



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America



ANNUAL REPORT 2024

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

OPENING LITURGY

Confident in God's generosity and gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us praise God and give thanks ...

God, we praise you and give you thanks.

You are good, and your mercy endures forever.

You gave us a garden with good food to eat.

We praise you for food that nourishes us.

You rescued your people from slavery.

We praise you for freedom.

You gave us prophets to correct, rebuke and encourage us.

We bless you for your justice and mercy.

You gave us your Son, Jesus, to love, redeem and save us.

We praise you for his death and resurrection.

You gave us your Holy Spirit to be our Advocate and Comforter.

We bless you for the gifts of every tribe and nation.

Strengthen your church with every spiritual gift

and commission us again to be your servant people.

Multiply in us the fruit of the spirit:

love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Send us in your love and mercy,

that the world may know you and praise you.

Now Thank We All Our God



1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voice - es,
2 Oh, may this boun-teous God through all our life be near us,
3 All praise and thanks to God the Fa-ther now be giv-en,



who won-drous things has done, in whom this world re-joice-es;
with ev-er joy-ful hearts and bless-ed peace to cheer us,
the Son, and Spir-it blest, who reign in high-est heav-en,



who, from our moth-ers' arms, has blest us on our way
and keep us all in grace, and guide us when per-plexed,
the one e-ter-nal God, whom earth and heav'n a-dore;



with count-less gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.
and free us from all harm in this world and the next.
for thus it was, is now, and shall be ev-er-more.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship, 840

Text: Martin Rinkhart, 1586-1649; tr. Cathering Winkworth, 1827-1878

Music: NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT, Johann Crüger, 1598-1662

Let us pray.

Gracious God, you are the giver of every good gift. Bless us with all that we need for ministry in your name, that we might be a blessing to others. In the name of the one who broke bread and fed the multitudes, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

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2025 Annual Meeting Agenda—January 26, 2025

Call to Order	Monte Hopper, Church Council President
Opening Devotions	Pastor Dan Overbo
Approval of Agenda	
2024 Annual Meeting Minutes	Codi Storm, Council Secretary p. 3-7
2024 Treasurer’s Report	Laurie Tennis, Council Treasurer p. 16-17
Church Council Report (accepted as written)	Monte Hopper, Church Council President p. 9
Pastors Report (accepted as written)	Pastors Dan and Laura Overbo p. 8
Staff and Committee Reports (accepted as written)	p. 10-11, 13-15, 18-28

Elections

- 2025 Church Council Nominations - 3 year Term
 - Kim Pearson, Matt Blackwelder, Cindy Day
- 2025 Stewardship Committee - 4 year Term
 - Char Loterbauer, Matt Olson, Lisa Olerud
- 2025 Nominating Committee - 1 year Term
 - Monte Hopper, Laurie Tennis, Codi Storm

Old Business

- Roof Repair/Shingle (paid from Capital Campaign Funds \$233,899.04)
- Debt Reduction (paid from Capital Campaign Funds \$95,930.05)

New Business

- Ratification of Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer Constitution and By-Laws that was approved at the last annual meeting on January 28, 2024 (copies can be found at the Welcome Center or website <https://www.lcoorwatertown.org/resources>)
- Seven Delegates needed for the 2025 South Dakota Synod Assembly, May 30-31, 2025 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls, SD
- Presentation and Approval of 2025 Proposed Budget

Closing Prayers Pastor Laura Overbo

Adjourn

LCOOR 2024 Church Council President....Monte Hopper Vice President....Ryan Nuttall
Secretary....Codi Storm Treasurer.....Laurie Tennis

Term Expires:

2025: Codi Martin, Laurie Tennis, Monte Hopper
2026: Ryan Nuttall, Ann DeSpiegler, Gwen McGillivary
2027: Jan Birkeland, Jessica Kruse, Alan Stager

2024 Annual Meeting Minutes—January 28, 2024

Respectfully submitted by Peg Juba, Council Secretary

Call to Order

Beverly Splinter, Church Council President

I call the 2024 Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer Annual Meeting to order.

Opening Devotions

Pastor Dan Overbo

Approval of Agenda

The agenda for this meeting is in the front of the annual report book on page 2. I would like to ask for a motion to approve the agenda. Motion to approve made by Ron Moehring. Seconded by Tony Kneeland. Vote. Motion passed.

2023 Annual Meeting Minutes

Peg Juba, Council Secretary p.3-4

The 2023 Annual Meeting Minutes are on page 3 and 4 in the annual report book. I would like to ask for a motion to approve the minutes from last year's meeting. Motion to approve made by Chuck Langner. Seconded by Joanna Ely. Vote. Motion passed.

2023 Treasurer's Report

Laurie Tennis, Council Treasurer p. 12-13

The 2023 Financial Report is on pages 12 and 13 in the annual report book. I would like to ask for a motion to approve the financial report for 2023. Motion to approve made by Sheila Moehring. Seconded by Char Loterbauer. Vote. Motion passed.

Church Council Report (accepted as written)

Beverly Splinter, Church Council President p. 6

Pastors Report (accepted as written)

Pastors Dan and Laura Overbo p. 5

Staff and Committee Reports (accepted as written)

p. 7, 9-11, 14-26

The Church Council Report, the Pastor's Report, and the Staff and Committee Reports are printed in the annual report book. I would like to ask for a motion to approve these reports. Motion to approve made by Monte Hopper. Seconded by Gary Grewing. Vote. Motion passed.

Elections

We will now move to the Elections. The first election is for Church Council members. We have 3 positions open. Each position is a 3 year term. These candidates were announced by the nominating committee at the January Church council meeting as having agreed to serve, if elected.

- 2024 Church Council Nominations - 3 year Term
 - Jan Birkeland, Jessica Kruse, Alan Stager

Are there any nominations from the floor for church council positions? No other nominations were made. If not, nominations are closed.

****I would like to ask for a motion to approve Jan Birkeland, Jessica Kruse, and Alan Stager as Church Council Members. Motion made to accept the nominations made by Kristi Reiersen. Seconded by Tammy Davis. No other nominations or discussion held. Vote. Motion passed.*

The second election is for members on the Mission and Endowment Committee. We have 2 positions open. Each position is a 3 year term. These candidates were announced by the nominating committee at the January Church council meeting as having agreed to serve, if elected.

- 2024 Mission and Endowment Committee Nomination - 3 year Term
 - Kristi Reiersen, Barb Struwe

Are there any nominations from the floor for Mission and Endowment Committee positions?

There were not any other nominations made.

I would like to ask for a motion to approve Kristi Reiersen and Barb Struwe as Mission and Endowment Committee members. Motion to approve nominations made by Michelle Leitheiser. Seconded by Terry Ulrich. No discussion held. Vote. Motion passed.

The third election is for the 2024 Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee is made of up to six voting members of this congregation, two of whom, if possible, shall be outgoing members of the Congregation Council. These candidates were announced by the nominating committee at the January Church council meeting as having agreed to serve, if elected.

- 2024 Nominating Committee - 1 year Term
 - Beverly Splinter, Tony Kneeland, Cathy Zubke, Jack Holmquest

Are there any nominations from the floor for the Nominating Committee positions?

Nominations were closed.

I would like to ask for a motion to approve Beverly Splinter, Tony Kneeland, Cathy Zubke, and Jack Holmquest for the Nominating Committee members for 2024. Motion to approve made by Colleen Hestad. Seconded by Marvy Satter. No further discussion. Vote. Motion passed.

Old Business - *I would like to thank the congregation for the outstanding support you have given above and beyond to the church for the capital campaign. So far there has been \$323,573.36 pledged and \$269,749.75 given to the campaign. The great news is that the church's roof will be replaced in May 2024.*

- Capital Campaign - Roof will be replaced in May 2024
 - Pledged \$323,573.36; Total Received as of 12/31/2023 \$269,749.75

New Business

- Approval of updated Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer Constitution

The Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer Constitution has been updated based on the current model constitution for ELCA churches. I would like to thank Pastor Dan, Pastor Laura, Jodi Spilde, and Monte Hopper, and Jonathon Vehar from the SD Synod for all of their work on updating this important document to our church.

I would like to ask for a motion to approve the Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer Constitution. Motion to approve made by Monte Hopper. Seconded by Darwin Brinkman.

Any discussion? - Allen Rude questioned the length time that the congregation had to review the constitution revisions. Pastor Laura addressed this issue along with explanation by Monte Hopper.

Vote was held.

Motion passed

- Approval of updated Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer By-Laws

Our By-Laws were also updated based on the current model from the ELCA.

I would like to ask for a motion to approve the Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer By-Laws.

Motion to approve made by Grant Titze. Seconded by Colleen Hestad.

No discussion held.

Vote

Motion passed

- Approval of Endowment Policy and Administrative Guidelines

The Mission and Endowment committee has worked hard this year updating their Policy and Administrative Guidelines. I would like to thank that committee under the guidance of Jodi Spilde and Kathy McHenry for their hard work and time they have spent on these documents.

I would like to ask for a motion to approve the Endowment Policy and Administrative Guidelines for Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer.

Motion to approve made by Monte Hopper. Seconded by Ryan Nuttall.

Any discussion- Gary Kruse on the four different categories in the policy. Pastor Laura gave explanation and stated that the Endowment is not part of the Church budget.

Vote

Motion passed

- Seven Delegates needed for the 2024 South Dakota Synod Assembly, May 31-June 1, 2024 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls, SD

Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer is allowed 7 delegates to the South Dakota Synod Assembly which will be held May 31- June 1 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls.

I would like to open the floor up to any persons who would want to represent our church at the South Dakota Synod Assembly.

Jack Holmquest will attend the SD Synod Assembly. Any others can call the church office if they would like to attend.

- Year-end surplus of \$82,700.53; recommend dispersing \$27,736.98 to 2024 Budget, \$40,000.00 to Capital Improvement dedicated line, \$10,000 to Church Home Design & Improvements dedicated line, \$2,463.55 to Ukraine Families Ministry dedicated line, \$1,500 to South Dakota Synod and \$1,000 to Salvation Army One Roof Project.

We ended the church year with a surplus budget of \$82,700.53. At the January Church council meeting, we discussed what to do with the surplus. This is the recommended suggestion of the church council - \$27,736.98 to the 2024 Budget to balance; \$40,000 will be put into the Capital Improvement dedicated line item for further maintenance to our church home; \$10,000 will be put into a dedicated line item for Church Home Design and Improvement which will include paint, new furnishings, decor, etc.; \$1,500 will go to the South Dakota Synod as we had an additional request from the synod, \$1,000 to the Salvation Army One Roof Project, and \$2,463.55 to the Ukraine Families Ministry Dedicated line item.

Motion made to approve the budget surplus disbursement by Kristi Reiersen. Seconded by Lynn Langner. Motion carried.

