

Happy  
Sunday



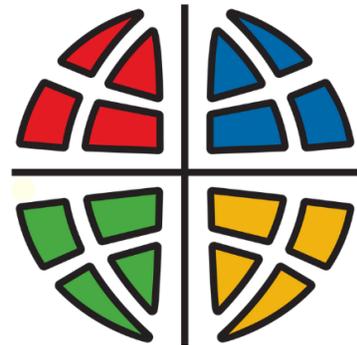
**Good news to share**

**2024**

**Annual Report**

**Annual Meeting  
February 2  
2 PM, 2025**

St. John Lutheran Church  
1001 Central Ave.  
Ocean City, NJ 08226  
609-399-0798  
[stjohnlutheranoc.org](http://stjohnlutheranoc.org)





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Website: [stjohnlutheranoc.org](http://stjohnlutheranoc.org)  
Email: [office@stjohnlutheranoc.org](mailto:office@stjohnlutheranoc.org)

January 2025

## ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING 2025

Dear Congregation Members,

Our annual congregation meeting will be held on Sunday, February 2nd at 2:00 pm. Due to the outbreaks of the different viruses and the unpredictable shore winter weather, this meeting will be held via Zoom. Please use the Zoom link below to join us. If you do not wish to Zoom in, you may dial in on any phone and follow the prompts. See the phone information below. The Annual Report will be posted on the St. John website and is attached to this email. A limited number of printed booklets for the Annual Meeting will be available in the church narthex for those who have no internet access.

If you do not receive our St. John emails, please visit the website and submit your contact information so that we can keep you informed and send you the meeting link electronically. Hope to see you on Sunday, February 2nd at 2:00 pm.

Make sure you use these Zoom links to connect with us:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/3246939424?pwd=Y1BOaTBaZkphOEIwV0hURitiSUczdz09>

Meeting ID: 324 693 9424      Passcode: Luther

Or

**Dial in** - 929-205-6099

Meeting ID: 324 693 9424

Passcode: 460810

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## 2024 CONGREGATION COUNCIL AND OFFICERS

President ..... Diane Bechtold  
Vice President ..... Judith Bailey  
Secretary ..... Rick Adamson  
Treasurer ..... Janice Mruz  
  
Financial Secretary ..... Rick Adamson

### COUNCIL MEMBERS

Rick Adamson	Judith Bailey	Diane Bechtold	Deb Beuttler
Tasselett Chea	The Rev. Kevin Hilgendorf	Alissa Lee	Justin Odell
Andrew Sykes	Burt Wilkins, III	Karl Yunghans	

### STAFF

Interim Pastor ..... The Rev. Kevin V. Hilgendorf  
Ministries of Music ..... Julia L. Henrich  
Church Administrator ..... Kristen Mulraney  
Custodian ..... Robert Gannon

### STANDING COMMITTEE LIAISONS AND OTHER LEADERS

Christian Education ..... Alissa Lee  
Stewardship/Evangelism ..... Glen Stewart  
Finance ..... Justin Odell  
Memorials ..... Susy Wilkins  
Property ..... Karl Yunghans  
Social Ministry ..... Deb Beuttler  
Staff Support ..... Executive Board  
Worship ..... Judith Bailey  
Servant Coordinator ..... Susy Wilkins  
Fellowship Coordinator ..... Alissa Lee  
Ecumenical Council Liaison ..... Diane Bechtold

### OFFICERS OF THE WOMEN OF THE ELCA (WELCA)

Chairperson ..... Deb Beuttler  
Secretary/Treasurer ..... Susy Wilkins  
Liaison to Council ..... Deb Beuttler

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH  
1001 CENTRAL AVENUE, OCEAN CITY, NEW JERSEY 08226  
ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING – VIA ZOOM SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2025

**AGENDA**

1. Meeting called to order by Council President, Diane Bechtold
2. Opening Prayer
3. Report of the Teller (quorum present)
4. Adoption of the Agenda
5. Remarks by Congregation President, Diane Bechtold
6. Report of the Nominating Committee
7. Balloting
8. Approval of Minutes – February 4, 2024
9. Report of the Reverend Kevin V. Hilgendorf
10. Report of the President of Congregation Council
11. Report of the New Jersey Synod Assembly
12. Report of the Standing Committees
13. Report of Organizations and Other Reports
14. Report of the Treasurer
15. Report of Elections
16. 2025 Proposed Spending Plan
17. Old Business
18. New Business
  - Additional roof
19. Acknowledgements
20. Closing Devotions

## REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Committee Members: Lee Funk, Mike Kern, Janet Yunghans, Sonya Adamson

The Committee's task is to seek out individuals to serve on Council to replace those leaving Council and to replace current members of the Nominating Committee. Care is taken to have representation of the entire congregation. According to our Constitution we may have up to 12 members. Completing 1st 3-Year Term in Feb. 2025, eligible **and agreed** to run for a 2nd 3 Year Term:

Alissa Lee  
Drew Sykes  
Diane Bechtold

Nominated and agreed to run to replace Karl Yunghans who completed his 2nd 3-Year Term in Feb. 2025 (and no longer eligible):

Joe Hagan

Still Needed: 2 members for 2025 Nominating Committee

(Karl Yunghans, leaving Council, is nominated as part of the new Nominating Committee)

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING – FEBRUARY 4, 2024

Pre-meeting information: Glen Stewart informed the Congregation via Zoom that the meeting would be recorded to ensure accuracy of minutes, discussions and votes.

President Karl Yunghans called the meeting to order at 2:05PM.

Pastor Hilgendorf opened the meeting with prayer.

Report of the Teller: A quorum of 21 members was present.

Adoption of the Agenda: A motion by Judy Bailey with second by Janet Yunghans to adopt agenda as presented. Approved.

President's Comment: Karl Yunghans stated that the church is in very good shape and noted the following: a church administrator has been hired and is being given more responsibilities, the building is in great shape and new members have joined. He would like to see more community events and use of facilities such as the summer art class. He also highlighted the Waves of Hope involving South Jersey Lutheran churches and a proposed combined VBS program with Grace Lutheran, Somers Point.

Report of the Nominating Committee: Janice Mruz referred to the report. Mike Kern and Lee Funk are completing their terms and are not eligible for re-election and one two-year term remains following the resignation of Al Lewis. Justin Odell and Burton Wilkins III have agreed to serve three-year terms each. Nominations from the floor: None. Motion by Lee Funk, second by Susy Wilkins to close nominations. Approved. Vote by show of hands: Justin Odell – approved. Burton Wilkins III – approved. Motion by Diane Bechtold, second by Judy Funk to approve Rick Adamson, Judy Bailey and

Deb Buettler who have agreed to a second three-year term. Approved. Vote for Nomination committee – Lee Funk, Mike Kern, Sonya Adamson and Janet Yunghans – approved.

