



2021 Annual Report

Light of Christ Lutheran Church
3976 County Line Road SE
Delano, MN 55328
(763) 972-2400
www.lightofchristlutheran.com



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Annual Meeting

January 30, 2022

Light of Christ Lutheran Church
3976 County Line Road SE, Delano MN 55328

Page

3	Roster of 2021 Council and Committees
4	Agenda
5-6	Minutes of January 31, 2021 Annual Meeting
7-8	Pastor Bruce Kuenzel
9	Children & Family Ministries (PreK-6 th Gr) – LaDonna Ekern
10-11	Youth & Family Ministries—Kirsten Kelly
12	Shared Ministry Director—Tim Johnson

COMMITTEE AND GROUP REPORTS

13	Children & Family Ministry
14	Columbarium Committee
14	Community Life Committee
15	Endowment Committee
15	Finance Committee
15-16	Healing & Wholeness Committee
16	Library Committee
16-17	Mission/Evangelism Committee
17	Mutual Ministry
18	Personnel Committee
18	Property Committee
19	Stewardship Committee
19-20	Worship and Music Committee
21	Altar Guild
21	Birthday Ministry
21	Sisters of LOC
22	Women of Light of Christ
23-24	Youth Fund Financial Report
25-29	Treasurer's Report
30	Membership Statistics
31	Bishop's Annual Report

CHURCH COUNCIL & COMMITTEE ROSTER

January 31, 2021 to January 2022

CHURCH COUNCIL

(3-year terms)

Term expires Jan. 2022:

Elizabeth Kohlhof (V. Pres)

Tom Sebelien (Treas.)

Stacy VanCura (Pres.)

Term expires Jan. 2023:

Carmen Hanson (Secy.)

Jennifer Hinker

Jon Holzer

Term expires Jan. 2024:

Steven Dickey

Derek Horeis

Lisa Spencer

TREASURER:

Tom Sebelien

FINANCE ADMIN.:

Debbie Johnson

COMMITTEES:

(Committees are 2-year terms, with exceptions noted.)

CHILDREN & FAMILY

MINISTRY TEAM

Preschool - Grade 6

1st Tuesday, 7:30 pm

Council Rep: Jen Hinker

LaDonna Ekern

Term expires Jan. 2022:

Jen Burbach (2nd term)

Brenna Demeules

April Fritz

Melissa Hillmyer

Laura Jaunich (3rd term)

Kim Knisley

Cynthia Kuenzel

Tara Olson (5th term)

Term expires Jan. 2023:

Susie Larison (2nd term)

Lori Prickett (2nd term)

YOUTH & FAMILY

MINISTRY TEAM

Grades 7-12

3rd Monday, 7:30 pm

Council Rep: Lisa Spencer

Kirsten Kelly

Term expires Jan. 2022:

Karolyn Thompson

Anna Tool

Ryan Tool

Term expires Jan. 2023:

Lesley Berscheid (2nd term)

Holly Caple (2nd term)

Andrea Quandt (2nd term)

Lisa Schmit (2nd term)

Jennifer Slipka

COMMUNITY LIFE

2nd Tuesday, 6:30pm

Council Rep: Elizabeth Kohlhof

Term expires Jan. 2022:

Heidi Goldbeck (4th term)

Jennifer Grant (5th term)

Kelly Harstad (3rd term)

Melanie Paulson (3rd term)

Term expires Jan. 2023:

Mary Allen (3rd term)

Carrie Klinkner

Candace Mielke (3rd term)

ENDOWMENT

Terms vary—1, 2, 3 year

Council Rep:

Amy Bigot

Brian Harstad

Jonathan Ness

EVANGELISM/MISSION

1st Tuesday, 6:30pm

Council Rep: Stacy VanCura

Term expires Jan. 2022:

Lona Jose (5th term)

Angie Malo

JoMarie Williamson

Bea Zerull

Term expires Jan. 2023:

Jewel Ekern

FINANCE

Council Rep: Tom Sebelien

Term expires Jan. 2022:

Brenna Demeules

Term expires Jan. 2023:

Rob Geistfeld

Adam Wortz

HEALING & WHOLENESS

1st Thursday, 6:30 pm

Council Rep: Derek Horeis

Term expires Jan. 2023:

Cat Borman

Sue Fink

Lona Jose

Julie Wischmann

LIBRARY

Term expires Jan. 2022:

Sharon McKisson

Term expires Jan. 2023:

Amber Dawn Andrews

Diane Beilke

MUTUAL MINISTRY

(appointed by Pastor & President)

Amy Bigot

Kevin Jaunich

Paul Ludwig

Stacy VanCura

Natasha Werner

NOMINATING

(5 needed)

(1 yr. term, expires 1/22)

Kylee Amdor

PERSONNEL

Meets as needed

Council Rep: Stacy VanCura

Term expires Jan. 2022:

Rhonda Current

Vicki Noetzelman

Term expires Jan. 2023:

Rhonda Almquist (2nd term)

Melissa Hillmyer (2nd term)

JoMarie Williamson (2nd term)

PROPERTY

2nd Tuesday, 6:30pm

Council Rep: Jon Holzer

Term expires Jan. 2022:

Ben Altenhofen

Mike Boyack (3rd term)

Scott Dallmann (2nd term)

Peter Grant (2nd term)

Charlie Jose

John McClelland (3rd term)

Dan Torfin (5th term)

John Zerull

Term expires Jan. 2023:

Aaron Amdor (4th term)

Kevin Rothstein (3rd term)

Bob Slipka (3rd term)

SMALL GROUP

MINISTRIES

Meets as needed

Term expires Jan. 2022:

Tim Johnson

Term expires Jan. 2023:

STEWARDSHIP

2nd Monday, 6:30pm

Council Rep: Steven Dickey

Term expires Jan. 2022:

Jeremiah Werner

Term expires Jan. 2023:

Cheri Ashfeld (2nd term)

Natalie Dinger

Tim Johnson (2nd term)

WORSHIP & MUSIC

2nd Tuesday, 5:30 pm

Council Rep: Carmen Hanson

Katie Kohler

Term expires Jan. 2022:

Val Donahue

Term expires Jan. 2023:

Kathy Behm

Wendy Caslavka *(special projects)*

Brad Goldbeck (2nd term)

Maxine Johnson

Mary Ann McKay

ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA
January 30, 2022

Welcome and Coming Together:

- Call to Order, Introductions and Devotions
- Adopt Meeting Agenda

2021 Review:

- Adopt Minutes of the 2021 Annual Meeting and Special Congregational Meeting
- Adopt Staff Reports
- Adopt Committee Reports
- Narrative Budget
- Celebrating Our Successes – Final Report on New Day Capital Campaign Initiatives

Treasurer's Report: Tom Sebelien

- Adopt 2021 Financial Statements
- Final Financial Report on New Day Capital Campaign

2022 Business:

- Adopt 2022 Budget
- Proposal to launch an “All Things New” capital campaign
- Nominations and Elections for 2022 Council and Committees
- Columbarium Update
- Endowment Grant Award
- Looking Ahead

Closing:

- Prayer and Meeting Adjournment

Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes – January 31, 2021

Welcome and Coming Together

- Call to Order, Introductions and Devotions (official meeting start at 9:39am)
- Adopt 2021 Annual Meeting Agenda
 - ◇ Motion Approved: 1st Val Donahue; 2nd Dee Beilke

2020 Review

- Adopt Minutes of the 2020 Annual Meeting
 - ◇ Motion Approved: 1st Vicki Noetzelman; 2nd Janine Holter
- Adopt Staff Reports
 - ◇ Motion Approved: 1st Maxine Johnson; 2nd Wes Aylsworth
- Adopt Committee Reports
 - ◇ Motion Approved: 1st Dee Beilke; 2nd Mary Ann McKay
- Time and Talent – Jinnelle Weis
 - ◇ We are thankful and grateful for the work, support, time, and talent of MANY whom have helped to keep our ministries vibrant despite the challenges of 2020 and Covid-19! Over 7,000+ hours of volunteer service from our members.
 - ◇ We are also thankful and grateful for our wonderful staff who have experimented, honed new skills and introduced us all to new ways of ministry! We are BLESSED!
- Year in Review – Our Work Against our Strategic Initiatives
 - ◇ Expand our Worship and Music Ministry
 - ◇ Deepen our Healing and Wholeness Ministry
 - ◇ Strengthen our Children, Youth, and Family Ministry
 - ◇ Strengthen our Outreach to Those in Need

