

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
ARNPRIOR ONTARIO



2021 ANNUAL REPORT
MARCH 13, 2022

**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church Arnprior
Congregational Annual Report & Agenda - Annual Meeting for 2021**

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Agenda

- 1. Welcome and Opening Devotions**
- 2. Quorum Determination**
- 3. Adoption of Agenda**

I move that the agenda be adopted as presented.

4. Approval of the Minutes of Annual Meeting for 2020

I move that the minutes of the Annual Meeting for 2020 of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Arnprior held on February 14, 2021 be approved as _____.

5. Financial Reports

2021 Financials

Approval of Reviewed Financial Statements 2021

I move that the Financial Statements for 2020 of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Arnprior be approved as presented.

2022 Budget

Approval of Budget for 2022

I move that the 2022 budget of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, priorly approved by Congregational Council, be approved as _____.

6. Appointment of Financial reviewer for 2022

7. Reports – Questions or Comments

8. Election of New Council Members

- Chair to name standing candidates and ask for any more nominations.
- Motion to close nominations.
- Either an Election or Motion to Acclaim.

9. Other Comments

10. Closing Devotions

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Arnprior

Minutes of the 132nd Annual General Meeting for the year 2020

Feb 14, 2021

Council Attendance:

Andy Kalnins	David Burkett	Pr. Norine
Jeff Kargus	Randy Zimmerling	Cory Weckwerth
Enid Blackwell	Alison Burkett	

Membership Attendance: Andy, David, Alison, Enid, Lois & Henry, Lorne & Maureen, Gerald & Barb, Mel Marion & Joyce, Lorne & JoAnne, Pastor, Jeff & Debbie, Judith Johnstone, Cathy & Randy, Cory, Beryl & Keith, Debbie & Bob and Lynn R.

1. Meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. with Pastor opening with devotions and a prayer.
2. The agenda for the meeting was adopted. Move by Jeff, seconded by Andy.
3. Motion for approval of the minutes of the 2019 meeting as distributed. David moved, seconded by Barb. CARRIED.
4. Quorum was verified.
5. **Financial Report:**

We have much to be thankful for in our financial results of 2020. Despite the pandemic, where we could not have services in person for a large part of the year, we ended with a surplus of \$3,027 in a year where we had expected a deficit. That surplus is due to:

- The wonderful generosity of our members and friends in their givings.
- Government grants - wage subsidies – of about \$5,000. These more than offset the lost fund-raising income of \$2,500 compared to 2019.
- Interest of over \$2,000 on investments of our operating reserve with the Evangelical Lutheran Foundation of Eastern Canada.
- Expenses were ~\$4,200 below budget with a reduction in church music, church property and savings in conference fees and other expenses for the Pastor.
- St. John's was able to exceed our 2020 commitment to Benevolence by \$201.
- Lastly, the item of TR Designated speaks to tax-receipted designated givings for special purposes. The \$2,930 includes special donations for Technology of \$1,810, \$860 for chickens for the Food Bank (see the Outreach report) and \$200 for a new snow blower.

Andy moved to accept the 2020 financials; Judy Johnstone seconded. **CARRIED**

6. **Appointment of Financial Reviewer.** No one has offered as yet. Alison will bring back to the congregation when one is found.

7. 2021 Budget

Alison reviewed the budget:

- Pastoral ministry increased by 4% due to COLA increase and new benefits package.
- New initiatives: 1: Technology: License fee. AV director. 2: Youth Unplugged program – grant plus \$1045 cost to us. 3: initiative to distribute SJL literature to new homes in the community.
- Budget for a \$2,500 deficit. Plan for appeal to friends who connect via YouTube.

Lorne R Moved and Lorne B seconded, that Budget for 2021 be accepted as presented.
CARRIED.

8. Council:

Randy spoke to council recruiting. Lorne R moved and JoAnne B. seconded, to acclaim Andy and Debbie to congregational council.

9. Other Comments: Lynn suggested that any comments be included into the newsletter:

- Lois thanked everyone, Randy, Dave, Pastor and Enid.
- Randy mentioned that the Town is proceeding with the Alicia Street reconstruction. Might want to consider doing our outside construction at the same time. Randy to pass on town contacts and Anglican church contacts.
- Pastor noted that Synod is live streaming the Ash Wednesday. 6:30 Wednesday. Lenten evening worship will be available.
- Jeff noted how fantastic the contributions to outreach has been. Suggestion for Lenten offering for purchasing solar lights for third world countries.
- Other Business: None.

10. Enid adjourned the meeting at 11:05

11. Closing Devotions by Pastor.

REPORTS

Chairperson's Report

Sometimes I need only to stand wherever I am to be blessed.

- Mary Oliver

This past year surprised us! In many ways, we continued *to stand* where we were in 2020. Yet, St. John's folks still have many reasons to say we *were blessed* in 2021.

Let's look over our year's blessings together.

Worship: As January 2021 began, we once again moved back to pre-recorded online and printed worship material after several months of welcome in-person services. Tough . . . but thanks to Pastor Norine, producer Dave Burkett, dedicated altar guild members, willing readers and lay leaders, resources from our church at large, and faithful delivery of printed services, every week we had the opportunity to worship where we safely stood. And then from the beginning of August through Christmas Eve, some of us were able to return to in person worship, even as our online presence continued.

Support: In 2021, your council transitioned, too, from the good leadership provided by faithful, long term members Randy Zimmerling and Jeff Kargus, to service from Alison Burkett as our effective and capable treasurer, acclamation at our annual meeting of new members Debbie Witt and Andy Kalnins, and interim election by council of Rachel Roesner. Cory Weckwerth continued to serve throughout the year, despite a shifting and busy work and family life. He actively moved and supported motions, and stepped in to usher when we re-opened, and, as he leaves council, we will miss his grounding voice and input.