- Presentation and Approval of 2024 Proposed Budget

Council members will be handing out 2 pages - They are amended 2024 proposed budget pages 27 and 31. Page 30 of the proposed budget will remain the same. When the church council met in January and approved the proposed budget in the annual report, we did not catch a software calculation error and a new employee has been hired. The church council met this morning and approved the amended 2024 proposed budget. Roman Gainor was hired as the new custodian as a part time position. Therefore, on page 31 line item, Major 8 minor 2 custodial services has been adjusted to reflect the decrease in expense. The preschool salaries on page 31 which is item Major 9, minor 1 was not added to the total expenses. We have added the correct amount for these salaries into the expenses. Since it was decided not to do an official stewardship drive with pledge cards this year, the council took a conservative approach to the income line on page 27. The council decided this morning to add \$57,590.91 to the non promised item to increase the income to match the expenses. As we have asked in the past, the council is hopefully each member will prayerfully consider increasing their giving a bit this year. The proposed budget includes a 5% increase in church employee salaries. The amended 2024 proposed budget is \$1,076,987.24.

I would like to ask for a motion to approve the Amended 2024 Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer budget. Motion to approve made by Char Loterbauer

Seconded by Bruce Hestad

No discussion held.

Motion passed.

Closing Prayers

Pastor Laura Overbo

I would like to ask all current and new church council members to stay after the annual meeting for our Organizational meeting which we will hold up front here.

Adjourn

I would like to ask for a motion to adjourn the annual meeting of Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer. Motion to adjourn made by Tony Kneeland. Seconded by Gary Grewing.

Vote

Motion passed

LCOOR 2023 Church Council

President....Beverly Splinter
Secretary....Peg Juba

Vice President....Monte Hopper
Treasurer.....Laurie Tennis

Term Expires:

2024: Peg Juba, Tony Kneeland, Bev Splinter

2025: Codi Martin, Laurie Tennis, Monte Hopper

2026: Ryan Nuttall, Ann DeSpiegler, Gwen McGillivray

SENIOR & ASSOCIATE PASTORS

Annual Report

Philippians 3:12 "Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own."

We have a remarkable history and strength as a congregation. Since 1961 this church has been ready to follow God's call. It was in that year that members took a leap of faith as they broke ground for a new church building. The spirit was moving, and membership continued to grow as faith and discipleship deepened. Just 42 years later, in 2004 the congregation was ready for a new challenge as the new church facility was dedicated.

This congregation knows how to push toward a goal and how to strive. The goal isn't to become bigger, rather, the goal is to grow deeper in our faith so that we are equipped and confident to share the message of God's love and grace with all. In the words of our mission, 'we make God known through words and deed.'

We can be proud of our tradition, our history, and so many of you who shaped this. As we dream about the future of LCOOR, as we experience change in different ways, we continue to honor our history and strength.

At the same time, we shift our focus to the future and look ahead to what the Apostle Paul describes as the race before us. We set our minds and fix our gaze on the call of God in Jesus Christ. As we fix our gaze, our feet begin to move. We are racing, stretching, pushing, straining, temples pounding, heart pumping, and muscles aching. We are propelled in this race by God.

One of the ways we know we are running the race and sharing God's love is to pay attention to how and where Jesus shows up in our lives together. Jesus has shown up in our Church School, youth groups, and adult Bible Studies. Jesus' love is palpable as we live our faith each day striving to contribute as a congregation to feeding, clothing, supporting children, young adults, and older adults, educating, and building a welcoming community.

We pray that 2025 will be a year to continue to live out our mission as, together we run the race of faith. Our future is solid and bright because we show up, we welcome Christ's presence in our midst, and continue to share the gospel.

Pastors Dan and Laura Overbo



COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Annual Report

As the outgoing congregation council president, I am pleased to have served this congregation for the past year. This was the first full calendar year for our pastors and my sense is that it has been a very successful one. This congregation has much going for it, and the future looks bright!

- **Roof Project:** After several years of study and diligent effort by many members of this congregation, our roof was finally replaced this past spring. The cost was \$233,899.04. The funds were raised through a very successful capital campaign. Thanks to all who worked so hard to make it successful.
- **Debt Reduction:** After replacement of the roof, the campaign surplus of \$95,930.05 was applied to the principal on our mortgage debt.

In addition to such major accomplishments, the congregation council works hard with various committees, as well as regularly performing its duties under our church constitution. Those include the oversight and administration of the congregation to enable it to fulfill its functions and perform its mission, maintaining and protecting the church's property and managing its business and fiscal affairs, preparing the annual budget and supervising the expenditure of funds, and generally managing the congregation's affairs. Anyone interested in a more detailed description of the activities of the council, and the church in general, may review the council's monthly meeting minutes at our website: lcoorwatertown.org . Click on the Resources Tab and scroll down to get to the Minutes.

A church like ours does not thrive without the help and support of the pastors, staff, council and committee members, and the members of the congregation who all make it their priority to make Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer a place where God is made known through our words and deeds. Again, thank you all!

Submitted by Monte Hopper, Council President





Celebration!

*THANK YOU for a successful Capital Campaign.
We were able to repair and shingle the entire church and garage
and reduce the debt on the church mortgage!*

Roof Repair & Shingle
\$233,899.04

Debt Reduction
\$95,930.05

MISSION & ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

Annual Report

Committee members: Julie Rude (Chairman), Deb Shephard (Treasurer), Becky Conger (Secretary), Barb Struwe, Ann DeSpiegler, and Kristi Reiersen.

The Mission Fund is comprised of donations, both designated and undesignated, primarily from memorials.

The Endowment Fund was created to extend Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer's mission work and ministries beyond what may be accomplished through the annual operational budget of the congregation by managing monies and property gifted to LCOOR by members and friends.

At the annual meeting of the congregation in January 2024, the congregation voted to approve the new Gift Policy and also the Endowment Policy and Administrative Guidelines for the LCOOR Constitution. It has been a process, but the committee has worked through it and implemented the changes. A new brochure that highlights giving to the Endowment Fund will soon be printed and handed out to the congregation.

The Mission and Endowment Committee of LCOOR provided the following funds in 2024:

Leonard and Ardell Timmerman Scholarships: \$1,000 was awarded to the following students: Ella Lickei (Black Hills State University), Emmaline Elshere (Northern State University), Carter Schmidt (Northern State University), Addy McGillivray (South Dakota State University), Hayden Thomas (University of South Dakota), Wyatt Kruger (South Dakota State University), and Miranda Falconer (South Dakota State University). Scholarships were distributed at the end of 2024 for their second semester of education.

Grants – 6 applicants

Watertown Sandwich Ministry	\$5,000.00	Sack lunch supplies
LCOOR Preschool	\$419.48	Lego Table
Hospice Gowns	\$1,000.00	Materials for making the gowns
Watertown Cares	\$1,500.00	Temporary Housing for those in need
Homes of Hope	\$250.00	Building a home in Tijuana, MX
Quilting Group	\$500.00	Batting for quilts

Endowing our future – It's easier than you might think. A gift to the LCOOR Endowment Fund can be made in memory of a loved one or as a part of your legacy plan, but also in honor of a special birthday or anniversary. Contact Jodi Spilde in the church office or Kathy McHenry at Lutheran Planned Generosity of SD (605-274-5030 or lpjgsd@sdsyond.org) for more information.

Submitted by Julie Rude, Chairman

Making God Known Through Word and Deed



ENDOWMENT FINANCIAL REPORT 2024

ENDOWMENT SUMMARY

ELCA Pooled Trust Account	\$	175,040.16
Healthcare Trust Inc.	\$	9,471.47
	\$	184,511.63

TIMMERMAN SCHOLARSHIP SUMMARY

ELCA Mission Investment Fund Checking Account	\$	14.44
ELCA Mission Investment Fund Term Investment	\$	26,211.26
	\$	26,225.70

MISSION FUND SUMMARY

First Interstate Bank Savings Account	\$	8,129.42
ELCA Mission Investment Fund Checking Account	\$	17,353.48
	\$	25,482.90

Total of All Funds	\$	236,220.23
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EVANGELISM & MISSION REPORT

Annual Report

Missions of the Month: Supported by donations and “noisy can offering.”

January: ½ Nicaragua Partner Ministry (budget \$1,000/offering \$404.43)

½ Nicaragua Youth Retreat (budget \$1,000/offering \$404.44)

February: Lutherans Outdoors of South Dakota (budget \$1,000/offering \$673.79)

March: ELCA World Hunger (budget \$1,800/offering \$909.75)

April: LCOOR Christian Preschool (budget \$1,000/offering \$824.94)

May: Pine Ridge (budget \$1,000/offering \$866.33)

June: Lutheran Campus Ministry (budget \$1,000/offering \$546.92)

July: ½ Church on the Street (budget \$1,000/offering \$351.27)

½ Pueblo de Dios (budget \$1,000/offering \$336.26)

August: Watertown Sandwich Ministry (budget \$2,500/offering \$2,096.67)

September: St. Dysmas (budget \$1,000/offering \$1,052.83)

October: Cameroon Partner Ministry (budget \$1,000/offering \$967.54)

November: Community Care Month

½ Fallout Shelter Ministries (budget \$500/offering \$418.40)

½ Salvation Army (budget \$500/offering \$418.40)

December: LCOOR Care Fund (budget \$1,000/offering \$1,814.84)

The LCOOR congregation was also involved in outreach in the following areas:

Kathy's Karts: Our on-going mission to stock the Salvation Army Food Pantry.

Watertown Sandwich Ministry: Faithful volunteers (many from LCOOR), prepare 250 sack lunches and deliver them Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Many members also bake cookies, a treat for those receiving the sack lunches.

Angel Tree: LCOOR's Angel Tree had 100 tags from the Salvation Army. All were picked up and brought back with gifts!

Church on the Street: LCOOR volunteers prepared and served an Easter meal for 200+ hungry people following the Church on the Street worship service March 9, 2024 at the Multicultural Center in Sioux Falls.

God's Work Our Hands: More than 300 Newborn Kits were assembled for Global Health Ministries during “God's Work Our Hands” on Sept. 15, 2024. Kits are sent to partners in Cameroon, Central African Republic, Liberia, Madagascar, Tanzania and Zimbabwe.

Submitted by Twila Schmitt, Welcoming and Caring Ministries Coordinator

Making God Known Through Word and Deed



FAITH FORMATION & YOUTH MINISTRY COMMITTEES

Annual Report

Mission: To provide a variety of Christian Education programs for all ages and abilities to promote continued faith formation for the future of the church.