Treasurer's Report: Tom Sebelien

- Income exceeded expenses despite being lower than 2020 budget
- Committees and staff did an excellent job controlling expenses
- Actuals do not include the Paycheck Protection funds granted
- Adopt 2020 Financial Statements
 - ◇ Note: Updated Endowment Fund value is \$29,741 [Amy Bigot]
 - ◇ Motion Approved: 1st Cheri Ashfeld; 2nd Val Donahue
- 2020 Update on Capital Campaign

2021 Business

- Adopt 2021 Budget
 - ◇ Anticipate lower faith sharing in first half with annual levels 'flat' to 2020
 - ◇ Includes a staff increase of 3%
 - ◇ If your committee has an incremental financial need, please bring forward to the Council. We are here to support growth opportunities and committed to helping fulfill these opportunities.
 - * Any request under \$5K can be approved by Council, anything over needs congregation approval
 - ◇ Motion Approved: 1st Wes Aylsworth; 2nd Val Donahue
- Adopt Funds for Technological and Capital Improvements in 2021
 - ◇ Technology and building improvement needs have been identified including:
 - * Window and steeple maintenance needs
 - * Screen and technology updates in sanctuary and Sunday School classrooms
 - * Addition of \$10,000 to youth room remodeling
 - ◇ The council proposes allotting \$60,000 from the reserves in our general fund to cover these improvement and repairs:
 - * The church mortgage will be paid by end of 2021 and our reserves are healthy
 - * The budget should be used to cover normal, ongoing expenses, but is not designed to cover larger improvements
 - * Completion of these updates prior to return to worship will be less disruptive
 - * Investing in our church is important to drive growth and build for our future
 - ◇ Motion Approved: 1st Lisa Spencer; 2nd Fred Caslavka

(continued on next page)

- Nominations and Elections for 2021 Council and Committees
 - ◇ Reach out to Jinnelle or the committee chairs if you need any additional information on the committee descriptions and time commitment. Committees are open if you want to join to learn more before fully committing.
 - ◇ Prayerfully consider getting involved and sharing your time and talents
 - ◇ Motion Approved: 1st Stacy VanCura; 2nd Vicki Noetzelman
- Columbarium Update
 - ◇ Light of Christ's Columbarium/Memorial Garden area will consist of a beautifully landscaped area, adjacent to the church sanctuary. It will provide a peaceful place for prayer and meditation.
 - ◇ Status of project
 - * Bi-laws have been created
 - * Columbarium supplier determined – Eikhoff Columbarium, based in Crookston, MN
 - * Final stages of determining columbarium size/style
 - * Memorial Garden/Columbarium site determined
 - * Preliminary landscape design determined
 - * Project timeline determined
 - ◇ Next steps:
 - * Budget to be finalized
 - * Congregational approval. Educational meeting and vote date, more info to come.
 - * Financing to be secured
 - * Project completion goal date – with congregational approval, November 1, 2021
- Endowment Grant Award
 - ◇ The Light of Christ Endowment Fund is:
 - * A separate account from the church's operating and building funds
 - * Accepts & holds current and future contributions and estate gifts
 - * For the purpose of making distributions to fund ministry
 - ◇ Committee members are Brian Harstad, Amy Bigot and Jonathan Ness
 - ◇ Fund balance as of Dec 31, 2020 = \$29,741
 - * Initial church contribution from June 2019 = \$25,000
 - * Plus fund returns of \$1,479 and market value increase of \$3,262
 - ◇ Goal: begin using a portion of the fund's income to make grants to fund ministry in the church & community in early 2021
 - ◇ **Now seeking grant applications** for ministry needs from church members
 - * Programs or needs within church or community for grants of \$100-\$500 or more
 - * Contact church office or committee member for application form
 - * Accepting applications during February
 - ◇ Future Legacy Giving education sessions to be planned

Closing

- Prayer and Meeting Adjournment
 - ◇ Pastor Bruce remarks:
 - * Who we are and what we do does not change
 - * We have adapted and accomplished a great deal. It has been a remarkably good year for LOC.
 - * Confident the investments we are making will grow our ministry
 - * Planning to have a Spring congregation meeting, will update on Columbarium project and Capital Campaign kick-off
 - * Reflect on what it will mean to live in our new reality. Reset, rethink and reimagine how we can move forward together. We are made for community.
- Motion Approved: 1st Dan Langner; 2nd Mary Ann McKay

REPORT OF THE PASTOR Bruce Kuenzel, Pastor

2021 was another challenging year. The pandemic has taken its toll on all of us in one way or another. Nevertheless, we continue to be the Lord's living, loving presence in the world in the midst of the disruption, disorientation and discouragement of this past year. As we have said all along, who we are and what we do has not changed; how we do it keeps changing. Here are a few of the highlights of our life together in 2021.

Worship

- We resumed **in-person worship** in April by worshipping outdoors April – mid-September; we then began worshipping in the sanctuary beginning in late May.
- In October we transitioned from pre-recorded service on YouTube to **Livestream** worship at 9:00 AM on Sunday mornings.
- In May, we held our **Confirmation Day** service, using a combination of online and in-person worship.

Children/Youth Family

- We conducted **Sunday School, Spark, Club 5/6, and Confirmation** outdoors in both the spring and the fall; we then moved indoors in late October, still requiring that everyone in the building wear a mask and social distance as much as possible.
- Beginning last spring, we enlarged and transformed our Youth Room into a new "**Living Room.**" Thanks to all the volunteers who helped in this effort, and a special word of thanks goes out to Brandt Dinger, Jennifer Grant, and Kirsten Kelly.

Columbarium

- We held a special congregation meeting in October and voted almost unanimously to proceed with the **funding and construction of a columbarium and prayer garden** on the west side of the sanctuary. Thus far, we have almost twenty people/families who have purchased a niche or intend to. Construction will begin in the spring of 2022 and it should be completed sometime next fall.

New Day Capital Campaign

- **We retired the \$425,000 debt** on the Education Wing in October. By paying off this mortgage in three years rather than thirteen **we saved \$97,932 in interest** that otherwise would have been paid to our lender.
- **We set aside 10% of the money** that we raised in this campaign for outreach to the community and beyond. Here is how we gave away this 10% in 2021:
- We gave **\$9,000 to the Delano School District** to help families in need during the pandemic, specifically, with financial help for food, clothing, shelter, transportation, and mental health needs.
- We gave **\$10,000 to the Minneapolis Synod's** drive to raise \$500,000 to make it possible for our Companion Synod in Nigeria to help start a **Lutheran University in northeastern Nigeria.**
- We gave **\$7,500 to Nourishing HOPE** to help purchase a refrigerator truck so that we can distribute perishable food at our monthly food distribution.
- We gave **\$7,000 to help launch our Healing and Wholeness Ministry**, one of the new initiatives of our New Day Campaign.
- We gave **\$750 to fund our Love INC Birthday Ministry.**
- We still have almost **\$12,000 that we will give away in 2022.**

(continued on next page)

REPORT OF THE PASTOR
Bruce Kuenzel, Pastor *(continued)*

Staffing

- **Catherine Borman and Kim Wortz** resigned as Children and Family Directors in May. We thanked them for a job well-done and asked God's blessing on their new endeavors. We then hired **Pastor LaDonna Ekern** in May as our new Children and Family Director.
- **Jinnelle Weis** tendered her resignation as our Shared Ministry Director in May. We thanked Jinnelle for a job well-done as well and asked God's blessing on her as she moved into full retirement. Then in October, we hired **Tim Johnson** as our new Shared Ministry Director.

