's sermons. Our 4th through 6th grade students learn using the Connect Curriculum. This is an exciting program geared specifically toward pre-teens and is an excellent transition (or CONNECTION) between Sunday School and Confirmation. MANY thanks to those who are teaching, organizing, and walking the many Faith Journeys with our children. There is, of course, tremendous room for growth and advancement and more dedicated adults and older teens are needed to assist with leading. The goal is to have a team of 2 leading classes each week and work on a rotational basis. Please let me know if you are interested in assisting for ANY amount of time. We are also looking for people to assist with this Summer's VBS and the 2024 Children's Christmas Program, as our 2023 Christmas Program marked a special return for our Church Family! The 2023 Program, "The Birth of Jesus" was a simple re-telling of the Christmas Story through narration, acting and song. Sixteen children and adults participated in the program which took place during Worship Service on Sunday, December 10th. It was a true joy to have a program return. We also celebrated with a birthday party for Baby Jesus following worship that morning. The children were gifted with a wonderful bag of surprise goodies and a special ornament with the Nativity Scene on it to remember the program for years to come. A HUGE thank you to all of the adult volunteers who made the program such a tremendous success!

Reignited this year was also our Secret Pal Program for Sunday School Aged Children. Participating children are randomly paired with an adult from our congregation. Utilizing the Secret Pal Station located in the Sunday School Hall, Secret Pals leave surprise items and notes for each other throughout the year. Secret Pals will be revealed on Celebration Sunday in May. We currently have 7 children and 6 adults participating in the program. ALL children are invited to join at any time!

The LYO is moving forward with numerous activities planned again this year to include upcoming Breakfast Club outings and gatherings at church like Movie Night and the 30 Hour Famine in addition to Synod events. LYO Bible Studies resumed in 2023. We spent many hours volunteering at the Oconto Area Humane Society and Kingdom Come as well. Please be sure to watch your newsletters and emails for more information as the program continues to grow!

Family Ministry Outings were also a refocus in 2023. We enjoyed a wonderful concerts at Cup O' Joy, miniature golf at the Ruins in Oconto, and planned for Disney on Ice in February 2024. In the works for the upcoming year are Green Bay Gambler Outings, Green Bay Rocker Outings, a trip to Lifest, a return to Cup O' Joy, a ski trip to Ski Brule, and more! Be sure to watch your newsletters for upcoming events!

On a final note, I am honored, humbled and excited to share that I've been selected to be one of 20 national participants in a program called Faith Forward. Faith Forward is a one year training commitment to learn new and innovative ways to grow Family Ministry in small rural churches. I will begin my participation by traveling to Grand View University in Des Moines, Iowa April 29-30, 2024, to attend an in-person kick-off

event! Training will continue from there via remote communications and coaching. Here is a little more information about the program from their website:

Faith Forward will teach congregations, parents, and grandparents to tell the Biblical and family stories of God's mercy, grace, love, boundaries, protection, promises, and faithfulness. As parenting trends and church attendance change in a post-pandemic world, this program has been designed to help pastors, parents, and grandparents pass on their Christian faith to the next generation. A paradigm shift to a home-centered faith formation requires trusted partners, a strong foundation of relationships and accountability, and an openness to God's Spirit as it moves in new directions. Faith Forward wants to see parents and grandparents share the faith and values with the church's treasure and future, our children and youth.

FAITH FORWARD HAS A THREE-FOLD AIM:

1. **EMPOWER** rural and small congregations to more effectively work with parents, grandparents, and faith mentors through the normal routines of congregational life to help them hand down their Christian faith and values to the next generation.
2. **EQUIP** parents and grandparents with doable, repeatable, livable faith practices.
3. **ENCOURAGE** parents and grandparents in creating homegrown faith through easy-to-use activities and resources which weave faith formation into the normal routines of family life.

Faith Forward is funded by the Christian Parenting and Caregiving Initiative of the Lilly Endowment Inc. housed at Grand View University and works in collaboration with Peer Ministry.

I am truly looking forward to watching our Church Family Gather, Grow and Go into the New Year!

God's Blessings,
Karie Peters

Brotherhood Report

The Brotherhood was active this year. We brought a new , used zero turn lawn mower . Paid for up keep of the lawn and for parts that was needed. We helped to pay for 150 year celebration, helped to pay for Karie's trip to the 2024 Extravaganza.