Approval of minutes: Motion to approve minutes of February 5, 2023 congregation meeting by Lee Funk, second by Carol Piechoski. Approved. A correction to the Annual Report listing of 2023 officers was made to include Diane Bechtold as Secretary with the clarification that the Financial Secretary is not an officer position.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Hilgendorf continues to give and receive joy in the "Happy Sunday!" greeting that he extends and receives through the days of the week. Sunday is the victory day and each day is a reflection of the relationship we have with Christ and other people. He attended the NJ Synod Assembly via Zoom and noted that the entire day's activities are still available on the NJ Synod app and suggested viewing it could be a way to get ideas on how to reach out in mission. Those interested in attending the Assembly on May 11, 2024 should let the Treasurer know as soon as possible. This will be a one-day in-person event.

Committee Reports: (All reporting committees submitted written reports found in the Annual Report.)

Christian Education: Alissa Lee reported there is an increased number of children participating in Sunday School. VBS had 17 young participants. Grace Lutheran, Somers Point will be invited to combine with St. John for the 2024 VBS themed Camp Fire Light.

Fellowship and Faith: Glen Stewart referred to the written report and invited participation, whether speaking or just listening to the discussions.

Evangelism/Stewardship: Rick Adamson referenced the many activities outlined in the written report. It was noted that based on attendance at Last Hurrah presentations we are meeting a need. Suggestion was made to utilize Thrivent Action Team resources more to help fund outreach projects.

Finance – Janice Mruz, Treasurer, requested formation of a Finance committee and selection of a chair. Per her report she highlighted timely payment of taxes, filings and Synod reports, 2020, 2021 and 2022 audit completion and the hiring of the part-time church administrator. She acknowledged Justin Odell as our Wells Fargo financial advisor.

Property: Lee Funk pointed to the list of last year's property upgrades and repairs in his written report. He thanks the congregation for their support in accomplishing these many endeavors. Immediate project: fire door replacement. Future project: new roof.

Social Ministry and WELCA: Deb Buettler reviewed Atlantic City Rescue Mission cookbook sales, craft show and missions at Christmas; all very successful. Janet Yunghans and Kristen Mulraney will have charge of this year's fall craft show. She also noted WELCA was privileged to host funeral meals for three members.

Worship and Altar Guild: Judy Bailey emphasized worship happens every Sunday and is at the center of the circle of what we do with God guiding, leading and being with us throughout. She thanked Pastor Hilgendorf for always being there and Julia Henrich for her leadership in worship through music. It was noted that St. John will not have a Maundy Thursday service however members can join that service at Grace Lutheran, Somers Point. St. John will have a Good Friday service.

Other reports:

Fellowship: Refreshments are offered the first Sunday of the month coordinated by Alissa Lee.

Audit: Committee members need to be chosen by Council to complete the audit for 2023.

Memorials: No report.

Designated Funds: These Funds are listed on page 26 of the 2023 Annual Report. The Finance Committee will be tasked with Fund consolidation as appropriate.

Ecumenical Council: Diane Bechtold noted that St. John continues to contribute to the work of the Council and welcomes volunteer members and helpers with the food cupboard and clothes closet.

Treasurer's Report: Janice Mruz, Treasurer highlighted the list of accounts, the generosity of the congregation resulting in ending 2023 with more money than last year. Despite giving being below last year the Wells Fargo accounts benefitted from an improved market. Overall, the difference of \$517.39 in the Operating Account based on 2023 income and expenditures was the lowest in memory.

Old Business – None

New Business – Council tasked with appointing an Audit Committee.

2024 Proposed Spending Plan: Three reasons for increase in Spending Plan: Annual payment of \$10,582.68 of \$52,000 interest-free loan for HVAC replacement and upgrades, rising insurance costs and proposal to increase church administrator's hours to two days per week. Building maintenance is a large cost item and the mid-week Bible Study added to Parish Education account. Our pledge to the Synod for mission support was based on the Synod's recommendation. Comment was made that Synod mission support comes back to us in many ways such as helping in securing our interim pastor and eventually other ordained leadership. Despite the proposed increase of \$30,000 to the plan above last year's giving, the Treasurer noted that St. John has money in the operating account (\$144,229.95), which will help. It was also noted that Council is discussing moving money to CDs to augment income. Participants were reminded that the Spending Plan is fluid and gives us options to move money as needed. The Council is entrusted by the congregation to use the monetary resources in the best way possible to fulfill our mission by asking God's guidance. Unlike a budget, the plan is not etched in stone. Motion to approve the presented Spending Plan by Rick Adamson, second by Judy Bailey. Approved.

Acknowledgements: President Yunghans thanked and acknowledged Lee Funk and Mike Kern for their years on Council.

Pastor Hilgendorf closed with devotions and thanks to those who have served, continue to serve and newly elected to the Council.

Reorganizational meeting of Council will be held Monday February 5, 2024 at 6:00 PM via Zoom.

Meeting adjourned at 3:12 PM  
Respectfully submitted by  
Diane Bechtold, Council Secretary

## INTERIM PASTOR'S REPORT

Beloved in Christ, "Happy Sunday!"

I never get tired of saying this blessed greeting! Count your blessings, name them one by one. The Lord be with you!

*Living God, thank you for the people present in my life and those I remember in my past. I am grateful for the ways my faith journey has crossed with theirs and that you have brought them into my life. People to comfort and teach me, to nourish and sustain me - people to hold me, to uplift and support me. I pray that I can be a blessing in their life the way they are in mine. In Jesus Christ's name I pray. Amen.*

My 2024 blessings: Campfire Light Vacation Bible School closing program; Happy Sundays Children talk; learning to sing tenor in the choir; attending Blue Christmas Worship at Grace Lutheran Church with council president, Diane Bechtold; Wednesday Bible Study at noon with Peter Sollazzo and others during Lent and during the fall with Diane Bechtold and others, Beyond Certainty; Donated blood to the Red Cross at St. John; Discovered that there is an Hispanic Congregation at St. John; Waves of Hope participation; was a patron at the St. John Craft Show; attended the 2024 NJ SYNOD Assembly.

I am grateful for many things. I would like to extend my gratitude especially to our Eucharistic ministers who assist in the distribution of Holy Communion: Judy Bailey, Rick Adamson and Barbara Piston; Faith and Fellowship; Evangelism and Stewardship; Council Leaders past and present and the Worship Committee.

In addition, I appreciate your admirable Christmas cookie "creations" (yummy tummy) and greeting gifts from your hearts.

