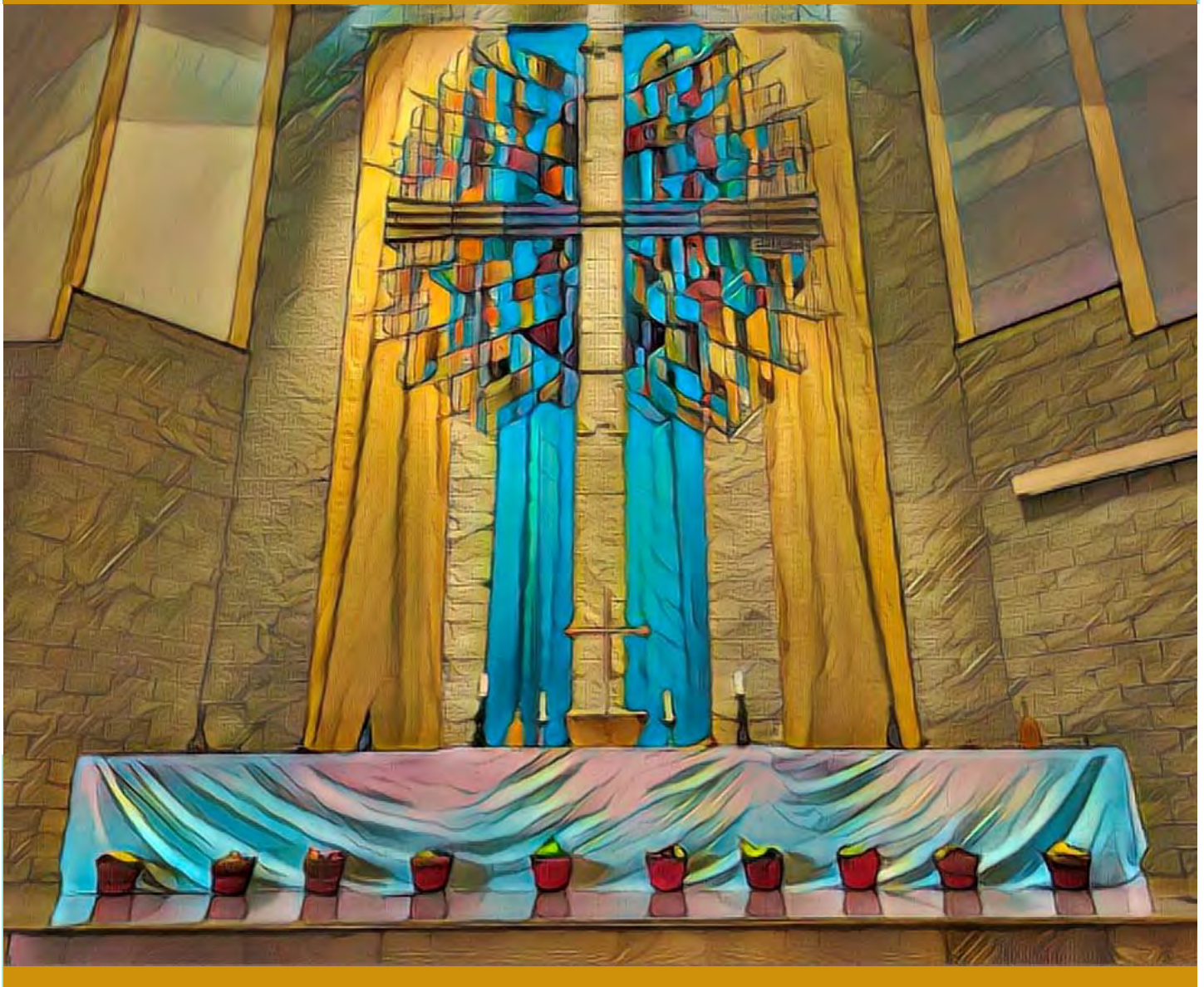


2024 ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE CONGREGATION



Saint Mark's
Evangelical Lutheran Church

2499 North Helen Street, North St. Paul, MN 55109 **PHONE** 651-777-7451
EMAIL stmarks@stmarks-nsp.org **WEB** www.stmarks-nsp.org

St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church

2024 Annual Report

Table of Contents:

Letter from Bishop Lull, St. Paul Area Synod	3
Pastoral Acts & Statistics	5
Congregational President Report: Tyler Ronsberg	6

Ministry Staff Reports

The Rev. David Bjorklund: Lead Pastor	8
Deacon Kate Bentley Associate	9
Tom Paulson: Director of Music & Worship Ministry.....	10

Congregational Ministry & Committee Reports

Caring Ministries.....	13
Columbarium & Memorial Garden Committee.....	14
Finance Committee	15
Gifts & Memorials.....	15
Global Ministries.....	16
Hospitality Committee	17
Mental Health Ministry	18
Personnel Committee.....	19
Property Committee.....	20
Social Ministry.....	21
Stewardship for All Seasons (SAS) Committee.....	22
St. Mark's Foundation.....	23
Women of St. Mark's	24

Appendix A : Minutes from Annual Meeting of the Congregation (January 28, 2024)

Appendix B: 2024 Financial Report & 2025 Proposed Budget

Annual Report from Patricia Lull: Bishop, Saint Paul Area Synod

2024 Annual Report

*"Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you: I have said to the Lord,
"You are my Lord, my good above all other." Psalm 16:1 (ELW translation)*

As we come to the close of 2024, these are complicated days in our world. I think most congregations in this synod are faring better than many other organizations and institutions when it comes to focusing on a core mission, living out their values, and being financially stable. Yet, anxiety is widespread and lots of people are angry and disappointed, fearful and disenchanted. All these dynamics create a perfect context for witnessing to the good news from God. We have much work to do but we know that we work best when we act as church together in this synod.

This past year the synod staff and the Synod Council adopted this mission statement and core values:

**As followers of Jesus, we are called to accompany faith communities
and equip leaders for God's mission in the world.**

Our core values are – authenticity, connection, compassion, and curiosity.

This understanding of our mission allows us to focus staff time and budget dollars to create the most lasting impact in our common work. The core values thread through the way we interact as synod staff and the way we show up in conversations with congregations and the wider public.

In summer 2024, I hosted five Listening Sessions to hear directly from Lutherans like you where you find hope in your congregation and also the worries that weigh on you. Over 100 persons participated and 50 people joined a Zoom presentation to hear what I had learned.

Here are two strategic steps we are taking as a synod to respond to all that I heard: In 2025 we will inaugurate a year and a half emphasis on worship renewal in congregations. This will be funded in part by an ELCA Churchwide grant with an emphasis on inviting our neighbors to join us in worship experiences. Secondly, as a synod, we will encourage and support efforts to make respectful conversations a hallmark of congregational life. You'll hear more about both initiatives in early 2025.

During 2024, the synod staff over saw call processes and transitions with more than 30 congregations. Several of those included the calling of multiple rostered ministers. This means that nearly a third of the congregations in the synod were in a time of transition this past year. I am grateful for all who have served on a call committee, for our interim pastors, and for faithful members who trust that we are always being called forward into God's mission for us as the church.

I was privileged to ordain four persons in 2024, including Pastor Wesley Kimball, serving as associate pastor at All Saints in Cottage Grove; Pastor Pepe Demarest, serving as pastor for the Recovery Church in St. Paul with the United Methodist Church (a full communion partner); Pastor Ruthie Mhanga, serving as associate pastor at Gustavus Adolphus in St. Paul; and Pastor Nathan Lyke, serving as associate pastor at St. John's in Lakeville.

Three of these candidates were from the Saint Paul Area Synod where we currently have 24 persons in the candidacy process to serve as pastors or deacons in the ELCA. I am grateful for those who serve on the Candidacy Committee, for those who mentor and encourage our candidates, for our seminaries and intern sites, and all who support persons as they discern how God is calling them to live out their vocation in the church and world. This is work we all share, knowing that for many the seeds of wondering about becoming a pastor or deacon begin during the elementary school years.

A highlight in 2024 was welcoming Eternal Flame Lutheran Church to recognized congregational status during the Synod Assembly in May. This vibrant congregation, rooted in the growing Hmong community in the East Metro, began as a mission start many years before. The financial support and prayers of many have accompanied this process, as well as our shared work with the ELCA, led by our Director of Evangelical Mission, Pastor Justin Grimm. Also in 2024, St. Mark Lutheran in St. Paul marked its holy closure as a congregation, after more than 100 years of witness on West 7th Street in St. Paul. There are now 106 congregations in the Saint Paul Area Synod with just over 100,000 baptized members.

The Planting Hope Campaign, a synod-wide initiative to support congregational vitality, youth development, and outreach efforts in the synod, continued to bear fruit. With our partners at Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota, we celebrated the opening of the Early Learning Center-East Side in August, thanks to a \$1 million investment from the campaign. \$100,000 was shared with congregational vitality efforts this year; over \$50,000 was used to fund paid summer internship for nine young adults. To date over \$1.7 million dollars has been raised for The Planting Hope Campaign. I want to thank all who have donated to the campaign while continuing significant mission support, which allows us to do so much together.

God continues to bless our congregations with people and financial resources. The gifts of time, talent, and treasure enable us to live into God's mission in ways no one congregation could do in isolation. This includes support of our mission starts and redevelopment congregations. In 2024 these included Shobi's Table, Foundation of Life, Eternal Flame, Cristo Rey, St. Paul – Wyoming, Lutheran Church of Peace – Maplewood, and Christ the Servant – Vadnais Heights. An exploration of a possible mission start in Rosemount began in 2024.

Finally, I know you join me in thanking those who serve on the staff of this synod. They include Rachel Holsten, Mary Smith, David Roinas, Kirsten Levorson, Rolf Lowenberg-DeBoer, Justin Grimm, Kirsta Lind, Leslie Ortiz and Patricia Lull. Together with Synod Council members, deans, committee members, congregational leaders, and all of you, we have been able to do much to share God's good news to a world, so eager for hope and direction.

I am grateful to serve as the bishop in this time and place, knowing that God alone is our hope and refuge, as the Psalmist proclaims. May we live out that deep truth with joy and confidence in the year to come.

