

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



SAINT JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Annual Meeting

February 5, 2023

Ocean City, NJ



St. John Lutheran Church
1001 Central Avenue, Ocean City, NJ 08226
(609) 399-0798
Website: stjohnlutheranoc.org
Email: office@stjohnlutheranoc.org

January 2023

Dear Congregation Members,

Our annual congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, February 5th 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.

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 5th at 2:00 pm. Make sure you use these **new** Zoom links to connect with us:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/3246939424?pwd=Y1BOaTBaZkphOEIwV0hURitiSUCzd09>
Meeting ID: 324 693 9424 Passcode: Luther

Or

Dial in - 929-205-6099 Meeting ID: 324 693 9424 Passcode: 460810

Peace,

Karl Yunghans, Council President

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ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
1001 CENTRAL AVENUE, OCEAN CITY, NEW JERSEY 08226
ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING- VIA ZOOM Sunday, February 5, 2022

AGENDA

1. Meeting called to order by Karl Yunghans, Council President
2. Opening Prayer
3. Report of the Teller (quorum present)
4. Adoption of the Agenda
5. Remarks by Congregation Council VP, Karl Yunghans
6. Report of the Nominating Committee
7. Balloting
8. Approval of Minutes- January 30, 2022
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

Christian Education
Faith & Fellowship
Evangelism & Stewardship
Finance
Property
Social Ministry
Worship and Altar Guild

13. Report of Organizations and Other Reports

Fellowship committee
Audit committee
Memorial Committee
Designated Fund Descriptions

14. Report of the Treasurer
15. Report of the Election
16. Old Business
17. New Business
18. 2023 Proposed Spending Plan
19. Acknowledgements
20. Closing Devotions

2022 CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL AND OFFICERS OF THE CONGREGATION

OFFICERS

President----- Karl Yunghans
Vice President----- Mike Kern
Financial Secretary----- Rick Adamson
Treasurer----- Janice Mruz

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mike Kern	Lee Funk	Judy Bailey	Andrew Sykes
Karl Yunghans	Janice Mruz	Alissa Lee	Rick Adamson
Rick Adamson	Susy Wilkins	Deb Beuttler	Diane Bechtold

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor-----The Rev. Kevin V. Hilgendorf
Minister of Music----- Julia L Henrich
Custodian----- Robert Gannon

STANDING COMMITTEE LIAISONS AND OTHER LEADERS

Christian Education----- Alissa Lee
Stewardship/Evangelism----- Glen Stewart
Finance----- Andrew Sykes
Memorials----- Susy Wilkins
Property----- Lee Funk
Social Ministry----- Deb Beuttler
Staff Support----- Executive Board
Worship----- Judy Bailey
Servant Scheduler----- Susy Wilkins
Fellowship Scheduler ----- Alissa Lee
Synod Assembly Lay Voting Members----- Pastor and Karl Yunghans
Ecumenical Council Liaison-----Diane Bechtold

OFFICERS OF THE WOMEN OF THE ELCA (WELCA)

Chairperson-----Janice Mruz
Secretary/Treasurer-----Susy Wilkins
Liaison to Council----- Janice Mruz

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Committee: Nikki Odell, Justin Odell, Glen Stewart

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 term in February 2023, eligible for re-election: Karl Yunghans

Completing terms in February 2023, not eligible for re-election: Janice Mruz, Susy Wilkins

Completing terms in February 2024, eligible for re-election: Rick Adamson, Judith Bailey, Debbie Beuttler

Completing terms in February 2024, not eligible for re-election: Mike Kern, Lee Funk

Completing terms in February 2025, eligible for re-election: Alissa Lee, Drew Sykes, Diane Bechtold

The following people have agreed to serve on Council for a three-year term: To Be Announced During Annual Meeting

The following people have agreed to serve on the 2023 Nominating Committee: To Be Announced During Annual Meeting

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Minutes of St John Lutheran Church Annual Meeting - January 30, 2022

Pre-meeting notification: Glen Stewart informed everyone online that the meeting was being recorded through the Zoom Meeting app to help with the minutes.

Vice President Karl Yunghans called the meeting to order and asked the teller if there was a quorum. A quorum was present.

Vice President Karl Yunghans opened with comments with a phrase from one of Pastor Hilgendorfs sermons. "To live is to give." We have exceeded expectations this past year and is still wondering how we grow the Church. The people, the family are his inspiration. Karl would like to keep discussion open on how we live and grow after the pandemic. Question from the floor about how many people are joining us online. Glen Stewart responded with statistics from YouTube. 25 to 30 people joining us online. In person attendance and online attendance is good. Thanks to all!

Report of the Nominating Committee: Rich Deaney reported:

Alissa Lee agreed to a 3 year term on Council.

Diane Bechtold agreed to a 3 year term on Council.

