Lord of Life
Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



Annual Congregation Report
Annual Meeting, November 22, 2026

1005 St. Nicholas Drive, North Pole, AK 99705
(907) 488-6720
e-mail: office@lordoflifeak.com
www.lordoflifeak.com

Table of Contents

Lord of Life Lutheran Church Cover Page 1
Table of Contents 2
2026 Congregational Annual Meeting Agenda 3
2025 Congregational Annual Meeting Minutes 4
Treasurer Committee Reports 6
Financial Secretary's Report 7
Carol Dahl 7
Balance Sheet (January 1 – November 9, 2026) 8
Balance Sheet (January 1 – November 9, 2026) 9
Profit and Loss Statement (As of October 31, 2026) 10
Profit and Loss Statement (As of October 31, 2026) 11
2027 Proposed Budget 12
Pastor's Report 13
David Ingram 13
Vice President's Report 14
Tina Holland 14
Secretary's Report 15
Ranae Browning 15
Member at Large's Reports 16
Evan Keil 16
Margi Ungrodt 16
Kyle Renner 16

Lord of Life Lutheran Church
2026 Congregational Annual Meeting Agenda

November 22, 2026, at 11:45AM AKST

Call to Order

Devotion – Intern Pastor David Ingram

Qualifications for a Quorum (25%)

Minutes of the 2025 Annual Meeting –

Financial Year-end Statements – Mary Mills / Samantha Aleshire

Recognition of those concluding council service in 2026

- President: Vacant
- Vice President: Tina Holland
- At Large Member: John Dart
- At Large Member: Margi Ungrodt
- Appointed At-large member: Kyle Renner
- Financial Secretary: Carol Dahl

Recognition of those continuing council service in 2027

- Secretary: Ranae Browning
- Treasurer: Mary Mills/ Aleshire
- At-large member: Even Keil

Nomination Committee - Evan Keil

Nominees: (Call for any nominees)

- President: Tina Holland, _____
- Vice President: Kyle Renner, _____
- At- Large Member: Damien Cooper, _____
- At- Large Member: Eric Peterson, _____
- At- Large Member: Carol Dahl, _____

New Business:

- Election of 2027 Church Council Members and Financial Secretary
- Approval of the 2027 budget
- Suggestions for 2027 local mission support
- Ministry Accounts/Vanco Giving
    - Appointment of Auditing and Nominating Teams
        - Auditing Team:
            - Eileen Dubowski(1 Year Left)
            - Ramouna Sandbo (2 Years Left)
            - Dianna Lindhag (1 year left)
- Nominating Team (3 people, 1 outgoing council member, 1 yr term):
- Appointment of Delegates to Synod Assembly (2 People)
- Worship Committee
- Alter Guild

Adjournment and Benediction

LORD OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH
2025 Congregational Annual Meeting Minutes
Sunday, November 16, 2025

The meeting is called to order by President Becky McElveen at 11:40 AM. Devotions by David Ingram. A quorum is established with nineteen present and five online via Zoom.

Minutes from 2024 Annual Meeting are presented.

Motion: (Eileen Dubowski, Jo Schackman) Motion to accept the "Congregational Annual Meeting Minutes" of November 24, 2024.

24 in favor/ 0 opposed/ 0 abstention. Motion carries.

Treasurer Report

Mary Mills, Treasurer, provided year-end financial report. Mary expressed her appreciation to Diana Lindig for her help during the transition. All questions answered.

Motion: (John Dart/Janice Robertson) Motion to accept the year-end financial report.

24 in favor/ 0 opposed/ 0 abstention. Motion carries.

Concluding Council Members Recognition

President – Becky McElween
Vice President – Brent Strickland
At-Large Member – Eric Peterson

Continuing Council Members Recognition for 2026

Secretary – Ranae Browning
Treasurer – Mary Mills
Financial Secretary – Carol Dahl
At-Large Members – John Dart, Evan Keil, Margi Ungrodt

Unfilled Council Positions for 2026

President

New Business

Nomination and Election of Officers

Nominations from the floor for President and Vice President requested. No nomination for President. Nomination and election of Tina Holland to be 2026 Vice President.

Motion: (Janice Robertson/John Dart) to nominate Tina Holland as Vice President.

24 in favor/ 0 opposed/ 0 abstention. Motion carries.

Auditing Committee for 2026

Ramouna Sandbo
Jo Small
Diana Lindhag

Motion: (Eileen Dubowski/Kaylee Lindhag) to nominate Ramouna Sandbo, Jo Small, and Diana Lindhig for the Auditing Committee.

