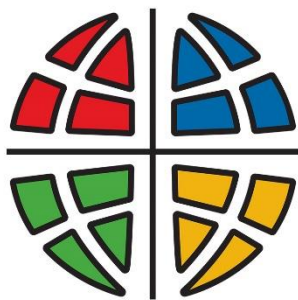


2023 Annual Report of the Congregation



ELCA

Christ Lutheran Church

Pastor Chad Langdon

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2023 Council Members & Staff

Congregation Council

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>
President	Donn Bischoff
Vice President	Brian Miller
Secretary	Beth Wenner
Treasurer	Alan Wondra
Worship/Music Chair	Melissa Stanton
Human Needs Chair	Rosie Harder
Resource Chair	Melanie Barnhill
Property Care Chair	Bobby Smyser
Parish Education Chair	Kelsey Helmick
Outreach Chair	Becky Dykstra
Youth Leader	Chandra Entwisle

Staff

Pastor	Chad Langdon
Office Secretary	Kali Mills
Cantor/Choir Director	Jared Pector
Organist	Margaret Dietz
Custodians	Judith & Ivan Gonzalez
Bookkeeper	Alan Wondra
Parish Nurse	Mary Garrelts
Choir Accompanist	Sylvia Schmidt

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Annual Meeting Agenda 2023

November 19, 2023

11:10 AM

Call Meeting to Order

Opening Prayer

Welcome/Review Agenda

Minutes of Spring 2023 Congregation Meeting presented for approval

Pastor Chad's Annual Report

Treasurer's Report

Congregation Council Committee Reports:

Property Care, Human Needs, Outreach, Worship and Music, Parish Education, Youth and Resource

Elections of Congregation Council for the following positions:

Vice President, Worship/Music, Parish Education, Youth, Resource and Secretary

Election of members to the following committees:

Audit, 2024 Nominating and Endowment

Presentation and Approval of the 2024 Christ Lutheran Church budget

Old Business:

- Update on Alternate Energy Team
- Update on Stained Glass Project

New Business:

- Discussion and approval of Usage of Development Funds for 2024

Adjournment and closing with the Lord's Prayer

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Annual Spring Congregational Meeting Minutes

April 23, 2023

Our mission is “to love the Lord with all our hearts, souls and minds and to love our neighbors as ourselves by reaching out to touch as many people as possible with the good news of Jesus Christ.”

Opening/Call to Order: Donn Bischoff called the meeting to order at 12:15 pm. Present: It was deemed that a quorum was present. See the attached Attendance Sheets.

Donn opened with a prayer.

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting: The minutes of the Special Called Congregational meeting in February, were approved as written.

Treasurer’s Report: The 2022 Year-end Financial Report was reviewed and approved as presented.

BUSINESS:

1. Audit Committee Member: The Audit Committee has a vacancy and needs a member, and Margaret Kaufman was nominated. Hearing no nominations from the floor, Margaret was elected to complete the 3-year term.
2. Synod Assembly Delegates: Two delegates are needed, one male and one female. The assembly will be a Zoom assembly this year, requiring no travel. Bonnie Johnson and Forrest Ehmke both volunteered to be nominated. Hearing no other nominations from the floor, they were both elected delegates for the June 3rd assembly.
3. Projectors: The fund raiser was successful, and 2 projectors were purchased and installed. Thanks to all for your donations.
4. Clerestory windows: The church now has promises and funds of \$12,000 to purchase upper stained-glass windows for the sanctuary. Each window will cost approximately \$4,000 and there are six windows. They will be designed and installed by The Rayer’s Bearden Stained Glass Supply. They want all six windows made in one order, to ensure that the stained-glass colors will all match. \$12, 000 is still needed, and the company is willing to work with the church and let us pay in 3 payments, a third now, a third when the designs are finished, and a third at installation. The time line from start to finish is approximately 6-8 months. Council is brining this project before the congregation to ask if the project should proceed, or wait until the church has the full \$24,000 in hand. After discussion, a motion came to the floor. **MOTION:** to proceed with the project, and allow the church to raise money for the balance of the windows. Seconded, Motion approved
5. Alternative Energy: Brian Miller reported that the committee had Integrity Trade Services inspect the heating and air systems for efficiency. It was discovered that both needed some work and new filters. Council has since approved some Annual Spring

Congregational Meeting 2 April 23, 2023 improvements to the systems and an annual contract, to see that maintenance of the systems is carried out. They continue to work on some possible upgrades and improvements to increase the church's efficiency.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Wenner, Secretary

Attachments:

1. Attendance Sheet
2. 2022 Yearend Financial Report

Pastor Chad's 2023 Annual Report

One of the ways I try to discern the movement of the Holy Spirit is to look at what is lifegiving and what are some challenges that require more trust in God. For this year's report, I'd like to share a couple places where I feel the Spirit is moving in our congregation, a couple places where we face some challenges, and then briefly run through some monthly highlights.

WHAT IS LIFEGIVING?