Learning: Even though we could not come together in person for discussion, Sunday School or Vacation Bible School, we learned a lot through:

- receiving reports, planning and holding our first, (hopefully last!) online Annual Meeting. Kudos to the Rosien and Richardson couples for coming in over telephone lines - not easy!
- Lenten time learning: a series with a Nova Scotian pastor and Zoom chats on refugee camps and solar lights.
- UNPLUG developments: the team 'plugged in' to much learning on policies, safety, first aid, launching, and social networking. Thank you, UNPLUG team.
- Every child matters: Reflecting on Indigenous truths and connections through prayerful words and image, including for the September 30 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.



- Constitutional renewal: months of processing, review, and consultation led to the adoption of our new constitution in November. Thank you, Debbie Witt, for your leadership here.
- 'Grounded': a few of us became grounded over Zoom as we began discussing this Diana Butler Bass book.
- Looking ahead: beginning to plan for a 'visioning' process. Watch for how you can have your say in 2022 in a caring and thoughtful vision of St. John's future.

Fellowship: How do you do that without coffee and cake? Masked, sharing together, as part of a service and/or live streamed, or over the roads, we managed to:

- Witness a caring goodbye to Stan Headrick, when we could not be with his family in person;
- Celebrate a special birthday of Marion Leeck;
- Recognize with heartfelt thanks and plaques the exceptional dedication, leadership, contributions, and community and outreach work of Randy Zimmerling, Jeff Kargus, and Alison and Dave Burkett;
- Make and deliver Easter baskets and Christmas bags to members mostly confined to their homes or communal residences. Special thanks to Phoenix Barnhart, age 4, for Easter cards.

Service: While we could not 'reach in' a lot, we still have managed to 'reach out' and care and bless others as we have been blessed. You have helped fund Canadian Lutheran World Relief work, and supported Camp Lutherlyn, and the Food Bank with time, skill and donations. You have sponsored many UNPLUG outdoor activities which have reached children and families of varied backgrounds in and around our community. Thank you!

And More Thanks! To Gerald Formuziewich for daily building and property checks, to our Re-opening Task Force for safe counsel, and to all the Altar Guild, Readers, Ushers, Counters, and Property, Technical, Fundraising, Financial and Photography volunteers - thank you! Thanks to Alison Burkett and the UNPLUG activity leaders and support workers. Thanks to Randy and Cathy Zimmerling, Pastor Norine, Bob and Debbie Witt for many weekly drives and deliveries to over 15 members. Thank you to the young members and parents who brought us joy through their readings and Christmas video. Thank you, Pastor Norine, for communal and personal care through this year. And to all, thank you for your faithful and prayerful care of one another and the time, funds and dedication with which you support St John's community. Blessed, we are!

Faithfully yours, Enid Blackwell

Pastoral Report

If someone asked me to describe the good people of St. John's, this would be my response. They are faith-filled, committed, hard working, patient and maintain a good sense of humour. Often when a congregation comes through a time of struggle, growing and learning together, that the most change for the better takes place. *2 Corinthians 4:1* "Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart."

As these report pages are kept forever as historical documents, I sense it is good to record our 2021 year with some detail.

Worship: Dec. 24 of 2020 we were locked down till Feb. 2, 2021, due to pandemic Public Health protocols. We had pre-recorded worship services for utube. These were produced by Dave Burkett so that they could be viewed by those who could not attend in person. Up until August we ensured weekly worship scripts were available to those who did not have internet. Deliveries included Services

of Word & Prayer, Holy Communion, and monthly newsletters. Eternity for Today devotional booklets were also available.

Feb. 14 we gathered for a Zoom (internet chat room) 2020 AGM meeting. The Eastern Synod Staff live streamed an Ash Wednesday service. We opened up again for in person worship August 1 and people worshipped in person every Sunday. On Sept. 19, we were delighted to have Rev. Doug Reble, (Assistant to the Bishop) with us to deliver the sermon for the day. United Church Ministers, Rev. James Murray and Rev. Sheryl McCloud, with P+Norine designed and pre-recorded a Blue Christmas service for Dec. 21.

Our Altar Guild created a beautiful chancel for Advent and Christmas Eve Service, which 23 people were able to enjoy in person. Dec. 25, another provincial lockdown occurred which had us returning to YouTube services once again into 2022.

Pastoral Care: As face to face pastoral care was not allowed through much of the year, many phone calls, emails and texts over this year have been made to those confined to home, our younger families, and to all the congregation's members. Church council members have also taken on this contact ministry. I was able to make approximately **35 in-person visits**, at people's homes or the hospital, when I was able to provide Holy Communion.

Pastoral acts: Funerals: Stan Headrick, Will Greening, August burial of Leonard Boese, Ken Evenson, Sept. burials of Garnet & Kathleen Kargus, Chris Tonkin. In Dec. Rev. Stan Johnstone had funerals for Marion Mann and Albert Miller. Edith Weiler also died in Dec. **Baptism:** Paislee Buchanan

When lock downs occurred ZOOM calls (an internet video/chat platform) was implemented for monthly meetings with the Bishop and colleagues, and for Church Council meetings. Weekly calls were exchanged with our Dean, Rev. Bruce Thompson.