In closing, I want to express my heart-felt thanks for your patience, adaptability, and cheerfulness throughout another COVID year. You are a gift to me, and I am proud of you and I am grateful to be the pastor of Light of Christ. I pray God's richest blessings on us as a community of faith as we strive to be his living, loving presence in the world.

Peace and joy always,
Pastor Bruce Kuenzel

CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRIES (Preschool – Grade 6) ANNUAL REPORT
Submitted by LaDonna Ekern, Dir. of Children & Family Ministry

Rejoice in the Lord always, Philippians 4:4

There was a time, lots of times, that I haven't felt like rejoicing. Times of pandemic, times of death, times of being completely overwhelmed. It was during one of those circumstance that I read Philippians 4:4. At the time I wanted to go BAH HUMBUG! Then I spent a bit of time with it and realized it doesn't say to rejoice in the circumstance, the event – it says to rejoice in the Lord. As I reflect back on the last 6 months that I have been here, I discover that the way God has been at work in and among us has been incredible!

Today my heart is full of gratitude and blessing for all the ways God continues to work in my life and the life of this congregation.

I thank God for Light of Christ. I thank God for all the remarkable families. I thank God for the amazing children. I thank God for you and the support and welcome I have received since I started in May. I rejoice God has called me to this congregation as Director of Children and Family Ministry. I thank God for the opportunity to also fill in as pastor as needed. I thank God for you.

I rejoice in the way God continues to provide wisdom and guidance as we learn different ways of being church together. How God is so incredible in guiding and providing the resources necessary to provide VBS, SPARK, CLUB 5-6, outdoor Sunday school, indoor Sunday school, special projects to help those in need locally. And that's just in the Children and Family Ministry areas that I am called to serve. I rejoice in the Lord who provide a wonderful Children and Family Ministry team, parent volunteers and children to make it all happen! Be sure to check out their report as well!

I rejoice that I am a part of a remarkable, gifted and talented staff. I rejoice in the Lord and how this congregation understands it takes everyone working together as church to be able to follow God's guidance. I rejoice in the Lord who has been and continues to be at work in this place guiding all of us to discover new ways of being connected and yet safe, especially for our most vulnerable. I thank God for you and the value and importance you demonstrate for our children.

I rejoice in the Lord and how in the midst of events and circumstances that I cannot rejoice in, God gave you. You are beloved children of God! I thank God for you!

LaDonna Ekern
Director of Children and Family Ministry



YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRIES (Grades 7-12) ANNUAL REPORT

Submitted by Kirsten Kelly, Dir. of Youth & Family Ministry (in consultation with the Youth & Family Ministry Team)

Youth & Family Ministry Team Members: Lesley Berscheid, Holly Caple, Kirsten Kelly (staff), Andrea Quandt, Lisa Schmit, Jennifer Slipka, Lisa Spencer (Council rep), Karolyn Thompson, Anna & Ryan Tool.

Life and ministry continue to be a journey with many unexpected things and new learnings along the way. And yet God is good...all the time! We continue to think outside the box and find new ways to do ministry during this ever-changing time. As Pastor Bruce continues to iterate so well, our goal continues to be “connecting without infecting.” Here are some Youth & Family Ministry highlights from 2021:

- One of the biggest highlights from this past year has been the gift to be able to remodel our Youth Room, which all began with a \$20,000 anonymous donation to our congregation for this purpose. In January, we pulled together a team of adults and HS youth who meet regularly to plan and design the new space. We pulled together \$45,000 total (which included \$15,000 from the Youth Fund) and the project is now nearly complete! We cannot say thank you enough to all of the volunteers who made this project happen (through literally thousands of hours of donated time)...especially Brandt Dinger and Jennifer Grant. If you haven't seen the new “Living Room” and Game Room, we hope you'll stop by and hang out sometime soon!
- We held a modified (but still very fun and successful) youth fundraiser on March 21, 2021. With the help of youth and families, we prepared supplies for a charcuterie tray for each family that signed up, along with beverages and dessert. We then met online on Zoom and youth and adults shared mission trip stories/ testimonies, Katie and Kirsten shared a duet and Marcus Hanson donated his time and expertise for a fun wine and beer tasting along with incredible music. It was a great night with 31 households “attending” and over \$1,600 in income for our HS Service-Learning Trip to Denver, CO in July 2021.
- We were sad to see Children, Youth & Family staff members, Catherine Borman and Kim Wortz resign last spring, but are excited for their new adventures! This summer we were excited to hire a new CYF Director, LaDonna Ekern, who has been a blessing to our staff!
- On July 10-17, a group of 14 youth and 2 adults traveled to Denver, CO for a week of service and learning (after our trip was canceled in 2020 due to Covid). We stayed at the beautiful Messiah Mountain Retreat Center and commuted 30-45 minutes into Denver for various days of service including packing food at the Food Bank of the Rockies, painting 2 houses with Brothers Redevelopment and working at various other social service agencies. We grew together as a group, made some great memories (cooking meals together and having worship around the bonfire each night, and also white water rafting at the end of the week) and learned that we received as much as we gave! It was an incredible week of faith growth and experiences. Thanks for your support of our youth who attend these life-changing summer trips!
- After a year of online Confirmation, we decided we needed to do whatever we could to meet with our youth in person. So fall of 2021, we met entirely outside and planned our lessons and activities based on that setting. It was wonderful to be face-to-face and we received a lot of great feedback about this format! Then in November and December we also did a modified schedule to accommodate smaller groups (with less risk) and focused on service and fellowship.
- We started a new Wednesday night pizza supper this fall called SLICE. This meal takes place at the end of Club 5/6 (also a new ministry for those in 5th and 6th grade) and the beginning of Confirmation each Wednesday. It's great to see the kids having fun at church and sharing a meal together!

We look forward to a new year of growth and fellowship. Thank you for your partnership in ministry as we journey together in faith!

Kirsten Kelly
Director of Youth & Family Ministries

(report continues on next page with pictures from 2021)

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRIES (Grades 7-12) ANNUAL REPORT

Submitted by Kirsten Kelly, Dir. of Youth & Family Ministry (in consultation with the Youth & Family Ministry Team)



Before, during, and after the youth room remodeling project



Youth fundraiser on Zoom

Youth Mission Trip to Colorado (left and middle pictures above); outdoor confirmation last fall (right)



SHARED MINISTRY ANNUAL REPORT
Tim Johnson, Shared Ministry Director

“What a great time to be the church!” said someone close to me early in the Pandemic. Curious words? Foolishness? Some might say. But it’s my sense that Christ’s church was made for times like these. After all, we are a people who have faced presumed defeat at the cross, and yet know that Easter and new life comes. We know the story of the raging storm and the fearful disciples on the Sea of Galilee and how Jesus brought peace. And the Church’s first leader, St. Paul, was imprisoned repeatedly, he was flogged, beaten, ship-wrecked and generally had a good dose of opposition and difficulty. Good news, grace, goodness, hope, purpose, life...springs forth from tragedy, challenge, and difficulty. Even from death.

So, I agree—what a great time to be the church!

In my first few months on staff, I have enjoyed connecting with so many of you. I am appreciative of the faithfulness in your service and involvement. And I’m very mindful that many of us are struggling to connect, to reconnect, to weather the barrage of health matters, of social contention, of economic challenges, of family dynamics, and of simply finding that sense of centering in life. Indeed, it is a yearning for community, for God, for purpose, for belonging. Such an important time to be the church, right?

Scripture reminds us that we are all a part of Christ’s Body—the church. We all belong. We’re each needed. There is a place, a purpose and a calling that is personal and that connects us one to another and to our shared mission and ministry.

This new year – 2022 – will be a time for us to vision, re-envision, imagine, share, discuss, dream, and listen to where God is calling us. We need you! We value you! Only you have the specific gifts, personality, perspectives, passion, and spirit that makes you *you* and that makes you uniquely called and gifted for a time such as this.

Please reach out any time, for prayer, coffee, conversation, discovery, faith talk, whatever strikes you. I have experienced so many sides of faith and of being a church member. Together we can experience again what it means when God says, “Behold, I am making all things new!” You and me, as well. And our church family, Light of Christ!

