

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMC)

HUTCHINSON, MN

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

MEETING ~ SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 2023 AT 12 NOON



ANNUAL MEETING

OUR MISSION IS:

BUILDING FAITH

"EQUIP THE SAINTS FOR THE WORK OF MINISTRY,

FOR BUILDING UP THE BODY OF CHRIST"

EPHESIANS 4:12

TO LIVE OUT THAT MISSION, GOD CALLS US TO:

FOLLOW JESUS

ANNOUNCE THE GOSPEL

INVITE ALL PEOPLE

TEACH CHRISTIAN TRUTH

HELP ALL WHO ARE IN NEED

2022 Church Personnel and Office Assistants

Church Council Officers

President John Olsen
Vice PresidentMona Hjerpe
Treasurer Ian McDonald
Secretary Penny Stuber

Pastoral Ministry

Pastors Scott Grorud, Dave Wollan
..... Paul Knudson (Part-time)
Visitation Pastor Paulus Pilgrim (Part-time)
Pastoral Intern Jeff Amundson (Part-time)

Lay Ministry Staff

Administrative Assistant Wendy Magruder
Custodial/Maintenance Owen Weikle
Director of Children and Family Ministry Laura Stowman
Director of Music and Worship Austin Willhite
Director of Pastoral Care and Evangelism Marsha Schmit
Director of Youth and Family Ministry Kristen Durst
Finance Coordinator Sara Wegner

Wedding Consultants

Niki Pokornowski and Wendy Magruder

Music Ministry

Worship Leaders—Sunday Morning Ronda Eckhart and Lara Liepold
Organists Sharon Barton and Ronda Eckhart

Volunteer Office Assistants

Monday Linell Loncorich and Angie Lohrenz
Tuesday Sharon Romo
Wednesday Lo Ann Hanson
Thursday Muriel Dobratz and Lynn Lange
Friday Kathy Athey and Mary Bielke

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Annual Congregational Meeting Agenda

Sunday, January 29, 2023

Call to Order

Adoption of the Agenda

Opening Devotions

Secretary's Report

Treasurer's Report

Upon This Rock *Plus* Capital Campaign

Faith Forward/Faith Internship Community/Ansgar House

Auditors' Report

Pastors', President's and Ministry Team Reports

Order of Business:

Election of Church Council and Ministry Team Members

Approve 2023 Budget

Proposed Amendment to the Endowment Fund Resolution

Other

Closing Prayer

Adjournment

Please bring this report with you to the annual meeting.

Faith Lutheran Church Annual Meeting Minutes

January 30, 2022

I. Call to order at 12:02 p.m. by Carl Horton, Congregational President

II. Adoption of Agenda

A: Motion/Second/Pass - to accept the agenda as printed on page 4 of Annual Report

III. Opening Devotions by Pastor Dave Wollan: Joy of Reclaiming Long Lost Positive Words

A: In spite of COVID, Faith Lutheran Church has remained strong in 2021.

- a. Strong Financial Position
- b. Healthy staff
- c. Active ministry teams
- d. Prospect of Phase II Building Project

B: Respair: Fresh hope, recovery from despair

- a. Let 2022 be a Year of Respair for Faith Lutheran Church

C: Austin led those in attendance in singing "Jesus Christ, My Living Hope"

IV. Secretary's Report

A. Correction to Secretary Report from 2021 Annual Meeting: Article IX, c. Proposed budget reads \$76,341.00. This should read Proposed budget \$876,300.00.

B. Motion/Second/Pass - to accept the Secretary's report on page 5 and 6 of the Annual Report with change to the proposed budget.

C. Motion/Second/Pass – to accept the Meeting Minutes from the All Congregation Meeting dated September 26, 2021

V. Treasurer's Report

A. A summary report is printed on page 26 of the Annual Report

B. Highlights include: Steady offering throughout 2021, expenses were less than income received, and Faith Lutheran Church is debt free as the mortgage was paid in full in 2021.

C. Motion/Second/Pass - to accept the Treasurer's Report

VI. Upon This Rock Capital Campaign

A. The written report is found on page 25 and the financial report is found on page 13 of the Annual Report.

B. Faith Lutheran Church was able to pay off the remaining balance of mortgage.

C. Monies continue to be received for this account and they remain separate from the General Fund.

D. Funds will be used to begin Phase II.

VII. Faith Forward

A. Goal of Faith Forward campaign was to raise \$150,000.00

B. Funds to be used to train future leaders of the church

C. Year-end balance in this fund is approx. \$75,000.00

D. Faith Greenhouse has culminated from this campaign

- a. "Cultivate Leaders to Cultivate Faith"
- b. Year-long internship for those who may have an interest in church leadership positions
- c. Interns would work with all church staff through their internship
- d. Goals for Faith Greenhouse include: forming a taskforce, secure housing for the interns to live, identify pipelines to identify and recruit interns, and produce promotional materials and application

VIII. Auditors' Report

- A. The report can be found on page 13 of the financial report - No irregularities found.

IX. Pastors', President, and Ministry Team Reports

- A. Pastors' Reports - Pastor Scott presented. The report can be found on page 7 of the Annual Report
- B. In 2021, we took steps to return to "normal"
 - a. Celebrated Faith Lutheran Church's 150th Anniversary in October 2021
 - b. Paid off the mortgage in early 2021
 - c. Pastor Scott received a sabbatical
 - d. Faith Lutheran is well positioned and well-conditioned for 2022
 - e. One exception to the life and health of this congregation is church attendance.
 - i. There has been a slow but steady drop in the number of people attending services each week.
 - ii. Spiritual vitality of members diminishes
- C. President's Report - Carl Horton presented. The report can be found on page 8 of the Annual Report.
 - a. Gave thanks to the great staff of Faith Lutheran Church highlighting modifying church services during COVID, providing Daily Faith Encouragement on Facebook, leading Wednesday morning prayer also on Facebook and so much more.
 - b. Paid off the mortgage
 - c. We have a balanced budget for the 13th straight year
 - d. Celebrated Faith Lutheran Church's 150th Anniversary
- D. Ministry Team written reports begin on page 8 of the Annual Report. There are six Ministry Teams. Thank you to those who serve on them.

X. Order of Business

- A. Election of Church Council and Ministry Team Members
 - a. 18 newly nominated members and 10 nominated members will be serving a second term
 - b. Call for any nominations from the floor
 - c. Motion/Second/Pass - for the secretary to cast a unanimous ballot for election of new members
- B. Approve Employee Handbook Changes
 - a. Performance Evaluations – Will be completed by staff's direct supervisor. A time of employee feedback will be held with the personnel committee once a year.
 - b. Addition of Parental Leave
 - i. Six-weeks paid maternity leave following a normal delivery and 8 weeks of paid maternity leave following a caesarean section birth of an employee's child.
 - ii. Two-weeks of paid leave will be provided for paternity or placement of a child with an employee in connection with adoption.
 - c. Motion/Second/Pass – Proposed changes to the Employee Handbook
- C. Approve 2022 Budget
 - a. Budget for 2022 can be found on pages 4-8 of the Financial Reports Addendum 2021.
 - b. Proposed budget is \$901,510.00. There was a 2.88% overall increase to the budget from 2021 to 2022.
 - c. Budget includes an increase in tithing to mission partners from 10% to 11% (Mission partners are listed on page 5 of the Financial report).
 - d. Will make even monthly payments to our mission partners monthly rather than weighting benevolence toward larger year-end gifts.
 - e. Motion/Second/Pass to approve proposed 2022 budget

XI. Closing Prayer led by Pastor Scott.

XII. Adjournment

- a. Thank you to all who served.
- b. Motion/Second/Pass - to adjourn the meeting at 1:18 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Penny Stuber, Congregational Secretary

All Congregation Meeting

August 3, 2022

Meeting called to order by President John Olson at 6:34 p.m.