I am sincerely grateful for the support from our members for our ministries over this past year. Each of you have contributed time, talents, and financial resources. We have been supported by a very dedicated Church Council, and our Reopening Task Force Team. I am thankful for their partnership, support, and encouragement. Their faith and their resilience have kept us moving forward, during these unprecedented times.

When, with the Holy Spirit we come through difficult times, we only grow deeper in relationship with one another and come to rely more deeply on the grace and mercy of God. This indeed is worth celebrating! *2Corinthians 2:14 "But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads in every place the fragrance that comes from knowing him."*

I pray that God blesses us, walking into 2022 together, as we maintain hope in our faith, our common life together, and in our ministries.

Sincerely in Christ, Rev. Norine Gullons

Altar Guild Report

The Altar Guild is entrusted with the privilege of preparing the chancel for worship. The overall goal of the team is to see that the whole worship space is kept beautiful and in good order. This has happened when we have been worshipping in person and also whenever there have been recording sessions happening. We appreciate and are thankful to all who have contributed towards flowers during the year and especially at Christmas time.

JoAnne & Lorne Bretzlaff, Barbara & Gerald Formuziewich, and Beryl & Keith Richardson.

Kitchen/Fellowship Report

This has been another quiet year on the kitchen and Sunday fellowship front! We hope 2022 will allow for us all to gather in fellowship with one another and reconnect over coffee at our church family kitchen table.

Your Kitchen Coordinators, Debbie Kargus and Barbara Formuziewich

Children and Family Activity Report

Given the on-going pandemic, there was no Sunday School this year. Nevertheless, to the extent possible, children still participated in worship activities. For example, some of the older children from St. Johns delivered the readings and prayers or participated in services such as Camp Sunday, Blessing of the Backpacks, Advent (prayers and lighting the wreaths) among others. The children of St. Johns also made appearances in our newsletter such as *Meet our Members* story and birthday celebrations. A Youth from St. Johns also made Easter cards for Easter baskets that went to those without internet. For the Christmas Eve Service, there was a pre-recorded video of children from three families speaking about the Symbols of Christmas followed by the singing of Silent Night.

This past year, the Unplug Program had a soft launch, which gave children of different age groups the opportunity to get outdoors and learn about all that nature has to offer us. Examples of activities included kite building, harvesting the St. John's garden, farm and forest adventures, outdoor survival, bird-watching, and several others. The number of children participants was limited to 15 to provide a more personal learning and interactive experience. We found that the age of children interested in Unplug is 3 to 13; 51 children came out to at least 1 event. We also have 2 Youth (Zach Zimmerling and Phoenix Mosiondz-Sagmeister) who provide support for the Unplug events.

Respectfully submitted by Ryan Zimmerling

Constitution Report

Our Constitution and Bylaws had not been updated since 1987. Given the amount of time, it was decided to go ahead and update this document. Synod has a guide and constitution on their website to follow for updates. This Model Constitution and Bylaws for Congregations 2017 from the national church was used as a basis for the new document.

The process was undertaken by Debbie Witt in early 2021 where the first draft was proofed by Maureen Rueckwald with further amendments done with Enid Blackwell. The document was emailed to Wendell C. Grahlman, who is the Secretary of Synod. He recommended further changes which were then done. Review and slight revision by congregational council and distribution to members followed.

It was then brought before the congregation on November 14, 2021 for approval. However, there were two amendments recommended by Wendell, in order for it to be passed by Synod. These were passed by council and handed out at the time of the congregational meeting. The constitution passed unanimously at this meeting and was then forwarded to Synod for final approval which was given on November 20, 2021.

Respectfully submitted by Debbie Witt

Outreach Report

A new and positive approach to Outreach commitments for 2022 and beyond

The 2022 budget proposes a new “commitment” approach in support of the Operating budget. As a result, we will commit funding to selected outreach organizations with a predetermined amount based on our yearly operating budget.

You will not be asked to donate to causes but we will communicate donations made on your behalf. Lenten donations will not be directed to an outreach cause – they will be directed to the “one pot” of donations.

As this is a new approach to outreach, there will be opportunities during our AGM to address any questions or concerns you may have.

Arnprior Food Bank: <https://renfrewcountyconnections.cioc.ca/record/RCC0027>

Once again, we excelled by raising \$1145.00 for the purchase of 81 organically grown, free range chickens from the Ryan and Julie Zimmerling family farm. One chicken was given to each family as part of the Food Bank Christmas packages.

Your ongoing generosity of additional financial support was put to good use by the Arnprior and District Food Bank to purchase daily food items such as milk, eggs, cheese, and meat to name a few. **We will be committing \$1125.00 toward the purchase of chickens in 2022.**

A big THANK YOU to our Synod for their continued support of the “Children’s Snack Pack” program. We applied for and received a \$1000.00 grant in 2021. This is the 6th year in a row we have received the maximum grant!!

Canadian Lutheran World Relief: <https://www.clwr.org/>

We had an increase in donations from \$220.00 in 2020 to \$1481.00 this past year. The increase was mainly the result of two Lenten appeals. Flooding in BC (\$375.00) and the need for humanitarian aid in Myanmar. Many refugee camps have no source of light at night. Young girls are especially vulnerable. We focused our attention on providing a renewable source of light. Once again you stepped up. We raised \$1106.00, which purchased 11 Solar Lights.

Canadian Lutheran World relief continues to be a valued presence globally and relies on our generosity to enable them to continue. In 2022 our budget will include a **commitment of up to \$250 for CLWR appeals.**

Operation Christmas Child: <https://www.samaritanspurse.ca/about-operation-christmas-child>

Christmas Shoes Boxes provide us the opportunity to share God’s message and a gift with less fortunate children in the developing world. Over the past years we have experienced a steady decline in the number of Shoe Boxes we fill. Going forward, **we will no longer view this as a Congregational Outreach program**, but rather focus on CLWR for any international appeals.