Tim Johnson
Shared Ministry Director

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRIES (Preschool – Grade 6)

Submitted by LaDonna Ekern and Cynthia Kuenzel
(in consultation with the Children and Family Ministry Team)

Current Children & Family Ministry (CFM) Team Members: LaDonna Ekern (staff), Jen Burbach, Brenna Demeules, April Fritz, Melissa Hillmyer, Laura Jaunich, Kim Knisley, Cynthia Kuenzel, Susie Larison, Tara Olson, Lori Prickett; Catherine Borman and Kim Wortz (January – June)

The following is a summary of Light of Christ (LOC) Lutheran Church's Children and Family ministries that took place in 2021. We were blessed to have Catherine (Cat) Borman (CFM-Family Events Coordinator) and Kim Wortz (CFM-Sunday School Coordinator) continue to serve as co-directors of Children & Family Ministries from January until June. We continued to be blessed as Pastor LaDonna Ekern began her ministry at LOC as the Director of Children & Family Ministries starting in June.

Sunday School:

The COVID-19 challenges of 2020 continued into the winter and spring of 2021. Kim and Cat in consultation with the CFM team sought to keep the children of Light of Christ connected to the Sunday School and Spark programs by providing opportunities online rather than in person. Thanks to Kim and Cat's creativity and hard work, online Sunday School was offered as well as take-home activities that could be picked up from the church. In-person Sunday School was offered for several weeks in the spring on Sunday afternoons when the weather became warmer. In the fall, 89 children were registered for Sunday School. (75 children in 2020; 170 in 2019) Once again, the classes were led by wonderful parent volunteers. They helped lead the Pre-K through 4th grade classes that were held outdoors until mid-October and also when the classes moved indoors using large areas in the church building for physical distancing. The average attendance was 41 children when held outside and 38 when held indoors. Blessing of the Bibles was again held in September during a church service.

Club 5-6:

As part of the Sunday School program, it was decided to begin a new offering for the children in 5th and 6th grades. Called Club 5-6, this group meets on Wednesdays from 5-6 p.m. and is led by LaDonna Ekern. This class focuses on strengthening their relationships with God and their peers with the use of songs led by Katie Kohler and activities led by LaDonna. They also met outside until mid-October and then moved indoors. This group has 26 children registered with an average of 18 attending.

Vacation Bible School:

VBS for grades 1st-5th was held in July this year. It was provided by counselors from Shetek Lutheran Ministries with help from LOC volunteers with 27 children attending. A separate VBS program led by Kirsten Kelly and volunteers was provided for 3-5-year-olds and attended by 18 children.

Special Events:

Due to health and safety concerns, no events that allowed large gatherings were held. Take-home activities were provided for families to help celebrate Lent/Easter.

In November the Sunday School children contributed during our *Heart of Giving* Sunday in which \$166.12 was collected to help with costs for the Birthday Ministry Room.

Christmas Program:

Out of concern for safely gathering all the children together during the church service, this year's Children's Christmas Program was again pre-recorded. Led by Katie Kohler, 43 children participated. They gathered individually or in small groups to separately record readings, songs and to enact portions of the Christmas story. This video was shown to the congregation during the worship service on December 19th.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COLUMBARIUM COMMITTEE

Committee Members: Ann Bassett, Amy Bigot, Jon Holzer, Pr. Bruce Kuenzel, Sharon McKisson, Tom and Sharon Sebelien, Bob Slipka, Bill Weis

In 2021 Light of Christ's Columbarium Committee decided upon a columbarium design and created a landscape design. Eikhoff Columbarium out of Crookston, MN was selected as supplier for the Columbarium unit itself, with material for the exterior columbarium walls to be made of cast stone from American Artstone out of New Ulm, MN. A preliminary project budget was determined, and niche pricing was determined. Educational opportunities regarding the columbarium were provided to the congregation through special meetings, brochures, video clips and e-newsletter articles. A special congregational meeting was held on October 24, 2021 and the congregation approved construction of a Columbarium and Memorial Garden at Light of Christ. Pre-sales began shortly after the meeting. Planning continues with construction scheduled to begin in the spring of 2022.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Bigot



COMMUNITY LIFE COMMITTEE

Committee members: Mary Allen, Heidi Goldbeck (chair), Jennifer Grant, Kelly Harstad, Carrie Klinkner, Candace Mielke, Melanie Paulson, Elizabeth Kohlhof (council rep)

List of 2021 events/activities our group participated in:

- Fundraiser for Youth - making Charcuterie boards and having virtual wine night in March
- LOC chicken dinner picnic in June
- Waffle and beverage bar for Rally Sunday in September
- Feed My Starving Children in December

Respectfully submitted by Heidi Goldbeck



COMMITTEE REPORTS

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

Committee members: Brian Harstad, Jonathan Ness, Amy Bigot, Pastor Kuenzel

The Light of Christ Endowment Committee remained in place for 2021 to oversee the new Light of Christ Endowment Fund that was created in 2019. The committee has three members including Brian Harstad as Chair, Amy Bigot as Secretary and Jonathan Ness as Treasurer, serving staggered terms. An Endowment Fund is an account separate from the church's operating and building capital funds, designed to accept and hold contributions and estate gifts for the purpose of making ministry distributions.

The primary activity for this year was to establish the process for making our first ministry grants, and then to complete three grants for a total of \$2,000 during the spring months. The grants were based on identified ministry needs brought forward to the committee and included support for the Light of Christ summer youth vacation bible school program, a grant to the Nourishing Hope organization to help purchase a refrigerator truck for use in their food delivery programs, and a grant to the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Minneapolis to support their community Justice Fund.

The committee monitors the Endowment Fund performance managed through the ELCA. The fund started the year with a balance of \$29,741, we distributed \$2,000 in grants and have had fund earnings of \$3,027 for a 3rd quarter ending balance of \$30,768. Plans for 2022 include evaluating future grant opportunities and organizing a legacy giving education event.

Respectfully submitted by Brian Harstad

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Committee members: Brenna Demeules, Rob Geistfeld, Tom Sebelien (council rep), Adam Wortz

No report submitted.

HEALING AND WHOLENESS COMMITTEE

Members: Lona Jose, Catherine Borman, Julie Wischmann, Sue Fink, Derek Horeis (council rep) and Pastor Bruce Kuenzel

This ministry was created in 2019 in response to a need identified through the congregational MAP survey with the purpose of leading our congregation to be a healing presence for one another and our community. It became an official committee of Light of Christ in January of this year. Our focus so far has been on bringing awareness to and breaking the stigma of mental illness. Because the pandemic and systemic unrest has upset our lives in so many ways, our committee has felt the leading of the Holy Spirit to continue to move us toward awareness of one another's struggles and show support and compassion for one another.

This year we have many accomplishments to report:

- The Caring Card ministry, solely taken on by Cheri Ashfeld. She has sent out 24 thoughtful cards as needs become apparent from prayer chain requests.
- The Prayer Chain has lifted up 31 people in prayer, with increasing requests coming in the last half of the year. Many answers to prayer have been reported!
- Our "Support" webpage on the LOC website has been enhanced and updated to include many more resources and Caring Corner educational articles about specific mental illnesses and how to help.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

(continued from previous page)

- Our Caring Corner articles covered education on several mental illnesses such as depression, anxiety, stress in general and in children, bipolar, eating disorders, suicide awareness and prevention, talking to children about mental illness, and dual diagnosis. We also included self-care, mindfulness, and mental wellness. These articles are shared in the Beacon newsletter, the website and on Facebook.
- Event on May 23: "Walk a Mile in my Shoes" for mental illness awareness. 40 walkers, nice article in Herald Journal. Donations went to NAMI.
- Event on November 13: "In Our Own Voice" presentation by 2 volunteers with NAMI who told their stories of success living well and being successful in spite of serious mental illness, showing there is hope and healing. 20 in person but over 200 views via livestream or YouTube. Many people were grateful for encouraging open discussion among friends and family about their mental illnesses.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Fink

LIBRARY COMMITTEE

Committee members: Amber Dawn Andrews, Diane Beilke, Sharon McKisson
No report submitted.

