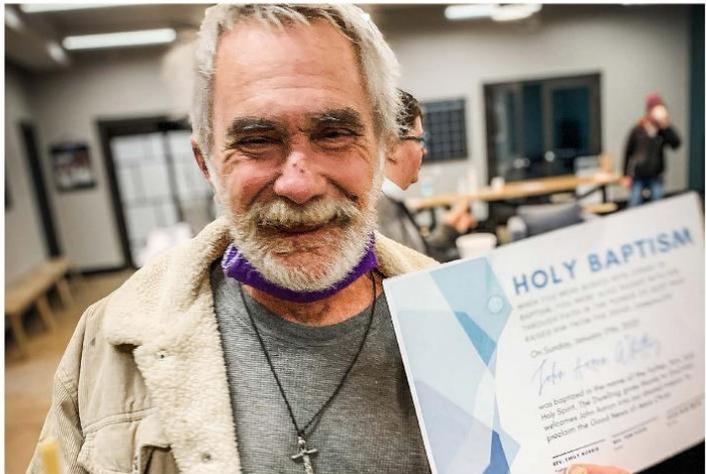


ANNUAL REPORT

2021



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



A MESSAGE FROM ELCA PRESIDING BISHOP

*Elizabeth
Eaton*

Dear friends in Christ,

The last year has been one of adapting and learning. In many places we have seen vibrant and vital ministry spring forth from changes made due to the pandemic. Digital worship opportunities have introduced to our congregations people who may never have walked into one of our buildings. Many congregations have found new ways to invite people to share their generosity through online giving. And many ministries have found just how vital they are as they continue to serve alongside people in their communities.

The first chapter of James, verse 17, reminds us that “Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.” Yes, this has been a season of change, but Scripture also reminds us that we serve a generous, steadfast God.

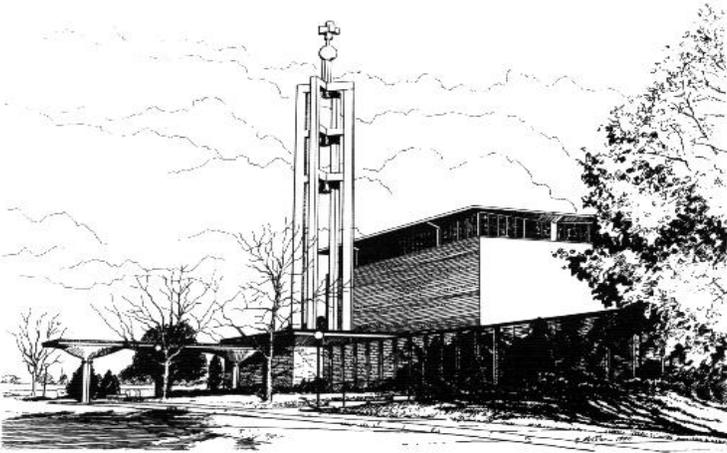
While we stay rooted in God’s enduring, unchanging promise, God also gives us the gifts of creativity and learning. Across all three expressions of the church we have used those gifts to serve God, love our neighbor and share the good news of Jesus Christ. In this time of change, we have opened our arms wider to meet people where they are, living into the reality that we are not defined or confined by the four walls of our buildings.

Through all this, I am so grateful for your generous sharing of creativity, time, talents and resources. All good gifts do come from God, and we are called to share and use those gifts. We have and will continue to answer that call. There is still much change and learning to come, but God’s steadfast love energizes us for the work God is still doing in the world through this church.

Elizabeth A. Eaton

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

“Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.”



First Lutheran Church

St. Peter, Minnesota

Annual Congregational Meetings

January 31, 2021

December 5, 2021

MISSION

Renewed by Christ in Word, water, bread and wine, we go in peace to serve our community and the world.

2021 Staff

INTERIM PASTOR Bill Nelsen
MUSIC DIRECTOR..... Emily Bruflat
ACCOUNTANT..... Karen Smithers
CUSTODIAN.....David Pehrson
YOUTH & FAMILY
MINISTRY DIRECTOR.....Calleigh Carlson
OFFICE COORDINATOR.....Angela Giedd
VOLUNTEER ARCHIVIST..... David Fienen

2021 Counsel Members

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT.....Bill Kautt
VICE PRESIDENT.....Garrett Paul
SECRETARY.....Cindy Nadeau
TREASURER.....Harry Hunt

2021 COUNCIL MEMBERS

Kim Bovee
Michelle Doose
Steve Erickson
David Marlow
Raina Roemhildt
Mary Spear
John Sylvester
Mary Thompson
Nancy Timm
Michelle Twait
Bethany Valentini (resigned) Rachel Sabinski (replaced)

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EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

CONGREGATIONAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2021

Living in God's amazing grace

LAST REPORT ON FILE 2020

BAPTIZED MEMBER DATA

1. Membership, end of 2020

2. Members received during 2021

- A. By Baptism, children 15 yrs. And younger
- B. By Baptism, adults 16 yrs. and older
- C. By affirmation of faith
- D. By transfer From ELCA congregations
- E. By transfer from other Lutheran congregations
- F. From non-Lutheran Congregations
- G. From other sources and statistical adjustments.
- H. Total Members received this year

3. Members removed during 2021

- A. By death
- B. By transfer
- C. For other reasons and statistical adjustment
- D. Total members removed this year

4. Membership, end of 2021

5. Number of people confirmed in 2021

- A. Total confirmed membership, end 2021

		870
	4	
	0	
	10	
	8	
	0	
	0	
	0	
		22
	10	
	2	
	12	
	-	24
	=	868
	7	
	663	

Pastoral Acts

Members Received

1. Aaron Banks
2. Heather Banks
3. Luke Banks
4. Jake Banks
5. Carl Bruihler
6. Mary Kay Bruihler
7. Elizabeth Hansen
8. Bradley Chambers
9. Sarah Chambers
10. Joshua Chambers
11. Lillian Chambers
12. Lucas Chambers
13. Olivia Chambers
14. Joshua Kutil
15. Malorie Kutil
16. Sawyer Kutil
17. Michael Stewart
18. Diane Stewart

Baptisms.

Hazel Ida Marie Mason
Torii Hanson
Avacyn Kutil
Dawson Kutil
Hannah Tengwall

Deaths

Mort Eliason
Dorothy Eliason
Paul Baumgartner
Marie Benson
Eunice Amos
Barbara Ylinen
Mary Lee Denley
Robert Isenberg
Marion Peterson
Tom Stenson

Members Removed

Andreas Hendrickson
Eva Hendrickson
Roy Hendrickson
Vivian Hendrickson
Abigail Wunderlich
Jon Wunderlich
Chris Amsden
Tom Amsden
Richard Hurlbert
Adrienne Hurlbert
Elaine Aune
Gwen Hermanson
Doreen Dietrich
Janet Dehning
Janyce Afdahl

Confirmations

Isaac Alger
Christiann Hajos
Tate Olson
Rylee Stadick
Hayden Stensrud
Grace Timm
Callie Voeltz

Interim Pastor's Report: *2021, A Year of Renewal*

Pastor Bill Nelsen

This past year has been one of change, transition, challenges, and lots of uplifting experiences, guided by the Holy Spirit among us. I have been grateful to our congregation members who have demonstrated understanding, patience, and concern and support for each other and for our community during the challenges presented by Covid-19 and related adjustments we have had to make.

Worship Services. We have worshipped in a variety of ways, always led by the messages of the gospel and by God's grace, from online and local TV only, to a combination of weekly recordings and in person services, now streamed both live and recorded. We have enjoyed beautiful music, provided, and guided by Emily, meaningful liturgy, and a variety of types of services for Martin Luther King Sunday, RiC Sunday, Rogation Sunday, the Emmanuel-9 service, outdoor services, an animal blessing service, and new Monday Evening Services throughout the summer months.

Communication and Outreach. As a welcoming congregation, we have sought to improve both internal and external communication through Angela's work to upgrade our weekly Heartbeat and the monthly First Out Loud. We have made great use of Facebook and more frequent mention in the St. Peter and Mankato newspapers. We have made our mission for the Lord more visible through our 4th of July Parade "float" and "marchers," more frequent advertising, and our appearance at the Day of Hope. Our communication and outreach have been enhanced through significant improvements in our technology for computers, telephone, internet, and livestreaming.

Congregational Care, New Members, and Baptisms. As a congregation that cares about each other's health and well-being, we have been active through pastoral calls, our Prayer Partners Plus, new Prayer Chain, and the commissioning of Lay Communion Administrators for homebound, independent living, and nursing home residents. On special occasions, gifts of food, quilts, and messages from our youth were delivered to these folks as well. Extra care was provided to the families of the eleven members of First Lutheran who passed away last year. We rejoiced in the baptizing of five precious souls this year and the welcoming of eighteen new members into First Lutheran. I am grateful to the members of the Congregation and Community Ministry (CCM) Committee who helped to encourage these new members to join the FLC family.

Facilities, Finance, Stewardship and Administration. Our beautiful facility and grounds were enhanced this year, thanks to the work of Dave and our Building and Grounds Committee, members and Master Gardener Advisors who renewed our internal Courtyard, and volunteers who helped with plantings and care of our church grounds and Resurrection Cemetery. We worked hard to keep income and expenses in good balance during the pandemic's challenges. We adopted a new Legacy Society to encourage more planned gifts for FLC's future and formed a New Income Task Force to explore more ways to provide annual funds to enhance our important mission and programs. Our Staff Support Committee has done so much this past year to upgrade our Staff Handbook and evaluation systems, and we were blessed with a Health Advisory Team to guide us through the Covid-19 wilderness.

Youth and Family Ministry. Youth and family ministry has made significant gains this year through the work of Calleigh and dedicated volunteers for Sunday School, Faith Formation, Confirmation, and High School Youth programs. I have been blessed with very helpful assistants (Nancy Thorkelson, Jessica Stadick, Dave Ribar., Michelle Twait) in confirmation teaching for the 9th grade classes last year and this year. We must always give high priority to faith formation and religious education of our youth.

Concerns for our Neighbors and for Social Justice. The Social Justice Committee did great work this past year through the sponsoring of Friday Forums to call attention to housing, food, and health needs and the growing diversity in our community. I am very grateful to all our members who contributed to the Pastors Discretionary Fund. As a result, we were able this past year to directly assist fifteen families with immediate needs and many additional low-income students and families through a gift to the St. Peter School District's family support team. I was also excited to see our Social Justice and CCM committees join with Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota and at least two other St. Peter congregations (Trinity Lutheran and Union Presbyterian) to create an Afghan Welcome Circle to help an Afghanistan family adjust to life in Minnesota.

Preparation for the Next Stage of Life and Service for First Lutheran Church. Perhaps the most important task of our Interim Pastor is to work with congregational leaders to establish an atmosphere of hope and excitement for the next stage of ministry in a congregation. We have sought to do so through the numerous small group meetings we held last winter, lots of personal pastoral calls and visits, and the preparation of the Ministry Site Profile for the Call Committee. Bringing people back together through service activities and fun events like the Talent Show helped greatly as well. And now the congregation can be blessed with the selection of a very fine, well experienced, and promising new shepherd for the life of the congregation in Pastor Chris. Special thanks go out to the staff of Emily, Calleigh, Angela, Karen, and Dave and to President Bill Kautt and the Church Council for their dedication to bring us to this new launching point in time. Margie and I will always be grateful for our opportunity to serve and be with the great people of First Lutheran Church.

Council Presidents Message: *Paving the Way for New Leadership*
Bill Kautt

We, as a congregation, approached the start of 2021 with cautious optimism. Pastor Bill had begun his service as our interim pastor in October and was well into the badly needed reconciliation process. His seemingly endless energy, positive outlook, and wonderful people skills were very helpful during this process. People were looking forward to possibly resuming in-person worship prior to Easter. Finally, a call committee was about to be formed, and the Council looked forward to calling a new pastor by September 1st.

Unfortunately, not all went as planned. The congregation was finally able to resume in-person worship shortly after Easter, and the staff continued to record the service to be placed on Facebook. Eventually, equipment was purchased, and members of the technology task force (now a permanent standing committee) were able to develop a livestreaming process allowing us to broadcast and record our regular service. Secondly, a call committee was formed, but the congregation was unable to call a new pastor by September because some candidates dropped out of the process. Fortunately, Pastor Bill agreed to stay on a part-time basis through the end of the calendar year, and the congregation was able to extend a call to Pastor Chris Culuris beginning on January 1, 2022. After meeting with Pastor Chris, the Council is extremely excited about his call (as

is Pastor Chris). Finally, Pastor Chris has met with Pastor Bill a couple of times in December to ease the transition between the two of them.

The Council continued to work on church business throughout the year as reflected in the year-end reports of FLC's standing committees included in this annual report. I would like to thank Pastor Bill, all the members of our Church Council, committees, and our staff for their efforts helping us to return to, as much as we could, normal operations.

Speaking of our staff, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Angela, Calleigh, Dave, Emily, and Karen for their hard work throughout the year. I know they will miss working with Pastor Bill but are looking forward to welcoming and working with Pastor Chris.