The BIG Give: <http://www.thebiggive.ca/>

Due to COVID restrictions we made no plans for involvement in this community event in 2021. Hopefully we can get back to participating in the fantastic community event in 2022!

Camp Lutherlyn: <https://www.lutherlyncamp.ca/>

Donations of \$170.00 were received. Your generosity helps to ensure Camp Lutherlyn is well kept and maintained for those wishing to enjoy all it has to offer. This is the place for fun summer activities such as swimming, canoeing, campfires, singing, playing, laughing together and making wonderful memories. CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND GROUPS ARE WELCOME! **Our goal in 2022 is to support 2 campers.**

Neighbourhood Link Fountain: <https://www.neighbourlinkfountain.com/>

Friendship+ Opportunity+ Understanding+ Nurturing+ Teaching+ Acceptance+ Inspiration+ New Hope

A drop-in centre where dedicated volunteers share God's love with people from all walks of life by linking resources from churches and community to meet their physical, emotional, and spiritual needs. **There will be a commitment of \$100.00 for gift cards. Household items, clothing, gas etc.**

Hospice Renfrew: <https://www.hospicerenfrew.ca/>

Only about 55% of Hospice expenses are covered by funding from the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. The remaining 45%, or approximately \$600,000, is raised through community donations and fundraisers. It is these community contributions that enable us to continue providing care and support at no charge to our families and residents. **There will not be an appeal for fundraising or a financial commitment at this time.** However, if you wish to participate in upcoming events or offer your support, please review their website. *Virtual Hike for Hospice Renfrew – 2022 date yet to be posted*

Respectfully submitted by Jeff Kargus and Andy Kalnins

Re-opening Task Force Committee Report

In house church worship service came and ended with Christmas Eve service.

Our goal was and still is to once again create a staged approach for the resumption of in-person worship while ensuring the safety of the congregation and community.

Last year this committee worked with Synod, Public Health and other Eastern Synod congregations to brainstorm and use lessons learned. The Team will again, once the province and Renfrew County allow it, re-open to in person worship. This time we have documentation and guidelines, (Public Health & Synod), which will aid in the re-opening of St. John's once approved. We've struggled through the Delta variant, flu season and now we're amidst the Omicron variant. We are constantly monitoring the ongoing changes released by the government and new health notices.

Numerous changes that we've now become accustomed to are: posted essential signage to meet Covid-19 requirements, detailing distancing protocols, hand washing procedures, mental health resources, screening requirements, etc. and physical distancing posters.

This congregation has already met the required training in the following areas:

- Welcoming roles (screening, attendance record, masks, physical distancing and hand sanitizing).
- Communicated changes to entrances/exits and worship space.

- Facilitated movement throughout the service (eg. entry, Holy Communion, exit).
- Attention: to maintain safe distancing, sequential exiting and limited personal interaction while in the church is expected.
- Ensure that worship leaders are able to have appropriate physical distance from each other
- Worshippers were encouraged to bring a minimum of personal belongings into the church and stipulated that all belongings must remain with the person at all times.
- Hymnals that were assigned to members last year are no longer being used at church. Members are encouraged to keep those books and use the new cranberry Evangelical Lutheran Worship books in the pews.

Special thanks to all of the time and efforts that volunteers have spent in the ongoing housekeeping and disinfecting of high-touch /shared surfaces before, between and after worship services.

Thank you all for your input and patience as together we safely move forward once again.

Respectfully submitted by the “Re”-Re-opening Task Force Committee

Team Members: Lorne Rueckwald, Aman Segu and Andy Kalnins

Communications Report

‘May our hopes for the world and our work together be strengthened by the thread that we hold and that holds us.’ Quote from opening prayer led by Cory Weckwerth, St. John’s council meeting: 18/01/21

Throughout 2021, as in 2020, we continued to be held by that thread – in many directions! We were held together as:

- January through July **regular deliveries** were made to over 20 members, most without internet, of: service texts, newsletters, devotional booklets, and Easter and Christmas packages. Thank you, delivery team! (named in Chairperson’s Report)
- **Chats and sharing worship** over the phone continued to take place.
- 11 issues of the **Mustard Seed newsletter** were prepared, printed, e-mailed and appreciated by many members and friends – over 78 by email, and 20+ paper copies delivered by hand. We got to know one another better through occasional Meet Our Members articles and sharing of special children’s photos. Thank you, editor Dave Burkett and contributors.
- **Taped and/or live-streamed services** were available throughout the whole year, thanks to Dave, and Jeff Kargus. 54 service videos were created or streamed during 2021. An average of 46 people either attended or watched a service each week. This is compared to 2019, (the last full year of in-person attendance) average of 38.
- Thank you, P+Norine for worship leadership, messages, and communion, and all who led with sanctuary preparation and reading in person and from your homes. Thanks to seasoned and new ushers, who once again had our bells ringing in our neighbourhood. See our website for many of our services: **stjohnsarnprior.com**.
- **Facebook** continued with daily postings. See: **St. John’s Lutheran Church Arnprior** Posted: All our service texts and videos, solidarity/action items, prayers, photos, music, humour, affirming quotes, kid-friendly posts, UNPLUG photos and news from the broader church,

Lutheran World Federation, CLWR, and multifaith bodies. Thanks to Andy Kalnins, added as an editor, for contributing posts. And thanks to some younger members for quick contact via our Facebook inbox. Your contributions for our St. John's page are welcome! eblackwell.ca@gmail.com We have also occasionally posted UNPLUG events and photos on **What's Up Arnprior**, with positive responses from the broader community.