MISSION AND EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

Committee Members: Jessie Aylsworth (chairperson Jan-May), Lona Jose (present chairperson), Beata Zerull (recorder), Angie Malo, JoMarie Williamson, Jewel Ekern and Stacy VanCura (council rep)

Our Mission outreach calls us as Christ's disciples to extend compassion and serve those in need in our local and global community. Our Evangelism outreach is to current and potential members to help make LOC a welcoming church home.

Mission Outreach

5th Sunday Offering Amounts Collected:

- January: Feed My Starving Children - \$993
- May: Holy Trinity - \$710 plus \$500
- August: Karen Anderson - \$540
- October: Dwelling Place - \$1910

Delano Helping Hands Food Shelf Support:

- JoMarie Williamson, LOC member, is one of the three managers of the food shelf now and she reports the food shelf is going very well. Also, they added an additional day (Saturday) per month.
- March Food Share Month and other months' donations from LOC: 640 lbs. of food, \$ donations also
- LOC members assisted in packing, moving and organizing the Food Shelf to its new location.
- LOC members helped customers in March, June and December every Thursday.
- LOC members pick up donated food from Coborn's and Kwik Trip and deliver to the Food Shelf, Delano Senior Center and others in need in Delano on a regular basis.

Nourishing HOPE/Second Harvest Heartland Food Distribution:

- LOC volunteers have helped each month to load food in Rockford and distribute in Delano.
- LOC donated to the purchase of a refrigerated truck for Our Father's in Rockford.

(continued on next page)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

(continued from previous page)

LOVE INC (Love in the Name of Christ) Support:

- LOC Birthday Ministries: provides birthday gifts and supplies to Love INC families monthly.
- Many LOC members sponsor Love INC families and donate Christmas presents each year.
- LOC members do volunteer service at the Delano store.

Meal Train:

- Holly Caple continues to reach out to LOC members to provide meals for families in need.

Evangelism Activities:

Discover LOC, New Member Sundays: We have welcomed new members in a different manner this year because of COVID precautions. Hopefully we can get back to our previous process in 2022.

Online Member Picture Directory: We still have many members with no pictures in our directory. Hopefully we will get more uploaded next year.



Volunteers packing boxes in Rockford for food distribution. Maxine and Lowell Johnson, Paulette Podratz, Charlie Jose



3 of several December volunteers at the food shelf: Cheri Ashfeld, Oda Carlson, Beata Zerull

Respectfully submitted by Lona Jose

MUTUAL MINISTRY COMMITTEE

Committee members: Amy Bigot, Kevin Jaunich, Paul Ludwig, Stacy VanCura, Natasha Werner

This committee meets with the called staff (pastor) approximately once per quarter, or as needed, with the task of confidentially listening, encouraging and supporting.

Respectfully submitted by Paul Ludwig

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Committee Members: JoMarie Williamson, Rhonda Current, Vicki Noetzelman, Rhonda Almquist, Melissa Hillmyer, Stacy VanCura (council rep)

The Personnel Committee held six meetings in 2021. The meetings centered around hiring two positions and the consideration of offering a retirement plan for FT staff.

The Shared Ministry Coordinator and two Children's Ministry Coordinators tendered their resignations effective the end of May. The committee set to work considering the current job descriptions, staffing mix and best fit going forward. The positions were posted in April, applications were screened, and interviews held over the course of the summer and fall.

The Director of Children and Family Ministry started in May 2021. The Shared Ministry Coordinator started in October 2021.

The committee also did some research regarding a retirement plan for FT staff. We made a recommendation to the church council in November.

Submitted by Rhonda Current and JoMarie Williamson

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Committee members: Peter Grant (co-chair), Aaron Amdor (co-chair), Ben Altenhofen, Mike Boyack, Scott Dallmann, Charlie Jose, John McClelland, Kevin Rothstein, Bob Slipka, Dan Torfin, Jon Holzer (council rep)

Building usage increased in 2021 with a return to in-person activities bringing our committee together more frequently to discuss the grounds and facilities. With additional usage, comes additional items requiring attention.

We believe we will continue to see the need for improvements and maintenance of the site through the coming years as the building ages and fixtures reach their useful life. The main items we will continue to monitor and improve are cosmetic updates to outdated areas and infrastructure improvements including continued roof work, plumbing, doors and windows.

It's been our pleasure to work to make LOC a welcoming and modern place of worship and fellowship. We welcome any whom have a calling to do this work.

- Major projects were still on hold for the most part, including east sections of the roof, steeple repair, parking lot, bathroom and kitchen remodels and continued window pane replacement
- The west lower sanctuary roof was redone before columbarium work begins next spring
- The major remodel of the youth/living room involved different committee members at different times; but was driven and managed by that team with our assistance as needed
- An IT Task Force was formed and they addressed the previous ongoing internet issues successfully along with a number of other IT related projects
- Outdoor electrical outlets on the SE corner of the church and more stable platforms were added for outdoor services
- Every month routine maintenance to-do's were completed:
 - Window replacement
 - Door work
 - Exit sign and fire detection work
 - Other miscellaneous items

Once the last of the remodel work is completed the church should be ready for increased occupancy and activities as needed.

Submitted by Aaron Amdor

COMMITTEE REPORTS

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Reflections 2021 Ministry

Growing in the Joy of Giving

As a team, we're centered on the belief that God intends our giving to be joyful. And that **giving is one of the best things that we ever get to do in life**. It's a spiritual discipline if you will. Not a "have to" but a "get to."

We hope you have enjoyed the *Beacon* articles about "**The Great Thing about Giving.**" Sharing our personal stories about the amazing relationship between giving and joy helps shift perspectives about the relationship of the church and money. Have you ever met a generous person who is anything but cheerful, positive and who loves life? We think there is a connection for a reason! Joy and generosity seems to be hand in hand.

Our 2021 campaign encouraged mindfulness that **We are God's beloved: His Children, His Community, and His Creation**. Stewardship is all about managing each of these faithfully. As a church, we're in this together. There is no "they" here at Light of Christ. It's about "we." We are family; we are blessed; we are called; we are sent; we make a difference.

Thank you not only for your giving, but also for your faithfulness as we grow in joy. Ministry is best grounded not so much because we're supposed to do what we do, but *because we get to*. That's gospel! And that's one of the really great things about giving! Thank you for your partnership!

Gratefully serving with you,
Natalie Dinger
Jeremiah Werner
Cheri Ashfeld
Tim Johnson, chair
Stephen Dickey, council rep

WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE

Members: Katie Anne Kohler (chair), Val Donahue, Maxine Johnson, Brad Goldbeck, Mary Ann McKay, Kathy Behm, Carmen Hanson (council rep)

2021 has been another interesting year! With the COVID-19 pandemic still in swing, we have continued to adjust how we worship. The Worship and Music team have helped with worship safety and creativity. Some notable tasks from this year are as follows:

- Outdoor worship
 - We held various outdoor worship services this past year. For Rally Sunday, we decided to hold a "Bluegrass Service." We also experimented with a more "kid-friendly" outdoor worship on Wednesday nights.