Devotion Pastor Scott Grorud based on Joshua 7

1. Reminder of the Purpose of the meeting
 - A. The Church Council has called for a special congregational meeting to consider whether or not to purchase the home located at 144 2nd Avenue SE in Hutchinson. The proposed purchase would serve an innovative new program called Faith Greenhouse.
 - B. According to Faith Lutheran's Constitution, Section C9.2, "no other business shall be transacted."
2. Tellers counting the ballots will be: Penny Stuber, Mona Hjerpe, and Ian MacDonald
3. Faith Greenhouse Presentation by Pastor Dave Wollan
 - A. Cultivating leaders to cultivate faith
 - B. One-year long congregational internship for young adults and seminarians exploring ministry, embedded in an intentional young adult community
 - C. Pastoral and ministry leadership shortage in the Lutheran church
 - D. Seminaries are moving to online programs
 - E. Christ-centered community and camaraderie
 - F. Model: Trinity Lutheran in San Pedro, CA
 - a. Current Intern, Emma Wollan participated in the program at San Pedro
 - b. Emma spoke on her experience of living with the other interns and serving at Trinity
4. Greenhouse taskforce created a to-do list:
 - A. Find interns
 - B. Secure intern housing
 - C. Develop a thriving young adult ministry

This to-do list may now look like this:

 - A. Secure intern housing
 - B. Develop a thriving young adult ministry
 - C. Find interns
5. Process
 - A. July 6

First viewing of the house with realtor. The pastors and a few members from the management team walked through the house. The asking price of the house was \$190,000.
 - B. July 7

An e-mail was sent to the church council proposing the following: Authorize the congregational president to sign a contingent purchase agreement in order to hold the house at 144 2nd Ave SE.

 - a. An inspection of the property will be ordered.
 - b. Issue a 10% payment for earnest money, or \$1,700.00: Earnest money would be returned to the church if the congregation votes not to make the purchase.
 - C. July 12
 - a. After receiving approval from council, John Olson and Pastor Scott met with the realtor, Jim Rogers, and submitted an offer of \$170,000. This agreement had a contingency based on an inspection report and approval by the congregation.
 - D. July 13
 - a. Home inspection by Joe Schrempp, Best Step Home Inspections, was performed and a report was received July 14 .

Copies of the inspection report are available for anyone who wants to look through the report.

- E. After receiving the inspection report:
 - a. An amendment to the purchase agreement was made requesting the owner repair the water in the 2nd floor bath and kitchenette as well as the water feed to the 1st floor dishwasher OR a \$3,000 reduction in purchase price to cover the repair.
 - b. The seller turned on the water for 2nd floor bath and kitchenette and the 1st floor dishwasher and no leaks were evident.
 - c. The seller offered to lower the selling price to \$169,000.
- F. Since the inspection we have consulted with several professionals from the congregation including an electrician, plumber, carpenter, and mason to advise on what work is needed.
- G. Funds to Purchase and Do Major Repairs
 - a. Will come from the Faith Forward: \$150K for the Next 150 Years anniversary campaign, current balance of \$84,000 and
 - b. A designated gift of \$100,000 from a member of the congregation. This gift was specifically given for housing for the Greenhouse Project
 - c. None of the costs to purchase, or for major repairs, will come from the General Fund or the Capital Campaign fund that is looking toward Phase II of the church building.
 - d. Some ongoing expense (utilities, insurance, minor repairs) would be the responsibility of the church, either from the General Fund or the Building Maintenance and Repair fund.

6. Discussion

- 7. Motion made for the congregation to vote whether to approve the purchase of the house at 144 2nd Ave SE, Hutchinson.
Motion Seconded.
Vote held by paper ballots.
Paper ballots: Yes: 79; No: 10
Motion Passes.

Closing Prayer by Pastor Dave

Motion/Second/Passed to adjourn the special meeting.
Meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Pastors' Report

"Your name, O Lord, endures forever, your renown, O Lord, throughout all ages." Psalm 135:13

Compared to the previous two years, 2022 was a blessedly normal year at Faith Lutheran Church. The disruptions of the Covid-19 pandemic that marred 2020 have mostly ended and the 150th turned 151st anniversary celebration in 2021 is complete. The past year marked a blessed return to the regular rhythm of weekly worship and the church calendar. It has been a reminder of the everyday blessings of God's love, which endures through every experience in life.

Still, 2022 was not without significant milestones. Chief among them was the church's decision to buy a home on 2nd Avenue SE, just two blocks from the church. The purchase was made possible by gifts given to the *Faith Forward: \$150K for the Next 150 Years* capital campaign, a capstone to Faith's anniversary celebration meant to carry its past ministry into the future, plus an amazingly generous gift of \$100,000 from a member of the Faith family. The house was christened the Ansgar House, named for St. Ansgar, the evangelist who first preached the Gospel to Faith Lutheran's Danish forebears. Read more about the Ansgar House and ministry happening there on p. 25 of this report.

Smaller projects included a much-needed re-structuring of the audio-visual system and sound booth in the sanctuary, and the first steps toward starting Phase II of our long-term building plan. The latter effort will pick up momentum in 2023. The future of Faith Lutheran holds so much promise!

Looking ahead to 2023, however, we also have two major concerns. One is that our weekly worship attendance continues to lag far behind what it should be. We are well aware of a long list of reasons for that, but all the competition for worship time only calls us as Christians to be more committed to it. Gathering as a congregation to hear God's Word and receive the sacraments is the nutrition and exercise that maintains strong Christian faith. We neglect it at great spiritual risk to ourselves. Since God's name endures forever, it is vital for us to endure in the means of grace God gives us.

The other concern is financial. For the first time in 13 years, offerings given to the church in 2022 fell short of its expenses, leaving a year-end deficit of more than \$23,000. Economic disruptions during the year no doubt contributed to that, yet God faithfully continued to provide for us. After so many years of much stronger giving and financial health (compared to previous years), we urge all in the family of Faith to examine how God steadfastly provides for you and give in proportion to that. God's name endures forever, so we can trust Him to provide all we need, even in difficult economic times.

Faith Lutheran's leaders continue to pursue a bold ministry agenda, and we have gifted, faithful staff members to lead and implement it. Faithful participation and generous giving are vital in order for our congregation to carry out the mission and ministry God has entrusted to us here.

We are grateful to God and all of you for the privilege of serving you as pastors. We are so thankful for the staff members and elected leaders who serve Faith Lutheran so well. We depend on the support of our families and on your prayers for the church. We look forward to a new year lived in the grace and love of God, whose name endures forever and who is faithful throughout all ages.

Grace and peace to you all,

Pastor Scott Grorud

Pastor Dave Wollan

Congregational President's Report

What an incredible year!

Faith Lutheran Church has been blessed with generous gifts from this congregations. The *Faith Forward \$150K for the Next 150* campaign was started in October 2021, hoping to raise \$150,000 before the end of the year. In mid-August, Faith Lutheran Church closed on the Ansgar House located on 2nd Ave, only a short walk from the church. In addition to purchasing the house, many of the repairs were covered by donations. This house will provide a place for interns to live while training at Faith to be future church leaders. In addition, many in the congregation participated in maintenance work on the house. Rugs were removed, the kitchen was painted and scrubbed. Also, the electrical system needed to be updated from fuses to breakers and oak flooring was sanded and finished.

This year seemed to be the year of never ending roof leaks, and it didn't even rain that often. The roof leak near the office has been repaired, and comically it wasn't a roof leak at all; the plumbing drain pipe needed repair. One summer storm where the rain was blown sideways it created leaks in areas that previously didn't leak. Owen was able to patch one of these and the other was addressed by a roofing vendor. As noted in the Management Team report,

Congregational President's Report (continued)

we are in contract with a roofing vendor to replace the roof over the sanctuary gathering space and the sheetrock damage will be repaired or replaced when that work is complete.

The staff 401K plan is up for renewal and Faith Lutheran Church has signed an agreement with Nationwide Insurance to replace the current 401K plan. This plan will give our staff more investment choices to diversify their investments further. This plan will be implemented in 2023.

We are blessed with an incredible staff. Their dedication and hard work have made this an outstanding church with various activities for the young and old alike. I cannot thank the staff enough for their thoughts, conversations and dedication.

Along with the staff, there are council members and volunteers who assist with making this church function. Without them, many of these events couldn't happen. For those who have not participated or volunteered, I encourage you to do so. You will experience great joy in being the hands in God's work.

God Bless,

Respectfully submitted by John Olsen

Report from Pastor Paul Knudson

This past year, what leadership I bring has been directed more than some times in the past to seeking to renew various mission partnerships. Working with others, individuals and boards, I have sensed the need to use whatever experience I have had to move us past drifting along. This will need to go into 2023 also.

Each year, I have been pulling back a little at a time. With this being the case, it makes it doubly important that I focus my energies on helping this vital congregation in its mission to witness. I covet members giving any counsel they may have in making my service meaningful to these ends.

We have a marvelous staff and dedicated members with whom someone like me is privileged to work. This extends to the Augustana District Board of World Missions. In this context some of us are looking to deepen our connections to new mission partnerships. In view of the horrific war instigated by Russia in Ukraine, we find ourselves wanting to stand with others in the path of these dangers. The Baltic countries, especially Estonia, may well be one of those more in-depth partners.