Yours in God's Service,
Bishop Patricia Lull

Pastoral Acts & Statistics
2024 Annual Report

Average weekly attendance at regular worship services:

9:30am Service	164
9:30am Summer Worship	154
7:00pm Wednesday Night Service	37

Total attendance at Holiday Worship Services:

Ash Wednesday (11:00am & 6:15pm)	142
Wednesday Lenten Services (11:00am & 6:15pm)	350
Maundy Thursday	112
Good Friday	116
Easter (6:43am, 9:00am, 10:30am)	481
Thanksgiving Eve	102
Christmas Eve Services (3:00pm, 10pm).....	451
Christmas Day.....	116

Membership Statistics:

Members as of December 31, 2024

Confirmed members.....	874
Child (Baptized) members	242

Members as of December 31, 2023

Confirmed members.....	856
Child (Baptized) members	281

Baptisms	11
----------------	----

Confirmed.....	8
----------------	---

Weddings	1
----------------	---

Deaths	16
--------------	----

Funerals	25*
----------------	-----

**includes funeral services performed by Pastor David and Deacon Kate for members and non-members, at St. Mark's and offsite*

Tyler Ronsberg: Congregational President

2024 Annual Report

Dear Members of St. Mark's Lutheran Church,

How do you measure a year in the life of a church congregation? In some ways, this is simple. Churches track attendance, giving, expenses, baptisms, weddings, and funerals. For example, with the continued strong leadership of Pastor David, Deacon Kate, and Music Director Tom Paulson, the positive momentum from 2023 carried over into 2024. Our weekly attendance increased by 15% from 2023, we celebrated a record five (5) baptisms on just one Sunday this year, and welcomed 40 youth from within the congregation and from around the community to our summer Vacation Bible School programming (a fourfold increase from 2023).

But as encouraging as these numbers are, no statistic or accounting can wholly capture the impact that the mission, ministries, and congregation of St. Mark's has had over the past twelve months:

In April, St. Mark's produced our inaugural presentation of the Living Last Supper on Maundy Thursday, inviting us to engage with a familiar story in a new and powerful way.

Thanks to your generosity, in July St. Mark's sent 10 youth and 3 adults to the ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans. They returned strengthened in their faith and in themselves, with memories that will last a lifetime.

Through the guidance of our new Mental Health Ministry, St. Mark's joined Mental Health Connect, a church coalition helping congregations and congregants navigate access to mental health resources and care.

St. Mark's negotiated an updated lease with the Head Start program to include renting out our former music room, allowing Head Start to serve more local pre-K students with full-day programming.

New chairs for Rees Hall were purchased using funds from the Lowe estate. New ovens were also installed in the kitchen, further strengthening a vibrant and dedicated Wednesday night food ministry that serves both food and fellowship.

All of this is in addition to our growing music ministry, our global outreach ministry (ongoing partnerships with Kihesa and Mtwivila in Tanzania, and the Hope orphanage in India), community events such as God's Work Our Hands, donations to the North St. Paul Food Shelf and the North High backpack program, participation in the Quilter's ministry, and many, many more; too many to fit in the one page I am allowed, but each with its unique glory to God.

These missions and ministries – the life of the church – is possible because of you. You have selflessly volunteered your time, talents, and treasure in service to God and our neighbors through St. Mark's, and I cannot possibly measure my gratitude for that.

In peace,

Tyler Ronsberg, Council President

Reports from the *Ministry Staff*

The Rev. David Bjorklund: Lead Pastor

2024 Annual Report

Dear Friends,

I give thanks to God for calling us together as the people of St. Mark's. Every one of you is a gift and a blessing to our congregation. I give thanks to God for the ways you support the ministry of our church. We've had an incredible year together and I am optimistic about the direction of our congregation.

As we all know, consistency in leadership is key for the vitality of a congregation. After several years of pastoral transition, 2024 was the first time since 2019 that we did not experience turnover in our core ministry staff. Between our Director of Worship and Music Tom Paulson, Deacon Kate Bentley, and myself as Lead Pastor we have our key people in place and I daresay we're not going anywhere but forward together as a church! Together with the gifts of our amazing support staff, and all of yours, we are well positioned to sustain and build upon the growth we've experienced these past few years.

Under Tom's leadership we've seen a dramatic transformation of our music ministry. We made the right call in affirming the need for a full time music director and we see the wisdom of that decision every Sunday. Tom brings his considerable talents to the table and one of this gifts is affirming and raising up the talents of others. As a result our Music Ministry is stronger than it has been in years.

Children, Youth, and Family (CYF) ministry continues to grow under the leadership of Deacon Kate. Her first full year of ordained ministry was marked by several successes, especially our trip to the ELCA's National Youth Gathering in New Orleans as well as our fall Kids Fest. Deacon Kate is an amazing minister and colleague and I'm excited to see our CYF ministry continue to thrive under her leadership.

Heading into 2025 we are not the same congregation we were when I was called as your associate pastor in 2021. When I started at St. Mark's in August of that year we were still very much in the grasp of the COVID pandemic. Our assumptions about post-pandemic church life, that things would automatically go back to how things were before, turned out to be just that, assumptions. What we all came to realize is that renewing the life of the church takes work. We've been doing that work together, and the seeds we've planted are beginning to bear fruit.

We've seen our average worship attendance steadily increase. Our Sunday worship continues to attract new people and is drawing in those who have fallen away in years past. The word is getting out there that St. Mark's is the place to be, that our worship, our music, and our messages are worth showing up for and coming back for. Look around on any given Sunday and you'll see new faces as well as the faces of old friends who have found their way back to their church home.

Our financial position continues to improve. We put forth a negative budget of \$125,000 in 2024. Because of your generosity and good stewardship of our resources, we whittled that negative \$125,000 to a negative \$60,000. We are fortunate enough to have reserves that enable us to sustain our ministry while we close that gap but ultimately that gap can only be closed by continued growth in financial support. I am confident we will continue to close the gap in our budget over the next several years.

None of the growth we've experienced these past few year has happened by accident. It's the result of thoughtful and intentional work. It's the result of our shared commitment to the Gospel and our life together. Together we will sustain and build upon the work we've done. Together we will plant new seeds and tend to those that are sprouting. Together we are renewing the life of our congregation. May God continue to bless our ministry and life together!

Your Servant in Christ,
Pastor David Bjorklund

Deacon Kate Bentley: Associate

2024 Annual Report

Community of St. Mark's,

We have officially had one full year together with me serving as Deacon. What a year it has been! At the start of 2024 we kicked off the year fundraising for the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans. We had the opportunity to take ten youth and 3 adults, Pastor David, myself, and a parent chaperone, Nikki Horning. Each month leading up to the Gathering we gathered together as a group to engage in team building activities, Gathering curriculum, and logistic planning for a trip of that caliber. Fundraising looked like many different things this year: buying a "brick" in Rees Hall, selling Heggies Pizza, pancake breakfast, Bingo nights! We are so fortunate to have a congregation that is willing to show up and support their youth. We are also grateful to the Foundation who covered all of the transportation costs of this trip, allowing us to safely travel to and from New Orleans by plane. We had the most incredible week in New Orleans, worshipping, serving, and engaging in time of fellowship with one another. I am so grateful for how brave our youth were in taking on this new adventure, opening themselves up to the journey, and allowing themselves to be fully present in such a transformative experience. We are already looking forward to 2027 where Minneapolis will be the host city for the Youth Gathering.

In March we opened registration for our full-day full-week Vacation Bible School. Our theme this year was Loving Your Neighbor. The week consisted of traditional VBS style mornings with more summer camp activities and games in the afternoon. I am so thankful for the many volunteers who contributed to this program, from teachers and group leaders, to the snack and lunch crew who kept the 48 children we had in attendance fed and happy during the week. It was truly incredible!

Using the momentum that we had from VBS with all of our neighborhood kids, we applied for a grant from the Foundation to host a community event in the fall. KidsFest took place on October 11 from 4-6pm. With the help of the Foundation we were able to hire a balloon artist, bubble artist, and face painting! We also secured a bounce house and our very own Pastor David took on the concession stand, whipping up cotton candy and popcorn to order. We had volunteers running games around the parking lot and manning the different stations. This FREE community event brought in more than 100 parents and children on this Friday evening.

In the fall we also kicked off another year of education! We have Vicki Smith teaching our littlest members, (3, 4, and 5 year olds) on Wednesday night. Hannelie Slabber a high school youth, who also works in the St. Mark's nursery on Sunday mornings, has been the fearless leader for our elementary school students. Our confirmation students are in the trusted hands of Pastor David, and I have had the pleasure of spending Wednesdays with our high school students. Our friends in Pre-K and Elementary have been following a new model where they are focusing on one Bible story for the month and then each week looking at and learning about real world applications of that story's theme. On Sunday morning we've been offering Sunday School for ages 3 through grade 6 with Hannah Besmer. Hannah is truly one of those teachers who goes above and beyond and we are so grateful for her and her care for our children. Alongside Hannelie, we were excited to welcome Gracie Papenguth to the nursery team. We appreciate all the support from these two young ladies. Being able to offer our families a safe place to bring their kiddos on Sunday is such a gift.

This Advent season we were able to give our Wednesday night teachers a break from their classrooms and instead did a mentor program for those three weeks. Our high school and confirmation students would group together to help lead a small group of Pre-K and Elementary students in their story and activity. This was an amazing thing to witness, to see our older youth step up and take on these leadership roles with the little ones—we truly have an amazing group of young people that we get to love and nurture here.

2024 was an incredible year, I can't wait to see where our faith will take our children and youth in 2025.

Yours in Christ,
Deacon Kate Bentley

Tom Paulson: Director of Music & Worship

2024 Annual Report

John Ferguson is the retired professor of church music at St. Olaf College in Northfield. He is famous (or infamous, I'm not sure which) for saying, with great regularity, "If you sing well, sing to praise the giver. If you don't sing so well, sing to get even!" I know he says this mostly tongue in cheek but, in the words of the immortal Karen Walker, "It's funny 'cause it's true!"

Think about all the scripture that commands us to worship. We read, "Sing to the Lord a new song," "Come before God with singing," "Praise God with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs." Notice the commands, the imperatives – Sing, Come, and Praise. Notice also what scripture does not say: "Sing only if you sing really well." "Sing only if you are reasonably competent." It doesn't even say, "Sing only if you like the song." It just says sing! This is one of the most basic things I want us to learn together, to put away our Minnesota, Scandinavian reserve, and make a joyful noise to the glory of God, together. We may not be perfect, but God will be praised.