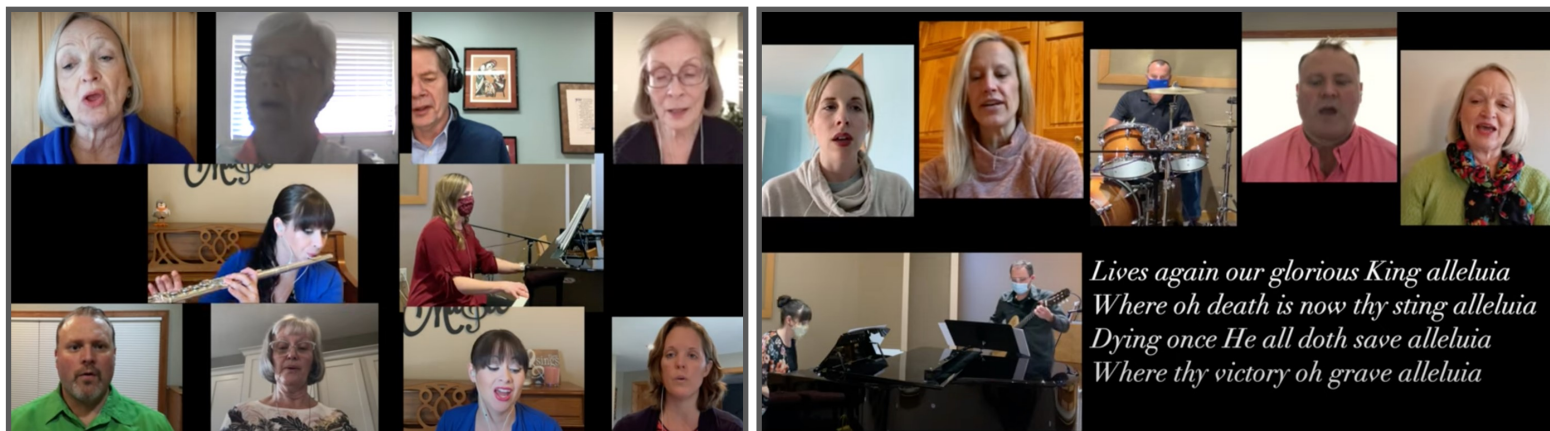
- Safety in worship
 - The Worship and Music Committee helped make decisions regarding seating charts, how to safely serve/ receive communion, and how to safely pass/collect the offering. Safety in worship was often discussed at our monthly meetings once worship was moved indoors.

(continued on next page)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

(continued from previous page)

- Livestreaming worship
-Starting in the fall of 2021, we were able to switch from pre-recorded services to livestreaming our indoor worship services! This was a huge accomplishment for our worship life moving forward.
- Christmas charity
-This year we invited members to donate to the Delano Food Shelf in lieu of poinsettias.
- Various types of worship
-We are so happy we can now hold indoor worship. However, that wasn't the case earlier in the year. All our Holy Week services were pre-recorded, edited, and posted online. While nothing beats worshipping in person, these services were largely a success and kept us in the Easter spirit!



Though the COVID pandemic has changed how we have had to plan worship, we as a committee are still working together and working hard to provide a wonderful worship experience! Thank you to the Worship and Music Committee for their commitment, flexibility, and hard work through the ups and downs of 2021!

Peace,
Katie Anne Kohler

MINISTRY REPORTS

ALTAR GUILD

We have had another unique year in the Altar Guild committee. This year consisted of individual communion cups for worship due to the pandemic. We have purchased these supplies from Amazon and Concordia Supply. Altar Guild also fills the eternity, altar, and baptismal candles. Pastor Bruce has been providing and setting up his own wine and bread for worship. Co-chairs for this committee are Kim Wortz and Kylee Amdor.

Respectfully submitted by Kim Wortz

BIRTHDAY MINISTRY

Members: Ann Bassett, Brenda Dallmann, Ginny Iverson, MaryAnn McKay, Terri Reuter, Anne Rothstein, Crystal Stahlke, Jinnelle Weis

The Light of Christ Birthday Ministry is in collaboration with Love INC-Heartland and provides birthday party supplies and presents for children of neighbors in need who are referred to LOC from Love, INC.

LOC is responsible for securing donations for birthday supplies including –

- Birthday gifts appropriate for boys and girls ages 10 and under
 - ⇒ Suggested maximum cost per gift of \$10.00-15.00
- Gift bags, wrapping paper, bows, etc.
- Party supplies such as paper plates, napkins, cake mixes, frostings, balloons, candles, favors, etc.

In 2021, Crystal Stahlke and Jinnelle Weis joined our group. The Birthday Ministry provided birthday party supplies and presents for a total of 46 children. Due to Covid-19, our procedures have been adjusted to minimize personal contact. A birthday wish list form was created for Love INC to complete with assistance from the child's parent(s). Based on the form responses, Birthday Ministry volunteers shop for needed items and assemble "birthday bags" filled with supplies and gifts for children from the birthday inventory. Assembled bags are then picked up by a Love INC representative and delivered to the child's home.

Respectfully submitted by Terri Reuter

SISTERS OF LOC

Committee Members: Heidi Goldbeck, Jennifer Grant, Kelly Harstad, Candace Mielke, Melanie Paulson

Sisters of LOC did not meet this year due to COVID.

WOMEN OF LIGHT OF CHRIST

Our purpose as Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and Light of Christ:

As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, society and the world.

Services and Events 2021:

“Quilting Angels in our midst.” Since the start of Covid-19 the quilters have not met at church. But several quilts have appeared in the closet. These quilts were donated to Village Harvest (contact person: Lona Jose) and a wellness organization (contact person: Sue Fink).

Quilters:

Amber Dawn Andrews
Ann Bassett
Oda Carlson
Cheryl Collins
Carolyn Endsley
Laurie Grimm
Ginny Iverson
Maxine Johnson
Lynda Pavlovich
Joan Zimmerman

Funerals served 2021:

Brandon Sleypen
Tom Lemmerman
Bob Stabnow

Praying for the day we can get together again. Thank You & God’s Blessings to all who answer the call to serve.

Submitted by Ginny Iverson

Financial Report:

2021 Beginning Balance \$776.05

September 7, 2021 – gift for serving Brandon Sleypen funeral lunch - \$100

2021 Ending Balance \$876.05

YOUTH FUND
January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021

LIGHT OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Youth Fund - Annual Report
 January 1, 2021 - December 31, 2021

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
<u>YOUTH ACTIVITIES</u>	4,000.94			
Mask Sales		25.00		
Interest Income		2.46		
Youth Room Remodel		348.17	1,685.18	
MT21 Rafting Trip			1,136.64	
Paver Income		150.00		
Basketball Rim/Hoop			268.43	
Coffee Mugs		15.00		
2022 Delano Grad Party			200.00	
Totals-Youth Activities		540.63	3,290.25	1,251.32
<u>SLICE</u>	-			
Deposits		1,115.81		
Unhinged Pizza - Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec			863.20	
Miscellaneous Expenses			35.96	
Totals-SLICE	-	1,115.81	899.16	216.65
<u>CAMP SCHOLARSHIP</u>	8,051.58			
Camp Wapogasset Scholarships			1,300.00	
Transfer from Senior accounts		902.82		
Camp Wapogasset - Leadership			200.00	
Transfer to Individual Accounts			1,300.00	
Totals-Camp Scholarship		902.82	2,800.00	6,154.40
<u>MISSION TRIP</u>	12,377.46			
Coffee Sales/Expenses		895.00	728.21	
MT2021 Fundraiser		2,620.00	738.50	
MT2021 Airline Tickets			4,818.00	
MT21 Donation		125.00		
MT21 - Service Learning Camp			4,130.00	
March Fundraiser to Individual Accounts			1,892.00	
June Fellowship Picnic		79.00		
MT21 Rafting Trip		1,136.64	1,136.64	
Transfer from Individual Accounts		11,050.00		
Cash for MT21 Trip			150.00	
Wholly Kicks-Mission Trip			200.00	
MT21 Trip Expenses			3,293.03	
Airport Parking - chaperone			208.00	
Youth Room Remodel			10,000.00	
Totals-Mission Trip		15,905.64	27,294.38	988.72

YOUTH FUND
January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021

INDIVIDUAL

<u>YOUTH FUND ACCOUNTS</u>	12,756.13			
MT21 Deposit		2,110.00		
Refund MT20 Dep to MT21 Seniors			300.00	
Senior \$\$ Transfer			1,250.99	
June Fellowship Picnic		300.00		
March Fundraiser splits		1,892.00		
MT21 Scholarships		1,300.00		
Camp Wapogasset - Ben Kelly			145.00	
MT21 Fund Transfers			11,050.00	
MT21 Payments		262.53		
Totals-Ind. Youth Funds		5,864.53	12,745.99	5,874.67
TOTALS		23,213.62	46,130.62	14,485.76