Ministry opportunities include:

- Church School (3 year old to 6th Grade)
 - Sunday: 65; 14 teachers
 - Wednesday: 140 kids; 25 teachers
- Confirmation: Sunday and Wednesday 65 students (7th and 8th grade)
- Junction Youth Group: (1st to 4th grade youth group met one Thursday a month: Activities included a bible verse, craft, game and snack)
- Route 56: (5th and 6th grade youth group met one Thursday a month: Activities included a bible verse, craft, game and snack)
- VBS: Noah's Ark: Need An Ark? I Know A Guy. Two days of activities at the end of May that included bible theme, bible lesson, crafts, music, dinner and games.

Family Fun Activities

- Harvest Fest: We opened our doors to the community for a meal, fall games including: cake walk, pumpkin bowling, bouncy houses, face painting, a duck pond and a fish pond. We served over 300 people
- Family Bingo; over 100 in attendance.
- Upcoming events to include Family Bowling.

Youth Music Team: Led music approximately once a month at Wednesday night services and led Lenten music.

Youth Mission Trip: Led a team with Serve Boldly to Duluth, Minn., at the end of June for one week. Activities included morning devotionals, community service projects throughout the city of Duluth and evenings we ended each night with a church service.

Submitted by Wendy Kruger, Faith Formation Assistant

Making God Known Through Word and Deed



FINANCE COMMITTEE

Annual Report

The finance committee meets to review the financial activities of LCOOR in cooperation with the church council treasurer. Jodi Spilde, business manager works close with the finance committee to manage all church finances. The finance committee oversees activities such as bill paying, payroll, and month end reports. We complete a quarterly audit of the finances and have found everything in good standing. Also included in our duties is monthly reconciling of all church bank accounts. We work with VRS, PC to conduct our quarterly payroll audit. If you are interested in serving on the committee, please reach out to Jodi or myself.

Finance Committee: Kerry Stager

Making God Known Through Word and Deed



FINANCIAL REPORT 2024

GENERAL FUND

2023

2024

Income		2023	2024
Promised Pledges	\$	728,770.17	\$ 903,026.35
Non-promised Offerings	\$	186,981.98	\$ -
Loose Offerings	\$	32,206.33	\$ 30,319.60
Church School	\$	743.25	\$ 783.93
Christian Preschool	\$	41,130.95	\$ 37,246.85
Other	\$	3,943.38	\$ 4,698.56
Budget Surplus	\$	60,985.71	\$ 27,736.98
Interest	\$	796.51	\$ 531.23
Designated Mission Giving	\$	18,912.30	\$ 10,900.37
Special Offerings	\$	53,969.75	\$ 28,974.05
	\$	1,128,440.33	\$ 1,044,217.92
Expenses		2023	2024
Missions	\$	89,610.51	\$ 88,229.25
Worship and Service	\$	54,739.99	\$ 37,373.65
Parish Education	\$	38,367.42	\$ 41,812.10
Parish Youth Program	\$	80,434.60	\$ 86,157.10
Outreach	\$	74,294.05	\$ 81,030.57
Pastoral Leadership	\$	241,005.64	\$ 262,188.66
Church Operations	\$	163,317.95	\$ 170,252.13
Church Home	\$	204,439.62	\$ 209,133.11
Preschool	\$	62,875.10	\$ 81,894.92
Transfer Out of Account	\$	36,654.92	\$ 1,081.32
	\$	1,045,739.80	\$ 1,059,152.81
Income Less Expense	\$	82,700.53	\$ (14,934.89)

SCRIP

2023

2024

Checking Balance	\$	2,907.07	\$ 2,955.65
Inventory	\$	1,820.00	\$ 1,760.00
	\$	4,727.07	\$ 4,715.65

CARE FUND

2023

2024

Deposits	\$	5,226.95	\$ 4,324.85
Expenses	\$	3,087.31	\$ 4,847.42
Ending Balance	\$	10,148.54	\$ 9,625.97

BUILDING LOAN

2023

2024

Refinanced January 30, 2020 | Reliabank - 3.9% (Maturity January 15, 2027)

Payment = \$2,341.26 per month on the 15th

Principal Balance	\$	294,012.41	\$ 167,235.07
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Certificates of Deposit

2023

2024

<i>Matured 6/10/2024</i>	Capital Campaign 5.06% APY	\$ 234,133.75	\$ -
<i>Matured 2/17/2024</i>	PPP/EIDL 4.81% APY	\$ 90,636.63	\$ -

FINANCIAL REPORT 2024

DEDICATED FUNDS	2023	2024
Altar Guild	\$ 803.77	\$ -
Bible Camp Scholarships	\$ 8,720.00	\$ 8,720.00
Church School Mission	\$ 1,021.95	\$ 890.78
Preschool Assistance	\$ 2,877.00	\$ 2,877.00
Milestone Ministry	\$ 3,272.98	\$ 2,454.69
Staff Development	\$ 732.68	\$ 461.87
Ukraine Family Ministry	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -
Befriender Minsitry	\$ 2,372.12	\$ 2,372.12
Gods Work Our Hands	\$ 834.89	\$ 834.89
Ministry Events - Worship	\$ 3,706.06	\$ 3,336.53
Mission & Ministry/Cong.	\$ 2,435.88	\$ 1,803.05
Legal & Accounting	\$ 1,934.53	\$ 1,934.53
AED/Wellness	\$ 130.35	\$ 130.35
Ladies Night Out	\$ 5,934.70	\$ 3,391.17
Coffee	\$ 1,254.18	\$ 674.40
Sound & Projection	\$ 3,275.68	\$ 4,175.68
Sabbatical Fund	\$ 2,273.25	\$ 2,273.25
Hour of Hope Grant	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00
Faith Forward Mini Grant	\$ -	\$ 62.25
Handbell Choir	\$ 1,638.57	\$ 1,534.47
Music Team Fund	\$ 6,588.46	\$ 8,668.46
Praise and Rejoice Choir	\$ 1,625.58	\$ 1,438.78
Prayer Shawl Ministry	\$ 4,285.10	\$ 2,442.39
Preschool Donations	\$ 7,705.09	\$ 7,604.76
LCOOR Women of the ELCA	\$ 4,123.67	\$ 5,460.91
Thrivent Choice Dollars	\$ 2,806.17	\$ 3,025.62
Wednesday Meals	\$ 6,894.96	\$ 7,043.07
Use Tax	\$ 169.56	\$ 777.02
9th Grade Confirmation	\$ 206.27	\$ -
Youth Mission Trips	\$ 4,256.63	\$ 2,062.42
Youth Outdoor Play Area	\$ 6,794.38	\$ -
Youth Ministry Meals	\$ 2,025.71	\$ 737.18
Interest	\$ 1,415.60	\$ 1,635.96
	<u>\$ 97,115.77</u>	<u>\$ 80,323.60</u>
Capital Improvement	\$ 49,096.79	\$ 105,835.84
Capital Campaign 'New \$'	\$ 35,616.00	\$ -
Interest	\$ 966.91	\$ 4,514.03
	<u>\$ 85,679.70</u>	<u>\$ 110,349.87</u>
PPP/EIDL		\$ 93,203.51
Church Home Design/Improvement		\$ 4,043.50
Youth Outdoor Play Area/Fire Pit		\$ 13,532.93
Interest		\$ 2,339.24
		<u>\$ 113,119.18</u>
Total Dedicated Funds	\$182,795.47	\$ 303,792.65

POLICY COMMITTEE

Annual Report

Mission: To ensure the church operates with integrity while pursuing its mission.

The responsibilities of the Policy Committee are to maintain and update the Constitution, Bylaws and Continuing Resolutions, as necessary and appropriate.

- In 2023, the policy committee worked diligently to update the congregation's Constitution to jibe with the ELCA Model Constitution for Congregations. The Bylaws and Continuing Resolutions for the congregation were also thoroughly reviewed and brought up to date.

In 2025, the Policy Committee intends to completely review the congregation's personnel and facility policy manual/handbook for proposal to the council.

Submitted by Monte Hopper, Council President



PRESCHOOL

Annual Report

Mission: Where learning is fun in a socially-interactive, faith-building, early-literacy preschool program!

We were blessed to have 19 children enrolled in the Spring Semester (Jan.-May), and 19 children enrolled in the Fall Semester (Sept.-Dec.). The Pre-Kindergarten class met Monday-Thursday from 8:30-11:30am. This class was for 4 & 5 year olds. Tuition was \$150 a month.

Fundraisers for 2024:

- Rada Cutlery-\$1,172.91
- Giving Wall-\$1,767.00
- Advent Calendars-\$1,300.00
- Quilt Raffle-\$400.00

Other Giving:

- Thrivent Choice-\$1,420.00
- Scrip Proceeds-\$498.00
- Mission of the Month/Noisy Can-\$1,824.94
- Memorials & Special Gifts Given-\$6,480.00
- Lenten Offering-\$4,024.00
- Mission & Endowment Grant-\$419.48



A BIG THANK YOU to the members of our congregation for your purchases and for your giving. Thank you for your support. God's blessings to you all in 2025.



Submitted by Nikki Landmark & Wendy Kruger, LCOOR Preschool

Making God Known Through Word and Deed



PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Annual Report

Mission: To enhance and maintain the LCOOR facility for the community - the church - the people.

Committee Members: Pam Raeder, Tim Peterson, Chuck Langner, Jerry Rieber, Brett McGillivray, Dale Even, Mark Reishus, Tony Kneeland, Custodian, Roman Gainor, Council Liaison, Alan Stager and Pastor Dan.

The Property Committee thanks the many members who have given countless hours toward keeping our church property in order. Numerous tasks are taken on by these volunteers, including mowing, landscaping, etc.

This year was another busy year for the property committee, as the church is 21 years old. Many items needed to be repaired or replaced, and more will be in the future. In 2023, a priority list of these items was made, and given to the council, on future needs over the next 10 years.

Completed items include:

- The largest project was replacing the entire church roof. After many meetings and discussions, we decided on Skywalker roofing from Brookings. The bid was for \$230,574.04 but additional cost was added as numerous wood sheets needed to be replaced due to rotting.
- Replacing sections of sidewalk concrete, due to cracking and unevenness for \$3862.00.
- Rekeying all the exterior door locks in the church, as there were many unreturned keys. (Now keys can be checked out in church office if needed.)
- Hiring Justin's Lawn & Tree Service for mowing and trimming. This was their 2nd year.
- Replacing burned out lights in the parking lot.
- Placing aluminum plates at both exterior entrances and kitchen entrance, to alleviate the concrete unevenness. Thanks, Tim and Dale for doing this.
- Hiring Deutsch Excavating for snow removal from the church parking lot. (He has done it for numerous years with excellent results.)
- There is one more big project in the works at the time of this report: the air conditioner in the gathering area. The committee is deciding whether to replace or repair. The cost to replace is approximately \$79,000. This committee recommended to the council to replace.
- Shampooing of the fabric of all of the church pews.

The property committee will continue to keep the Council informed, as well as the congregation, of what is ahead. We continue to be committed to keeping the church a welcoming site.