The Brotherhood had held a wild game feed , two booyahs one in the spring the other in the fall.

As President of the Brotherhood I am trying to put together a retreat in June, there will be more info coming at a meeting in January to fine out if there is interest in doing this.

Respectfully submitted
Douglas Malueg , President



Building and Grounds Team Report

Building & Grounds Annual Report 2023

The maintenance of our buildings and grounds is an ongoing job. “Thank you” to our whole TEAM for their help and support on this committee, specifically but not limited to Rob Gleffe, Tracy Krumrei, Duayne Rosenberg, Dave Zimmerman, Doug Mauleg, and Rob Urbaniak. Your hard work helps to keep the Lord’s House in good shape now and into the future.

The following work was accomplished this year:

1. Weekly lawn care / snow removal.
2. Purchase of a newer zero turn lawnmower.
3. Cleaning of basement
 - i. Removal of delapidated furniture
 - ii. Purging of many items that were no longer needed.
4. Re-keyed all doors with restrictions on some.
5. Installed ring cameras on two main entrances.
6. Carpet cleaning and Ionization for better air quality.
7. Installed TV brackets & electricity in Sunday School rooms.
8. Hang 150-year Banner – lift rental was needed.
9. Extra care and trimming at south parking lot for auction,
10. Meetings will continue monthly as needed on the first Monday of the month at 6:30pm.
11. There is a signup sheet in the back if anyone is interested in joining the Buildings & Grounds committee. All are welcome!

Respectfully submitted by Curt Anschutz.

“We will not neglect the house of our God” Nehemiah 10:39

Memorial Fund Team Report

No report submitted for 2023

Outreach (Evangelism) Team Report

This has been a very good year for outreach. Two members of the team served on the 150th team to support the celebration with help to the local community and to the greater church. Local veterans and their families were helped through a financial offering and shoe collection.

St. John's helped care for God's 4 legged friends with support to the Oconto Animal Shelter. Through the ELCA Good Gifts Program, we were able to fund a motor scooter for traveling pastors and provide food for a child for a year. The ELCA had a donor provide matching funds and we took advantage of that gift to double the scooter and food donation! We also provided funds for medical care in mission communities.

St. John's was publicly acknowledged for donating coffee for the American Legion Flag Burning Ceremony at Abrams. We participated in Toys for Tots. Our relationship continues with the Churches on J. The very successful VBS drew community children, who had a great experience, at no cost to their families. Well done, Worship and Youth & Education Teams!

At the end of last year, we teamed up with a new exercise and wellness group in Oconto. They have agreed to offer exercise classes at St. John's beginning in February. We're also looking at other opportunities through the ELCA Good Gifts Program.

Bravo and thank you to members and friends of St. John's congregation for your support and generosity. We are all evangelists, and any positive outreach is a blessing for the giver and the receiver. Projects are good but don't discount the behind the scenes, every-day efforts that may seem small but have a great impact: a friendly hello, an invitation to worship or church event, a listening ear, a few shared tears, a helping hand, to mention only a few.

We invite you to share ideas and consider serving on the Outreach Team.

Michelle Marchand
Nancy Valentine
Betty Stevens

Nominating Team Report

Thank you to Nancy Valentine, John Warren and Pastor Stacy for serving on this team.

This team's responsibility is to ask members to prayerfully consider serving on our church council, as well as find delegates for the Synod Assembly.

We always welcome anyone's recommendation or suggestion on members who we can ask. It is a challenge every year for this team to find those willing to serve.

Respectfully submitted by John Warren

Stewardship Team Report

After several years of inactivity, the Stewardship Committee took 2023 to begin rebuilding. With a small but mighty committee, 2024 will be a year of revitalization. Watch for more from us as we explore what stewardship means to our congregation and work toward creating and nurturing stewardship year-round.

Respectfully submitted by Sara Beth Holman

Worship Team Report

Worship Team 2023 Annual Report
St. John's Lutheran Church
County J, Little Suamico

Team members: Shellie Virtues chair/council liaison, Janet Francies, Jan LaSota, Angie Larsen, Helen Malueg, Chris Naze, Lorna Koch, Nancy Gleffe, Pr. Stacy Malzhan.

