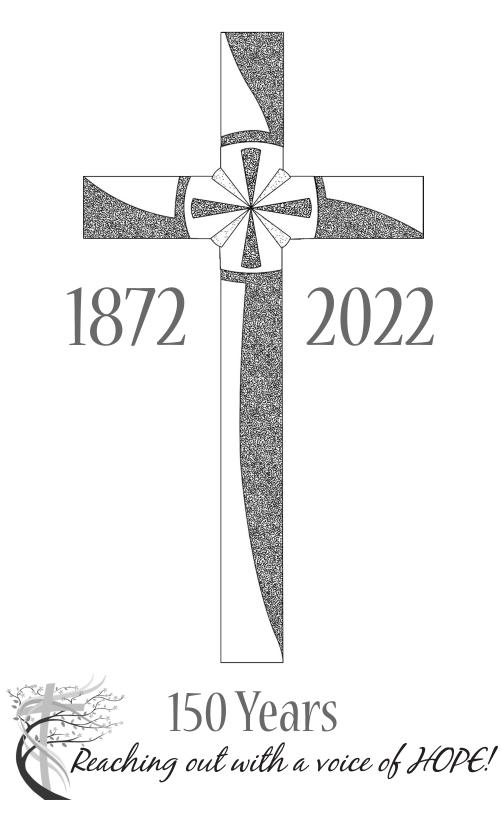
# Our Saviour's Lutheran Church 2022 Annual Report



Revised January 25, 2023

# Table of Contents

- Table of Contents 2 2 Agenda **Clergy Reports** Pastor Kiri Solberg 3-4 5 Pastor Maria Pederson **Program Reports** 6 Ministry Associate 7 - 8**CYF** Ministries 9 Preschool 10-11 Music & Worship Arts Small Group/Team Reports 12 Chapel, Cemetery, Columbarium Dinner's at 6:30 Endowment
- Fair Trade—Equal Exchange Faith & Fiction Book Group Fiction Addiction Book Grp
  Family Promise Guatemala Mission Team
  Hard Hat Ministry
  Little Dresses for Africa
  Motorcycle Ministry Property Team Pub Theology
- 16 Stamping Ministry Stewardship Team
- 16-17 Tuesday Morning Bible Study
- 17 Women's Retreat
- 18-19 2023 Election Nominee Mini Bios
- 20 President's Report
- 20-21 Treasurer's Report

- 22-24 2021 Annual Meeting Minutes
- 25 Audit Team Report

### Financials

- 26 2023 Proposed Budget
- 27 Year-end Income & Expense Summary
- 28-29 Dedicated Funds 2022
- 30 Reserve, Property and Mortgage 2022
- 31 Chapel/Cemetery Report
- 32 Statistics

Annual Congregational Meeting Agenda

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church  $\mid$  19001 Jackson Street NE, East Bethel, MN 55011

### January 29, 2023 Annual Meeting Agenda

- 1. Call to Order: Judy Schaubach, Council President
- 2. Opening Prayer
- 3. Appointment of Meeting Secretary: Priscilla Anderson
- 4. Appointment of Meeting Parliamentarian: Dennis Sackreiter
- 5. Roll Call—Quorum 75
- 6. Rules of Order
- 7. Approval of January 30, 2022 Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes
- 8. Vote on proposed constitution changes recommended by council
- 9. Election of Officers, Council, and Team Members
- 10. Pastoral Reports
- 11. Auditor's Report
- 12. Treasurer's Report
- 13. 2023 Budget
- 14. New Business
- 15. Closing Prayer
- 16. Adjournment



# **Clergy Reports**



### Senior Pastor Kiri Solberg

What a year it has been! We have had so many things to celebrate as a congregation. I give thanks for our staff, our leaders, our volunteers and all of you who come together every week as the body of Christ. It is all of us together in community that makes Our Saviour's so special, and that is something to celebrate. Looking back on 2022, here are some highlights:

### **Church Council – Strategic Choices**

Our council worked with consultant Brenda Moore to implement a process called strategic choices this past spring and summer. Staff and council together discerned several priority areas, and these included: Worship, Children Youth & Family Ministry, Community Outreach and Caring Ministries. Our council committed to a process of reorganizing our meetings so we allow ample time for visioning and discerning each meeting. It has been an invigorating process and also a lot of hard work!

As we go through the strategic choices process for each area, we have been able to evaluate our strengths and identify areas of growth. Numerous task forces have been formed to create recommendations for how we can move forward in actionable ways, and many of those have been put into action already! You are seeing the results of the process in the formation of 3 new community outreach teams, in the forming of a CYF leadership team, and in guidance as to how we allocate our resources. I am grateful to our council for their support of this process and for being leaders who are committed to moving forward with the Our Saviour's mission of Reaching Out with a Voice of Hope!

#### Staff

Our staff works so well together, and are so committed to the mission and ministry of Our Saviour's. Comings and goings on our staff included:

Laura Welciek stepped back from her role as part-time CYF Administrative Specialist in June. We give thanks for the time she served on staff and celebrate that she is still a part of Our Saviour's as a member and worship leader!

Jill Bjornson began serving in March in the new role of volunteer coordinator, and we give thanks for her part in getting more and more people involved on Sunday mornings. She has since returned to her volunteer role as the front desk coordinator and her genuineness in greeting people and welcoming them is a wonderful gift she shares with us! In August, we celebrated removing "interim" from Lisa Rykken Kastler's title, as she added hours and moved into a leadership role as Ministry Associate. Lisa brings her years of experience in leading our CYF staff team, our local outreach and welcoming efforts, and coordinating our adult ministries. All that – in addition to tackling anything else we ask her to do with aplomb.

In August we hired Nathan Chastek as CYF Coordinator. His addition completed our CYF staff team, and we look forward to ways he will lead with expanded opportunities for children and family ministry.

Finally, we can't say enough about Lori Vickstrom's 20+ years of service to Our Saviour's, and for the outstanding work she did as she closed out her career as Building Manager here. She brought so many gifts to this church, including her compassion for grieving families, her ability to work with all kinds of people, her determination in getting projects completed and her flare for making things "look pretty." Lori – we wish you well in retirement and give thanks for your commitment and dedication to Our Saviour's all these years!

#### 150th Anniversary

The 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary team began meeting well over a year ago, and came up with the wonderful idea of "A Year of Celebration!" Highlights included having 6 former pastors/staff back to preach, special events at the Chapel, and celebrating OSLC current and growing ministries with a ministry fair. Many thanks to Cheri Stockinger and Jerome Bokelmann for co-chairing the team, and for the contributions of Jan Green and Becky Beck.



## **Clergy Reports**

#### Stewardship

Our property team identified our most significant needs for 2022, and through our Points Forward Appeal we raised over \$125,000 to fund them! It is such a joy to see the pride of having our building looking great with new carpet and many new furnishings that came to us as corporate donations. So many people helped by moving things around for the carpet installation project, and we give thanks for all the efforts, especially from the Hard Hats. What a joy it was to have some of our former pastors and staff walk into the building for anniversary events, and to see them stop and exclaim with joy how good it looked!

Our Stewardship Team led Celebration Sunday efforts again this fall. We appreciated the heartfelt stories

shared from our 3 mission moment speakers, as well as the efforts of our council, stewardship team and staff to contact all those who are part of Our Saviour's and invite them to Celebration Sunday. Worshipping together in one service for Bluegrass worship, prayerfully submitting commitment cards, and then celebrating together with an all-congregation luncheon sponsored by the Endowment Fund were highlights for the year!

Our Saviour's is blessed to have many vibrant growing ministries, people continuing to visit and be curious about what's going on at Our Saviour's and faithful leaders and volunteers. What we do together as we share God's love in an often-hurting world makes a difference. It is a blessing to be called to serve in this place.

-Pastor Kiri Solberg





Our Saviour's 2022 Annual Report



Pastor Brice Bloxham



Pastor Brian Fragodt



### Pastor Maria Pederson

Behold, I make all things new. -Revelation 21:5

As we continue to emerge from the pandemic, it has been a joy to see people of all ages return to worshiping in the building – and stay after for coffee and treats and good conversation!

We celebrated the congregation's 150th anniversary all year long with a variety of events, including returning guest preachers: Bishop Tessa Moon Leiseth, Deacon Glenndy Ose, Pastor Hilton Hammer, Pastor Brice Bloxham, Pastor Brian Fragodt, and Pastor Dan Nordin. What a fabulous way to mark this landmark in our history!

Our wonderful music staff & volunteers under the leadership of Jennifer Thurman created meaningful worship all year long and put together an outstanding Christmas concert for the first time since Covid hit. Thanks to everyone who made all of that possible! We see you, volunteers!

