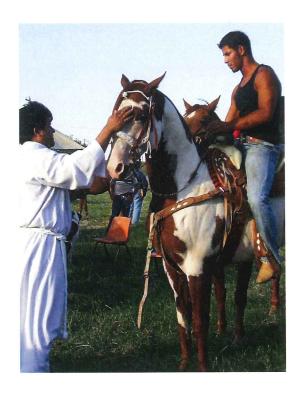
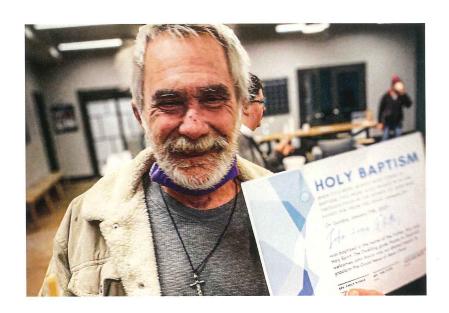
# ANNUAL REPORT











**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America** God's work. Our hands.



# A MESSAGE FROM ELCA PRESIDING BISHOP

Elizabeth Eaton

Dear friends in Christ,

The last year has been one of adapting and learning. In many places we have seen vibrant and vital ministry spring forth from changes made due to the pandemic. Digital worship opportunities have introduced to our congregations people who may never have walked into one of our buildings. Many congregations have found new ways to invite people to share their generosity through online giving. And many ministries have found just how vital they are as they continue to serve alongside people in their communities.

The first chapter of James, verse 17, reminds us that "Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change." Yes, this has been a season of change, but Scripture also reminds us that we serve a generous, steadfast God.

While we stay rooted in God's enduring, unchanging promise, God also gives us the gifts of creativity and learning. Across all three expressions of the church we have used those gifts to serve God, love our neighbor and share the good news of Jesus Christ. In this time of change, we have opened our arms wider to meet people where they are, living into the reality that we are not defined or confined by the four walls of our buildings.

Through all this, I am so grateful for your generous sharing of creativity, time, talents and resources. All good gifts do come from God, and we are called to share and use those gifts. We have and will continue to answer that call. There is still much change and learning to come, but God's steadfast love energizes us for the work God is still doing in the world through this church.

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton

Presiding Bishop

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Elyaluon le Eate

"Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change."

## Trinity Lutheran Church Annual Meeting

January 30, 2022

#### Agenda

- 1. Devotions
- 2. Secretary's Report
- 3. Treasurer's Report
- 4. Pastor's Report
- 5. Director of Christian Education Report
- 6. Old Business
- 7. New Business
  - a. Election of Church Council Members
  - b. Election of 2022 Board Members
  - c. Election of Nominating Committee
  - d. Election of Auditing Committee
  - e. SE MN Synod Assembly Delegates (need 2 voting members)
    Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, Mayo Clinic Event Center Mankato, MN
  - f. Zumbro River Conference Delegates (need 4 voting members) Sunday, Feb. 13th, 1:30pm (on-line)
  - g. 2022 Budget
- 8. Closing Benediction Adjourn

#### TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT of 2021 Table of Contents

Agenda	Page 1
Table of Contents	Page 2
2021 Church Council and 2022 Nominees	Page 3
2022 Board Members	Page 3
Minutes of the Annual Meeting	Page 4
Report from the Pastor	Page 6
Report from the Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministry	Page 7
President's Report	Page 8
Board of Parish Activities	Page 10
Board of Properties	Page 10
Board of Finance	Page 12
Board of Stewardship	Page 13
Board of Youth Ministry	Page 13
Board of Membership & Evangelism	Page 14
Board of Worship, Music and Art	Page 14
Board of Christian Education	Page 16
WELCA President's Report	Page 16
WELCA Financial Report	Page 17
Membership Report	Page 19
Pastoral Acts	Page 19
COVID-19 and Trinity Lutheran Church.	Page 20
Treasurer's Report - General Fund	Page 22
Balance Report	Page 25
Proposed Budget for 2022	Page 26
SE MN Synod Ministry Report	Page 28