2024 was a busy and wonderful year to be in Music Ministry at St. Mark's Lutheran. Congratulations and kudos to the Choir of St. Mark's, the Jubilee Handbell Choir, and the Worship Band. When I began working with the Choir in the fall of 2023, long-time leader Dorothea Jirsa and I discussed using music for 3 part choir, SAB (soprano, alto, bass.) Now we have 5 five sopranos, 9 altos, 6 tenors and 6 basses. We easily sing the more standard SATB music. Kudos to The Choir of St. Mark's for their dedication, hard work, excellent worship leadership, and commitment to music as ministry.

SOPRANO	ALTO	TENOR	BASS
Rhonda Blattner	Anna Bjorklund	Susan Borowik	George Blattner
Carol Jarpe	Cory Engwer	Mark Ebner	Mitch Buckley
Lauren Lammers	Suzanne Ericson	Kim Engwer-Moylan	Matt Perrault
Susie Lenz	Dorothea Jirsa	Tom Michel	John Pottratz
Missy Lillie	Mackenzie Lyon	Tim Reddy	Dave Sell
Bonnie Pottratz	Barb Michel	Tyler Ronsberg	Joe Walton
Diane Sell	Barb Swenson		
	Amy Reddy		
	Sharon Tyman		

Our Jubilee Handbell Choir grew in 2024, adding three new members. This is great because previously we only had enough people to play two octaves of bells. Most good bell music is written for 3 or 4 (or more) octaves of bells. While 2 octave music is still well written, it is often aimed at beginner choirs, and not particularly challenging for our excellent players. I look forward to 2025 and the opportunity to challenge them to continue to grow their musical and worship leadership skills. Jennifer Arsenault, Susan Borowick, Rachel Danko, Suzanne Ericson, Sandy Leach, Rosanne McCann, Andy Petersen, Corinna Petersen, Bonnie Pottratz (on leave), & Tyler Ronsberg

It has been a particular joy to re-establish a worship band at St. Mark's, bringing more contemporary music into worship. While today we have moved beyond labeling worship as traditional or contemporary, (good worship is good worship) we still need a worship band to do justice to much of the music currently being written for worship. The Worship Band leads worship about once a month throughout the year, and a Christmas Eve Service. Ken Inderlie, guitar; Russ Payne, percussion; Steve Feltowski, bass; Diane Sell, vocals; Tom Michel, vocals; Tyler Ronsberg, vocals; and Mark Ebner, vocals.

Wednesday evening worship, 7:00pm in Lundquist Chapel, continues to be a good, informal alternative for busy families with young children, and our confirmation students. Many thanks to a newly formed Wednesday Evening Worship Team, Diane Sell, Ken Indrelie and Missy Lillie, for their leadership and musicianship.

While our music ministry choirs took a much deserved summer rest like the rest of Minnesota, we still had a marvelous summer of music ministry led by many of our own community members in various solos and ensembles: Nick and Miranda Hirsch, Joe Walton, Lauren Lammers, Corinna Petersen, Jennifer Arsenault, Betty Wolf, Anna Bjorklund, Susie Lenz, Missy Lillie, Suzanne and Frankie Benson. We were also lead in worship by many friends of St. Mark's: James Buxton (St. Paul Civic Symphony Cello Section), Zach Spirov, Billy Johnson, East Metro Symphony Orchestra Brass Quintet, Matthias Baase. And our Worship Band did not take the summer off, leading us in outdoor worship 3 times, and paying homage to the beautiful summer days in Minnesota.

Many thanks to the St. Mark's Foundation for enabling us to have a brass quintet for two Easter Sunday Worship services, and a String Quartet for the 10:00pm Christmas Eve Worship. Both were a great joy to make music with, and lead our worship to a new level.

I hope you know, that from my perspective, the community of St. Mark's sings splendidly in worship, whether the song is an old chestnut, or new learning opportunity. We sing with gusto when a familiar song is on the screen, and we're always willing to pull out the red hymnal in front of us and follow the little black dots up and down for a new one. Sometimes we can only learn the words, but next time we'll learn the notes, too. In so doing, God is worshipped, we grow in grace and faith, and John Ferguson sports a wry smile.

May God bless us in 2025, that St. Mark's Music Ministry may continue to thrive and grow, and may we always be true to our calling to love God, and love others.

Respectfully submitted, Tom Paulson
Director of Music and Worship

Congregational *Ministry Reports*

Caring Ministries

2024 Annual Report

The Caring Ministry team visits those members who are unable to attend worship and events in person, who otherwise may feel disconnected from their faith family, by bringing St. Mark's Church to them. Caring Ministry allows us to have meaningful visits with the many wonderfully diverse folks—whether homebound in their own homes or in facilities, we talk with them and learn about them and their lives. And, what interesting lives they have had! We often share Holy Communion, brought to them after it has been blessed here at St. Mark's during a church service. Those we visit love to hear about what's new at St. Mark's and several of them watch the services on YouTube or livestream. When we visit people in memory care, it is remarkable that the words and music they learned as a child are still there. If we sing a familiar song, they join us; as we say the Lord's Prayer, they will join as best they can. And, even if they are nonverbal, the smiles on their faces as we greet them makes the visit worthwhile.

In addition to those visits, the Caring Ministries group leads a worship service at Polar Ridge where once a month all residents are welcome to attend. We give thanks to Bob and Sue Engwer for their faithfulness to the Polar Ridge service, as well as to Bonnie Pottratz who has been making our singing sound a lot better by supporting this service as well. It is always a treat to have Dorothea Jirsa with us as our musician, she brings a smile to the familiar faces we see there!

In times of need, we have also helped deliver meals along with other groups from St. Mark's.

The team hosts a "Homecoming Luncheon" in the spring and invite our homebound people and their caregivers to a worship service and luncheon. We also include folks from church who know them so there are familiar faces. This year the luncheon took place on Thursday, May 9th. We had 12 committee members, 2 staff members, 5 volunteers and 32 guests present! We are grateful for Bonnie Pottratz and Liz Elicerio-Nelson who planned, purchased and prepared the delicious tater tot casserole, broccoli, pear/cottage cheese salad and bread.

Volunteer kitchen help by Jim Allen. Rhonda Blattner provided assorted bars for dessert. Linda and Terry Kapaun set up tables the evening prior with help from Liz and Steve Nelson. Nancy Helm and Barb Michel bought fresh flowering plants for centerpieces. The flowers went home with people attending. Myrna Meek prepared lovely name tags for everyone; committee members along with volunteers Wanda and Carl Hurtgen and Carolyn and Dick Newell greeted folks, handed out bulletins and helped escort people in and out of the sanctuary. Serving and clean up: everyone involved helped serve and clean up! Dishwashers were Jim Allen and Joe Hofacker. Pastor David facilitated the church service. Tom Paulson led the hymns. Holy Communion was brought to the guests who remained sitting. This event took a lot of planning and consideration for our guests and was well worth it - we are so grateful for the committee and all of their love and dedication to this group.

Caring Ministry is open to anyone who has a desire to visit people and share their love of God. We'd love to have you join us or if you or someone you know could benefit from a visit, please let us know!

Submitted on behalf of the committee,
Barb Michel & Deacon Kate Bentley

Caring Ministries Team:

Terry & Linda Kapaun, Miland & Myrna Meek, Bob & Sue Engwer, Joe & Diane Hofacker, Barb Michel, Liz Elicerio-Nelson, Bonnie Pottratz, Nancy Helm, Deacon Kate, Pastor David

Columbarium & Memorial Garden Committee

2024 Annual Report

The Memorial Garden with Columbarium has entered into the sustaining phase of this ministry. There were four congregation members inurned in our Columbarium this year:

Don Jensen, Al Linder, Mary Neumann and Gordy Peterson.

Operational expenses were as follows:

- The irrigation system was started in the spring and blown out in the fall before frost.
- The grounds were professionally cleaned and trash hauled away.
- The stone was professionally cleaned.

Financial Information:

Beginning Balance 2024	\$ 9,884.32
Income: 2 nd opening, Gifts & Memorials	+ 460.00
<u>Expenses</u>	<u>- 3,971.08</u>
Year-end Balance 2024	\$ 6,373.24

Committee Members:

Bob Engwer, Gary Hook, Terry Kapaun, Heidi McKenzie, and Miland Meek, Chairman

If you would like to purchase a niche, a Memorial Wall inscription or make a contribution to the ongoing maintenance of the Memorial Garden, please contact

Heidi McKenzie – heidimc@stmarks-nsp.org or 651-777-7451



Finance Committee

2024 Annual Report

Congregation of St. Marks,

This past year we achieved our financial operational goals. The ongoing journey of financially supporting the ministries here at St. Mark's is challenging and our staff and committees have been diligent in efficiently keeping expenses favorable to the 2024 expense plan. As a reminder, our operational plan for 2024 was to end the year with a net negative (\$126k). The actual 2024 year end was a net negative (\$9.7k). This outcome was possible in part to some one time income received and one time expense conservation.

Our congregation's ability to sustain our operational plan into future years is dependent on continuing to increase our overall contributions and other income to achieve a balanced operational plan within the next few years.

*Please also review our 2024 General Operation statement / Proposed 2025 Budget Plan

In this journey together,

St. Mark's Finance Committee:

Art Arsenault
Betty Beane
Bob Engwer
Sue Fletcher
John Haley
Gary Hook
Dave Sell

Gifts & Memorials

2024 Annual Report

The Gifts & Memorials committee oversees the funds from the undesignated gifts and the interest earned in the Gifts and Memorials fund. These funds are distributed on a request basis. They are reviewed by the committee to assure the use is appropriate and that there is not a different source for the funding.

During 2024, one project was funded through the undesignated/interest Gifts & Memorials.

- Painting the lower hallway to create a brighter space for the Head Start participants.

Thanks to the members of St. Mark's and their friends and families for their generosity in giving to the Gifts and Memorial fund.

Respectfully submitted,
Alan Wyman

Global Ministries: Tanzania & India

2024 Annual Report

I can do everything through him who gives me strength. Philippians 4:13

Below is a summary of the Mission Committee's activities and accomplishments of 2024:

Tanzania

Tanzania Secondary Student Sponsorships – In 2025, St. Mark's individuals or families will sponsor 20 Kiheha and 11 Mtwivila secondary students at a rate of \$450 per year for room, board and tuition. \$13,050 in new funds and \$800 in existing funds were donated in late 2024 for these secondary school sponsorships. Included in these funds was \$1,350 from the St. Mark's Foundation.