Your prayers for our evangelical outreach near and far will be crucial going forward. Thank you for all you as members do locally and beyond in our witness.

Report from Pastor Paulus Pilgrim Visitation Pastor

I consider it a joy and delight to serve Faith Lutheran as a visitation pastor, for several reasons:

First, I share ministry with some special partners. Jeff Amundson, Marsha Schmit and I meet regularly to evaluate and grow in our ministry, reading and discussing selected books to help us rise higher in our ministry. Both of these servants are great to work with as we consider the needs of our members and how we can be of help in the name of Jesus.

Second, the other three pastors join us with enthusiastic and genuine concern for those who are enduring difficult times, and for those who need communion visits. I have not heard of any other congregation where the visitation pastor has so strong a support group with which to do ministry. Our prayer is that those who are suffering are the ones who benefit. A special thanks to Pastors Scott, David and Paul.

Third, we believe our care for suffering members is enhanced by our three support groups. Our grief support group usually focuses on more recent grievers, and meets whenever we have a sizable number to come together. Our Caregivers group meets regularly throughout the year on the last Thursday of each month. Jeff Amundson sets and leads the cancer support group. Each of these are announced in the bulletins, newsletters and on-line. All are welcome, whenever the need for support is felt, both members and non-members. No one needs to feel strong enough to survive tough times alone. These groups are taxing for those who lead them, but the feedback is strong encouragement to keep providing them.

Please pray for all your pastoral care servants, and those they seek to help. Thank you for the privilege!

Report from Pastoral Intern Jeff Amundson

2022 was a year of redefining. As I continued to move through recovery from cancer and remain in remission, I found myself dealing with a new definition of normal. I maintained some activities like leading Today's Faith Encouragement and assisting in service where I could. I am at church now Tuesday – Thursday in the mornings.

Pastoral Care: The cancer support group, FAcE: Fellowship Against Cancer, has continued to meet and is helping many good people manage their individual journeys. It continues to be a wonderful blessing for me and others. There was even a summer gathering complete with potluck and speakers. We plan to continue FAcE in 2023; some of the players may change, but the need is ever-present. It has been a true blessing to meet with some of our members on the prayer and visit list. The Seniors' Potlucks are a lot of fun, with good conversations. Paulus and Marsha are two of the best teachers in the world!

Missions: We had many good meetings with the Church in the World ministry team (please see its report on pg. 20) and have developed new methods of communication to the congregation. Work will continue in 2023 to build on our improvements on reporting the wonderful activities our mission partners are working on. Have you checked out the mission map? It has been a good year of transition as I have picked up more responsibilities for NHMS. It's a wonderful group that helps to provide resources to spread God's Word in India. In 2023, Paul will continue to guide me in learning about the world of missions. It is truly a blessing to learn from Paul; he has done such an outstanding job for so many years!

Again, I cannot express how thankful and appreciative I am for my Faith family and all those who have supported Patsy and me as we journeyed through this recovery from cancer. I am now 20 months in remission, and in 2023 I hope to focus hard on continued recovery and to maintain my remission status. It is by God's hand and all your love and prayers that I can continue to help as best as I can. Your patience and understanding have been exceptional and a true blessing. I turn my sight to 2023 with trust in God and hope for a less invasive year filled with the joy of recovery and activity.

Report from the Director of Pastoral Care and Evangelism

"So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ." Romans 10:17

What a blessing it is to be able to attend worship services, Bible studies, Digging Deeper, Christian book studies, FLYouth, Sunday School, etc. We are filled with hope and encouragement when we hear God's Word! We are renewed when we come together in worship and all the other offerings here at church! We are blessed when we share our gifts and offerings first given us! Praise be to God!

A few of the highlights from 2022:

Pastoral Care – Meeting weekly with our caring and compassionate pastors as we schedule communion visits, calls and discuss updates on the Faith family is truly a blessing for me. I love working closely with them and all of you!

Pastoral Intern, Jeff Amundson and I have again been privileged to work together with Pr. Paulus in reading about and discussing pastoral care and learning from him. What a gift!

The Caregiver Support Group meets monthly and Grief Support continues to be offered as needed. Both groups seem to be filling a need at Faith and for some others in the community as well.

The Befriender Ministry and the Caring Card Ministry offer additional care for our Faith community. We are so blessed to have those who are involved in these ministries!

Scheduling Volunteers – As challenging as it is at times, I do enjoy coordinating volunteers for worship and for other needs. Thanks to all who offer to help and often say "yes" when asked.

I thank God for the privilege to work with you at Faith Lutheran. May God bless you abundantly in 2023!

Together in Ministry,
Marsha Schmit

Report from the Director of Youth and Family Ministries

2022 was certainly a year for the books. I can certainly say that I am absolutely privileged and honored to continue serving as your Director of Youth and Family Ministries! No day is the same, and I pray that this gives you insight into this incredible ministry that you support!

Confirmation and Middle School Ministries: Twenty-seven students were confirmed on October 30. This class is a class of legends and I have been amazed by how God has worked in their lives. Five of these Confirmands shared their faith statements and they were lights to all. Middle School Ministry is a large and very diverse program here at Faith. All year long we run ministries. From God Squad, to Middle School Madness, to Confirmation, and bringing back Powerhouse (middle school fun night), Laura and I are kept busy!

High School Ministries: Our high school ministries are vibrant at Faith Lutheran! I have the distinct privilege of spending each Wednesday with this age group and I so deeply enjoy their energy, insight, and goofiness. 2022 has been marked by incredible leadership of students and high involvement top to bottom. I love seeing them serve our congregation and make an impact that way! This year we have covered a series on King David, Mental Health, how we can be the Kingdom of God when we are different, Relationships, *The 5 Love Languages*, Colossians, a Walk through Holy Week, and many one-night lessons. I find that this age group likes to know the why and the application of the lesson more than any other age group. One thing that was unique to this year was that I hosted a service week over spring break where we did a couple service projects around town and did events for fun. The week culminated with Feed My Starving Children and a lock-in! I so enjoyed this fellowship with my students. One thing I will say, is that youth nights are my favorite part of the week, because while I am privileged to help my youth grow in their faith, they also help me grow in mine.

Mission Trip: We took our annual mission trip to Denver, Colorado in July and it was a mountaintop experience. This mission trip was marked by having half of our group be new participants. Our returning attendees stepped up and showed these youth the ropes of how our mission trips go. We served in unique ways all over Denver and we were able to have so many interactions with incredible people. I give thanks this year more than any for the amazing adult leaders who say yes to these trips with me. They give up a week of work and being home to spend it with loud high schoolers and lose a lot of sleep. This year, similar to all of the years, they were exceptional. They walked with kids through hardship and loved them like they are their own kids. I am *distinctly* privileged to serve alongside these people. They are my place of sanity and peace when things are chaotic. We have cried, laughed, and praised together. They lift up the youth, the other leaders, and me. I give thanks for Dave, Laura, Austin, Shannon, Richard, Kathy, Jon, Rachel, Emma, and Kaitlyn. I could not do these trips without them.

Other Ministries: This summer, Laura and I were privileged to have three interns work with us throughout the summer. It was such a blessing to have extra hands as our plans for summer require a lot of effort. They brought so much energy and joy, not only to Laura and me but also to the youth. I have also been honored with the opportunity to serve on the Greenhouse Internship Taskforce and work with our young adults. I have deeply enjoyed seeing how God's faithfulness has been shown in the steps we have taken. I look forward to launching the internship program this year as well as seeing the Ansgar Community continue to grow and flourish!

Prayer Requests: Please pray for our students and families as they navigate all the chaos in this world. Mental health issues are at an all-time high. Pray they turn to Christ and cling to His promise when all else is crazy.

I am so thankful to serve here alongside many of you in our youth ministries. I could not do any of this without your prayerful support.

Respectfully and prayerfully submitted,
Kristen Durst

Report from the Director of Children and Family Ministries

SCHOOL YEAR

Release Time

- * Started October 26, on Wednesdays from 9:05 a.m. – 10:05 a.m. and 10:05 a.m. – 11:05 a.m.
- * Children are bused over from Tiger and Park Elementary School each week so their time at church is closer to 9:15 a.m. – 9:50 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. – 10:50 a.m.
- * The Hutchinson Bus Line has also started charging \$90 per church per week. The price is higher than we would like, so the churches are discussing other options on how we lead Release Time to reduce the cost.
- * We have 21 children attend weekly.
- * Activities include Bible Study, snack, and games.
- * I am in my second year of Hutchinson Leadership Institute this fall so Kristen, Pastor Dave, or Maria Weikle will be subbing for me on the mornings I am unable to lead.