Church's Anniversary Prayer

*We give you thanks, O, God, our creator for you transcend the boundaries of space and time yet you are willing to make your home in human hearts. We are the temple of your presence. Gather us to share with others the promise of baptism, to hear your word, to be nourished by the body and blood of your son and to praise your name with all the company of heaven. Send us to be waves of hope as the body of Christ in the world to proclaim your love in word and action, to invite others into the promise of baptism, and to glorify your name in our daily living. Pour out the abundance of your blessings on us to your glory and honor and to the service of all people in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Let the church say, "Amen."*

Love to +Christ,

Interim Pastor Kevin

## STATE OF THE CHURCH REPORT

*Average Weekly Attendance:* January thru May 2024 -- weekly average was 48  
June thru December 2024 – weekly average was 56

*Baptisms:* Dorothy Mary Garcia, June 9, 2024  
Giovanna Lucia Darcusio, June 30, 2024  
Lucy Rose Garza, August 4, 2024

*Baptized Members:* 169

*Memorial, Graveside Services and Hospice Visits:*

+Andrew Keith Burman

*Memorials:*

+Andrew Keith Burman  
+Brenda Green

## REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONGREGATION COUNCIL

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

from Vespers Prayers  
Evangelical Lutheran Worship

To all Members and Friends of St. John Lutheran Church, Ocean City, NJ,

We continue to be led down paths where we can't see the ending. But looking back we can see the many blessings we have received and shared in 2024.

In addition to what you will find in the various reports contained herein, I hope you will take time to thank God for this community of faith, which you help sustain.

As we are often reminded by Pastor Kevin we – individuals in community – are the church. Love is our command and purpose. In partnership with God a way is possible. Be joyful in our greeting of “Happy Sunday!”.

May we continue to join our hearts, hands and prayers in living lives of worship and service sharing the abundance God has put in our midst for God's praise and glory and the good of all people.

Asking for God's help and guidance, Diane Bechtold

## 2024 NJ SYNOD ASSEMBLY REPORT

### *How Can I Keep from Singing?*

On May 11, nearly 400 NJ ELCA members and visitors gathered in assembly at the Grounds for Sculpture in Hamilton, NJ, for business, inspiration, learning, and worship. Our assembly was marked by a spirit of joy and unity in the gospel of Jesus Christ.

What follows are highlights of our day together.

Our theme, *How Can I Keep from Singing?*, based on the hymn of the same name, grounded us in reality and hope. Assembly musician, Brian Conover (Reformation, Absecon), accompanied us in this and several other songs throughout our day. In our closing worship, Brian was accompanied by synod treasurer, Jim Harris on the trumpet. In addition, Pastor Frank Watson led us in procession on the bagpipes. Music carried us through the whole day!

We adopted significant updates to our synod's constitution and bylaws. These can be found on our synod [website](#). Secretary Blake Scalet helped us understand the rationale for these updates and is available to help you with updating your congregation's constitution and bylaws as well.

We elected members of the synod to various positions of leadership. Thank you to all who stood for election and congratulations to those elected.

The following people were elected to synod council:

The Rev. Joseph Grauman (St. Stephen, Woodbury)  
Gail Gugliotti (Holy Trinity, Hasbrouck Heights)  
Jaime Howey (Zion, Egg Harbor City)  
Fred Humcke (Zion, Long Valley)  
The Rev. James Krombholz (St. Paul, Edison)  
The Rev. Danielle McCleary (St. Matthew, Secaucus)  
Wayne Olsen (St. Paul, Ridgefield)  
Wanetta Phillips (Prince of Peace, Denville/Rockaway)  
Aretha Richardson (Trinity, Jersey City)  
The Rev. Eric Trozzo (St. Matthew, Moorestown)  
The Rev. Kimberly Vaughn (Christ our Redeemer, Jersey City)

The following people were elected to serve as voting members to the 2025 Churchwide Assembly and will join Bishop Bartholomew, Secretary Blake Scalet, and Vice-President Arundel Clarke:

Janasia Carter (Young Adult, Christ our Redeemer, Jersey City)  
Sharla DeLawter (St. Paul, Ridgefield)  
Agnetta Fasasi (Youth, Redeemer, Trenton)  
Andrea Gerard (St. Stephen, Woodbury)  
Michael Hozik (St. James, Folsom)  
The Rev. Sara Lilja (Holy Communion, Berlin)  
The Rev. Psomi Psomas-Jackloski (St. Andrew, Parsippany)  
Damian Vince (Holy Counselor, Vernon/Sussex)

Members elected to the Consultation Committee are:

Jack Bryant (St. Stephen, Woodbury)  
The Rev. Haydee Colon-Hernandez (St. John, Passaic)  
Susan Homza (Reformation, West Long Branch)  
Taylor Latourette (Holy Trinity, Manasquan)  
The Rev. Michael Linderman (Redeemer, Ramsey)  
Cassandra Mack (Holy Trinity, Red Bank)  
The Rev. Margarete Ouji (First, Montclair)

Members elected to the Committee on Discipline are:

The Rev. Ramon Collazo (Santa Isabel, Elizabeth)  
William Emerson (St. Mark, Oaklyn)  
The Rev. John Mack (Holy Trinity, Red Bank)  
The Rev. Carol Lindsay (retired, St. Stephen, South Plainfield)  
Laura Sanchez (Bridge of Peace, Camden)  
Joy Serena (Cape May, Cape May)  
Emanuel Smith (Redeemer, Trenton)  
The Rev. Pamela Werner (St. James, Folsom)

A new Bishop's Challenge was launched for 2024-2025 – *Caretakers of God's Good Creation*. A team of superheroes introduced us to the ways we contribute to the destruction of God's good creation and ways we might begin to live more gently on this earth. Every congregation was given a tree seedling to plant as well as resources to help accept the challenge to try one new practice this year to care for creation. You can find those resources [here](#), as well as a tool to report how your congregation is rising to the challenge.

We adopted the 2025 Mission Spending Plan of \$2,054,300. The planned income to support this plan comes mostly from your generosity in sharing mission support. Once again in this plan, 50% of the mission support you share is passed along to the ELCA churchwide expression. Thank you for your ongoing support for the work we do together.

Two resolutions were adopted that have implications for our life together. [Resolution 1](#) calls for the synod council to establish a task force for prison and re-entry ministry. [Resolution 2](#) calls for the synod to stand in solidarity with those calling for ceasefire, humanitarian relief, and release of hostages and prisoners in the Holy Land and provides resources to do so.

Finally, our day concluded with the reception of Santa Isabel as a newly organized congregation of the ELCA, NJ Synod. It was a delight to officially welcome this community after 16 years of mission in Elizabeth, including outreach to support immigrants at the detention center in Elizabeth. Pastor Ramon Collazo and members of Santa Isabel led the assembly through the Grounds for Sculpture to a tent for a bilingual Spanish-English worship service. Pastor Collazo preached, Santa Isabel was officially received, members of anniversary congregations and recently retired pastors served communion, and all of us left singing praises to God.

Our assembly made me proud to be a member of the NJ Synod. Thank you to all who made the day such a powerful witness to the gospel. The recorded livestream is on our [YouTube channel](#). Next year we will gather June 5-7 at the Hilton East Brunswick – mark your calendars now and plan to be there!