2021 COUNCIL MEMBERS	
Melanie Dobson	President
Sarah Fredrickson	Vice-President
Amber Bolles	Secretary
Bruce Fish	Board of Finance
Jon Zuk	Board of Properties
Sarah Fredrickson	Board of Youth Ministry
Heather Eggler	Board of Finance, Worship, Music & Art
Megan Olive	Board of Membership and Evangelism
Shelly Anderson	Board of Parish Activities
Randy Benson	Board of Christian Education
Amber Bolles	Board of Christian Education
Dave Johnson	Board of Properties
Corey Wagner	Board of Stewardship
Jeff Tank	Board of Properties
Cierra O'Malley	Youth Representative
2021 Auditing Committee: Jeff Tank and Glenn	Pollock
2022 Nominating Committee: Corey Wagner, S	Shelly Anderson
2022 COUNCIL NOMINEES: (Elect 2)         1. Larry O'Malley       2	
ELECTION OF 2022 BOARD MEMBERS  According to the Constitution and By-Laws of Trinity Luthe persons elected by the congregation for three (3) year terms, two brings the total to seven (7).	
Board of Finance/Endowment Fund: Bruce Fish (C) Hal Dessner, Lori Kindschy,Gina Anderson,	
Board of Christian Education: Randy Benson(C), I Thompson, Allison Whalen,Holli Nelson	
Board of Membership and Evangelism: Megan Brown, Brenna Scanlan, Dawn Kyllo,	` '
Board of Youth Ministry: Sarah Fredrickson (C), A Woodwick, John Schmeling, Stephanie O'Malley an	•
Board of Parish Activities: Shelley Anderson (C) Evjen, Alex Hansen, Jamie Hansen, Dawn Lubbert,	1 1 1
<u>Board of Properties</u> : Jon Zuk (C), Dave Johnson Tank, Tom Franke, and Mike Franke	(C), Pat Towey, Brian Lubbert, Jeff
Board of Stewardship: Corey Wagner (C), Cheryl Moon, &	Mestad, Evan Schmeling, John Thoe, Frank
Board of Worship, Music and Art: Heather Egg Anderson, Kathy Demmer, Chris Thoe and Mike Fe	

### MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH JANUARY 31, 2021

The annual meeting of Trinity Lutheran Church was held in the Trinity Sanctuary on Sunday, January 31, 2021. The meeting was called to order by Melanie Dobson at 8:59 a.m. as soon as a quorum was present in person (42 people) and online (53 people). She apologized if she is rushing as we are on a time limit before the next church service starts.

Pastor Paul led the devotions from the back page of the Annual Report and eliminated singing the song in the essence of time.

Melanie asked for approval of the 2020 minutes. Dave Erickson motioned to approve the minutes and Heather Eggler seconded the motion.

Treasurer's Report: Randy spoke as to how 2020 was an interesting year for finances. We needed to come into the year with an increase in giving due to an increased budget. Then covid came, and there was concern. We were able to secure a PPE loan for the church for \$45K. 2020 was an above average year for giving compared to the previous year, bills are current, line of credit was paid and there is still money in the bank. We are starting 2021 in a good place. Randy explained our other funds at church besides the general fund. He went into the details about the endowment investment funds with are housed at Citizens State Bank, Ameritrade and the Mission Investment Fund accounts. He also discussed that our memorial account funds are also housed at Citizens State Bank. We saw a growth in memorial funds this year. We are using \$5,000 from the endowment funds and \$25,000 from the memorial funds to pay down the construction loan for the Fellowship Hall restoration. The remaining balance of the renovation loan is \$39,000. We are in good shape to pay that loan off. Our budget for 2021 is estimated, but staff compensation is set. Randy touched on staff, and those who help with the financial work at the church - Brenna, Judy, Jeff, Glenn, Jim and the finance board. Melanie thanked Randy for his report. Jerry Davis motioned to approve the Treasurer's report and Heather Eggler seconded the report.

Pastor Paul's Report: It was a new learning curve this year to reaching out to those who can't make it to church. He utilized drive-thru communion and online services. The church is and was always open during the pandemic. Paul thanked the staff for their work this last year. Paul wants us to look at this new year as an opportunity to "re-open" in an exciting year. He also wants us to think of the exciting news that the Trinity congregation will be 100 years old. The cornerstone of the church was laid in 1922. We have a centennial to recognize and he proposes a centennial team to recognize this event.