As I look back on the previous year, there are two significant changes in our ministry that seem to be bringing life and hope. The first is our outreach ministry to Heights High School. What started during the 2022-23 school year has grown and blossomed this year. Over this previous summer, we assumed that we would again have students show up during their lunch period, but we wanted to be ready this year. In conjunction with the school administration, we came up with some rules and expectations for what we could offer & expect from the students. We also recruited an amazing team of volunteers, where we have 3-4 church "grandparents" show up every day to distribute free snacks to the kids and get to know them a little bit. This frees me up to interact with the kids on a daily basis. I also pass out a weekly scripture passage to every person that comes. Every day, we have been welcoming 60-90 kids into our church. It is wonderful to see our fellowship hall and picnic tables being used on a daily basis to provide the students with a safe, quiet, life-giving place to eat lunch and experience the love of Jesus through the generosity of our church members.

The second way our ministry has changed is through our justice work. We have gotten involved with DART's (Direct Action & Research Training Center) newest chapter, located in Sedgwick County. I attended DART's national clergy conference in February, was elected as our chapter's secretary, and have been attending a couple meetings every month to build this ministry. There are currently over 60 different congregations involved in this justice ministry, and Christ Lutheran has become an important part of it. Nearly our entire church council (& some others) attended the countywide kick-off "Rethinking Justice" event in April. This summer we had 6 people from CLC trained as Justice Ministry Team Leaders, who will help steer the justice process at our congregation. We had many of our congregation members attend Listening Sessions throughout October. And by the time of our November congregational meeting, we will have covenanted with the other congregations in our continued pursuit of justice and we will have identified the top 2 areas of injustice that we will be collectively addressing next year. For me personally, I have learned so much about how to do justice this past year, and I helped share some of those learnings with the congregation in a sermon series throughout the month of August. While I have heard that not everyone is comfortable with this process or our recent emphasis on doing justice (although no one has spoken to me directly), I do feel like we are being faithful to the call of Jesus by participating in this justice ministry.

SOME CHALLENGES

While our congregation continues to do incredible ministry, we do face some challenges. We have lost some incredible people over the last couple years, some to death, some to job transfers or moving, and some who simply stopped coming to church. These losses seem significant and each one leaves a hole in our hearts and in our ministry. Along these lines, our

congregation is getting older (which is not unusual in the Lutheran/Protestant world). Some of this is a product of our culture and maybe our location. Some of it is because we have not done a good job of inviting new folks into the life of our congregation. And some of it may be that we need to change our definition or idea of what it means to be church (after all, we have nearly as many teenagers in our building EVERY SINGLE DAY as we have people in our pews on a Sunday morning). Our challenge is to raise up new faithful servants who can take on the mantle of leadership and commitment to following the way of Jesus. As our congregation ages and as the cultural trends continue, we will need step out in faith and trust God with new ways of doing ministry and being the church together.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE YEAR

November (2022) – We re-started Falcon Fellowship after a 2+ year hiatus. The restart has not been linear or very consistent, but we are trying to build this program back up. · We welcomed 3 new families into our congregation!

December (2022) – Our Advent theme was “Great Expectations” and we were able to restart our Advent dinners after the pandemic. · We had our first “Brown Bag Christmas Pageant.” · We did some Christmas caroling to our neighbors in Falcon Heights.

January (2023) – We finished our new photo directory. · Our church council had a retreat where we talked a lot about how to support the other ELCA churches in the Wichita area, most of whom are struggling.

February – I attended the DART national clergy conference and learned a lot about justice. · I took a bunch of youth to the Youth Quake. · We applied to the Lilly Foundation for a 2024 sabbatical grant, and began conversations with the congregation about this.

March – Our theme for Lent was “What if Jesus was Serious?” and we restarted our Lenten meals after the pandemic. · I was elected secretary of the newly formed local DART chapter. · We decided to end our participation with Family Promise, not because we don’t love their ministry, but because we felt like our energy could be better placed elsewhere.

April – Holy Week & Easter went well, including a baptism, 2 other new members, and 6 young people receiving their First Communion. · We hosted a College Prep Night, sponsored by Bethany College. · Many of our leaders attended the “Rethinking Justice” event for DART. · We formed a Stained Glass Committee.

May – I did six(!) funerals in six weeks. · We helped Heights with their Teacher Appreciation Day. · I wrapped up my Potluck Theology Sunday school class where we had studied the intersection of culture, politics, and the Church from the 1950s through present day. · We had a joint outdoor Pentecost/Memorial Day service at Reformation, along with St. Paul’s. It was followed by a Pentecost Party of games, crafts & activities.

June – Our summer theme was “Hidden Heroes of the Bible.” · I attended Synod Assembly. · I led a youth mission trip to Alamosa, Colorado.

July – I read the book, “The Small Church Advantage”, joined a book discussion group about it, and having been reading it with our Worship & Music Committee ever since. · Our VBS was called “Stellar” and we had over 40 people engaged for the week of learning and fun.

August – I preached a 4-week series on justice that coincided with about 30 other churches in our county preaching on the same themes. · We planned and launched our daily lunch outreach program to the students of Heights High. · I led a day-long retreat for the church councils of the Wichita Lutherans, forming relationships and discerning ways we can work together to meet our common challenges.