- **Website.** Using new web-development software, our website was redesigned in 2021 with a more modern look and additional content. Recent service videos, Newsletter archives, UNPLUG events, and much more can be found here: stjohnsarnprior.com

Respectfully submitted by Enid Blackwell and David Burkett

Fundraising Report

Many thanks go out to the dedicated group of generous volunteers whose combined efforts led to a very successful Christmas Bazaar held on November 13, 2021. A grand total of \$2992.00 was raised through both online orders and in-person sales of baked goods, raffle tickets, lunch orders and a wide variety of donated items. The Bazaar was attended by 141 people including volunteers and shoppers.

We appreciate and acknowledge the skills of the 21 people who made donations of delicious baked goods including fruit cake, apple and mincemeat pies, a variety of cookies and squares plus soup, chilli and rolls. Thanks to everyone who donated to the raffle consisting of the beautiful quilt and gift basket containing an assortment of items. A total of 102 raffle tickets were sold. The lucky winners were Brenda Schiel (quilt) and Bonnie Belda (gift basket). We would also like to thank the volunteers who donated their time to set up, work at the Bazaar and clean up afterwards. The donations of time and collaboration resulted in a successful event.

A fundraising goal of \$3800.00 has been set in the 2022 Budget with the hope of holding several events. Some suggestions include Friendship lunches, an Old-Fashioned Church picnic/Strawberry Social and a Harvest Dinner. The committee welcomes further ideas from the congregation and a commitment to assist in the events to meet this fundraising goal.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Rueckwald on behalf of the 2021 Fundraising Committee

Technology & Property Report

Several improvements to the audio-visual equipment were made in 2021. A professional switching device was added to handle merging the sound and the multiple views. Thanks to Pastor Steve Johnston of Trinity Lutheran Church in London for his assistance with this. At this point we have what we need to reliably continue live stream or pre-recorded services. Thanks to Jeff for volunteering to fill in as producer.

Given the building was only used for 20 Sundays in 2021, there were relatively few property issues. A new humidifier for the organ was purchased. We re-hired Judy Hartwick for weekly cleaning, greatly reducing the volunteer burden. Thanks to Gerald for daily checking and humidifier water filling and to Barb and Gerald for their cleaning work.

Proposal for the Basement Floor

I'm recommending that we replace the Basement Floor in 2022. The project team for this initiative is Dave, Randy, Jeff and Bob W. The team is recommending:

1. A volunteer work crew be convened to remove the existing floor and subfloor and lay down Dricore 1" Insul-Armor Premium Subfloor. It is waterproof and has an R-value of 4.1, and is engineered with a high-density inorganic EPS foam that is durable enough to hold up to 3,650 lbs. per square foot.
2. Lay waterproof Vinyl plank flooring directly on to the Dricore.

The project would be segmented into several phases to minimize volunteer burn-out.

1. The main area from the bottom of the rear stairs through to the door into the hallway at the front, not including the kitchen. This would give us most of the benefit initially.
2. At a later date, the washrooms, front hallway and kitchen could be tackled.

Total cost for the project would be approximately \$10,000. Phase 1 would be about \$6,000. Proposal is to fund the project from reserves and launch a multi-year capital appeal.

Respectfully submitted by the Property Committee.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

2021 Finance Report

Financial results for 2021 were again encouraging, despite being the second year of COVID where we again could not have in-person services for much of the year. Here are the highlights:

- Operating surplus was \$409
- Donations to Benevolence (Eastern Synod and the wider church) exceeded our commitment by \$730
- Outreach was very generous:
 - Support for Canadian Lutheran World Relief projects included: \$1106 for Solar Panels and \$345 for the BC Floods
 - Donations to Camp Lutherlyn campership program on Camp Sunday came to \$170.
 - Support for Chickens for the Arnprior Food Bank at Christmas raised \$1,145 – more than enough to give a chicken to every small family who requested one.
 - Other donations to the Arnprior Food Bank totalled \$2,070, not including the \$1,000 grant from Eastern Synod for the Healthy Snack program.

Our Balance Sheet is healthy with over \$57,000 in current assets, split between the bank and the money invested with the Evangelical Lutheran Foundation of Eastern Canada (ELFEC); those investments by the way, realized about a 10% return, which was re-invested with ELFEC.

Alison Burkett, Treasurer

Net Income vs Budget

4:46 PM

02-20-22

Accrual Basis

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Arnprior
Net Income Actual vs Budget

January through December 2021

	Jan - Dec 21	Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
COMMITMENTS		
IN-CURRENT	67,490	67,105
IN-Benevolence Offerings	5,010	4,280
IN-Outreach		
IN-Camp Lutherlyn	170	0
IN-CLWR Designated	1,481	0
IN-Chickens for Food Ba...	1,145	0
Total IN-Outreach	2,796	0
Total COMMITMENTS	75,297	71,385
IN-Fun(d) Raisers for Current	2,992	2,750
IN-Investment Income	2,850	2,500
IN-Rental Net	0	1,000
IN-Grant & Other NR Operati...	1,041	2,000
Total Income	82,179	79,635
Expense		
Pastoral Ministry-St. James	60,488	62,232
Worship & Communications	1,545	2,235
Youth Ministry	312	1,195
Property	9,884	10,695
Administration	1,634	1,450
Benevolence Remitted	5,010	4,280
Outreach Remitted	2,896	0
Total Expense	81,770	82,087
Net Ordinary Income	409	-2,452
Other Income/Expense		
Other Income		
IN-CLWR Undesignated	150	0
IN-Food Bank	2,070	0
IN-Hospice	100	0
IN-TR Designated	1,000	0
In-NR Designated	919	0
Total Other Income	4,239	0
Other Expense	4,239	0
Net Other Income	0	0
Net Income	409	-2,452