2023 continued with a dedicated group, being active throughout the year. Regular service assignments were set up and posted for communion setup and serving, bread baking, acolyte and usher groups, as well as lay readers and monthly service groups with assistance from Karie Peters and John Warren (usher). Sanctuary music was played by Janet Francies and Jan LaSota on a rotation basis. Janet prepared and led the Echoes of Faith on a regular basis during the first three quarters of the year. Pictures were posted in the narthex for directions for communion set up. Future plans to replat or replace procession cross. Candelabras removed from altar and reserved for "special events" as oil leaks from candlesticks. Plans to purchase three candleholders for altar. Jan LaSota created and sewed new altar cloth and communion cloth for services. Chris cleaned and restored the palm cloth. Shellie made a Christmas banner for right side of altar to compliment banner on left side, of which all banners were made by Betty Stevens.

After Epiphany, plans set forth to prepare for the Lenten season, ordering palms and flowers from Schroeders with too many options! Ash Wednesday service was cancelled and celebrated the following Sunday due to a snowstorm. Simple Suppers and Lenten services were well attended (20-25) within the fellowship hall with 4 pastors rotating their messages. Palm Sunday also celebrated 2 confirmands affirming their baptisms. Holy Week celebrations included Ecumenical Maundy Thursday 6:30 pm service and stripping of the altar at St. John's. Good Friday services as usual 6:30 pm and group adorned the altar to prepare for Easter Sunday services at 7 and 9 am.

May 21 celebrated Baccalaureate Sunday. Wildfire Worship outdoors was poorly attended this summer/fall and discussion of repeated events for next year but done differently? Special music difficult to arrange and need to better prepare/announce to community.

Sunday Outdoor services were held July 23, August 6, September 10 and the 2nd annual outdoor Ecumenical Service and fellowship hour for "Churches on J" at Little Suamico Recreation Park on September 3rd was well attended and free will offerings benefited local food pantries.

St. John's 150th Anniversary Celebration on October 8th was led by a task force group and well attended by many including worship service, luncheon and past pastors of St. John's speaking to all. First communion was also celebrated this day. All may continue to order T shirts commemorating the occasion.

October 29th: Reformation Sunday as well as Affirmation of Baptism of 2 students.

All Saint's Sunday saw the altar prepared with candles for all to light to remember those who left this earth.

The Ecumenical Thanksgiving "Eve, Eve" service with Suamico Methodist Church, led by Eva Fink, took place at St. John's this year, with free will offering to benefit veterans of need in our area.

The newly formed Praise Team singing group was very limited, led by Jan LaSota and will continue into 2024. Our guest keyboard player, JP Peterson, attended December service and then played for the 5 pm Christmas Eve service with hope of more to come as we continue to seek out a music director.

Advent Simple Suppers and Services were well attended (25-30) each Wednesday evening. Pastor provided an awesome message each week and participants got to make crafts with their families and friends.

Altar paraments changed throughout the seasons and Advent preparations adorned the altar with blue cloths and church décor done by Ginny Burkart. The tree was set up and decorated by many and Sindi Anschutz finished off the beauty with swags of Christmas colors. Poinsettias were ordered from The Flower Shoppe and beautifully painted the Christmas canvas.

Blue Christmas service was Saturday December 9th afternoon with music played by Jodi, Pastor Stacy's longtime friend. Only 2 members attended and experienced a beautiful evening of music to provide peace to your mind and soul and pray for those lost and needing remembrance during the holidays.

The Children's Christmas program returned with huge success and was wonderfully performed during the December 10th Service, led by our Sunday School teachers and youth leaders.

Sunday Christmas Eve services at 9:00 am and 5:00 pm were both very well attended, each over 100! Special music was performed at both services, with Fellowship after the 9:00 service. No Christmas Day service was held this year.

In the forthcoming year, new members of our Worship Team are always welcome and I, Shellie, have decided to step away from the chair position and open it up for anyone who is interested in leading this wonderfully active team who works hard to make our services better and better for you and our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Respectfully Submitted,
Shellie Virtues

Youth and Education Team Report

The Youth & Education Team was re-established in 2023 with the following members:

Chair/Council Liaison: Rob Urbaniak
Dawn Brouillard
Alana Eder
Karie Peters

Ann Urbaniak
Jenny Urbaniak
Nikky Urbaniak
Pastor Stacy Malzhan

With much work to do in the rebuilding of the Family, Youth & Education Programs after the pandemic, this energetic and devoted Team came together monthly to plan and carry out several programs for our St. John's Families and Children.