Other Kiheha and Mtwivila Project Support – In addition to the student sponsorship support, St. Mark's will donate around \$4,000 for other general projects yet to be named by Kiheha and Mtwivila. These funds will come from the Craft Fair that was held in December 2024, which raised \$1,826, and Soup Sunday/Bake Sale proceeds from the January 2024 and 2025 Annual Meetings. In 2024, Mtwivila used these general support funds to buy materials to help construct a Sunday School building and a new church building. Kiheha used these funds for general support of the church.

Life Skills Center – Funds from the Inez Oehlke Endowment Fund provided a net amount of \$12,729 for the Kiheha Life Skills Center in 2024. The Kiheha pastors and partnership committee have developed a plan to strengthen existing and develop new programs at the Life Skills Center. The first sewing classes and computer classes were completed in mid-2024 and a second round of classes was started later in 2024. In the future, they plan to conduct car driving classes for the youth. This skill is needed more and more for employment in Tanzania. Kiheha spent around \$14,000 from the Inez Oehlke Endowment Funds to renovate the Life Skills Center. Computer classroom renovation - purchase of 10 computers, projector, salaries for teacher and manager; Sewing Class - salaries for teacher and tables; External Washroom Construction – wall plastering, electricity and floor tile installation, iron sheets; Life Skills Center Renovations – blankets, sheets, curtains, mosquito netting, mattresses, washing machine; Rain Water Harvesting – water tank; Life Skills Center electrical renovation for the whole center

Other Funding Sources – In addition to the donations from members and friends for Tanzania, our Tanzania Mission received \$1,000 from St. Mark's general budget funds in 2024.

Travel to Tanzania – Mark McKenzie traveled again to Tanzania in November 2024 with a group composed of members from several local churches.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Wolf, Chair

India Mission Update from Pete Mogren

St. Mark's helps support Hope Orphanage in India. This is a fairly new partnership that started in 2024 out of the closing of Reach Orphanage. Mary Buella, along with her daughter and son-in-law run the orphanage. Pete and Angel Mogren visited the Hope Orphanage in December 2023 and found the children well-cared for with good living conditions. During the visit, money was provided to make necessary repairs and meet other needs for the well-being of the children. Thirty children live at Hope Orphanage and school is provided for an additional 50 children. Communication is ongoing with Mary. We are able to provide videos with updates to sponsors from holidays and special events. St. Mark's currently has 12 sponsors and we would like to increase the number of sponsorships this year. Please contact Pete or Angel Mogren at pmogren@comcast.net for more information.

Global Missions Committee Members:

Jim Wolf (Chair), Betty Wolf, Pete Mogren, Angel Mogren, and Betty Beane

Hospitality Committee

2024 Annual Report

Hospitality is an important part of our church. It is a chance for us to show love and care for each other and for our community. Below are a few of the events hosted by St. Mark's in 2024:

- We enjoyed **three outdoor worship services** this past summer which included a picnic where the community could participate.
- A St. Mark's group attended the **Twin's game** on Father's Day for some summer fun. Thanks to Alan Wyman for arranging this outing which included bus transportation to and from Target Field. Save the date for the next game on August 10, 2025!
- We hosted another successful **Welcome Back Breakfast** for the staff of North High School in August. Teachers and staff were able to take a break during their preparation for the 2024-25 school year to have breakfast at St. Mark's. This is a favorite annual event for North High.
- **God's Work, Our Hands** day of service included over 30 of our members, split into groups, to support the work of the church and help out our community. We prepped items for the parade (which unfortunately did not happen due to inclement weather); cleaned Rees Hall kitchen in preparation for Wednesday dinners; wrote cards for essential workers; arranged snacks and cleaned the police/fire break area in Fellowship Hall (which is greatly appreciated by them); prepared materials for Christian education; cleaned Harvey's garage; worked on landscaping at church; pulled weeds at Richardson Elementary; cut material for North's FACS class; and pulled buckthorn at Southwood Park.
- This was our fourth year of the joint **Trunk or Treat** event with the local Girl Scouts—over 500 children from St. Mark's and the community participated (up from 300 last year)! The trunk décor and costumes were fun and creative. Thanks to everyone who participated! We had an increase in trunks from 15 to 24 and included game options and a photo spot. It was great to visit with so many families from St. Mark's, the Head Start preschool, and our greater community. We look forward to having even more trunks and visitors in 2025!
- Many people enjoyed the **pie social** after the annual Thanksgiving Eve worship service. It's a great way to come together and remember why we are thankful before the holiday begins.
- **Police/Fire Hospitality.** St. Mark's continues to provide space and hospitality for the North St. Paul and Maplewood Police and Fire Departments to take a break. We invite them to use our space in Fellowship Hall to enjoy a beverage, grab a snack or have a meal while they are on duty. Many people have contributed to this project and it is much appreciated by our local first responders.
- **The Annual Progressive Dinner** was a fun way to kick off the holiday season with appetizers at homes followed by dinner and entertainment at church with Bend in the River Big Band. This was a great chance to mingle and celebrate the holidays with our new members and new/longtime friends. Over 70 people attended. There's always room for more guests and more volunteers to help in the planning, so hopefully we'll see you next year!

Thanks to everyone who participated in one way or another to help make these events successful. It was greatly appreciated! Watch for information on upcoming events! (The next one is a chili cook-off in February.) Other event ideas are always welcome to keep our church a vibrant and relevant part of our community. Hospitality team: Virginia Collier, Suzanne Ericson, Kelly Hemme, Wanda Hurtgen, Judy Larkins, JoAnn Nelson, Amy Reddy, Tim Reddy (council rep.), Julie Urban, and various volunteers specific to the year's events.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Ericson

Mental Health Ministry

2024 Annual Report

The St. Mark's Mental Health Ministry (MHM) seeks to encourage mental health wellness within our church and greater community; to help end mental health stigma; and to support mental health education. We gratefully acknowledge and thank St. Mark's Foundation for its ongoing generous support of this important ministry. As you know, Americans are experiencing high rates of mental illness, with an estimated 23.1 percent of Americans living with mental illness in 2022, according to the National Institute of Mental Illness.

In 2024, with help from Foundation grants, MHH team members were able to:

- 1) Promote understanding within our congregation of the connection between physical and mental wellness through the National Alliance on Mental Illness Hearts + Minds program.
- 2) Provide young children and their families with age-appropriate books (via a new book cart in the Narthex), promoting mental health wellness; developing good communications and coping skills; and recognizing healthy ways to deal with "big" emotions.
- 3) Strive to help end stigma associated with mental illness by speaking openly about mental health and working to provide a welcoming environment. Information is shared via different channels including posters, the newsletter, and bulletin boards.
- 4) Maintain and grow the Mental Health Book Club and its list of recommended selections of books on topics such as managing anxiety or bridging gaps with loved ones experiencing addiction or mental illness. Copies of Book Club books are available in the church library.
- 5) Recognize the need for a caregivers' support group and work to identify ways to help members at risk for feelings of isolation and loneliness.
- 6) Begin exploring new ways to cooperate with others beyond our church community for education and resource sharing.
- 7) Evaluate and solidify a relationship with Mental Health Connect, a coalition of about 40 churches, which helps members access mental health professionals and resources as well as network on programming and education. Foundation grant money went directly to fund St. Mark's membership fees, offsetting the nonprofit's costs of providing services to our members. Mental Health Connect has shared information directly with church members through a Temple Talk, information table and handout.

Looking ahead to 2025, the St. Mark's MHM will devote Foundation grant resources to carrying out our mission in ways that also reflect the Foundation's mission to convey the Christian message through education and the building of relationships.

We plan to use our relationship with Mental Health Connect to build capacity so that we will be better able to serve members of the church and greater community. Three members of St. Mark's MHM have volunteered to become Mental Health Connect Ambassadors attending regular meetings to learn more about available opportunities; Pastor David is attending quarterly clergy meetings; and MHC will host a training for the MHM team soon. The book club will focus its new study on ways to help prevent anxiety in children and young adults with the possibility of launching a church-wide book read of *The Anxious Generation*.

St. Mark's Mental Health Ministry team includes: Amy Reddy, Julie Urban, Judy Larkins, Kathy Hanon, Liz Elicerio-Nelson, Anne Williston, Rod Larkins (Foundation liaison), and co-chairs Bonnie Meyers and Shari Hamilton, as well as Pastor David and Deacon Kate.

Personnel Committee

2024 Annual Report

I want to begin this year end summery by recognizing our wonderful staff at St. Marks:

Heidi McKenzie, Campus Manager

Helene Doran, Finance Associate

Ann Mott, Communications

Terri Borowick, Printer

Tanner Smith, Custodian

Tom Paulson, Director of Music & Worship Ministry

Rev. David Bjorklund, Lead Pastor

Kate Bentley, Deacon

Office Volunteers, Sue Fletcher and Terri Borowick

Each of these individuals have contributed to making St. Marks a special place to call home. We are so blessed to have such gifted and caring employees.

This past year, the Personnel Team worked on the following:

- Updated all job descriptions
- Facilitated staff and volunteer recognition days
- Ensured we were following new Earned Sick Leave and Safe Time Laws
- Completed Annual Budget
- Updated Church Safety Manual
- Facilities Coordinator Job search (Ongoing)
- Met periodically with staff

We wish to thank Carolyn Newell, for her time on Personnel.

Current Members are: Suzanne Ericson, Lynn Wyman, Bonnie Meyers and Julie Urban.

Report Submitted by Julie Urban (Chair Personnel)

Property Committee

2024 Annual Report

The Property Committee has a commitment to provide a safe, welcoming and functional environment for our congregation. This report outlines a few of the updates and improvements that have been completed over the last year, helping us to keep our promise to the congregation.