Director of Christian Education Report: Denise recognizes a year of transition. She is thankful for the overlap with her and Adam. She brought up the year of transition for programming. She thanked the education board for their help and guidance. She looks forward to when programming can return to normal – she will probably have to relearn her job.

Melanie thanked the outgoing council members with sweatshirts and a big thank you. Melanie also thanked Jon Zuk and the Holtan's for their work on the Fellowship Hall project. Jon was inperson and was presented a Scheel's gift card. The Holtan's were not present, but Melanie shared the plaque they would receive that was created from the previous wood in the Fellowship Hall.

New Business: Melanie addressed changes to the individual boards and to the church council. New church council members are Heather Eggler, Jeff Tank and Cierra O'Malley. Dave Erickson motioned to accept the new council members, and Judy Follmuth seconded.

Melanie talked about the other open positions and Glenn Pollock was nominated for the Board of Finance and Allison Whalen to the Board of Education.

Election of 2022 Nominating Committee: Chad O'Connor and Dave Jorstad would be on the nominating committee as outgoing council members. Harry Follmuth motioned to accept the board members as listed, Kathy Demmer seconded.

Election of 2022 Auditing Committee: Glenn Pollock and Jeff Tank volunteered again. Kathy Demmer moved to approve the nominations and Heather Eggler seconded it.

SE MN Synod Assembly Delegates: Will be online, no delegates needed this year.

Zumbro River Conference Assembly Delegates: Will be online, no delegates needed this year.

Approval of 2021 budget: To figure budget, we figure what was spent the previous year vs. what we anticipate for the current year. Randy pointed out in the budget for the youth role, it looks like an increase, but it is due to Adam also helping in an IT role. Budget increase is about \$15K. No one had any questions. Larry Dobson moved to approve the budget, and Eileen O'Connor seconded.

Melanie followed up on the wonderful, giving staff.

Pastor Paul did a closing benediction.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:46 a.m. Heather Eggler motioned to approve the adjournment, and Diane Boley seconded. Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted, Brenna Scanlan, Office Manager

#### ANNUAL REPORT OF PASTOR KRISTEN ANDERSON

Isaiah 43:19 "Behold, I will do new things, which shall spring forth and you shall know them. I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."

So much was new in 2021. For the world. For the church. For our lives. Because covid is still a reality, we had to remain flexible and do traditional forms of ministry in new ways. As a church, we welcomed new staff, which is always a big change. And in our lives we also faced the normal transitions of births and baptisms, engagements and weddings, job changes & retirements, and facing changes in health or the loss of loved ones. Through it all, the prophet Isaiah reminds us that God is in the midst, working all things for good, working to make a way forward into God's future for us. We give thanks to God for his never-failing love and for the gifts of hope and joy that lifts us up each day.

Since I only served as your new Bridge Pastor for the last six weeks of 2021, my report this year will be shorter than usual. In those six weeks, I focused my ministry in the following ways:

- \*Led worship services each Sunday
- \*Visited Field Crest Nursing Home
- \*Visited Crest View Villa
- \*Reached out to those who were homebound or requested communion
- \*Started meeting with individual boards and attended 2 council meetings
- \*Performed 1 baptism and 1 funeral
- \*Led 3 Advent Midweek worship services. (the fourth was cancelled due to the December windstorm/tornado/derecho event)
- \*Presided at 3 worship services on Christmas Eve (3, 4:30 and 10 p.m.)
- \*Online Christmas Day worship service
- \*Put together a Bible study which will begin in January 2022.
- \*taught confirmation classes

I give thanks for the call to serve Trinity as your Bridge Pastor! I give thanks for the warm welcome and wonderful hospitality that has been shown to me as I have begun my ministry here with you. I give thanks for our staff and for the council for their help in answering my

questions as I settle in. I look forward to 2022 and for discovering with you what new things God is up to here at Trinity!

#### REPORT FROM DENISE PHILLIPPE, DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

In 2021, educational programming and covid precautions co-existed, as we simply continued to live through the pandemic. Through spring, the pandemic adjustments (separating confirmation students into two groups for the large group instruction by the pastor, running Sunday School at two times, no Wednesday after-school programming for elementary students, no Wednesday supper) continued. We were able to offer First Communion instruction for third graders at its traditional time during Lent, though some families chose not to have their children participate. (We plan to catch up in spring 2022.) In summer, we offered Vacation Bible School in person, because we met mainly outdoors. In the fall, we returned to somewhat "normal" ways of operating programs—WASS (Wednesday After School Special for elementary students) came back, confirmation large group included all students at the same time, and Sunday School classes all met after the worship service, not at two or three separate times.