24 in favor/ 0 opposed/ 0 abstention. Motion carries.

Nominating Committee for 2026

Becky McElween

Motion: (Jo Schackman/Heather Markel) to nominate Becky McElween for the Nominating Committee.

24 in favor/ 0 opposed/ 0 abstention. Motion carries.

Appointment of Delegates to Synod Assembly

Curt Renner and Margi Ungrodt volunteer with Evan and Dixie Keil as alternates.

Motion: (Jo Schackman/John Dart) Nominate Curt Renner and Margi Ungrodt for Synod Assembly with Evan and Dixie Keil as alternates.

24 in favor/ 0 opposed/ 0 abstention. Motion carries.

Local Benevolence Support

Discussion held and nomination to support Bread Line, The Door, Fairbanks Rescue Mission, and the Fairbanks Community Food Bank.

Motion: (Jo Schackman/Heather Markel) to accept local benevolence support to include Bread Line, The Door, Fairbanks Rescue Mission, and the Fairbanks Community Food Bank for 2026.

24 in favor/ 0 opposed/ 0 abstention. Motion carries.

Discussion held and nomination made to support Bread Line with 2025 benevolence instead of Helping Alaska who is no longer in business.

Motion: (Eileen Dubowski/Jo Schackman) to redirect designated 2025 benevolence to Bread Line.

24 in favor/ 0 opposed/ 0 abstention. Motion carries.

Proposed Budget for 2026

Mary Mills, Treasurer, presented proposed budget for 2026. All questions were answered.

Motion: (Eileen Dubowski/Dixie Keil) to accept the proposed budget for 2026.

24 in favor/ 0 opposed/ 0 abstention. Motion carries.

Announcements

Computers need to be upgraded to Windows 11 as Windows 10 is obsolete. Obtain estimate and submit to Council for approval.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted by: Ranae Browning



Treasurer Committee Reports

Financial Secretary's Report

Carol Dahl

At the annual meeting of the congregation, a Financial Secretary is elected. The term of office is one year and may be in succession. The duties of the financial secretary are to maintain records of all contributions and make regular donation statements to each giving member of the congregation. This is accomplished through an easy-to-use computer program.

Thanks to the tellers who count the offerings, record donations regularly, and provide copies of checks and cash donations with names attached, as well as approved in-kind donations. Thanks also to the office manager who provides copies by email as needed. Direct deposit (EBT) reports are generated monthly and emailed by the treasurer to the financial secretary.

Year-end statements are mailed in January of the following year. Reports issued at other times may be emailed if that is preferred. If desired, please provide your email address. If mistakes are found in your statements, please let me know, and they can be fixed.

This church is blessed by many faithful and generous givers. I appreciate the opportunity to serve the congregation of the Lord of Life in this position, from near and far.

Lord of Life Lutheran Church

Balance Sheet

January 1-November 9, 2026

	Total
Income	
41000 Designated Income	$100.00
41004 Natural Gas	250.00
41006 Education	482.90
41011 Memorial Fund	500.00
41013 Savings	7,475.00
41019 Youth	482.90
41020 Misc - Short Term	22,355.00
41021 Loving Families	486.37
Total for 41000 Designated Income	**$32,132.17**
49501 Tithes - In Person	51,558.54
49502 Tithes - Online	12,635.63
49503 Thrivent Grant	662.00
49504 Tithes - Designated Savings	50.00
49505 MIsc Income	44.95
Total Income	**$97,083.29**
Gross Profit	**$97,083.29**
Expenses	
60700 Benevolence Giving	
60703 ELCA Mission Support	1,967.83
Total for 60700 Benevolence Giving	**$1,967.83**
61800 Conferences and Meetings	
61802 Conference Travel	749.00
Total for 61800 Conferences and Meetings	**$749.00**
62400 Designated Expenses	
62404 Fuel	-300.00
62407 Evangelism	341.25
62418 Worship & Music	500.00
Total for 62400 Designated Expenses	**$541.25**
62500 Dues and Subscriptions	$2,326.15
62501 Accounting Software Fees	2,155.95
Total for 62500 Dues and Subscriptions	**$4,482.10**
63300 Insurance Expense	
63302 General Liability Insurance	2,219.76
Total for 63300 Insurance Expense	**$2,219.76**
63800 Misc Expenses	240.00
64900 Office Expense	1,702.92
66000 Payroll Expenses	$1,574.56
Taxes	2,896.03
Wages	53,709.27
Total for 66000 Payroll Expenses	**$58,179.86**
67200 Facility Maintenance & Supplies	661.26