Respectfully submitted by Chuck Langner, Committee Chairman



Stewardship Report



Overview:

Our 2025 stewardship theme is **I'm IN!** Together we will look at how we are all **Invited, In Love, Included, Invested, and Involved.**

Deliverables:

- A total of **233** Pledge Cards were returned.
- **142** of those cards were either an increase in giving or new to giving.
- There are **146** families that utilize our *Simply Giving* program to give their offering.

Objective:

- Our theme is based on the biblical philosophy of the need for us, the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, we, as followers of Jesus Christ want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship.

Key Stakeholders:

- God's gift of love...The basic tenant of our Lutheran faith is that God loves and accepts us regardless of our own works or efforts. This is why we can **ALL** say **I'm IN.**

Success:

- LCOOR continues to be rooted in this unconditional promise of God's love of every one of us. This is why, together we can say **I'm LCOOR.** Each one of us can make a difference in the lives of others as we live out our mission.



WELCOMING & CARING MINISTRIES

Annual Report

Mission: Ensuring everyone feels welcomed and cared for here at Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer.

Groups, committees & duties covered under Welcoming & Caring Ministries:

- New Members (Greet visitors, organize new member orientation and follow up)
- BeFrienders (Coordinate needs and provide training)
- Caring Cards (Series of cards sent following Funerals, Baptisms and Weddings)
- Pastoral Prayer List (Maintain names and meet with Pastors)
- Hospital & Home Visits (Assist Pastors)
- Prayer Chain (Marilyn Chapman and Pam Luckhurst, co-chairs)
- Grief Groceries (Coordinate purchase of food & volunteers to deliver)
- Newborn Baby Care (Deliver gift package & offer support)
- Comfort Care (Prepare packages to comfort infant/pregnancy loss)
- Prayer Shawl Group (Purchase supplies)
- Quilters Group
- Fellowship Committee (Organize Ladies Night Out & Advent Tour of Nativities)
- Faithful Generations (Annual 75+ Dinner, organized by Fellowship)
- Welcome Center (Train teams to greet & provide helpful information)
- Faith & Care (Finding weekly volunteers for greeters, ushers, lectors & communion)
- Sunday Morning Coffee (Find servers and maintain supplies)
- Kid Activity Bags (Find volunteers to organize & replenish)
- Care Committee (Mailing cards & birthday postcards)
- Caring Casseroles (Maintain supply in freezer)
- LCOOR Circles & Bible Study (Liaison with church staff)

I'm grateful for everyone who volunteers to help care for each other! -Twila

Submitted by Twila Schmitt, Welcoming and Caring Ministries Coordinator

Making God Known Through Word and Deed



WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE

Annual Report

Mission: To create meaningful, spirit-lead worship services that are available to all worshippers, in person and through multimedia technology.

- 2024 Lent theme on Wednesday was "Beatitudes"
- 2024 Lent theme on Sunday was "Drawn to the Word" video series by Paul Oman
- Ash Wednesday - 2 services were held
- Palm Sunday - ECO Palms were ordered for Church school kids to walk in with
- Maundy Thursday and Good Friday - traditional services were held
- Over 1000 people worshiped together on Easter morning at 3 services and online
- Beautiful decorations throughout Lent, Holy Week, and Easter were done by faithful volunteers
- First Communion Recognition was April 21 and 24, 2024
- 9th Grade Confirmation was April 27, 2024 and 8th Grade Confirmation was April 28, 2024
- High School Graduate Recognition was May 1 and 5, 2024
- Committee members cleaned and organized storage areas at the church
- Worship at Memorial park was May 26 to September 1, 2024
- More updates for the church included new paint and soft seating for the gathering space
- Wednesday night activities changed to having confirmation the same time as Church School
- Saturday night service has a Pastor preaching and giving communion on both the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month. Cathy Zubke and Jack Holmquest provide the message on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays. On the first Saturday of the month, a meal is provided and cooked by faithful and dedicated volunteers.
- Milestones Ministry programs continue with 22 categories
- Adult Education Bible study has been offered at various times throughout the year by both Pastors
- Tera McDonnell resigned from directing the vocal choir in May 2024
- Kristy Tostenson was hired to direct the vocal choir starting in September 2024
- Julianne Decker is leading the praise team
- Beverly Splinter is directing the handbell choir
- A new church directory is in progress and pictures of members were taken
- Church bulletins were changed to a larger format to use less paper and save money
- All Saints Sunday included a video of the members who have passed in the last year
- 2024 Service of Thanksgiving on November 24 was combined with a food drive
- 2024 Advent theme was "The Word Made Flesh"
- Decorating for Advent/Christmas was done by faithful volunteers
- Christmas Church school programs were held on December 15 and 18, 2024
- Christmas Eve services were held at 1:00 p.m., 3:30 p.m., and 5:30 p.m. on December 24, 2024
- Just over 1,500 people worshiped together on Christmas Eve at the 3 services and online

Submitted by Beverly Splinter, chair

Making God Known Through Word and Deed



PASTORAL ACTS & MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

Annual Report

* Non-Member ● Associate Member

Baptisms - Child (26)

Aria Margaret Barse	Harper Lynne Pieschke	Drue LeeAnn Buelow
Brooke Kay Barse	Madilynn Joyce Marshall	Henry Ronald Richard Herr
Dawson Joe Marquardt	Alice Natalie Heidenreich	Porter Dean Hurt
Easton John Kjenstad	Quinn Beverly Turbak	Zoey Rose Marie Blocker
Ashton Dwayne James Blocker	Chayse Michael Freese	Taytum Louis Freese
Landyn Louis Freese	Madalyn Marie Freese	Zayden Michael Freese
Henry Kent Crow	Elliana Lynn Spilde	Paisley Mae Mooney
Oldin Randy Grimes-Samayoa	Jasper Nolan Seeman	Lainey Sue Fisk
Hadley Mae Hickel	Emma Lynn Harberts	

Baptisms - Adult (0)

First Communion - Youth (27) (April 21 & 24, 2024)

Kylie Blackwelder	Asher Rossman	Noah Feldmeyer	Reed Ellingson
Graham Mancell	Landon Simon	Chevelle Swenson	Cason Harms
Briggs Miles	Lilah Harms	Amiri Hauck	Ellyson Shepherd
Lynken Reichling	Brody Bloom	Emersyn Iverson	Brogan Miles
Amelia Harms	Tucker Dahl	Robert Johnson	Bentley Grohs
James Sonne	Logan Pearson	Avery Russell	Ava Rieffenberger
Miles Blauer	Hadley Brinkman	Easten Petersen	

Confirmed - Youth (62)

[April 27, 2024](35)

Abby Anderson	Aubrey Johnson	Addison Reichling	Jozelynn Thonvold
Preston Graf	Braxten Petersen	Landon Struckman	Katie Fischer
Kathryn McElroy	Dane Stark	Lauren Conger	Jay McAreavey
Hunter Serie	Lukas Brandlee	Abigail Kruger	Molli Schmeling
Kasen Bender	Kale Jurgens	Karleigh Rumpza	Keaton Zubke
Dawson Hlavacek	Elyssa Redfield	Kutler Swenson	Sarah Zubke
Harper Meidinger	Gavyn Steen	Andrew Dahl	Micah Overbo
Abigail Stager	Drew Brenden	Khloe Landmark	Riley Fischer
Kyrin Boyd	Markie Kohlenberg	Ty Schlinggen	



PASTORAL ACTS & MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS (Continued)

Annual Report

Confirmed - Youth (62)

[April 28, 2024](27)

Hannah Bartelt	Trease Schumacher	Ashlyn Pletan	Lily Lindsey
Brecken Jungen	Jayla Easthouse	Hadley Teske	Kyler Salisbury
Chloe Ofstehage	Kennedy Kohlhoff	Kylie Herr	Josephine Waite
Emmett Scholl	Daja Pederson	Addyson Lambert	Mason Iverson
Conner Dahl	Makynzie Swenson	Mason Rieffenberger	Dawson Meidinger
Bentley Kluckman	Lillyanna Grimes	Jaxson Tol	Brylie Schlotterbeck
Kye Paulson	Addison Kruse	Braden Howell	

Deaths/Funerals/Memorial Services/Burials (38)

Huxley J. McNutt	Joyce Foster	Mark Mandery	*David Knutson
Jessica Fischer	*Kevin Pierce	Randy Johnson	Wanda Dahl
Harlow Ostenvik	Neva Morrison	Eleanor Wiesner	*Virginia Walraven
Ervin Schumacher	*Jason Morris	Marilyn Arneson	Marlowe Ronke
*Janet Rosheim	Claire Konold	*Jake Obermeier	Barry Johnson
*Duane Slettedahl	Dolores Johnson	*Tonya Urban	Dorothy Nichols
Skip Bromley	Carol Lien	Christy Barkley	Dale Rothenberger
Willy Selzler	*Terry Miller	Carl "Jerry" Carlson	Judith Trzynka
Terri R. Bruner	Judy Cordell	Gloria Anderson	
Almon Johnson	*Joyce Weber	Kimberly Dunbar	

Marriages (8)

Trevor Hanson & Michaela Baker
 Nick Tieden & Ashley Abraham
 Garrett Determan & Morgan Hansen
 Zachary Holler & Robin Howell
 Tyler Dailey & Courtney Holt
 Cameron Rumpza & Maddilyn Spiering
 Ben Storm & Codi Martin
 Kolten Weber & Kylie Jahn

Members Removed by Request (0)



PASTORAL ACTS & MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS (Continued)

Annual Report

Members Transferred Out (9 Households; 17 People)

Carole Anderson- American Lutheran Church, Milbank, SD
 Kent & Holly Stillson- Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls, SD
 Diane Koosman- American Lutheran Church, Castlewood, SD
 Lori & Lily Splett- Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls, SD
 Jena Samuelson- Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls, SD
 Justin, Laura, Crosby & Chloe Ruesch- Ascension Lutheran Church, Brookings, SD
 Jim, Tammy & Brooke Hunter- Hosanna Lutheran Church, Watertown, SD
 Kathy Anderson- Peace in Christ Lutheran Church, Duluth, MN
 Orman & Beverly Sime- Central Church, Milbank, SD

Membership Statistics

Year Ending 2022:

Baptized: 3403
 Confirmed: 2530

Year Ending 2023:

Baptized: 3425
 Confirmed: 2530

Year Ending 2024:

Baptized: 3451
 Confirmed: 2592

Average Weekly Attendance

2022: 563
2023: 606
2024: 558

New Members Received (34 Households; 68 People)

January 21, 2024 - (4 Households; 8 People)

Benjamin Storm
 From: St. John's Lutheran Church, Webster, SD
 Clark Toben
 From: St. Paul Lutheran Church, Clear Lake, SD
 Nicholas Harms and children Cason and Lilah
 From: First Lutheran Church, Pipestone, MN
 Tyler, Alison and Amelia Gorrell
 From: United Church of Christ in Mitchell, SD; St. Michael's Catholic Church in Madison, MN.