Livestream worship and Zoom Coffee Hour continue to be a blessing for those at home. Thank you to Jan Bovee for hosting Zoom Coffee Hour so faithfully. Visitation Pastor Jeff Beebe continues to be a treasured source of pastoral care for many of our people who are homebound.

In 2022, our Church Council entered a Strategic Choices process which has been incredibly valuable as we discern what God is up to in our community and how we can be a part of it. From that process, new partnerships have been formed with Cedar Creek Elementary School and Cedar Creek Senior Living, with leadership provided by Dave Eberhardt and Wendy Costello respectively. Our Welcoming All Neighbors Team has also been reinvigorated as we welcome refugees to our area from Ukraine, with Tracey Dalve providing leadership. We look forward to these ministries growing in the future – there are many ways for you to get involved! Contact these gracious leaders for info!

Our connection with the North Metro Grief Support Coalition continued in 2022, helping people from our congregation and from the area navigate grief. The fall 2023 series is planned to be held here at Our Saviour's.

We have been fortunate to receive state grants for our preschool in 2022, thanks to Preschool Director Lissa Leebens staying on top of these opportunities and applying for them. Preschool Teacher Jane Flaherty retired in 2022, and we wish her all the best in retirement! Donna Bailey was brought on board to teach in the fall, and Rebecca Ankrum joins the teaching team this month. We are blessed with terrific teachers!

In fact, we are blessed with terrific staff all around! It is an honor to serve this congregation with such tal-

> ented people as together we ponder what God has in store for us as we Reach Out with a Voice of Hope. Behold, God makes all things new!

Peace, Pastor Maria



# **Program Staff Reports**



### **Ministry Associate**

### Lisa Rykken Kastler

**Shift from Interim** - As I look back on this year, I'm sure I'm not alone in seeing times when life took an unexpected turn. For me in 2022 that turn happened mid-summer when Pastor Kiri asked me to drop "Interim" from my title and become a permanent part of the Our Saviour's staff. Even though I am still part-time as I had wanted, I am thrilled to feel fully part of OSLC staff and faith community.

**Adult Small Group** - Our Saviour's has a wide variety of small groups and ways for people to connect. In my role, I am the staff liaison for those groups to be supported as these lay led groups make connections within the community. I plan to work to make more options for people to connect at Our Saviour's outside of worship.





**CYF and Bible Live** - Another part of my position now at OSLC is as supervisor and part of the CYF (Children, Youth and Family) team. I have spent much of my (almost) 34 year church career in CYF ministries and of that 12+ years in a supervisory role. I am so blessed to be part of this OSLC staff with Leisha Tays as the visionary and hands-on with 6th -12th grade, in her role of CYF Innovator and with Nathan Chastek as lead for Pre-K to 5th grade ministry and administrative specialist in his role as CYF Coordinator. We are so blessed to have the young families and children come to be part of this ministry on a weekly basis and all the special events that are offered throughout the year.

**Sunday Serve Team** - Our Saviour's is filled with caring people who serve in this faith community! As we've re-opened completely after the pandemic shut-down, we've had to rebuild our Sunday morning serving teams for ushers and communion servers. Having people who are willing to serve on Sunday mornings is part of what makes Our Saviour's run smoothly. Serving members of the faith community are vital! I'd like to invite anyone to be part of those teams. If you would like to help me with that, please let me know.

**Local Outreach** - One part of my position throughout this year is managing local outreach. There are a few parts to local outreach which include inviting and welcoming people to Our Saviour's physical buildings, while also being present in the community. This year,

we sent our postcards inviting people to our most celebrated holidays of Christmas and Easter. At Christmas, a Thrivent Action Project was used to have visitor gifts available for those who came. We got good feedback from those who came and WELCOME is always our main goal. As being part of the community, OSLC was represented at both the Ham Lake and East Bethel community festivals in July. Members of OSLC, greeted and visited with people at those festivals and offered candy, pencils, pens, and notepads along with a welcome to visit OSLC inperson or online.

Lisa Rykken Kastler



### Children Youth & Family CYF Ministries

### Leisha Tays, CYF Innovator

What a beautifully growing year 2022 was in CYF (Children, Youth & Family) Ministries! I remain humbled and beyond blessed to be working with our children, youth and families at Our Saviour's! I'm grateful for all the ways we do ministry together and the incredible growth we have been experiencing!

Thank you to the Our Saviour's congregation and all participants for your faithfulness during the past couple of years through the pandemic and coming back in person to see our ministries grow and grow! We are most certainly blessed!

Three months ago it was so wonderful to welcome Nathan Chastek onto the team as our CYF Coordinator. He has grown and learned so much in these first three months and continues to thrive and bring a great passion and energy to the ministry. I look forward to continuing to partner with Nathan in our CYF Ministries.

Lisa Rykken Kastler, Ministry Associate, also joined the CYF team as a supervisor of CYF ministries. Lisa is a fabulous addition to the team. Lisa and I have worked together previous to our time at Our Saviour's and are thrilled to be working together again in CYF ministries.

You all will continue to be in my prayers as we enter into ministry together in 2023. I look forward with excitement and am so encouraged as we continue to introduce new programs and welcome new people to the Our Saviour's family!

In Grace,

Leisha Tays, CYF Innovator

### Nathan Chastek, CYF Coordinator

I'm so excited to be a part of the team as CYF Coordinator! I began working with children in High School and have worked in Childcare for the last 5 years while

earning my degree. My passion in ministry is to spread God's love to others through action, service, and kindness. I have done a lot of learning in the last three months and continue to learn and grow with the community. Our Children's Ministry program continues to grow each week and we continue to build relationships with parents and children within the community. My role within the ministry is to oversee the Children's Ministry on Sunday mornings and support for Leisha with Confirmation and Youth! It has been an amazing three months and I am excited for what the future holds for the ministry!

Nathan Chastek, CYF Coordinator



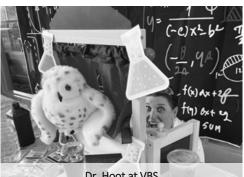
In spring of 2022, we ended regular Kids Ministries programming with 49 children registered. As of November 2022, we have 80 children registered with new registrations happening weekly! What a wonderful, growing year! Our regular Kids Ministries programming is on Sunday mornings and includes Faith Circle for preschoolers, Godly Play for Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> graders, and Bible Live for 2<sup>nd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> graders.



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# **Program Staff Reports**



Dr. Hoot at VBS



Confirmation Small Groups making prayer candles.





2022 Mission Trip to Duluth, MN



We want to say a huge thank you to our guides and junior guides who so faithfully share their Sunday mornings guiding our children in their faith journeys. We cannot do this without you and are so very grateful for you!

Vacation Bible School was another highlight of 2022. The theme was "God's Wonder Lab" and we explored science and God's miracles. The kids loved singing "Way Maker" and their favorite was the owl named Dr. Hoot who showed them science experiments and talked about God's creation, love and miracles!

### **Confirmation Ministries**

Confirmation continues to provide a time of digging deep into our youth's personal faith lives. Confirmation is a three-year program at Our Saviour's that cycles through the Old Testament, the New Testament and Christian and Lutheran Traditions.

Our confirmation students start their Wednesday nights learning in large group through an interactive, engaging time with CYF Innovator, Leisha Tays. They then move into small groups with their guides and junior guides where they connect personally and explore different spiritual discipline like various ways to pray, read Scripture, meditation, acts of kindness, and more.

Confirmation ministries also spends time in retreats, fellowship and participating in service projects together throughout the year.

Thank you to all of our guides and junior guides who provide such a personal time of care for our youth!

This fall we celebrated with our confirmands in a beautiful service where they promised to continue on in their faith journey after three years of faith exploration. We are so proud!

### Youth Ministries

Our youth ministries continue to provide multiple opportunities throughout the year for connection and growth with peers, caring adults and God. This past year, we participated in Feed My Starving Children, Quake, lockins, Camp Wapo, a mission trip to Duluth, Color Me Mine, Trunk n Treat, Turkey Baskets for NACE and so much more! We look forward to another full year together in 2023!

### **Family Ministries**

We continue to provide ways to partner with parents and guardians in their children's faith journeys. We do this through resources sent home with kids from regular programming, service project opportunities, Trunk n Treat, First Communion experiences, Holy Week Festival and so much more!



### Our Saviour's Preschool

### Lissa Leebens

This year has been another wonderful year with a few changes in teachers. We ended the school year in May with one of our favorite traditions: the Spring Program and Graduation for the children going off to Kindergarten. It was a wonderful way to end the year.

We started the school year back up in September with a few staff changes. Ms. Jane retired who we dearly miss, but we were blessed with 2 wonderful teachers. Ms. Donna joined us teaching the older preschoolers and then Ms. Rebecca will join us in January. Our hope is that as we grow the program both teachers will be teaching with us! They have been a great addition to our program.