With a song still in my heart,  
Bishop Tracie L. Bartholomew

## **MINISTER OF MUSIC REPORT**

Psalm 95:1

*Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.*

The Bible contains over 1,000 references to music. We were meant to make music. Praise God for another year of music and ministry at St. John. The choir, bell choir, and music & worship committee are dedicated groups of wonderful musicians and we are blessed to have them. The choir practices every week and performs every Sunday. The bell choir practices for many weeks to get ready for the Christmas Eve performance. Music & Worship meets regularly and bases their work on the liturgical calendar. Judy Bailey picks out hymns based on the lectionary and Sundays and Seasons. We are blessed to have an amazing team.

Musically yours,

Julia Henrich

## **Church Administrator's Report**

Dear Council and Congregation,

I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to serve as Church Administrator at St. John, and I want to express my sincere appreciation for the guidance and patience that the council and committee members have extended to me over the past twenty months.

### **Overview of Hours and Responsibilities**

I began my role in May 2023, initially working five hours per week. In early 2024, we agreed to increase my hours to a maximum of fourteen per week, working up to two days per week as needed. While I have not yet reached the fourteen-hour limit, I anticipate approaching this threshold in 2025 as my responsibilities continue to expand.

## Key Responsibilities

As Church Administrator, my duties include, but are not limited to:

- Answering the phone, checking messages, and returning calls
- Managing the church's mail and email communications
- Assisting with weekly worship services by creating the Order of Worship insert, including a current calendar and event descriptions
- Regularly updating the church's website and Facebook page
- Coordinating with Council members, including the Rev. Kevin Hilgendorf, via phone and in-person meetings
- Sending thank-you notes for donations and postcards or emails to visitors
- Notifying other churches when a member receives communion at St. John
- Recording weekly attendance
- Creating and printing event signage, bulletin board updates, and messages on the narthex board
- Updating the church directory and outside marquee
- Assisting with the Annual Report

## Special Projects and Community Engagement

Throughout the year, I had the opportunity to assist with several special events and initiatives:

- **Red Cross Blood Drives (May 19 and November 24)**  
I worked with Janice Mruz to organize these successful events. Inspired by their impact, I became a Red Cross Ambassador, allowing me to volunteer at additional drives throughout the year.
- **Craft Show and Bake Sale (September 21)**  
Collaborating with Janet Yunghans and Deb Beuttler, I helped organize and promote this event, which raised \$1,662 to support St. John and the OC Food Cupboard.
- **St. John Grounds Cleanup (October 18)**  
I volunteered alongside many church members to help with the fall cleanup.
- **Easterseals Friendsgiving (November 20)**  
I worked with Janice Mruz and the Easterseals staff to support this meaningful event.

## Goals and Future Plans

One of my ongoing goals is to enhance visitation to St. John. By utilizing eye-catching emails, flyers, and social media posts, I hope to remind both our members and the broader community that St. John is a welcoming space for all. I look forward to continuing this work and finding new ways to engage our congregation and neighbors.

Thank you again for the privilege of serving this community. I look forward to another year of growth, connection, and service.

In peace and with gratitude,  
Kristen Mulraney  
Church Administrator

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

CHAIRPERSON: Alissa Lee

LIAISON TO CONGREGATION COUNCIL: Alissa Lee

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Alissa Lee, Janice Mruz, Julia Henrich, & Pastor Kevin

COMMITTEE FUNCTION – MISSION STATEMENT: To educate our members in the Christian faith. We encourage our members to grow their faith and increase their knowledge of God's Love and Jesus' teachings.

We have approximately 12 students who attend Sunday School. The students' ages range from 4 years old to 13 years old. We offer two classes: PK-5<sup>th</sup> Graders and a Confirmation class for 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Graders. Sunday School is in session from September through May on the third floor. Sunday School occurs during the 9:30am Worship Service. At the beginning of the Service, Pastor calls students up to the altar for a brief lesson on the Gospel and dismisses them to their Sunday School classes. Students return to the Worship Service during the Offertory Procession.

We also offer Vacation Bible School for one week during the summer for students in Kindergarten – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade. Our **Camp Firelight** Vacation Bible School, that took place the week of July 29<sup>th</sup> – August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, was a great success! We had 11 kids join us for a week of fun. We learned about facing our fears and trusting in God. Through Bible stories, crafts, music, science experiments, and yummy snack crafts, we learned that God will lead the way, share wisdom, give us peace, and spark joy. The Bible verse that followed us through the week of VBS was: "**Whenever I'm afraid, I put my trust in you.**" (Psalm 56:3). This verse teaches us that we can always rely on God to be with us. Special thanks to Janice Mruz, Sheri Apple, Diane Bechtold, Deb Buetler, Apple Sykes, Barb Piston, Carol Piechoski, Wendy Kern, Mike Kern, Sharon Doyle, Julia Henrich, & Pastor Kevin for all of your help in making VBS so much fun for the kids!

An adult Bible Study is offered on Wednesdays at noon during the school year (September to May). It takes place in the lounge and on Zoom. This is led by Pastor Kevin. The four Bible Studies held during 2024 were "Path to Crucifixion" and "Resurrection" by Pete Sollazzo, "Scripture & Nature: Teachers of Faith" from *Gather Magazine*, and "After Certainty", also from *Gather Magazine*.

Thank you to all who help make our Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, and Bible Study a great success! New members are **ALWAYS** welcome to join us in educating our youth in Sunday School and Vacation Bible School. Everyone is welcome to join us at Bible Study, Sunday School, or Vacation Bible School.

SUBMITTED BY: Alissa Lee

## FAITH & FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

Exploring our Gospel heritage in Lutheranism, and engaging participants in understanding the faith (past, present and future).

“Faith and Fellowship” is our Adult Forum which replaced “St John 101” during the pandemic. The need to see and hear each other expressing our concerns and hope during that time fostered our online meetings. It was a great comfort to be able to be in community (digitally) again, and now our discussions continue weekly on Zoom.

Throughout this past year the group has had lively discussions based on a number of thought-provoking and meaningful studies, including:

- *Civic Life and Faith*, an ELCA sponsored study where we wrestled with questions like:
  - How is God's invitation to discipleship lived out in a democracy?
  - How do Christians address controversial civic issues?
  - What are Lutheran views on civic life?
  - What's faith-based living got to do with civic life?
  
- The Bible Project – An online Bible Study of St. Paul's letter to the Ephesians led by Dr. Tim Mackey. The Study overview states that in Ephesians, Paul summarizes what the most important apocalyptic event in history is: Jesus' life, death and resurrection and the gift of the Holy Spirit to bring about a new creation right here in the present world. It is a deep dive into Paul's letter in its first Century context which is reshaping our perception in significant ways.

Our group meets weekly on Tuesday nights at 6:30PM by Zoom, and we invite all to join as they are able. Here's the Zoom meeting information:

Meeting ID: 324 693 9424

Passcode: Luther

Everyone is welcome to join in the conversation or just sit back and listen. As always it is our goal to grow in faith as we bond personally with one another in Fellowship.