Drew Sykes agreed to a 3 year term on Council.

Justin and Nikki Odell agreed to serve on the nominating Committee.

Glen Stewart agreed to serve on the nominating Committee.

Bob Oberg and Karen Ellis also agreed to serve on the nominating Committee.

Balloting by show of hands: Nominations from the floor - none.

Alissa Lee - approved.

Drew Sykes - approved

Diane Bechtold - approved

Nominating Committee for 2023

Nikki Odell - approved

Justin Odell - approved

Glen Stewart - approved

Karen Ellis - approved

Bob Oberg - approved

Approval of the 2021 Minutes for the Annual Congregation Meeting: Motion to approve by Rich Deaney, 2nd by Susy Wilkins. Motion approved.

Pastor's Report: Thank you to Janice Mruz for adding names of the newly baptized and those who have passed. Noted that "Care Givers" are very important during times of pandemic and in daily life.

Minister of Music: Thanks to all who have supported the Ministry of Music and those who supported her family specifically during their bout with Covid.

Report of the President: President Mike Kern is away but his report is in the bulletin of reports.

Report of the NJ Synod Assembly Representatives: Report is in the bulletin of reports.

Committee Reports:

Christian Education: Alissa Lee - Sunday School taking a break due to Covid numbers. Currently have 10 students including 1 new student. Information to be added to the St John website. Resuming Sunday School after Presidents Day.

Fellowship and Faith: Rick Adamson- Great opportunity to discuss our faith and the current life of the Church. Discussing the Bishop's Challenge on Race Equality within the Church. There is an open invitation to participate.

Evangelism and Stewardship: Bob Oberg - Continue to meet with a joint Committee. Concentrating on the Cedar Fund and a future Stewardship drive.

Finance: Rick Adamson/Janice Mruz: Combining funds and envelopes for simplification of accounting. The Congregation has stepped up to handle all of the current projects. We are solvent but we are not currently growing.

Rejoicing Spirits: Glen Stewart - No report

Property: Lee Funk - Report in the Bulletin of Reports. In the last two weeks we added a new pump and a relay for the building boilers. Also waiting for parts from our Electrician to repair our outside lighting. Thanks to everyone for maintaining our facility! More has been done in the last two years than has been done in the past decade. Thank you!

Social Ministry: Deb Beuttler - Thanks to all for their support for the spring and fall activities. It's been a benefit joining with WELCA to achieve our goals. Dinner Group has been successful - averaging 25 people per event.

Worship and Music: Judy Bailey - Worship is the center of who we are. We worship every week that's possible. Moving toward normalcy through the pandemic. Will be moving to the Feast and Celebration Worship service during our Easter season. Thanks to all for supporting our Worship endeavors.

Pastor commented on Synod revenue: Giving is up for Mission Support, the Bishop's Challenge and ELCA Disaster Relief and World Hunger. To live is to give!

Treasurer's Report: Review investments and giving. Earmark funds difficult to see actual outreach opposed to capital spending. Next year it will be separated to better review.

Report of the Election: Visual vote of all nominees; all nominees approved.

Old Business: Janice Mruz spoke on Easter Seals use of facilities. It is good to support this outside ministry.

New Business: Church Spaces - an organization that arranges Church spaces for use. The Organization would like to participate with St John going forward.

Proposed Spending Plan: Note increase in Utilities across the board. Employees given a 5% raise. Last raises were given in 2018. Correction to Minister of Music salary (number was carried from previous year).

Motion to approve 2022 Spending Plan with correction Lee Funk, 2nd by Merryn Buck. Motion approved.

Acknowledgements - Vice President recognized all the work that has been done and supported by the Congregation.

Closing Devotions by Pastor Kevin

Meeting adjourned

Submitted by Rick Adamson
Council Secretary

INTERIM PASTOR'S REPORT

Greetings Sisters and Brothers in Christ!

"There are three constants in life: change, choice, and principles." Stephen R.

"Not everything that is face can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced ." James Baldwin

"The secret of change is to focus all of your energy not on fighting the old, but on the new!" ?

At our worship and music meeting, I learned that Daylight Savings Time will not happen anymore! No spring forward or falling back! Others shared their relief not changing the clocks and bodily adjusting for a month or more. No time change is Indeed a most happy change? BREAKING NEWS! A permanent Daylight Savings Bill held up in the House of Representatives. Now we wait.

If you have been repeatedly asking God to change something in your life, why not try something new and instead ask God to change you!

Yet change can be difficult, but Jesus offers the opportunity for an entirely new way (change) of thinking. *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ the new creation has come: the old has gone, the new is here!" 2 Cor. 15:17 (NIV)*

Let us pray, Lord, even good change can be scary, walking away from something We know to something we don't. But we can be courageous because You are our strength, our unchanging Savior.