We have two smaller classrooms again this year. Ms. Jenny is teaching the younger Preschoolers and Ms. Donna is teaching our older Preschoolers/ Kindergarten Readiness Class. I continue to teach a couple of afternoons. We feel truly blessed to have the families we have! They have shown us so much love and support through all of this!!

We ended our year with another one of our favorite traditions: the Christmas Program! We had almost 80 family members here!! The children did such a great job and we ended the night with another favorite....decorating Christmas cookies!! As we head into the New Year, we continue to pray for the safety and well being of our children. Please continue to pray for our Preschool Program as we hope to increase our enrollment so we can continue to teach God's love to these children in a fun, Christian, learning environment.

Blessing,

Lissa Leebens



# **Program Reports**



### Music & Worship Arts

Another incredible year for the Music & Worship Department at Our Saviour's! As always, the various music groups were able to bring some wonderful music & artistry to Our Saviour's through new equipment, innovation, and perseverance. With so many different artists and instruments to make a joyful noise with, Our Saviour's worship continues to be a rich and varied experience.

### **Bluegrass Sundays**

Bluegrass worship continues three times a year, hosted by The Cracked Pots (aka The Cornerstone Band). This year we held Bluegrass Sunday in February with fiddler Tessa McLean, in June with Mikkel Johnson, and in October with Johnna Lawrence. The last two Sundays we held only one combined service, and it was so much fun to sing our old-time favorites with a full church of many generations!

### Palm Sunday - The Cry of the Whole Congregation

2022's Palm Sunday was a participatory drama. Through the use of narration and song, this engaging and moving drama allowed each person to discover their own rootedness in the Passion Story while actively worshiping and participating. It was an incredibly moving & intimate experience.

### New Projector, Chancel Lighting, and In-Ear Monitors

Through some anonymous donations and financial help from the Music Department musicians, Our Saviour's got some huge upgrades to the Worship Space. First installed was a brand new Epson projector and screen, then a few weeks later brand new lighting for the Chancel area. In the fall, the band upgraded to In-Ear Monitors which can be individually adjusted by mobile phone apps. What a tremendous difference all of these projects make for worship! A huge thank you to Jon Oachs, Jerome Bokelmann, and Julie Andersen for the research that went into these projects, and to all our donors for making this financially possible.

### **Christmas Concert: The Weary World Rejoices**

The crown achievement of 2022 for the Music Department was definitely the Christmas Concert, featuring nearly 100 musicians from Our Saviour's and Elk River Lutheran. The powerful Christmas story that revives the earth and its people was shared through music and narration, with performances by The Cornerstone Band, The Celebration Choir, and the Carillon Bells. Special guests included The Elk River Lutheran Choir, The Laurels String Quartet, Dave Mantini on trumpet, and Craig Clark on guitar.



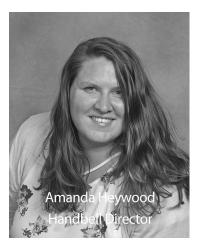






Our Saviour's 2022 Annual Report







### Other Highlights in The Music Department

Sermon in Song featured several musical numbers by the various groups at Our Saviour's. A highlight was the combined band and choir song, "Oh How Good It Is".

Reformation Sunday also featured a combined band and choir song. The congregation joined in singing "Reformation Song" and loved the two groups leading worship together.

We've reached our goal of 55 new ELW hymnals gifted to OSLC by members of the congregation. Thank you! Soon the hymnals will be ordered and in the pews!

The Brooklyn United Methodist Big Band was able to play live in worship on August 14. Director Dave Mantini is a friend and co-worker of OSLC's organist Judy Blomgren and the band always provides a fun experience.

I cannot reiterate enough how immensely proud I am of the Music Staff (Eeva Savolainen, Amanda Heywood, Judy Blomgren, and Jon Oachs) and the volunteer musicians who have dedicated their gifts to Our Saviour's. Their consistent musical excellence brings worship to a different level and keeps a sense of community going throughout our busy lives. Keep an eye on your emails, the website, and Facebook to stay updated with all of the different musical events coming in 2023. Thank you so much for all of your support and for letting me serve you as the Director of Music and Worship Arts at OSLC.

-Jennifer Thurman, Director of Music & Worship









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# Small Group and Team Reports

### Chapel, Cemetery, Columbarium

Our goal is to preserve the heritage of the congregation's original chapel located on Swedish Drive in Ham Lake.

- We are in the process of the restoration of the chapel foundation. The timeline is largely dependent on our submissions to and responses received from the multi-step process with the Minnesota Historical Society, as well as the time it will take to engage in a contracting bidding process. We ask for your prayers in accomplishing this endeavor.
- In working with the Minnesota Historical Society, and with leadership from project manager Karen Mickelson, we received two grants. The first one of \$10,000.00 was for the initial evaluation of the building. The second one, of \$14,800.00, was for architectural plans. The architects have made various recommendations which we will be working on.
- We currently have \$79327.04 in the Chapel Foundation Fund. There are additional grants available from the Minnesota Historical Society, and we will communicate funding needs as the process moves along.
- The committee is also working with Anoka County in establishing PIN numbers for the cemetery property.

# In retrospect, the committee has accomplished the following:

- Memorial Day weekend grave decorations
- Lawn mowing contracts
- Expanding the cemetery grounds
- Evaluation of chapel projects
- Cemetery headstones maintenance (Mark B. and Kent D.)
- Columbarium maintenance
- Leveling cemetery land and cutting trees (Myron C and Mark B)
- A special thanks to the Hard Hats and confirmation kids for spring clean up

The committee is looking for volunteers to help cut down trees, yet this winter. Please contact Mark Boyum, 612-554-9142 for information. Once again, the committee asks for your continued prayers in preserving our heritage of the Our Saviour's Chapel.

### **Committee Members:**

- Mark Boyum
- Kent Dahlman

- Ron Johnson
- Cindy Kallestad
- Merlyn Landborg, secretary
- Karen Mickelson, Project Manager
- Jason Moehring, council liaison
- Lori Vickstrom, cemetery representative
- Karen Wade, treasurer

### Dinner's at 6:30

This group meets every 3rd Thursday of the month at various restaurants. Everyone is invited to join this fun group for a social night out. Watch the Small Group board for the monthly sign up sheet showing the location of the month's restaurant. Some of the restaurants we've met at are: Hidden Haven, Vanellis's (now closed), Pizza Ranch, Davannis's, Mallard's, Bootleggers, El Zacalo Grill & Cantina. Please join us! Any questions call Sandy Mickelson, 763-229-4984.

### **Endowment Team**

The Endowment Team Year End Balance 2021 was \$529, 510.68. The Endowment team can approve and disburse 6% which was \$31, 770.64. Up to 1/3 of this amount can be disbursed to:

- Capital Improvement
- Scholarships and Grants
- Outreach to Community
- Missions at home and Overseas

#### 2022 Disbursements were:

CAPITOL IMPROVEMENT total was \$8,950.00

- \$5,000 to Hard Hats for landscaping, bell tower, Langrinshus, and Columbarium
- \$600 for office operations, (safe)
- \$3,350 to Stewardship Team for Consecration Sunday
- SCHOLARSHIPS and GRANTS
  - \$3,000 to Pastor Kiri for pastoral coaching
  - \$2,250.00 for \$750 scholarships to the following members of our church:
    - Jacob Oachs, Jenna Stockinger, Mikkel
       Paulson
  - COMMUNITY OUTREACH
    - ° \$1,000 to be used in new partnership with Cedar Creek Elementary School

As of mid December 2022, \$15,200 of the allowed \$31,770.64 was disbursed. The remainder remains in the Fund. There were no applications for funds for Missions at home or overseas.

Endowment Team

### Fair Trade—Equal Exchange

Fair Trade Ministries returned to Our Saviour's in early 2022 after a hiatus due to COVID. Through this partnership with the Equal Exchange cooperative, small farmers around the world gain market access to earn a fair income.

We offer a wide variety of coffee, tea and chocolate, as well was olive oil, hot cocoa and baking cocoa. Sales throughout 2022 were slow, but we are hopeful that people will recognize and continue to support this important ministry. In addition to selling Fair Trade products between services on the first Sunday of each month, orders can be placed from the church website at any time.

Thank you for your support! Fran Munday & Nancy Arnold

### Faith & Fiction Book Group

Faith & Fiction is a book group that meets on the second Tuesday of the month to discuss literature and create connections for its participants. The Faith & Fiction group was able to get back to indoor meetings in 2022 and are meeting at Our Saviour's. Books are recommended and selected once-a-year, in December. Each meeting includes devotions and a social time after the discussion. The group has become a valued source of support and camaraderie for the over thirty current members.