All in all, the Council is again optimistic as we move into 2022. Once again, we ask all of you for support as we move forward assisting Pastor Chris with the important task of providing ministry to each of us, our families, and our church family.

Youth & Family Ministries Report *Transitioning Back to In-Person Engagement* *Calleigh Carlson, Youth and Family Ministries Director*

"Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing." James 1:2-4

As we close yet another year of living through this COVID-19 pandemic, it is with great gratitude that I recap all the life First Lutheran has seen in 2021. A big thank you to the parents, members, adult leaders, mentors, prayer shawl creators, drivers, and anyone else I may have missed. Your love, patience, and prayers are invaluable as we work to build back our youth programs during these unprecedented times.

At the beginning of the year, our in-person Sunday School, Faith Formation, and High School Youth Group continued to be on hold due to COVID-19. Confirmation classes for our 7th-9th graders continued in a hybrid fashion. Although our in-person activities were limited, First Lutheran provided a variety of virtual opportunities for the youth including: *Bob Ross Family Paint Challenge, Tie-Blanket Service Project, Youth Holiday Bags, Youth Easter Bags, Easter Cards for shut-ins, Tree Planting Service Project* and *HS Youth Book Club - Dear Church*.

In the spring, the Staff Support Committee and Church Council voted to change my title from Lifelong Learning Director to the Director of Youth and Family Ministries, as they believed this new title better reflected my responsibilities and duties to First Lutheran. At the end of the school year, our Confirmation students planted nearly 100 trees on the eastside of First Lutheran's lot. An idea created solely by our Confirmation classes, this project was centered around teaching our youth to be good servants of our church and community. We finished the school year with our *Senior Blessing Service* for our 2021 graduates and their families.

Our summer months were filled with opportunity, as we offered a variety of summer camp options, some of which consisted of us partnering with other churches in town. In August, we said farewell to summer and hello to the new school year with First Lutheran's first organized in-person event in over a year. *First's Got Talent* show! This event was well attended and participated in by members of all ages!

With the opening of the church in the spring, we got the go-ahead to offer in-person Sunday School for the fall of 2021. Classes are currently being held two Sundays a month, with games and

music offered on alternate Sundays. Wednesday night classes are held in person for 5th and 6th grade Faith Formation, as well as for Confirmation students in grades 7th-9th. Our High School Youth Group started up again in November 2021, partnering with Trinity Lutheran and Union Presbyterian Church. The kick-off event consisted of a bonfire, gaga ball, and devotionals! FLC was well represented!

Our SW MN Synod always does a wonderful job with the Jr. (7-9 G) and Sr. (9-12 G) High Youth Gatherings, but this year was especially special as it was completed safely and successfully during the pandemic. These events are a big draw for our youth and a great way to be connected to others in our synod. All other youth and family activities during the fall/winter of 2021 included: *2nd Annual Pumpkin Carving Contest, Trunk or Treat event, Rake the Community, Thanksgiving Pie/Flower Deliveries Service Project, Chili Packages for the SPAF service project, HS Youth Group Pizza Night, Youth led Midweek Advent Evening Services, No Stress-No Fuss Children's Christmas Program, and Christmas Card creations for our shut-ins.*

In December, our youth were presented with a unique fundraising opportunity. An anonymous donor donated a multitude of incredible Fair-Trade items from around the world and with that, our youth created and ran a *Fair-Trade Christmas Store* in First Lutheran's gathering space for two full weeks during the month of December. All proceeds went to our youth programs and at the end of the two weeks, our youth made over \$2,000! It was a fun and memorable experience for all!

While we continue to navigate all things during this unprecedented time, it is apparent to me that the church is still very much alive! As we close the chapter that was 2021, I am filled with both excitement and gratitude as we enter this new year of 2022! May 2022 bring great joy and God's peace to you!

Cantor's Annual Report

Emily Bruflat, Director of Music

It has been another year of transition, uncertainty, and new practices at FLC. I continue to be humbled by the graciousness and patience that you have extended as we try new things and learn new ways of worshipping together. Here are the highlights from 2021.

In January through most of April (including our Holy Week and Easter worship), we were still fully closed and worshipping virtually. Pastor Bill and I - as well as our many readers and musicians learning how to record and send videos - worked very hard each week to get recordings finished so that I could edit them into a service video. While our first choice would have been to be together, you have let me know that this new way of worship was meeting lots of the spiritual needs of this congregation. I am very grateful for that.

On April 25, 2021, we opened our doors for our first in-person service since March 8, 2020. The service was abbreviated, and we weren't quite able to sing congregationally, but slowly over the course of time and with guidance from our Health Advisory Team, we have returned to nearly "normal" worship at FLC. Singing has been allowed for those who are fully vaccinated, and masks have been required regardless of vaccination status to keep everyone safe as we worship together. The few COVID cases our members have reported were contained and not "super spreader" events, so I congratulate you, First Lutheran Church, on putting concern for your neighbor ahead of personal comfort or convenience.

May through August proved to be my busiest four months of the pandemic to date. Pastor Bill and I prepared for both a pre-recorded and a live service each week, and on top of the continued video editing, I managed two separate volunteer lists for each type of service. This was not a sustainable model for our small staff, so we have compiled a new group of people to broadcast the services to Facebook each week. After a couple of months to learn the system and gather equipment, I am happy to report that it is going very well. Many thanks to our Tech Team and newly established Technology Committee as they keep this important part of our outreach going!

Special music during worship has changed slightly, with more emphasis on handbells and strings, which do not require breath for use. Members of small vocal ensembles have worn special masks for singers to help lead worship, and brass players with special instrument covers have participated as well. I will continue this careful approach while COVID is still in moderate to high transmission in our county. I have been delighted by the gifts of our GAC Music Scholar, Sophie Martinez, who has played the organ and helped with other musical tasks this fall, and Viola Performance major Lauren Russell has played monthly since this summer. I am grateful for our partnerships with GAC!

Finally, you may have seen in recent newsletters that I am currently in my seventh year of employment, and with that, I have prepared for my first sabbatical. I will be taking PTO in September with an official sabbatical time frame of October 1, 2022 through January 1, 2023 for a total of four months of leave. I have some very exciting plans for continued education and growth as well as rest and rejuvenation during that time. Thank YOU for thinking to include this important expectation in the Cantor's job description. I plan to use the time wisely and come back to you refreshed and full of new ideas!

It has been a sincere pleasure working with Pastor Bill for the last 15 months, and I look forward to what 2022 will bring to First Lutheran under the leadership of Pastor Chris. I remain committed to my own personal mission statement, which concludes with this: "My aim is to enable the congregation to worship God in song, remembering at all times that Christ and his mission of love and service is at the center of what we do."

2021 Committee Reports

Altar Guild Annual Report: *Resuming Guild Activities* *Submitted By Patricia Freiert*

Altar Guild Members: Patricia Freiert, Mary Hildebrandt, Bonnie Pettis, Judy Fienen, Janet Jensen, Carolyn Trnka, Mary Gaebler, Carla Demers, and Mary Long.

In 2021 the Altar Guild began to resume its activities which had been limited to parament changes in 2020. The beginning of September marked the resumption of floral donations for the altar.

Two considerations continue to guide our policies. First, while we like cut flowers, we recognize that a very significant amount of greenhouse gas is involved in flying and refrigerating them from Central and South America to warehouses in Georgia and eventually Minneapolis. Hence, we use cyclamen and poinsettias propagated in Minnesota in Christmas and Epiphany and work with sources that provide locally grown options. We were thrilled with the many members who donated their dried hydrangeas which we used for Advent. Donors are encouraged to consider potted flowers and plants and planters. Our second consideration is the limited budgets of our congregation and the church. Those who leave these pots and planters enable us to adorn the altar on Sundays in which no one has signed up.

We continued to distinguish between Advent and Christmas in decorating the chancel through these seasons and have also continued the practice of memorial offerings to The Giving Tree rather than a massive poinsettia display for Christmas.

The signup sheet is now on the table on the south side of the church as you proceed from the gathering space toward the sanctuary. Inflation in the floral industry has forced us to raise the amount to \$50 for a typical Sunday in 2022.

Building and Grounds Committee Report: *Major Projects, Inside & Out* *Submitted by Bill Kautt*

Membership: Patricia Duenwald, Steve Erickson, Paul Haukoos, Bill Kautt, Dave Kennedy, Bob Moline, and Dave Pehrson.

2021 saw the resumption of in-person worship services, confirmation, and Sunday school activities, as-well-as Council and committee meetings being held in the building. Thus, building and grounds once again began to focus on everyday maintenance concerns. In addition to these concerns, several major projects were completed.

This spring with the assistance of master gardeners, Margie Nelsen and LaVonne Smasal, we completed a makeover of our courtyard. We would like to thank MaryAnn Scharf for financing this project. Committee members and volunteers under direction from the master gardeners provided the labor throughout the year planting, weeding, and watering the courtyard. Also, in the spring, the confirmation classes, several parents, and their teachers planted 84 trees in the open area east of the church. Many thanks go to the families who volunteered their time to water these new trees throughout this very dry summer.

The summer saw some major maintenance projects as we had two substantial roof leaks and some necessary part replacements in the church air conditioning system. Also, the brick walkways in the bell garden had to be reset as some settling had taken place.

This fall saw the installment of the Free Little Library (financed by Carol Solberg, thank you) and some pine trees on the north side of the church cut down. Thanks to Pat Duenwald and Dave Pehrson for their chain sawing and to all the volunteers who helped with the removal of the downed trees.

Another major project undertaken with the new technology committee was the installation of fiber optics to the church along with a corresponding new phone and fire alarm systems. We thank the staff for their patience dealing with all the bugs that developed during the transition.

Finally, the committee would like to thank all the members of the congregation who have assisted it throughout the year. We would welcome any members who would like to become involved with the committee for the upcoming year.

Congregation & Community Ministry Committee (CCM): *Formerly Outreach/In Reach*
Submitted by Shanon Nowell

Members: Shanon Nowell Mary Long, Betsy Paul, Mary Spear, Shirb Sylvester, and Michelle Twait.

Our work . . . “The Congregation and Community Ministry Committee is responsible for showing God’s love for all people by reaching out to members of the congregation and the greater Saint Peter community and the world. The committee provides for the spiritual and social needs of FLC members with prayer, visitation, and other lay ministry activities. Evangelism and marketing are integral components of this committee’s work as FLC strives to fulfill its mission as a congregation of service and hospitality for all of God’s people.”

God’s work in our community: Some of this year’s exciting community initiatives include marching in the 4th of July Parade and participating in the Day of Hope event in Minnesota Square Park. We have communicated with prospective members and were thrilled to help welcome new members into our congregation at our November 14 and December 12 services. Finally, we are grateful for the work of Angela Giedd, who has refreshed our website and created beautiful new promotional materials.

Caring for our congregation: Some of this year’s most important work was done by lay visitation teams that now include trained and commissioned members who can serve communion to individuals who cannot come to church for whatever reason. We are so grateful for this deeply meaningful work.

Answering the call: Looking ahead to the new year, we encourage each of you to ask what God is calling you to do next as we work together to offer the hope and joy of the gospel to our friends and neighbors. Perhaps the CCM is the right place for you to share your time and talents. Please reach out to any of the committee members listed in this report if you wish to join or learn more. Other options for involvement include joining one of our Ministry Teams listed below.

Marketing Team - This Marketing Team leads the Church’s strategic efforts to leverage the webpage, mass email, and social media in support of communication to its constituencies. The team will also develop print advertisement, web-based advertising, brochures, flyers, marketing, and event promotion materials. They may also assist in marketing fundraising efforts.

Mission Quilters - The Mission Quilters provide quilts for Lutheran World Relief, delivering warmth and comfort to people around the world who have experienced a natural disaster or are living daily with the effects of poverty.

Prayer Group Team - The Prayer Group Team is a lay ministry responsible for helping to ensure the pastoral care needs of the congregation are met.

- Prayer Partners Plus - Volunteers from the congregation reach out to members in need, per request, with the encouragement of prayer, visits, or phone calls.
- Prayer Chain Team - Volunteers from the congregation will bring the power of prayer to members and others based on members' requests.
- Lay Communion Servers - Prayer Partners (and other volunteers) are commissioned by the ordained pastor, for a specific period, to administer communion.

Easter Flowers Team - The Easter Flowers Team provides a tangible symbol of God's love and the resurrection of Jesus by providing flowers to congregation members and Saint Peter senior living centers.

Christmas Visitation Team - The Christmas Visitation Team provides caring fellowship for senior members of the church by delivering bread and quilts during the Christmas season.

Sunday Driver Team - The Sunday Driver Team provides transportation to congregation members, providing the opportunity for those members to join in worship services and congregation fellowship.

New Members Team - The Membership Team's primary responsibility is recruiting and supporting new congregation members.

The members of CCM collaborated with church staff, including Pastor Bill Nelsen, Calleigh Carlson, and Angela Giedd.

Fellowship

Submitted by Betty Thompson

The Fellowship Committee has regrettably been inactive because of Covid 19 and will be until we are able to meet without masks.