Peace,

Rick Adamson and Glen Stewart

## EVANGELISM-STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Rick Adamson, Judith Bailey, Diane Bechtold, Freeman Chea, Pastor Kevin, Glen Stewart, and Susan Wilkins

This year, we continued to combine the Evangelism and Stewardship Committees, recognizing the natural alignment of our missions. Meeting monthly via Zoom, we regularly shared updates and recommendations with the Church Council, guided by prayer and a shared passion for serving God's mission at St. John.

### **The Cedar Fund: A Legacy of Faith and Stewardship**

One of the most inspiring ways God's grace is bearing fruit in our congregation is through our endowment fund, The Cedar Fund. Established by the Church Council with seed money and blessed with support from our congregation, the fund has grown through generous contributions—over \$20,000 this year alone.

Through initiatives like special pew envelopes, Temple Talks, and a progress “thermometer,” we are building toward a goal of \$500,000. While this milestone will take time, reaching it will allow us to sustain St. John's mission and ministry for generations, supporting key needs like pastoral leadership without depleting the principal.

### **Legacy Seminars: “The Last Hurrah”**

Our popular seminar series, *The Last Hurrah*, continued to be a blessing for our congregation. These sessions address critical end-of-life topics, empowering members to plan faithfully and responsibly. This year, we explored themes such as long-term care, dementia warning signs, and hospice misconceptions. Plans for 2025 include seminars on downsizing for life changes and legal legacy issues, helping us all to live lives of faithful stewardship.

### **A Global Connection**

We were blessed to reconnect with Pastor Bridget Gautieri, ELCA Wittenberg Center Coordinator in Germany. Her visit in August, where she preached and joined us for a reception, reminded us of our global church family. Her ministry updates and periodic newsletters continue to inspire us to think beyond our walls and support God's work in the world.

### **Waves of Hope: Strengthening Our Church Together**

In 2024, St. John took an active role in the New Jersey Synod's “Waves of Hope” initiative, a collaborative effort among the 13 churches in the South Shore Mission Cluster. This initiative is designed to bring congregational leaders together to address concerns, celebrate joys, and strengthen our ministries . . . not just to survive, but to thrive.

Our journey began with an initial meeting on January 6th at Grace Lutheran Church in Somers Point, followed by a September gathering at Zion Lutheran Church in Egg Harbor City. Between these larger meetings, St. John's Waves of Hope team, Pastor Kevin, Karl Yunghans, Janice Mruz, Diane Bechtold, Rick Adamson, Peter Sollazzo, and Glen Stewart, listened deeply to the needs and concerns of our congregation, reflecting on where we see God at work in our church and community. We conducted a congregational survey, sharing our findings both within St. John and with the larger Waves of Hope

group in September. As we move forward, we look ahead to our next gathering in February at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Wildwood, continuing this journey of faith and renewal together.

### **Action Teams: Faith in Action**

This year, we established the Action Team Committee, harnessing Thrivent Action Team funds to amplify our outreach. These funds supported a remarkable range of ministries, including:

- Vacation Bible School, Seafarers, school backpacks, Habitat for Humanity, and Newborn Kits
- Events like our Craft Fair, church grounds clean-up, and the Easterseals Friendsgiving Party (featuring a visit from Santa Claus)
- Outreach efforts like *Good Gifts*, a Red Cross Blood Drive and the “Feed the Northeast” food collection, where we exceeded our 500-item goal, unlocking a \$500 donation from Thrivent to the Ocean City Food Cupboard.

Altogether, Thrivent Action Teams provided over \$3,500 to further God’s work in our church and community.

### **Looking Ahead with Gratitude and Grace**

We are profoundly grateful for all that God has done through the family of St. John this year. Together, we have gathered, prayed, and acted to live out our mission statement: “Saved by grace through faith, to share God’s love.” As we move forward, let us continue to pray for guidance, give thanks for God’s abundant blessings, and let His grace inspire us to share His love with our neighbors.

To God be the glory, now and always. Amen.  
Peace, Glen Stewart

## **TREASURER’S REPORT**

2023 tax filings and forms were completed on time. Financial Reports were provided by Rick and myself to Council on a monthly basis throughout the year. The ELCA Annual Congregational Report, Forms A & C were completed on time.

The audit for the year 2023 was completed by mid-February of last year. An audit report is included in the 2024 Annual Report.

Justin Odell continues to handle our investments with Wells Fargo and graciously took on the task of Chairman for the Finance Committee.

In April of 2024 Church Council approved the purchase of 3 CD’s from Wells Fargo: one for \$40,000 from the Cedar Fund for a 9-month term and 2 CD’s for \$5,000 each for a 6-month term from the Music and the Youth Funds.

Respectfully submitted,  
Janice Mruz, Treasurer

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

CHAIRPERSON: Justin Odell

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Justin Odell, Chairperson; Janice Mruz, Treasurer; Rick Adamson, Financial Secretary; Andrew Sykes, Council Liaison; Burton Wilkins III, Council Liaison.

MISSION STATEMENT: We will ask God to help and guide us in the best use of the Church resources that we may achieve our Church's mission statement: Saved by grace through faith to share God's love!

The Finance committee set a plan to meet at a minimum on a quarterly basis. Meetings typically were held every other month.

Our first task at hand was discussing what to do with the \$50,000 Cedar Fund that was sitting in the bank doing nothing. We presented to Council investing \$40,000 into a 9-month CD with APR of 5.10% and two 6 month CDs for \$5,000 each with an APR of 5.25%. These proposals were subsequently approved by Council.

In November the 6-month CD's matured. We recommended to Council at the December 16th meeting to roll them into another 6-month CD. Rates have come down and two \$5,000 6 months CDs were purchased with an APR of 4.20%, leaving the interest of \$268.98 in the Operating accounts money market.

During other meetings we focused on financial issues surrounding fire safe doors, roof repair/ replacement needs and last but not least, property insurance coverage.

The 9-month CD matures on 1/16/2025. We have a proposal from Glen Stewart to invest the \$40,000 into a Thrivent Charitable Endowment.

During our December Finance Meeting we took the time to review the various investments and see if any changes were necessary. Upon our review and discussion, we agreed no changes were necessary and that we would stay the course based on each account's purpose.

As of the writing of this report, 12/17/2024:

- The Kyle-Breneiser Music Fund had a current value of \$80,754, up 11.1% YTD
- The Cedar Fund had a value of \$51,606, up 3.3% YTD
- The Parsonage Fund had a value of \$25,159, up 14.6% YTD
- The McFaul Fund had a value of \$19,932, up 3.5% YTD
- The Deaney Memorial Fund had a value of \$10,144, up 18.9% YTD
- The Pastoral Assistance Fund had a value of \$7,025, up 34.3% YTD
- The Payne Medical Fund had a value of \$4,251, up 35% YTD

Respectfully Submitted,  
Justin Odell

## PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Chairperson – Karl Yunghans

Liaison to Congregational Council – Karl Yunghans

Committee members - Mike Kern, Karl Yunghans, Rick Adamson, Lee Funk and Joe Hagan

Mission Statement - To maintain the worship space, to oversee the upkeep, safety and appearance of the building and grounds.

