



Annual Reports

2023

Congregation Council Members 2024-2025

2025	2024
<i>Laureen Greathouse</i> Worship & Music	<i>Sarah Mariott</i> Hospitality
<i>Jennifer Howard</i> Youth	<i>Melissa House</i> Council President
<i>Ken Tsuchiyama</i> Council Vice President Property	<i>Steve Hansen</i> Stewardship & Finance Treasurer
<i>Melanie Ortman</i> Learning	<i>Jen Yamin</i> Council Secretary

Rev. Jennifer Michael
Pastor

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Dear Members and Friends of St. Timothy Lutheran Church,

Grace and peace to you from God, our Father and from our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. As we reflect upon the past year, it is with gratitude and joy that I present to you this annual report. Together, we have journeyed through the challenges and blessings, and it is a privilege to share with you the highlights of our ministry and the faithfulness of God in our midst.

Worship and Spiritual Growth:

Our worship services have been a source of inspiration and spiritual nourishment for our congregation. This year we began the practice of providing a Service of Healing on the 5th Sunday of the month (which averages out to one per quarter). We also held mid-week Lenten worship focused on “What is faith?” and our Easter services hosted over 240 people. During Advent, we moved our mid-week service online via Facebook which was well received. Additionally, the Saturday evening worship service time was changed to 4PM. And as usual, throughout the year, our musicians and choirs have provided uplift and joy within our worship services, especially with preparing a weekly “call to worship” and also increasing the number of services when the handbell choir plays.

A renewed vigor in our Adult Faith Formation classes began at the start of the year as I led the study on the Beatitudes. Then, other facilitators took over with studies on the book of Jeremiah. A new, or rather re-newed, class for young adults with disabilities called EMPOWER got off to a great start as well. Our Youth Faith Formation also saw an increase in participation when we began our Confirmation Class which has a total of 7 confirmands working through a 2-year program.

Additional opportunities for spiritual growth have come with the return of our Sunshine Girls Bible Study group facilitated by Sue Petersen. We have also expanded our St. Timothy Lutheran family by welcoming 13 new members this year. So overall, 2023 has been a time of learning more about who we are in our sanctuary and what we can learn through our educational programs and other small group gatherings.

Community Outreach:

In line with our commitment to serve our community, we have actively participated in various outreach initiatives. Throughout the year, St. Timothy Lutheran was represented in places like our local government meetings and press events, with other clergy colleagues in ecumenical events, and also serving on both synodical and churchwide ministry committees to keep our congregation connected with the wider church.

Additionally, we have worked to get new ministry initiatives started including the Tool Lending Library, Blessing Box, and various opportunities to provide in-kind gifts for local charitable groups. Through these activities, we strive to live out our call to love and serve our neighbors as Christ has loved and served us.

Youth and Family Ministries:

Our vibrant youth ministry is “small, but mighty” with dedicated volunteers helping to bring everyone together for fellowship and spiritual formation. In 2023, we hosted several events

through the year that have been a true source of joy and hope for the future. From Faith Formation to youth group activities, we are nurturing the faith of our younger members and creating a welcoming space for them to grow in their relationship with Christ. Special events and retreats have strengthened the bonds within our church family and provided meaningful connections for our youth.

Stewardship and Financial Report:

We express our heartfelt gratitude for the generous support of our congregation. Through your faithful stewardship, we have been able to maintain our church facilities, support various ministries, and contribute to the wider mission of the church. The financial report is available for review, and we appreciate your continued commitment to sustaining the work of St. Timothy Lutheran Church.

Challenges and Opportunities:

While we celebrate the successes of the past year, we are not without challenges. The uncertainties of the world around us remind us of the need for steadfast faith and reliance on God's guidance. In this coming year, we will have some decisions to focus on regarding our building usage and property management. But, as we face the future, we do so with confidence, knowing that God is with us, and our shared commitment to the mission of Christ will guide us through whatever lies ahead.

Looking Ahead:

As we embark on a new year, let us continue to be a community of faith, hope, and love. May our worship be a reflection of our gratitude, our outreach a demonstration of Christ's love, and our ministries a testimony to the transformative power of the Gospel. Together, let us press on in our journey of discipleship, trusting in the promise that God is making all things new.

In conclusion, I want to express my deep appreciation for your partnership in the ministry of St. Timothy Lutheran Church. Your prayers, support, and participation have made a significant impact, and I am excited about the possibilities that lie ahead for our congregation.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

In Christ's service,

Rev. Jennifer S. Michael

St. Timothy Lutheran Church Treasurer's 2023 Annual Report

Financial Summary as of December 31, 2023

Profit & Loss	YTD Actual	Budgeted	Over/Under \$
<i>Gross Giving</i>	\$419,940	\$334,200	\$85,740
<i>Gross Expenses</i>	\$376,233	\$378,684	\$(2,451)
Net Ordinary Income	\$43,707	\$(44,484)	\$88,191