Cash Balance as of 12/31/21

Checking Account				14,387.68
Reconciling item - Money due from Gen'l fund				98.08
Savings Account - closed 6/4/21				<u>0.00</u>
Total-All Accounts				<u>14,485.76</u>

Submitted by Vicki Noetzelman

YTD Income Statement

	Actual Jan - Dec 21	2021 Total Budget	2021 Accrual vs. 2021 Budget
Income			
40010 · Faith Sharing	465,749.80	499,504.00	-33,754.20
40015 · Deferred Sharing	0.00	0.00	0.00
41000 · Interest Income	778.53	1,440.00	-661.47
41010 · Endowment Interest	767.80	1,000.00	-232.20
41100 · Rent-Head Start	8,500.00	7,650.00	850.00
41200 · Building Use Fees	1,020.00	975.00	45.00
41300 · Sunday School	6.01	200.00	-193.99
41400 · Confirmation Registration	1,070.00	1,200.00	-130.00
41450 · Sunday School Registration	1,490.00	1,150.00	340.00
41600 · VBS Registration	995.00	800.00	195.00
45000 · Misc. Income			
45005 · Offset	484.93	500.00	-15.07
45000 · Misc. Income - Other	2,209.81	2,250.00	-40.19
Total 45000 · Misc. Income	2,694.74	2,750.00	-55.26
Total Income	483,071.88	516,669.00	-33,597.12
Expense			
60000 · Staff			
60010 · 60010	150.00	1,200.00	-1,050.00
60050 · Staff Min. Pension Med.	26,756.68	28,310.00	-1,553.32
60100 · Staff Min. Prof. Education	0.00	500.00	-500.00
60150 · Staff Education	50.00	1,000.00	-950.00
60250 · Work Comp	1,925.30	2,260.00	-334.70
60300 · Christmas Bonus	0.00	0.00	0.00
60350 · Staff Synod Assembly	50.00	500.00	-450.00
60400 · 60400	320,685.73	324,991.00	-4,305.27
60450 · Staff Benefits	8,400.00	8,400.00	0.00
60500 · Staff-Other	629.51	0.00	629.51
60600 · 60600	15,492.09	15,804.00	-311.91
Total 60000 · Staff	374,139.31	382,965.00	-8,825.69
61000 · Building Operation			
61010 · Custodial Supplies	1,182.55	1,800.00	-617.45
61050 · Electric	4,852.39	6,000.00	-1,147.61
61100 · Garbage	1,568.52	1,500.00	68.52
61150 · Heat	3,699.72	6,000.00	-2,300.28
61200 · Insurance	8,893.90	8,468.00	425.90
61250 · Lawn Care	3,105.00	3,500.00	-395.00
61350 · Repair and Maintenance	8,551.08	6,000.00	2,551.08
61400 · Snow Plowing	1,780.00	3,000.00	-1,220.00
61450 · 3rd Party Contractors	880.00	3,000.00	-2,120.00
Total 61000 · Building Operation	34,513.16	39,268.00	-4,754.84

YTD Income Statement

(continued)

62000 · Mission			
62100 · ELCA Mpls. Synod	48,011.49	49,953.00	-1,941.51
62200 · Love Inc.	4,801.17	4,995.00	-193.83
Total 62000 · Mission	52,812.66	54,948.00	-2,135.34
63000 · Office Expense			
63010 · Banking Fees	3,018.33	2,915.00	103.33
63050 · Computers & Furnishings	399.99	0.00	399.99
63100 · Equipment Maintenance	4,865.84	3,743.00	1,122.84
63150 · Kitchen Supplies	676.91	690.00	-13.09
63200 · Office Supplies	1,178.54	2,469.00	-1,290.46
63250 · Postage	471.19	848.00	-376.81
63300 · Subscriptions			
63302 · Payroll Pro- cessing Fee	985.00	938.00	47.00
63300 · Subscrip- tions - Other	2,170.99	1,383.00	787.99
Total 63300 · Subscriptions	3,155.99	2,321.00	834.99
63350 · Telephone/Internet	3,380.39	3,090.00	290.39
63400 · Web Site	1,052.94	900.00	152.94
Total 63000 · Office Expense	18,200.12	16,976.00	1,224.12
64000 · Worship			
64010 · Altar Supplies	1,305.18	1,565.00	-259.82
64050 · Bulletins	0.00	0.00	0.00
64100 · Flowers/Decorating/Banners	800.63	884.00	-83.37
64150 · Guest Speaker	150.00	780.00	-630.00
64200 · Offering Envelopes	197.19	0.00	197.19
64250 · Organist/Pianist	625.00	325.00	300.00
64300 · Publications	1,126.19	858.00	268.19
64350 · Worship Resources	91.99	876.00	-784.01
Total 64000 · Worship	4,296.18	5,288.00	-991.82
65000 · Music			
65010 · Copyright License	661.00	728.00	-67.00
65100 · Instrument maintenance	0.00	375.00	-375.00
65200 · New Equipment and Sound	1,034.38	1,309.00	-274.62
65300 · Vocal Music	85.53	1,061.00	-975.47
65510 · Musicians	225.00	125.00	100.00
Total 65000 · Music	2,005.91	3,598.00	-1,592.09
66500 · Education 3Yrs-Grade 6			
66501 · Bibles	735.00	1,500.00	-765.00
66505 · Christmas Program	222.36	314.00	-91.64
66510 · Day Camp/VBS	1,697.00	650.00	1,047.00
66515 · Special Events	401.18	950.00	-548.82
66520 · SS/Ignite Class Curriculum	430.98	1,500.00	-1,069.02
66525 · SS/Ignite Class Supplies	1,523.10	1,216.00	307.10
66530 · SS/Ignite Mission Projects	8.99	95.00	-86.01

YTD Income Statement

(continued)

66535 · Safe Sanctuary	149.50	111.00	38.50
66540 · Spark Supplies	349.71	386.00	-36.29
66550 · Birth-Age 3 Ministry	40.29	0.00	40.29
66500 · Education 3Yrs-Grade 6 - Other	5.36	0.00	5.36
Total 66500 · Education 3Yrs-Grade 6	5,563.47	6,722.00	-1,158.53
67000 · Education Grades 7-12			
67010 · Service Learning	636.82	0.00	636.82
67100 · Affirmation of Baptism	379.23	519.00	-139.77
67150 · High School Ministry	222.28	331.00	-108.72
67200 · Supplies and Materials	578.47	2,573.00	-1,994.53
67250 · Individual Ministry	64.76	0.00	64.76
67300 · Large Events	330.94	340.00	-9.06
67350 · Safe Sanctuary	181.95	509.00	-327.05
67400 · Miscellaneous			
67400 · Miscellaneous - Other	0.00	94.00	-94.00
Total 67400 · Miscellaneous	0.00	94.00	-94.00
Total 67000 · Education Grades 7-12	2,394.45	4,366.00	-1,971.55
68000 · Evangelism			
68100 · Advertising	351.58	236.00	115.58
68200 · Chamber of Commerce	170.00	0.00	170.00
68300 · New Members	0.00	99.00	-99.00
Total 68000 · Evangelism	521.58	335.00	186.58
69000 · Small Group Ministries			
69100 · Adult Education	79.00	0.00	79.00
69200 · Sister of LOC	0.00	59.00	-59.00
Total 69000 · Small Group Ministries	79.00	59.00	20.00
70000 · Stewardship			
70000 · Stewardship - Other	253.80	450.00	-196.20
Total 70000 · Stewardship	253.80	450.00	-196.20
71000 · Community Life			
71000 · Community Life - Other	378.61	823.00	-444.39
Total 71000 · Community Life	378.61	823.00	-444.39
Total Expense	495,158.25	515,798.00	-20,639.75
	-12,086.37	871.00	-12,957.37