Adult Education: We are happy to report that the Brown Bag Bible Studies have returned. Our book club at St. John's, cleverly named the Indigenous Readers of the Swamp (IRS), meets once a month for discussion and fellowship. Devotionals are also available in the narthex for congregation members to take home or share.

Confirmation: Under the guidance of Pastor Stacy, our confirmation program has taken on a new format and name! Now referred to as Club 9, the youth meet once per month for three hours on a Sunday afternoon. Pastor Stacy also leads a one-week program for Club 9 during the summer months. Our church enjoyed two Affirmation of Baptism Sundays in 2023. On April 2, 2023, Lila Walkowiak and Grace Wagner were confirmed. On Reformation Sunday, October 29, 2023, we celebrated with two additional students affirming their baptism- Madison Bloom and Rayce Kissinger.

Family Ministry: Please refer to the Family and Youth Ministry Report.

First Communion: We are happy to report that 7 children received their First Communion on Sunday, October 8, 2023, during our very special 150th Anniversary Celebration.

Lutheran Youth Organization: Please refer to the Family and Youth Ministry Report.

Splash: We have added several new babies into our family of believers this year. We provide a mail-based program that shares God's Good News with them and their parents. Thank you to Pat Rosenberg for your continued service with this program.

Sunday School: This year we returned to an age-based classroom Sunday School Program, utilizing the Spark Lectionary Curriculum. We have a wonderful team of teachers and currently have 3 active classes meeting weekly on Sundays following worship.

Vacation Bible School: VBS returned to St. John's during the Summer of 2023! This year's program was titled "Stellar" and 24 children attended. We had over 20 volunteers leading the children in lessons, song, activities, and fun! The children enjoyed a week growing in God's Word through workshops such as music, crafts, science experiments, games, and storytelling. The program was publicized to the community as well and each child attended with NO REGISTRATION FEES charged (A VERY special THANK YOU to all who donated supplies, gave monetarily, organized raffles, offered items to be sold (Krumrei's Sugar Shack) and went above and beyond to make this happen!) Next year's program will be "SCUBA!" and take place July 15-19, 2024. Planning has already begun!

May God continue to bless us here at St. John's.

Respectfully submitted by Karie Peters

WELCA Report

St. John's WELCA (Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America)

Jennifer Cassel-President
Pamela Krumrei-Vice President

Angie Larson-Secretary
Sherry Hilbert-Treasurer

Moving into 2023, the women of St. John's were off to a good start with focused plans in support of congregation and community! With many hearts and hands, we have supported the following projects over the past year:

Birthday Cake Lenten project. Collected items for patrons to be able to make a birthday cake. Suggested by Amy Spaude, this project included a disposable baking pan, a cake mix, a can of soda, canned icing and decorations for a birthday. Items we collected and dropped off at a local pantry,

WELCA served a Lenten simple supper, free will donations were used to purchase a bicycle for the Friends of Little Suamico Easter egg project

Pamela Krumrei generously donated a quilt for the WELCA women's conference spring event basket raffle.

WELCA has supported the Good Samaritan Fund over the past year and has pledged continued support in the future.

Sindi Anchutz pulled together an amazing Mother's Day Tea event with the help of several family members. 26 women and children attended the event, and it was wonderfully received by all who attended.

Several women including Tammy Fochs-Yager, Betty Stevens, and Pamela Krumrei, have diligently been taking care of the flower beds at the church.

WELCA helped Nikky Urbaniak by financially supporting the start-up of a local Dolly Parton Imagination library program.

WELCA also sponsored the Live like Ava Foundation by donating money to help purchase table banners to be used at all their fundraising events

Tammy Yager and Pamela Krumrei co-chaired the annual Bazaar this year. Our ladies did a great job working together to make this another successful project this year, raising \$4602.

Ginny Burkhart, Jennifer Cassel and Marie Freis worked together to coordinate gifts for the Sun valley home in Oconto again this year. We have supported this ministry for several years and they are always thankful that we take care of their residents. Additionally, this year we recognized the staff for their continued care of all the residents.