September – We trained and commissioned our Justice Ministry Team. · Sunday school restarted and our topic for Potluck Theology is learning how to talk about our faith using hard questions. · Youth activities resumed, including choir, confirmation, youth group, Messy Church, and a monthly joint youth group with Reformation. We also started planning to attend the 2024 National Youth Gathering in New Orleans. · The Heights outreach program swelled to reach about 80-90 kids every day.

October – We hosted a successful trivia night for Falcon Fellowship. · We participated in a joint Reformation Sunday service at Reformation Lutheran. · We were once again a regional ingathering site for Lutheran World Relief. · I attended Theology Beer Camp in Springfield, MO for some continuing education.

Other than leading worship, preaching and doing pastoral care, my regular activities include:

- Leading weekly youth activities
- Teaching Sunday school
- Attending monthly church council meetings
- Attending other committee meetings
- Leading worship & preaching once every month for the Shepherd’s Crossing community
- Meeting monthly with a Spiritual Director
- Attending a bi-weekly book study group on small churches
- Serving as the secretary for our local DART chapter, including serving on the Executive Committee
- Serving as the Central States Synod Secretary, including serving on the Synod Council and the Executive Committee

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Chad Langdon

President's Report

Thank you, Christ Lutheran for your continued support of your Council and its president. We have concentrated on accomplishing those duties assigned to us by the constitution and those action items voted by you at our congregational meetings.

We appreciate your willingness to help and guide us with your ideas, labors, finances and prayers. Our goal is to do the will of God and the will of you, the congregation. Hopefully our worship and fellowship moves and motivates you by satisfying your spiritual needs as well as urging us to follow Christ's call to help those in need.

Christ Lutheran continues to be a significant presence in our community with many of you giving of your time and money. My main goal with the Council, as voted at the beginning of the year, was to increase the participation of members in our worship and volunteer ministries. I do see improvement with the special example of those who now regularly help serve Heights students with a daily snack lunch.

We basically completed the parking lot and building improvements you approved from the Development Fund. This year I ask you to support the Fund's use for local ministry. I pray you align with our goal to help Mision San Juan de Dios, our growing Spanish service, and our partnership with the Sedgwick County Justice Team.

Thank you for allowing me to be part of your leadership team. It is an honor to serve God through a most wonderful familial congregation.