56er's

- * Started September 14, on Wednesdays from 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- * 38 children attended 56er's.
- * Activities include snack, Bible study, small groups, and games.
- * Events included: Snow tubing, Trick-or-Treat for the Food Shelf, and an Operation Christmas Child packing event.
- * Children continue to invite their friends and 56er's continues to grow and reach more kids without a church home.
- * With this program growing, more adult help would be tremendous in reaching all the children. Currently, Maria Weikle helps with snack and small group. Also, the Awaken Project members joined for one Wednesday.

Sunday School

- * Started September 11 with a Fall Kickoff at Library Square from 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Classes met on tarps and blankets since all the city picnic tables were reserved by another church, had Faith Rocks at the band shelter, parents had a Digging Deeper session outside, and then everyone joined for worship in the park afterwards.
- * We have 161 children registered with 13 classes.
- * Students are studying the Bible and their faith based on a curriculum geared towards their age group.
- * The education hour begins with Faith Rocks, a worship time directed towards children led by Kevin Elton or a few of our youth who also teach Sunday School.
- * We use SOLA Publishing for our Lenten curriculum.

Christmas Program

Pre-K through 5th grade Sunday School students presented a Christmas Program on Sunday, December 18 at 4 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The Christmas Program Team created the program where the Pre-K – 1st grade students sang three songs and then the 2nd – 5th grade students spoke about the Christmas story and acted it out. Cookies were served afterwards.

B23

Parents and their children, birth to three years old, meet once a month from 9:10 a.m. – 9:50 a.m. during the school year to learn about Jesus and how to teach the faith at home.

Sprouts

- * We have an average of 15 children attending.
- * Volunteers lead a pre-written lesson for children based on the Gospel reading for the day
- * Held during the sermon of the 10:10 a.m. Foundation worship.

SUMMER MINISTRIES

Picnic in the Park

On Tuesdays from 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., parents and children met with Laura Stowman at Elks Park for lunch and play time. Purpose was to build relationships.

God Squad

On Wednesdays from June 8 – August 3 from 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., the summer interns, Kristen, and I led games, a Bible study and small groups for children who completed 5th – 7th grade. 15-20 children attended.

Vacation Bible School

June 27 – June 30 from 9 a.m. – noon at Faith Lutheran Church. 110 children signed up to participate in Monumental VBS. Faith partnered with Christ the King to teach children that God's love is monumental!

Mystery Bus

- * July 25- 27 from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- * 33 children attended. Since the number of students was so large we rented 15 passenger vans and raised the cost.
- * Mystery Bus is a fun-filled local mission trip for middle school students, with service projects and team building in the morning and an activity for fun in the afternoon.
- * Service projects included organizing clothing for WINGS, packing food for Feed My Starving Children, and packing backpacks for Orphan Grain Train.
- * Activities included SkyZone, Big Stone Mini-Golf, and Kerfoot Canopy Tours.

Day Camp

- * August 8 - 11 from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at Christ the King Lutheran Church.
- * For kindergarten through 5th grade. Time filled with worship, crafts, and games.
- * 50 children attended.
- * The program was led by counselors from Ingham Okobojo Lutheran Bible Camps.

Bible Camp

- * 12 children attended for either half of the week or for the entire week.
- * Children attended the week of July 17 – 22 at Ingham Okobojo Lutheran Bible Camps.
- * The cost of camp was lower due to the amazing financial support of donors from our church to go towards camper scholarships!

Interns

- * Kristen and I had three summer interns this summer.
- * The interns learned how to work as a team, connect with youth, lead a VBS crew, lead lessons and games for God Squad and FLY, played High School volleyball, helped with Middle School Madness, helped with Mystery Bus, and met one on one with either Kristen or I each week.

Report from the Director of Music and Worship

“How good, Lord, to be here!” LBW #89

Friends of Faith Lutheran, as another year has passed, my heart has filled... along with my schedule! I am excited to share the new and notable accomplishments and activities involved in the music department as well as the usual happenings during 2022.

FAITH SINGERS

Faith Singers continues to be strong! We have had to say good-bye to some members and have had the opportunity to welcome some new ones as well. Out of the musical groups and ensembles here at Faith, Faith Singers is one of the busiest and I am sure they would agree! Along with our usual schedule of special music offerings on Sunday mornings, the choir participated in the Common Cup “Coming Together in Song” fundraiser concert in the fall and the newly introduced “Messiah Sing” in the spring. We continue to meet on Wednesday nights from 5:30 to 7:00. Faith Singers includes 19 active members as of the start of the 2022-23 season.

RINGERS OF FAITH

A good example is like a bell that calls many to church. -Danish proverb

One of the more challenging, but highly rewarding music ministries at Faith is involvement in the Ringers of Faith adult bell ensemble. This season has welcomed a few new members that have jumped right into this fast-paced group. Each member from seasoned veteran to novice gives 110 percent to the dedication and determination that comes with playing bells. They continue to inspire me and drive me to be a better director with each piece they play. We continue to meet on Tuesday nights from 5:30 to 6:30. Ringers of Faith includes 11 active members as of the start of the 2022-23 season.

SPECIAL PROGRAMING

The highlight of this year’s special programming was the start of our annual Handel’s *Messiah* sing. This event is organized by joint efforts between Faith Lutheran and Christ the King Lutheran music departments. Christ the King hosted the event on May 1, 2022. We had 32 choir members from Faith, Christ the King, and the surrounding community and 7 instrumentalists. There were 166 people in attendance for the concert and we received \$1,207.37 in donations, of which \$335 was given to Common Cup Ministry and the remaining \$872.37 was put into special designated music funds for future *Messiah* concerts and other music ministries. As noted above, this event is scheduled to be an annual program that will continue on the first Sunday in May every year. Shannon Campbell (music director at CtK) and I have plans and hopes for how this program will grow and strengthen the music ministries of both Faith and CtK in the Hutchinson community. Stay tuned for this year’s concert announcements!

WORSHIP ACTIVITIES

Worship continues to be a major focus of my time and preparation from week to week at Faith. Worship preparation involves planning special music, scheduling musicians, selecting songs and hymns for services, putting together Proclaim slides for projection screens, and uploading recorded services to YouTube and the radio station among other things. Summer of 2021, we said goodbye to a Foundation worship leader which left a void in the schedule which Kristen Durst and I have filled since then. Starting the fall of 2022, we have welcomed three new musicians that have been a wonderful asset to the worship services, and they have made scheduling much easier. One addition to our worship starting this past fall was the introduction of yearly special music themes. This year’s theme is *The Journey of Faith* and each season has had a different focus. Fall was *The Journey of Faith: Songs of Travel*, winter is *The Journey of Faith: O Come, Let Us Adore Him!*, and spring will be *The Journey of Faith: The Road to the Cross*. The yearly theme ties the special music offerings together while providing emphasis on the season of the church as well as highlighting the ensembles each week.

TECHNOLOGY

At this time last year, we were troubled with persistent technological issues and were just beginning plans for a new Sanctuary sound booth. I am pleased to report that the issues have substantially decreased in both the Sanctuary and Foundation worship spaces, and the new sound booth has proven to be worth the time and effort of constructing. With the help of a task force and hard work by volunteers in our congregation, the new sound booth was constructed in the week following Memorial Day in just four days and was fully operational in just over a week after construction. Other updates and additions to audio visual (AV) equipment were purchased for worship use and our online outreach. These updates include two new HELO streaming and recording devices that allow us to live-stream and record worship activities to be uploaded to YouTube, broadcast on KDUZ, and Facebook with ease. We also added a new system that allows us to broadcast live to HCVN as well. A new wireless dual microphone box was purchased for the outdoor park worship services and is installed in the Foundation worship space during the program year. I completed a review of our licenses for copyright this past fall and updated or adjusted incorrect or missing information.

OTHER MINISTRIES

The Music and Worship Ministry team proposed the purchase of a new piano for the music room from Schmitt music at the cost of \$6,645.95, which included price of piano, temperature control humidifier, and delivery. Council approved the purchase with \$5,000 from undesignated memorial funds and the remaining \$1,645.95 from special music funds and the general music budget. The new piano has been serving the music ministry well since its delivery in November.

The music department extends our areas of ministry by involving each ensemble in preparing one Free Community Meal during the year.

PRAYER REQUEST

May the God of creation that blessed us with the gift of musical expression continue to guide our hearts and minds through Him and Christ Jesus, our Lord. Amen!