Marge Nelson

### Fiction Addiction Book Group

Fiction Addiction currently has 8 active members. Some are also members of OSLC. We continue to meet in person each month to discuss the book of the month. We are a small, but mighty group.

Alisa Bigelbach

### **Family Promise**

Family Promise in Anoka County serves families who are experiencing homelessness. While the primary reason for their homelessness varies from family to family, one thing is true about all our guest families—they desperately want to achieve housing stability. Through their own hard work, guided by our case management and other programs, we help them achieve that dream!

Families can stay in the program for up to 90 days. During that time, they receive support and advocacy through case management to find a permanent, stable home. After exiting the program, they can take advantage of ongoing supportive services to help maintain stability. We currently have a capacity limit of four families or 14 individuals. Families vary in size and acceptance into the program can be challenging for larger families.

Glenn Cary and Our Saviours Co-Coordinate as a Host Site of the program. The Host Site Coordinator oversees the needs of each family enrolled during the Host Week. We are scheduled to serve 4 to 5 weeks a year. Family Promise is transitioning to a Site Location where the families will stay until exiting. This change will take place sometime during this year. Volunteering can be helping with meals, \$35.00 gas cards and Target/Walmart \$35.00cards

Our Saviours FP Coordinator, Jan Berqual

### **Guatemala Mission Team**

### **Building with Casas por Cristo**

A team of 17 people are packing as this update is being written, preparing to travel to Guatemala to build a home for a family living in poverty. About half of the team have gone before and half are new to this build mission with Casas por Cristo (Homes for Christ). Although everyone on the team pays their own way, OSLC helps pay for the building supplies for the home. The entire team wishes to extend deepest thanks for your generous donations, supporting the annual pig roast lunch, the gift of a handmade quilt, the gift of beads from the bead ministry, little girl dresses (pillow case) and shorts outfits, and Beanie Babies. Because of your support and prayers, a family will have a new solid home and a pastor in Guatemala will continue to share God's love with the family. The pastor's wish was that this family not lose faith even though they are going through a difficult time financially.

Karen Moehring

### Hard Hat Ministry

Since our beginning in 2000 the Hard Hats group ministry continues to meet every Wednesday from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon for coffee, devotions, fellowship, and general maintenance tasks for the church. The group welcomes people of all ages to enjoy fellowship and service. Over the years the Hard Hat group has grown from our eight original members to over thirtyfive active members today.

The growing number of members bringing an expanding variety of skills and knowledge has enabled the Hard Hats to accept more challenging tasks. Although the group's focus over the years is working on the church properties, we have also worked in the community on projects for

# **Small Group and Team Reports**

Habitat for Humanity and people in need. We are especially proud of several of our major projects we have completed at OSLC. This past year the Hard Hats finished laying the pavers to make a path connecting the columbarium with the Meditation Garden pathway.

The Hard Hats recognized the need for OSLC to consider some major maintenance projects such as replacing some of the carpeting, repairing the north parking lot, replacing one of the roof-top heating/air conditioning units, repairing the bell tower ringing system, to name some of the needs. These projects were outside of Hard Hat abilities, so we decided to contribute a major portion of the funds received from memorials and gifts to act as an incentive to the congregation to meet the goal of the Points Forward fund raising campaign.

All the funds the Hard Hats receive each year from memorials, contributions and sales of pop and crafts are spent on church maintenance projects. Projects assumed and funded by the Hard Hats during 2021 were:

- Repairing and expanding the irrigation system
- Maintaining the fountain in the Meditation Garden
- Pruning, replacing and removing dead and dying trees
- Maintaining the church grounds by mowing and weed whipping
- Repairing and replacing of lights inside and outside the church
- Installing tile at the south and east entrances in preparation for the new carpet
- Doing spring and fall cleanup at the Chapel
- Repairing the fence at the Chapel
- Putting up and taking down outdoor Christmas lights
- Helping with the confirmation youth event at the Chapel
- Assisting with event setups
- Putting up and taking down snow fence.
- Landscaping, fertilizing and seeding the area around the Columbarium
- Planting evergreen trees to form the Guardian Grove
- Completing a pathway of pavers connecting Columbarium with the Mediation Garden
- Painting the light pole bases and curbing
- Spraying for weeds around the church lawn

- Cleaning and maintaining the air handlers on the roof of the church
- Patching potholes in the driveway and parking lot
- Installing new heat-tapes on the roof
- Repairing the church pews
- Moving church furniture in and out during the recarpeting of the church
- Moving office furniture during reorganization of offices
- Repairing of the church bell ringer
- Repairing storm-damaged metal flashing on the church roof
- Repairing and maintaining snowblowers, mowers, and weed whips
- Mulching the islands in the parking lot area
- Repairing, replacing and maintaining the bluebird houses on the church property
- Sealing corners and seams on the church roof
- Shoveling and clearing snow/ice from the church sidewalks.

This list does not cover all the things the Hard Hats have done over the past year, but it is representative of the things we do for the church and for our community. We thank the congregation for supporting the Hard Hats throughout the year. Without your gifts we would not be able to continue providing additional maintenance and "wished for extras" for the church.

Dennis Sackreiter

### Little Dresses for Africa (LDFA)

We are not just sending dresses, we are sending hope.

Eleven women gathered in person at Glen Cary Church to sew little dresses in September 2022 - the first time in 2½ year. Many of those same women gathered again in November to sew 27 more dresses. We are so blessed to have such a committed group of women to sew both at church and in their homes to clothe little girls throughout the world who would otherwise go without a dress. I thank all those women from the bottom of my heart; and a special "Thank You" to Joan Ramsden from England, who, when she comes to visit her son and his family, sews up a storm and donates her beautiful dresses to our mission. This last fall she donated 20 dresses.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank not only the sewers, but all those who have donated to our cause, whether it was in the form of supplies or a monetary donation. We appreciate your support very much.

During 2022 our partnership (between Glen Cary Lutheran and OSLC) shipped a total of 195 dresses. In January 2023 we will be sending with Jason Moehring and his Guatemala mission team another 35 dresses with matching t-shirts for the girls and 30 shorts and matching t-shirts for the boys.

In 2023 we will be gathering again on the second Thursday of all odd numbered months, three times at OSLC and three times at Glen Cary. We would love to have you join us.

If anyone has any questions concerning LDFA, please contact me at 651-462-1573.

God's Peace, Betty Gabrick

### Motorcycle Ministry

The riders of Our Saviour's Motorcycle Ministries come from many of the other ministries at Our Saviour's. Most are members of Our Saviour's, and many riders bring their friends, neighbors, and other family members. We all share common passions; traveling throughout Minnesota and neighboring states, eating and visiting various attractions. On occasion we have members join us by car if they are unable to a ride motorcycle.

With things opening up more we were able to keep to a regular schedule weather permitting. A few evenings dinner rides and a couple of weekend rides every month. We did hold the blessing of the bikes inside because of rain and then had a second blessing the first Sunday we had nice weather and were able to go for a ride. For the second year we went to Lanesboro for 4 days for our end of the season September ride. Even thought the forecast was rain we still went; we just took cars and campers. This location gives us many different options for accommodations from a lodge that has 6 rooms to a very large campground.

In the off season we still get together, we have monthly girls get together and had 20 people join us for the Season's dinner theater for the Christmas show, we are also planning on going to the Seasons again in February for their Mystery dinner show.

Last year we were able to donate funds to the Pastors Discretionary fund, Andrews Toy Box and sponsor 2 children to participate in the "Old Fashion School House" experience. The Riders of Our Saviour's are involved in many other ministries at Our Saviour's. You can see us parking cars, doing hospitality, ushering, hard hats and part of the ERT team.

Our goals for the upcoming year are to be supportive to Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, the other ministries of Our Saviour's, the community, and community events. We will continue to welcome anyone that would like to join us, whether from Our Saviour's or another part of the community, and whether they have a motorcycle or not. All will be welcomed with open arms

Judy Esterby

### Property Team

The Property Team was reorganized in 2019 to consist of OSLC Facilities Manger and five members of the congregation. The Property Team surveys the needs of the OSLC Jackson Street facilities and makes recommendations to the OSLC Council concerning capital improvements and repairs. These needs were prioritized and submitted to OSLC Council with estimated costs.

During the past year the Property Team collected bids for projects, made recommendations to OSLC Council, and saw the projects to their completion. These projects consisted of replacing/upgrading the church sign on highway 22 and Jackson Street, replacing two of the three HVAC units, replacing the carpeting in a major portion of the church, installing a handicap accessible door on the church south entrance and purchasing additional tables for the gathering space.

The Property Team will be conducting a survey of needed capital improvements and repairs in early 2023 and will submit findings and recommendations to the new 2023 OSLC Council.