Amen love to +Christ. Interim Pastor Kevin

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STATE OF THE CHURCH REPORT

Average Weekly Attendance: January thru May 2022-- weekly average was 50
June thru December 2022 – weekly average was 55

New Disciples by Baptism:

Caitlin Everleigh Doyle, August 21, 2022
Daxton Kevin Terry September 4, 2022
Wyatt Glenn Stoll, October 23, 2022

Confirmations: None

New Members:

Tasselett Freeman Chea
Mr. Corky Cochran
The Doyle Family
Eric & Mary Gustafson
Alan and Robin Lewis
The Stoll Family
Doris Weinert

Memorial, Graveside Services and Hospice Visits:

Denise Joy Fenstermacher Sykes
Catherine Casebeer
Dorothy Yunghans

Transfers: None

In Memory of:

Judith Roseland, April 29, 2022
Denise Joy Fenstermacher Sykes, June 23, 2022
James Walter Piston, November 19, 2022

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Every year I hear a message from one of Pastor Kevin's sermons that makes me pause and reflect. The quote I have selected from 2022 is "humility is the cornerstone of faith." As council president, I try to value all member's ideas and interests above my own. Everyone has a place in the church and it involves participation in time, talent and treasures in any amount that can be given. I want to personally thank every member of the congregation for their participation in our ministries and the daily commitment that is involved to keep the church moving forward.

I also want to welcome all of our new members that joined the church last year. All are welcome! It is especially exciting to see young families with children attending worship service and Sunday School. Membership and participation are essential to continue on with all of our ministries. I am hopeful that more in our community will join St. John in 2023.

In 2022 I had the sense that St. John was returning back to normal after dealing with the Covid 19 pandemic for the previous two years. Our events included a first ever craft show, a rummage sale, Christmas Bazaar, blood drive, packing event for Hope Pregnancy, and a Harvest Hope project with Grace Lutheran Church. St. John hosted Vacation Bible School, a youth group from Pennsylvania and opened our doors on a weekly basis to Easter Seals, Al Anon, and El Tabernaculo. We are now in the process of sponsoring Bellor Venus Chea, a niece of one of our members, who was displaced as a refugee from the Ukrainian war conflict. She is currently living in Germany and we hope to assist in bringing her to the United States as soon as the diplomatic process allows.

All of the above events and activities requires participation, which rewards one with fellowship and a sense of community. I, personally, had the opportunity to deliver the packing items to Hope Pregnancy. The show of appreciation and thanks was such a rewarding experience.

God has blessed us with Pastor Kevin, who has done a tremendous job with worship services, leadership, and providing comfort to the elderly. I remain hopeful that St. John will find a part-time or full-time permanent pastor in the near future. In 2023, St. John plans to hire a part-time secretary to help ease the burden of everyday bookkeeping, paperwork, and communication. Church council agrees that this is another important step that we need to take after losing our secretary during the pandemic.

As president of the church council, I am always thinking of how we can improve and grow as a church. I constantly rely on our members. Many have particular areas of expertise, which enable the church council and myself to make the right decisions. We have taken a few steps back at times, but it always followed by steps progressing forward. Experiencing humility when things do not always seem to go right strengthens my faith and resolve.

Peace! -Karl

NEW JERSEY SYNOD ASSEMBLY REPORT

On May 7, 2022 Pastor Kevin and I attended the NJ Synod Assembly Annual Meeting via Zoom. One of the main highlights of the meeting was the Bishop's Challenge. The Bishop's Challenge was directed at all of NJ ELCA to raise \$50,000 to help fund African American seminary students. St. John participated by donating the requested amount of \$375 along with a quilt square, which was included in a "tapestry of love" quilt. St. John's quilt square is a beach scene with three crosses in the foreground and is located at the top right-hand corner of the finished quilt. It was created by WELCA member Carol Piechoski and Janet Yunghans. The quilt and the entire meeting can be viewed on the NJ Synod web site at <https://www.njsynod.org>.

Respectfully submitted,
Karl Yunghans, Council President



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

CHAIRPERSON: Alissa Lee

LIAISON TO CONGREGATION COUNCIL: Alissa Lee

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Alissa Lee, Janice Mruz, Sonya Adamson, 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 11 students who attend Sunday School. The students' ages range from 4 years old to 13 years old. We offer four classes: PK-2nd Grade, 3rd-6th Grades, and 7th-8th Grades.