PASTORAL ACTS & MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS (Continued)

Annual Report

March 20, 2024 (6 Households; 13 People)

Ashley Abraham & Nick Tieden

From: St. James Catholic Church, Dawson, MN; St. Alphonsus Catholic Church, Brooklyn Center, MN

Mackenzie & Carter Buelow

From: St. Paul Lutheran Church, Clark, SD

Andrew & Jaden Mears

From: American Lutheran Church, Milbank, SD

Judy Greenfield

From: Presbyterian Church, Watertown, SD

Clarence & Sandy Olson

From: Peace Lutheran Church, Cold Spring, MN

Chad, Jamie, Sam & Nick Olson

From: Grace Lutheran Church, Watertown, SD

September 29, 2024 (10 Households; 20 People)

Cindy Solnar

From: Bethel Lutheran Church, Willmar, MN

Krisma Dewitt

From: Grace Lutheran Church, Watertown, SD

Shona Marshall

From: Watertown Wesleyan Church, Watertown, SD

Sherray Hurlbert

From: St. Paul Lutheran Church, Clark, SD

Robin Hall

From: Grace Lutheran Church, Watertown, SD

Ron & Linda Stern

From: St Henry Parish, Henry, SD

Bryan, Cassandra, Brooklynn & Ashlynn Varilek

From: Holy Name of Jesus Parish, Watertown, SD

Chad, Sara, Kadin, Samuel & Charlie Foust

From: Immaculate Conception Church, Watertown, SD

Dalton Stack & Katlyn Gades

Tim & Roberta Cossette

From: Grace Lutheran Church, Watertown, SD



PASTORAL ACTS & MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS (Continued)

Annual Report

December 4, 2024 (14 Households; 27 People)

JoAnna Austad & Jackson Nei

From: Holy Name of Jesus Parish, Watertown, SD & American Lutheran Church, Castlewood, SD

Lowell & Jeanne Zander

From: American Lutheran Church, Prescott, AZ

Gabriell Larson & Kaleb Haase

From: St Paul's Lutheran Church, Bellingham, MN & Holy Name of Jesus Parish, Watertown, SD

Sandy Wiesner

From: Holy Name of Jesus Parish, Watertown, SD

Molly Westling

From: Alcester United Church of Christ, Alcester, SD

Megan Major & Devyn Bollinger

Fred & Mary Garland

From: Bethania Lutheran Church, Rosholt, SD

Tyler Johnson, Jaime Endres, Audrey Endres, Tylen Johnson, Avery Johnson

From: Presbyterian Church, Watertown, SD

Steve & Diane Van Hee

Aaron & Lexi Wright

From: Grace Lutheran Church, Willow Lake, SD

Dalton & Michaela Koch

From: Emanuel Lutheran Church, Milbank, SD & St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Benson, MN

Shirley Sikkink

Myron & Diane Eidsness

From: St. Paul Lutheran Church, Clark, SD

Mikayla England

From: St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls, SD



Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer
2025 Proposed Budget

	Annual Budget, Y.T.D. Actual		2025 Proposed
	Budget	As of 12/31/2024	
Income			
Major 01, INCOME // Minor 01, WEEKLY			
10 - General Offering (Promised)	915,753.12	903,026.35	694,683.99
20 - Non-Promised	57,590.91	0.00	316,986.13
30 - Loose	32,206.33	30,319.60	33,172.19
40 - Church School Offering	1,200.00	783.83	1,200.00
50 - Designated Mission Giving	0.00	10,900.37	-
70 - Budget Surplus	27,736.98	27,736.98	-
	1,034,487.34	972,767.13	1,046,042.31
Major 01, INCOME // Minor 02, SPECIAL SERVICE			
30 - Special Offerings	0.00	28,974.05	-
	0.00	28,974.05	-
Major 01, INCOME // Minor 03, PRESCHOOL			
10 - Christian Preschool	38,500.00	37,246.85	38,500.00
	38,500.00	37,246.85	38,500.00
Major 01, INCOME // Minor 04, INTEREST			
01 - General Fund Interest	0.00	531.23	-
	0.00	531.23	-
Major 01, INCOME // Minor 05, FEES			
10 - Wedding Fees	0.00	710.00	1,485.00
	0.00	710.00	1,485.00
Major 01, INCOME // Minor 06, TRANSFERS			
00 - Other Income	4,000.00	3,388.56	4,000.00
01 - Capital Campaign Transfer	0.00	95,930.05	-
	4,000.00	99,318.61	4,000.00
Major 01, INCOME // Minor 07, EVANGELISM/OUTREACH			
09 - Evangelism/Outreach	0.00	600.00	-
	0.00	600.00	-
Total Income	1,076,987.34	1,044,217.82	1,090,027.31

*Subtracted out the Capital Campaign (\$95,930.05) from both Actual Total Income and Actual Total Expense.

	Annual Budget, Y.T.D. Actual		2025 Proposed
	Budget	Actual	
Expense			
Major 01, MISSIONS // Minor 01, MISSION PARTNER			
01 - Prison Ministry, St Dysmas	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
02 - Pine Ridge	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
04 - SD Lutherans Outdoors	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
05 - Church on the Street	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
08 - Companion Synod/Nicaragua	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
10 - Lutheran Campus Ministry	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
13 - Companion Synod/Cameroon	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
14 - Nicaragua-Youth Retreat	1,000.00	1,000.00	-
15 - Pueblo-De-Dios Church	1,000.00	1,000.00	-
	9,000.00	9,000.00	7,000.00
Major 01, MISSIONS // Minor 02, BENEVOLENCE			
01 - ELCA SD Synod	43,000.00	43,000.00	43,000.00
04 - ELCA Hunger Appeal	1,800.00	1,800.00	1,000.00
05 - Special Offerings	0.00	16,245.05	-
06 - Church School Offering	0.00	783.83	-
07 - LCOOR PreSchool	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
08 - Designated Mission Giving	0.00	10,900.37	-
09 - Community Care Month	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
12 - LCOOR Care-Fund	1,000.00	1,000.00	-
13 - Sandwich Ministry	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
14 - Brother, Sister Behind Bar	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Sleep in Heavenly Peace			1,000.00
Watertown Cares			1,000.00
	51,300.00	79,229.25	51,500.00

	Annual Budget, Y.T.D. Actual		2025 Proposed
	Budget	Actual	
Major 02, WORSHIP/SERVICE // Minor 01, SALARIES			
01 - Organists/Pianists	11,000.00	8,497.66	11,000.00
02 - Choir/Music Directors	8,100.00	8,100.00	9,450.00
05 - Sound & Technology (Zach)	10,608.00	7,659.35	10,926.24
06 - FICA (Zach)	811.52	585.95	835.86
10 - Continuing Education	300.00	188.03	300.00
12 - Sound and Projection	150.00	0.00	150.00
	30,969.52	25,030.99	32,662.10
Major 02, WORSHIP/SERVICE // Minor 02, MUSIC			
01 - Instrumental/ContempMusic	150.00	126.71	150.00
02 - Senior Choir Music	150.00	152.63	150.00
03 - Handbell Music	150.00	150.00	150.00
	450.00	429.34	450.00
Major 02, WORSHIP/SERVICE // Minor 03, MISCELLANEOUS			
01 - Bulletins, Devotions	1,750.00	2,531.03	2,000.00
03 - Copyright/Sun. & Seasons	3,500.00	3,023.35	3,500.00
07 - Festival Decorations/visu	3,000.00	255.58	3,000.00
10 - Special Worship Program	500.00	837.27	1,000.00
	8,750.00	6,647.23	9,500.00
Major 02, WORSHIP/SERVICE // Minor 04, ALTAR			
01 - Altar Supplies	1,800.00	490.35	1,200.00
	1,800.00	490.35	1,200.00
Major 02, WORSHIP/SERVICE // Minor 05, EQUIP UPKEEP/RE			
01 - Piano/Organ	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
02 - Technology/Repairs	5,000.00	3,775.74	5,000.00
	6,000.00	4,775.74	6,000.00
Major 03, EDUCATION // Minor 01, SALARIES			
00 - Faith Formation Assistant	20,851.50	20,851.47	21,477.05
02 - FICA	1,942.00	1,942.26	1,990.07
03 - Health Insurance	4,537.00	4,536.96	4,537.00
04 - Benefit Package	1,669.00	1,669.00	1,718.16
08 - Continuing Education	250.00	0.00	250.00
	29,249.50	28,999.69	29,972.28
Major 03, EDUCATION // Minor 02, CURRICULUM			
00 - Elementary Activities	3,500.00	1,469.47	3,500.00
01 - Church School	9,500.00	4,150.83	5,000.00
02 - Vacation Bible School	2,500.00	2,181.50	2,500.00
03 - Milestone Ministries	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
04 - Adult Bible Study	400.00	433.86	600.00
05 - Bibles	2,500.00	2,500.93	2,500.00
07 - Equipment	700.00	75.82	700.00
	21,100.00	12,812.41	16,800.00
Major 04, YOUTH // Minor 01, SALARIES			
00 - Faith Formation Director	57,976.00	57,976.08	32,841.00
02 - FICA	5,130.00	5,129.33	2,512.34
04 - Benefit Package	4,638.00	4,638.00	-
05 - Health Insurance	9,074.00	9,073.92	-
06 - Continuing Ed	500.00	0.00	375.00
	77,318.00	76,817.33	35,728.34
Major 04, YOUTH // Minor 02, YOUTH			
01 - Luther League 2.0	1,500.00	572.12	1,500.00
04 - Camperships, Mission Trips	6,000.00	3,113.76	6,000.00
	7,500.00	3,685.88	7,500.00
Major 04, YOUTH // Minor 03, SUPPLIES			
01 - Confirmation	1,000.00	1,453.89	1,000.00
	1,000.00	1,453.89	1,000.00
Major 04, YOUTH // Minor 05, YOUTH GATHERING			
04 - WednesdayMeal Coordinator	5,000.00	4,200.00	5,000.00
	5,000.00	4,200.00	5,000.00