God Bless Dennis Sackreiter, Property Team

### Pub Theology

Pub Theology is a place to dive into topics involving faith, life events, or just being together for good food and conversation. Meeting the second Monday of every month at Hidden Haven, we invite you to join us.

> Peace, Fran Munday & Glenn Allenspach – Co-Chairs



# **Small Group and Team Reports**

### Stamping Ministry

Our group meets January - November (a schedule of dates we meet can be found on the card rack). We alternate Friday evenings to Saturday mornings. In the summer, we have potlucks and then stamp afterwards. If you are interested in joining our Stamping Ministry, please contact Cheryl Anderson at 763-434-9547.

We make cards for the pastors, CYF Ministries, the card rack, and 4 Table Sales. Thanks to your support, our ministry was able to donate a little over \$1,330.00 back to our church and/or community. Thank you also for the donations of supplies that our ministry received this year.

### Stewardship Team

The Stewardship Team was very active again this year. The Team generally meets the second Tuesday of each month. Below are the initiatives that were implemented in 2022:

- Early in 2022 we created a new Time and Talent form which is much more user friendly than the previous one. The form was then shared during a Sunday service. This new Time and Talent form is also included in the new member's packet.
- Since so much giving is now done online, we made the decision to reduce the number of offering envelopes that we would purchase for 2023 while at the same time ensuring that anyone who wanted the offering envelopes could get them.
- The church entered a contract with Pastor Scott Searl to serve as our stewardship consultant for 2022. Scott has served as a pastor for about 20 years and is currently working with nonprofit agencies in the Metro area. Scott has a strong background and knowledge regarding stewardship and is currently working toward a doctorate in this area. Scott's guidance to Pastor Kiri, the Stewardship Team and the Church Council was instrumental in the successful Points Forward and Celebration Sunday initiatives discussed below. The Stewardship Team is recommending that we continue to have Pastor Scott serve in the same role in 2023.
- In the Spring of 2022, we initiated the Points

Forward campaign to help address important facility needs identified by the Property Team. The congregation, as always, responded very generously which resulted in us being able to purchase new carpet for the parts of the building needing it, update our phone system and fix the bell tower so it can efficiently be rung from inside the building. We also have enough money left in reserve to purchase a third heating and air conditioning unit which will likely to be replaced in the near future.

Our last initiative of 2022 was the implementation of the Celebration Sunday program in which we approached financial stewardship from a biblical perspective. In this approach we as a church focused on seeing financial contributions as a way to help us grow spiritually in our relationship with God by supporting our church's mission and ministry through giving a percentage of our income. Celebration Sunday had month-long activities which included individuals on three separate Sundays sharing with the congregation what OSLC means to them and/or their organization. Celebration Sunday concluded on October 16th. During worship members came forward and deposited their Estimate of Giving cards in special boxes. The response to Celebration Sunday exceeded our expectations as we received 165 pledges versus less than 100 last year. In addition, 120 of the pledges exceeded what they gave in 2022. The total amount pledged for 2022 was \$446,000 while the pledges for 2023 is \$585,900. Proving once again that Our Saviour's Lutheran Church is made up of very generous people. Finally, Celebration Sunday ended with a nice catered meal courtesy of the Endowment Committee in which approximately 300 people were served.

Dave Eberhardt

### Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Almost every Tuesday morning at 10 a.m. we come together for Bible Study. This year we have used the Beth Moore studies: "Now that Faith Has Come"



(Study of Galatians); "Living Beyond Yourself" (Study of the Fruit of the Spirit) and "Mercy Triumphs" (Study of the Book of James). We will soon be studying "The Surpassing Value of Knowing Christ" (Study of Philippians).

Together we work through the study, with one week viewing a video by Beth Moore with the next week going through each of the "homework" lessons together. This format has helped us become a relational group for matters of the heart. All are welcome to anyone interested to join us, as often as you can.

"Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path." Psalm 109:105

### Women's Retreat

After missing a year of our annual retreat due to Covid, we reconnected Saturday, October 15th, for a day of "Reconnecting" which was indeed our theme. Even though we knew fall was a very busy time for us, we felt we needed a 2022 retreat. Over 30 women gathered together for a fun day of fellowship and food.

Our "Reconnecting" theme covered three areas of focus: reconnecting with ourselves, reconnecting with each other, and reconnecting with God. From exploring mindfulness, to dramatizations of Jesus' parable of The Prodigal, to Bible Journaling, to sending worship, it was a wonderful day.

Lunch was catered by Route 65 and was delicious. Mary Thorsten was our meal coordinator did a fantastic job. We enjoyed decadent desserts and voted on the most festive fall outfits with Jo-Ann Wyatt as the winner.

We want to thank everyone who was there... it was a fun group. We also want to thank all of those participated, to Karen Bush, Eileen Stoffels, and the entire Beading Ministry for the beautiful beads that everyone got to take home, to Laura Gibney for doing projection and sound, to Route 65 for the delicious meal, to Nancy Carpenter for being our greeter and stepping in to help during other parts of the day, and to my fellow Retreat Planning Team members for setting up and creating this wonderful retreat: Sherry Allenspach, Eileen Stoffels, Mary Thorsten, and Pastor Maria. Also, a big thank you to those who led various parts of the day in a wonderful way: Lisa Rykken Kastler, Becky Beck, Pastor Maria, Pastor Kiri, Leisha Tays, and Jennifer Thurman. It was so good to be back together and to **Reconnect!** 

Respectfully and joyfully submitted,

Becky Beck, Planning Team Chair





Our Saviour's 150 Anniversary Ministry Fair

# Nominee Mini Bios

Executive Team—1-year term Bio information has been removed for privacy purposed. President: Judy Schaubach—second term **Vice President: Dave Anderson Treasurer: Steve Rozek Secretary: Cindy Paulson** Congregation Council—3-year term **Scott Muyres Priscilla Anderson** Audit Team—3-year term **Cindy Mowan** Al Beck Endowment Team—3-year term Sue Eberhardt **Anne Rozek** Human Resources Team—2-year term **Sherry Allenspach** Sondra Johnson Nominating Team—1-year term **Karen Bush Judy Smith** Lynne Larson **Cheryl Schaefer Gloria** Lien Synod Assembly Delegates—1-year term Adult Delegates (2 men, 2 women, 1 either gender) Karyn & Steve Berg **Gary Kortemeier** Alicia Noreen Synod Assembly Delegates—1-year term Youth Delegate (1 high school-age youth) **Madisen Noreen** 

# Nominee Mini Bios

# President's Report



This has been a year of change and adaptation, of celebrating the past and preparing for the future. We celebrated OSLC's 150th year anniversary. It was a time for honoring those who came before us, called by Jesus to proclaim his Word. Hearing from many of our former pastors was a wonderful way to remember the journey our congregation has been on. We are blessed to have such a rich heritage!

We began a transition to a post pandemic reality. While many activities, committees and worship began to be held in-person, we discovered that continuing opportunities to participate virtually, provided ways to increase participation for many. I believe that the ways we engage people in our congregation has changed forever and we are learning to do ministry in new and creative ways.

The Church Council began working with a consultant to engage in a strategic planning process. A survey completed by Council members and staff asked the questions "As we think about the people we love and specifically the generations that will come after us, what impact do you hope OSLC will have on their lives and what ministries or programs of the church as most essential to achieving this?" This resulted in deep conversations about each of these areas. We are asking God to help us make strategic choices that will help us live out our mission of "Reaching Out with a Voice of Hope".

We are so blessed to have a team of clergy that faithfully serve our congregation. Pastor Kiri with new ideas and energy, Pastor Maria with her rich history and experience at OSLC and Pastor Jeff who is assisting us as a visitation pastor. We rejoice in their calling by God as servants of God's Word. Our staff has been challenged this year to adapt and fill in whenever needed. Their professionalism, energy and commitment are truly a testament to their faith in action. We couldn't ask for a more dedicated group of people.

Volunteerism at OSLC is alive and well! No matter what the challenge, we have people who step up to do whatever needs to be done, contributing their time, talents and resources. Our incredible Christmas Concert this year showcased the musical and organizational expertise of our staff and volunteers. What a wonderful way to celebrate and rejoice in the gift of Jesus!

As we look forward to the year ahead, we know that all good gifts do come from God, and we are called to share and use those gifts. We know that God's steadfast love energizes us for the work God is doing in our communities and the world through Our Saviour's Lutheran Church.