Lord of Life Lutheran Church

Balance Sheet

January 1-November 9, 2026

	Total
68600 Utilities	
68601 Electric	2,749.00
68602 Natural Gas	6,739.67
68603 Cellular Phone	3,366.16
Total for 68600 Utilities	**$12,854.83**
Total Expenses	**$83,598.81**
Net Operating Income	**$13,484.48**
Other Income	
70200 Interest Income	30.55
Total Other Income	**$30.55**

Lord of Life Lutheran Church

Profit and Loss

As of Oct 31, 2026

	Total
Assets	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
10000 Undesignated Checking - 0026	7,271.08
11000 Designated Checking - 3594	$1,702.30
11001 Altar Guild	0.00
11002 Benevolence	0.00
11003 Building Fund	0.00
11004 Natural Gas	3,437.52
11006 Education	1,357.82
11007 Evangelism	0.00
11009 Interior Cluster	0.00
11012 Missions & Social Ministry	0.00
11016 Sunday School	48.55
11017 WELCA	0.00
11018 Worship & Music	0.00
11019 Youth	4,521.93
11020 Misc - Short Term	-266.18
11021 Loving Families	500.00
11022 Grant	2,892.75
11023 50th Anniversary Fund	600.00
11024 Memorial Fund	865.00
11025 Congregation Benevolence	1,000.00
Total for 11000 Designated Checking - 3594	**$16,659.69**
12000 Debit Card Checking - 3607	2,479.40
13000 Savings - 0862	44,692.96
Total Bank Accounts	**$71,103.13**
Other Current Assets	
14000 Employee overpayment/loan	0.00
15500 Prepaid Insurance	0.03
QuickBooks Tax Holding Account	1,121.16
Total Other Current Assets	**$1,121.19**
Total Current Assets	**$72,224.32**
Total Assets	**$72,224.32**

Lord of Life Lutheran Church

Profit and Loss

As of Oct 31, 2026

	Total
Liabilities and Equity	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
20000 Accounts Payable	2,710.55
Total Accounts Payable	**$2,710.55**
Other Current Liabilities	
21100 Direct Deposit Liabilities	0.00
23000 Line of Credit	0.00
24000 Payroll Liabilities	$0.00
AK Unemployment Tax	5.38
Employee Pension Contr	0.00
Federal Taxes (941/944)	404.56
Total for 24000 Payroll Liabilities	**$409.94**
Direct Deposit Payable	0.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	**$409.94**
Total Current Liabilities	**$3,120.49**
Total Liabilities	**$3,120.49**
Equity	
30000 Opening Balance Equity	30,560.06
32000 Unrestricted Net Assets	24,789.97
Net Income	13,753.80
Total Equity	**$69,103.83**
Total Liabilities and Equity	**$72,224.32**