Ann & Nikky Urbaniak & Jenny Yakes helped pull together Goodie bag for the kiddos after the Christmas program this year, with financial support from WELCA.

We supported the new member breakfast this year, as well as helping the Brotherhood with baked goods for both the annual auction and Booyah events.

A final fun day for WELCA this past year was ringing bells for Salvation Army at Bay Park Square Mall. Amy Spaude, Jennifer Cassel, Kelly Deau, & granddaughter Emma, Pamela Krumrei, Betsy Russell & Pastor Stacy enjoyed an hour of ringing bells together and singing Christmas songs

WELCA has monthly meetings after church service on the second Sunday of the month. All women of St. John's are welcome and encouraged to attend, joining in the fun of serving good works in our community.

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Cassel

2023 Membership/Pastoral Acts

Baptisms

Everleigh Katherine Grace Schwartz
Landin Michael Grun
Foster Jeffery Palomaki
Austin Franke
Elijah James Chapman
Taya Lynn Dequaine
Talia Marie Dequaine
Brett Carlton Dequaine
Mia Connie LaCourt
Kyah Ann DeBauche
Charlotte Lynne Techmeier

Weddings

Austin Franke & Ashly Hyatt
Tanner & Tanya Stehly (outside svc)
Erin Lee Hogue & Brian Wayne Willis

Affirmation of Baptism

Lila Anne Walkowiak
Grace Katherine-Lorene Wagner
Madison Lee Bloom
Rayce Scott Kissinger

First Communion

Kamdyn Lance
Kimber Lance
Dayze Mahr
Easton Hogan
Abigail Brasted
Jackson Marquardt
Blaze Virtues

Funerals

Karen Hansen
Caroline Koski
Patricia Rasmussen
Jerry Surges

New Members

Peggy Miller-Ponschock
Keith Werner
Desiree Kozlovsky

Keith Kolstad
Karen Kolstad
Jessy Haid
Jacqueline Haid
Morgan Haid
Reid Haid
Martina Bergh
Darrin Charles Evans
Alyssa Renate Evans
McKenzie Lee Evans
Jase Charles Evans
Erin Lee Hogue
Dawn Brouillard
Dennis Brouillard

Transfer to Other Congregations

Rebecca Konkell
Michael Bloom
Andrew Vorpahl
Heather Vorpahl
Sheradin Vorpahl
Sawyer Vorpahl
Sofia Vorpahl
Troy Pflugradt
Amanda Pflugradt
Caden Pflugradt
Chase Pflugradt
Earl Habeck
Shirley Habeck
Terry DeBenedetto
Diane DeBenedetto
Eric DeBenedetto
Terry DeBenedetto

Remove for Other/Statistical Adjustments

No Funeral Services:

Eugene "Gene" Wittkopf
June Heisler

Remove by Request

None

Pandemic Statistical Corrections (corrections to previous annual reports)

2020 **Not Baptized**

Kyleigh Ann Risso
Rhett Alexander Risso

2020 **Not Confirmed**

Lilian Bloom
Logan Heimerl
Carter Holman
Jacob LeVeille
Kellen Wijas
Lauren Wijas
Deegan Lambert
Chase Pflugardt
Lila Walkowiak
Grace Wagner

2021 **Not Baptized**

Madelyn Schaal
Terralyn (correction: Tessalyn) Schaal
Lextin Schaal
Carter Pawlak

Oct. 31, 2021

Name Correction under Affirmation of Baptism:

Logan Heimer (correction: Logan Heimerl)

Add: Lauren Wijas

2023 Team Members

Brotherhood

President: Doug Malueg
Treasurer: Rob Gleffe
Members: All men of the church

Building and Grounds

Chair/Council Liaison: Curt Anschutz
Rob Gleffe
Tracey Krumrei
Doug Malueg
Duayne Rosenberg
Rob Urbaniak
Dave Zimmerman

Church Council 2023

President: Betty Stevens
Vice President: Tracey Krumrei
Secretary: Shellie Virtues
Treasurer: Steve Larsen
Curt Anschutz
Barb Dorn
Sara Beth Holman
Michelle Marchand
Rob Urbaniak
Pastor Stacy Malzhan