Project highlights from 2024:

- This past year, we replaced the furnaces and the air conditioning unit in Rees Hall.
- The patio at the west entrance of the sanctuary has been rebuilt due to settling. It was a great location for the large Christmas tree this year! Furthermore, we removed a large pine tree from the garden area outside Rees Hall.
- The choir moved to Rooms 102-103 from the lower level hallway, allowing Head Start to add an additional classroom for their program. In the new choir room, the old room divider was removed to free up more space for our music ministry.
- Crucial repairs were made to boiler steam pipes and fittings in Fellowship Hall. Additionally, we repaired the sink and toilet plumbing in the Rees Hall bathrooms.
- The light sensors in the outdoor fixtures in the alley have been repaired.
- We repaired the exhaust fans in the Rees Hall kitchen and bathrooms. Additionally, we also purchased 3 new stoves, which have been a big improvement for our many Wednesday night dinners and other events.
- We recognize the importance of safety and have continued to improve our security by installing cameras and door alarms throughout the building. This project will continue into 2025.
- We purchased new chairs for both Rees Hall and Fellowship Hall. In the spirit of giving, the old Rees Hall chairs and several folding chairs have been donated to Head Start, a local theater, a college in southern MN and a startup church in Plymouth.

Potential Projects in 2025:

- Assess the areas of the church where the carpeting has experienced significant wear and tear over the years.
- Paint the railings around the exterior of the building as well as a few doors. This project could also include the railings in Rees Hall.
- Transition to more efficient lighting in certain areas of our building. This technology is constantly changing, and can reduce our energy consumption and lead to savings over time.
- To create a warm and inviting atmosphere for our meetings and Bible studies, we will be purchasing and installing a new fireplace in the Fireside Room.
- We would like to invite all members of our congregation to join the monthly group of volunteers called Saturday Stewards. This group meets on the first Saturday of every month and offers tasks/projects suitable for all skill levels. It is a wonderful opportunity to contribute to the upkeep of our church and strengthen the sense of community.

We are so grateful for the dedication and hard work of our volunteers and the support of our congregation. Together, we have accomplished significant milestones in improving our church facilities and grounds.

Committee members:

Mike Clasen, Chair
Mark McKenzie

Gary Hook
Greg Linder

Brian Larson
Doug Ronsberg

Rod Larkins
Heidi McKenzie

Social Ministry

2024 Annual Report

As a congregation, the center of our life together is worship, where the Word of God is preached and the Sacraments are shared. From that center we are sent out to serve, and St. Mark's has a long history of service in our church and community. Here are some highlights of the past year:

- **Caring Hands** volunteers serve families at a time of grief and loss by setting up a comfortable space and serving a meal at the time of a funeral or memorial service. In 2024 we hosted 18 funeral luncheons at church. The team of volunteers is led by Kathy Mewis. Additional volunteers are often needed to make cookies or bars. If you would like to be on this "as-needed" list, please contact the church office.
- **Wednesday Night Community Meal.** Meals are provided on Wednesday evenings during the school year. All are invited. Freewill offering is gladly accepted but not required. Thanks to Julie Urban for heading up the team of dedicated volunteers who make this possible. The team welcomes anyone to come and help on Wednesday nights. Contact Julie Urban if you are interested. Our average attendance is 85. In the first half of the 2024-25 school year (Sept – Dec), 1,433 people have been served!
- St. Mark's partnered again with **Interfaith Action's School Supply Drive** (serving 10 programs in the Greater St. Paul area) to provide students from low-income families with the essential school tools they need. Backpacks, supplies and cash donations were collected. Many children benefitted from your generosity. Special thanks to Sherry Berry for coordinating the collection.
- **Partnership with North High School**
 - **The Polar Pantry** this partnership provides North High with monetary donations and some food/hygiene products (a list is available in Rees Hall) to the district-wide pantry located in the District Center across the street. Monetary donations are used to buy food directly from Second Harvest. Students and families can "shop" at the pantry to obtain the items they need. The staff at North are very thankful that we continue to help them provide this support for families experiencing food insecurity. Monetary donations can be made to St. Mark's, noting they are for the Polar Pantry.
 - **Polar Packs** Backpacks containing food were made up for 20 families at North High and were given out during holiday break.
 - **Thanksgiving Meal baskets** St. Mark's worked with North High to help District 622 families with meals at Thanksgiving. With your generous donations we were able to provide 45 families with a complete Thanksgiving meal – 10-12 lb. turkey, sides and dessert. Thank you for supporting St. Mark's partnership with North High School, its students, and their families.
 - **Christmas Food Gift Cards** were distributed to North High families, as well as St. Mark's families thanks to a grant from the St. Mark's Foundation.
- **Free Produce Events.** We continued our partnership with Second Harvest and the NSP Food Shelf to host three free produce events (July, August, and September.) This has been a powerful way to both serve and connect with our neighbors. Over the 3 dates, we helped approximately 600 families get fresh produce at no cost. We could not have done that without the time of so many of you—Thank you! Special thanks to Julie Urban and Suzanne Ericson for coordinating the event. Also, thanks to our partners at the North St. Paul Food Shelf and Second Harvest for providing the food.
- **Gift Goes On Christmas Giving Program.** As a community, we purchased and wrapped gifts and donated food gift cards for 25 children and their siblings from the Head Start program within our church home. You have truly made a difference to these families this Christmas. Special thanks to Liz Elicerio-Nelson for organizing this program from beginning to end.

Stewardship for All Seasons

2024 Annual Report

This year's theme for our Stewardship Campaign was *A Place at the Table*. The campaign was inspired by our strengths as a welcoming congregation and our desire for members, friends, and guests of St. Mark's to share in the life of the church by claiming their place at the table.

The work of the Stewardship for All Seasons (SAS) committee reflects the belief that stewardship is a broad and encompassing term. We seek to encourage generous financial support of the congregation's budget. We also seek to support the congregation's mission and ministry by encouraging individuals to participate in the daily life of the church.

To that end the *A Place at the Table* campaign sought to invite members, friends, and guests of St. Mark's to participate in the daily life of the church, share in leadership through service, and increase their financial support.

SAS is pleased to report that we continue to see positive movement in all these areas. We are also pleased to report a positive movement with regards to pledged financial support for 2025.

As of January 15, 2025, we have received 136 pledges for 2025 and the amount of those pledges are 4% higher than in 2024.

- 47 units increased their 2025 pledges compared to 2024
- 23 units pledging in 2025 that did not pledge in 2024
- 54 units pledged to sustain their support at current levels
- 12 units decreasing their 2025 pledge compared to 2024
- 16 units who pledged in 2024 but have not yet submitted a pledge for 2025

The SAS committee would like to thank all those who have pledged their intent to sustain our ministry in 2025. We would like to invite those who have not yet pledged their intent to do so. We also want to thank everyone for their generous support of our life together in 2024. The financial support the congregation received in 2024 and the commitments we've received for 2025 are helping us to close the gap in our budget and our putting us on the path to long-term sustainability.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Stewardship for All Season Committee.

2024 Committee Members

Pastor David Bjorklund
Virgil Christofferson
Mike Ericson
Kathy Hanon
Rod Larkins
Ann Mott (staff)

About Stewardship for All Seasons

The Stewardship for All Seasons committee meets throughout the year to consider opportunities to encourage sharing the blessings received by the St. Mark's community to support the work God calls us to in this place and time. A specific task for the group is to develop and manage the annual fall stewardship campaign, during which all congregants are asked to provide their intent to support St. Mark's through giving and prayer. The SAS committee identifies initiatives and goals for the campaign, explains and promotes those initiatives and goals, and assists pastors and staff in preparing materials and securing volunteers to present temple talks. We are seeking additional members – please let us know if you would like to learn more about this work!



**GROWING
TOGETHER
IN LOVE**

LOVING GOD.
LOVING OTHERS.

St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church Foundation

2024 Annual Report

The St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church Foundation continues its mission of conveying the Christian message to people through excellence in worship, education and the building of relationships, both within the church and out into the community.

The Foundation board members had a busy year during 2024 finding new ways to serve the church and community with proactive grants, developing a new informational brochure to mail to the St. Mark's congregation, and continued work on making sure our financial status remains stable.



The Foundation Grants Committee partnered with church committees and staff to develop grants to support the focus areas of mental health ministry, music ministry, and children, youth and family ministries. These ministries put to work the grants given to them in various ways. The beautiful music from the brass group at Easter and string quartet for Christmas was possible because of its grant. The mental health group used its money to encourage mental health wellness within our church and greater community, to help end mental health stigma, and to support mental health education. The youth group used two grants to fund their transportation to New Orleans for the ELCA Youth Convention, one a traditional grant and the other a "proactive" grant for CYF ministries.

The Foundation continued to carry its mission forward by endowing grants for more than \$22,000 during 2024:

- KidsFest 2024 hosted in September invited everyone at no cost to attendees.
- The North High School band program will be helped to continue one-to-one or small group lessons at North on specified instruments with highly qualified professional teachers and musicians.
- Hope for The Brave, housing assistance for victims of domestic violence, received help for rental needs for families.
- Helping North High School families, a grant was given for food gift cards during the recent holidays.
- St. Mark's youth were recipients of a grant to fund their transportation to the ELCA Youth Convention.
- The North St. Paul Area Food Shelf received help for the overwhelming food needs of the community.
- The Foundation helped fund the entertainment and pay for new members to attend the annual Progressive Dinner.
- Continued support was given for the Tanzania Secondary School Student sponsorship during 2025.
- Restocking supplies will be available for the first responders who use space in Fellowship Hall for much-needed breaks for a meal or respite.

The Foundation continues to work with church staff, the congregation and stake holders in the community to find ways to help those in need.

The Foundation was blessed in 2024 with financial gifts of more than \$15,500 through legacy gifts, donations, memorials, Thrivent Choice Dollars, and employee matching gifts from US Bank. The Foundation's assets are invested to continue to support the community through grants in 2024. The finance committee works to maximize the return on investments through engagement with professional financial advisors, creates the budget for the Foundation, and monitors the financial health of the assets of the Foundation.

The Foundation continued its commitment to keep the congregation informed about the Foundation's progress and activities. The Foundation website, announcements in the church weekly updates and Foundation Week continue to be good resources of information about the Foundation. In addition, a new colorful brochure was developed and mailed to the congregation this year.

Thank you to the following members who are leaving the board of trustees after years of faithful service to the Foundation: John Pottratz (2023), Judy Duffy (2024) and Paul Ellefson (2024). Their dedication and contributions will be greatly missed.