Soli Deo Gloria, Austin

Seniors Task Force Report

If the importance of a task force is measured by how many times it meets, this one isn't very important; because it met only once. But that is not the measure of a good task force. Rather, it is measured by the quality of its work. This Seniors' Task Force met to plan the first Sunday in May's *Bless The Years* observance for 2022. *Bless The Years* Sunday recognizes the contributions and needs of seniors in our congregation. You saw Ginny Brodd pen her quality article "Spotlight on Seniors" again. We took note of how seniors are behind the scenes in services like quilting, assembling *Faith Matters*, ushering, scripture reading, counting offerings, etc. A hearty thanks to all of you.

This year we said good-bye to one of our faithful task force members. Gary Hoffman will be remembered for volunteering to sing for BtY Sunday worship services; and more. Still on the task force are Ginny Brodd, LoAnn Hanson, Dick Desens, David Franzen, with Marsha and me as advisors.

By the way, do you know how the "Spotlight on Seniors" person is selected each year?

Faith Lutheran Church Women (FLCW) Report

During 2022, Faith Lutheran Church Women organized the following events: Rummage Sale in April, treats for a summer park service, and a Christmas Luncheon in December. As always, it was wonderful to work and be with each other in person.

The rummage sale was a success and appreciated by the Hutchinson community. About 80 volunteers worked approximately 670 hours and we raised \$5,826.

The Christmas luncheon was well attended. Carreen Pierson organized the event. Geri Johnson spoke about the prayer shawl ministry. A beautiful feature was a parade of prayer shawls that had been received by various FLCW members.

At the November annual meeting, the following women were elected to office: President: Connie Saloum, Vice President unfilled, Secretary: Renee McRaith, Treasurer: Mary Ann Ward.

Faith Lutheran Church Women (FLCW) Report (continued)

Disbursements of profits from the rummage sale and Christmas Luncheon were given to international and local charities: New Hope Mission Society, UCAP gift baskets, McLeod Domestic Alliance for Abuse, Augustana District Women (WOW), Samaritan's Purse, Faith Lutheran Hunger Appeal, Common Cup, Global Health Ministries, Orphan Grain Train, Woodstone Beauty Shop, Harmony River Beauty Shop, and Meghan's Place.

Faith Lutheran Quilters Report

The Faith Quilters meet the first Wednesday of every month in the third-floor multi-purpose room. They are called the Faith Quilters, but as you can see from the lists below, they make so much more than just quilts. There are hands that sew and there are hands that do not sew – all experience levels are welcome to come and work with this group any-time.

This has been a very busy year for the Faith Quilters. People have worked on their own from home as well as together at the church.

This past year items delivered to Orphan Grain Train include:

* 329 Quilts * 8 Baby Blankets * 62 Pillow Case Dresses

This team made and donated 112 stocking caps to Orphan Grain Train and Common Cup Ministries.

To Global Health Ministries we sent:

*2,500 Bandages * 1,518 Pairs of socks * 46 Assorted sizes of blankets * 20 Newborn kits * 20 Hospice kits

* 61 Gowns * 4 Pillows * 15 Bed pads * 19 Body slings * 4 Sheets * 2 Utility bags * 7 Pair of Gloves

The Quilters wish to extend a thank-you to the many hands that worked so hard as well as thanks to those who donated materials, those who delivered the donations to Global Health and Orphan Grain Train, and those who donated money and Thrivent grants that have allowed this awesome group to keep working.

Submitted by Diane Ferguson

Prayer Shawl Ministry Report

“Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God. I always pray for you and I make my requests with a heart full of joy...” Philippians 1:3, 4

Our Faith Lutheran Prayer Shawl Ministry began in May of 2006. We now have six women actively involved in our ministry. In 2022, we presented 23 shawls. Over the past 16 years, we have presented 1,014 shawls! They have been given to residents of nursing homes/care centers, missionaries serving abroad, injured soldiers, deployed soldiers, Common Cup Ministry, those who are hospitalized, those who are mourning the death of a loved one, our youth, foster children, Hutch Health Cancer Center and others. The shawls serve as a physical reminder that we remember the recipients in prayer.

“Children are a gift from the Lord, they are a reward from Him.” Psalm 127:3

Faith's Prayer Shawl Ministry includes prayer blankets for newborn babies. A prayer blanket is presented to each family of Faith when a child joins the family. This year we presented six blankets. We have given a total of 173 blankets.

We supply yarn for our shawl makers. The yarn is purchased through gifts of money from the Women's Ministry, the Endowment Fund, Mission & Outreach and individual donations. THANK YOU for your continued support. THANK YOU to all who create our beautiful shawls and blankets.

Each shawl and blanket is photographed and placed in an album with the name of the woman who created it. When each is given, the name of the recipient is recorded by the photo and also on a spread sheet.

If you knit or crochet and would like to become a part of our Prayer Shawl Ministry, please contact me at 320-587-6733 or grjohn45@gmail.com.

Geri Johnson

Confidential E-Mail Prayer Chain Report

“Don’t worry about anything; instead pray about everything...” Philippians 4:6

We have 32 men and women who receive prayer requests via e-mail. Our prayer warriors pray specifically upon receiving the confidential request. You can submit prayer requests to me at grjohn45@gmail.com

If you would like to become a Faith Lutheran prayer warrior, please send me your e-mail address.

Geri Johnson

Common Cup Ministry Annual Report

“The mission of Common Cup Ministry is to gather and share spiritual and financial resources of area churches into one “Common Cup” so that we may minister to those in need.”

Common Cup Ministry is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization governed by a board of directors from member churches and area ministerial associations. The board of directors meets monthly. Member churches are encouraged to have a representative to serve on the reps council which meets monthly.

Bev Bonte is the Director of Common Cup Ministry, Inc. Jen Wicklund is the Program Director and Diane Pedersen is the bookkeeper.

Our outreach programs for McLeod County residents include the annual Back-to-School Supplies collection and distribution, annual Warm Coat collection and distribution, weekend Backpack Feeding Program for K-6th graders in McLeod County (in Dec. of 2022 we distributed 390 bags of food each week), monthly distribution of diapers in Glencoe and bi-monthly in Hutchinson, food products delivered to area REACH programs, personal care products delivered to McLeod County schools, senior housing and family housing facilities. We make referrals to McLeod Emergency Food Shelf, we maintain a mini food pantry at the CCM office and we sponsor and promote other food assistance programs. We support and help promote Laundry Love in both Hutchinson and Glencoe.

Using a voucher system, Common Cup funds are administered by volunteers to help those who fall through the cracks of other assistance. These vouchers assist with lodging, transportation, utility bills, laundry, clothing, medical resources, etc.

The CCM Thrift Store in Glencoe serves through both receiving donations of household items and offering these items for re-sale and to those in need.

Volunteers are always welcome. Our volunteers provide spiritual ministry as well as financial and emotional resources and support. For opportunities, please call Director Bev Bonte at her direct office line: 320-234-8344 or e-mail her at commoncupmn@gmail.com or call Jen Wicklund at 320-583-9929 or e-mail her at jenwicklund@gmail.com. THANK YOU to all who give so generously of your time!

As our programs grow, office and work space become issues. Please be in prayer about our space needs.

The Annual Meeting of CCM will take place Monday, March 27, at 12:00 noon at Hunter’s Ridge Community Church in Hutchinson. Each CCM member church selects one person (their rep to CCM) to be its voting member. New board members will be elected, reports on our financial position and outreach programs will be given. All are encouraged to attend this meeting.

THANK YOU to Faith Lutheran and its members for your generous gifts and for your willingness to volunteer. Through the generosity of our member churches, businesses and individuals, we have been able to continue our assistance to individuals and families with an immediate need and to provide resources for assistance through other programs offered in McLeod County.

Geri Johnson, Faith Lutheran’s Representative to CCM

ANNUAL REPORT FOR CONGREGATIONS – AUGUSTANA DISTRICT

Prepared by Pastor Randy Freund, AD Service Coordinator

The role of LCMC Districts and Fellowships within LCMC is significantly changing as a function of “LCMC 3.0.” As an association, LCMC is taking specific and intentional steps to address growth within LCMC, while maintaining our congregationally focused DNA. “LCMC 3.0” is the general way in which we refer to these changes. For the purposes of this Annual Report, it seemed best to address these changes as it pertains to the Augustana District using the categories of our motto, “Theology. Church. Mission.”

THEOLOGY

In order to be clear about LCMC’s theological commitments and distinctives, a number of initiatives are taking place under the direction of Pastor Julie Smith, LCMC Coordinator for Districts and Fellowships. Because Augustana has a long-standing commitment to the role theology has in forming and shaping our district, the Augustana District has the opportunity to offer itself to this new emphasis in “LCMC 3.0.” We do this as we continue to focus on how theology shapes our district. An active and talented Board of Theology and Ministry guides us in this area.