Evangelism/Outreach Team

Chair/Council Liaison: Michelle Marchand
Nancy Valentine
Betty Stevens

Finance

No established Team in 2023

Memorial

No established Team in 2023

Nominating

Nancy Valentine
John Warren

Stewardship

Chair/Council Liaison: Sara Beth Holman
Doug Cassel
John Warren
Pastor Stacy Malzhan

Technology

No established Team in 2023

WELCA

President: Jenn Cassel
Vice President: Pamela Krumrei
Secretary: Angie Larsen
Treasurer: Sherry Hilbert
Members: All women of the church

Worship

Chair/Council Liaison: Shellie Virtues
Janet Francies
Nancy Gleffe
Lorna Koch
Jan LaSota
Angie Larsen
Helen Malueg
Chris Naze
Pastor Stacy Malzhan

Youth & Education

Council Liaison: Rob Urbaniak
Chair: Karie Peters
Dawn Brouillard
Alana Eder
Ann Urbaniak
Jenny Urbaniak
Nikky Urbaniak
Pastor Stacy Malzhan

Annual Financial Report

Overall, 2023 was a challenging year again for St. John's. Our 2023 forecasted budget was a net decrease of cash in the amount of (\$49,825). Our revenue (General offering and loose offering) was only (\$3,105) less than the 2023 forecast, our actual net decrease of cash for 2023 was (\$16,260). **This decrease does include the proceeds from the Packer Concessions, Auction, Thrivent giving, Scrip and Aluminum cans which accounted for \$34,303.** The Auction committee did an awesome job in 2023 with a record profit of \$13,087. The Church also received \$18,415 from the Packer Concessions in 2023. Thank you everybody who volunteered for the Packers. The Church has also established a money market account in 2023 with an initial deposit of \$85,000 of which we have received over \$1,800 in dividends in 2023. Things are moving in the right direction (new members, higher attendance, and involvement within the community).

Additionally, we have drafted a mission plan for 2024. After reviewing the historical data, we are expecting a decrease in cash of (\$67,354) for 2024. **This does not include any proceeds from the Auction, Packer Concessions, aluminum cans, SCRIP or Thrivent choice dollars.** Total expenses forecasted for 2024 are \$17,529 higher than that of 2023 and the Council has decided to keep the revenue (General and Loose donations) the same as 2023. The funds you each provide are what keep vital ministries like youth programs, worship opportunities, world-wide missions alive and healthy. So, I encourage everyone to continue to contribute as led by God.

Respectfully,

Steve Larsen
Treasurer

Proposed Mission Plan for 2024

		YTD Actual as of 12/31/2023	YTD Difference from 2023 Budget	Budget 2023	Budget 2024
Income					
<i>Donations</i>					
40000	Donations-General Fund	\$ 138,807	\$ (5,193)	\$144,000	\$144,000
40001	Loose Offerings	\$ 4,088	\$ 2,088	\$2,000	\$3,000
	Total Donations	\$ 142,895	\$ (3,105)	\$146,000	\$147,000
<i>Other Income</i>					
40700	Use of Facilities	\$ 1,175	\$ 275	\$900	\$1,200
	Auction Funds to General Fund	\$ 13,087	\$ 13,087		
	Aluminum Can Fund to General Fund	\$ 801	\$ 801		
	Scrip fund to general fund	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000		
	Thrivent Choice dollars to General fund	\$ 438	\$ 438		
	Packer Concession to General fund	\$ 18,415	\$ 18,415		
	Total Other Income	\$ 35,916	\$ 35,016	\$900	\$1,200
	Total Income	\$ 178,811	\$ 31,911	\$146,900	\$148,200
<i>Benevolence</i>					
60300	Synod	\$ 6,000	\$ -	\$6,000	\$8,000
60301	Synod Assembly	\$ 495	\$ 5	\$500	\$600
	Total Benevolence	\$ 6,495	\$ 5	\$6,500	\$8,600
<i>Building / Grounds</i>					
61100	Electricity	\$ 5,034	\$ (1,034)	\$4,000	\$5,400
61200	Gas- Natural	\$ 3,609	\$ (109)	\$3,500	\$4,000
61300	Insurance	\$ 7,531	\$ (647)	\$6,884	\$8,705
61400	Repairs/Maintenance	\$ 1,883	\$ 1,117	\$3,000	\$3,000
61500	Sanitary District	\$ 660	\$ 20	\$680	\$660
61600	Snow Plowing	\$ -	\$ -	\$0	\$0
61800	Supplies	\$ 425	\$ (75)	\$350	\$350
61900	Telephone	\$ 2,299	\$ 1	\$2,300	\$2,400
61950	Waste Removal	\$ 1,368	\$ (676)	\$692	\$936
61975	Church Cleaning	\$ 2,682	\$ (282)	\$2,400	\$3,300
	Total Building / Grounds	\$ 25,491	\$ (1,685)	\$23,806	\$28,751