Sincerely,

Donn Bischoff, Congregational President

Treasurer's Report

Year-to-Date through September 2023

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH TREASURER'S REPORT		September 30, 2023			
OPERATING FUND EXPENDITURES	MONTH	2023 CUMULATIVE	2023 BUDGET	BALANCE	
Outside Christ Lutheran Church	\$1,167.22	\$14,619.86	\$20,829.00	\$6,209.14	
ELCA Benevolence (.085)	\$1,167.22	\$14,619.86	\$20,254.00	\$5,634.14	
Area Ministry (ELCA)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$275.00	\$275.00	
Synod Assembly Offering	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	
Pastoral Services	\$10,572.46	\$91,713.96	\$124,141.00	\$32,427.04	
Salary	\$3,515.24	\$31,736.88	\$44,933.00	\$13,196.12	
SECA	\$486.76	\$4,380.84	\$5,841.00	\$1,460.16	
Housing & Utilities	\$1,974.16	\$17,767.44	\$23,690.00	\$5,922.56	
Pension & Medical	\$3,937.59	\$35,438.31	\$43,027.00	\$7,588.69	
Mileage Reimbursement	\$0.00	\$1,205.07	\$4,000.00	\$2,794.93	
Continuing Education	\$0.00	\$361.26	\$1,500.00	\$1,138.74	
Bishop's Convocation	\$598.23	\$598.23	\$250.00	(\$348.23)	
Pastoral Hospitality & Outreach	\$60.48	\$225.93	\$500.00	\$274.07	
Book Allowance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$400.00	
Administrative Support	\$1,441.97	\$18,330.09	\$31,504.00	\$13,173.91	
Secretarial	\$457.13	\$5,013.98	\$11,700.00	\$6,686.02	
Social Security	\$0.00	\$1,299.52	\$2,574.00	\$1,274.48	
Office Supplies	\$776.66	\$7,546.28	\$10,000.00	\$2,453.72	
Postage	\$0.00	\$136.75	\$200.00	\$63.25	
Worker's Comp	\$0.00	\$471.00	\$1,580.00	\$1,109.00	
Convention Expenses	\$0.00	\$195.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,305.00	
Continuing Education (Staff)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	
Software Support	\$58.18	\$2,317.56	\$1,400.00	(\$917.56)	
Book Keeper	\$150.00	\$1,350.00	\$2,300.00	\$950.00	
Worship	\$754.10	\$11,606.94	\$21,080.00	\$9,473.06	
Organist	\$346.31	\$3,392.70	\$4,500.00	\$1,107.30	
Choir Director/Cantor	\$369.40	\$2,799.63	\$3,600.00	\$800.37	
Supply Ministers	\$0.00	\$465.00	\$930.00	\$465.00	
Music & Choir Supplies	\$0.00	\$257.74	\$500.00	\$242.26	
Contemporary Service Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	
Contemp. Worship Music Planner	\$0.00	\$1,577.46	\$2,600.00	\$1,022.54	
Accompanist	\$0.00	\$1,571.68	\$3,450.00	\$1,878.32	
Worship Supplies	\$38.39	\$1,542.73	\$5,000.00	\$3,457.27	
Outreach	\$0.00	\$250.06	\$2,100.00	\$1,849.94	
Publicity & Outreach	\$0.00	\$78.38	\$200.00	\$121.62	
Special Projects	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	
Lutheran/CIOH	\$0.00	\$171.68	\$1,600.00	\$1,428.32	
Resource	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	
Envelopes	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	
Human Needs	\$200.00	\$3,478.41	\$5,150.00	\$1,671.59	
St. Paul's Breakfast	\$0.00	\$1,306.58	\$1,800.00	\$493.42	
St Paul's Bus Tokens	\$100.00	\$700.00	\$1,200.00	\$500.00	
Family Promise / Inter Relocation Comm	\$0.00	\$386.25	\$500.00	\$113.75	
Partners for Wichita	\$100.00	\$900.00	\$1,200.00	\$300.00	
Sandwich Saturday	\$0.00	\$185.58	\$450.00	\$264.42	
Parish Education	\$70.66	\$4,437.74	\$5,475.00	\$1,037.26	
Sunday School	\$0.00	\$833.79	\$900.00	\$66.21	
Bible School & Mid-Week	\$70.66	\$1,103.95	\$1,500.00	\$396.05	
Confirmation Program	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	
Adult Education	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	
Library	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	
Special Events	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$75.00	\$75.00	
Tomah Shinga Counslor	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	
Youth	\$0.00	\$1,383.81	\$4,750.00	\$3,366.19	
Camps / Youth Quake	\$0.00	\$194.01	\$2,000.00	\$1,805.99	
High School Youth	\$0.00	\$174.03	\$500.00	\$325.97	
Child Safety Policy Support	\$0.00	\$148.00	\$250.00	\$102.00	
Nat. Youth Convention - '23	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	
High School Mission Trip	\$0.00	\$867.77	\$1,000.00	\$132.23	
Facilities & Equipment	\$2,276.30	\$25,301.40	\$39,000.00	\$13,698.60	
Custodian	\$500.00	\$4,500.00	\$6,000.00	\$1,500.00	
Utilities	\$1,169.33	\$10,757.69	\$15,500.00	\$4,742.31	
Maintenance	\$606.97	\$2,685.21	\$4,000.00	\$1,314.79	
Building Insurance	\$0.00	\$6,261.50	\$8,000.00	\$1,738.50	
Equipment (new/repair)	\$0.00	\$1,097.00	\$3,000.00	\$1,903.00	
Emergency Facilities	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	
TOTAL BUDGETED EXPENSES	\$16,482.71	\$171,122.27	\$254,079.00	\$82,956.73	