The Foundation Board of Trustees includes: President Terry Kapaun, Vice President Barb Michel, Treasurer Tom Michel, Secretary Karyn Mikel, Judy Duffy, Paul Ellefson, Kathy Hanon, Ken Indrelie, Linda Kapaun, Jason Lamers, Rod Larkins, Steve Linder, Carolyn Newell, Craig Sterling, Pastor David Bjorklund and legal advisor Bill Baumeister. For more information about the Foundation, please browse the St. Mark's Foundation website at www.stmarksnspfoundation.com

Women of St. Mark's

2024 Annual Report

Ministry Vision: As an organization of Christian women, we encourage all women to grow in their faith, be of service to others and engage in fellowship with other women.

The Women of St. Mark's have four Bible Study Groups. We are a part of the St. Paul Area Synodical Women's Organization and the Women of the ELCA. The groups gather for Bible Study and fellowship. We remember St. Mark's shut-ins with cards and small gifts throughout the year. The Prayer Shawl Ministry knits/crochets 25-30 comforting shawls each year for those in need. Monetary support is given to the North St. Paul Food Shelf, Second Harvest Heartland, Food Pantry at North High School, LSS Crisis Center/LSS Preschool Project, Shobi's Table, Feed My Starving Children, Kihasa Student Support in Tanzania and the Tanzania Water Project. Other gifts were given to the North High School Service Day and Lutheran Disaster Response. A special Thank You to Terri Borowick for updating our Women's Activity Directory.

In addition, we plan the following events. All women of the church are welcome and encouraged to attend:

January-March – Quilting Ministry. 70 quilts were completed and blessed. They were sent to Lutheran World Relief and some were kept for local use. Thank you quilters.

February – "Cabin Fever" Game Day. 11 people attended and enjoyed games, snacks and fellowship.

May – Women's Spring Luncheon. Rick and Sue Cunningham presented "The Magic of Gratitude." 31 women attended.

May – Rachel's Day was observed to remember children who are victims of violence and abuse.

July – Summer Bible Study "After Certainty: A Biblical Guide," from the Gather magazine, led by Deacon Kate Lindberg. 19 women attended.

September – Bridal Shower for Deacon Kate Lindberg. 54 women attended to celebrate Kate and her upcoming marriage to Corey Bentley.

September – St. Mark's hosted the Synodical Women's "Introduction to the 2024-25 Gather Bible Study." Deacon Kate Lindberg led us in "Receiving Grace: A Study of Ephesians." 44 women attended from 14 churches.

November – "I Am Betty" at the History Theatre – the story of Betty Crocker. 19 people attended followed by dinner at the Gasthaus restaurant.

December – Women's Advent Brunch "Singing in Christmas Wonder! Magical Gifts and Memories" by Rick and Sue Cunningham. 35 women attended. A time of reflection and preparation.

The St. Paul Area Synodical Women participated in our local convention and cluster meetings giving us opportunities for learning, giving and fellowship.

The Collection Cupboard is located in Rees Hall. Items collected include pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House, eyeglasses for the Lions International sight projects around the world, and kits/projects for the women's organization. Bar soap and Boxtops for Education are not being accepted.

Respectfully submitted, Virginia Collier, Chairperson

Committee Members: Sherry Berry, Sue Fletcher, Linda Haley and Bible Study Group representatives.

Women of St. Mark's Financial Report

2024 Annual Report

Prepared by Sue Fletcher

CASH ON HAND 12-31-2024 \$ 4,054.03

RECEIPTS

CIRCLE OFFERING	\$ 2,120.00
GIFTS AND MEMORIALS (QUILTER'S \$680, GENERAL \$20)	\$ 700.00
SPRING LUNCHEON	\$ 403.00
SHOWER	\$ 1,323.00
ADVENT BRUNCH	\$ 556.00
BIBLE STUDY	\$ 257.00
SPECIAL OFFERINGS (NORTH HIGH, NSP)	\$ 277.00
PLAY	\$ 570.00
PRAYER SHAWL DONATION	\$ 20.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR 2024	\$ 6,226.00

DISBURSEMENTS

WELCA OFFERING	\$ 650.00
WELCA CONVENTION, DELEGATE-RESOLUTION 22-1	\$ 220.00
NORTH ST. PAUL FOOD SHELF	\$ 330.00
ST. PAUL PARTNERS	\$ 100.00
FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN	\$ 150.00
LUTHERAN DISASTER RELIEF	\$ 100.00
SHOBI'S TABLE	\$ 125.00
ST. MARKS LUTHERAN CHURCH (office expense donation)	\$ 175.00
NORTH HIGH DONATIONS	\$ 250.00
TANZANIA STUDENT SPONSORSHIP	\$ 150.00
SPRING LUNCHEON	\$ 443.39
BIBLE STUDY	\$ 201.03
SHOWER	\$ 1,154.75
ADVENT BRUNCH	\$ 274.26
QUILTING	\$ 157.00
PLAY	\$ 570.00
MISC EXPENSE	\$ 144.68
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$ 5,195.11

BALANCE 12-31-2024

\$ 5,084.92

SPECIAL ACCOUNTS

QUILTING	\$ 2,058.11	
PRAYER SHAWLS	\$ 250.58	
CRAFT DAY	\$ 87.75	
TRIENNIAL 2024 set aside	\$ 75.00	
CAPITAL FUND RESERVE	\$ 325.00	
TOTAL DESIGNATED FUNDS		\$ 2,796.44
BALANCE AFTER SPECIAL ACCOUNTS		\$ 2,288.48

Minutes: St. Mark's Annual Congregational Meeting - Sunday, January 28, 2024

Agenda Topic	Discussion	Action
Establish Quorum / Call to Order	Quorum obtained at 11:11 AM	Called to order at 11:12 AM by Mike Ericson
Opening Prayer		Pr. David Bjorklund
Review of 2023 and going forward in 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acknowledgement and thanks to Global Mission ministries and Council for preparing for the annual meeting Update to congregation on the past year: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transition from Interim Pr. Arne Bergland to Call of Pr. David Over the last year, along with surveys, indicated a strong desire for direction with our Music and Youth ministries Deacon Kate Lindberg's journey from intern to rostered deacon Tom Paulson's addition and leading Music ministry Appreciation for St. Mark's staff Growing worship attendance and overall membership New Mental Health ministry Building intergenerational relationships Looking forward <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuing focus on growing Youth and Music ministries Central focus of St. Mark's worshipping, praying, and giving together as a community 	Pr. Pastor David Bjorklund
Annual Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval of the Meeting Minutes from 2023 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> January 29 Annual meeting August 27 Special meeting Nominating Committee report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nominations were as followed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Election of church Council members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Judy Larkins, Bonnie Meyers, and Tim Reddy 	<p>Mike Ericson (President) conducted annual business</p> <p>Motion by Pete Mogren to approve Jan. 29 Annual minutes as stated. Seconded by Betty Beane. All were in favor. Minutes</p>

Minutes: St. Mark's Annual Congregational Meeting - Sunday, January 28, 2024

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tyler Ronsberg (i) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Election of Synod Assembly voting members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Karyn Mikel • Sherry Berry, Barb McNeely, and Betty Wolf (self-nominated from floor) ■ Election of Nominating members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mike Ericson and Candy Petersen • Treasurer and Auditor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Seeking recommendation for treasurer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Sue Fletcher and Betty Beane explained roles and responsibilities of position ■ Barb McNeely gave Helene Doran recognition for her outstanding work ■ Rod Larkins emphasized that a financial background would be helpful for position ○ Kathy Ronsberg will serve as an auditor for this year • Thank you for your service <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Outgoing members of the Council, Mike Ericson, Martha Klopp, and Carolyn Newell were all recognized. ○ Kelly Nickell was also recognized for her service as treasurer • Sexual Harassment Policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Julie Urban presented the annual notification of St. Mark's policy and compliance. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The policy and paperwork are located in office ■ St. Mark's has never had an issue with this policy • Review of 2022 Finances <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ St. Mark's cash position ended at a balance of \$304,000. 	<p>approved.</p> <p>Motion by Candy Petersen to approve August 27 Special minutes as stated. Seconded by Dave Lande. All were in favor. Minutes approved.</p> <p>Motion by Barb McNeely to elect Council nominations by acclamation. Seconded by Jim Wolf. All were in favor and nominations approved.</p> <p>Motion by Dave Lande to elect Synod Assembly nominations by acclamation. Seconded by Steve Linder. All were in favor and nominations approved.</p> <p>Motion by Gary Hook to elect Nominating member nominations by acclamation. Seconded by Karyn Mikel. All were in favor and nominations approved.</p>
--	---	---

Minutes: St. Mark's Annual Congregational Meeting - Sunday, January 28, 2024

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion and Adoption of 2024 Budget <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fully staffed since pre-Covid <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Lead Pastor ■ Associate Deacon ■ Music Director ■ 2024 Personnel budget lower than 2023 budgeted ○ \$100,000 Employee Retention Tax Credit (2022) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Not yet received ■ Not reflected as income in 2024 budget ○ Jim Martin followed up asking if it's a federal or state program: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ It is a federal program; Gary Hook emphasized that it was an "employee retention credit" ○ Bonnie Meyers asked if there is money budgeted for an intern: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Pr. David responded that there was not due to wanting staff to stabilize before taking on intern responsibility ○ Bill Pickett asked about a full-time janitor: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The budget has two part-time positions currently filled by Greg Linder and Tanner Smith ○ Barb McNeely asked about "Peter Team" budget increase <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Pr. David explained it went up because of the need for music stipends for special guests and music • New Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No new business brought forth 	<p>Along with Mike Ericson, Pr. David Bjorklund discussed the review of 2023 finances and 2024 proposed budget.</p> <p>Motion made by Pete Mogren to approve 2024 proposed budget. Seconded by Alan Wyman. All in favor and approved.</p> <p>Mike Ericson (President) led discussion</p>
Closing Prayer and adjournment	Closing prayer by Deacon Kate Lindberg	<p>Motion by Gary Hook and seconded by Virgil Christoffersen to adjourn at 11:52 AM - all in favor.</p>

Respectfully submitted by Josh Hirman, Council secretary

2024 Financial Report & 2025 Proposed Budget

Saint Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Analysis of Revenues & Expenses
General Operations Fund
2024 Fiscal Year End