Funds Management Committee

Submitted by Harry Hunt

Members: Harry Hunt, chair, Jack Spear, secretary, Pastor Bill, Ken Westphal, and Ken Rossow.

The Funds Management committee had another very interesting year with market conditions left from the pandemic. The year ended with a very positive return for our investments. The fund was able to deliver \$25,000 to the various Endowments. The complete report is listed in the back of the annual report. There are 10 different Endowments that FLC currently has available for any additional contributions. We also put together information about how you can contribute to one of these Endowments or start your own Endowment. It's called the First Lutheran Church Legacy Society. Members of the First Lutheran Church Legacy Society are those congregation members and friends who have named FLC in their wills, trusts or other estate plans. These funds enable committees within FLC to enhance their various programs without increasing the church budget. Many programs such as Worship and Music, cemetery, youth, bibles, seminary

scholarships, social ministry, and funds available at the council's discretion. New Endowments can be created. A new brochure is available by contacting one of the committee members or the front office.

The Endowment allocation for 2022 will be \$26,000. This allocation is about 4.5% of year end value. We continue to invest our funds with Vanguard Funds and MIF. Additional funds from the Cemetery was added in January of this year. The funds will be distributed as listed in the annual report.

Thanks to all who have contributed to the different Endowments and a big thank you to the committee members for their time and talent. Special thanks to Pastor Bill for his knowledge and wisdom that he gave to the committee. If you are interested in sitting down to discuss your estate plan, please contact one of our committee members or Pastor Chris.

Green Committee

Submitted by Judy Fienen

Members: Kathryn Christenson, James Dontje (in absentia), Judy Fienen, Nancy Helgeson, Sue Jackson, Julie Johnson, and Barb Wilkinson.

The committee started meeting in person in August of 2021. Everyone was vaccinated and masked. It was the first meeting we had in person since March of 2020. All business during the early part of 2021 was conducted by email.

Activities in 2021:

- The garden for the St Peter Area Food Shelf was planted, harvested (125 lbs. donated) and cleaned up.
- Composting, recycling and working toward zero waste continued.
- Our annual support of \$500.00 was paid to the Interfaith Power and Light program in Feb of 2021.
- The committee set a time and picked the February 2022 book for Every Member Reads. Nature's Best Hope by Douglas Tallamy was chosen. 3 books were budgeted to be purchased and made available for checkout.

Discussion Items for future activities:

- We explored the possibility of starting a program for recycling plastic at the Church.
- Solar options continue to be explored.
- With the Building and Grounds Committee we are exploring the field adjacent to the church for it to become more ecologically beneficial and sustainable.
- Thank you all for the past and future support of this committee.

Health Advisory Committee Report: *Keeping our Congregation Healthy*
Submitted by Keith Stelter MD

Members: Dr. Carolyn Stelter MD, Mary Hildebrandt RN, Dr. Jessica Stadick PhD, Dr. Keith Stelter MD, Michelle Doose, Pastor Bill Nelsen, and Calleigh Carlson.

An ad hoc advisory committee was created to address issues of infection control in regard to the COVID-19 pandemic.

We met at regular intervals and on an urgent as needed basis to make recommendations to the Council and the church leadership on how to create an environment that was as safe as possible and reasonable to prevent spread of COVID-19 during church activities.

We sincerely thank the members of First Lutheran Church for their gracious acceptance and compliance with the recommendations that we have made over the last year.

Because the pandemic continues, the advisory committee will continue to meet in 2022 as needed to make further recommendations.

Lifelong Learning Committee

Submitted by Calleigh Carlson & Cindy Nadeau

Committee Members: Calleigh Carlson, Brenda McHugh, Cindy Nadeau, Monique Sebring, Joy Reese, Jessica Hoenke, Rachel Szybnski, Izzy Avant, Reyenne Pettis, David Marlow

The Lifelong Learning Committee's focus is on faith formation for all members of the FLC community, both within the church and in support of faith development at home.

In the Winter/Spring of 2021, in person Sunday School/Faith Formation/HS Youth Group continued to be on hold due to COVID-19. Confirmation classes for our 7th-9th graders continued in a hybrid fashion. Online Children's Time messages were recorded each Sunday for the Sunday School youth. Although our in-person activities were limited, First Lutheran provided a variety of virtual opportunities for the youth including: Bob Ross Family Paint Challenge, Tie-Blanket service project, Youth Holiday Bags, Youth Easter Bags, Easter Cards for shut-ins, Tree Planting service project and HS Youth Book Club - Dear Church.

In the spring of 2021, the Staff Support Committee and Church Council voted to change the title of Calleigh Carlson from Lifelong Learning Director to the Director of Youth and Family Ministries. It was decided that this new title better reflected her responsibilities and duties to First Lutheran.

During the summer of 2021, we offered a variety of summer camp opportunities, some of which consisted of us partnering with other churches in town. In August, First Lutheran hosted an in-person First's Got Talent show! This event was well attended and participated in by members of all ages!

With the opening of the church in the spring, we got the go-ahead to offer in person Sunday School for the fall of 2021. Classes are currently being held two Sundays a month, with games and music offered on alternate Sundays. Rally Day arts, crafts, games and treats kicked off our Sunday School year, and an in-person Christmas program was held during the Sunday School hour in

December. Marty the Moose was named by our Sunday School children and is present for all classes and worship!

Wednesday night classes are held in person for 5th and 6th grade Faith Formation, as well as for Confirmation students in grades 7-9.

Our High School Youth Group was picked up again in November 2021, partnering with Trinity Lutheran and Union Presbyterian Church! The kick-off event consisted of a bonfire, gaga ball, and devotionals! FLC was well represented!

A Fair-Trade Youth Christmas Store was held in the First Lutheran gathering space for two weeks in December with proceeds going to youth programs!

All other Youth and family activities during the fall of 2021 included: 2nd Annual Pumpkin Carving Contest, Trunk or Treat event, ELCA Jr. High Youth Gathering in Willmar, Rake the Community, Thanksgiving Pie/Flower Deliveries Service Project, Chili Packages for the SPFS service project, HS Youth Group Pizza Night, Youth Christmas Shop, and Christmas Card creations for our shut-ins.

Adult studies: In person adult studies were on hold for 2021. Online Friday Forums were offered. We will slowly start bringing back in person adult forums in 2022, as health protocols allow.

Resurrection Cemetery Committee

Submitted by Barbara Wilkinson

Members: Barbara Wilkinson, (Chair.), Gordon Long, (Vice Chair), Paul Haukoos, (Secretary), Pastor Bill Nelsen, Tom Nelsen, Carol Solberg (Gratitude), Nancy Timm (Council Representative) Laurie Dietrich (Treasurer)

Special Advisors: Paul Aasen and Barb Haak

Resurrection Cemetery is owned and operated by First Lutheran Church of St. Peter, MN. It is overseen by the Cemetery Committee which is responsible for the operation and maintenance of its grounds. The committee also prepares an annual budget to assure that the cemetery operation is self-sustaining. The cemetery does not receive money from the church but derives resources from: 1. sale of grave lots, 2. income from investments, and 3. gifts from members and friends. Countless hours of volunteer time by the managers, committee members and other volunteers make it possible to operate the cemetery and keep the grounds well maintained.

Following Constitutional Changes ratified in January and approved by the Synod, members are now allowed to serve on the Cemetery Committee for more than two three-year consecutive terms. Nancy Timm replaced Bethany Valentini as the council representative. Tom Thorkelson and Jim Stenson are co-managers. Paul Aasen and Barb Haack are advisers. Thanks to all who serve on the committee. Additional thanks to Rick and Judy Noyd who plow the road in the winter and mow portions of the cemetery throughout the summer.

Because of the continued presence of COVID19, meetings in the first part of the year were held via Zoom, later in the year in person, observing social distancing and wearing masks. We met five times by Zoom, two times in person.

The cemetery committee finished many needed projects in 2021:

1. Three articles, written by committee members, were submitted to the monthly newsletter "First Out Loud".
2. In the Spring, Tom, Gordon, and Joe Frank planted 28 trees along the West Side of the Cemetery, after first clearing and seeding the land. In time, the trees will provide a green screen. The three men diligently watered the trees throughout the long, dry summer.
3. In April and October, we held clean-up days at the cemetery, with participation from committee members and other generous volunteers, including Pastor Bill and one high school student.
4. As of January 1, 2021, the sale price per grave lot is \$600.00. Of this amount, \$350 goes to Operations, \$250 to the Perpetual Care Fund, (now renamed "Cemetery Endowment Fund".)
5. A revised cemetery brochure was printed and distributed to the Manager, Pastor, Church Office, Klein Funeral Home, and the cemetery.
6. After many months of planning and negotiating by Barb Haack, Barb Wilkinson, and Joel Moline, the Informational Sign was installed by Redline Signworks of Mankato. Cemetery brochures are available to visitors in a box next to the sign. We thank Barb and Dale Haack for their financial contribution which covered the cost of the sign. Thank you, also, to Joel Moline who contributed the artwork.
7. A new sign designates a parking area to the east side of the entry road.
8. To encourage financial giving to Resurrection Cemetery, a specific envelope has been added to the envelope boxes distributed by the church. Thank you to all who have responded.
9. A system of consolidating information and making cemetery records more accessible to members of the church has been developed by the office coordinator, Angela Giedd, and Nita Aasen.
10. In the year 2021, 17 burials were performed, (5 traditional, 11 cremation, 1 green/natural); 14 grave lots were sold.

Our goals for the new year are:

1. Greater awareness of Resurrection Cemetery in the community.
2. Replacement of the shed and pump house.
3. Planting trees appropriate for cemeteries.
4. Dealing with trees that may be affected by the Emerald Ash Borer.
5. Stump removal in cleared areas.

The Cemetery Committee wants to provide a well maintained, dignified resting place for all who are buried at Resurrection Cemetery. We are grateful for the generous donors and members who give freely of their time and talents to make it possible.

Social Justice Committee: *Engaged & Ready to Serve!!*
Submitted by Amy Ronnkvist

Members: Amy Ronnkvist, Beth Winterfeldt, Calleigh Carlson, Ceceli Polzin, Pastor Bill Nelsen, Janet Jensen, Marilyn Kochsiek, Ellen Conover, Mary Spear

"The Social Justice Committee is responsible for all events and programs related to peace and justice. Issues that may be addressed by this committee include local and global hunger, inadequate housing, racial and economic injustices, LGBTQIA+ injustices, refugee crisis, and violence. This committee also suggests, oversees,

and implements ways in which First Lutheran Church as a Reconciling in Christ congregation of the ELCA lives out its Reconciling in Christ statement. All work will be done through building relationships with and engaging in partnerships with non-profits who share interests.” ~First Lutheran Constitution

Accomplishments:

1. Hosted RIC Sunday and brought in Pastor Kari Lipke to preach and attend our Zoom coffee hour.
2. Members of the committee connected with ISIAIAH to learn more about the newly formed southern Minnesota chapter. Interested committee members participated in events throughout the year.
3. Worked with Pastor Bill to make recommendations for using the Pastor’s Discretionary Funds which resulted in assisting over 60 families using a total of \$14,000 in discretionary funds.
4. Worked with FLC Office to make sure that RIC information was prominently featured on website.
5. Provided snacks for the St. Peter Free Clinic to staff with church volunteers.
6. Donated a CSA Share from East Henderson Farm to St. Peter Foodshelf.
7. Hosted 6 well attended community forums on topics related to social justice with key speakers.
 - January: Embracing Diversity in Church and Community (Amy Ronnkvist)
 - February: How Does Social Justice Fit into Church (Pastor Bill and Dr. Darrell Jodock)
 - March: Food Insecurity (Leah Mahoney, SHIP-statewide health improvement partnership)
 - April: Housing Insecurity (Beth Winterfeldt and Jen Theneman, Executive Director of Partners for Housing)
 - June: RIC and the ELCA (Ashlei Cramer, Reconciling Works)
 - December: Isaiah (Kathryn Lozada)
8. Worked with Keith Stelter to advocate for the idea of a Freedge site to provide a refrigerator outside of FLC stocked with free perishable food (using a self-serve model) like one located in Mankato Clinic. Have the long-term goal of implementing the initiative with council approval.
9. Encouraged volunteers to assist with fresh food distribution on Fridays and on September 17th, sponsored a First Lutheran volunteer day for the St. Peter Food Access Network distribution.
10. Sent recommendations for gender neutral bathroom signage to Building and Grounds Committee.
11. Hosted Emmanuel 9 Commemorative Service on Thursday, June 17th.
12. Members of the committee participated in St. Peter 4th of July Parade and Southern Minnesota Pride Festival Parade.
13. Assisted with finding volunteers for the Hikmah tutoring program.
14. Received approval to become a Distant Partner in LSS Circle of Welcome program for Afghan Refugees and Evacuees along with Trinity Lutheran Church and Union Presbyterian Church.

Staff Support Committee

Submitted by John Sylvester

Members: Tami Aune, Stefanie Menning, and John Sylvester

The FLC Staff Support Committee met 16 times during 2021 to accomplish the following work:
—finalized a revision of the “FLC Staff Member Handbook”.