	Actuals 12.31.25	2026 Approved Budget	2026 Actual to 10.29.26	2026 Estimated Budget to 12.31.26	2027 Proposed Budget
INCOME:					
DESIGNATED OFFERING	28,995.37	28,666.73	31,385.59	37,662.71	30,000.00
GENERAL OFFERING	78,795.60	90,632.31	62,401.68	74,882.02	111,450.00
REBATES		0.00	44.95	53.94	
VISION/GROWTH FUND	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Total:	**107,790.97**	**119,299.04**	**93,832.22**	**112,598.66**	**141,450.00**
EXPENSE:					
Mission Support (Benevolence)					
ELCA Mission Support	10,062.91	9,240.00	1,967.83	8,800.00	9,000.00
Local/Other (cong must vote)	2,800.00	2,940.00		2,800.00	2,800.00
Total:	**12,862.91**	***12,180.00***	***1,967.83***	***11,600.00***	***11,800.00***
PASTORAL:					
Salary	16,974.26	18,891.26	15,515.94	18,619.13	20,000.00
Housing Allowance	18,000.06	19,014.83	15,230.82	18,276.98	18,000.00
SECA	2,586.22	2,732.11	2,188.34	2,626.01	2,800.00
Pension/Health/Disability	2,244.60	1,489.27	1,574.56	1,889.47	2,100.00
Health Stipend	1,499.94	1,584.55	1,269.18	1,523.02	1,600.00
Continuing Ed/Travel/Collegium	3,165.00	2,142.40	0.00	0.00	2,000.00
Mileage Reimbursement - IRS RATE	0.00	0.00		0.00	
Total:	**44,470.08**	**45,854.42**	***35,778.84***	***42,934.61***	**46,500.00**
PROGRAM					
Vision/Growth	0.00	1,500.00		0.00	1,500.00
Education (Adult)	0.00	200.00		0.00	200.00
Evangelism	700.00	1,000.00		0.00	1,000.00
Missions & Social Ministry	2,485.41	100.00	320.00	384.00	100.00
Stewardship	0.00	100.00		0.00	100.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00		0.00	
Youth Program	645.03	250.00	341.25	409.50	1,000.00
Worship & Music	89.07	600.00	500.00	600.00	600.00
Total:	**3,919.51**	***3,750.00***	***1,161.25***	***1,393.50***	***4,500.00***
ADMIN & GENERAL					
Advertising		0.00		0.00	
Facility Maint/Janitorial/Supplies	3,687.15	5,162.01	661.26	793.51	5,100.00
Insurance - Liab, Prop, Work Comp	7,364.00	7,399.17	1,612.54	1,935.05	9,000.00
Mortgage / Line of Cr + Int / Debt		0.00		0.00	
Office Expenses	1,344.83	1,392.85	1,652.93	1,983.52	1,500.00
Conferences / Meetings	908.90	1,272.46	1,115.82	1,338.98	1,300.00
Utilities	14,321.32	16,500.00	12,092.82	14,511.38	16,500.00
Professional Services				0.00	
Miscellaneous	1,312.33	550.00	240.00	288.00	0.00
Dues and Subscriptions	3,554.40	4,099.69	2,006.15	2,407.38	4,100.00
Acctg / Bank / On-Line Fees	2,321.06	2,100.00	2,155.95	2,587.14	2,100.00
Total:	**34,813.99**	***38,476.18***	***21,537.47***	***25,844.96***	***39,600.00***
PAYROLL EXPENSE					
Janitor	2,825.00	2,611.35	2,270.00	2,724.00	2,800.00
Nursery (1 Lead)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Office Assistant	13,990.00	15,000.00	11,655.25	13,986.30	26,000.00
Pianist/Organist ($125/Sunday - $100/Sub)	4,625.00	4,050.00	2,750.00	3,300.00	4,050.00
Payroll Taxes	3,251.29	3,237.82	2,732.51	3,279.01	5,000.00
Treasurer ($100/mo)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,200.00
Total:	**24,691.29**	**24,899.17**	**19,407.76**	**23,289.31**	**39,050.00**
Grand Total Budget (Expenditures)	**120,757.78**	**125,159.77**	**79,853.15**	**105,062.38**	**141,450.00**

Pastor's Report

David Ingram

As I reflect on this past year, I am filled with gratitude for this congregation, for God's continued presence among us, and for the shared ministries that bring us together in faith and service. It is a blessing to walk alongside you as we continue to learn, grow, and discover the ways God is at work in our lives and in our community.

One of the things I am especially thankful for this year is the way my speaking more openly has been received. Your willingness to listen, offer grace, and make room for honest conversation has been meaningful to me. I believe that when we are able to share more openly with one another, we create opportunities for deeper relationships, greater understanding, and a stronger community rooted in God's love.

As I look back on my learning through school this year. I have been especially impacted by the prayers and poetry found in the genre of lamentations. These words remind me that faith does not require us to hide our sorrow, questions, or struggles. Instead, we should bring our whole selves before God, trusting that God remains present with us through both joy and hardship. That God wants us to help us, heal us, and renew us when we are struggling so much we must cry out. This learning continues to shape how I understand pastoral ministry and how we accompany one another through the many seasons of life.

Looking toward the coming year, I am excited to see where God will lead this family of believers. There is much we will continue to learn, many opportunities to serve, and new ways for us to share God's love with our neighbors.

Thank you for your faith, your partnership, and the many ways you participate in our shared ministries. Above all, I give thanks to God for bringing us together and for the grace that continues to guide us forward. The Peace of Christ be with you all.

Vice President's Report

Tina Holland

This church year has been one of learning, growth, and transitions. I started my church year late (in March), as an appointee to the role of Vice President. It is my sincere hope that I have served the congregation well. During the year, the council has focused on several areas.

It was in our hearts to attempt to look at how we could grow the church while honoring and keeping our faithful current congregation. We began by sharing our stories. It's important to share how the Lord has touched our lives, so that others can see themselves in our congregation and feel encouraged to join us.