	Annual Budget, Y.T.D. Actual		2025 Proposed
	Budget	Actual	
Major 05, OUTREACH // Minor 01, EVANGELISM			
02 - Advertising	1,000.00	920.09	1,500.00
04 - Evangelism supplies	1,000.00	1,006.09	1,000.00
06 - Befriender Ministry	500.00	424.96	500.00
08 - Gods Work Our Hands	1,000.00	263.77	1,000.00
10 - Senior Ministry-75+Dinner	1,000.00	748.57	1,000.00
	4,500.00	3,363.48	5,000.00
Major 05, OUTREACH // Minor 02, FELLOWSHIP			
01 - Fellowship Supplies	1,000.00	597.01	1,000.00
	1,000.00	597.01	1,000.00
Major 05, OUTREACH // Minor 03, STERWARDSHIP			
01 - Stewardship Supplies	3,000.00	2,997.03	3,000.00
03 - Stewardship Drive	4,000.00	3,657.16	4,000.00
	7,000.00	6,654.19	7,000.00
Major 05, OUTREACH // Minor 04, MISCELLANEOUS			
02 - General Synod Assembly	1,300.00	800.00	1,300.00
04 - Wellness Program/AED	300.00	20.35	300.00
	1,600.00	820.35	1,600.00
Major 05, OUTREACH // Minor 05, SALARIES			
01 - W & C Coord	51,731.00	51,731.04	53,282.93
02 - Benefit Pkg	4,139.00	4,139.00	4,262.63
03 - Health Insurance	9,074.00	9,073.92	9,074.00
04 - FICA	4,652.00	4,651.58	4,770.31
05 - Continuing Ed	500.00	0.00	500.00
	70,096.00	69,595.54	71,889.87
Major 06, PASTORAL LEAD // Minor 01, SENIOR PASTOR			
01 - Salary, Sr. Pastor	60,215.00	60,215.04	63,658.00
02 - Housing Allowance	28,608.00	28,608.00	30,329.00
04 - Health Care/Pension	30,242.16	30,242.16	30,691.32
05 - Continuing Education	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
07 - Social Security Offset	6,795.00	6,795.12	7,190.00
09 - Professional Expenses	1,500.00	913.73	1,500.00
	129,360.16	128,774.05	135,368.32
Major 06, PASTORAL LEAD // Minor 03, MISCELLANEOUS			
01 - Ministerial Assoc.	100.00	0.00	100.00
02 - Pastoral Conferences	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
03 - Pastors' Mileage	1,200.00	2,332.27	1,800.00
06 - Guest Preaching	1,000.00	264.26	1,000.00
	4,800.00	5,096.53	5,400.00
Major 06, PASTORAL LEAD // Minor 04, ASSOC. 2			
01 - Assoc. Pastor	60,215.00	60,215.04	63,658.00
02 - Assoc. Pastor Housing	28,608.00	28,608.00	30,329.00
04 - Health Care/Pension	30,203.16	30,203.16	30,845.82
05 - Continuing Ed	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
07 - Assoc. SS Offset	6,795.00	6,795.12	7,190.00
09 - Professional Expenses	800.00	496.76	800.00
	128,621.16	128,318.08	134,822.82
Major 07, OPERATIONS // Minor 01, SALARIES			
01 - Business Admin. Assitant	49,350.00	49,350.00	50,830.50
02 - Salaries - Business Mgr	54,600.00	54,600.00	56,238.00
03 - FICA - Jodi	4,781.00	4,850.06	4,996.67
04 - FICA - Megan	4,670.00	4,441.27	4,582.69
05 - Continuing Ed. - Jodi	500.00	361.57	500.00
06 - Benefit Package- Jodi	4,368.00	4,368.00	4,499.04
08 - Health Insurance - Jodi	9,074.00	9,073.92	9,074.00
09 - Benefit Package - Megan	3,948.00	3,948.00	4,066.44
10 - Health Insurance - Megan	9,074.00	9,073.92	9,074.00
11 - Continuing Ed. - Megan	500.00	100.00	500.00
	140,865.00	140,166.74	144,361.34
Major 07, OPERATIONS // Minor 02, OFFICE OPERATIN			
01 - General Supplies	10,500.00	8,422.51	10,500.00
02 - Computers/lease/support	7,500.00	6,218.29	7,500.00
03 - Prairie Coteau Conference	700.00	680.60	700.00
04 - Telephone & Internet	4,500.00	4,464.27	4,500.00
05 - Postage	7,000.00	3,959.49	7,000.00
06 - Office Equipment Maint.	3,000.00	2,046.49	3,000.00
07 - Equip/Office Furniture	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
08 - Staff Mileage	1,000.00	277.38	1,000.00
09 - Background Checks	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
10 - Accounting/Legal	1,550.00	1,199.44	1,550.00
11 - Bank Charges/VANCO	3,200.00	2,816.92	3,200.00
	41,950.00	30,085.39	41,950.00

Annual Budget, Y.T.D. Actual			2025 Proposed
	Budget	Actual	
<u>Major 08, CHURCH HOME // Minor 01, FUTURE MORTGAGE</u>			
01 - Mortgage	16,000.00	18,118.29	18,000.00
02 - Mortgage Interest	12,100.00	9,976.83	10,100.00
03 - Debt Reduction	0.00	108,659.05	-
	28,100.00	136,754.17	28,100.00
<u>Major 08, CHURCH HOME // Minor 02, CUSTODIAL SERV.</u>			
01 - Custodian	39,000.00	38,999.95	43,680.00
02 - Benefit Package			3,494.40
03 - FICA	2,983.50	2,983.54	4,035.68
04 - Health Insurance			9,074.00
05 - Continuing Ed.			0
	41,983.50	41,983.49	60,284.08
<u>Major 08, CHURCH HOME // Minor 03, SUPPLIES</u>			
01 - Cleaning Supp/Paper Prod	8,500.00	4,471.52	5,000.00
	8,500.00	4,471.52	5,000.00
<u>Major 08, CHURCH HOME // Minor 04, GROUND MAINT.</u>			
01 - Supplies/Mowing/SnowRemov	22,500.00	17,584.57	22,500.00
	22,500.00	17,584.57	22,500.00
<u>Major 08, CHURCH HOME // Minor 05, BUILDING MAINT.</u>			
04 - Building Maintenance	25,000.00	22,825.30	25,000.00
06 - Utilities	50,000.00	39,047.55	50,000.00
07 - Insurance	23,620.00	27,396.56	31,700.00
08 - Capital Improvement**Long Term Building Fund	15,000.00	15,000.00	30,000.00
	113,620.00	104,269.41	136,700.00
<u>Major 09, PRESCHOOL // Minor 01, SALARIES</u>			
01 - Director/Teacher	34,921.00	34,920.96	35,968.63
02 - PreschoolParaprofessional	20,851.50	20,851.47	21,477.05
03 - FICA - Director	3,366.00	3,365.61	3,445.76
04 - Continuing Education (NL)	500.00	0.00	500.00
05 - Benefit Package (NL)	2,794.00	2,794.00	2,877.49
06 - Substitute Teacher	400.00	404.70	400.00
07 - FICA - Preschool Para	1,942.00	1,942.19	1,990.07
08 - Health Insurance (NL)	9,074.00	9,073.92	9,074.00
09 - Health Insurance (WK)	4,537.00	4,536.96	4,537.00
10 - Benefit Package (WK)	1,669.00	1,669.00	1,718.16
11 - Continuing Education (WK)	500.00	0.00	250.00
	80,554.50	79,558.81	82,238.16
<u>Major 09, PRESCHOOL // Minor 02, SUPPLIES/EQUIP</u>			
01 - Supplies	2,000.00	2,087.44	2,000.00
02 - Equipment	300.00	148.67	300.00
	2,300.00	2,236.11	2,300.00
<u>Major 09, PRESCHOOL // Minor 04, ADVERTISING</u>			
01 - Newspaper/Radio	200.00	100.00	200.00
	200.00	100.00	200.00
<u>Major 11, TRANSFERS // Minor 00, TRANSFERS</u>			
00 - Transfer Out of Account	0.00	1,081.32	-
	0.00	1,081.32	-
Total Expense	1,076,987.34	1,059,152.81	1,090,027.31
Income Less Expense	0.00	-14,934.99	(0.00)

*Subtracted out the Capital Campaign (\$95,930.05) from both Actual Total Income and Actual Total Expense.

Dear South Dakota Synod,

Grace and Peace to you from the Triune God! Thank you for another year of "Journeying Together in Christ," the Synod's mission statement based on the story in Luke 24. As a synod, we are committed to intentionally relate to each other, network across the church, equip leaders for ministry, and share leadership on all levels. We can look back on another impactful year of ministry together, adhering to these shared commitments.

Thank you, congregations of the South Dakota Synod, for your financial gifts to support our joint ministries in South Dakota, the ELCA, and the Global Church. Your benevolence impacts lives close to home and worldwide in ways you may never know. I am grateful for your ongoing commitment. The South Dakota Synod is financially healthy because of your dedication and faithfulness. Thanks be to God!

I would like to use the remainder of this letter to highlight a few areas of interest. In addition, I invite you to look at the 2024 Ministry Celebrations annual report insert to get a complete picture of the Synod's ministry.



Lilly 2.0: The "Holy Playground" Initiative: the South Dakota Synod received another \$1.2 million grant from the Lilly Endowment. Your Synod team continued to listen to your joys and challenges and identified that the majority of congregations long for strategic support of their ministry with children. This grant will directly benefit your children's ministry. Details on how are expected to be released in early spring 2025. Stay tuned and excited!

Pasque is the Synod's digital hub for community and learning. Because of Lilly 1.0, the "Journeying Together in Christ" Initiative, we could hire Pastor Kari Web as the Director for Digital Community and Learning. She has created Pasque, named after our state flower, for every member of the South Dakota Synod to connect and learn with and from each other for free. Pasque offers you congregational resources, courses, bible studies, and community. Please take the time to register for free, look around, stay a while, and invite others to do the same. You can access Pasque here: <https://www.sdsynodlearns.org/>.

Box Elder is one of the fastest-growing communities in South Dakota, and we are committed to showing up. Pastor Jonathan Vehar, the Synod's Director for Evangelical Mission, and Kathy McHenry, Executive Director of Lutheran Planned Generosity, are working diligently to build relationships with personnel from Ellsworth Air Force Base and the members of the Box Elder community. They continue to intentionally listen to the needs of the community and how to best partner in new and innovative ways to be the church for all people there. We always seek donors who help lay a sure foundation for this new mission to start in the beautiful Black Hills. Also, if you want to be a missionary but want to stay close to home, this is an opportunity to reach people in Christ's name here in South Dakota. Please contact Pastor Vehar at jvehar@sdsynod.org or Kathy McHenry at kmchenry@sdsynod.org if you want to learn more about becoming a partner in this endeavor.



South Dakota Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

The 2025 Churchwide Assembly will gather in July in Phoenix, AZ; besides prayers and sending your Synod voting members and officers, you can actively participate by engaging in the public hearing and response process to the proposed revisions of the Social Statement of Human Sexuality: Gifts and Trust. Following this link: elca.org/Faith/Faith-and-Society/Current-Social-Writing-Projects/Human-Sexuality-Gift-and-Trust-Reconsiderations will get you to the landing page. You can access all resources and learn how to make your voice heard to the task force and broader church. Please engage in this conversation and let your voice be heard. The church is listening!