		YTD Actual as of 12/31/2023	YTD Difference from 2023 Budget	Budget 2023	Budget 2024
<i>Youth and Education</i>					
62000	Bibles/ Studies	\$ 174	\$ 126	\$300	\$300
62100	Confirmation	\$ 589	\$ 161	\$750	\$700
62110	Cradle Roll	\$ 471	\$ (411)	\$60	\$80
62130	Devotional	\$ 132	\$ (16)	\$116	\$132
62200	First Communion	\$ 20	\$ 180	\$200	\$200
62400	Sunday School	\$ 1,244	\$ (1,044)	\$200	\$1,500
62500	Vacation Bible School	\$ 399	\$ 1	\$400	\$500
62700	Continuing Ed (Youth)	\$ (1,000)	\$ 1,000	\$0	\$0
	Total Youth and Education	\$ 2,029	\$ (3)	\$2,026	\$3,412
<i>Conferences/Meetings/Dues</i>					
63000	Conferences/Meetings/Dues	\$ 88	\$ 212	\$300	\$100
	Total Conf/Meetings/Dues	\$ 88	\$ 212	\$200	\$100
<i>Evangelism</i>					
64000	Advertising/Signage	\$ 219	\$ 781	\$1,000	\$1,000
64200	Postage-Community	\$ 88	\$ 312	\$400	\$400
62300	New Members Class	\$ 19	\$ 31	\$50	\$50
64300	Postage-Newsletter	\$ -	\$ -	\$0	\$100
	Total Evangelism	\$ 326	\$ 1,124	\$1,450	\$1,550
<i>Pastoral</i>					
67000	Books/Journals	\$ 404	\$ (4)	\$400	\$400
67100	Car/Travel Allowance	\$ 1,448	\$ 552	\$2,000	\$2,000
67200	Continuing Education	\$ 835	\$ 65	\$900	\$900
67300	Professional Expenses	\$ 300	\$ -	\$300	\$300
67350	Clergy Coaching	\$ 1,800	\$ -	\$1,800	\$1,800
67400	Housing Allowance	\$ 14,490	\$ -	\$14,490	\$15,215
67500	Pension/Insurance	\$ 21,320	\$ (32)	\$21,288	\$21,799
67600	Theological Conferences	\$ 435	\$ 40	\$475	\$600
	Total Pastoral	\$ 41,032	\$ 621	\$41,653	\$43,014
<i>Payroll Expenses</i>					
68200	Pastor	\$ 48,300	\$ -	\$48,300	\$50,715
68300	Office Administrator	\$ 22,880	\$ -	\$22,880	\$24,000
68360	Youth/Family Ministry	\$ 14,000	\$ -	\$14,000	\$14,000
68400	Soc Sec/ Med (Pastor)	\$ 4,803	\$ -	\$4,803	\$5,044
68500	Soc Sec/Med (Staff)	\$ 2,821	\$ -	\$2,821	\$2,907
68600	Worker's Comp Insurance	\$ 715	\$ (7)	\$708	\$751
	Total Payroll Expenses	\$ 93,519	\$ (7)	\$93,512	\$97,417