TREASURER'S REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2023					
OPERATING FUND BALANCE - AUGUST 31, 2022				\$49,773.00	
RECEIPTS		PREV. MONTH	THIS MONTH	2023 CUMULATIVE	2022 CUMULATIVE
Envelope		\$9,650.00	\$9,303.34	\$105,858.22	
Loose		\$206.00	\$173.00	\$2,375.00	
ACH/Tithe/Elect/Other		\$3,875.97	\$8,310.73	\$58,750.86	
TOTAL RECEIPTS		\$13,731.97	\$17,787.07	\$166,984.08	\$159,713.75
EXPENSES		\$19,353.86	\$16,482.71	\$171,160.65	\$166,609.38
OPERATING FUND GAIN/LOSS		(\$5,621.89)	\$1,304.36	(\$4,176.57)	(\$6,895.63)
OPERATING FUND BALANCE - SEPTEMBER 30, 2023				\$51,077.36	\$136.67
Designated Funds Recap Year 2023					
DESIGNATED FUNDS		Begin Bal	RECEIPTS	EXPENSE	END BAL
STARTING BALANCE		\$118,512.81			
Emergency Assistance	Pastor	\$1,051.02		\$100.00	\$951.02
Pastor Continuing Education	Pastor	(\$300.32)			(\$300.32)
Building Development Tithe/ACH	Council	\$61,141.07	\$1,371.73	\$137.10	\$62,375.70
Church Sign	Council	\$7,129.06			\$7,129.06
Thrivent D. Deposit	Council	\$2,299.82			\$2,299.82
Dillons Dollars	Council	\$2,202.68			\$2,202.68
Combined Memorial Funds/Wish List	Council	\$9,768.10		\$1,268.94	\$8,499.16
Synod Assembly	Council	\$150.00			\$150.00
Emergency Building Fund PROJECTOR	Council	\$17,962.53			\$17,962.53
Mission Trip / Border Trip	Council	\$1,060.00			\$1,060.00
Money Market / CD transfer	Council	\$0.00			\$0.00
Alter Guild	Council	\$225.36			\$225.36
Funeral Meals/Misc	Council	\$1,149.47			\$1,149.47
Falcon Fellowship (Heights Luncheon)	Falcon Fell	\$1,343.63	\$630.00	\$669.35	\$1,304.28
International Relocation Committee	H. Needs	\$446.98			\$446.98
Human Needs / Sandwich Saturday	H. Needs	\$576.12	\$48.60		\$624.72
Borgandale Interest Fund	H. Needs	\$0.00			\$0.00
Crop Walk / Souper Bowl / Food for Kids	H. Needs	\$0.00			\$0.00
Habitat for Humanity/Bibles Children's Ho	H. Needs	\$101.13			\$101.13
St. Pauls Breakfast/ Bus Tokens	H. Needs	\$801.77	\$48.60	\$65.38	\$784.99
Noisy Offering	H. Needs	\$1,243.87	\$144.16		\$1,388.03
Family Promise	H. Needs	\$0.00			\$0.00
Newton Safe House	H. Needs	\$0.00			\$0.00
Dear Neighbor	H. Needs	\$0.00			\$0.00
Choir Robes	Worship	\$1,452.39			\$1,452.39
Paraments	Worship	\$1,303.59			\$1,303.59
Worship Comm/ Devotionals/Alter Guild	Worship	\$603.38			\$603.38
Music Worship	Worship	\$240.00			\$240.00
Disaster/Emerg. Response - Haiti Relief	Resource	\$0.00			\$0.00
Building Furnishings/ Kitchen Supplies	Resource	\$818.40			\$818.40
Lent / Advent Offerings	Resource	\$2,158.23			\$2,158.23
Organ Repair	Resource	\$949.00			\$949.00
Lawn Tractor	Property	\$550.52			\$550.52
Youth Fund	Youth	\$647.46			\$647.46
Vacation Bible School	Parish Ed	\$25.00			\$25.00
Tomah Shinga / Youth Quake	Parish Ed	(\$350.00)			(\$350.00)
Youth Mission/ Natl Gathering	Youth	\$159.33			\$159.33
Area 5 Ministries Account	Area 5	\$1,708.78		\$659.72	\$1,049.06
Lutheran World Relief - Ukraine	H. Needs	\$0.00			\$0.00
Outreach Committee		\$50.00			\$50.00
Building - Stain Glass Window Fund		(\$155.56)	\$1,788.94		\$1,633.38
CD Money Market - Sterling Fed Bank		\$0.00			\$0.00
Extra Desig. Fund Line Item		\$0.00			\$0.00
Extra Desig. Fund Line Item		\$0.00			\$0.00
Extra Desig. Fund Line Item		\$0.00			\$0.00
Totals			\$4,032.03	\$2,900.49	
ENDING BALANCE					\$119,644.35
Combined Ending Balance					\$170,721.71
CD - Mission Investment original investment					(\$20,000.00)
Total Check Book Balance					\$150,721.71
Bank Statement					\$150,721.71
INVESTMENTS					
Mission Investment - General Fund			\$23,000.00		
Mission Investment - Endowment			\$66,957.59		
Mission Investment - Borgandale			\$16,471.19		
Women of Christ Lutheran Church			\$1,142.80		
Emergency Building Fund Allocations					
\$50 Sound System; Emerg. Build Fund	\$17,912.53	\$17,962.53			
Memorial Fund/ Wish List Recap					
Sally Hoyer		\$150.00			
Darrell Unruh		\$218.12	New Keyboard		
Eileen Dietz		\$0.00	Stained Glass		
Carol Hill		\$189.07			
C. Boatwright		\$80.00			
B. Garrelts - Love offering		\$50.00			
Beth Shaw		\$3,091.97			
Sondergard		\$915.00	Banners		
G. Christenson		\$2,880.00			
Wes Nelson		\$925.00			
New Memorial Fund Lines		\$0.00			
New Memorial Fund Lines		\$0.00			
New Memorial Fund Lines		\$0.00			
		\$8,499.16			
Total Donations for Projectors		\$16,455.00			

Human Needs Committee

The following is a brief summary of human needs projects for January 2023 – December 2023.

January: We purchased, assembled and delivered 4 dressers from the Amazon wish list for the IRC (International Rescue Committee). We also purchased several tables from that list and assembled those along with buying 3 used tables and various chairs on Marketplace.

Table collection for January: Bags of Blessing

February table collection: Food 4 Kids

March collection: Financial donations for Lutheran World Relief to help with the earthquake crisis in Turkey and Syria.

April collection: Finals care packages for our college students

May table collection: Baby care kits for LWR

June table collection: Basic toys for children just arriving in Wichita through the IRC

\$300 from noisy offering was sent to Camp Tomah Shinga for maintenance needs.

July/August: table collection of school supplies for LWR

September: ICTSOS (items requested to support victims of human trafficking)

October: Items requested by Stepstone in support of domestic violence survivors

November: Food Pantry at St Paul's

December: Refugee needs

We sent \$500 from the Dillon's Dollars fund for shipping of quilts and kits to LWR. I included this as a line item for 2024.