Balance Sheet Summary

Current Assets

<i>Checking General</i>	\$100,457
<i>Special Designated Funds Acct.</i>	\$24,700
<i>Discretionary</i>	\$3,719
<i>Maintenance Reserve Fund</i>	\$22,514
<i>Men of St. Timothy</i>	\$5,477
<i>Blue Birds</i>	\$2,202
Total	\$159,069
<i>Church Growth Fund</i>	\$166,510
<i>Brokerage Account</i>	\$100

Liability

<i>Long Term Mortgage</i>	\$1,427,788
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Special Fund Summary

<i>Tool Lending Library</i>	\$521
<i>Youth Fund</i>	\$11,028
<i>Hospitality</i>	\$5540
<i>Outreach</i>	\$5000
<i>Nursery Attendant</i>	\$2556
<i>VBS Special Fund</i>	\$210
<i>Stewardship and Finance</i>	\$5432
<i>Property Committee</i>	\$12,200
<i>Worship and Music</i>	\$15,025

Learning Annual Report 2023

Pk-6 Grade Faith Formation: January through May we had classes that included music with Mr. Alex and a craft with Ms. Janel. It was a good format since attendance is small and all of the kids could be together. Special Events: April 2- Palm Sunday and April 9- Easter Egg Hunt. Rally day was September 10 and had good attendance. Many families registered their children prior. September through December had two classes; prK-2nd with Ms. Janel and 3rd-5th with Ms. Heather. Attendance has been around 10 kids each week. Having the confirmation class has really helped attendance.

7-12 Grade Faith Formation: January through May had no class for this age group. These students were invited to attend the adult class. From September through December, 6th through 9th graders are attending Confirmation class (see more information below). Older youth are invited to be in the adult class.

Adult Faith Formation: Bridget Radford and Pastor co-taught this class from January through May. They studied the book of Matthew. In the fall there was a change due to Pastor Jennifer teaching the Confirmation class. Bridget Radford started the class and then Kate Thomas took over. They have done a study of Jeremiah. There is regular attendance of 10 to 12 adults.

EMPOWERED! This class started in January. It has been a fantastic addition to the classes we offer. Rick Yamin leads the class.

Confirmation: Pastor and Janel worked on compiling a list of Confirmation age students. After talking with families, all interested students and parents met with Pastor on August 6. Pastor Jennifer gave an overview of what to expect and that Thomas Aben would be assisting her in teaching this class. Seven students started class in September. One student is a ninth grader and she will be Confirmed in the spring of 2024. The other six will have Confirmation class for two years and be Confirmed in the spring of 2025.

Men's Bible Study: There was no Men's Bible Study this year.

Women's Bible Study; WELCA Zoom Bible study started this fall. Sunshine girls started back in June. It meets twice a month and is led by Sue Peterson.

Cradle Roll: There is currently no Cradle Roll being sent.

VBS: No VBS for 2023.

February 19- five children had their first Communion

May 14- graduating High School students were given Bibles and there was a small reception.

June 11- Learning was at the Time and Talent fair sharing what we do and had a nerf gun game.

February and October Fundraisers- Learning provided an auction basket for both of these churchwide fundraisers.

Nursery Attendant- No nursery attendant was hired, but volunteers have been organized by Laureen since April

2023 Outreach Annual Report

The Outreach committee continued its mission of service to our congregation and the greater community in 2023. The committee is grateful for its members and even more grateful for our congregation and their unending response to various outreach projects.

The following projects were accomplished in 2023:

- Hosted Beer & Hymns at Half Batch with Matt Steinhauer as our leader twice
- Provided dinner for The Room in the Inn in March
- Red Cross Blood Drive March and July
- Lenten food drive for Gallatin Cares
- Cooking Class April 23rd in our kitchen – Chef Laura Hagen
- May 1st World Labyrinth Day ‘Walk at 1:00’
- Nashville Pride Parade June 24th
- Tool Lending Library ‘soft opening’
- Little Free Library book collection
- Participated in Time and Talent Fair
- Collected food items for Sumner Resource Center the month of August
- Helped Grace Place celebrate their 8th Birthday by collecting their 8 top needed items
- Worked with the Fundraising committee on Parent’s Night Out Event x 2
- Trinity HOPE fundraiser – Envelope collection – collected \$1,055
- Installed Blessing Box for community use in November
- Created new bulletin board in Narthex

Respectfully submitted,
Melissa House

ST. TIMOTHY COMMITTEE 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Property Committee

The Property Committee reports another productive year. Members include Baker Kirkpatrick, Steve Elbert, Janet Eisenmenger, Sue Petersen, Ron Grove, Lee Johns, Paul Ramsey, Mary Gauerke, Greg Blakemore, Patrick Eisenmenger, Russell Marriot

Silent Auction basket provided for February fundraiser

Restrooms near Narthex painted

Altar closet door trimmed to fit

Repaired wall and painted the robe storage closet in the Narthex

Repaired duct work and wiring for large AC unit. Rocks piled around new sheet metal so wildlife cannot enter.