CHURCH

In general, the “Church” part of our motto has to do with support to congregations. This support is carried out primarily by staff, as well by the Board of Christian Education and Board of Congregational Services. The call process, conflict resolution and assimilation into LCMC and AD from new congregations are primary ways in which this is played out. Under “LCMC 3.0,” church plants are now carried out by districts, fellowships and congregations (and not coordinated by a LCMC staff position). To date, Augustana has been involved in four church plants or “re-starts.” They are, The Table Ministry (Sioux Falls, SD), Faith Community Lutheran Church (Slayton, MN), Tahoma Lutheran (a house church in Maple Valley, WA), Living Word International Christian Fellowship (a mission restart in St. Paul, MN). We are anticipating our first international church plant in Mazatlán, Mexico.

MISSION

Global Mission has always been a hallmark of the Augustana District. Under the guidance of the Board for World Mission, 40% of all proceeds support this “Great Commission” work in places outside the United States. The challenges and opportunities here will only increase. As LCMC congregations seek to have closer ties with vibrant missions around the world, global mission partners continue to reach out to AD, seeking closer ties with our district.

As you can sense, it is an exciting and significant time to be a part of the Augustana District!

THANK YOU to the many congregations and individuals who make this possible through your prayers, support and financial contributions!

A special thank you to Faith Lutheran Church for your continued support and being the “district office.”

2022 Membership Updates

Received through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Fallon Albrecht	Ezra Kamrath	Colbie Schloeder
Jagger Block	Deacon Kieke	Dawson Schunk
Hayden Branson	Jude Lambert	Wren Schmidt
Adasyn Conn	Sophia Lee	Kennedy Thompson
Jameson Draeger	Walker Mandelkow	Henry Timm
Hadley Gasow	Rachel McGlocklin	Kennedy Trout
Griffin Gaspar	Cooper McLain	Eliza Weckwerth
Henry Hantge	Judson Nornes	Avri Wheeler
Maxwell Hantge	Odin Olsen	
Harlow Hoffman	Sophia Rodriquez	

Confirmed in their Faith on October 30, 2022

Hayden Bloemke	Olivia Horton	Emma Richardson
Libby Bradford	Isaiah Ishihara	Ryleigh Schiller
Lola Bradford	Grant Kosek	Ethan Schlueter
Jameson Buboltz	Hudson Lien	Shareese Schuetz
Lillian Curtiss	Jaida Mayer	Landon Teetzel
William DeMeyer	Gina Padrnos	Lauren Wagner
Miley Flemming	Kadi Powell	Lilly White
Marissa Glesener	Julia Putz	Lydia Wollan
Trenten Hanson	Kallin Reinke	Brenden Ziegler

New Members in 2022

Barb Christopher	Stephanie Kahle	Juli Monahan
Aaron Conn w/ Haley, Bella and Adasyn	Zach & Kelly Knoll w/ Grace	Joey & Lindsey Schwecke w/ Emma and Hadley
Jon & Alisha DeRock w/ Macie, Graham and Bryson	Kyle & Desiree Kottke w/ Alexandria, Faith, Whitney, Reagan and Quinn	Verla Taylor
Andrew and Ashley Engel w/ Aaron	Dan & Bri Krause w/ Oaklyn and Myla	Ross Wendling w/ Norah and Judson
Patty Hill	Anthony & Tanja Mackedanz w/ Teigan and Treydon	Lindsay Yurek w/ Bennett and Brielle
Sharon Jenkins	Greg Martin	Kevin and Molly Niebuhr
Brett Johnson		
Madison Johnson		

Married in 2022

Brian and Michelle Bjogum	Justin and Elissa Driver	Evan and Lindsey Pokornowski
Megan and Noah Corrow	Benjamin and Madison Hjerpe	Cody and Jessica Resmen
Jonathan and Alisha DeRock	Joseph and Gretchen Meier	Brad and Haylee Weege
Trenton and Becca Drager	Jack and McKenzie Nermyr	Matt and Lindsay Yurek

Deaths in 2022

LeRoy Barrick	Robert Kohn	Mae Sondergaard
Alvin Bertram	Marlys Lindgren	Harriet Thor
Robert Bowen	Joe Langenbau	Arianna Vos
Kevin Compton	Patricia Lee	Dale Yukel
Darrell Fuhr	Kathryn Machtemes	Michael Ziemer
Steve Graff	Donald Rath	
Gary Hoffman	Charles Renner	

MINISTRY TEAM REPORTS

Children, Youth and Family Team

2022 members: Patricia Block, Christina Weckwerth, Jill Rude, Ashley McLain, Elizabeth Buckentin, Lindsey Hoffman, Maddie Hoffman, Johanna Hanneman, and Kristen Durst and Laura Stowman (staff advisors).

The Children Youth and Family ministry team has a wide variety of programs, activities, and ministries that it works with every year. The team supports Christian parents in nurturing the faith of children and youth in the church by various means.

In 2022, we worked together in the following areas:

Community Outreach Meal: The CYF team served pulled pork sandwiches, chips, potato salad, cookies or bars on Sunday, June 5, 2022.

Faith Family Fun:

- Family Events organized by our team to bring generations together
- Events included: hosting a multi-generational game day called Cabin Fever with the Congregational Life Team, swimming at the Hutchinson Middle School Pool, hosting an Easter Paint Day supported by The Paint Factory, painting rocks to disperse around town, hosting lawn games in the church yard along with our community meal, having Fall Kickoff at Library Square with outdoor Sunday School, leading Operation Christmas Child packing event, and hosting a Happy Birthday, Jesus party.

Supported our Director of Children and Family Ministries in the following ministries:

Vacation Bible School, B23, Mystery Bus, Sunday School, Christmas Program, and Day Camp.

Supported our Director of Youth and Family Ministries in the following ministries:

Confirmation teaching and service, Youth Night, God Squad, and Mission Trips.

Church in the World Team

Church in the World team members for 2022 were: Connie Stromseth (council rep), Al Scharn (council rep), Jeraldine Rohrbach, Claire Woelfel, Lisa Sanders, Carol Otto, Dorothy Desens, Rebecca Dressen, Pr. Paul Knudson (staff advisor) and Jeff Amundson (staff advisor).

The Church in the World team focuses its attention both on local/regional mission of FLC and international missions. Attention is given to the administration of the financial support of these missions, and to seek to grow awareness and involvement of how our witness is being extended through the mission with FLC support. Our financial commitments are split evenly between local and global missions.

This team is responsible for maintaining the Blessing Box. The FLC Blessing Box has been very active; both from the local need and the filling of it by the team. The team has a budget will shops for non-perishable items along with individual contributions. This team has also aligned with United Community Action Partnership (UCAP) to provide “New Start” baskets and backpacks filled with basic essentials for the homeless. We continue to give strong financial support to Common Cup, with a focus on supporting temporary housing rooms for those in a housing crisis due to homelessness or fleeing from a domestic situation.

We support several global missions. This past year we have been able financially to support YWAM Nuremberg and also YWAM Slavic Ministries with the focus on the needs in Ukraine. Estonia House of Hope and Tartu Academy, Bole Congregation of Ethiopia and several other missions that are part of the global areas we financially support.

As we enter 2023, we are eager to continue supporting our local and global partners, and improve our communication and involvement with the entire congregation. Have you seen our missions bulletin board near the church office? We will provide education material through Faith’s webpage, *Faith Matters* newsletter, and other resources to share more about our mission partners around the world.

We would like to extend our thanks to our congregation members who continue to donate items for the Blessing Box, New Start Baskets, and all financial support that helps those in need locally and globally.

Submitted by - Connie Stromseth / Council Rep

Congregational Life Team

The Congregational Life Team seeks to integrate church members into its life and mission.

Members include Kari Larson, Tanja Glaser, Niki Pokornowski, Deidra Beilke, Patty Pearce, Tammy Kirchhoff and Marsha Schmit (Staff Advisor).