The 2025 Bishop's Election will occur at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls, SD. We will gather May 30-31, 2025, to conduct business, welcome Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton to preach, deliver the churchwide report, and preside over the bishop's election. Many of you have asked me if I would consider serving another term. I have shared with the Synod Council that I would be honored if the Synod would call me to serve a second term. The bishop's election survey is completed and can be accessed here: <https://sdsynod.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/2025-sd-synod-study-full-report.pdf>. In this time of discernment, I invite all to pray for the Holy Spirit to stir our hearts and minds and gain understanding and wisdom for the ministry Christ has called us to. A pre-identification process will begin at the conference assemblies, held simultaneously at all conferences on February 23rd. Please stay tuned through your church's communication or the Synod's e-news. Sign up at the bottom of the Synod's website, www.sdsynod.org, for weekly correspondence directly in your inbox.

Thank you for your trust in my leadership, your support of our shared ministry, and the call to serve as the Bishop of the South Dakota Synod. It has been and continues to be a great honor, and I serve with deep gratitude.

Journeying together in Christ,

Rev. Constanze Hagmaier
Bishop of the South Dakota Synod, ELCA

**South Dakota Synod, ELCA
2025 Proposed Mission Plan
02/01/2025 - 01/31/2026**

	Adopted 2024	Revised 2024	Proposed 2025
Revenue			
Mission Support			
Undesignated Mission Support	1,803,094	1,763,515	1,807,603
SD Synod Mission Support	28,675	23,800	23,800
Total Mission Support-Congregations	1,831,769	1,787,315	1,831,403
Program Ministry Income			
Pine Ridge Reconciliation Center Income	45,000	45,000	45,000
Total Program Ministry Income			
Other Income			
DEM Support Staff Income	10,000	10,000	10,000
Interest Income	10,000	50,000	50,000
SDS Travel LLC Income	5,000	5,000	5,000
Misc Income	1,000	1,000	1,000
Total Other Income	26,000	66,000	66,000
Total Revenue	1,902,769	1,898,315	1,942,403
Expenses			
Churchwide Ministries	41%	42%	42%
Churchwide Support	739,269	740,676	759,193
Region III			
Region III Support	8,004	9,153	8,004
South Dakota Ministries			
South Dakota Partnership Ministries			
SD Ministries Support	11,757	9,996	9,996
Luther Seminary	71,989	70,241	71,974
Church Colleges (ELCA Pool)	6,228	6,077	6,227
Lutheran Social Services	71,989	70,241	71,974
Campus Ministry	126,942	123,861	126,916
Lutheran Outdoors	35,903	35,031	35,895
South Dakota Supported Ministries			
Heartland Ephphatha	6,228	6,077	6,227
Youth Ministry	7,200	7,200	7,200
Campus Ministry Capital	0	0	0
Good Samaritan Society	1	1	1
Chapel in the Hills	1	1	1
Woyatan Lutheran/Wambli Ska	19,000	19,000	19,000
Lutheran Planned Generosity	58,300	58,300	58,300
Total Shared Ministries	415,538	406,026	413,712

**South Dakota Synod, ELCA
2025 Proposed Mission Plan
02/01/2025 - 01/31/2026**

	Adopted 2024	Revised 2024	Proposed 2025
Executive Leadership			
Bishop	102,005	104,952	108,101
Assoc/Director of Ev Mission	10,849	12,596	12,974
Assoc-Mobility/Candidacy	84,596	87,333	89,953
Executive Staff Benefits	89,546	71,668	73,818
Exec Travel/Continuing Ed	36,800	40,800	40,800
Program Ministries			
Pine Ridge Reconciliation Center-Director	99,257	90,259	92,967
Youth Gathering Synod Coordinator	0	0	0
Companion Synod Coordinator	18,521	19,322	19,902
Support Staff and Office			
Support Staff Salaries/Benefit	176,980	180,380	185,791
Synod Office Expenses	66,791	76,020	78,000
Augustana University Occupancy Fee	30,108	31,824	32,300
Synod Committees			
Synod Council	5,000	5,000	5,000
Support to Ministries Committee	3,100	3,100	3,100
Candidacy Committee	6,000	9,000	9,000
Multi-Cultural Ministry Committee	1,000	1,000	1,000
Companion Synods Ministry Committee	200	200	200
Evangelical Outreach Committee	1,500	1,500	1,500
Mission & Outreach			
Mission Congregation Start-up	4,000	4,000	4,000
Mission Strategy Table	2,000	2,000	2,000
Contingency	1,705	1,506	1,089
Total South Dakota Ministries	739,958	742,460	761,494
Total Expenses	1,902,769	1,898,315	1,942,403
Net Total	0	0	0

2024 Ministry Celebrations



Our Synod's vision of Journeying Together in Christ has continued to be the focus of our work. We invite you to take a few moments to review the list below which celebrates some of the ministry we shared together in 2024. **Journeying together in Christ as the South Dakota Synod, in 2024 we have:**

- Applied and received a grant of **\$1,224,172** from Lilly Endowment, Inc. for the Synod's Holy Playground Initiative, which will provide strategic support for children's ministries in congregations and worshipping communities.
- Completed explorations for a potential church plant, with plans to start a worshipping community in Box Elder.
- Received **2 new first call** candidates.
- Completed **22 Ministry Site Studies** and extended **19 calls**.
- Ensured that nearly every congregation has a called pastor, interim pastor, Synod Authorized Minister, or lay leader to care for God's people (thank you to all of you who are helping out with area congregations and filling in!).
- Walked with **25 people** in various stages of **candidacy** in the SD Synod in 2024, with 18 others inquiring and in discernment.
- Granted **\$119,990** in scholarship funds to seminary students, **\$28,500** in internship assistance, and **\$38,232** to Luther and Wartburg Seminaries, for a total of **\$186,722** in support for seminary education.
- Distributed **\$48,220** to date through the Seminary Debt Reduction Program.
- Helped members and congregations recover from severe weather events, including awarding **\$20,000** in Storm Micro Grants and working with congregations to secure grants from Lutheran Disaster Response.
- Held a **Synod Assembly**, where we gathered as a community to conduct the business of the Synod.
- Hosted **Spring** and **Fall Theological Conferences**, where we continued to support the continuing education of our Rostered Ministers either online or in-person.
- Supported the congregations and ministries of the Synod through **visits by Synod staff**, both **digital** and **in-person**.
- Hosted **"Coffee with the Bishop"** for Retired Rostered Ministers, Spouses, Widows/Widowers.
- Received nearly **300 enrollments** from **over 100 SD churches** to **Pasque Learning Community**, our community effort to promote Spirit-led growth and faith formation. At Pasque, you can find 10 online courses with relevant instructional videos and digital discussion, as well as live weekly Zoom sessions, 4 active communities, and 2 digital downloads.
- Hosted **"I've Been Elected to Council, Now What?"** to support congregational lay leaders and supported rostered lay leaders with regular **in-person and virtual meetings**, such as monthly rostered minister virtual check-ins, Synod Authorized Minister, Senior Pastor, and Interim Pastor check-ins, and a First Call and Senior Pastor Retreat.
- Welcomed Rev. Joel Pakan as the new **Director for Rural Ministry**, where he has journeyed with our rural ministry sites. Rev. Pakan has continued to work with 14 communities and congregations in transition.
- Continued the work of the Rural Ministry Table, which is currently working on **Small Town and Rural (STAR)** grants, we awarded **\$84,139**.
- Partnered with Grand Valley Lutheran to hold a **Farm to Table Dinner**, which resulted in gifts of **\$44,710** to support rural ministry in South Dakota.
- Received **\$103,700** in Churchwide grants for our Neighbors in Solidarity ministries.

Thank you for all the ways you have supported the ministry of the South Dakota Synod. Together we continue to serve as the hands and feet of Christ, sharing Jesus' love and grace. As we step into 2025, we trust in God's guidance and look forward to walking this journey of faith together.

Lutheran Planned Generosity of South Dakota—A Gift to You

As a ministry of the South Dakota Synod and our partners for over 40 years, Lutheran Planned Generosity is here for you as a gift to encourage and support all forms of generosity, with no obligation, minimums or fees.



Lutheran Planned Generosity
of South Dakota

Smarter Giving Today:

- Do you own **stocks/bonds/mutual funds** that have increased in value? Gift shares through LPGSD to your church and favorite ministries to avoid capital gains tax AND receive a tax deduction.
- Are you over 70 ½ with **retirement accounts**? Make a direct gift from your IRA with a qualified charitable distribution to avoid income tax, lower your adjusted gross income used to calculate Medicare premiums, and meet your required minimum distribution if over age 73.
- Holding onto stored **grain**? Selling **livestock**? Make a gift at the grain elevator or auction market to support God's work through your local congregation or favorite ministries. Avoid all income and self-employment taxes while retaining production cost deductions.
- Seeking a larger tax deduction now but unsure which organizations you'd like to support? Gift cash or assets, including **real estate, farm machinery or business equipment** today to establish a **donor-advised fund** and take your time deciding. This is a great way to involve your children and grandchildren, teaching them the importance of your family's faith and legacy of generosity.

Income for You and Your Family

- Make a gift with cash or any of the assets mentioned above and receive a **lifetime of tax-advantaged payments**. You decide which non-profit ministry receives any remaining balance.
- Create a "Give It Twice" trust with **depreciated business assets** to avoid taxes and create a lifetime of income with the option to continue payments to your children for 20 years after your death. Make a gift of the remainder to your favorite ministries.

Do you have a current legacy plan?

- No matter how old you are or how much wealth you have, writing a will is essential to secure your future and protect your loved ones. Our **FREE tool** helps you write or update your legal will, protect your loved ones and assets, and can even be used to support the causes you love.
- Did you know that your will does not control the distribution of certain assets, such as retirement accounts or life insurance policies? To ensure that those assets go to the people and organizations you love, you must be sure to properly name your beneficiaries. With our online tool, you can **plan your beneficiaries** and ensure your assets support the people and causes you love.
- By notifying us of your gift in your estate plan, we can take extra care to help ensure your gift is directed to the specific program or purpose of your choosing. It only takes a few minutes to fill out this form, which helps us keep our records up to date and protects your gift intentions.

Take the Next Step

For more information or to create a FREE, password-protected legacy plan, visit www.lpgsd.org. Contact Kathy McHenry at 605-274-5030 or kmchenry@sdsynod.org for assistance. Together, we can make a difference through thoughtful planning and faithful generosity.

your life can make a difference



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America



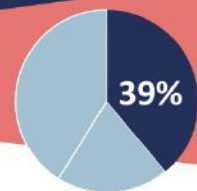
MISSION SUPPORT A DEEP DIVE

South Dakota Synod FY2023 Thank You

We believe that the ELCA’s members, congregations, synods and churchwide organization are called to be church together. Every year around \$1.6 billion is shared as regular offerings to ELCA congregations and worshipping communities. Over 5% of that generosity is shared with our 65 synods, a portion of which is then shared with the churchwide organization. We call this Mission Support. In FY2023, the South Dakota Synod shared \$737,497 directly in Mission Support for ELCA churchwide ministries. Whether utilized locally, regionally, nationally or internationally, Mission Support enables us to have a greater impact in communities — working together to share God’s abundant grace with others.