We also offer Vacation Bible School for one week during the summer for students in Kindergarten – 5th Grade. Our Food Truck Party Vacation Bible School, that took place the week of August 1st, 2022, was a great success! We had 20 kids join us for a week of fun. We learned about Bible stories through crafts, music, science experiments, and yummy snack crafts. The Bible verse that followed us through the week was: "Give us this day our daily bread." (Matthew 6:11) This verse teaches us that all we have comes from God and by praying to God all our needs are met. Special thanks to Janice Mruz, Sheri Apple, Linda, Diane Bechtold, Deb Buetler, Apple Sykes, Barb Piston, Carol Prange, Carol Piechoski, Sharon Doyle, Abby Henrich, Tony Henrich, Julia Henrich, & Pastor Kevin for making VBS shine so bright this summer!

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

SUBMITTED BY: Alissa Lee, Chair

FELLOWSHIP AND FAITH

MISSION STATEMENT: *Saved by grace through faith to share God's love.*

CHAIRPERSON: Rick Adamson

LIAISON TO CONGREGATION COUNCIL: Glen Stewart

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Rick Adamson, Glen Stewart

COMMITTEE FUNCTION – MISSION STATEMENT: To explore our Gospel heritage in Lutheranism and engage participants in understanding the faith (past, present and future).

SPECIAL EVENTS OR MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2022: Fellowship and Faith replaced St John 101 during our Covid 19 quarantine period. The need to see and hear each other expressing our concerns and hope during the pandemic fostered our Zoom/online meetings. This was a change from our study format and a great comfort to be able to be in community (digitally) again. This past year the group has continued discussion of the Bishop's Challenge (the Legacy of Jehu Jones), a study on "What makes us Lutheran," with many side discussions spanning several weeks and finally a study guide from the "Living Lutheran Magazine" on "500 Years of God's Word in Common Language," a historical review of the impact and changes over the centuries of Luther's translation of the Bible!

We continue with weekly discussions and continue to invite all to join as they are able. As always it is our goal to grow in faith as we bond personally with one another in Fellowship.

CONCERNS AS YEAR CLOSES: Class growth! Everyone is welcome to join the conversation or just sit back and listen. Contact Glen Stewart or Rick Adamson for more information.

HOW WILL THIS COMMITTEE GROW THE MISSION AND MINISTRY OF ST. JOHN? Deepening Member commitment and ability to share the Gospel through education, study and familiarity.

HOW WILL THIS COMMITTEE REACH OUT TO THE FULL MEMBERSHIP (active and inactive) OF ST. JOHN? Maintaining an open invitation to ALL members by posting themes, questions and topical bits of conversations in Church publications, websites and on Social Media.

SUBMITTED BY: Rick Adamson

EVANGELISM & STEWARDSHIP

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

“Saved by grace through faith, to share God’s love”

We gather, pray and act to live out our mission statement to continue in this place and in the world as the Body of Christ!

We continued to feel an extended Evangelism/Stewardship Committee, meeting occurring on a regular basis, would best suit our congregation’s needs. Sharing commonality between evangelism and stewardship, the committees continued to meet together. As one of Church Council’s committees, summaries of our meetings and recommendations are presented at Council meetings. Our committee met via ZOOM conferences at least once a month.

For "God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday this year, members of St. John donated, then packed and delivered items requested by Hope Pregnancy (a local charity that helps pregnant mothers in need). Items delivered included detergent, deodorant, soap, shampoo and toothpaste. As part of the "Feed the Northeast" program, our congregation partnered with Grace Lutheran Church in Somers Point to collect over 500 food items to feed the hungry in our shared community. Since we surpassed our goal, Thrivent donated \$500 to the Grace Place Food Pantry to continue that vital ministry.

The concept of Estate Planning and how it can have a positive effect on the mission of St. John in the now and in the future was examined. An Endowment Fund, known as The Cedar Fund, was established following approval of Council and seed money of \$10,000.00 was approved by Council to begin the Fund. A special pew envelope was approved for people who wish to contribute to the Cedar Fund. In conjunction with the Cedar Fund, we instituted a series of seminars about legacy concerns entitled, "The Last Hurrah." About once a month, we had guest speakers deliver information about financial, medical and funeral planning. We will hold sessions on spiritual and legal legacy issues in 2023. Due to the popularity of these seminars, we may also hold a few repeats of previous speakers to make sure everyone in the congregation has a chance to take part. There will be further information about how people may donate through Estate Planning and how contributions may be made through retirement required distributions while saving on taxes from that distribution.

All of us, the family of St. John, gathering, praying, and acting to live out our mission statement are being the Church. Though this past year has been difficult, when we pray, let us be thankful for what God has given us---His Grace!

Peace,

Rick Adamson and Glen Stewart

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

CHAIRPERSON : Janice Mruz, Treasurer

LIAISON TO COUNCIL CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL: Andrew Sykes

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Janice Mruz, Treasurer, Susy Wilkins, Assistant Treasurer, Karl Yunghans, Council President, Mike Kern, Council Vice President and Rick Adamson, Financial Secretary, Andrew Sykes

MISSION STATEMENT: *We will annually develop a spending plan to be presented to the congregation and council. Along with the Treasurer and Council, we will monitor all congregational spending and maintain the expenditures in accordance with the spending plan.*

2021 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 for 2021.