Highlights from 2022:

- * We welcomed Tanja Glaser and Tammy Kirchhoff to our ministry team.
- * Our team co-hosted Cabin Fever, a game day, with the CYF team on Sunday, February 6. The event was held from 2-4 p.m. and we had about 45 people participate.
- * Coordinated a food drive February 28 – April 10. We turned in 380 pounds of food and \$400 in cash donations.
- * The Lenten Picnic was back! We held this on Wednesday, March 16, before the Lenten Worship Service in the Faith Center from 5:00 – 6:15 p.m. We served between 75 and 90 people hotdogs, chips, beans, pickles, bars and lemonade.
- * Sent cards to the First Communion students.
- * Coordinated the treat schedule for outdoor worship services and hosted the first on Sunday, May 29.
- * Sent graduation cards to 52 graduating seniors.
- * Hosted an Ice Cream Social on July 27 after the 10:10 service in the park.
- * Coordinated and served a community outreach meal on August 7. We served hotdogs, brats and hamburgers, pasta salad, potato salad, chips, bars, lemonade and water. We served 65 people.
- * Hosted the “Around the World” Progressive Dinner, held on Sunday, October 9. 80 people came and enjoyed the evening. We had an icebreaker game and appetizers in the Gathering Space, main course was in the Faith Center and dessert was in the Youth Space. A great time was had by all.
- * Sent cards to the confirmation students.
- * Served pizza and treats during new member orientation on May 1 and October 16.
- * Hosted a pie and dessert social after Thanksgiving Eve service in November.
- * Coordinated the Christmas Giving Tree. It was decided to collect mittens, hats, and socks for Common Cup Ministries again this year.
- * Hosted a cookie and cocoa fellowship after the Advent Service on December 14.

We are open to any ideas or suggestions to promote fellowship and member involvement in our family of FAITH.

Respectfully submitted,
Niki Pokornowski

Discipleship Team

Members of the Discipleship Team: Cheryl Buboltz, Richard Desens, Connie Kurtzweg, Julie Renkes, Nicki Scharn, Lori Swift, Mark Schumann (Council Rep.), Daryl Bateman (Council Rep.), Wendy Magruder (staff liaison)

Discipleship Ministry Team Purpose: To support group activities that show love, kindness, fellowship and sacrifices given to mankind by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

It has been wonderful during 2022 to have a “normal” year for activities blessed by fewer Covid-19 restrictions and our ability as a team to work harder in the support of our church congregation.

The Discipleship Team was involved with many activities during 2022 and here are a few of the highlights:

- * All new members of the congregation were personally called within a month or so after joining the church
- * We provided “Welcome Back” support for summer outdoor services
- * Provided treats in the park one Sunday
- * Served the Community Meal on Sept. 11
- * Supported Pastor Dave with the “Date Nights” on March 25 and Oct. 28.
- * Organized May Baskets with flowers for 39 homebound members of FLC
- * Planned and coordinated the annual soup and chili supper
- * Sent handwritten Christmas cards to homebound with their poinsettia deliveries

This year has been filled with many activities and events. The Discipleship Team is honored to have been given the opportunity to serve. We look forward to 2023 with hopeful hearts, love and kindness, and God’s blessings to all.

Management Team

The members of the Management Ministry team for 2022 were John Olsen, Mona Hjerpe, Ian McDonald, Penny Stuber, Mark Guggemos, and John Dorival. Staff liaisons were Pastor Scott Grorud and Sara Wegner.

The management ministry team oversees finances and property of the church by:

- * Supervising the budget process of the church and the allocation of all funds.
- * Securing adequate insurance to protect the church and its properties.
- * Keeping record of all money and property donated to the church and investing or dispersing of funds as directed by the church council or during a congregational meeting.
- * Provide monthly financial reports to the church council.
- * Overseeing the maintenance and improvements of church properties.

Major accomplishment of the Management teams in 2022:

- * The Management team worked closely with Austin Willhite (Director of Music and Worship) to relocate sound and video equipment to a single enclosure in the rear of the sanctuary. This was accomplished by removing the last pew on the lectern side of the sanctuary to allow adequate clearance for people to walk around the booth as well as not blocking the rear exit. The existing sound booth was removed and the footprint expanded to accommodate the soundboard, video recording (camera controls) and workstation which drive the three monitors. Thanks are extended to Mark Guggemos and John Dorival for the labor to accomplish this task.
- * We have had a number of roof leaks this year.
 - The gathering space outside the office has been a problem for well over a year. Owen Weikle stripped off the drainpipe insulation above the suspended ceiling. We were fortunate to have a rainstorm while a roofing contractor was present, and the roof leak that we suspected was in fact a plumbing issue. A plumber repaired the piping and no further leaks have been detected.
 - The gathering space outside the sanctuary has had a roof leak for some time, which has damaged the sheetrock. A roofing contractor had examined and repaired numerous small roof membrane holes and still the leak persists. Faith Lutheran Church signed a contract with a local roofing contractor to replace the 19'X38' section of roof in November and the work will be completed in 2023. The sheetrock repair/replacement will be addressed after the roof is repaired.

Thanks to the generosity of the congregation, Faith Lutheran Church was able to close on the Ansgar House. This will be a blessing to young people exploring a church vocation once the internship program is in full swing.

Respectfully submitted by John Olsen

Music and Worship Team

The members of the Management Ministry team for 2022 were Maria Weikle (council rep.), Karna Blake (council rep.) Owen Weikle, Jack and Jaclyn Fitzwater, Sandy Curtis, Bruce Christianson, Roxanna Boe and Austin Willhite (staff liaison),

Some of the tasks the team was responsible for this past year were:

- * Organized disciple reenactment for Maundy Thursday worship in April
- * Transitioned to outdoor worship set-up and tear-down May through September
- * Served the Free Community Meal July 10
- * Served treats in the park August 14
- * Transitioned to program year worship
- * Voted to purchase a new piano for the music room using money from undesignated memorial funds and the general music budget.

Faith Lutheran Church Council and Ministry Team Members

Congregational Officers

President: Mona Hjerpe (2023)
Secretary: Amanda Schueler (2023)

Vice President: _____ (2023, president 2024)
Treasurer: Ian McDonald (2023)

Ministry Team Members

Children Youth and Family

Church Council Representatives

Lindsey Hoffman (2023)
Jamie Kaping (2024)

Members

Maddie Hoffman (2023) Elizabeth Buckentin (2024)
Jill Rude (2023) Tara Strey (2024)
Johanna Hanneman (2023) Callie Backen (2024)

Church in the World

Church Council Representatives

Al Scharn (2023)
_____ (2024)

Members

Dorothy Desens (2023) Lisa Ishihara (2024)
Carol Otto (2023) Lynn Gifferson (2024)
Rebecca Dressen (2023) _____ (2024)

Congregational Life

Church Council Representatives

Tanja Glaser (2023)
Monica Schiller (2024)

Members

Deidra Beilke (2023) Patty Pearce (2024)
Tammy Kirchoff (2023) Juli Monahan (2024)

Discipleship

Church Council Representative

Mark Schumann (2023)
Joy May (2024)

Members

Lori Swift (2023) Nicki Scharn (2024)
Cheryl Buboltz (2023) Jackie Backen (2024)
Julie Renkes (2023) _____ (2024)

Management

Church Council Representatives

Mona Hjerpe, President
_____, Vice-President (2023)
Amanda Schueler, Secretary (2023)
Ian McDonald, Treasurer (2023)

Members

John Dorival (2023)
Mark Guggemos (2024)

Worship

Church Council Representatives

Karna Blake (2023)
Derek Durst (2024)

Members

Sandy Curtis (2023) Mike Blake (2024)
Bruce Christianson (2023) Brad Burch (2024)
Roxanna Boe (2023) Heidi Froemming (2024)

Nominating Committee

Shari Dorival (2023)
Greg Pearce (2023)
Lynn Wegner (2023)

Virginia Brodd (2024)
Sharon Daniels (2024)
_____ (2024)

Personnel Committee Report

The current members of the Personnel Committee are Tim Piehl (chair), Mona Hjerpe, Kevin Hodson, Carl Horton, Jon Kamrath, John Olsen and Chris Wilke. It is comprised of the past president, current president and vice-president of the congregation and four at-large members.

Each year, the Personnel Committee reviews costs for staff benefits such as medical, dental and life insurance, retirement funds, and other support. In 2022, Faith Lutheran entered a new health insurance plan offered through its national church association, LCMC. This program has reduced costs to the staff and the church. The committee also decided to move the church's retirement plan to a new vendor, based on costs, choices available to the staff and other considerations. That plan will start early in 2023.

The committee also recommends annual compensation amounts for the church staff to the church council, which then recommends the final amounts in the proposed budget submitted to the annual meeting of the congregation. In the past, Personnel Committee members conducted year-end reviews of staff members as a part of this process, but this year, that function was turned over to the supervising pastors. Committee members are still available to discuss any pertinent issues with church staff members.