We hosted the LWR truck ingathering of kits and quilts from this area of Kansas on Oct. 24.

Thanks to all of you who support Human Needs through your time, table donations and/or noisy offering!

Rosie Harder, Chairperson Human Needs Committee

Outreach Committee

The Outreach committee has met a few times to discuss and plan activities including Sandwich Saturday, St Paul's community breakfast, Falcon Fellowship, Falcon Fellowship Trivia Night, Family Promise (now discontinued at CLC) and Heights HS outreach.

Here's a brief recap of those programs: The Sandwich Saturday meal has had some changes and we are trying to adjust the number of sandwiches to accommodate guests. The St. Paul's community breakfast is making gains to pre-pandemic participation, as we are now serving the meal indoors and the number of guests are increasing. Falcon Fellowship Trivia night was a success and raised enough money to fund this monthly program through the school year. The Heights HS outreach is growing and seems to be going well with more work to be done to support the teachers throughout the school year.

At the Council Retreat held in December 2022, we set goals to achieve throughout the year and the Outreach team has delivered!

Outreach committee goals:

1) Develop and maintain a Heights Outreach.—Goal met (Ongoing)

This goal has been achieved! Pastor Chad has done a lot of work with the school and the congregation with this. We have met with the Assistant Principal and the school security officer, they are all aware of the goals of the CLC for this outreach and are on board! Chad was able to develop some guidelines with help of the committee participants and the kids are aware of the rules and consequences. The congregation has really been helpful by being present daily Monday through Thursday to make this program a success. Thank you to all involved and especially Pastor Chad for having the patience and determination to continue supporting the kids at Heights.

2) Revisit Family Promise by May's cycle.--Goal met

This goal was made to ensure we communicated, in a timely manner, with the Family Promise organization of CLC's intentions to stop our support due to changes in the FP organization. The notifications were made, and as of February 2023, CLC is no longer involved as a church. Thank you to Elaine Miller for volunteering as the organizer for the CLC team for 5 years.

3) Improve on the 80/20 so we get more volunteers involved & delegate more—Ongoing

This goal was developed to ensure all CLC congregants are given the opportunity to participate in outreach. It is difficult to measure the amount of people who volunteer, but I do think there are a lot of people to volunteer to help in all aspects of the church, from local weekly worship to international mission trips. The core group of volunteers are invaluable and offer so much of their time to make sure each of the outreach programs run smoothly. We will continue to make an effort to speak to and invite

more church members to get involved by volunteering/participating in outreach opportunities! Thank you to all those who volunteer regularly!

I look forward to serving another year as the Outreach Committee chair, 2024 should be an exciting time to consider what ministry God is leading CLC to work on next! The DART ministry will be important for the church and surrounding communities. Pastor Chad will keep us involved and updated in the progress with this and hopefully we will all be a part of the decisions made.

I am amazed at the work our church has accomplished year after year, these programs mentioned above are just a very few of all the ministries CLC works to support. It is amazing how we can help with our time and talents when given the opportunity! Please continue to support in any way you are able and willing!

Becky Dykstra
Outreach Committee

Worship and Music Committee

The Worship and Music Committee continues to appreciate the many talents our musicians have brought to worship services in the past year. A talented Praise Band, a fantastic choir, and a wonderful cantor and accompanists enhance our worship each week.

It has been a quiet year for the committee, however. Pastor has encouraged us to read the book *The Small Church Advantage: Seven Powerful Worship Practices that Work Best in Small Settings*. The book points to the prevailing but inaccurate perception that small churches are inferior to large ones. We agreed that people come to a small church to be known and to get to know each other, so we are considering ways we could encourage relationships, especially across the early/late service divide, and encourage participation and a sense of ownership in the worship process.

This summer, I was privileged to lead a delightful group on a six-session memoir-writing journey. Each week we read and discussed a memoir sample, then wrote our own stories. It was sometimes a raucous group as we laughed and shared fun memories. Other times we learned from one another's struggles and hardships. Although none of us completed a book manuscript in the six weeks, we transcribed some important memories as a gift to the ones we love.

In the future, I would love to see Christ Lutheran create more opportunities for contemplative prayer and worship. I appreciate the congregation's continued support of worship and music within the church and invite you to participate in every way you can.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Stanton

Parish Education Committee

Everything has gone off without a hitch for the 2023-2024 season. We have a younger class consisting of preschoolers in the downstairs room 6. The older kids use the upstairs space for Sunday School. These classes are led by a team of volunteers to teach our kiddos about the present week's story. Every adult volunteer is up to date on background checks.

On Sundays between services, there are also additional Sunday School classes for adults.

Vacation Bible School was a great time this year! You could say it was out of this world! We had a great turn out. Some of the high school kids helped our adult volunteers with a rotation of activities. The younger children would rotate to different activities throughout a 2 hour time frame each night during the last week of July. Thanks to all the new adult volunteers who helped this year!

During the beginning of the year our council set some goals for the following year. We completed a makeover of the nursery earlier this year. The mural idea we settled on was of the parable of the sower. Lord, let our little ones hearts be good soil. A special thanks to Cheryl Shaw for all her help.