- finalized a revision of the “FLC Sexual Harassment and Violence Policy”;
- interviewed candidates for the position of FLC Office Coordinator and recommended FLC Council action to hire the successful candidate.
- assisted the FLC Director of Music in preparation of a successful sabbatical leave request to the FLC Council.
- worked with the FLC Director of Youth and Family Ministry to accommodate continued employment at a reduced level.
- made a recommendation to the FLC Finance Committee relative to a 2022 wage increase for FLC staff members.

During the 2022 year, the Committee intends to review and, if necessary, revise FLC’s other policies and meet with individual staff members to review and, if necessary, revise their current job descriptions in addition to looking at existing compensation and benefit levels in conjunction with the FLC Finance Committee. The Committee also hopes to recruit two additional members.

Stewardship Committee: *Faithful Worship, Generous Giving*
Submitted by Bob Stenson

Members: Pastor Bill Nelsen, Karen Smithers, Brett Peterson, Bruce Grey, Garrett Paul, Harry Hunt, Bill Kautt, Annalise Rivas, and Bob Stenson, chair.

The Stewardship Ministry Committee is responsible for promoting biblically based stewardship through temple talks, newsletter articles, and educational programs for the congregation. The committee is also responsible for conducting an annual financial pledge drive and soliciting responses to time and talent surveys.

The committee encourages the congregation to provide financial support for the congregation's ministry and the ministry of other parts of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

The fall stewardship season began on Sunday September 19 and ended on Sunday October 24 under the theme: "Faithful Worship, Generous Giving." Sermons and Temple talks by Pastor Bill Nelsen and committee members focused on the theme. Bill Kautt, President of the congregation, wrote and mailed two letters to the congregation encouraging members to return their "Estimate of Giving" cards for 2022. "Thank you notes" were written by the stewardship committee to members who returned their cards. A response thermometer and Time & Talent graph were designed and displayed.

As of December 31, 2021 First Lutheran members filled out 111 "estimate of giving" cards totaling \$311,741 for 2022 ministry support. The Stewardship Ministry Committee thanks the entire membership of First Lutheran Church for being generous in giving and being faithful disciples of Jesus Christ.

Technical Committee: *New Equipment & Internet Service*
Submitted by Harry Hunt

Members: Harry Hunt, chair, Pastor Bill, Bill Kautt, Tami Auni, Rachel Ribar, Shanon Nowell, Emily Bruflat, Nate Koster, Brad Chambers, Leif Hammar, and Curt Rice.

The Technical Committee was formed this year to update our computers and to live stream our church services. Three new computers were purchased, new fiber optic from Metronet was

installed and new equipment for live streaming. We are still working on completing our live streaming but close to finishing the project. If you must be away and can't attend our worship services, please watch, and listen on Facebook. The equipment was all purchased from a gift from one of members. Thanks for their generosity.

We have a group of people to thank for getting FLC up to date. First is Angela, Calleigh and Karen, working with us in the front office, as we made our changes to both networking and equipment. Pastor Bill in working on getting his new computer ready for Pastor Chris. Emily has a big part in getting our live streaming working. She recruited several people to help, Brad Chambers, Shanon Nowell and GAC student Leif Hammar. All the committee members were helpful in getting FCL ready for the next generation.

Worship & Arts: *Worshipping Safely, In-Person & Online*
Submitted by Michelle Doose

Members: Michelle Doose – Chairperson, Pastor Bill Nelsen, Emily Bruflat, Aileen Bipes, Kim Bovee, Carrie Stelter, Cheryl Kautt, Dan Polzin, Julie Johnson, and Lauren Shoemaker

Over the course of this year, we have been so fortunate to be able to have some badly needed repairs started (and completed!) on the beautiful instruments at First! All the repairs that were needed on the grand piano in the sanctuary were completed in March. The piano sounds amazing! We were also able to purchase a nice cover for the piano, too, to help protect it and keep its humidity consistent. Our handbells and hand chimes were refurbished in September. The bell choir was so happy to get them back, all polished up! The bells and chimes sound better than ever!

We were also able to secure funds for the first of three phases of repairs to the organ. Patrick Fischer has been here to restore the action of the keys, to replace the lighting and mirrors, and to complete other repairs and tuning. Already, Emily reports that playing the organ is much more enjoyable - minus the quirks that she had to work around before the fixes!

Cheryl Kautt has done a lot of work to jazz up two of the bulletin boards near the dining hall and one outside the sanctuary. We appreciate her work on these. They are eye-catching as well as informative!

Worship and Arts also has been in consultation with the Health Advisory team (HAT) over the course of this year to make recommendations regarding worship, visits to the church, etc. Gladly, we have had the “green light” to move forward with in-person worship since April. Keith Stelter and all the members of the HAT team have been so helpful in providing us some much-needed guidance with many questions regarding events, worship, and day-to-day happenings at First.

Lastly, I would be remiss if I failed to spotlight our director of music's crucial role in ensuring that the programming of so many things has been delivered at an impeccable level. Our worship, the event planning and coordinating, the improvements to our technology, its implementation and delivery, and of course - *the music* - has been completed at a level that is second to none. Her commitment to this work has been unwavering. Thank you, Emily, for the long days (and evenings) that you've given to this work. You are a blessing!

List of Endowed & Non-Endowed Gifts Held by First Lutheran

Holmberg Music Endowment—designated for special music events

Johnson Heritage Fund—endowed gift designated for purchase of Bibles for children and special initiatives relating to the spiritual growth of children...as well as for support of RIC initiatives

Logan Mission Endowment—designated for support of Christians through the world, especially through world missions of the ELCA

Ruth L. Matson Endowment—undesigned but with family interests in Christian education needs

Seminary Scholarship Endowment—designated to provide scholarships for any First Lutheran Church member who is enrolled at a seminary in a program leading to rostered service in the church.

Social Ministry Endowment—designated to support the educational and direct action dimensions of the congregation's social ministry.

Esther Youngquist Endowment—undesigned, but donor interest in world missions, and venture ministries of First Lutheran Church.

Youth Scholarship Fund—endowed gift designated to provide scholarship assistance for youth interested in attending events such as summer camps, youth conferences/assemblies, confirmation retreats, etc. that have a Christian religious component.

Ruth & Ted Larson Endowment—endowed gift designated for a variety of broad causes to be determined by the FLC Council.



Southwestern Minnesota Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Bishop's 2021 Annual Report

Rev. Dee Pederson, D.Min.

“God has placed us in cities, farms, and towns together....
The Risen Christ surprises us as we plant God's Word in the world....
By God's grace, together we have what we need.”

These words from our synod mission statement provide both grounding and direction as we complete a year of significant change and look ahead to the future. And first I want to say **Thank You!** for your congregation's participation and leadership, and for your partnership with one another across our synod. I am inspired by your witness to Jesus Christ and grateful for your dedication! As I share this first annual report, there are key insights in this statement that I want to lift up.

God. I know: that is not a surprising place to begin, is it? But all too often, we do not begin with God or God's Word; we begin with us. Or me. And given the year we have just been through, that is understandable. There are so many concerns that weigh on our hearts. We have mourned the loss of loved ones, struggled with pandemic protocols and illness, seen our kids be on-again off-again with their schools, navigated worship and devotions online, worried about attendance and offering, waited for a pastor to come to lead us. But during challenging times especially, it is vital to begin with God, just as the stories of God's Word do:

- *In the beginning God created.* - Genesis 1:1
- *In the beginning was the Word.* - John 1:1
- *The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.* - Revelation 22:21

As we consider how much the world has changed in the last 2 years, and as we consider the challenges our congregations and communities face in greater Minnesota right now, it is easy to get stuck on us and our problems.

Yet your congregation is not here by chance. It is God who planted you where you are – whether that was 155 years ago, 45, or 5. You have been baptized into the Holy Trinity, who now sends you to serve each other and your community for a time such as this. God is calling you. The Risen Christ does surprise us as we plant God's Word. God's grace will provide what you need. *“It is the Lord your God who goes with you. And God will not forsake you or leave you.”* (Deut. 31:6).

Together. “Synod” literally means “walking together.” Planted in cities, open rural country, and towns, no two of our congregations are identical; we are different from each other. We have different histories and traditions. That can lead us to think that because we may not have certain things in common, that we don't need each other. After serving in this Office for only 4 months, I have been blessed to see the varieties of gifts the Spirit has poured out on each of our congregations and rostered ministers. And one of the things the pandemic has taught us is that we are better together. This year we have discovered that “togetherness” in new and important ways:

- Presidents & lay leaders making connections and sharing best practices as they meet together.
- Rostered ministers forming long and lasting relationships via zoom, in person, in text studies, and conference gatherings for support, encouragement, and prayer.
- Neighboring congregations meeting together to explore how they might share ministry programming and pastoral care and leadership.

Together, your synod staff has been walking with you as we have been in a time of transition:

- I am so grateful for the leadership of Bishop Jon Anderson over these past 18 years. His legacy provides such a strong foundation for this synod as I have begun to serve in this new role.
- Synod Minister Pr. Stephen Cook will continue to serve in his call as pastoral staff and will relate to conferences in the northern tier of the synod.
- Synod Administrative Staff includes Tammy Schacher - Executive Assistant to the Bishop, Office Manager, and Call Process Administrator; Kristin Bakeberg – Communications Coordinator; Maggie Berggren – Administrative Assistant; Carla Klawitter – Temporary Administrative Assistant.
- Transition Synod Ministers Pr. Dwaine Bruns, Pr. Art Wiese, Pr. Stephen Rasmusson, and former Synod Staff member Pr. Linda Pedersen – sustained conference call processes and will conclude their transitional ministry at the end of January.
- Gifts of Grace staff Pr. Andrew Hermodson-Olsen and Pr. Kelly France.
- Pr. Keith Pearson, ELCA Planned Giving Coordinator – a position funded by the ELCA and deployed in the synod.
- Sister Sarah Hausken - now serving with the churchwide Deaconess Community after working with our synod for 21 years.
- Pr. Troy Pflibsen – Director for Evangelical Mission (D.E.M.) – a position funded by the ELCA and deployed in our synod.
- Pr. Heather Culuris, joining our pastoral staff January 1, 2022, will relate to conferences in the southern tier of the synod.

Together, your staff team has been doing a fantastic job of focusing on candidacy, interim ministries, call process, and the leadership transition. At the present time, there are 54 out of 230 congregations that are in some point of transition – the highest number ever. If you know someone in your congregation who has the gifts for full or part-time ministry, please be bold enough to encourage them; it may be the Spirit's way of calling forth a new leader. And if you have a rostered minister leading your congregation right now, please express your appreciation to them and let them know you are grateful for their ministry.

*By God's grace, together
we have what we need.*

I return to the place I began: gratitude. Thank you for your continuing and generous financial gifts for Mission Support that sustain the ministries of this synod and our many partners locally and around the globe. We are grateful to all who have shared gifts for Gifts of Grace that enhance the financial well-being of our rostered leaders. In addition, this year Lilly Endowment, Inc. has awarded us a new grant that will assist rostered ministers impacted financially by the pandemic, as well as assisting congregations who will explore partnerships with neighboring churches. During a change in leadership, I am grateful for the staff and governance leaders who have ensured that we enter 2022 on a solid place financially and begin a process of envisioning how God's mission is leading us in new ways into the future.

Finally, thank you for your prayers as I begin serving in the Office of the Bishop. I have been overwhelmed by the power of your prayers and encouragement during these first four months of leadership and pray that I serve you and God's mission well as the synod's pastor. Know that you are in my prayers and in my heart. Know that I welcome and seek your ideas, feedback, visits, conversations, and insights as I begin the responsibilities of this ministry. I give thanks that, by God's grace, together we have what we need.

Now to God who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to God be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen. – Eph. 3:20-21

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Dee Pederson, D.Min.

Serving as Bishop of the Southwestern Minnesota Synod, ELCA

WWW.SWMNELCA.ORG



• **ANNUAL REPORT FROM GUSTAVUS CHURCH RELATIONS — DECEMBER 2021** •

Greetings to you from your partners in ministry at Gustavus Adolphus College! The definition of community at Gustavus has always included the wider ELCA community. The network of institutions and relationships which holds our Lutheran congregations, synods, camps, colleges, seminaries, and social agencies together plays a vital role in nourishing and advancing our collective and important contribution to the world. We all make a greater impact because of this diverse network to which we belong.

This is an exciting year at Gustavus as we celebrate 60 years of Christ Chapel and 35 years of the Gustavus Adolphus College Association of Congregations! Through the Gustavus Association of Congregations the Office of Church Relations at Gustavus is connected to over 500 congregations from across the country. These relationships are an important source of Christian faith inspiration and ministry encouragement for the college. We have so very much to be grateful for and celebrate!

As you gather for congregation annual meetings and synod assemblies, we would like you to know our gratitude for your ministry and hope you are inspired by the reminder of the many others who walk alongside you in mission. The Office of Church Relations at Gustavus exists because as a college we live from our Christian faith and desire to be in service to the wider community within which we are rooted. We seek to be a place you might consider as a ministry partner and resource for your congregation's educational goals and growth.