The other main function of the Personnel Committee is to interview and recommend candidates for staff positions at the church. Blessedly, this year there was no turnover on the staff to make such work necessary.

Our thanks to the members who serve on the Personnel Committee and to the staff of Faith Lutheran Church. We appreciate their efforts in support of the ministry of the congregation.

Faith Lutheran Church Endowment Fund Report

Members: Scott Ziegler, Chair; Kyle Schantzen, Treasurer/Secretary; Andy Reid, Virginia Brodd, Bob Winslow

The Faith Lutheran Endowment Fund Committee for the year 2022 continued to follow the intended purpose of the fund to enhance the outreach mission of Faith Lutheran Church. During 2021, the Endowment Fund earned \$50,712 of investment income. The By-Laws state that 20% needs to be reinvested in the fund's principal and the remaining amount was disbursed in 2022.

In 2022, the committee dispersed income totaling \$40,568.00 as follows:

- Global Mission – K.K. Alavi's work in India, Augustana District/Tabor, Augustana District/AIMJ, YWAM for Katie Weikle, TAT, Global Health Care, Lutheran World Relief
- Regional Missions – Scholarships, Ingham-Okobojo Camp, Mt. Carmel Bible Camp, Luther House of Studies, Abdul Messiah, Institute of Lutheran Theology, Lutheran Seminary Scholarship
- Local Mission – HOMES, WINGS, Student Scholarships, Common Cup, Prayer Shawl Ministry, Christian Counseling Fund
- Special Mission Needs – Youth Mission Trip, New Hope Mission Society – Bible College, Rev K.K. Alavi Support, FLC Alumni Ministry Support, Augustana District

Respectfully submitted, Scott Ziegler, Chair

New Hope Mission Society (NHMS) Report

The last year has seen some wonderful happenings in Bisharah. The school has returned to operations and currently has 32 students. Support continues in the community and local house churches as well as the ongoing successful sewing project. Through their efforts many hungry locals have been fed using hunger appeal funds and helped in various basic needs. Abdul and KK team up to provide leadership and direction to share and spread the Word of God. Abdul is very near the end of his MDiv studies and has returned to his home after spending six months here visiting groups, churches and people.

This last year saw the printing of publications to be circulated among the local people. Many are seen reading and a few find their way to asking questions. This is an amazing happening as the persecution of Christians continues, and the government and Muslims are constantly challenging their efforts. They face violence from Muslim fanatics. The national Hindu government continues to close many Christian missions through blocking ways to allow funds to make it into India. It is a constant battle, and much time is spent, to ensure government officials are kept appeased.

Please continue to pray for the safety of Christians and for their future witness to continue. The board of NHMS thanks the FLC congregation and its members for their leadership both financially and with all the work that is done by members of Faith to sustain this witness.

Upon This Rock *Plus* Capital Campaign Report

In a technical sense, Faith Lutheran did not run a capital campaign in 2022—for the first time in nearly 20 years! Nevertheless, the family of Faith continued to support the Upon This Rock *Plus* Capital Campaign beyond its official end date with an additional **\$30,000 in gifts** during the year! Thank you so much to everyone who continued to invest in the future building needs of our congregation.

Those funds will be especially helpful as we begin to pursue Phase II of our long-term building plan this year. We have had a preliminary meeting with the architect already and the church council will soon appoint a building committee. Watch for much more information this year concerning these exciting developments, which, due to the faithful and generous giving of the congregation through the past 20 years, are possible so many years earlier than anyone imagined when we completed Phase I back in 2010.

Greenhouse and Ansgar House Task Forces Report

A year ago, the Greenhouse Internship Program was a dream in search of support. Now, one year later, that dream has a home and a lot of momentum for 2023! The Greenhouse Task Force organized last March and started exploring how we could make the vision a reality. The big questions we identified were “How do we find interns?” and “Where would they live?” After a Digging Deeper presentation in April, a member was inspired to donate \$100,000 towards the dream. That generous gift, combined with the \$85,000 we had from the Faith Forward campaign, put us in a realistic position to secure housing, should something present itself. After several months, God provided! A house, just a block and a half from the church, went on the market and—unusual for a seller’s market—stayed on the market. The house’s duplex layout, proximity and list price were perfect for our dream. Pastor Dave presented our vision to the sellers in a cover letter to our offer, and the sellers accepted our offer of \$20,000 less than the list price!

Once we closed on the house, we got to work. The hardwood floors were refinished, some fresh coats of paint applied, and some serious yard work was done. Thanks to all who helped, and especially to Haley and Bella Conn, who did a lot of the interior work. Haley Conn was the home’s first resident, living in the house and coordinating the young adult ministry nights. We also were given an entire household of quality furniture and household goods from a generous member. The Lord has provided, and the house—named the Ansgar House after the patron saint of Denmark and the Apostle to the North—has become a home.

We have a home now we need interns! We are pleased to report that we have several young adults showing interest in interning starting in the fall, including one who has already applied! We also have a few young adults interested in our children and youth ministry summer internships. Keep praying that we can develop good pipelines of interested adults, and that God calls interns to learn and serve here.

Thanks to the Greenhouse Taskforce and the Ansgar House Taskforce. The Greenhouse Taskforce oversees the internship program. The Ansgar House Taskforce was formed to help make renovation and project decisions for the house.

Respectfully submitted,
Pastor Dave

The Greenhouse Taskforce: Niki Pokornowski, Amanda Schueler, Andrew Weckwerth, Andrea Wollan, John Olsen, Laura Stowman, Kristen Durst, Pastor Scott Grorud, Pastor Dave Wollan

The Ansgar House Taskforce: John Olson, Mona Hjerpe, Haley Conn, Pastor Scott Grorud, Pastor Dave Wollan

Financial Reports 2022

Faith Lutheran Church
335 Main Street S.
Hutchinson, MN 55350
320-587-2093

***Full financial reports will be available in the church office. If you would like one mailed, please contact the church office at (320) 587-2093.**

Faith Lutheran Church Balance Sheet - 12-31-2022

<u>ASSETS</u>			
<u>General Fund</u>			
	Cash in Bank – General Operations	116,826	
	Petty Cash	95	
	Total General Assets		116,921
<u>Restricted Funds</u>			
	Building Maintenance Fund	50,433	
	Capital Appeal Funds	109,556	
	Christian Counseling Fund	2,112	
	Faith Lutheran Church Endowment Fund	716,158	
	Faith Lutheran Church Women	5,878	
	St. Morten's Cemetery Fund	2,290	
	Memorial Fund	2,702	
	Special Fund Account	38,626	
	Total Restricted Funds		<u>927,754</u>
<u>Plant Fund</u>			
	Land - Main St	421,270	
	Church Sanctuary and New Addition	1,574,892	
	Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment	218,232	
	Total Plant Fund		<u>2,214,394</u>
	Total Assets		<u><u>\$3,259,069</u></u>
<u>LIABILITIES & EQUITIES</u>			
<u>Loans Payable</u>			
	Upon This Rock Mortgage	\$0	
	Total Loans		\$0
<u>Net Equities</u>			
	General Fund (Operational Deficit)	116,921	
	Restricted Funds	927,754	
	Plant Fund	<u>2,214,394</u>	
	Total Net Equities		\$3,259,069
	Total Liabilities & Total Equities		<u><u>\$3,259,069</u></u>

Faith Lutheran Church Budget vs Actual

	2022 Budget	Jan - Dec 22 Actual	2023 Proposed
Total REVENUE-OFFERINGS	836,500.00	816,639.96	869,700.00
Total REVENUE - Mission Gifts	6,150.00	23,922.65	20,000.00
Total REVENUE - MINISTRY ACTIVITY	58,860.00	41,601.58	50,560.00
Total Revenue	901,510.00	882,164.19	940,260.00
Total MINISTRY - Benevolence	87,475.00	87,475.00	89,831.00
Total MINISTRY - Mission Gifts	6,150.00	23,922.65	20,000.00
Total MINISTRY FOR DISCIPLESHIP	36,927.00	44,245.82	44,327.00
Total MINISTRY FOR OUTREACH	17,925.00	16,623.74	14,665.00
Total MINISTRY FOR CARE	6,750.00	4,070.83	5,000.00
Total MINISTRY FOR WORSHIP	9,725.00	8,112.46	8,725.00
Total MINISTRY FOR ADMINISTRATION	133,250.00	132,064.12	125,450.00
Total MINISTRY FOR PERSONNEL	603,308.00	585,691.20	632,262.00
Total Expense	901,510.00	902,205.82	940,260.00
Net Other Income	0.00	0.00	0.00
Net Income		-20,041.63	