Your Mission Support funds a variety of churchwide ministries.

39% builds Christian communities in the United States by:



Thank you for \$287,624 from the South Dakota Synod for these ministries!

- Planting and supporting hundreds of worshipping communities.
- Revitalizing congregational ministries and reaching out to their surrounding communities.
- Promoting leadership opportunities, discernment and education through leadership initiatives.
- Supporting the work of seven ELCA seminaries and 26 ELCA colleges and universities.
- Hosting events and leadership opportunities for youth and young adults.
- Supporting regional work through directors for evangelical mission as well as candidacy and leadership managers.
- Preparing and implementing a system for recruiting and assigning rostered ministers.

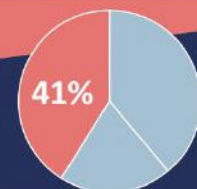
Another **20%** grows the global Lutheran church and addresses issues around the world by:



Thank you for \$147,499 from the South Dakota Synod for these ministries!

- Accompanying new Lutheran churches, expanding ministries, and training leaders and evangelists.
- Sending missionaries to accompany communities around the world.
- Addressing social issues and working for justice.
- Cultivating and maintaining relationships with 149 other churches through the Lutheran World Federation to strengthen the church and its global work.
- Fostering relationships between ELCA synods and 65 companion churches, for a total of 127 official relationships.
- Working with leaders and members of our African-descent, American Indian, Alaska Native, Arab, Middle Eastern, Asian, Pacific Islander and Latiné communities.

Finally, **41%** strengthens and sustains the ministry and mission of the whole church by:



Thank you for \$302,374 from the South Dakota Synod for these ministries!

- Offering ministry resources and opportunities to lay leaders for networking.
- Coordinating and supporting churchwide ministries.
- Developing social messages of the ELCA as topical documents — called for by ELCA churchwide assemblies and adopted by the ELCA Church Council — to focus attention and action on timely, pressing matters of social concern to the church and society.
- Providing governance, including maintenance of rostered leadership records and support for the ELCA Church Council and triennial ELCA churchwide assemblies.
- Sustaining ecumenical and interfaith relations.
- Partnering with congregations and ministries across the church as they explore new, innovative ways of being church in a constantly changing world.
- Investing in technology and communications.
- Growing and sustaining financial resources.
- Engaging in research and strategic planning.
- Creating and sharing resources for faith, discipleship, prayer, stewardship and worship.

Thank you for your ongoing support and faithful partnership! For stories of your impact, visit LivingLutheran.org/SOFIA. To find additional Mission Support resources, visit ELCA.org/SOFIA.



Church on the Street Annual Report 2024

ChurchontheStreetsf.org

We take the gifts of the Church out to the people who, for whatever reason, can not come inside. Each time we worship, over 150 people gather, and we know someone is hearing the good news and receiving the sacrament for the first time.

Church on the Street provides opportunities for ministry in a variety of spaces through Worship, pastoral care, fostering connections and meeting essential needs. Through ministries such as Laundry with Love, Fruits of the Freezer, the Undercover Closet, and the COTS Food Pantry the COTS staff and volunteers make it possible for folks to have access to essential needs with dignity while receiving God's love, care, and compassion.



5,000 People served.

Whether in Worship, through the food and hygiene pantry, at the Laundromat, or during pastoral care.



9448 Loads of laundry.

Washed and dried at Laundry with Love.



4000 Candy bags.

Assembled for Worship bags and other giveaways.



75 Churches from 5 Denominations.

Made a financial gift in the past 12 months.



300 Pottery bowls.

Lovingly molded by the hands of people of all ages.
(Save the date for February 20th, for the Empty Bowls dinner.)



25+ Churches and Non-profits.

Have attended an event, brought volunteers, and served over 3,000 meals this year.



60 Households.

The record number of households served in a day by the COTS food pantry.

Please take a moment, pray, answer your own WHY, and join us in this amazing Ministry!

LEARN MORE

Visit
churchonthestreetsf.org
for ways to get involved and support the ministry of Church on the Street.

Email:

Pastor Chris Matson
chris@churchonthestreetsf.org

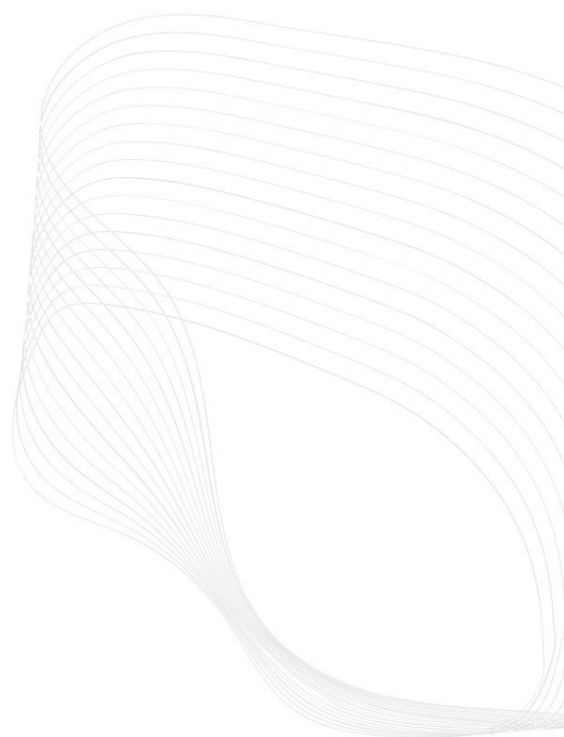
Intern Deacon Mara Stillson
mara@churchonthestreetsf.org



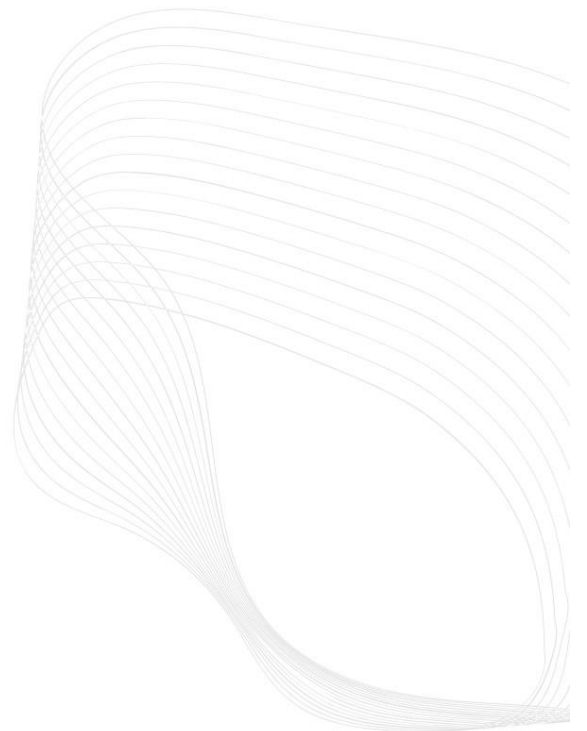
DONATE

churchonthestreetsf.org

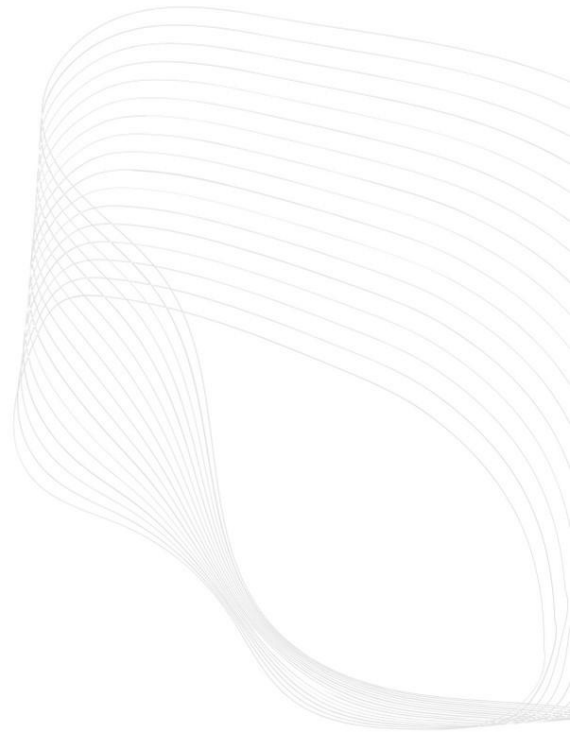
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A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDING BISHOP ELIZABETH EATON



Dear friends in Christ,

All around us, we see signs of God’s love and goodness. A person who has stepped away from church for many years steps back into a congregation, feeling the call of the Holy Spirit. Young adults feeling isolated in a digital-first world start gathering in person in a small group, enjoying the warmth of a hug and a new friend asking about their week. A mother plants a garden, and it yields fruits and vegetables, giving her nutritious food for her kids and extra produce to sell at the local market. Everywhere we look, we see signs of Christ’s love. In Psalm 93, we read: “More majestic than the thunders of mighty waters, more majestic than the waves of the sea, majestic on high is the Lord! Your decrees are very sure; holiness befits your house, O Lord, forevermore” (4-5).

God’s love is a majestic thing, and it moves us to share it in word and deed. The ministries of our congregations, our synods and the ELCA churchwide organization are all working together to share God’s love with people in our neighborhoods, across our country and around the world.

I am so grateful for you, dear church. Your generosity to each of these three expressions of the church — your congregation, your synod and the churchwide organization — has bolstered the church’s ability to share the message of God’s love to people who are longing for it. Through your

“More majestic than the thunders of mighty waters, more majestic than the waves of the sea, majestic on high is the Lord! Your decrees are very sure; holiness befits your house, O Lord, forevermore.”

—Psalm 93:4-5

financial resources, your time volunteering and accompanying others, and your voices, you’ve helped carry this message of God’s majestic love. Thank you, dear church. As we look ahead to the coming year, I encourage you to stand steadfast in God’s promises, sure of God’s love and goodness.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elizabeth A. Eaton". The signature is fluid and cursive.

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Through your generosity, God is at work across the ELCA. A portion of your offering, called Mission Support, advances the ministry of our church, helping the ELCA nurture Christian community, raise up leaders, serve our neighbors and strive for justice. Read stories and learn more at [LivingLutheran.org/SOFIA](https://www.lutheran.org/SOFIA).