Achievements in 2024

- Repaired flat roof over Fellowship Hall and Sunday School rooms.
- Replaced asphalt shingled roof over the Sanctuary.
- Replaced doors leading into the sanctuary with fire rated doors per instructions from the Fire Marshall.
- Maintenance of outside church and parking lot grounds financed by a Thrivent Action Team.
- Repaired sensors to outdoor lighting.
- Replaced damaged ceiling tiles in Sunday School rooms.
- Repaired damaged pews in Sanctuary.

We partnered with AC Electric to have the work done for \$240,000 which will cost the church \$52,000 with no interest. Payments will be \$870.00 per month for 5 years. In 2024, we were energy efficient and state of the art ready for the future.

We cannot thank the members enough for their help, support and financial contributions this past year. With all of the church family working together we will grow the mission and ministry of St. John.

SUBMITTED BY: Karl Yunghans

## SOCIAL MINISTRY AND THE WOMEN OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF AMERICA (WELCA)

CHAIRPERSON AND LIASON TO COUNCIL: Deborah Beuttler  
COMMITTEE MEMBERS: members of St. John Lutheran Church

According to the bylaws set forth in the Constitution of St. John Lutheran Church, the Social Ministry/WELCA Committee will be responsible for the ongoing outreach of our family of faith reaching out with our resources to help the poor and comfort those in need.

We are grateful to the church council and our very supportive church family for their ongoing support of our events. Our committee members continue to send greeting cards to homebound members throughout the year. Thank you, Donna Rahn!

We worked with Red Cross again this year and hosted two successful blood drives. Many of our neighbors and members participated. Many thanks to Thrivent for advertising and providing lunches for our Red Cross workers and advertising at the November drive.

“Christmas in July” was celebrated for our Seafarers. We collected funds (\$385), clothes and goodies for the organization to be distributed to the seafarers at sea on Christmas.

In September, St. John held our 3rd Annual Community Craft Show which highlighted community crafters. The ladies and family members provided homemade desserts for the bake sale. The proceeds were donated to the Ocean City Ecumenical Food Cupboard (\$662) and our Capital Improvement Fund (\$1,000). This event continues to be so successful that it will be continue in September 2025! Any crafters interested, please contact Janet Yunghans or our church administrator, Kristen Mulraney.

In the fall, we partnered with Thrivent, who provided \$250 for food, and we hosted Easterseals with a “Friendsgiving” luncheon. The ladies provided decorations, homemade desserts and helped with clean-up. Our own Santa even visited! Thank you Mike Kern! It was a joyful and delicious event.

We finished the year with our Christmas Missions. This year again included our Thank Offering collection (\$565.00) which provides support for the ELCA Worldwide Women’s Missions and also our ELCA Good Gifts “Barnyard” project (\$475+\$250 from Thrivent). Please visit our website under missions for more information about any of these charities.

Respectfully Submitted, Deborah Beuttler, Chair and Janice Mruz, Co-Chair

WELCE FISCAL YEAR 2024	INCOME	DISBURSEMENTS
Opening Balance	\$865.91	
Year End Interest	\$0.12	
Thank Offering Collection	\$562.06	
ELCA Women's Mission		\$(565.00)
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$1428.09</b>	<b>\$(565.00)</b>
<b>BALANCE AS OF 12/31/24</b>	<b>\$863.09</b>	

## WORSHIP COMMITTEE

LIAISON TO CONGREGATION COUNCIL: Judith Bailey

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Richard Adamson, Sonya Adamson, Judith Bailey, Mary Bullock, Ada Henrich, Julia Henrich, Pastor Kevin

Worship is the center of all we do as children of God. Under the leadership of Pastor Kevin, Julia, our parish musician, and the Worship Committee the services of prayer, praise, and thanksgiving are planned for each season of the liturgical year.

Liturgy is defined as “the work of the people.” During the past year we have had the privilege and opportunity to worship (work) using 10 different settings of services for our worship. Some were familiar; some new, but we offered our praise to God.

Worship Committee meets regularly to ensure that all parts of the service follow the theme of the day as well as the theme of the season. Julia works hard to be sure that the choir anthem follows the theme set by the lessons for the day, the hymns, and of course, Pastor’s inspiring and thought-provoking sermon.

Many people work together to make worship happen. Each service is live-streamed on our website. A big thank you to Glen Stewart for his expertise to be sure that broadcast happens. A group of 6 willingly and enthusiastically serve as lay assistants. Many folks help to change banners and altar paraments, and be sure the altar is ready for the next service. This is a most important ministry here at St. John.

Pastor Kevin is always there to remind us of the importance of worship. Under his leadership, we have been able to grow in our faith and love for God and each other.

Our worship will continue to change and grow. We pray that God will always guide and direct us as we plan and offer our praise to Christ, our Lord and Savior.

O COME; LET US WORSHIP!!

SUBMITTED BY: Judith Bailey

## **FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE**

CHAIRPERSON: Alissa Lee

LIAISON TO CONGREGATION COUNCIL: Alissa Lee

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Judith Bailey, Rick Adamson, Janet Yunghans, Karl Yunghans, Susy Wilkins, Carol Piechoski, Glen Stewart, Tracie Balk, and Alissa Lee.

COMMITTEE FUNCTION – MISSION STATEMENT: To give the members and visitors of St. John an opportunity to socialize and discuss the Word of God over a cup of coffee and a delicious snack. Also, a treat that our youngest members look forward to each month.

We have Fellowship on the first Sunday of every month. The congregation enjoys socializing after service while enjoying delicious snacks and coffee.

Thank you to all the members of Fellowship who provide much appreciated treats for our congregation to enjoy. A special thank you to Judy Bailey for always making the coffee and putting it out for Fellowship. New members are always welcome to help us provide fellowship for our church family and visitors.

SUBMITTED BY: Alissa Lee

## **THE OCEAN CITY ECUMENICAL COUNCIL**

The Ocean City Ecumenical Council (OCEC) continues their mission to provide food and clothing to people in need. Their work is sustained by donations of non-perishable food items and clothing as well as monetary donations from the Ocean City community at large. Members represent various churches in Ocean City. Barb Piston is a representative from our church. Diane Bechtold from St. John is co-vice president of OCEC. Elaine Wilson and Carol Piechoski serves as active emeritus members having previously served as president of OCEC.

Thank you to St. John members for your overwhelming generosity in support of Feed the Northeast project by donating monetary gifts and 630 food items in October. In addition to these items OCEC received \$500 from Thrivent. An additional \$728 was donated as part of the shared proceeds from the Craft Show held this fall at St. John.