Judy Schaubach

# **Treasurer's Report**



Greetings from your OSLC Council Treasurer. 2022 brought a new set of challenges for the members of this congregation. One of our challenges was for our ministry staff: They were planning on how to implement the dollars that you agreed to in our 2022 approved budget. At first, we were not able to fulfill our

staff requirements that we had budgeted for in Children, Youth and Family ministry. Some changes were made with existing staff to fulfill positions and then Nate Chastek was hired to complete the Youth Ministry role. New ideas and programming have been taking place with results being evident in our youth participation in Sunday school and OSLC youth events. We now have the staff in place to challenge ourselves to grow our CYF ministry programs.

Another challenge came in the form of some muchneeded carpet and office upgrades. The Points Forward Program was assembled and you the congregation met the challenge head on. You exceeded our original amount and even eclipsed the second goal of giving. As in the past you stepped up to help meet the needs at Our Saviour's. At the same time we received a gift from an organization for office equipment and we were able to replace much of our office equipment with "new to us" office and gathering space equipment. We used some of the monies to replace very outdated and heavy gathering space tables as well. I can still recall some visitors remarking that it looked like we must have refurbished the entire church. It does make for a pleasing, welcoming atmosphere; as you enter our gathering space, sanctuary, hallways and offices.

One more challenge was to raise our benevolence in 2022 to \$45,000.00 Through your gifts we have met that congregational goal.

We still continue to be a congregation that typically falls short of our required monthly contributions.

Because we made changes in our mortgage lender the previous year, we are experiencing the benefits of a much-reduced interest rate and a lower monthly mortgage bill. As we progressed through 2022 it looked like we were going to require some larger contributions in the last couple of months to meet our planned annual budget. The previous year we had received some large and very timely gifts in December; that helped us make our budget in 2021. If fact we were able to use a carry over from that year to help our budget proposal in 2022. Well, I am pleased to report that once again the members of this church met our year end financial requirements and we have met our intended budget for 2022. Although there was a number of "over and above" the normal giving; by numerous members of this congregation, we did not have to rely on one or two large donations to meet budget. We are currently still over \$622,000.00 in our combined bank accounts. We thank all of you for your generosity in keeping Our Saviour's a priority in your financial offerings.

We are a vibrant, welcoming church that has the ability to reach out to our membership and our community. I invite you to continue to be a part of the challenges that we will embrace as a congregation in 2023 as we; "reach out with a voice of hope".

I would like to thank the Finance team members for their continued support for this ministry and their valued input. Members are Pastor Kiri, Kim Anderson, Jason Moehring, Beth Graham, Steve Rozek and Kari Wolff. A special thank you to bookkeeper Beth Graham for her willingness to continue making the Shelby software program a valuable asset in our Financial/ Administrative tool chest. Huge thank you to Steve Rozek, for his ability to develop and create a better record keeping system which will make our financial operations only better! Lastly; "thank you" to all of this congregations' membership, visitors and those who hold OSLC in their hearts and minds; because of you, all things are possible!

Treasurer, David Anderson

# **Congregational Annual Meeting Minutes**

Our Saviour's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Draft Minutes of the Sunday, January 30, 2022, Congregational Annual Meeting

- The meeting was called to order at 11:30am by Council President Nancy Arnold. This meeting is being held in-person, electronically via Zoom and over the telephone. Nancy shared information of how this process will proceed.
- 2. The opening prayer was given by Pastor Kiri Solberg.
- 3. Appointment meeting roles: Priscilla Anderson was appointed recording secretary for this meeting.
- 4. Dennis Sackreiter was appointed meeting parliamentarian. Jan Green, Lisa Rykken Kastler, Leisha Tays, Jason Moehring, Cindy Paulson and Karen Mickelson were appointed as meeting tellers.
- 5. Quorum was met with 105 congregational members in attendance in person and electronically (via Zoom and Phone).
- 6. Approval of January 31, 2021 Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes. Minutes are recorded on pages 30-32 of the Annual Report. Two corrections to be made are as follows:

#5. Remove statement: Judy Schaubach was appointed meeting parliamentarian.# 11. Endowment team nomination of Peder Sannerud is for a 1 year term, not 3 year term as written.

#### David Anderson made a motion to accept the minutes of the corrected January 31, 2021 Annual Congregational Meeting minutes as found on pages 30-32 of the 2021 Annual Report. The motion was seconded by Karen Mickelson. MOTION CARRIED.

7. Election of Officers, Council and Committee Members:

Nancy Arnold thanked all the outgoing elected officers, Council and team members:

- Audit: David Anderson
- Cemetery-Chapel: Gary Larson
- Church Council: Kathy Neuberger, Peder Sannerud
- Endowment: Wendy Warren, Peder Sannerud
- Human Resources: Alicia Noreen
- Nominating: Alice Guse, Sandy Mickelson, Ellen Kramm, Jo Rohady, Jill Bjornson
- Council Officers: Nancy Arnold, President; Tom Olson, Vice President

Nancy Arnold presented the Nominating Committee's slate of candidates. Bios for most of the candidates can be found in the Annual Report.

Nancy Arnold read the names of nominees for each position and asked if there were any additional nominations from the floor.

#### Congregational Council

0 0					
President (1 year term)					
Vice President (1 year term)					
Treasurer (1 year term)					
Secretary (1 year term)					
Council (two 3 year terms)					
Council (two 1 year terms)					

Judy Schaubach Mark Kramm David Anderson Priscilla Anderson Dave Eberhardt and Tom Olson Cindy Paulson and Scott Muyres

# **Congregational Annual Meeting Minutes**

Audit Team (two 3 year terms)	Doug Paulson and Jerry Schaubach
Cemetery-Chapel Team (one 1 year term) Cemetery-Chapel Team (one 2 year term) Cemetery-Chapel Team (two 3 year terms)	Cindy Kallestad Ron Johnson Mark Boyum and Merlyn Landborg
Endowment Team (one 2 year term) Endowment Team (two 3 year terms)	Jo Rohady Kay Hunter and Fran Wohlenhaus-Munday
Human Resources Team (two 2 year terms)	) Wendy Warren and Nancy Arnold
Nominating Team (five 1 year terms)	Binie Bertils, Barbara Danger, Betty Gabrick, Jan Green, Cindy Mowan
Synod Assembly Delegates:	
2 Adult Females	Joyce Finch and Cindy Paulson
2 Adult Males	Michael Finch
1 youth	Mikkel Paulson

No additional nominations were given from the floor.

#### Becky Beck made a motion to close the ballot and approve the nomination of new candidates. Seconded by Dick Pottsmith.

Having no contested positions, the congregation approved, on a single voice vote, the elections of all persons on the ballot. **MOTION CARRIED.** Terms begin February 1, 2022.

#### 8. Pastor's Reports:

Pastor Maria: Pastor Maria noted how we have been through just about every permutation of worship, and it was so good to celebrate Christmas in the building together! We're thankful for all the worship & music volunteers & staff who make worship possible each week. And we're excited to have Amanda Heywood join the staff last fall as Director of Handbells.

Pastor Jeff Beebe came on board last June as part-time Visitation Pastor and has been a huge blessing. And the North Metro Grief Coalition we're part of started up again last fall, offering 6-week series on grief, with the next one starting in March.

Our Preschool has done a great job making sure kids have been able to be in the building for preschool, and we're looking to increase enrollment for the fall.

Pastor Kiri: One year ago, at the annual meeting, Pastor Kiri had been here for two months and no inperson worship service had been held since she arrived. Now that the church is opening back up, she noted how grateful she is for the conversations she has had with members and the ability to be making more connections with people of the church.

We have welcomed 2 new staff members-Beth Graham in the bookkeeping position and Laura Welciek as Children Youth and Family Administrative Specialist . Our staff at Our Saviour's is such a hardworking, faithful and adaptable team with so many changes in the past year, the staff has been willing to jump in and help wherever needed.

Pastor Kiri noted how she is thankful for the lay leadership and is excited for the future for the incoming Council members, for the work of the Faith and Neighboring Practices Team in conjunction with the Synod and the work that will be done with the Strategic Planning consultant.

#### 9. Auditor's Report:

Brad Simenson presented the report of the Audit Team. Brad reported that all is in good order.

# Peder Sannerud made a motion to accept the Audit Team's Report. Motion was seconded by Karen Mickelson. MOTION CARRIED.

#### 10. Treasurer's Report:

David Anderson presented the Treasurer's report. He noted his thanks to Beth Graham, bookkeeper, who has been working tirelessly during the month of December and to the Finance team of Kim Anderson, Jason Moehring, Pastor Kiri and Steve Rozek. David also gave his thanks for the congregational members that gave gifts above and beyond planned giving and because of this we were able to meet our budget for 2021.