Striped parking spot for delivery in back lot

Exterior doors to storage closet repaired

Repaired the drinking water fountain in hall near Narthex

Altar steps taped with white for prevention of tripping/falling

Narthex closet doors repaired

Backflow repaired

Founder's Hall lighting repaired

Exterior and interior lighting repaired/replaced as needed

Founder's Hall carpet spot cleaned

Striped "no parking" lines painted on front lot

Scheduled repair on fire sensors and kitchen hood to comply with fire marshal

Women's bathroom bulbs replaced.

Doorbell repaired

Blessing Box installed

Exterior ramp railing repaired

Yard cleanup days in October and November

Security light installed in front parking area

Monthly elevator emergency phone checked

New exterior light installed outside Community Room entrance

Founder's Hall ceiling repaired and painted

Founder's Hall walls painted

Silent Auction basket provided for October fundraiser

Exterior sign in front of church refaced with new sign panel

Janet Eisenmenger, Contact Person

**WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE
ANNUAL REPORT
2023**

On behalf of the Worship & Music Committee, it is my privilege to compile this report and reflect on a year of ministry at St. Timothy during 2023.

Handbell music continues to resound under the leadership of Alex Domeier. New members and new music this year have brought a beautiful and distinct musical element to worship at St. Timothy. The bells are always appreciated, but are especially loved at Lent/Easter and Advent/Christmas.

The sanctuary choir continues to excel. Always at the ready, this group is faithful to work hard in order to provide meaningful music moments in worship. The choir sings year-round, but always goes above and beyond for Easter and Christmas. The December concert “Sing We Now of Christmas” was well attended and received in Founders Hall.

At my prompt as committee chair, we have had discussions about several worship elements, hymns in particular. There are differing opinions about hymn choices – some prefer the hymns be more traditional while including new songs in order to be musically progressive. Where/when the congregation sings in the service has also been addressed – should there be singing during communion and, if so, what style and length should those songs be? There is an ongoing exchange of views about what is not only appropriate, but what is the desire of this congregation for engaging and meaningful worship. At my request, and with approval of Executive Council, my title was changed in May from Music Director/Organist to Choir Director/Organist. I requested this change as I no longer wanted to be responsible for the congregational music that is being chosen. Other worship elements discussed were the possible return of the Common Cup, abbreviated vs. full bulletins, altar decor, sanctuary appearance, sound system needs, and more. Lastly, the committee regularly reviews bulletins from a variety of churches to see what others are doing and to get ideas about how we can be more relevant with worship practice.

The Saturday worship time was evaluated via a poll of those who attend that service. The time choices on the poll were 4:00, 4:30, or to keep the service at 5:30. There was also an option for “I will attend regardless of the time.” The question has always been whether or not to adjust the time earlier in order for congregants to get back home before dark. The consensus gravitated to a 4:00 start time and it seems to be working well for this season.

The committee worked to resolve the dripping candle wax issue at Christmas Eve services. New Advent candles (oil instead of wax) were purchased to prevent any dripping on the altar area. New candle holders for the congregation were provided as well, keeping the pews and floor wax free.

Our expenditures in 2023 were frugal and somewhat minimal. Other than piano tunings and organ maintenance there were no large purchases during the year. Concerning music designated funds, we have uses for all the account balances and will keep you updated as those plans progress. We were especially blessed to receive a \$15K estate gift that will enrich our worship and music ministry and the live streaming of services.

Finally, I am grateful for the unfailing support and encouragement for the Worship & Music Ministry.

Keith Christopher
Choir Director/Organist
Worship & Music Chair

ST. TIMOTHY LUTHERAN CHURCH
2023 Annual Report
MOST – Men of St. Timothy

Men of St. Timothy (MOST) was formed to be an extension of our congregation and all men of the church are welcome to participate in meetings and functions. Our meetings are held at the Hendersonville Cracker Barrel on the fourth Saturday of each month with an 8:00am starting time.

MOST maintains a checking account at Edmonton State Bank (The former Sumner Bank and Trust) and all correspondence goes to the church office.

Our accomplishments for the year :

- Men of Most organized and cooked Easter breakfast for the congregation on April 9th. This year, we did not charge for the breakfast but left a basket for free will gifts.
- A church wide yard sale was held on April 29. MOST assisted in the setup and tear down of the event as well as cooking and selling hot dogs for those that attended. We collected \$174.00 and that money was turned in to the committee that was in charge of the yard sale.
- Cleaned a storage area for the Rotary Club to place their meeting banners and supplies.
- MOST members packed and loaded a trailer of household items for longtime church member Evelyn Drake. Evelyn moved to an assisted living facility in Indiana to be closer to her son.
- At the October 21st Oktoberfest, MOST furnished and cooked the brats and hot dogs for the event. We also helped in setup, serving, and cleanup.
- MOST was asked to help with the December 4th Women's Dinner and eleven members stepped up to volunteered and assist. The extra help made the setup and cleanup go very well.
- Worked with the Property Committee painting the bathrooms in the Narthex
- Participated in two yard cleanup days held in October and November.

Submitted to Council January 01, 2024
Baker Kirkpatrick, Treasurer