5:07 PM

02-20-22

Accrual Basis

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Arnprior

Balance Sheet

As of 31 December 2021

	<u>31 Dec 21</u>	<u>31 Dec 20</u>
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Chequing/Savings		
Chequing Account 0066818	28,697	27,107
Total Chequing/Savings	28,697	27,107
Accounts Receivable	405	730
Other Current Assets		
A/R - Non Customer	0	1,000
Evangelical Lutheran Foundat...	27,850	26,762
Prepaid Expenses	138	136
Total Other Current Assets	27,987	27,898
Total Current Assets	57,089	55,734
Fixed Assets		
Church Building & Land	302,000	280,000
Furniture and Equipment	50,000	50,000
Total Fixed Assets	352,000	330,000
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>409,089</u></u>	<u><u>385,734</u></u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	1,621	2,263
Other Current Liabilities		
Accrued Liabilities/ Payables	0	1,303
GST/HST Payable	0	2
Total Other Current Liabilities	0	1,305
Total Current Liabilities	1,621	3,568
Total Liabilities	1,621	3,568
Equity		
Opening Bal Equity	285,598	263,598
Other Designated Funds	50	50
Designated Funds	2,892	0
Unrestricted Net Assets	118,518	115,653
Net Income	409	2,865
Total Equity	407,468	382,167
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u><u>409,089</u></u>	<u><u>385,734</u></u>

2022 BUDGET

Our congregation is in a financially healthy place after 2 years of small surpluses; yes, we've had some government grants to achieve those, but we are within reach of breaking even without grants. Our balance sheet is healthy with over \$55,000 in reserves.

Per council direction, this is a balanced (break-even) 2022 budget. Implicit in all budget numbers is the assumption that we will **return to normal** in 2022. (If we continue to be constrained by COVID in 2022, then, in general, our expenses will reduce.)

Input was solicited from many people to determine what our expenses would likely be in 2022. The process of budgeting is, in itself, a planning tool.

Expenses

Expenses overall increase by **5.2%** over 2021 in this "return to normal" year.

- PASTORAL MINISTRY** (prepared by the Shared Ministry Committee (Enid, Alison, Ulla, and Marilyn). This area includes the items: Salary including benefits, government withholdings and materials and mileage. The agreement with St. James remains the same: 30% to St. James and 70% to St. John's. The SJL budget for this area for 2022 is **\$61,523**, a 1.7% increase.
- WORSHIP AND COMMUNICATIONS** (prepared by Pastor and Enid). Total Worship and Communications budget is **\$2,780**, roughly the same as 2019. This budget includes:
 - everything needed for worship (other than Pastor Norine!) – communion and other supplies, music (10 occasions), supply Pastor (1 service),
 - communications and support to members outside of worship services (newsletter, parish mileage, Eternity for Today subscription, and advertising)
- YOUTH MINISTRY** (prepared by Alison with input from Ryan). 2022 Youth Ministry Budget: **\$1,050**.
 - UNPLUG: The plan is to hold an average of 2 events per month from March to December. The remainder of the Synod grant from last year carries forward and will fund Leader and Support costs for 17 events. Our costs for the remaining Leader/ Support and supplies costs net of fees comes to \$900.
 - Sunday School: a return to normal requires a budget of \$150 for supplies.
- PROPERTY** (prepared by Dave).

Property has three parts – the first two parts are funded from the operating; they total **\$13,010**, ~ exactly the 2019 costs.

 - Property - Mandatory.** This area includes Repairs and Maintenance (Furnace, Inspections, Organ, Worship Technology, and Miscellaneous), Caretaker, Utilities, and Insurance. The Mandatory Property budget for 2022 is **\$12,710**. (This represents a 29% increase over 2021, but a 2% decrease over the last "normal" year 2019.
 - Property - Discretionary.** The only discretionary equipment purchase that is being recommended is an air conditioner for Pastor's Office for \$300.
 - Property - Major Capital Project.** A return to normal in 2022 will see coffee hours resume, fund raisers being held, as well as potential rental opportunities. Council believes it is time to replace the basement floor.

All materials will be waterproof (foam subfloor, waterproof vinyl plank floor). This would be done by volunteer labour under leadership from Dave and Jeff. Total cost would be approximately **\$9,000**. It is

proposed by council that we go ahead with this project with funding from reserves with a special capital campaign to replace the money over the next 5 to 10 years.

5. **ADMINISTRATION:** (prepared by Alison). This area includes office supplies, postage, Zoom subscription, Banking costs and non-recoverable HST. The budget is **\$1,395**, \$240 less than 2021.
6. **BENEVOLENCE:** (prepared by Alison & Council). Benevolence is money sent to the Eastern Synod. It covers the Bishop’s office including 3 assistants and 4 administration personnel, as well as some support for the National Church (ELCIC) and Martin Luther College (the seminary). The budget for Benevolence is a commitment of **\$4,380** (a +2% over 2021 commitment). Note: If we are in surplus, then we will remit up to \$5,110 (+2% over 2021 actual).
7. **OUTREACH:** (prepared by Andy & Alison; discussed with Jeff and Cathy). This area includes the support of organizations outside of St. John’s and Eastern Synod. Here are assumptions used in developing the budget
 - St. John’s priority is to survive financially – and in 2022 to have a break-even budget. Without a viable church, we cannot support others. (An interesting analogy is the advice from the Flight Attendant: “don your oxygen mask first, then help others!”)
 - Support of Outreach must be in addition to support of St. John’s needs;
 - We should support a limited number of causes and make a commitment to them each year. Today, we communicate appeals from a number of organizations and let members decide what to support; that results in varying levels of commitment from one year to the next.
 - The congregation should have input to “our” causes – those that we want to support.