In the 2023 Budget we have proposed a part-time secretary, 5 hrs. per week at a rate of \$20/hr. to assist with the office duties. In the office, volunteers have been filling in the duties of church secretary and Melissa Adamson continues to graciously helped us throughout the year.

Justin Odell continues to handle our investments with Wells Fargo, and the committee again wants to thank him enough for his help and guidance throughout this year.

Lastly, I would to thank the congregation for their continued generous support.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Mruz, Treasurer and Chair

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

CHAIRPERSON: Lee Funk

LIAISON TO CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL: Mike Kern

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Mike Kern, Karl Yunghans, Rick Adamson and Lee Funk

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

Achievements in 2022:

- Replaced all fixtures and lights outside around the Church. Replaced timers.
- Replaced roof siding above windows on 10th St. side. (north)
- Replaced oven fan and switch inside the commercial stove hood.
- Replaced down spout in alleyway.
- Scraped and painted walls on third floor.
- Replaced or repainted ceiling tiles in Sunday School rooms, hallways and gym.
- Boilers were serviced and replaced filters, control panels, circulation pumps & sensors.
- Carbon monoxide and smoke alarms were installed throughout the building, emergency lights & exit signs were replaced as needed, fire suppression system and extinguishers inspected as required by the NJ State Fire Code Law.
- New toilet tank installed in bathroom on first floor.

We cannot thank all members enough for all their help and support and financial contributions this past year. With all the church family working together we will grow the mission and ministry of St. John. Also thanks to all the families for their help in maintaining the outside grounds.

Submitted by: Lee Funk

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

CHAIRPERSON: Deborah Beuttler

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: the ladies and men 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.

Activities in 2022: The slowing of the pandemic enabled us to complete more activities this year. We are grateful to the church council and our very supportive church family for their ongoing support of our projects.

Our committee members continue to send seasonal cards to homebound members throughout the year.

A Rummage/Book Sale was held on April 28th & 30th and was very successful. Money earned was sent to Eastern European Crisis Response-Ukraine.

We held our annual Moher's Day Donation Drive for Hope Pregnancy from April 24th thru May 22nd. Baby items, gift cards and detergent were collected and donated. Thank you St. John Family!

In early September, we held a community Craft Show which highlighted community crafters. The proceeds were then donated to Family Promise in North Cape May. This event was our first and was organized by one of our newest members Robin Lewis.

ADVENT: Social Ministry WELCA held a long-awaited Christmas Bazaar on December 2nd and 3rd which was very successful. Santa joined us and many pictures were taken. Thank you Santa for joining us! Funds raised including matching funds from Thrivent benefitted hurricane victims from Ian & Fiona.

The title of the annual "Cookie Walk" was changed to the "Christmas Cookie Celebration" and members of the congregation were offered a tin of cookies after the worship service on December 18th. Thirty-five cookie tins were prepared and nine cookie bags were delivered to our shut-ins.

Social Ministry & WELCA cont.

Our Christmas Missions this year included ELCA Good Gifts, the Atlantic City Rescue Mission and Ukraine Refugee Support Fund for Bellor Venus Chea.

Our “mitten tree” has been covered with hats & gloves which will go to the Atlantic City Rescue Mission at the end of January 2023.

Respectfully Submitted, Deborah Beuttler, Chair

WELCA FISCAL YEAR 2022 FINANCIAL REPORT

	INCOME	DISBURSEMENTS
Opening Balance	\$ 2,858.98	
Year End Interest	\$ 0.29	
St. John (Memory of Judi Roseland)		\$ (50.00)
Palms for Palm Sunday		\$ (27.94)
Rummage Sale Proceeds for Ukraine	\$ 2,020.00	
Disaster Response (Ukraine)		\$ (2,500.00)
Coffee Pots		\$ (173.04)
Dues Collected for the Year	\$ 60.00	
Women of the ELCA Dues		\$ (60.00)
Thank Offering Collection	\$ 418.18	
ELCA Women's Mission (Thankoffering)		\$ (420.00)
ELCA Disaster Relief- Hurricane Fund (Matching 50% from Thrivent)		\$ (750.00)
Christmas Bazaar	\$ 1,190.25	
Christmas Bazaar Funds		
Balance for Hurricane Victims		\$ (450.00)
Atlantic City Rescue Mission		\$ (375.00)
Ukraine Refugee fund for Bellor		\$ (375.00)
TOTALS	\$ 6,547.70	\$ (5,180.98)
BALANCE AS OF 12/31/22	\$ 1,366.72	

WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE REPORT

CHAIRPERSON: Judith Bailey

LIAISON TO CONGREGATIONAL 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, the worship committee, and Julia, our parish musician, the services of prayer, praise, and thanksgiving are planned for each liturgical season of the church year.