MARK YOUR 2022 CALENDARS AND JOIN US FOR THESE SPECIAL EVENTS:

- **Annual Gustavus Association of Congregations Business Meeting Luncheon — APRIL 30, 2022**
The Annual Business Meeting of the Gustavus Adolphus College Association of Congregations will gather virtually and feature updates from the Gustavus President and Chair of the Board of Trustees as well as inspiration from Gustavus students. For more information: gustavus.edu/businessmeeting.
- **The Gustavus Academy for Faith, Science, and Ethics — JUNE 18-24, 2022**, an exciting resource for high school youth interested in exploring creative alliances between faith and science. The theme for the 2022 Academy is *"Our Beautiful Brain: Neuroscience, Mental Health, and Resilience."* For more information and to nominate a high school student: gustavus.edu/chaplain/academy.
- **Annual Nobel Conference® — SEPTEMBER 28-29, 2022** *"Mental Health (In)Equity and Young People."* Prioritizing the mental health concerns of young people has become essential amid times of global pandemic, racism, sexism, ableism, social unrest, climate change, and political upheaval. Nobel Conference 58 will address mental health disparities and their effects on youth, with a particular emphasis on the significance of identity, trauma and technology. More details can be found at: gustavus.edu/events/nobelconference.
- **Christmas in Christ Chapel — DECEMBER 1-4, 2022** This annual tradition in Christ Chapel celebrates and reflects upon the birth of Jesus Christ through worship that features music, dance, spoken word, and the visual arts. Ticket information and archived live stream services can found at: gustavus.edu/events/cc.

For more information about these events and the many resources we offer congregations, please contact the Office of Church Relations or visit us on-line at: gustavus.edu/churchrelations. Thank you for your partnership and prayers!

Yours in Christ,
Rev. Grady St. Dennis
College Chaplain/Director of Church Relations

Audit Committee Report

Submitted on behalf of the Audit Committee: David Anderson, Terry Hoehn, and Patsy Rossow

The appointed Audit Committee of First Lutheran Church respectfully submits this report for the year ending December 31, 2021.

We have reviewed the accompanying Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2021 and the related statements of Income and Expense for the year then ended. Our audit included reviewing selected documents and transactions as was considered necessary.

We have also reviewed internal control procedures and will send a letter to the Finance Committee regarding comments on those controls.

In 2021, First Lutheran Church shows a net loss of \$25,372 on its Statement of Income and Expense. Receipts and expenses were down \$10,069 and \$33,805 respectively from what was budgeted.

The Building Renovation Fund had receipts of \$98,229 and mortgage payments totaling \$120,948 which included \$70,551 paid on mortgage principal. The Building Renovation Fund activity along with a few other funds shown as "Dedicated Accounts" in the financial reports are not included on the statement of Income and Expense.

A Capital Fund was established in 2021 to dedicate funds for the purpose of paying capital expenses which may arise. A balance of \$125,000 is shown in the equity section of the Balance Sheet.

The financial reports for the year 2021, to the best of our knowledge, appear to be materially complete and accurate statements of the church's financial position.

The Building Fund...from Stem to Stern

The Building Renovation Fund

	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Activity 2009 to 2020			
Chapel Fund - Transfer in	\$50,843	\$40,327	
Receipts / Donations	\$2,417,108		
Lloyd Elton Bequest	\$20,000		
Construction Costs Paid		\$711,102	
Interest Expense during Construction		\$64,560	
Interest Expense on Mortgage		\$695,228	
Principal paid on Mortgage		\$885,022	
Total from 2009 to 2020 Balance 12-31-20	\$2,487,951	\$2,396,239	\$91,712
Activity in 2021			
Receipts / Donations	\$98,229		
Interest Expense - Mortgage		\$50,397	
Principal paid on Mortgage		\$70,551	
Construction/Refinance Costs Paid		\$0	
Total for 2021 / Balance 12/31/2021	\$98,229	\$120,948	\$68,993

Mortgage Summary

(Monthly Payment is \$10,079)

Original Mortgage on 3-12-12		\$2,180,215
Principal Paid 2012 / Balance 12-31-12	\$73,505	\$2,106,710
Principal Paid 2013 / Balance 12-31-13	\$155,037	\$1,951,673
Principal Paid 2014/Balance 12-31-14	\$86,482	\$1,865,191
Principal Paid 2015/Balance 12-31-15	\$108,048	\$1,757,143
Principal Paid 2016/Balance 12/31/16	\$86,956	\$1,670,187
Principal Paid 2017/Balance 12/31/17	\$63,792	\$1,606,395
Principal Paid 2018/Balance 12/31/18	\$162,586	\$1,443,809
Principal Paid 2019/Balance 12/31/19	\$80,821	\$1,362,988
Principal Paid 2020/Balance 12/31/20	\$67,795	\$1,295,193
Principal Paid 2021/Balance 12/31/21	\$70,551	\$1,224,642

Building Improvements Summary

Costs Paid by Chapel Fund	\$40,327
Costs Paid 2009 to 2020	\$737,044
Interest Expense during Construction	\$38,618
Costs Paid by the Mortgage	\$2,180,215
Costs Paid in 2021	\$0
Total Building Improvements Cost 12/31/21	\$2,996,204

(Additional principal payments to date--\$380,943)

First Lutheran Church Budget & Actual Summaries

	<u>2019 Budget</u>	<u>2019 Actual</u>	<u>2020 Budget</u>	<u>2020 Actual</u>	<u>2021 Budget</u>	<u>2021 Actual</u>	<u>2022 Budget</u>
<i>Income</i>							
Envelope	\$465,000	\$422,035	\$425,000	\$457,400	\$349,000	\$335,807	\$375,000
Debt Service							\$120,948
Other	\$20,530	\$14,438	\$12,300	\$50,703	\$32,700	\$35,824	\$46,471
<i>Total Income</i>	\$485,530	\$436,473	\$437,300	\$508,103	\$381,700	\$371,631	\$542,419
<i>Expense Accounts</i>							
Benevolence	\$55,000	\$54,631	\$32,250	\$51,987	\$24,340	\$23,200	\$13,100
Committees	\$24,570	\$14,999	\$24,570	\$11,655	\$19,100	\$10,077	\$19,850
<i>Total</i>	\$79,570	\$69,630	\$56,820	\$63,642	\$43,440	\$33,277	\$32,950
<i>Operating Expenses</i>							
Maintenance/Utilities	\$60,500	\$54,561	\$60,500	\$38,460	\$43,100	\$44,047	\$54,700
Insurance	\$14,200	\$13,981	\$13,600	\$13,966	\$14,000	\$13,966	\$14,500
Office	\$12,600	\$11,193	\$12,100	\$10,689	\$11,500	\$13,923	\$11,000
<i>Total</i>	\$87,300	\$79,735	\$86,200	\$63,115	\$68,600	\$71,936	\$80,200
<i>Salaries and Benefits</i>							
Salaries	\$241,017	\$221,430	\$219,370	\$204,923	\$249,699	\$221,727	\$247,160
Payroll Taxes	\$14,968	\$12,068	\$13,355	\$11,446	\$13,982	\$13,684	\$13,980
Fringe Benefits	\$50,727	\$35,728	\$50,144	\$33,927	\$24,691	\$28,841	\$37,191
Minister Support	\$6,450	\$4,244	\$6,250	\$3,564	\$4,850	\$1,657	\$5,350
<i>Total</i>	\$313,162	\$273,470	\$289,119	\$253,860	\$293,222	\$265,909	\$303,681
<i>Other Expenses</i>							
Ordinary Expenses	\$5,300	\$5,203	\$3,600	\$1,728	\$2,000	\$2,336	\$3,325
Debt Service							\$120,948
Endowment Spending					\$25,000	\$23,545	\$16,571
<i>Total</i>	\$5,300	\$5,203	\$3,600	\$1,728	\$27,000	\$25,881	\$140,844
<i>Total Expenses</i>	\$485,332	\$428,038	\$435,739	\$382,345	\$432,262	\$397,003	\$557,675
<i>Operating Net Income (Loss)</i>	\$198	\$8,433	\$1,561	\$125,758	(\$50,562)	(\$25,372)	(\$15,256)

**Summary Report of Funds at First Lutheran
2021**

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
<u>2021 Annual Operating Budget Summary</u>		
Expected Income:		\$381,700
Actual Income:		\$371,631
	<i>Net Under Budget: <10,069></i>	
Expected Expenditures:		\$430,807
Actual Expenditures:		\$397,002
	<i>Net Under Budget: <33,805></i>	
Expected Income Less Expense:		<49,107>
Actual Income Less Expense		<25,372>
<u>Endowment Fund</u>		
Total Value as of Dec 31, 2021		\$586,661
Earnings Available for Disbursement:		\$25,000
Actual Disbursements:		\$25,000
<u>Bulding Renovation & Chapel Funds</u>		
Total amount Received (Jan 1, 2010-Dec 31, 2021):		\$2,586,180
Total Expenditures to Date:		\$2,517,187
	<i>Balance Remaining</i>	\$68,993

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH BUDGET 2022

	2019 Budget	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2022 Budget
<u>INCOME</u>					
<u>OFFERINGS</u>					
Envelope Offerings	\$465,000	\$425,000	\$349,000	\$335,807	\$375,000
Loose Offering	7,000	4,000	2,500	7,170	5,000
Special Days	6,000	4,000	2,000	1,677	2,000
Initial Offering	300	300	300	255	250
Missions	900	900	1,500	1,253	1,000
Restricted Pledge					15,000
Debt Service					120,948
Totals for Offerings	479,200	434,200	355,300	346,162	519,198
<u>OTHER INCOME</u>					
Use of Facilities	5,000	2,000	1,000	180	500
Other Income	0	0	0	84	2,000
Building Envelope Income	500	300	300		
Interest - General Savings	30	200	100	205	150
Call Process Appeal/PPP loan	0	0	0		
Youth Income (Coffee Hour)	0	0	0		
Restricted Endowment (Excl Cemetery)			23,545	23,545	19,058
Unrestricted Endowment Income	800	600	1,455	1,455	1,513
Totals Other Income	6,330	3,100	26,400	25,469	23,221
<u>Totals for Income</u>	\$485,530	\$437,300	\$381,700	\$371,631	\$542,419
<u>EXPENSE ACCOUNTS</u>					
<u>BENEVOLENCE</u>					
ELCA/Synod Allocation	\$46,500	\$25,500	\$20,940	\$20,200	\$11,700
Missionary Sponsorship	3,000	2,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Lutheran Social Services	3,000	2,000	1,000	1,000	0
Community Outreach	2,000	2,000	1,000	1,000	0
Other Gifts (Special, Synod Assemb.)	500	750	400	0	400
Totals for Benevolence	55,000	32,250	24,340	23,200	13,100

	2019 Budget	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2022 Budget
<u>OTHER MINISTRY</u>					
<u>BUILDING AND GROUNDS MINISTRY</u>					
Courtyard	150	150	300	59	100
Building General Projects	1,500	1,500	1,700	1,700	1,700
Totals for Building and Grounds	1,650	1,650	2,000	1,759	1,800
<u>Lifelong Learning/Youth</u>					
Adult Education/First Forums	400	400	200	-500	200
Children & Family Ed	2,500	2,500	1,000	839	750
MS/Confirmation	2,000	2,000	1,000	685	725
Summer Ministries	950	950	500	-626	400
Library Expense	50	50	50	0	50
Family Events	500	500	500	90	300
Youth Resource Materials	1,250	1,250	500	0	250
Youth Trips	1,000	1,000	0	0	
Youth Program Costs	1,250	1,250	0	0	
Totals for Christian Education	9,900	9,900	3,750	488	2,675
<u>CONGREGATION AND COMMUNITY MIN</u>					
Public Relations	520	520	800	568	600
New Members	150	150	250	19	250
Devotional Materials	150	150	150	169	150
Materials & Marketing	200	200	600	166	400
Homebound Members (Lay Visitation)	500	500	500	951	850
Workshops/Forums	200	200	100		85
Global Missions	500	500	500		0
Totals for Welcoming	2,220	2,220	2,900	1,873	2,335
<u>FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY</u>					
Fellowship	800	800	800	12	680
Total for Fellowship	800	800	800	12	680
<u>GREEN MINISTRY</u>					
Green Speakers	250	250	200		0
Gardens	200	200	200		150
Environmental Initiatives MNIPL	500	500	500	500	500
Green Resources/Materials	150	150	100		50
Totals for Green Ministry	1,100	1,100	1,000	500	700
<u>TECHNOLOGY</u>					
Computers					1,200
Tech support					3,300
Totals for Technology					4,500
<u>SOCIAL JUSTICE</u>					
RIC Sunday/Refugee Sunday	350	350	100		150
Hunger Issues	250	250	250	250	250
Totals for Social Ministry	600	600	350	250	400
<u>STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY</u>					
Stewardship Program	2,000	2,000	2,000	1,040	1,800
Offering Envelopes	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,699	1,800
Totals for Stewardship	3,800	3,800	3,800	2,739	3,600
<u>WORSHIP AND MUSIC MINISTRY</u>					
Worship/Music Misc.	500	500	500	262	425
Music Resources	1,000	1,000	1,000	573	1,000
Permanent Resource Library/Licensing	750	750	750	590	600
Marketing/Programming	300	300	300	50	300
Altar Guild - Supplies	1,350	1,350	1,350	822	600
Instrument Upkeep	500	500	500	95	150
Totals for Worship and Music	4,400	4,400	4,400	2,392	3,075
Other Ministries (Prayer Chain)	100	100	100	64	85
Totals for Committees	24,570	24,570	19,100	10,077	19,850