Finally, we will be starting work on our youth Christmas pageant. This has been a church effort since the days of COVID. But Parish Education will be taking this back over to help the little ones learn the story of Jesus' birth.

Looking forward to another term of learning and fun,

Kelsey Helmick

Parish Education Chair

Resource Committee

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to the church in this capacity and thank you for your continued financial support of the church and its ministry.

In 2023, we were able to utilize those gifts to replace our projectors in the sanctuary, begin work on the stained-glass windows, engage with DART on important justice issues, and expand our Heights outreach, just to name a few.

In 2024, we look forward to continuing these important ministries and focusing our development fund on ELCA ministry in the Wichita area.

Melanie Barnhill

Resource Committee Chair

Youth Committee

Chandra Entwisle

No report submitted.

Property Care

Bobby Smyser

No report submitted.

Membership Activity

(November 1, 2022 – October 31, 2023)

Baptisms 2

Lorelai Barnhill
Joelle McMullin

Confirmations 2

Tucker Clouse
Christopher Naranjo

Deaths 2

Gerald Christensen
Wes Nelson

Removals

By Transfer (ELCA) (0)
By Transfer (other) (0)
By Inactivity or Other (36)

New Members 11

Alisa Baden
Nick Baden
Zoey Baden
Alex Baden
Grace Carlson
David Gorges
Jennifer Gorges
Paul Gorges
Lorelai Barnhill
Robert Barnhill
Beverly Krasselt

Membership

11-1-22 members.....273
Removed by death.....2
Removed by transfer.....0
Removed by inactivity or other..36
New members & baptisms.....+11

11-1-2023 Total Members.....246

Average Weekly Attendance

	THIS YEAR (2023)			LAST YEAR (2022)		
	<u>Combined</u>	<u>Early</u>	<u>Late</u>	<u>Combined</u>	<u>Early</u>	<u>Late</u>
January	100	40	60	72	37	35
February	107	39	66	99	45	54
March	102	36	66	105	52	53
April	126	57	70	137	71	66
May	106	41	65	97	43	54
June	94	41	53	99	43	56
July	104	44	60	88	38	50
August	97	37	61	101	43	58
September	105	46	59	97	42	55
October	100	44	56	112	46	66
November				107	44	65
December				90	44	57
Annual Avg:	104	43	61	101	46	55

Removals by Transfer (ELCA) 0

Removals by Transfer (LCMS) 0

Removals by Transfer (other denomination) 0

Removals by Inactivity or Other 36

(haven't been here in at least 2 years)

- Kris & Clay Zecha, Joshua, Natasha, Charles
- Mary & Buddy Martin, Tiffany & Thane
- Scott & Sheila Schul, Alex & Trevor
- Dick & Gail Hahn
- Carol & Jerry McDaniel
- Nick Weyers
- Greg & Pam Nanney
- Lisa Boyce, Stephanie Nolt
- Rhonda Moravec
- Jack Bastow
- Phoenix Flowers
- Alex & Stephanie Haile, Ariannah
- Ryan & Erica Ballard
- Dave & Jodi Basart
- James & Lauren McMullin
- Kevin & Judy Smith

Move from Active to Inactive Status 3

(haven't been here in at least 1 year)

- Jody Nelson
- Judy Parsons
- Trinity Leonard

Staffing Report

- **Margaret Dietz** started in 1965 and has now been doing this for 58 years.
- **Alan Wondra** started under contract as bookkeeper in March of 2009. He has now been doing this for 14 years.
- **The Praise Band** (currently Brian Miller, Sylvia & Alan Schmidt, Jim Garrelts, Michael Clouse, Lynde Langdon, Julie Stiebner – or a variation of this crew) has been leading weekly worship as Volunteer Staff since the June of 2011. They have been doing this for 12 years.
 - In January 2022, Brian, Sylvia & Lynde started getting paid to select the songs.
- **Pastor Chad Langdon** started in October 2011. He has now been at Christ Lutheran for 12 years.
- **Mary Garrelts** started as Parish Nurse in October of 2018. She has now been doing this for 5 years.
- **Judith & Ivan Gonzalez** started as custodians in August of 2021. They have now been doing this for 2 years.
- **Jared Pector** started as Cantor in September 2021. He started as Choir Director in September 2022. He has been on staff for 2 years.
- **Kali Mills** started as church secretary in June 2022. She has now been doing this for about 18 months.
- **Sylvia Schmidt** started as Choir Accompanist in September 2022. She has been doing this for 1 year.

2023 Nominations for Election

The 2023 Nominating Committee has been hard at work identifying nominees for election to offices and positions at Christ Lutheran Church. At the time of the publishing of this report, their work is not yet complete. Please watch the Take Home News to see who the Nominating Committee has identified. These are the following positions that we are seeking to fill:

2024-2025 Congregation Council (2 year terms):

Vice President (1 year VP, 1 year President)

Secretary

Worship Committee Chair

Resource Committee Chair

Youth Committee Chair

Other Offices & Committees:

Audit Committee (3 year term)

Staff Relations - Staff Representative (3 year term)

Endowment Fund Committee (3 year term) – need 1 person

2024 Nominating Committee (1 year term) – need 3 people

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!