Fall's challenges were not so much about covid; they were mainly rooted in Pastor Paul's departure and the two months we did not have a pastor and to a lesser degree the switch to one worship service. During the transition time, I took on responsibilities that were not normally mine—at a time I was still learning about my own duties—and was asked many questions to which I had no clue of an answer; I appreciate the grace and patience shown to me. An example was leading the 10th grade confirmation retreat; up until 24 hours before it started, I thought I would merely be attending, but Adam fell sick and could not be there to lead. Of all that I did outside of my job description, I felt particularly blessed to work with the grade 7-9 confirmation students in large group, having been set up by Pastor Paul to keep instruction moving forward. Then Pastor Kristen arrived, and I breathed a sigh of relief that confirmation was back in more knowledgeable hands. As we concluded 2021 and headed into 2022, I was grateful for the opportunity to work with Pastor Kristen, whose integration into Trinity life has been rather seamless.

A fall challenge for which I hope we can eventually find a resolution: After 2020-21's small but successful Sunday 5th and 6th grade Youth Group, the fall 2021 effort has foundered. Sundays, an average of 1.5 students attended, and it's hard to lead a Youth Group focused on developing relationships and deepening faith together with one or two students. The Wednesday group is larger, but as I am the only adult leader most Wednesday, it's grades 2-6, not just grades 5-6.

Sunday's low attendance is likely a covid thing, and Wednesday 3-5 p.m. is not an easy time for an adult volunteer.

I've loved the two programs that were new to me in 2021 — Bible School in the summer and WASS in the fall. I also love that as of fall 2021 we are again using the Movie Theatre for both Sunday School and WASS. Thanks to Randy Benson and Bruce Fish (and anyone else I'm unaware of) for making the theatre operational again.

Vacation Bible School allowed us to work with the "rotation workshop" model that was so popular a decade or so ago at Trinity (temple room, puppets, computer room, etc.) Our theme was "Splash in the Spirit" and for all VBS sessions, we repeated baptism themes, but with various stories and different activities. The approach allowed us to have teachers teach just one evening in an area of particular expertise or interest. Over the course of three evenings, we had crafts, drama, games, rhythm, science, and water games. And, John the Baptist made an appearance; a few kids thought Mr. Baptist's sandals looked suspiciously like Pastor Paul's. Lesson plans were developed based on ELCA rotation workshop curriculum. Evenings were spaced across the summer, following the advice of the education board members; some families attended one, some two, and some all three, so that timing worked for summer 2021. We also sponsored a portion of a day camp session at Good Earth Village and drove the Trinity bus there two days. (Day camps at GEV were the only GEV option in summer 2021.)

Thank you sincerely and wholeheartedly to every teacher and helper—adult and teen—who supported our various educational programs and to Board of Christian Education members. You have blessed children—and me—through your generous volunteerism.

#### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

At the start of 2021 it looked like my final year as president of the church council was going to be a breeze... yeah, right.

#### Pastor Paul takes a Call

On Pastor Paul's last day, September 19, we had a jam-packed worship service with participation from preschoolers to adults, a variety of music and fun! It was a heartfelt tribute to Pastor Paul highlighting the importance of his ministry at Trinity and what he meant to us. With sadness and gratitude, we released Pastor Paul trusting God to care for him and to also care for us.

#### **Trinity in Transition**

When there is no pastor, I learned that the church council president is the go-to person for the SEMN Synod, the contact for miscellaneous church stuff, and is included in various FYIs, from VERY IMPORTANT to... not so much. I then tried to keep the council up to date and the congregation informed in the newsletter and church announcements.

Guest pastors, Vicar Jackie Short and Pastor Dick Hegel, were lined up through November 16. Denise Phillippe, director of Christian education, helped them get settled, mic'ed up and I led a prayer with them (and any other worship assistants at hand) before the services. I did some planning on the worship services and kept in touch with office manager Brenna Scanlan on the bulletins and newsletter content. Denise also thought to get things set up for baptisms and other details—things that a pastor just does and nobody thinks about. I learned there are plenty of pieces, people and planning put into each worship service. Two take-aways:

- 1. If you change anything on Communion Sunday tell the altar guild.
- 2. If you plan communion on a fifth Sunday tell the altar guild.