Our ministries have provided comfort, security, and nourishment to our community. I personally have felt comfort from our prayer ministry. Travelers far from home found a safe place to rest their heads on our church grounds through our Harvest Host ministry. Many students were provided meals that fueled their bodies and prepared their minds for school. Our generous congregation made it all possible. These are only a small portion of how our congregation has touched the church and our community. There are too many to list them all, but the council plans to continue spotlighting our ministries and their impacts.

Our volunteers who have shared their time, resources, and gifts have enriched our church. Those of you who have answered the call for service and are sharing your gifts are making us a strong congregation. The bishop left encouraging words about our church during his visit.

We as a church have overcome adversity and weathered transitions. We have seen the retirement of our Office Manager, who supported us during previous times of transition and uncertainty. We undertook a successful recruitment and have welcomed an Office Manager to support us in our next phase of growth and opportunity. We have worked on establishing and updating our procedures for running the office and conducting church business, identified key roles and responsibilities, and have worked towards developing a vision and strategic plan for areas of ministry based on the congregation's desire to serve and provide resources. We have also updated equipment in the office and the sanctuary.

We have celebrated the church's 50th anniversary. Fifty years of community and fellowship, worship and praise, supporting our community, and generosity is something to be thankful for indeed.

Secretary's Report

Ranae Browning

As the Secretary of Lord of Life Lutheran Church in 2026, I am responsible for the minutes that constitute the official record of the proceedings of the Church Council. Draft minutes of open sessions are distributed with meeting materials in advance of meetings. This binder is made available to the voting members and will be preserved permanently in the archives.

During this chapter of my life, I have found that this is an excellent way to be involved without the fear of being unable to follow through with other commitments. I have truly enjoyed working with and spending time with the council members. The current council has demonstrated to me the leadership of members who are willing, not only to give time and money, but are willing, to make, at times, difficult decisions and even risk a little criticism from other members.

Prospective council members need not have experience in church leadership. (Here is where you get that experience.) There is no sex or age requirement. There is no education, career, or financial qualification. Genuine faith and willingness to speak and work are what we need and ask.

I am very happy to be a small part of a Connected, Sustainable Church of which we are raising the bar – together! We are done with the "Covid-culture" and ready to reignite our congregation by resuming activities, additional bible studies, retreats, and more.

I am proud to be involved with Church members who have a genuine love for Jesus Christ and his church, who are concerned about God's will - the mission and direction of their church, who are willing to speak up and work for the betterment of this community, the family of faith called Lord of Life Lutheran Church. Thank you for allowing me to be your 2026 Council Secretary.

Member at Large's Reports

Evan Keil

This past year on council has been hectic, but I strive to take care of our family. I continue to monitor the teller arrangement on Sundays and pull down my share of Serving on Sunday jobs. Recently, I participated in interviews for church office secretary positions and have attended monthly council meetings. My next hurdle will be finding volunteer(s) to serve on council. We are few but mighty! It has been rewarding to see the enthusiasm and end results of so many participants at Lord of Life Church.

Margi Ungrodt

I am concluding my 2-year term as an at-large member this year 2026. I was asked to fill in the rest of a term for a member who wasn't able to continue shortly after 2025 started. I have attended council meetings both in person when we're in the area and by phone call when we are out of town. Thank you to everyone who has worked hard on council and those who have prayed for council.

Kyle Renner

Over the last year I have several key takeaways from my attendance and service at Lord of Life Lutheran Church in North Pole: 1) We often rely on an aging and dwindling number of volunteers for our organizational health; 2) we exhibit a warm and welcoming environment to new attendees; and 3) our church plays a healthy role in supporting our community.

(1) - We need existing leaders in our church to personally invite members of our community to participate more in the functioning of the church, including on Sunday worship. The duties being filled by those who volunteer at Sunday worship are neither complex nor do they require significant training, in most cases they simply require a willingness to not be a passenger.

(2) We are blessed with many warm and welcoming members, and this aspect needs to be acknowledged and appreciated. There is a reasonable contingent of members who come and mingle with each other before and after service over coffee and snacks. Church leadership should identify which church members or regular attendees are not yet spending time mingling with each other informally and personally invite them to begin doing so, as well as take the time to sit with them to facilitate their sense of community. We should also expand our efforts to welcome in new members, both among military service members as well as others who move to our community.

(3) Our church should continue to seek ways for the facility and our congregation to be a blessing to our community - gatherings of local groups who need a safe space, a place for children to play and develop character, and a conduit for community improvement through funding, expertise, and connections/relationships that resolve challenges or disputes.