#### Highlights

- The Preschool received \$38,607.00 in grants which helped to make the Preschool budget as well as the church's budget.
- We refinanced the church mortgage with Thrivent Financial at 2.7% which will see a savings of \$19,000.00 each year.
- Replaced 2 rooftop AC units using money from the Property Maintenance fund and gifts that were received in 2019 and 2020.
- With adjustments in the Dedicated Fund Balance and special gifts from members we were able to keep a reserve fund balance at \$199,000.00.
- We were able to end the year with a combined bank account total over \$600,000.00.

#### Becky Beck made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. The motion was seconded by Dick Pottsmith.

#### **MOTION CARRIED.**

#### 11. 2022 Budget

# Peder Sannerud made a motion to approve the budget for 2022 as presented on page 35 of the Annual Report. The motion was seconded by Karen Mickelson.

David Anderson, Church Council Treasurer, presented details and explained reasons for increases and/ or decreases in the proposed 2022 budget.

Giving Trends: Giving has stayed fairly normal and indications are that it will stay that way. Large gifts that are above and beyond normal giving have helped the church meet the yearly budget. The reserve fund has been helpful in meeting monthly budget when contributions were lower than expected.

Income: The projected contribution income has been raised by 1% over 2021's actual income.

Benevolence: This has been increased from \$40,000 to \$45,000 which will be given to ELCA, Luther Seminary and Camp Wapo and possibly some smaller benevolence giving. This will be a total of 4.5% of the budget going to benevolence.

Seeing no questions from the floor, Nancy Arnold called the vote. **The congregation voted to approve the budget for 2022. MOTION CARRIED.** 

#### 12. New Business:

A question from Cheri Stockinger was asked why there is a decrease in number of delegates going to the ELCA Synod Assembly for this year. In 2021 3 females, 3 males and 1 youth attended. In 2022 2 females, 2 males and 1 youth have been elected to attend. The number of delegates is determined by the church's reported membership which is lower this year than last year.

Hearing no other questions or new business, Nancy Arnold thanked everyone for their flexibility and support during the past year.

- 13. Pastor Maria led the congregation in a closing prayer.
- 14. The meeting was adjourned at 12:34pm, January 30, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

Priscilla Anderson Appointed Secretary

# **Audit Team Report**

Report for fiscal year ending December 31, 2022 Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

#### Audit Committee Members present:

• Maggie Latvala, Jerry Ryding, Karen Moehring, Bradley Simenson, Doug Paulson, Jerry Schaubach

The Audit Committee reviewed the income and expense for the General Fund Statement and accompanying bank statements; balanced year-end bank statements for the Reserve Fund, Endowment Fund, Property Maintenance account, General Fund Statement, Dedicated Fund accounts; and reviewed the Cemetery Fund investment balances.

The Audit Committee performed the following tasks:

- Checked the procedure for handling income and donations to ensure internal control follows "best practices".
- Performed spot checks regarding payment of invoices and purchase orders to determine if internal control processes in compliance with church operating procedure.
- Ensure authorized signatures on checks.
- Ensured personnel signing checks have been designated.
- Spot verify offering report against bank statement deposits.
- Found the procedure for offerings collected, counted and deposited judicious.
- Verified State and Federal Payroll tax reports.
- Reviewed mortgage reports.

### General Fund Statement; Dedicated Funds Statements; Reserve Fund Account, Endowment Fund, Property Maintenance Account, Cemetery Fund:

In the opinion of the Audit Committee the income and expense account for the General Fund Statement, the Dedicated Funds Statements, the Cemetery Fund, Endowment Fund year-end balance, Property Maintenance year-end balance, and the Reserve Fund Account presents fairly the financial position of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2022.

#### **Process Improvement:**

Video of evidence of assets needs to be updated for insurance purposes. Continue to refine procedures and approval of account transfers.

### Other:

Due diligence was performed for the following other church matters:

- Insurance coverage reviewed and video evidence of assets confirmed by staff.
- Church in compliance with Loan Covenants.
- The Legal documents to be stored in fire-proof cabinet.
- Worker's compensation is current.
- Spot verified deposit receipts balance with bank statements.

# Proposed Budget 2023

	2023	2022	2022	23 Budget -
Account	Budget	Actual	Budget	22 Actual
General Offerings	\$978,990.00	\$959,794.00	\$1,016,978.00	\$19,196.00
Challenge Contributions	\$105,809.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$105,809.00
Tuition & Registrations	\$44,830.00	\$42,087.00	\$44,830.00	\$2,743.00
Last Year Carryover	\$25,301.00	\$85,000.00	\$85,000.00	(\$59,699.00)
Released from Reserve Surplus	\$48,794.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$48,794.00
Total GENERAL INCOME	\$1,203,724.00	\$1,086,881.00	\$1,146,808.00	\$116,843.00
Total BENEVOLENCE	\$45,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$0.00
Total MORTGAGE	\$140,820.00	\$140,820.00	\$140,820.00	\$0.00
Total PASTOR WAGES & BENEFITS	\$252,515.00	\$234,478.00	\$244,809.00	\$18,037.00
Total LAY STAFF WAGES	\$457,112.00	\$394,752.00	\$444,145.00	\$62,360.00
Total LAY STAFF BENEFITS	\$109,347.00	\$85,556.00	\$75,196.00	\$23,791.00
Total PERSONNEL	\$818,974.00	\$714,786.00	\$764,150.00	\$104,188.00
Total OPERATIONS	\$60,300.00	\$47,145.00	\$62,000.00	\$13,155.00
Total PROPERTY MAINTENANCE & UTILITIES	\$73,250.00	\$70,548.00	\$71,800.00	\$2,702.00
Total MUSIC & WORSHIP	\$22,655.00	\$16,953.00	\$17,520.00	\$5,702.00
Total CYF	\$18,990.00	\$14,077.00	\$21,650.00	\$4,913.00
Total PRESCHOOL	\$4,035.00	\$1,097.00	\$4,285.00	\$2,938.00
Total ADULT MINISTRIES	\$2,000.00	\$3,383.00	\$1,000.00	(\$1,383.00)
Total CHURCH COUNCIL	\$7,000.00	\$4,137.00	\$7,000.00	\$2,863.00
Total OUTREACH & FELLOWSHIP	\$5,000.00	\$460.00	\$8,000.00	\$4,540.00
Total STEWARDSHIP	\$5,700.00	\$3,174.00	\$3,500.00	\$2,526.00
Total OPERATING EXPENSES	\$1,203,724.00	\$1,061,580.00	\$1,146,725.00	\$142,144.00
Total NET OSLC OPERATING	\$0.00	\$25,301.00	\$83.00	

# Year-end Income and Expense Summary

Description of Account	<u>2022 Budget</u>	Actual YTD 2022	Variance to Budget
INCOME			
Contributions	\$1,005,178.00	\$923,154.00	-\$82,024.00
Visitor/Cash	\$0.00	\$13,026.00	\$13,026.00
Special Contributions	\$6,300.00	\$22,653.00	\$16,353.00
Preschool	\$44,830.00	\$42,087.00	-\$2,743.00
Misc Income	\$5,500.00	\$961.00	-\$4,539.00
2021 Carryover	\$85,000.00	\$85,000.00	\$0.00
Total Income	\$1,146,808.00	\$1,086,881.00	-\$59,927.00
<u>EXPENSES</u>			
Benevolence/Mission	\$45,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$0.00
Mortgage	\$140,820.00	\$140,820.00	\$0.00
Personnel	\$764,150.00	\$714,786.00	\$49,364.00
Operations	\$62,000.00	\$47,145.00	\$14,855.00
Property - Maint. & Utilities	\$71,800.00	\$70,548.00	\$1,252.00
Music & Worship	\$17,520.00	\$16,953.00	\$567.00
CYF Ministry	\$21,650.00	\$14,077.00	\$7,573.00
Preschool	\$4,285.00	\$1,097.00	\$3,188.00
Adult Ministry	\$1,000.00	\$3,383.00	-\$2,383.00
Church Council	\$7,000.00	\$4,137.00	\$2,863.00
Outreach	\$8,000.00	\$460.00	\$7,540.00
Stewardship	\$3,500.00	\$3,174.00	\$326.00
Total Expense	\$1,146,725.00	\$1,061,580.00	\$85,145.00
Net	\$83.00	\$25,301.00	
2022 Carryover		\$25,301.00	