This past year the Clothes Closet located at 555 West Avenue gave out 18,306 items of clothing to 2,008 families. The Food Cupboard located at 501 E. 8<sup>th</sup> Street (alley entrance) gave food to 946 families, that number is up from the previous year.

Each church who is involved with OCEC can have 3 representatives; our church could have another representative. OCEC welcomes volunteers at the Food Cupboard or the Clothes Closet. If interested in volunteering or being a representative, please talk to Carol Piechoski or Elaine Wilson.

SUBMITTED BY: Carol Piechoski, St. John representative to OCEC

## DESIGNATED FUNDS DESCRIPTION

### **Cedar Fund**

This fund was created from our 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary in 2019 to be a placeholder for funds for the future and hopefully the calling of a pastor. These funds are unrestricted.

### **Deaney Memorial**

This memorial is to provide services for people who are disabled with special emphasis on the developmentally disabled.

### **Kyle-Breneiser Music Fund**

This fund is to provide music scholarships for members of St. John, as well as the enrichment of our music program.

### **McFaul Memorial**

This memorial is to provide a yearly pledge to St. John in the form of interest which it earns each year. It is designated for operating funds.

### **Parsonage Investment Fund**

This fund is to use the interest earned each year to supplement the Pastor's housing allowance.

### **Payne Medical Emergency Fund**

This fund is to be utilized as an interest free loan for terminally ill patients, their care and medications. The loan is to be paid back out of the patient's insurance proceeds.

### **Board Designated Fund**

This fund is to be utilized should the operating account for St. John fall below a level in which it cannot pay the bills to operating the church. These funds are unrestricted.

### **Capital Improvement Fund**

This fund is to be utilized to fund capital improvement projects for the building.

### **Lynn Ann Baker Fund**

This fund is to assist with the emergency medical expenses of children at St. John whose parents are having financial difficulty paying for said expenses.

### **Pastoral Assistance Fund**

This fund is to be used for pastoral assistance.

## **YEAR END AUDIT REPORT FOR 2023**

Audit Committee: Judy Funk, Mary Jane Bullock, Burt Wilkins, Auditors; Judy Bailey, Moderator  
Janice Mruz, Treasurer and Rick Adamson, Financial Secretary

We performed the audit as per the Financial Review Procedures. The following discrepancy was noted during the audit:

Category Discrepancy:

(1) One item (\$20) was placed in the wrong Earmarked Account. Total deposit was not affected.

All investment accounts were reviewed and found to be in order.

All insurance policies which includes property, umbrella and worker's compensation were reviewed and found to be in order and having proper coverage.

All payments were made on time.

The discrepancy was material in nature.

The Audit Committee recommended that any email approvals by Council for expenditures outside the normal expenses over \$1,000 are indicated in the monthly Council Meeting Minutes.

Audit includes records of the Congregation Treasurer and Financial Secretary. Funds audited included current, earmark, capital and member contributions. Verification was made of checking accounts, investments and member contributions. Congregational Report to the ELCA was filed on time. Taxes were paid and filed on time.

A Committee will need to be appointed for the audit for fiscal year 2024.

Respectfully submitted,  
Janice Mruz, Treasurer

## **2024 Update on Our Refugee Support for Bellor Vensus Chea**

For the last 3 years we have been supporting Bellor, who was a 3<sup>rd</sup> year medical student at Kahrkiv National Medical University in Kiev, Ukraine when the war broke out. She was forced to flee to Germany in February of 2022 and has spent this time going through the legal system to stay in Germany and finish school. As of January 2025, she has been denied, pending deportation sometime later this year. However, her refugee legal counsel has not given up and continue working for her to be granted to stay and complete her studies. As a refugee, Bellor cannot work. She has been living with friends and the kindness of others to help support her. St. John has pledged our continued support until the situation is resolved. Bellor is the niece of our member Freeman Chea.

## TREASURER'S REPORT 2024

FUND	BALANCE as of 12/31/2023	INCOME	DISBURSEMENTS	BALANCE as of 12/31/24
CAPITAL	\$ 11,491.04	\$ 5,143.00	\$ (6,335.00)	\$ 10,299.04
YOUTH FAITH & MISSION	\$ 5,395.92		\$ (5,000.00)	\$ 395.92
MISSION OUTREACH	\$ 717.31			\$ 717.31
CEDAR FUND	\$ 44,983.43	\$ 38,690.47	\$ (40,000.00)	\$ 43,673.90
ELCA Disaster Relief	\$ -	\$ 100.00		\$ 100.00
World Hunger		\$ 470.00	\$ (300.00)	\$ 170.00
Craft Show	\$ -	\$ 1,662.00	\$ (1,662.00)	\$ -
Music Account	\$ 5,779.72	\$ 1,299.47	\$ (5,614.95)	\$ 1,464.24
Lynn Baker Fund	\$ 693.00			\$ 693.00
Pastor's Discre. Fund	\$ 245.00		\$ (50.00)	\$ 195.00
Pastor's Gift	\$ 380.00	\$ 555.00	\$ (380.00)	\$ 555.00
Mission-Refugee Chea	\$ 727.00	\$ 5,640.00	\$ (6,100.00)	\$ 267.00
VBS Program	\$ 20.00		\$ (20.00)	\$ -
Seafarers	\$ 524.22	\$ 385.00	\$ (909.22)	\$ -
ELCA Good Gifts		\$ 375.00		\$ 375.00
Branches	\$ 45.00		\$ (45.00)	\$ -
VBS Missions	\$ -	\$ 256.89	\$ (256.89)	\$ -
Food Drive	\$ 100.00	\$ 20.00	\$ (100.00)	\$ 20.00
Welcome Flag	\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ (50.00)	\$ -
Newborn Kits	\$ -	\$ 380.00		\$ 380.00
Food Cupboard	\$ -	\$ 66.00	\$ (66.00)	\$ -
Other*	\$ -	\$ 1,182.00	\$ (1,182.00)	\$ -
Other*		\$ 2,250.00		\$ 2,250.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 71,101.64</b>	<b>\$ 58,524.83</b>	<b>\$ (68,071.06)</b>	<b>\$ 61,555.41</b>
*Other-deposited in wrong account, transferred to Operating				
CD's were purchased from Wells Fargo		\$ 40,000.00	Cedar Fund	
		\$ 5,000.00	Music Fund	
		\$ 5,000.00	Youth Faith & Mission Fund	
<b>OPERATING BALANCE AS OF 12/31/24</b>	<b>\$ 128,847.93</b>			
<b>WELLS FARGO INVESTMENTS</b>				
	12/31/2023	12/31/2024		
Payne Medical	\$ 3,182.21	\$ 4,097.82		
McFaul	\$ 20,125.26	\$ 19,679.00		
Board Designated Fund*	\$ 13,317.04	*funds moved to Cedar Fund		
Parsonage	\$ 21,985.60	\$ 24,953.53		
Pastoral Assistance	\$ 5,265.18	\$ 6,776.98		
Kyle-Breneider Music	\$ 74,011.65	\$ 79,542.16		
Deaney Memorial	\$ 8,570.59	\$ 10,043.68		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 146,457.53</b>	<b>\$ 145,093.17</b>		