	2019 Budget	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2022 Budget
OPERATING EXPENSES					
<u>MAINTENANCE/UTILITIES</u>					
Maintenance Contracts	3,300	3,300	2,500	2,791	3,800
Building Maintenance	6,500	6,500	3,500	4,469	3,500
Snow Plowing	4,000	4,000	3,000	1,550	2,500
Custodian/Kitchen Supplies	3,000	3,000	2,000	1,225	1,500
Heat	15,000	15,000	11,000	11,620	15,000
Electricity/Water	23,000	23,000	16,000	15,824	19,000
Refuse	1,900	1,900	1,900	2,289	2,400
Telephone	3,800	3,800	3,200	4,279	7,000
Totals for Maintenance/Utilities	60,500	60,500	43,100	44,047	54,700
<u>INSURANCE</u>					
Property and Liability Insurance	10,000	10,000	10,500	10,294	10,500
Workers Compensation	4,200	3,600	3,500	3,672	4,000
Totals for Insurance	14,200	13,600	14,000	13,966	14,500
<u>OFFICE EXPENSES</u>					
Postage	2,000	2,000	2,500	2,582	2,500
Office Supplies	4,000	3,500	3,000	3,930	3,200
Office Equipment Maintenance	4,000	4,000	3,500	3,245	3,300
Sunday Bulletin	600	600	500	479	500
Computer Supplies	2,000	2,000	1,500	3,258	1,500
Computers/ Transferred to Technology	0	0	500	429	
Totals for Office Expenses	12,600	12,100	11,500	13,923	11,000
Totals for Operating Expenses	87,300	86,200	68,600	71,936	80,200

	2019 Budget	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2022 Budget
PERSONNEL/PAYROLL					
<u>SALARIES</u>					
Salary - Pastor	42,500	42,925	26,666	15,783	52,531
Housing Allowance - Pastor	13,000	13,130	22,936	25,173	15,759
Salary - Director of Music	49,965	37,622	50,867	50,867	51,579
Salary - Custodian	32,760	33,088	33,600	33,721	34,070
Salary - Office Manager (32 hr./wk)	32,760	26,470	26,850	25,485	27,378
Salary - Bookkeeper	13,104	13,235	13,800	14,381	13,993
Salary - Nursery Attendant	1,300	1,000	500		0
Salary - Substitute Organist	1,000	1,000	1,000	400	750
Salary - Visitation	1,350	10,000	1,000		
Salary - Interim Pastor	0	0	14,380		0
Benefits Compensation/ Staff	0	0	15,150	14,567	15,150
Sabbatical coverage (funded by endow)					4,000
Salary - Christian Ed Director	32,760	0	41,000	39,850	30,000
Salary - Youth Director (11 months)	18,018	38,400	0		
Salary- Security/Lockup	1,500	1,500	1,500		1,500
Salary - Substitute Pastor	1,000	1,000	450	1,500	450
Totals for Salaries	241,017	219,370	249,699	221,727	247,160
<u>EMPLOYER PAYROLL TAXES</u>					
Employer FICA	12,131	10,824	11,332	11,090	11,330
Employer Medicare	2,837	2,531	2,650	2,594	2,650
Intern Payroll Tax Reimb	0	0	0		
Totals for Employer Payroll Taxes	14,968	13,355	13,982	13,684	13,980
<u>FRINGE BENEFITS</u>					
50% FICA - Pastor	4,246	4,288	2,855	3,133	5,224
Med/Pension - Pastor	15,892	16,293	5,136	8,922	14,967
Med/Pension - Director of Music	15,589	14,801	16,700	16,786	17,000
Benefits Comp - Other Staff	15,000	14,762	0		
Totals for Fringe Benefits	50,727	50,144	24,691	28,841	37,191
<u>MINISTERIAL SUPPORT</u>					
Auto Allow - Pastor	1,500	1,500	1,000		2,500
Auto Allow - Other Staff	800	800	400	495	400
Theological Conference	500	500	500	31	500
Prof Allow - Pastor	600	600	600		600
Prof Allow - Director of Music	600	600	600	287	0
Continued Ed - Pastor	1,000	1,000	500		1,000
Continued Ed - Director of Music	1,000	800	800	794	100
Continued Ed - Office Staff	450	450	450	50	250
Totals for Ministerial Support	6,450	6,250	4,850	1,657	5,350
Totals for Personnel/Payroll	313,162	289,119	293,222	265,909	303,681

	2019 Budget	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2022 Budget
<u>OTHER EXPENSES</u>					
Church Council Expense	1,000	500	500	1,592	500
Synod Convention Expense	1,000	1,000	900	725	725
Bank Service Charges	0	0	0		0
Wednesday Suppers	2,200	2,000	500		0
Credit Card Fees	100	100	100	19	100
New Revenue Initiatives					2,000
Loan Interest Expense	1,000	0	0		
Capital Expenses	0	0	0		
Totals for Other Ordinary Expenses	5,300	3,600	2,000	2,336	3,325
Capital Renewal Budget Fund					
Debt Service					120,948
Endowment Spending			25,000	23,545	16,571
Total Expense and Expenditures	485,332	435,739	432,262	397,003	557,675
NET INCOME (LOSS)	\$198	\$1,561	(\$50,562)	(\$25,372)	(\$15,256)

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First Lutheran Church
Balance Sheet by Account
Jan 1, 2021 through Dec 31, 2021

Account	Balance As Of Jan 1, 2021	Balance As Of Dec 31, 2021	Current Year Change	Percent Change
Fund 01 - GENERAL				
Assets				
Major 05, Current Assets				
Minor 01, Checking/Savings				
011-05-01-01, Pioneer Checking	78,039.73	69,474.96	-8,564.77	-10.97%
011-05-01-24, Memorial Fund	5,220.11	5,217.11	-3.00	-0.06%
011-05-01-25, PDF Checking	12,001.26	5,328.62	-6,672.64	-55.60%
Minor 01, Checking/Savings	95,261.10	80,020.69	-15,240.41	-16.00%
Major 05, Current Assets				
Minor 02, Savings				
011-05-02-05, Investor Savings	168,113.99	158,279.42	-9,834.57	-5.85%
011-05-02-06, Capital Fund Savings	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
011-05-02-08, Bldg./Renovation Savings	76,985.03	52,055.65	-24,929.38	-32.38%
Minor 02, Savings	245,099.02	210,335.07	-34,763.95	-14.18%
Major 05, Current Assets				
Minor 03, Endowment Funds				
011-05-03-70, Endowment Fund Accounts	559,000.27	615,184.05	56,183.78	10.05%
011-05-03-71, Roof Escrow	3,755.48	4,479.35	723.87	19.28%
Minor 03, Endowment Funds	562,755.75	619,663.40	56,907.65	10.11%
Major 05, Current Assets				
Minor 04, Receivables				
011-05-04-02, Endow. Fund Distribution Receiv	-3,324.00	-392.85	2,931.15	-88.18%
011-05-04-03, Edward Jones Stock	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
011-05-04-04, Contribution Receivable	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
Minor 04, Receivables	-3,324.00	-392.85	2,931.15	-88.18%
Major 05, Current Assets				
Minor 06, Cemetery Funds				
011-05-06-35, Cemetery - CDs Pioneer	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
011-05-06-40, Cemetery -Savings Pioneer	24,586.79	29,232.62	4,645.83	18.90%
011-05-06-45, Cemetery - Checking Sav/Chk	1,166.75	4,933.35	3,766.60	322.83%
011-05-06-50, Cemetery Beaut. Inv	12,702.02	4,052.59	-8,649.43	-68.09%
011-05-06-60, Cemetery ELCA Mission	34,367.14	34,605.35	238.21	0.69%
011-05-06-65, Cemetery - Prepaid Exp	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%

First Lutheran Church
Balance Sheet by Account
Jan 1, 2021 through Dec 31, 2021

Account	Balance As Of Jan 1, 2021	Balance As Of Dec 31, 2021	Current Year Change	Percent Change
011-05-06-70, Cemetery - Funds Mgmt Com	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
Minor 06, Cemetery Funds	72,822.70	72,823.91	1.21	0.00%
Major 10, Fixed Assets				
Minor 05, Property				
011-10-05-01, Church Edifice & Property	6,012,000.00	6,012,000.00	0.00	0.00%
011-10-05-02, 2011-12 Bldg Improvements	2,996,204.94	2,996,204.94	0.00	0.00%
011-10-05-05, Cemetery	12,350.53	12,350.53	0.00	0.00%
Minor 05, Property	9,020,555.47	9,020,555.47	0.00	0.00%
Major 99, Ded. Receivable				
Minor 99, Ded. Receivable				
017-xx-xx-xx, Dedicated Funds Receivable	0.00	912.50	912.50	0.00%
Dedicated Funds Receivable	0.00	912.50	912.50	0.00%
Total Assets	9,993,170.04	10,003,918.19	10,748.15	0.11%
Liabilities				
Major 15, Current Liabilities				
Minor 00, Current Liabilities				
012-15-00-01, NCB Credit Line Payable	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
012-15-00-02, Payable To PDF Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
012-15-00-03, Payable To Cemetery	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
012-15-00-04, Payable to Endow	0.00	4,051.00	4,051.00	0.00%
012-15-00-05, PPP Loan Payable	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
Minor 00, Current Liabilities	0.00	4,051.00	4,051.00	0.00%
Major 15, Current Liabilities				
Minor 28, Payroll Liabilities				
012-15-28-01, Fed. Income Tax W/H	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
012-15-28-02, State Income Tax W/H	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
012-15-28-03, Employee FICA W/H	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
012-15-28-04, Employee Medicare W/H	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
012-15-28-09, Addl Pension W/H Payable	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
012-15-28-10, Flex Plan Withholding	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
Minor 28, Payroll Liabilities	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
Major 20, Long Term Liabilities				
Minor 30, Long Term Loans				
012-20-30-01, Mortgage Payable	1,295,192.41	1,224,641.66	-70,550.75	-5.45%
Minor 30, Long Term Loans	1,295,192.41	1,224,641.66	-70,550.75	-5.45%

First Lutheran Church
Balance Sheet by Account
Jan 1, 2021 through Dec 31, 2021

Account	Balance As Of Jan 1, 2021	Balance As Of Dec 31, 2021	Current Year Change	Percent Change
Major 99, Ded. Payable	791,384.61	823,453.44	32,068.83	4.05%
Minor 99, Ded. Payable	791,384.61	823,453.44	32,068.83	4.05%
Total Liabilities	2,086,577.02	2,052,146.10	-34,430.92	-1.65%

Equity

Major 00, Group 00
Minor 00, Group 00

013-00-00-01, Opening Balance Equity	2,068,062.53	1,943,062.53	-125,000.00	-6.04%
013-00-00-02, Retained Earnings	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
013-00-00-03, Real Estate Adjustment	3,929,800.00	3,929,800.00	0.00	0.00%
013-00-00-04, 2011-12 Building Impr.	1,701,012.96	1,771,563.71	70,550.75	4.15%
013-00-00-05, Capital Fund	0.00	125,000.00	125,000.00	0.00%
Minor 00, Group 00	7,698,875.49	7,769,426.24	70,550.75	0.00%
Subtotal Equity	7,698,875.49	7,769,426.24	70,550.75	0.00%

Fund Balance

Totals for Fund Balance	207,717.52	182,345.84	-25,371.68	-12.21%
Total Fund Balance/Equity	7,906,593.02	7,951,772.09	45,179.07	0.57%
Total Liability and Fund Balance	9,993,170.04	10,003,918.19	10,748.15	0.11%

017-15-20-29 Jr./Sr. High Gatherings
017-15-20-30 Youth Trips - Other
017-15-20-31 Youth Activities
017-15-20-32 Income Set-Aside Fund
017-15-20-35 Fellowship Outings

100.65	0.00	64.57	64.57	36.08
5,453.94	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,453.94
548.97	0.00	0.00	38.66	560.31
15,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	15,000.00
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
\$37,629.97	\$4,910.60	\$10,538.74	\$26,848.73	\$32,200.44

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First Lutheran Church
Dedicated Accounts
December, Fiscal Year 2021
Fund 01 - GENERAL