# **Dedicated Funds 2022**

Dedicated Fund Name	Janu	ıary 1, 2022	Income	Expenses	December 31,2022
Altar Care	\$	836.57	\$ -	\$0.00	\$ 836.57
Banners & Signs	\$	3,974.78	\$ -	(\$310.24)	\$ 3,664.54
Bead Ministry	\$	1,006.15	\$ 175.00	(\$124.51)	\$ 1,056.64
Befriender's Ministry	\$	808.41	\$ -	\$0.00	\$ 808.41
Bibles	\$ \$	438.61	\$ 70.99	(\$509.60)	\$-
Building Maintenance & Repairs	(535.89)		\$ 16,506.95	(\$15,971.06)	\$-
Building Phase 2	\$	6,624.30	\$ -	\$0.00	\$ 6,624.30
Chapel Restoration	\$	66,700.67	\$ 16,350.00	(\$3,723.63)	\$ 79,327.04
Christian Ed Children's Ministry	\$	3,986.05	\$ -	\$0.00	\$ 3,986.05
Columbarium	\$	1,642.77	\$ 3,873.41	(\$5,516.18)	\$-
Concerts & Musicals Continuing Education - CYF Innova-	\$	4,470.41	\$ 28,034.76	(\$27,356.18)	\$ 5,148.99
tor	\$	-	\$ -	(\$510.56)	\$ (510.56)
Continuing Education - CYF Coordi- nator	\$	-	\$ -	(\$820.55)	\$ (820.55)
Continuing Education - Senior Pastor	· \$	1,350.00	\$ 3,000.00	(\$1,083.00)	\$ 3,267.00
Discretionary	\$	1,627.83	\$ 2,017.33	(\$1,450.00)	\$ 2,195.16
Drama Ministry	\$	1,673.67	\$ -	(\$25.00)	\$ 1,648.67
Driveway & Parking Lot	\$	6,077.86	\$ -	\$0.00	\$ 6,077.86
Family Promise	\$	-	\$ 313.54	\$0.00	\$ 313.54
Grown for Love Garden	\$	467.22	\$ -	\$0.00	\$ 467.22
Habitat for Humanity	\$	1,892.04	\$ -	\$0.00	\$ 1,892.04
Handbell Choirs	\$	343.38	\$ 100.00	\$0.00	\$ 443.38
Hard Hat Ministry	\$	38,258.59	\$ 11,540.20	(\$31,439.41)	\$ 18,359.38
Jill of All Trades	\$	1,387.36	\$ -	(\$58.70)	\$ 1,328.66
Kitchen Equipment	\$	471.49	\$ -	(\$260.98)	\$ 210.51
Maslan Foundation	\$	5,242.82	\$ 8,883.95	(\$8,778.92)	\$ 5,347.85
Media Fund	\$	410.61	\$ 37,000.00	(\$36,872.65)	\$ 537.96
Meditation Garden	\$	3,250.55	\$ 530.90	(\$145.69)	\$ 3,635.76
Men's Ministry	\$	985.00	\$ -	\$0.00	\$ 985.00
Military Care	\$	895.82	\$ 20.00	\$0.00	\$ 915.82

# **Dedicated Funds 2022**

Dedicated Fund Name	January 1, 2022	Income	Expenses	Dec	cember 31,2022
Mission Trip - Adult	\$ 12,813.84	\$ 26,677.84	(\$32,922.59)	\$	6,569.09
Motorcycle Ministry	\$ 316.99	\$ 328.87	(\$260.00)	\$	385.86
Office Supplies & Equipment	\$ 147.60	\$ 600.00	(\$694.90)	\$	52.70
Points Forward	\$ -	\$ 82,847.20	(\$58,749.35)	\$	24,097.85
Preschool Projects & Fundraisers	\$ 859.89	\$ 774.00	(\$528.00)	\$	1,105.89
Preschool Schlarships	\$ -	\$ 253.33	\$0.00	\$	253.33
Quilters - AM	\$ 417.33	\$ -	\$0.00	\$	417.33
Quilting Blocks in Stags	\$ 1,157.27	\$ 2,531.10	(\$680.15)	\$	3,008.22
Scholarsihps - Camp (CYF)	\$ 5,915.82	\$ 3,166.00	(\$2 <i>,</i> 639.59)	\$	6,442.23
School Partnership	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	(\$250.13)	\$	749.87
Senior Adult Ministry (SAM)	\$ -	\$ 3,341.00	(\$703.00)	\$	2,638.00
Staff Development	\$ 542.43	\$ 121.72	(\$664.15)	\$	-
Stained Glass	\$ 57,001.48	\$ 2,555.11	\$0.00	\$	59,556.59
Stamping Ministry	\$ 249.44	\$ 1,668.17	(\$1,330.00)	\$	587.61
Technology & Security	\$ 651.72	\$ -	\$0.00	\$	651.72
Tree of Life Library	\$ 548.31	\$ -	(\$51.06)	\$	497.25
Vocal Choirs	\$ 647.14	\$ 655.00	(\$176.98)	\$	1,125.16
Welcoming All Neighbors	\$ 94.54	\$ 1,359.03	(\$600.00)	\$	853.57
Women's Retreat	\$ 1,239.40	\$ 910.00	(\$1,046.43)	\$	1,102.97
Youth Christian Education	\$ 70.80	\$ -	\$0.00	\$	70.80
Youth - ELCA Gathering	\$ 2,352.25	\$ -	(\$750.00)	\$	1,602.25
Youth Mission Trips	\$ 1,150.00	\$ 10,215.09	(\$10,115.09)	\$	1,250.00
Youth Playground - Grant	\$ 6,620.63	\$ -	\$0.00	\$	6,620.63
Alexandra House	\$ -	\$ 463.00	(\$463.00)	\$	-
Lutheran Disaster Response	\$ -	\$ 295.00	(\$295.00)	\$	-
Lutheran World Relief	\$ -	\$ 6,785.00	(\$6,785.00)	\$	-
NACE	\$ -	\$ 1,895.00	(\$1,895.00)	\$	-
Retirement Gifts	\$ -	\$ 225.00	\$0.00	\$	225.00
Other	\$ 1,085.00	\$ 6,041.55	(\$7,126.55)	\$	-
Special Circumstances	\$ - ,	\$ 11,406.05	(\$9,180.31)	\$	2,225.74
	\$ 248,168.95	\$ 294,531.09	\$ (272,863.14)	\$	269,836.90

# Reserve, Property and Mortgage 2022

#### Reserve, Property and Mortgage 2022

#### 2022 Reserve Fund

Beginning Balance	Ending Balance
\$199,503.65	\$169,758.38

#### 2022 Property Maintenance Long Term

Beginning Balance	Ending Balance
\$106,683.94	\$106,879.51

#### 2022 Mortgage

Beginning Balance	Prinicipal Payments	Interest Payments	Additional Payment
\$1,442,000.00	\$103,897.41	\$36,922.59	\$43,050.00
	Ending Balance	Principal Adjustment	New Ending Balance
	\$1,296,658.05	\$926.00	\$1,295,732.05

# Chapel/Cemetery Report

### CEMETERY FUND FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDING DECEMBER 31,2022

CEMETERY FUND Beginning Balance 1 21st Century Bank -	-1-2022 Money-Market Checking		28,330.73
<u>Income</u>	Memorials & Donations Cemetery Lots Sold Administrative Fees Thrivent for Lutherans Dividends ELCA Interest Bank Interest	415.00 3,350.00 400.00 394.42 376.72 12.40	
	Columbarium Loan Repayment TOTAL	2,287.00	7,235.54
<u>Expenses</u>	Admin Fee to Administrator Mow & Trim Miscellaneous (snow plowing) Add to ELCA Investment TOTAL	400.00 1,800.00 487.41 10,000.00	
Ending Balance			22,878.86
	is Income Fund - Cash Value 12-31-2022 959 shares @ 7.80		12,050.68
ELCA Mission Terms	Select Investment #01687 - 12 months - 12-13-23 Select Investment #22543 - 12 months - 07-06-23 Select Investment #23078 - 12 months - 07-31-23		30,000.00 25,000.00 25,000.00

Loan to Columbarium - check #1196 dated 6/19/2017			50,000.00
Payment made April, 2019		5,000.00	45,000.00
Payment made June, 2019		2,331.00	42,669.00
Addition to Loan-check#1219 dated 6/26/2019	15,653.00		58,322.00
Payment made July, 2019		2,931.00	55,391.00
Payment made June, 2021		2,326.00	53,065.00
Payment made November, 2021		2,334.00	50,731.00
Payment made August ,2022		2,287.00	48,444.00

Our Saviour's Evangelical Lutheran Church 19001 Jackson St. NE East Bethel, MN 55011 (763) 434-6117

Pastor Kiri Solberg Pastor Maria Pederson



OSLC Statistics January 1—December 31, 2022

- The total number of members at Our Saviour's was 1723
- The total number of family units was 718
- Our Saviour's received 29 new members
- Our Saviour's performed 1 marriage
- Our Saviour's clergy officiated at 18 funerals

- We celebrated the baptism of 23 children
- 80 children were enrolled in Children's Ministry (PreK through 5th Grade)
- 58 youth were enrolled in Confirmation (6th through 8th Grade)
- 28 youth celebrated their first communion
- 20 young adults affirmed their baptism