Accounts	2024	2024 Budget	Total Act. 2023
INCOME			
CONTRIBUTIONS			
GENERAL CONTRIBUTIONS			
Tithes & Offerings	\$504,352.22	\$530,000.00	\$521,234.18
Bequests	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Initial Offerings	\$270.00	\$100.00	\$170.00
Holiday Contributions	\$22,313.00	\$16,700.00	\$14,391.50
Total GENERAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$526,935.22	\$546,800.00	\$535,795.68
OTHER INCOME			
Building Use	\$35,215.93	\$27,000.00	\$22,850.77
Miscellaneous Receipts	\$60,344.63	\$5,815.00	\$6,986.34
Total OTHER INCOME	\$95,560.56	\$32,815.00	\$29,837.11
Total INCOME	\$622,495.78	\$579,615.00	\$565,632.79
EXPENSES			
NOAH TEAM			
PERSONNEL	\$404,909.47	\$442,364.00	\$352,619.35
COMMUNICATIONS	\$6,399.73	\$6,750.00	\$4,832.41
OFFICE OPERATIONS	\$15,473.93	\$16,200.00	\$15,495.66
TECHNOLOGY	\$2,000.00	\$3,150.00	\$2,650.00
PROPERTY	\$141,250.95	\$151,790.00	\$133,228.85
STEWARDSHIP	\$5,692.08	\$6,200.00	\$6,362.89
OTHER PROGRAMS	\$314.45	\$3,700.00	\$1,452.40
Total NOAH TEAM	\$576,040.61	\$630,154.00	\$516,641.56
PETER TEAM			
BENEVOLENCE	\$24,500.50	\$26,000.00	\$24,000.04
SOCIAL MINISTRY	\$728.21	\$2,500.00	\$753.64
WORSHIP & MUSIC	\$23,993.72	\$30,600.00	\$14,246.91
HOSPITALITY	\$2,816.54	\$4,000.00	\$2,642.95
Total PETER TEAM	\$52,038.97	\$63,100.00	\$41,643.54
MOSES TEAM			
CHRISTIAN ED	\$4,143.34	\$13,000.00	\$10,474.16
Total MOSES TEAM	\$4,143.34	\$13,000.00	\$10,474.16
Total EXPENSES	\$632,222.92	\$706,254.00	\$568,759.26
Net Total	(\$9,727.14)	(\$126,639.00)	(\$3,126.47)

Saint Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Balance Sheet
2024 Fiscal Year End

Assets

Current Assets

General Fund

1.10100 - General Fund Checking	\$116,735.76
1.10150 - Petty Cash	\$54.31
1.10200 - General Fund Premier/Reserve Acct	\$51,326.75
1.10210 - Mission Invest. Fund/Reserve Acct	\$1,052.23
1.10250 - General Fund Premier Investment	\$193,867.36
1.10901 - YrEnd - Contributions Receivable	\$0.00

Total General Fund **\$363,036.41**

Gifts & Memorials

2.10100 - G & M Checking	(\$42,014.97)
2.10110 - G & M UBS CD Purchase	\$747,662.20
2.10200 - G & M Premier	(\$55,983.87)
2.10400 - Pastoral Mission Trip CD - Premier	\$10,000.00
2.10901 - G & M Year End - Memorials Receivable	\$0.00

Total Gifts & Memorials **\$659,663.36**

Youth Fund

3.10100 - Youth Checking	\$8,352.16
--------------------------	------------

Total Youth Fund **\$8,352.16**

Drama

5.10100 - Drama Checking	\$7,792.24
--------------------------	------------

Total Drama **\$7,792.24**

Total Current Assets

\$1,038,844.17

Fixed Assets

1.11101 - Land & Bldg	\$2,500,000.00
-----------------------	----------------

Total Fixed Assets

\$2,500,000.00

Total Assets

\$3,538,844.17

Liabilities, Fund Principal, & Restricted Funds

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

General Fund

1.280400 - MIF Loan Payable (LT)	\$123,872.38
----------------------------------	--------------

Total General Fund **\$123,872.38**

Total Current Liabilities

\$123,872.38

Long Term Liabilities

General Fund

\$0.00

\$0.00

Total Liabilities

\$123,872.38

Fund Principal and Excess Cash Received

Equity - by Fund

1.30100 - General Fund Equity Fixed Assets	\$2,426,681.18
--	----------------

1.30110 - General Fund Equity - Cash	\$243,685.84
--------------------------------------	--------------

5.30100 - Drama Fund Equity	\$0.00
-----------------------------	--------

Total Fund Principal **\$2,670,367.02**

Total Fund Principal

\$2,670,367.02

Restricted Funds

Temp Restricted General	\$68,797.01
-------------------------	-------------

Temp Restricted G&M	\$659,663.36
---------------------	--------------

Temp Restricted Youth	\$8,352.16
-----------------------	------------

Temp Restricted Drama	\$7,792.24
-----------------------	------------

Total Temporarily Restricted	\$744,604.77
------------------------------	--------------

Total Restricted Funds

\$744,604.77

Total Liabilities, Fund Principal, & Restricted Funds

\$3,538,844.17

Total Cash Available General (Total General Cash - Restricted General Cash)

\$294,239.40

Summary of Restricted Accounts

General Fund

Fiscal Year End 2024

	Beginning Balance	Restricted Revenues	Restricted Expenses	Ending Balance
<u>TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED GNRL</u>				
1.80010 Reserve Account	\$51,012.44	\$366.54	\$0.00	\$51,378.98
1.80015 Clergy Opt. Payroll Deductions	\$2.74	\$18,256.45	\$18,256.41	\$2.78
1.80016 Program Staff Payroll Deductions	\$0.00	\$9,512.70	\$9,512.70	\$0.00
1.80090 Genl Fund Restricted Memorial	\$70.04	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$70.04
1.80300 Garden Team	\$1,937.69	\$2,695.00	\$3,009.51	\$1,623.18
1.80325 Foundation Grants	\$0.00	\$2,025.05	\$2,025.05	\$0.00
1.80400 Social Ministry	\$3,192.00	\$3,358.50	\$3,061.14	\$3,489.36
1.80420 Lenten Lunches	\$216.75	\$180.00	\$268.93	\$127.82
1.80600 Scholarship Financial Peace	\$759.31	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$759.31
1.80620 Staff Gift	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
1.80630 Hospitality Event	\$0.00	\$350.00	\$294.30	\$55.70
1.80640 Picnic Account	\$0.00	\$1,001.00	\$576.03	\$424.97
1.80650 Progressive Dinner	\$427.48	\$3,207.20	\$1,593.28	\$2,041.40
1.80675 Adult Bible Series	\$66.48	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$66.48
1.80875 GF Pledge Pre-Payment	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Total	\$57,784.93	\$41,952.44	\$38,597.35	\$61,140.02
Misc. In/Out Accounts				
1.80100 Altar Flowers	\$34.57	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$34.57
1.80110 Holiday Decorations	\$2,955.09	\$3,701.00	\$4,983.35	\$1,672.74
1.80200 North Teacher Appreciation	\$282.39	\$246.82	\$496.81	\$32.40
1.80310 Funeral Food/Costs	\$1,585.73	\$22,215.28	\$21,771.68	\$2,029.33
1.80320 Wedding Fees/Costs	\$549.41	\$1,200.00	\$1,190.30	\$559.11
1.80415 CE - WED. Family Meals	\$3,520.17	\$4,912.60	\$6,314.28	\$2,118.49
1.80510 North St. Paul Food Shelf	\$0.00	\$446.00	\$396.00	\$50.00
1.80515 GF Other Donation to Forward	\$180.00	\$935.00	\$1,115.00	\$0.00
1.80520 World Hunger	\$0.00	\$40.00	\$0.00	\$40.00
1.80525 Disaster Relief	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1.80530 BoyScouts - Pop Machine	\$413.49	\$0.00	\$10.58	\$402.91
1.80800 In/Out Purchases	\$436.99	\$9,013.90	\$8,733.45	\$717.44
Total Misc. In/Out Accounts	\$9,957.84	\$42,710.60	\$45,011.45	\$7,656.99
Total TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED GNRL	\$67,742.77	\$84,663.04	\$83,608.80	\$68,797.01
<u>TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED YOUTH</u>				
3.80200 Youth - Pay It Forward	\$2,482.74	\$1,000.00	\$969.52	\$2,513.22
3.80250 Youth Memorial	\$985.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$985.00
3.80300 Pop Machine	\$147.75	\$112.50	\$80.36	\$179.89
3.80301 Youth Benevolence	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25.00
Total	\$3,640.49	\$1,112.50	\$1,049.88	\$3,703.11
Sr. High				
3.80420 Summer Experience Trip Registration	(\$251.24)	\$620.00	\$268.76	\$100.00
3.80430 Summer Experience Trip Fundraisers	\$783.14	\$20,013.26	\$17,448.88	\$3,347.52
3.80440 Youth Event Fees	\$571.35	\$4,773.83	\$4,773.83	\$571.35
Total Sr. High	\$1,103.25	\$25,407.09	\$22,491.47	\$4,018.87
Confirmation				
3.80510 Confirmation Reg/Expense	\$630.18	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$630.18
Total Confirmation	\$630.18	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$630.18
Total TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED YOUTH	\$5,373.92	\$26,519.59	\$23,541.35	\$8,352.16
<u>TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED DRAMA</u>				
5.80100 Drama Prior Years' Net	\$10,843.41	\$3,639.01	\$6,690.18	\$7,792.24

TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED G&M**Technology**

2.80380	Office Technology & Communication:	\$1,837.46	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,837.46
2.80385	Computer Tech - Yr End Transfer	\$2,727.98	\$1,942.28	\$0.00	\$4,670.26
2.80390	Technology: Sanctuary Visual/Audio	\$993.63	\$1,555.00	\$0.00	\$2,548.63
Total Technology		\$5,559.07	\$3,497.28	\$0.00	\$9,056.35

Property

2.80120	Garden Team	\$77.90	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$427.90
2.80122	Recycling Grant - Ramsey County	\$305.36	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$305.36
2.80305	Building Maintenance & Improvement	\$456,135.27	\$6,512.00	\$130,618.82	\$332,028.45
2.80310	Bldg: Office Windows	\$1,120.17	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,120.17
2.80315	Air Conditioner Repair	\$20.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20.00
2.80320	Parking Lot Repair/Maintenance	\$13,137.09	\$23,474.00	\$23,756.00	\$12,855.09
2.80325	CAPITAL FUND Balance Xfer	\$16,652.63	\$0.00	\$686.23	\$15,966.40
2.80340	Bldg: Chairs/Luth.Comm.Fdn.	\$573.44	\$375.00	\$948.44	\$0.00
Total Property		\$488,021.86	\$30,711.00	\$156,009.49	\$362,723.37