Account	Beginning Balance		Current Month		Year-To-Date		Current Balance
	Balance	Receipts	Receipts	Expenses	Receipts	Expenses	
Major 15 - Current Liabilities							
Minor 22 - Capital & Building Funds							
017-15-22-27 Landscaping Fund	1,620.81	0.00	0.00	0.00	330.00	64.34	1,886.47
017-15-22-30 Sound System	171.85	100.00	0.00	0.00	600.00	627.05	144.80
017-15-22-36 Special Needs Fund	2,412.29	12,400.00	665.14	665.14	22,678.34	9,386.05	15,704.58
017-15-22-40 Building/Renovation Fund	91,711.67	18,928.22	10,278.00	10,278.00	98,428.42	121,147.00	68,993.09
Totals	\$95,916.62	\$31,428.22	\$10,943.14	\$10,943.14	\$122,036.76	\$131,224.44	\$86,728.94
Major 80 - Other Income/Expense							
Minor 80 - Other Designated Giving							
017-80-80-01 Lenten Offering	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	190.00	190.00	0.00
017-80-80-03 SPAF Income	25.00	45.00	75.00	75.00	1,215.00	1,195.00	45.00
017-80-80-05 Hunger Income	0.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	1,700.00	1,700.00	0.00
017-80-80-06 Recital Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
017-80-80-07 Sunday School Offering	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
017-80-80-09 Disaster Relief Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
017-80-80-10 Holiday Voucher Fund	0.00	20.00	1,765.00	1,765.00	1,765.00	1,765.00	0.00
017-80-80-11 Giving Tree	670.00	2,093.00	2,068.00	2,068.00	2,518.00	3,138.00	50.00
017-80-80-12 Special Benevolence	0.00	1,865.00	1,720.00	1,720.00	1,865.00	1,720.00	145.00
017-80-80-20 Family Fresh Cards	0.00	1,225.00	2,137.50	2,137.50	1,225.00	2,137.50	-912.50
017-80-80-21 Archive Materials Fund	371.43	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	371.43
017-80-80-22 Kwik Trip Scrip Program	3,971.78	1,189.75	0.00	0.00	4,903.81	7,995.99	879.60
Totals	\$5,038.21	\$6,787.75	\$8,115.50	\$8,115.50	\$15,381.81	\$19,841.49	\$578.53

Fund 01 - GENERAL **\$791,384.61** **\$77,373.41** **\$31,937.87** **\$233,942.94** **\$202,786.61** **\$822,540.94**

First Lutheran Church
Statement of Income and Expense by Account
December of Fiscal Year 2021
Responsibility: All
Fund: 01 - GENERAL

	Current Month			Year-to-date				
	Budget	Actual	%	Remaining	Budget	Actual	%	Remaining
Income								
Major 25, Ordinary Income // Minor 40, Offerings								
015-25-40-01, Envelope Offerings	49,015.06	42,629.65	86.97%	6,385.41	349,000.00	336,007.15	96.28%	12,992.85
015-25-40-02, Loose Offering	464.06	1,007.00	217.00%	-542.94	2,500.00	6,970.00	278.80%	-4,470.00
015-25-40-03, Special Days	842.37	807.00	95.80%	35.37	2,000.00	1,677.00	83.85%	323.00
015-25-40-04, Initial Offering	19.32	0.00	0.00%	19.32	300.00	255.00	85.00%	45.00
015-25-40-05, Missions	39.98	0.00	0.00%	39.98	1,500.00	1,252.50	83.50%	247.50
	50,380.79	44,443.65	88.22%	5,937.14	355,300.00	346,161.65	97.43%	9,138.35
Major 25, Ordinary Income // Minor 42, Other Ordinary Income								
015-25-42-10, Use of Facilities	83.37	0.00	0.00%	83.37	1,000.00	180.00	18.00%	820.00
015-25-42-15, Other Income	0.00	0.81	--	-0.81	0.00	83.54	--	-83.54
015-25-42-25, Bldg Env Income	25.00	0.00	0.00%	25.00	300.00	0.00	0.00%	300.00
015-25-42-26, Radio Broadcast Income	0.00	0.00	--	0.00	0.00	0.00	--	0.00
015-25-42-27, Sunday Bulletin Income	0.00	0.00	--	0.00	0.00	0.00	--	0.00
015-25-42-30, Interest - Gen. Savings	8.37	43.92	524.73%	-35.55	100.00	205.48	205.48%	-105.48
015-25-42-38, Endow Income (Youngquist)	0.00	0.00	--	0.00	1,455.00	1,455.00	100.00%	0.00
015-25-42-39, Endow Income (Other)	0.00	0.00	--	0.00	23,545.00	23,545.00	100.00%	0.00
	116.74	44.73	38.32%	72.01	26,400.00	25,469.02	96.47%	930.98
Total Income	50,497.53	44,488.38	88.10%	6,009.15	381,700.00	371,630.67	97.36%	10,069.33

Expense

Major 30, Benevolence // Minor 44, Benevolence								
016-30-44-01, ELCA/Synod Allocation	4,621.71	2,600.00	56.26%	2,021.71	20,940.00	20,200.00	96.47%	740.00
016-30-44-02, Missionary Sponsorship	0.00	0.00	--	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	100.00%	0.00
016-30-44-03, Luth. Social Services	0.00	0.00	--	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	100.00%	0.00
016-30-44-04, Community Outreach	0.00	0.00	--	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	100.00%	0.00
016-30-44-05, Other Gifts	0.00	0.00	--	0.00	400.00	0.00	0.00%	400.00
	4,621.71	2,600.00	56.26%	2,021.71	24,340.00	23,200.00	95.32%	1,140.00
Major 40, Committees // Minor 46, Building & Grounds								
016-40-46-01, Bldg. General Projects	0.00	0.00	--	0.00	1,700.00	1,700.00	100.00%	0.00
016-40-46-02, Courtyard/Bell Garden	25.00	0.00	0.00%	25.00	300.00	58.99	19.66%	241.01
	25.00	0.00	0.00%	25.00	2,000.00	1,758.99	87.95%	241.01
Major 40, Committees // Minor 48, Christian Education								

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First Lutheran Church
Statement of Income and Expense by Account
December of Fiscal Year 2021
Responsibility: All
Fund: 01 - GENERAL

	Current Month			Year-to-date				
	Budget	Actual	%	Remaining	Budget	Actual	%	Remaining
016-40-48-01, Adult Educ/First Forums	16.63	0.00	0.00%	16.63	200.00	-500.00	-250.00%	700.00
016-40-48-02, Children & Family Educ	83.37	120.57	144.62%	-37.20	1,000.00	838.68	83.87%	161.32
016-40-48-03, MS/Confirmation	0.00	0.00	0.00%	83.37	1,000.00	685.08	68.51%	314.92
016-40-48-05, Summer Ministries	4.13	0.00	--	4.13	500.00	-626.15	-125.23%	1,126.15
016-40-48-06, Library Expense	0.00	0.00	0.00%	4.13	50.00	0.00	0.00%	50.00
016-40-48-07, Cradle Roll	0.00	0.00	--	0.00	0.00	0.00	--	0.00
016-40-48-08, First Players	0.00	0.00	--	0.00	0.00	0.00	--	0.00
016-40-48-11, Family Events	41.63	0.00	0.00%	41.63	500.00	90.07	18.01%	409.93
	229.13	120.57	52.62%	108.56	3,250.00	487.68	15.01%	2,762.32
Major 40, Committees // Minor 50, Inreach/Outreach								
016-40-50-01, Public Relations	66.63	0.00	0.00%	66.63	800.00	567.89	70.99%	232.11
016-40-50-02, Materials/Marketing	50.00	0.00	0.00%	50.00	600.00	165.60	27.60%	434.40
016-40-50-04, Devotional Materials	12.50	21.75	174.00%	-9.25	150.00	168.75	112.50%	-18.75
016-40-50-05, New Members	20.87	19.81	94.92%	1.06	250.00	19.81	7.92%	230.19
016-40-50-09, Lay Visitation	41.63	70.02	168.20%	-28.39	500.00	950.61	190.12%	-450.61
016-40-50-10, Global Missions	41.63	0.00	0.00%	41.63	500.00	0.00	0.00%	500.00
	233.26	111.58	47.84%	121.68	2,800.00	1,872.66	66.88%	927.34
Major 40, Committees // Minor 51, Fellowship								
016-40-51-01, Fellowship	66.63	0.00	0.00%	66.63	800.00	12.24	1.53%	787.76
	66.63	0.00	0.00%	66.63	800.00	12.24	1.53%	787.76
Major 40, Committees // Minor 52, Social Justice								
016-40-52-03, RIC Sunday	0.00	0.00	--	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00%	100.00
016-40-52-07, Bread World/Hunger Issues	0.00	0.00	--	0.00	250.00	250.00	100.00%	0.00
016-40-52-10, Workshops/Forums	0.00	0.00	--	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00%	100.00
	0.00	0.00	--	0.00	450.00	250.00	55.56%	200.00
Major 40, Committees // Minor 53, Green Committee								
016-40-53-01, Green Speakers	16.63	0.00	0.00%	16.63	200.00	0.00	0.00%	200.00
016-40-53-02, Gardens	16.63	0.00	0.00%	16.63	200.00	0.00	0.00%	200.00
016-40-53-03, Env. Initiatives	0.00	0.00	--	0.00	500.00	500.00	100.00%	0.00
016-40-53-04, Green Resources/Materials	8.37	0.00	0.00%	8.37	100.00	0.00	0.00%	100.00
	41.63	0.00	0.00%	41.63	1,000.00	500.00	50.00%	500.00
Major 40, Committees // Minor 54, Stewardship								
016-40-54-01, Stewardship Program	166.63	138.85	83.33%	27.78	2,000.00	1,039.36	51.97%	960.64
016-40-54-02, Offering Envelopes	150.00	266.55	177.70%	-116.55	1,800.00	1,699.20	94.40%	100.80
	316.63	405.40	128.04%	-88.77	3,800.00	2,738.56	72.07%	1,061.44

First Lutheran Church
Statement of Income and Expense by Account
December of Fiscal Year 2021
Responsibility: All
Fund: 01 - GENERAL

	Current Month			Year-to-date		
	Budget	Actual	%	Budget	Actual	%
016-50-64-20, Computer Supplies	0.00	110.00	--	1,500.00	3,258.24	217.22%
016-50-64-22, Computers	41.63	428.99	1,030.48%	500.00	428.99	85.80%
	791.63	1,949.73	246.29%	11,500.00	13,922.26	121.06%
						Remaining
						-1,758.24
						71.01
						-2,422.26
Major 60, Personnel/Payroll // Minor 66, Salaries						
016-60-66-06, Salary - Pastor	8,888.66	1,052.19	11.84%	41,046.00	15,782.66	38.45%
016-60-66-07, Housing Allow - Pastor	0.00	1,678.20	--	22,936.00	25,173.19	109.75%
016-60-66-15, Salary - Dir of Music	5,869.25	5,869.26	100.00%	50,867.00	50,866.92	100.00%
016-60-66-20, Salary - Custodian	3,876.90	3,873.60	99.91%	33,600.00	33,721.20	100.36%
016-60-66-25, Salary - Office Manager	3,098.10	3,292.56	106.28%	26,850.00	25,485.07	94.92%
016-60-66-30, Salary - Chris Ed Dir	4,730.85	4,980.00	105.27%	41,000.00	39,850.00	97.20%
016-60-66-35, Salary - Bookkeeper	1,592.50	1,783.47	111.99%	13,800.00	14,380.75	104.21%
016-60-66-40, Salary - Nursery Attend	41.63	0.00	0.00%	500.00	0.00	0.00%
016-60-66-45, Subst. Organist Salary	83.37	0.00	0.00%	1,000.00	400.00	40.00%
016-60-66-47, Substitute Pastor Salary	37.50	300.00	800.00%	450.00	1,500.00	333.33%
016-60-66-50, Salary - Visitation	83.37	0.00	0.00%	1,000.00	0.00	0.00%
016-60-66-52, Salary - Youth	0.00	0.00	--	0.00	0.00	--
016-60-66-55, Salary - Security/Lockup	125.00	0.00	0.00%	1,500.00	0.00	0.00%
016-60-66-58, Benefits Compensation	1,747.90	1,748.07	100.01%	15,150.00	14,567.25	96.15%
	30,175.03	24,577.35	81.45%	249,699.00	221,727.04	88.80%
						Remaining
						25,263.34
						-2,237.19
						0.08
						-121.20
						1,364.93
						1,150.00
						-580.75
						500.00
						600.00
						-1,050.00
						1,000.00
						0.00
						1,500.00
						582.75
						27,971.96
Major 60, Personnel/Payroll // Minor 68, Employer Payroll Taxes						
016-60-68-01, Employer FICA	1,307.65	1,335.92	102.16%	11,332.00	11,090.01	97.86%
016-60-68-02, Employer Medicare	305.85	312.42	102.15%	2,650.00	2,593.63	97.87%
	1,613.50	1,648.34	102.16%	13,982.00	13,683.64	97.87%
						298.36
Major 60, Personnel/Payroll // Minor 70, Fringe Benefits						
016-60-70-03, 50% FICA - Pastor	0.00	208.89	--	2,855.00	3,133.35	109.75%
016-60-70-12, Med/Pension - Pastor	0.00	690.00	--	5,136.00	8,922.00	173.71%
016-60-70-16, Med/Pension-Dir Music	1,391.63	1,398.83	100.52%	16,700.00	16,785.96	100.51%
	1,391.63	2,297.72	165.11%	24,691.00	28,841.31	116.81%
						-4,150.31
Major 60, Personnel/Payroll // Minor 72, Ministerial Support						
016-60-72-03, Auto Reimburse - Pastor	83.37	0.00	0.00%	1,000.00	0.00	0.00%
016-60-72-06, Mileage Other Staff	33.37	0.00	0.00%	400.00	494.95	123.74%
016-60-72-15, Theological Conference	41.63	0.00	0.00%	500.00	30.80	6.16%
016-60-72-32, Prof Allow - Pastor	50.00	0.00	0.00%	600.00	0.00	0.00%
016-60-72-37, Prof Allow - Dir Music	50.00	107.19	214.38%	600.00	287.10	47.85%
016-60-72-52, Cont Ed - Pastor	41.63	0.00	0.00%	500.00	0.00	0.00%
016-60-72-56, Cont Ed - Dir Music	66.63	180.81	271.36%	800.00	794.28	99.29%
016-60-72-57, Cont Ed - Office Staff	37.50	0.00	0.00%	450.00	50.00	11.11%
						1,000.00
						-94.95
						469.20
						600.00
						312.90
						500.00
						5.72
						400.00