As their terms are expiring, we thank the following people for their faithful service:

President	Donn Bischoff
Secretary	Beth Wenner
Worship Committee Chair	Melissa Stanton
Resource Chair	Melanie Barnhill
Endowment Committee	Cheryl Shaw
Nominating Committee	Sylvia Schmidt, Michael Clouse, Shannon Banta

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH 2024 BUDGET

	2024 Proposed Budget	2023 Budget	Increase/(Decrease)	Comments
OPERATING FUND EXPENDITURES				
Outside Christ Lutheran Church	\$ 21,381.50	\$ 20,829.00	\$ 552.50	
ELCA Benevolence (.085)	20,806.50	20,254.00	552.50	
Area Ministry (ELCA)	275.00	275.00	-	
Synod Assembly Offering	300.00	300.00	-	
Pastoral Services	\$ 129,277.30	\$ 124,141.00	\$ 5,136.30	
Salary	48,364.23	44,933.00	3,431.23	
SECA	5,278.82	5,841.00	(562.18)	
Housing & Utilities	23,689.92	23,690.00	(0.08)	
Housing & Medical	45,294.33	43,027.00	2,267.33	
Mileage Reimbursement	4,000.00	4,000.00	-	
Continuing Education	1,500.00	1,500.00	-	
Bishop's Convocation	250.00	250.00	-	
Pastoral Hospitality & Outreach	500.00	500.00	-	
Book Allowance	400.00	400.00	-	
Administrative Support	\$ 27,543.31	\$ 31,504.00	\$ (3,960.69)	
Secretarial	7,680.00	11,700.00	(4,020.00)	
Social Security	1,713.31	2,574.00	(860.69)	
Office Supplies	10,000.00	10,000.00	-	
Postage	300.00	200.00	100.00	
Worker's Comp	700.00	1,580.00	(880.00)	
Convention Expenses	1,500.00	1,500.00	-	
Continuing Education (Staff)	250.00	250.00	-	
Software Support	2,600.00	1,400.00	1,200.00	
Book Keeper	2,800.00	2,300.00	500.00	
Worship	\$ 20,316.00	\$ 21,080.00	\$ (764.00)	
Organist	4,680.00	4,500.00	180.00	
Choir Director/Cantor	3,744.00	3,600.00	144.00	
Supply Ministers	1,600.00	930.00	670.00	
Music & Choir Supplies	500.00	500.00	-	
Contemporary Service Expenses	500.00	500.00	-	
Contemp. Worship Music Planner	2,704.00	2,600.00	104.00	
Accompanist	3,588.00	3,450.00	138.00	
Worship Supplies	3,000.00	5,000.00	(2,000.00)	

Outreach	\$	7,100.00	\$	2,100.00	\$	5,000.00
Publicity & Outreach		200.00		200.00		-
Special Projects		300.00		300.00		-
Heights Outreach		5,000.00		-		5,000.00
Lutheran/CIOH		1,600.00		1,600.00		-
Resource	\$	50.00	\$	50.00	\$	-
Envelopes		50.00		50.00		-
Human Needs	\$	4,450.00	\$	5,150.00	\$	(700.00)
St. Paul's Breakfast		1,800.00		1,800.00		-
St Paul's Bus Tokens		1,200.00		1,200.00		-
IRC (International Rescue Committee)		500.00				500.00
Lutheran World Relief Shipping		500.00				500.00
Family Promise / Inter Relocation Comm		-		500.00		(500.00)
Partners for Wichita		-		1,200.00		(1,200.00)
Sandwich Saturday		450.00		450.00		-
Parish Education	\$	5,975.00	\$	5,475.00	\$	500.00
Sunday School		900.00		900.00		-
Bible School & Mid-Week		1,500.00		1,500.00		-
Confirmation Program		250.00		250.00		-
Adult Education		200.00		200.00		-
Library		50.00		50.00		-
Special Events		75.00		75.00		-
Tomah Shinga Counselor		3,000.00		2,500.00		500.00
Youth	\$	4,750.00	\$	4,750.00	\$	-
Camps / Youth Quake		2,000.00		2,000.00		-
High School Youth		500.00		500.00		-
Child Safety Policy Support		250.00		250.00		-
Nat. Youth Convention - '23		2,000.00		1,000.00		1,000.00
High School Mission Trip		-		1,000.00		(1,000.00)
Facilities & Equipment	\$	39,800.00	\$	39,000.00	\$	800.00
Custodian		6,300.00		6,000.00		300.00
Utilities		15,500.00		15,500.00		-
Maintenance		4,000.00		4,000.00		-
Building Insurance		8,500.00		8,000.00		500.00
Equipment (new/repair)		3,000.00		3,000.00		-
Emergency Facilities		2,500.00		2,500.00		-
TOTAL BUDGETED EXPENSES	\$	260,643.11	\$	254,079.00	\$	6,564.11