		YTD Actual as of 12/31/2023	YTD Difference from 2023 Budget	Budget 2023	Budget 2024
Contract Staff					
69000	Musician	\$ 5,475	\$ 1,025	\$6,500	\$7,500
69100	Substitute Pastor	\$ 1,023	\$ 577	\$1,600	\$1,600
69200	Music Director	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
	Total Relief Staff	\$ 6,498	\$ 6,602	\$13,100	\$14,100
Sabbatical					
69200	Sabbatical/Savings	\$ -	\$ -	\$0	\$0
	Total Sabbatical	\$ -	\$ -		
Stewardship					
70000	Offering Envelopes	\$ 1,434	\$ 66	\$1,500	\$1,600
70100	Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ -	\$0	\$1,000
70200	Postage/Mailings	\$ 63	\$ 37	\$100	\$200
	Total Stewardship	\$ 1,497	\$ 103	\$1,600	\$2,800
Office Expenses					
71000	Miscellaneous	\$ 156	\$ (156)		\$0
71050	Copy Machine Usage	\$ 3,865	\$ (865)	\$3,000	\$3,300
71070	Office Equip/Repairs	\$ 14	\$ (14)		\$0
71100	Office Supplies	\$ 1,707	\$ (807)	\$900	\$1,500
71150	Paper/Bulletin Paper	\$ 899	\$ 1	\$900	\$900
71200	Postage/Mailing	\$ 642	\$ 8	\$650	\$650
71250	Tech,Equip, Software,serv.	\$ 3,701	\$ (1,673)	\$2,028	\$3,000
71300	Website	\$ 205	\$ (5)	\$200	\$200
	Total Supplies	\$ 11,189	\$ (3,511)	\$7,678	\$9,550
Unbudgeted Expenses					
72000	Unbudgeted Expenses	\$ 625	\$ (625)	\$0	\$0
	Total Unbudgeted	\$ 625	\$ (625)		
Financial Expenses					
70050	Financial Expenses	\$ 3,600	\$ -	\$3,600	\$4,500
	Total Financial Expenses	\$ 3,600	\$ -	\$3,600	\$4,500
Worship					
74100	Music	\$ 265	\$ (165)	\$100	\$100
74125	Music License	\$ 1,283	\$ (383)	\$900	\$900
74150	Sacramental Needs	\$ 420	\$ (120)	\$300	\$300
74200	Special Music/Events	\$ -	\$ 200	\$200	\$200
74300	Supplies	\$ 714	\$ (614)	\$100	\$260
	Total Worship	\$ 2,682	\$ (1,082)	\$1,600	\$1,760
	Total Expenses	\$ 195,071	\$ 1,654	\$196,725	\$215,554
	Net Income	\$ (16,260)	\$ 33,565	(49,825)	\$ (67,354)

Meeting Notes

A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDING BISHOP ELIZABETH EATON



Dear friends in Christ,

Over the past year we have continued to experience changes in the world around us. Even as our church finds ways to adapt to this changing world, we find hope in the unchanging and always present promise of God's love through Jesus Christ. We change and adapt not to conform to the world but because we believe that the gift of God's Son is for the world, and that our congregations and worshiping communities are places to gather and be sent into the world, where we will tell the story of God's love in word and deed.

The ministries of our congregations, our synods and the churchwide organization provide ways for the church to move beyond the boundaries of structures and geography and to share God's love with people in our neighborhoods, our cities, our country and beyond. We engage in this ministry knowing that our church walks by faith, trusting in God's promise in the gospel, and that we exist by and for the proclamation of this gospel word. In John 15:5, Jesus reminds us, "I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing." We are connected by the promise that we do all through Christ and can do nothing apart from him.

God gives the Holy Spirit, who uses gospel proclamation — in preaching and sacraments, in forgiveness and in healing conversations — to create and sustain this faith. Just as we rely on God to sustain our faith, we rely on each other to sustain the ministries that offer God's love to the world. Through your generosity to each expression

of this church — your congregation, your synod and your churchwide organization — you add to our collective voice proclaiming God's love for all.

I am grateful for your generosity over this last year. My gratitude spreads far beyond your generous financial gifts. You've shared your gifts of time through countless hours of volunteering, serving and accompanying. You've shared the gifts of your voices as we've tried to discover and learn how God is calling us to be the church now and into the future. And, finally, dear church, you have shared the gift of the realness of God's love with the world around you. Be well, dear church, and stand steadfast in the promise of God's love and grace as you take that promise with you into the world.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elizabeth A. Eaton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

“I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.” —John 15:5

Through your generosity, God is at work across the ELCA. A portion of your offering, called Mission Support, advances the ministry of our church, helping the ELCA nurture Christian community, raise up leaders, serve our neighbors and strive for justice. Read stories and learn more at [ELCA.org/SOFIA](https://elca.org/SOFIA).