First Lutheran Endowment			DOW	NASDAQ	S & P	Portfolio	Portfolio
Funds Management Con		1/1/2021	30606	12888	3756		after \$25,000
2021		12/31/2021	36398	15741	4778		withdrawal
		YTD %	18.73%	21.39%	26.89%	9.10%	13%
		Total Return					
Fund / Ticker	Rate/Category	YTD %	Shares	NAV \$	Value	% of Portfolio	% of Allocatin
Fed Money Mk/ VMFFX		0.45	23885.95	1	\$ 23,885.95	3.90%	7%
Divdend App /VDADX	3 Lg blend	23.62	970.64	\$ 46.60	\$ 45,231.64	7.40%	8%
Dividend Grth/VDIGX	3 Large Value	24.84	1153.744	\$ 39.28	\$ 45,319.06	7.40%	8%
Equity Inc/ VEIPX	5 Large Value	25.55	580.009	\$ 92.22	\$ 53,488.43	8.70%	10%
Explorer / VEXPX	4 Small Grth	16.26	191.848	\$ 128.06	\$ 24,568.05	4.00%	4%
Global Equity/ VHGEX	5 World Lg	13.13	747.770	\$ 38.47	\$ 28,766.71	4.70%	5%
Inflation-Protect/VAIPX	4 Infl Prot	3.42	2,672.516	\$ 28.44	\$ 76,006.36	12.40%	0%
FTSE Social Ind/VFTAX	5 Large Bld	27.71	976.144	\$ 46.45	\$ 45,341.89	7.40%	8%
International Gr/VWIGX	5 Int Lg Grth	-0.85	581.28	\$ 43.81	\$ 25,465.88	4.10%	5%
Health Care/VGHGX	3 Health L B	14.3	188.942	\$ 227.28	\$ 42,942.74	7.00%	8%
S-T Invest Gr/VFSTX	4 US shor term	-0.43	1529.21	\$ 10.77	\$ 16,469.59	2.70%	5%
Mid-Cap Grth/VMGRX	3 MidCap Grth	9.77	889.494	\$ 26.99	\$ 24,007.44	3.90%	4%
Small-Cap Id/ VSMAX	5 Small Cap Bl	17.73	373.534	\$ 108.37	\$ 40,479.88	6.60%	8%
US Growth / VWUSX	4 Large Gr	12.34	648.421	\$ 65.03	\$ 42,166.82	6.90%	8%
Wellington / VWENX	5 Large Cap Bl	19.12	527.432	\$ 83.80	\$ 44,198.80	7.20%	8%
Total					\$ 578,339.24		
ELCA Mission Loan		2.23			\$10,187.92	1.70%	2%
First National Bank	Cash	0.05			\$656.89	0.10%	2%
Check from Vanguard					\$26,000.00	4.20%	
Endowment Value					\$ 615,184.05	100.30%	100%
Roof fund							
Dodge&Cox/DODBX	4 Moderate		40.941	\$ 109.41	\$ 4,479.35		
Total Investments					\$ 619,663.41		
Fund Allocation							
	Endow Value	Percentage of	Distribution	Percentage of	Distribution	Distribution	Distribution
Fund / Use	12/31/2021	Endowment	2021 \$25,000	Endowment	2020	2021	2022
		2021	4.47%	2020		4.47%	4.20%
Holmberg Music	\$143,091.81	23.26	\$5,945.00	23.78	\$4,756.00	\$5,945.00	\$6,182.80
Music Events							
Cemetery Care	\$139,093.12	22.61	\$5,220.00	20.88	\$4,176.00	\$5,220.00	\$5,428.80
Cemetery							
Johnson Heritage	\$61,641.44	10.02	\$2,560.00	10.24	\$2,048.00	\$2,560.00	\$2,662.40
Children/RIC							
Youth Camping	\$56,781.49	9.23	\$2,360.00	9.44	\$1,888.00	\$2,360.00	\$2,454.40
Camps Etc.							
Esther Youngquist	\$35,003.97	5.69	\$1,455.00	5.82	\$1,164.00	\$1,455.00	\$1,513.20
Undesignated							
Seminary Scholarship	\$28,175.43	4.58	\$1,170.00	4.68	\$936.00	\$1,170.00	\$1,216.80
Scholarships							
Logan Mission	\$23,376.99	3.8	\$972.50	3.89	\$778.00	\$972.50	\$1,011.40
World Missions							
Ruth Mattson	\$19,685.89	3.2	\$817.50	3.27	\$654.00	\$817.50	\$850.20
Christian Education							
Social Ministry	\$8,304.98	1.35	\$345.00	1.38	\$276.00	\$345.00	\$358.80
Social Ministry							
Ruth Larson	\$100,028.93	16.26	\$4,155.00	16.62	\$3,324.00	\$4,155.00	\$4,321.20
Council							
General Church Funds							
Total	\$615,184.05	100%	\$25,000.00	100%	\$20,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$26,000.00

Resurrection Cemetery

Balance Sheet

	12/31/2021	12/31/2020
Assets		
Checking	4,933.35	1,166.75
Savings	16,669.73	4,285.69
Savings Beautification (undesignated)	2,087.59	9,782.02
Savings Beautification (designated unspent gifts)	1,965.00	2,920.00
Total Cash	<u>25,655.67</u>	<u>18,154.46</u>
Endowment Funds		
FLC Funds Management	139,093.12	116,719.26
Mission Investment Fund (1.07% matures 11/21/23)	34,605.35	34,367.14
Savings-allocated to Perpetual Care	12,562.89	20,301.10
Total Endowment Funds	<u>186,261.36</u>	<u>171,387.50</u>
	<u>\$ 211,917.03</u>	<u>189,541.96</u>
Equity		
Operations	21,603.08	12,176.64
Perpetual Care Fund	186,261.36	171,387.50
Beautification Fund	4,052.59	5,977.82
	<u>\$ 211,917.03</u>	<u>\$ 189,541.96</u>

Resurrection Cemetery

December 31, 2021

	Operations	Perpetual Care	Beautification	Combined
Income				
Investment Income	265.83		5.77	271.60
Sale Gravesites	6,050.00	5,000.00		11,050.00
Green funerals				
Grave Marking Fees	575.00			575.00
Donations unrestricted	3,870.00			3,870.00
Donations restricted	614.00		45.00	659.00
Funds Management Allocation	5,220.00			5,220.00
Unrealized Appreciation on FLC Funds Management		9,873.86		9,873.86
	<u>16,594.83</u>	<u>14,873.86</u>	<u>50.77</u>	<u>31,519.46</u>
Expenses				
Mowing	4,200.00			4,200.00
Electric	235.39			235.39
Weed Spraying	1,050.00			1,050.00
Landscaping Costs	800.00			800.00
Grave digging				-
Tree purchase	550.00			550.00
Sign	90.00		2,155.00	2,245.00
Printing	64.00			64.00
	<u>6,989.39</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,155.00</u>	<u>9,144.39</u>
Net Income (Loss)	<u>9,605.44</u>	<u>14,873.86</u>	<u>(2,104.23)</u>	<u>22,375.07</u>
Beginning Fund Balance	12,176.64	171,387.50	5,977.82	189,541.96
Reclass of 2019 gift to beautification	(179.00)		179.00	
Increase (decrease)	9,605.44	14,873.86	(2,104.23)	22,375.07
Ending Fund Balance	<u>21,603.08</u>	<u>186,261.36</u>	<u>4,052.59</u>	<u>211,917.03</u>

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

OPENING LITURGY



Today our congregation gathers in prayer and hope to begin another year of ministry. We bring with us the memory of a year like no other, even as we move into a future that we cannot yet imagine. Yet even now, as in every age, God is our refuge and strength. In times of plenty and want, in times of conflict and peace, in times of growing and pruning, we remember:

God has called us for such a time as this.

We remember the past year with lament and gratitude. We have lost so much, and so much still feels uncertain. We have also witnessed God's hand at work in new and unexpected ways. We delight at hidden seeds bearing surprising and wonderful fruit. When our own resources fail, when we cannot predict the future, when we must rely on God alone, we remember:

God has called us for such a time as this.

We celebrate this moment and the many ways God has held us together as a community. We give thanks for the gift of our church building and the welcome it provides, even as we bless God for the marvel of technology and the new bonds of connection it makes possible. When our bodies need sanctuary, when our minds need expanding, when your grace must transcend our limitations, we remember:

God has called us for such a time as this.

We look ahead to the road we will travel together this year. We anticipate and receive with joy the new gifts God's love has planned. We pray for the grace to let go of what has served its holy purpose. When we are trailblazers or followers, when we are seekers or visionaries, when we must walk by faith and not by sight, we remember:

God has called us for such a time as this.

And so we pray: Grace our meeting, O God, with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the Spirit who has guided the church from the beginning, the Spirit of our risen Lord Jesus, the Spirit who sends us as healers and restorers of your beloved world. You are the source of our life together. You are the rock and cornerstone.

You have called us for such a time as this.

God of the Fertile Fields

1 God of the fer - tile fields, sha - per of
 2 We would be stew - ards true, hold - ing in
 3 As grows the hid - den seed to fruit that
 4 God of the coun - try - side, dear to the

earth that yields our dai - ly bread: forth from your
 trust from you all that you give; help us in
 serves our need, so your reign grows. Let all our
 Christ who died to make us one: we pledge our

boun - teous hand come gifts your love has planned,
 love to share, teach us like you to care
 toil be used, no gift of yours a - bused,
 lives a - new in faith - ful love to you.

that all in ev - 'ry land be clothed and fed.
 for peo - ple ev - 'ry - where, that all may live.
 no hum - ble task re - fused your love be - stows.
 Guide all we say and do. Your will be done.

All Creation Sings #1063

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**O God,
 you have called your servants
 to ventures of which we cannot see the ending,
 by paths as yet untrodden,
 through perils unknown.
 Give us faith to go out with good courage,
 not knowing where we go,
 but only that your hand is leading us
 and your love supporting us;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.
 Amen. (ELW, p. 317)**

Change and the need for creativity have become constants over the last year and a half in many aspects of life, including the church. This was the case for **Living Christ Lutheran Church** in Flagstaff, Ariz., even before a global pandemic caused many of us to rethink what it means to be church. Generosity from all three expressions of the ELCA (the churchwide organization, the Grand Canyon Synod and members of Living Christ) helped turn a congregation “on the road out of town, near the mall” into an online presence reaching over 500 people a week from Phoenix to the Philippines. (Read more about Living Christ in the current issue of “**Stories of Faith in Action**” at [ELCA.org/SOFIA](https://www.elca.org/SOFIA).)

Many other congregations have found new ways to connect both when in-person worship was impossible and when congregations began to return to their sanctuaries. Generosity, especially through Mission Support, helped us find and support these new ways of being connected. Early in the pandemic, ELCA Worship launched the “Worship in the Home” webpage, with Scripture, hymn links, prayers and reflections for each

Sunday. These resources were and continue to be used in congregations across the ELCA—even at **Sitka Lutheran Church** in Alaska, whose members printed and hand-delivered “Worship in the Home” resources to fellow members without internet access.

Change and creativity have taught us many things. As Pastor Sandra Rudd of Sitka Lutheran Church noted, “The pandemic was a stark illustration of the fact that the church is not a building. A lot of people say that, but we didn’t fully know it until we didn’t have a building to use. We learned that there are many ways to be connected as the church.” Throughout the pandemic, the ELCA has changed and adapted, doing ministry in new and creative ways, because of the generosity of its members. Even now, you may be gathering in a new way for your annual meeting, to discern how you will steward the gifts shared generously with your congregation to do ministry in your community and beyond. As you have these important conversations, remember that your gifts of time, talent and resources have helped create new spaces beyond our walls and buildings where we continue to worship, serve and love God and each other.

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