2021 Special Funds & Capital Campaign

2021 Special Funds	Beginning		Ending		Capital Campaign	2021 YTD
	Balance	Income	Expenses	Balance		
Banners	148	-	-	148	2021 Income	45,342
Bldg. Maint. Fund	5,969	6,320		12,289		
Capital Appeal Fund	-	-	-	-	2021 Expenses	
Columbarium Fund	5,275	470	698	5,047	Mortgage Interest	855
ELCA Disaster/Outreach	1,085	600	1,000	685	Mortgage Principal	40,209
Emergency Fund LOC	100		100		Tithe	<u>4,534</u>
Endowment Fund		2,570	1,000	1,570	Total Expenses	45,598
Gifts/Memorials	1,593		415	1,178		
Healing & Wholeness		6,316		6,316	Net Balance 2021	10,243
Library Fund	886		151	735	Net Balance 2020	(15,485)
Love INC Birthday Ministry	36	916	248	704	Net Balance 2019	<u>25,984</u>
Lutheran Univ. Nigeria		12,125		12,125	Three Year Gain	20,742
Ministerial Scholarship	2,709			2,709		
Other Funds	38		38			
Piano Fund	1,976		500	1,476	Beg, Bal. Tithe Pay.	42,073
Projector Project	250			250		
Steeple & Roof Repair		30,000	13,288	16,712	2021 Tithe Payable	4,534
Technology		25,000	14,024	10,976	Less Tithe Expenses	<u>34,523</u>
Thrivent Choice Funds	735	474	504	705		
Worship Special Music Fund	1,417	3,000	2,377	2,040	Balance Tithe Payable	12,083
LOC Youth Remodel Funds		10,050	10,050			
Youth Acct Remodel Funds		11,685	5,357	6,328		
Youth Rooms	<u>20,500</u>	100	20,600			
TOTAL	42,716	109,627	70,351	81,992		

2021 Balance Sheet

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

10100 · 10100

10101 · Restricted-Steeple and Roof Rpr 16,712.31

10102 · Technology 10,975.61

10105 · Youth Account Remodel Fund 6,800.57

10100 · 10100 - Other 169,169.73

Total 10100 · 10100 203,658.22

10200 · Mission Investment Fund-ELCA 91,068.46

10300 · Columbarium-6159 57,572.28

10400 · CorTrust 1965 WELCA 776.05

10500 · CorTrust 4442 4,529.89

10600 · Youth Checking-CorTrust 0.99

10650 · Youth Saving Acct-CorTrust 0.99

Total Checking/Savings 357,606.88

Total Current Assets 357,606.88

Fixed Assets

16000 · Land and Buildings

16010 · Land 133,000.00

16020 · Building 4,944,000.00

Total 16000 · Land and Buildings 5,077,000.00

Total Fixed Assets 5,077,000.00

Other Assets

14125 · Endowment Fund 30,061.92

Total Other Assets 30,061.92

TOTAL ASSETS 5,464,668.80

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable

20000 · Accounts Payable 3,255.94

Total Accounts Payable 3,255.94

Credit Cards

20165 · CorTrust Credit Card 288.68

Total Credit Cards 288.68

Other Current Liabilities

20200 · LOC Youth Payables 0.99

21000 · Other Current Liabilities-Defer 10,000.00

21200 · Capital Campaign Tithe Payable 12,083.31

24000 · Federal Payroll Taxes Payable 3,924.70

24100 · State Payroll Taxes Payable 661.73

24400 · EE Pretax Retirement -253.45

24500 · EE FSA Health -112.50

Total Other Current Liabilities 26,304.78

Total Current Liabilities 29,849.40

Total Liabilities 29,849.40

Equity

30000 · Opening Balance Equity 4,833,873.53

32000 · Unrestricted Net Assets 477,599.43

Net Income 123,346.44

Total Equity 5,434,819.40

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY 5,464,668.80

MEMBER STATISTICS

2021 Baptisms:

Name	Baptism Date
Brooks Weldon	04/11/21
Briggs Brenny	04/18/21
Mia Brenny	04/18/21
Brooks Hiltner	04/25/21
Paul Lindvall	05/09/21
Drake Bartlein	06/13/21
Ivy Lindorff	08/08/21
Kellan Emmer	08/22/21
Levi Peterson	10/03/21
Joelle Wallace	11/28/21

2021 Deaths:

Brandon Sleypen	d. 08/26/21
Rudolph Schoepke*	d. 11/05/21
Bob Stabnow	d. 11/18/21
Tom Lemmerman	d. 11/30/21

* non-member death

2021 New Members

Betty Anderson
Leslie Anderson
Dylan Chu (associate member)
Hope Chu (associate member)
Lilah Chu (associate member)
Dawn Ekern (associate member)
Jewel Ekern
LaDonna Ekern
Kellan Emmer
Brooks Hiltner
Lydia Nelson
Paul Nelson
Al Stoeckman
Leanne Stoeckman
Joelle Wallace

2020 NEW MEMBERS:	15
Adult Members:	728
Baptized Children:	281
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP:	1009

2021 Annual Report of the Bishop



122 W Franklin Ave., Ste. 600
Minneapolis, MN 55404-2474
612-870-3610 · www.mpls-synod.org

Bishop's Annual Report for 2021

God's grace, peace, and hope be with you through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

I begin by sharing my profound gratitude to you – for your faithfulness, perseverance, and compassion revealed in countless ways during this global pandemic, now nearing the start of its third year.

As I reflect on the ministry of our synod in 2021, I am surprised to discover a number of “firsts” – something I did not expect in a pandemic year. In 2021:

- We received an unprecedented \$285,000 gift to provide educational debt relief to synod rostered leaders who are Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC). Currently, 12 percent of rostered leaders serving synod congregations are BIPOC, a sign of growth which will be strengthened by this gift.
- With our first ever million-dollar grant from the Lilly Endowment, we called Nick Tangen and Maya Bryant to lead our [Faith and Neighboring Practices](#) program, currently working with 13 congregations.
- In October, we set a goal to **raise \$500,000 in three months** to partner with our global companion synod in launching the first ever [Lutheran University in Nigeria](#). As of this writing, we have \$298,000 in gifts, \$56,000 in pledges, and are awaiting word about a significant gift from the ELCA World Hunger Program!
- We rejoiced with Alleluia! Lutheran Church in St. Michael as they dedicated their brand-new church building. We have celebrated many remodeling projects in our synod, this was the first completely new structure built in more than ten years.
- We welcomed Holy Cross Lutheran Church, originally a Missouri Synod congregation, into the synod.
- Led by VP Felecia Boone and Eric Howard, a task force has been working to apply a racial equity lens to the way our synod distributes funds and utilizes resources.
- We helped launch the [Center for Leadership and Neighborhood Engagement](#) (CLNE) led by Rev. Kelly Chatman. CLNE convened a virtual prayer tent for 77 straight days during the trial of Derek Chauvin. Now, they host “Come Together,” a virtual conversation on the third Thursday evening of each month.
- We held our first [Zoom Synod Assembly](#) with speakers Dr. Drew Hart and Michael Osterholm; offered our first online [Tool Kit](#) (to be expanded in 2022); and provided four online worship services to provide respite and build unity across the synod.
- Listening to the weariness of our rostered leaders, we cancelled Bishop's Theological Conference for the first time and organized the whole staff in a caring process for our leaders, “Tending Weary Souls.”
- We are preparing to host the [ELCA Youth Gathering](#) – the first ever held in Minneapolis, July 21-28, 2022.

Though a list of “firsts” can make for an interesting annual report, the ministries that continue day-in and day-out are the work that sustains. We are blessed with over 675 rostered leaders, 307 serving in calls and 370 retired or without call. In 2021, we supported 57 persons preparing to become deacons or pastors. We work hard so the church has the loving, faithful, and theologically well-formed ministers it needs.

Our monthly conference meetings and other synod gatherings continue to reveal a real hunger for leaders to stay connected and discern best practices for ministry in these times. We are honored and humbled by our calling to serve as convener of such holy conversations.

It is the generosity of congregations like yours that make the synod's work possible. Thank you! We seek to be careful stewards of every gift.

A year of firsts. More importantly, we gather around the unique, first-ever, Word made flesh – the Christmas miracle of God becoming human for us and our salvation. And even more, this Word made flesh abides with us – through all our firsts and lasts and everything in between.

With a grateful heart,
Bishop Ann Svennungsen