## GIVING ANALYSIS AND SUMMARY

	Jan 1 - Dec 30, 24	Jan 1 - Dec 30, 23	% Change
<b>OPERATING INCOME</b>			
Special Envelopes	5,307.00	3,970.00	33.68%
Envelopes	121,746.00	107,648.00	13.1%
Plate	9,817.00	6,505.00	50.92%
Use of Facilities	3,720.00	6,640.00	-43.98%
Thrivent	1,129.00	1,830.00	-38.31%
Memorials - Undes	730.00	2,872.00	-74.58%
Amazon Smile	0.00	27.67	-100.0%
Other Income	21,339.85	11,096.92	92.3%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>163,788.85</b> **	<b>140,589.59</b>	<b>16.5%</b>
	<i>**includes \$19,000 donated for our new roof</i>		
	<b>SUMMARY</b>		
	<b>OPERATING ACCOUNT BANK BALANCE AS OF 12/31/23</b>	\$ 128,847.93	
	<b>OPERATING ACCOUNT</b>	Budgeted for 2024	
	<b>2024 INCOME</b>	163,788.85	
	<b>2024 Expenditures</b>	-179,720.92	\$ 171,388.66
	<b>DIFFERENCE</b>	<b>-15,932.07</b>	
	<i>*(INCLUDES \$30,050 FOR</i>		
	<i>NEW SHINGLE ROOF)</i>		

## 2025 SPENDING PLAN PROPOSAL

	Proposed Spending Plan 2025	Actual Expenses 2024	Proposed 2024	% Change
<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>				
Church Administrator	14,560.00	8,245.00	14,560.00	-43.37%
Internet Expenses	2,500.00	3,794.36	1,600.00	137.15%
Copier Service & Supplies	380.00	369.29	324.00	13.98%
Other Administrative Expense	500.00	1,991.78	200.00	895.89%
Office Supplies	1,000.00	737.41	384.01	92.03%
Conventions and Meetings	600.00	496.25	200.00	148.13%
Postage	250.00	218.17	300.00	-27.28%
Telephone	1,272.00	1,592.06	3,500.00	-54.51%
<b>Total ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>21,062.00</b>	<b>17,444.32</b>	<b>21,068.01</b>	<b>-17.2%</b>
<b>EVANGELISM</b>				
	200.00	205.83	200.00	2.92%
<b>FINANCE</b>				
Annual Report Certificate	55.50	55.50	85.00	-34.71%
Payroll Processing Fee	560.00	561.99	562.00	-0.0%
Fees and Expenses	50.00	198.36	350.00	-43.33%
Finance and Accounting Systems	650.00	649.00	649.00	0.0%
<b>Total FINANCE</b>	<b>1,315.50</b>	<b>1,464.85</b>	<b>1,646.00</b>	<b>-11.01%</b>
<b>MINISTRY</b>				
Ministry Books	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
Interim Pastor Addition Servs.	1,200.00	1,000.00	4,000.00	-75.0%
Interim Pastor Part-time	31,500.00	31,500.00	31,525.00	-0.08%
Interim Pastor Mileage & Tolls	3,500.00	3,256.25	3,500.00	-6.96%
<b>Total MINISTRY</b>	<b>36,250.00</b>	<b>35,756.25</b>	<b>39,025.00</b>	<b>-8.38%</b>
<b>MISSION SUPPORT</b>				
	14,000.00	13,132.00	12,300.00	6.76%
<b>PARISH EDUCATION</b>				
Pastor's Mileage	1,020.00	675.00	1,200.00	-43.75%
Confirmation/Communion	50.00	0.00	50.00	
Bible Study-Pastor	3,600.00	3,000.00	5,000.00	-40.0%
Vacation Bible School	500.00	117.59	550.00	-78.62%
Sunday School	250.00	207.84	400.00	-48.04%
Adult Education	20.00	109.85	100.00	9.85%
<b>Total PARISH EDUCATION</b>	<b>5,440.00</b>	<b>4,110.28</b>	<b>7,300.00</b>	<b>-43.7%</b>

## 2025 SPENDING PLAN PROPOSAL

	Proposed Spending Plan 2025	Expenses 2024	Proposed 2024	% Change
<b>PROPERTY</b>				
Capital Projects	7,000.00	30,305.00	0.00	100.0%
Energy HVAC System Loan Payment	10,432.68	10,432.68	10,582.68	-1.42%
Equipment Repair & Maintenance	500.00	314.16	2,500.00	-87.43%
Building Repair and Maintenance	2,000.00	2,132.00	3,000.00	-28.93%
Fire and Security	2,000.00	1,470.00	5,000.00	-70.6%
Instrument Maintenance	500.00	0.00	1,000.00	-100.0%
Insurance - Workers' Comp	1,195.00	1,270.00	1,270.00	0.0%
Insurance - Umbrella		352.00	352.00	0.0%
Insurance - Property	15,689.00	11,445.00	11,445.00	0.0%
Electric Utility	6,500.00	5,999.59	6,500.00	-7.7%
Gas Utility	9,000.00	8,749.36	9,720.00	-9.99%
Water and Sewer Utility	1,000.00	790.51	1,500.00	-47.3%
Snow Removal	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	-100.0%
Sexton	9,500.00	9,200.00	9,500.00	-3.16%
Miscellaneous Supplies	2,000.00	1,784.53	2,500.00	-28.62%
<b>Total PROPERTY</b>	<b>68,316.68</b>	<b>84,244.83</b>	<b>65,869.68</b>	<b>27.9%</b>
<b>STEWARDSHIP</b>				
Stewardship Expenses	500.00	0.00	500.00	-100.0%
Giving Envelopes	240.00	228.42	230.00	
<b>Total STEWARDSHIP</b>	<b>240.00</b>	<b>228.42</b>	<b>730.00</b>	<b>-68.71%</b>
<b>WORSHIP AND MUSIC</b>				
Altar & Candle Supplies	300.00	273.38	500.00	-45.32%
Bulletins	685.00	625.58	550.00	13.74%
Choir and Music Supplies	600.00	566.87	650.00	-12.79%
Director Salary	19,200.00	19,200.00	19,200.00	0.0%
Devotional Materials	580.00	571.73	300.00	90.58%
Director FICA	1,468.00	1,468.80	1,500.00	-2.08%
Flowers	170.00	163.98	200.00	-18.01%
Misc. Worship Events	250.00	263.80	350.00	-24.63%
<b>Total WORSHIP AND MUSIC</b>	<b>23,253.00</b>	<b>23,134.14</b>	<b>23,250.00</b>	<b>-0.5%</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>170,077.18</b>	<b>179,720.92</b>	<b>171,388.69</b>	