The table below shows the proposed 2022 Outreach budget; it totals **\$1,875**, about \$1,000 below 2021 – essentially the amount we donated to the Solar Panels.

ORGANIZATION	2022 Plan	2021 Actual
Camp Lutherlyn	Budget for support of 2 camperships (\$400).	\$170
CLWR Designated	Budget for emergency support up to \$250.	\$375 – BC Floods \$1,106 – Solar Panels
Food Bank of Arnprior	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget for 1 chicken per small family (\$1,125) • Apply for Synod Breakfast Program Grant. 	\$1,125
The Fountain	\$100 for gift cards	\$100 for gift cards
Hospice Renfrew	Support the Hike	Support the Hike
Operation Christmas Child Shoebox program	Stop the appeal. Focus our International support on CLWR.	Small number of shoeboxes
TOTAL	\$1,875	\$2,896

2022 Budget – a New Approach

The 2022 budget proposes a new approach where the congregation commits to supporting the Operating budget, plus Benevolence and the selected outreach organizations listed above out of “one pot” of donations – we’ll call that our **Commitments**.

- You will not be asked to donate to Outreach causes in the budget (see the table above) but we’ll communicate donations made on your behalf.
- We will not ask you to support any other appeals. Information will be made available on causes authorized by SYNOD (e.g., CLWR Gifts from the Heart) where St. John’s members have supported in the past, but there will be no appeal made.
- St. John’s will handle individual givings to organizations we support (CLWR and Food Bank) for causes that are not supported by the “one pot”. Examples:
 - i. The congregation will support the Chickens for the Food Bank, but someone who wishes to give to the Food Bank in general, can still do so.
 - ii. The congregation supports CLWR emergency appeals up to our budget amount. Someone who wishes can still give to CLWR general (undesignated) or other.

It is important to understand that any additional givings listed above should be outside of your support for St. John’s commitments. Clear communication will follow on how to make these extra givings.

INCOME

Grants: (prepared by Alison). Operating Grants (e.g. COVID subsidies) are nice to get, but we can’t count on them. Budget for 2022 is **\$0**.

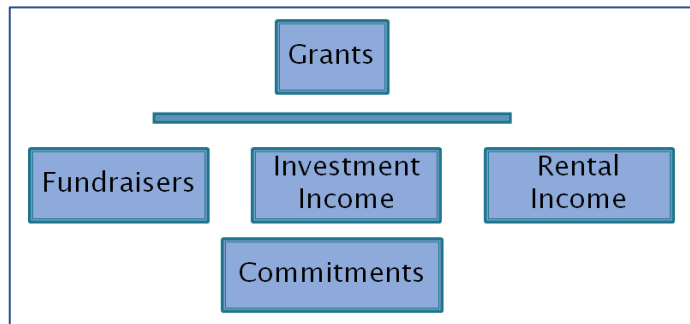
Fun(d)raisers: (prepared by Alison and Maureen). Continue the Christmas Bazaar; replace the Yard Sale with other events (special themed Suppers). Budget: **\$3,800** which is about the same as 2019, and \$1,000 over 2021.

Investment Income: (prepared by Alison). Half of our reserves are invested with the Evangelical Lutheran Foundation of Eastern Canada. We have earned between \$2,000 and \$2,800 the past two years. Budget **\$2,500**.

Rental Income: (prepared by Alison with input from Dave; to be overseen by a new Rental Committee). This involves making a concerted effort in 2022 to market the rental our space to select groups who share the church’s values – fitness classes, meetings, etc. Budget for 2022 is **\$1,000** (admittedly a stretch goal).

Commitments: (prepared by Alison). A balanced budget means that our **Commitment donations** must equal our **Expenses** less **Other Sources** of income). The 2022 budgeted Commitments) are: **\$78,713**. This is an increase of **4.5%** over donations the congregation made last year to Current, Benevolence, Camp Lutherlyn, Chickens for the Food Bank and CLWR special appeals. Council is confident our congregation can meet this goal.

Alison Burkett, Treasurer



2022 Budget Worksheet

	2019 Actuals	2021 Actuals	2022 Budget	% Incr over '21	Notes for 2022 Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense					
Income					
COMMITMENTS		75,297	78,713	4.5%	This is the Commitment amount required for a balanced budget to support Current, Benevolence and Outreach (2 camperships, CLWR emergency, Chickens, Fountain)
IN-Current	63,202	67,490			
IN-Benevolence	3,914	5,010			
IN-"Outreach"	883	2,796			
IN-Fun(d) Raisers for Current	3,685	2,992	3,800		
Investment Income	230	2,850	2,500		
IN-Rental Net	360	0	1,000		Stretch Goal
IN-Grants & Other NR	3,598	1,041	-		No gov't grants
Total Income	75,872	82,179	86,013	4.7%	
Expense					
Pastoral Ministry net of St. James	56,755	60,488	61,523		
Worship & Communications	2,681	1,545	2,780		Incr: in Music, Supply Pastor & Worship Exp 3.7%
Youth Ministry	113	312	1,050		UNPLUG (full year) & Sunday School
Property	12,995	9,884	13,010		Return to normal
Administration	1,022	1,635	1,395		
Benevolence	3,914	5,010	4,380		2.1% increase over '21 budget
Outreach	883	2,896	1,875		2 camperships, CLWR emergency, Chickens, Fountain
Total Expense	78,360	81,770	86,013	5.2%	
Net Ordinary Income	(2,488)	409	-		Balanced Budget

Bios for Candidates for Congregational Council

Rachel was asked to write briefly about her background and interest. We thank her for her willingness to formally begin a 2 year term on council in 2022, after having been elected by council members on an interim basis in September, 2021.