Other Programs

2.80000	Undesignated Memorials	\$5,395.32	\$1,032.69	\$1,717.06	\$4,710.95
2.80050	Memorials-Where Needed Most	\$2,858.61	\$3,635.00	\$337.63	\$6,155.98
2.80075	Pastor Initiatives	\$8,878.69	\$545.96	\$1,118.94	\$8,305.71
2.80100	Memorials To Be Designated	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2.80160	Library	\$4,261.52	\$0.00	\$19.97	\$4,241.55
2.80400	G & M Items to Forward	\$236.37	\$3,675.00	\$3,500.00	\$411.37
2.80408	Bequest to Forward	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2.80415	Foundation Dollars to Forward	\$0.00	\$2,158.50	\$2,158.50	\$0.00
2.80450	G & M Hospitality	\$38.32	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$38.32
2.80500	Women's Programs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2.80850	UBS - CD Interest Earned	\$25,884.32	\$36,777.88	\$0.00	\$62,662.20
2.80900	Interest on G & M	\$7,826.20	\$1,652.59	\$0.00	\$9,478.79
Total Other Programs		\$55,379.35	\$49,477.62	\$8,852.10	\$96,004.87

Social Ministry

2.80401	Social Ministry	\$2,185.88	\$100.00	\$752.26	\$1,533.62
2.80402	Local Ministry Startup - Estate Gift	\$84,782.68	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$84,782.68
2.80403	Refugee Support	\$2,929.67	\$0.00	\$2,929.67	\$0.00
2.80404	Pastor's Discretionary Fund	\$2,509.80	\$500.00	\$608.48	\$2,401.32
2.80405	Pastoral Mission Trip Grant	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
2.80406	Caring/Visiting Ministry	\$693.33	\$350.00	\$141.80	\$901.53
2.80407	Polar Pantry	\$7,709.83	\$2,177.50	\$675.01	\$9,212.32
2.80490	Fellowship Fund	\$18,286.73	\$585.69	\$2,921.55	\$15,950.87
Total Social Ministry		\$119,097.92	\$13,713.19	\$8,028.77	\$124,782.34

Missions

2.80420	Missions: INDIA Child	\$17,185.03	\$32,806.03	\$34,797.28	\$15,193.78
2.80440	Missions: TANZANIA Sponsorships	\$1,757.45	\$14,458.00	\$14,953.82	\$1,261.63
2.80444	Missions: TANZANIA Missions	\$155.99	\$4,338.80	\$1,503.56	\$2,991.23
Total Social Ministry		\$19,098.47	\$51,602.83	\$51,254.66	\$19,446.64

Worship & Music**Worship**

2.80210	Worship: Altar Guild	\$282.87	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$282.87
2.80260	Worship: Sanctuary Banners	\$1,888.27	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,888.27
2.80265	Worship: Grace Space	\$2,050.98	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,050.98
Total Worship		\$4,222.12	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,222.12

Music

2.80170	Music Ministry	\$13,130.21	\$6,035.00	\$25.00	\$19,140.21
2.80176	Music: Organ	\$35.37	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$35.37
Total Music		\$13,165.58	\$6,035.00	\$25.00	\$19,175.58
Total Worship & Music		\$17,387.70	\$6,035.00	\$25.00	\$23,397.70

Christian Education**Christian Ed-Children**

2.80180	Sunday School / Children's Ministry	\$3,028.53	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,028.53
2.80185	Sunday School:Emergency Help Fund	\$7.77	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7.77
Total Christian Ed-Children		\$3,036.30	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,036.30

Christian Ed -Youth

2.80200	Youth Gifts	\$290.77	\$305.00	\$0.00	\$595.77
2.80220	Youth Scholarships	\$1,826.76	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$1,676.76
Total Christian Ed - Youth		\$2,117.53	\$305.00	\$150.00	\$2,272.53
Total Christian Education		\$5,153.83	\$305.00	\$150.00	\$5,308.83

Drama

2.80510	Drama	\$18,943.26	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$18,943.26
Total Drama		\$18,943.26	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$18,943.26
Total TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED G&M		\$728,641.46	\$155,341.92	\$224,320.02	\$659,663.36

St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church
2024 Fiscal Year End

Cash Flow per Fund					
	General Fund	G & M Fund	Youth	Drama	All Funds
Cash @ 12/31/22	\$ 303,970.54	\$728,641.46	\$ 5,373.92	\$0.00	\$ 1,037,985.92
Revenue - 2023	\$622,495.78	\$155,341.92	\$26,519.59	\$0.00	\$804,357.29
Expenses - 2023	\$632,222.92	\$224,320.02	\$23,541.35	\$0.00	\$ 880,084.29
Net Income/(Loss)	\$ (9,727.14)	\$ (68,978.10)	\$ 2,978.24	\$ -	\$ (75,727.00)
Beginning Restricted Balance	\$67,742.77			\$10,843.41	\$ 78,586.18
Ending Restricted Balance	\$68,797.01			\$7,792.24	\$76,589.25
Net Gain/(Loss)	\$ 1,054.24	\$ -	\$0.00	\$ (3,051.17)	\$ (1,996.93)
Total Cash	\$ 363,040.41	\$659,663.36	\$ 8,352.16	\$7,792.24	\$ 1,038,848.17
Minus total Restricted Accounts	\$ 68,797.01			\$7,792.24	\$ 76,589.25
Available Cash	\$ 294,243.40	\$659,663.36	\$8,352.16	\$0.00	\$ 962,258.92

Month Cash Flow per Fund					
	General Fund	G & M Fund	Youth	Drama	All Funds
Available Cash & Inv Previous Month **	\$ 226,311.44	\$ 661,115.18	\$ 8,352.16	\$ -	\$ 895,778.78
Revenue - Current Month	\$140,617.91			\$ 293.92	\$ 140,911.83
Expenses - Current Month	\$ 72,685.95			\$ (400.00)	\$ 72,285.95
Net Gain/Loss	\$ 67,931.96	(\$1,451.82)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ 66,480.14
AvailableCash & Inv. @ Month End	\$ 294,243.40	\$ 659,663.36	\$ 8,352.16	\$ -	\$ 962,258.92

Recap of Cash & Invest. - All Funds:		Balance 12/31/2023	Balance This Month
Checking account :			
General Fund	110100	\$123,727.70	\$116,735.76
G & M	210100	-\$81,406.40	(\$42,014.97)
Youth Fund	310100	\$5,373.92	\$8,352.16
Drama	510100	\$10,843.41	\$7,792.24
Checking Account:		\$58,538.63	\$90,865.19
G&M UBS CD Purchase	210110	\$710,884.32	\$747,662.20
General Fund Petty Cash		\$41.81	\$54.31
Mission Trip CD Acct - Premier	210400	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Yr End - GF Contributions Receivable		\$2,060.00	\$0.00
Yr End - Memorials Receivable		\$0.00	\$0.00
Genl - Premier MM Reserve	110200	\$50,964.41	\$51,326.75
Genl - MIF MM Reserve	110210	\$1,048.03	\$1,052.23
Genl - Premier MM Investment	110250	\$193,867.36	\$193,867.36
G & M - Premier MM	210200	\$99,163.54	(\$55,983.87)
		\$345,043.34	\$190,262.47
Total Cash & Investments		\$1,116,568.10	\$1,038,844.17

General Fund - Cash Available		
	Balance 12/31/2022	Balance This Month
Total Cash	\$ 371,709.31	\$363,036.41
	\$ 371,709.31	\$ 363,036.41
Less: Restricted Funds	\$ 67,742.77	\$68,797.01
General Fund Balance (Shortage)	\$ 303,966.54	\$ 294,239.40

Saint Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Proposed 2025 Budget
General Operations Fund

Accounts	2025 Proposed Budget	2024 Actual	2024 Budget	2023 Actual
INCOME				
CONTRIBUTIONS				
GENERAL CONTRIBUTIONS				
General Fund Contributions	\$516,850	\$504,622	\$530,100	\$521,404
Holiday Contributions	\$20,000	\$22,313	\$16,700	\$14,392
Total GENERAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$536,850	\$526,935	\$546,800	\$535,796
OTHER INCOME				
Building Use	\$41,150	\$35,216	\$27,000	\$22,851
Miscellaneous Receipts	\$6,850	\$60,345	\$5,815	\$6,986
Total OTHER INCOME	\$48,000	\$95,561	\$32,815	\$29,837
Total INCOME	\$584,850	\$622,496	\$579,615	\$565,633
EXPENSES				
NOAH TEAM				
PERSONNEL	\$460,766	\$404,909	\$442,364	\$352,619
COMMUNICATIONS	\$6,900	\$6,400	\$6,750	\$4,832
OFFICE OPERATIONS	\$16,175	\$15,474	\$16,200	\$15,496
TECHNOLOGY	\$2,250	\$2,000	\$3,150	\$2,650
PROPERTY	\$146,560	\$141,251	\$151,790	\$133,229
STEWARDSHIP	\$5,750	\$5,692	\$6,200	\$6,363
OTHER PROGRAMS	\$2,250	\$314	\$3,700	\$1,452
Total NOAH TEAM	\$640,651	\$576,040	\$630,154	\$516,641
PETER TEAM				
BENEVOLENCE	\$26,000	\$24,501	\$26,000	\$24,000
SOCIAL MINISTRY	\$2,000	\$728	\$2,500	\$754
WORSHIP & MUSIC	\$29,000	\$23,994	\$30,600	\$14,247
HOSPITALITY	\$4,200	\$2,817	\$4,000	\$2,643
Total PETER TEAM	\$61,200	\$52,039	\$63,100	\$41,644
MOSES TEAM				
CHRISTIAN ED	\$11,500	\$4,143	\$13,000	\$10,474
Total MOSES TEAM	\$11,500	\$4,143	\$13,000	\$10,474
Total EXPENSES	\$713,351	\$632,222	\$706,254	\$568,759
Income minus Expense	(\$128,501)	(\$9,727)	(\$126,639)	(\$3,126)