Christmas Eve worship is always a highlight of the year. Being able to sing the familiar carols, especially "Silent Night" by candlelight, holds a very special meaning for many of us.

Good Friday we observed Christ's death on the cross with a Tenebrae service of darkness. This service is always very meaningful as we leave the church in silence to await Christ's Resurrection on Easter morning.

Easter Sunday we were able to take a few more "baby steps" forward. The choir, led by the cross, processed for the first time in many months. We were able to return to the altar to receive God's grace through the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Our offering was received in the pews and then brought forward by the ushers as a token of our thanks for all God's blessings.

Each worship service, including Christmas Eve and Good Friday, is live-streamed on our website. A big thank you to Glen Stewart for his technical expertise to be sure the broadcast happens each week.

Our worship will continue to change. 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!!

Judith Bailey

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

CHAIRPERSON: Alissa Lee

LIAISON TO CONGREGATION COUNCIL: Alissa Lee

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Judith Bailey, Rick Adamson, Janet Yunghans, Susy Wilkins, Deb Buettler, Carol Piechoski, Glen Stewart, 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 week.

Fellowship returned this year! Council agreed to have Fellowship on the first Sunday of every month beginning May 2022. So far, having Fellowship once a month has been successful.

Thank you to all the members of Fellowship who provide much appreciated treats for our congregation to enjoy. New members are **ALWAYS** welcome to help us provide fellowship for our church family and visitors.

SUBMITTED BY: Alissa Lee

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AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

No report at this time. Please see below:

The new audit committee was just formed at the end of 2022. Members are Judy Funk, Rich Deaney and Alan Lewis. An audit for each of the following years, 2020, 2021 and 2022 shall be performed within the next few weeks of this meeting. The Audit Committee will report the findings for each year to the Congregational Council. These reports will be included in next year's annual report. The Treasurer and Financial Secretary will participate in providing information as requested and answering questions during the actual in-person audits.

MEMORIALS RECEIVED

Judith Roseland
Catherine Casebeer
Dorothy Yunghans
James Piston

DESCRIPTION OF DESIGNATED FUNDS

Cedar Fund

This fund was created from our 100th 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 years. It is designated for operating funds.

Parsonage Investment Fund

This fund to provide the interest earned each year to pay for 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.

Capital Improvement Fund

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

Kitchen Fund*

This fund is to be utilized to pay for repairs, replacement of items or renovations of the kitchen.

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.

Description of Designated Funds continued

Pastoral Assistance Fund

This fund is to be used for pastoral assistance.

Seminarian Fund*

This fund is to assist members of St. who enter seminarian school with their costs.

*The Kitchen Fund was dissolved and the remaining funds were deposited in the Capital Improvement Fund. The Seminarian Fund was dissolved and the funds were sent to the NJ Synod for the Bishop’s Challenge to assist minority seminarians with their expenses.

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2022 DESIGNATED AND UNRESTRICTED FUNDS YEAR END REPORT

DESIGNATED FUNDS	2022 ENDING VALUE	2022 TOTAL INCOME	2021 ENDING VALUE	2021 TOTAL INCOME
Kyle-Breneiser Music Fund	\$ 66,022.96	\$ (12,186.99)	\$ 78,209.95	\$ 3,978.86
McFaul Memorial	\$ 18,822.34	\$ (3,304.60)	\$ 22,126.94	\$ 1,082.41
Payne Medical Emergency Fund	\$ 2,342.84	\$ (951.29)	\$ 3,294.13	\$ 259.08
Pasonage Investment Fund	\$ 19,763.42	\$ (1,970.95)	\$ 21,734.37	\$ 1,922.10
Deaney Memorial	\$ 14,356.95	\$ (1,687.74)	\$ 16,044.69	\$ 1,457.47
		\$ -		
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS		\$ -		
		\$ -		
Board Designated Fund	\$ 13,339.91	\$ (33.55)	\$ 13,373.46	\$ 1.31
Pastoral Assistance Fund	\$ 3,877.28	\$ (1,516.26)	\$ 5,393.54	\$ 420.28
TOTALS	\$ 138,525.70	\$ (21,651.38)	\$ 160,177.08	\$ 9,121.51