Rachel Roesner

Arnprior has been a special place for me for more than the last decade. I first attended St. John's Lutheran Church during a very hard time in my life and was really welcomed with a very familiar feel, as I grew up going to church in Eganville in a Lutheran Church.

After welcoming our last son, it was the obvious choice to join and have our children attend Church when possible.

Faith gives us a sense of calm and peace but also grounding. It would be really amazing to see more young families embrace faith in their lives.

Our family is a busy one with my spouse Aman in the military, myself a busy Account executive, our oldest son Thomas in competitive hockey and last but not least our little comedian Alistar who will start school in the fall.

I hope to be able to balance family life with faith and help to support our church!

Camp Lutherlyn

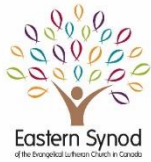
It was another busy year of adaptation and mission at Camp Lutherlyn.



Here are some highlights:

- We hired one student thanks to a Canada Summer Jobs to assist with programming.
- We received \$3,700 from Zion Pembroke's Endowment Fund, which was directed to the washer/dryer for the comfort station. Zion held its summer parish picnic at camp.
- Our Annual General Meeting occurred on June 5, 2021. Emily Savage and Dionne Schuler joined our Board.
- Camp continues to pursue accreditation through the Ontario Camps Association. A mandated site visit was pushed back due to the pandemic.
- Camp accepted the bell and cross from the former St. James Church in Renfrew. They will be installed in 2022.
- A new five-year lease was completed with Synod. The Hoffman Beach property is included. As part of this, a \$10,000 investment to our capital improvement fund will be set up for required lifecycle items to a maximum of \$50,000. This replaces reliance on Synod's \$15,000 annual operational grants.
- Financially, the Camp has been able to weather the pandemic through generous donations, a temporary CEBA loan, and some grants.
- The new Comfort Station was completed after many years of planning and fundraising.
- Due to the pandemic, Children's overnight Camp was not held. However, online programming was provided as well as two Family Rental weeks.
- Virtual Camp on Facebook Live had 859 views in week 1 and 1073 views in week 2. Sunday campfires had 1606 views.
- Lutherlyn participated in Synod Assembly with a video.
- We undertook our most successful fundraising event ever! The 100 dollars by 100 people in 100 days campaign raised funds to support improvements at Hoffman Beach. The project has also been selected as our next Legacy Project.
- The Fire Pit was completed at Bancroft Cabin thanks to fundraising and improvements were made inside. A fridge was also donated.
- Thank you to Ingrid Trautim for assisting with grounds work.
- A metal roof was installed on Rephael Cabin.
- Some forestry work was completed to ensure safety and clean up of Hoffman Beach continued.
- New directional signage was designed and will be installed in 2022.
- Rental revenue helped sustain the camp totalling \$55,000 in 2022.
- We actively posted on Facebook and Instagram. Information can also be found on our website.

Thank you to the 22 participants who helped with our fall workday!



Message from Synod

Dear Friends,

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.” - Hebrews 12:1-2a, NIV

Perseverance is a good word to describe the year that was 2021. The Covid-19 pandemic is proving to be more of a marathon rather than a sprint. And yet, in so many ways across our Synod, congregations and individuals continue to act with amazing resilience, courage and faithfulness. It seems like the more uncertain things become, the greater the faith that arises out of that uncertainty. Our God is amazing and gracious like this. Your response has also been amazing and gracious.

We have just closed the books on the fiscal year of 2021, and we wanted to write to you to thank you for your continued financial support and amazing generosity. Thank you for your loving and faithful expression of stewardship and generous giving which continues to shine through this ongoing, challenging time. We feel your partnership and we are so very grateful for your financial support, and indeed, for all the ways you support our ministry together.

Thanks to your regular and consistent benevolence contributions over the past year, the Synod is sitting around 2% behind where benevolence offerings were at this time last year. You may be interested to know that there has been a 9% decrease over a two-year period (2019-2021). While this still represents an overall decrease in benevolence givings, given the uncertainty surrounding the ongoing pandemic, it is not nearly as catastrophic as it could have been. For your faithfulness, generosity, and partnership in ministry, we remain so, so grateful.

We would also like to remind you that you can revisit the different ministry areas that your benevolence offerings help to support by viewing again ***Our Ministry Together*** – a series of short videos intended to highlight and celebrate areas of our common mission across the Eastern Synod. These highlights can be found [here](#). More video stories exploring ministry and mission from around the Eastern Synod are coming in the year ahead! We are also developing a Stewardship and Generous Giving hub on the Synod website where all these resources will be consolidated and easily accessed. This is coming in the early part of 2022. Stay-tuned!

We would ask that you share this letter with your congregation(s) and supporters and convey to them our deep gratitude for the ministry and the partnership we share. In a year that continues to require deep perseverance and the fortitude of a marathon runner, we remain thankful for your faithfulness and generosity.

Faithfully yours,
Bishop Michael J. Pryse

Keith Myra, Treasurer