2022 EARMARKED TRANSACTIONS

CATEGORY DESCRIPTION	BALANCE 12/31/2021		BALANCE 12/31/22		
HVAC Capital Campaign	\$	2,265.42	\$	(2,265.42)	\$ -
Mission-NJ Synod	\$	-			\$ -
Capital Improvement	\$	7,292.78	\$ 9,500.76	\$ (2,291.00)	\$ 14,502.54
Mission-Refugee Chea			\$ 3,598.00	\$ (2,720.00)	\$ 878.00
Cedar Fund	\$	1,120.00	\$ 24,881.35	\$ (500.00)	\$ 25,501.35
Mission Outreach			\$ 508.88		\$ 508.88
Roof	\$	125.00		\$ (125.00)	\$ -
Kitchen Fund	\$	2,108.34		\$ (2,108.34)	\$ -
Men's Prayer Group	\$	114.27			\$ 114.27
Music Account	\$	3,790.29	\$ 1,989.43		\$ 5,779.72
Rejoicing Spirits	\$	90.00		\$ (90.00)	\$ -
Lynn Ann Baker Fund	\$	693.00			\$ 693.00
Seminarian Fund	\$	1,830.66		\$ (1,830.66)	\$ -
Sign	\$	457.00		\$ (457.00)	\$ -
Thanksgiving Dinner	\$	193.88		\$ (193.88)	\$ -
Parish Education	\$	284.98		\$ (284.98)	\$ -
Youth Faith & Mission	\$	5,110.94	\$ 284.98		\$ 5,395.92
Holiday Flowers*	\$	55.00		\$ (55.00)	\$ -
The Lutheran*	\$	58.75		\$ (58.75)	\$ -
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	\$	45.00	\$ 500.00	\$ (300.00)	\$ 245.00
Unrestricted Reserve	\$	10,474.62		\$ (10,474.62)	\$ -
Packing Event	\$	205.00		\$ (205.00)	\$ -
Family Promise	\$	300.00	\$ 600.00	\$ (900.00)	\$ -
VBS Missions	\$	-	\$ 273.00	\$ (273.00)	\$ -
Bishop's Challenge	\$	-			\$ -
Fire Recovery	\$	862.50		\$ (862.50)	\$ -
Good Gifts	\$	620.00	\$ 220.00	\$ (620.00)	\$ 220.00
ELCA Disaster Relief	\$	-	\$ 1,500.00	\$ (1,500.00)	\$ -
Pastor's Gift	\$	365.00	\$ 365.00	\$ (365.00)	\$ 365.00
Seafarers	\$	170.00		\$ (170.00)	\$ -
WELCA (Hope Pregnancy)	\$	-			\$ -
AC Rescue Mission			\$ 260.00	\$ -	\$ 260.00
VBS Program			\$ 20.00		\$ 20.00
Hope Pregnancy			\$ 45.00	\$ (20.00)	\$ 25.00
Giving Tree (from mitten tree)			\$ 30.00	\$ (30.00)	\$ -
Other**	\$	-			\$ 113.75
interest	\$	8.10	\$ 1.01		\$ 9.11
TOTAL	\$	38,640.53	\$ 44,577.41	\$ (28,700.15)	\$ 54,631.54

2022 GIVING ANALYSIS

2022 Operating Income

Special Envelopes	\$	3,182.00
Envelopes	\$	114,701.77
Plate	\$	5,612.00
Use of Facilities	\$	6,390.00
Thrivent	\$	1,011.00
Memorials	\$	350.00
Amazon Smile	\$	34.62
Other Income	\$	16,338.21
TOTAL Operating Income	\$	<u>147,619.60</u>

*Special Envelopes are all the non-weekly regular giving envelopes collectively for the year.

SUMMARY

OPERATING ACCOUNT BANK ENDING BALANCE AS OF 12/30/2022:

\$ 135,815.06

OPERATING ACCOUNT:

2022 Income	\$	147,619.60
2022 Expenditures	\$	<u>(128,368.32)</u>
DIFFERENCE	\$	<u>19,251.28</u>

2023 PROPOSED BUDGET

	2023 Proposed Budget with Interim Pastor	2022 Actual Expenses w/Interim Pastor	2022 Proposed Expenses	2021 Actual Expenses
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Mission Support	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 11,795.65	\$ 10,350.00	\$ 10,411.86
Ukraine		\$ 1,000.00		\$ 375.00
Total Mission Support Expense	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 12,795.65	\$ 10,350.00	\$ 10,786.86
Administration				
Internet & Bulletin Board	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 2,164.87	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,942.25
Office Supplies	\$ 500.00	\$ 377.17	\$ 750.00	\$ 96.85
Postage	\$ 350.00	\$ 519.82	\$ 650.00	\$ 309.18
Payroll Tax (FICA)	\$ 559.00	\$ -	\$ 960.00	\$ -
Secretary Salary	\$ 5,200.00	\$ -	\$ 8,320.00	\$ -
Telephone	\$ 3,200.00	\$ 3,193.69	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 1,871.84
Copier Monthly Service & Supplies	\$ 310.00	\$ 302.34	\$ 400.00	\$ 311.26
Conventions & Meetings	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 100.00
Other Expenses	\$ 200.00	\$ 152.50	\$ 500.00	\$ 329.25
Total Administration Expense	\$ 12,019.00	\$ 6,810.39	\$ 16,080.00	\$ 4,960.63
Evangelism	\$ 200.00	\$ 94.55	\$ 200.00	
Finance & Acct System				
Annual Report Certificate	\$ 85.00	\$ 30.50	\$ 85.00	\$ 30.50
Payroll Processing Fee	\$ 552.00	\$ 512.80	\$ 480.00	\$ 495.00
Bank Fees/VANCO/Checks	\$ 450.00	\$ 60.29	\$ 300.00	\$ 221.99
Finance & Acct. Systems (Icon)	\$ 649.00	\$ 539.00	\$ 605.00	\$ 572.04
Total Finance	\$ 1,736.00	\$ 1,142.59	\$ 1,470.00	\$ 1,319.53
Ministry				
Interim Pastor Salary	\$ 31,500.00	\$ 32,925.00	\$ 31,500.00	\$ 30,200.00
Additional Sundays & Services	\$ 4,800.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200.00
Mileage & Tolls	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,511.08	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,603.05
Supply Pastors		\$ -	\$ 800.00	\$ -
Supply Mileage		\$ -	\$ 250.00	\$ -
Total for Ministry	\$ 39,800.00	\$ 36,436.08	\$ 35,550.00	\$ 33,003.05
Parish Education				
Vacation Bible School	\$ 550.00	\$ 660.59	\$ 400.00	\$ 275.93
Sunday School	\$ 450.00	\$ 682.29	\$ 250.00	\$ 237.82
Adult Education	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ -
Bible Study (30 wks.) + Mileage	\$ 7,700.00			
Confirmation/Communion	\$ 50.00	\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ -
Total for Parish Education	\$ 8,850.00	\$ 1,342.88	\$ 800.00	\$ 513.75

2023 PROPOSED BUDGET

	2023 Proposed Budget with Interim Pastor	2022 Actual Expenses w/Interim Pastor	2022 Proposed Expenses	2021 Actual Expenses
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Property				
Building Repair and Maintenance	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 1,248.70	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 6,467.15
Fire and Security	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,841.30	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,245.56
Instrument Maintenance/Sound System	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
Insurance-Workers' Comp	\$ 1,241.00	\$ 1,595.84	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 1,534.00
Insurance-Umbrella	\$ 352.00	\$ 352.10	\$ 400.00	\$ -
Insurance Property	\$ 9,747.00	\$ 7,121.50	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 6,469.50
Electric	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 5,989.10	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 4,652.78
Gas	\$ 12,648.00	\$ 8,699.85	\$ 7,380.00	\$ 5,576.60
Water & Sewer	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,085.82	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 930.64
Snow Removal	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 45.83	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
Sexton	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 9,000.50	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 8,517.00
Equip. Repair/Main.	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,630.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -
Miscellaneous Supplies	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 938.71	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 288.61
Total for Property	\$ 57,488.00	\$ 46,549.25	\$ 48,080.00	\$ 36,681.84
Social Ministry				
General	\$ 150.00	\$ -	\$ 150.00	\$ -
Thanksgiving Dinner	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 750.00	\$ -
Other Advertising	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ -
Total for Social Ministry	\$ 150.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
Stewardship				
Giving Envelopes for 2024	\$ 230.00	\$ 413.79	\$ 235.00	\$ 208.04
Other Exp.	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 144.00
Total for Stewardship	\$ 730.00	\$ 413.79	\$ 735.00	\$ 352.04
Worship & Music				
Altar & Candle Supplies	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 345.98	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,303.55
Bulletins	\$ 550.00	\$ 602.61	\$ 500.00	\$ 287.17
Choir & Music Supplies	\$ 750.00	\$ 574.08	\$ 750.00	\$ 528.00
Director Salary	\$ 19,200.00	\$ 19,200.00	\$ 19,200.00	\$ 18,990.50
Director FICA	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,468.80	\$ 1,395.00	\$ 1,452.75
Devotional Materials	\$ 216.00	\$ 276.27	\$ 216.00	\$ 240.44
Flowers	\$ 100.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 1,144.00	\$ 42.00
Misc. Worship Events	\$ 200.00	\$ 255.40	\$ 300.00	\$ -
Lenten & Advent Material	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ 96.00
Total for Worship & Music	\$ 23,516.00	\$ 22,783.14	\$ 25,205.00	\$ 22,940.41
Youth				
	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ -
TOTAL	\$ 155,589.00	\$ 128,368.32	\$ 139,570.00	\$ 110,558.11
TOTAL	\$ 155,589.00	\$ 128,368.32	\$ 139,570.00	\$ 110,558.11
Operating Income for FY 2022	\$147,619.60			