Meanwhile, amidst all the changes at Trinity, Brenna's family business, Red Barn Learning Farm, had taken off – their busiest spring, summer, fall ever – she was needed there and her time at the church office was cut short. Brenna's upbeat, helpful presence was missed as we muddled along and she in turn was torn. We did hire very competent help from Melanie Eggler in the summer months until she returned to her school job late August.

#### **Try-outs for Trinity**

Trinity became a guinea pig of sorts – rather than getting a trained interim pastor (very few, to none, available), the Synod was trying a new model – an interim to settled or bridge pastor. Once a bridge pastor is called, he/she would work through the call process with us and then could become our permanent pastor or we/they may feel led to move on. Assistant to the Bishop Pastor Barb Streed guided the church council in the process and will continue to do so. The church council was onboard putting in the extra time to meet with Barb, review paperwork and meet with bridge pastor candidates. I am grateful for their dedication. The first pastor we met took a call in South Dakota. After the council met Pastor Kristen Anderson, that night we voted to invite her to serve as our bridge pastor. Thanks be to God, she accepted and her first Sunday was November 21. Pastor Kristen jumped in with both feet orchestrating the Advent and Christmas season. The people of Trinity seem relieved and very pleased; a retired couple told me in mid-December, "We have got to keep her! ...and we're not the only ones who feel that way!"

#### D.C.E Dynamo

While we were without a pastor, I tried to provide some continuity but the bulk of that burden fell on our Director of Christian Education, Denise Phillippe. She was the constant at Trinity.

She had barely been here a year, was still learning Trinity routines—which had been skewed by the pandemic—yet Denise took on roles and responsibilities not in her job description. She never complained but others took note and hoped that she wouldn't burn out. Even I leaned on and looked to Denise for direction. We would have been lost without her.

#### **Giving Thanks**

I'm grateful to God for the things I have learned and the ways I have been stretched in 2021. I'm thankful for the Holy Spirit's guidance through Trinity's transition. I'm grateful to the church council for putting in extra thought, time and prayer. My Exec. team, Sarah Fredrickson (vice president) and Amber Bolles (secretary) have been a huge help to me, I'm grateful for their wisdom and their friendship. Thank you to the COVID advisory crew who meet periodically and offer recommendations during the ebbs and flows of the pandemic. I'm thrilled that the choir was able to sing, thank you Nancy Matti for navigating the Messiah concert! Thank you to the Trinity Prayer Team for lifting us up to God. I can't name everyone, as I have learned—this year especially—that there are so many hands, time, talents—from youth to adults—needed for things to happen at Trinity. Thank you to all who have been God's hands, feet and heart at Trinity.

May the grace of Jesus, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Melanie Dobson Trinity Church Council president

#### **BOARD OF PARISH ACTIVITIES**

The Board of Parish activities had a quiet 2021. Our only large activity was planning Pastor Paul's farewell held outdoors on September 19th. We were able to enjoy a wonderful sunny Sunday, serving cookies and lemonade.

Submitted by Shelly Anderson

#### BOARD OF PROPERTIES

2021 Board Members: Pat Towey (5 yr.), Jon Zuk (5 yr.), Jeff Tank (6yr.), Jeff Beaver (6yr.), Tom Franke (6yr.), Mike Franke, David Johnson, Randy Benson (1 yr.)

Properties is always in search of new committee members! If you consider yourself a handyman/woman or if you are just looking for a way to give back to our church, we need

volunteers! Flexible time commitments and any skill level accepted! Please contact Jon Zuk or the church office.

#### 2021 Year-in Summary:

Fall and spring checklists were completed. This includes inspection of rain gutters, flat roof, door caulking and seals, light bulb replacement, attic ventilation, filters, bell tower maintenance, and softener salt, etc. Refer to tracking spreadsheet and duty list available in the church office for any smaller items and inspection dates. Larger items described below:

We are thankful to report that our newly refurbished basement has been moisture free for nearly 18 months! The work done to keep the moisture from weeping in the wall and floor appears to be working. We will continue to monitor as we get into the thaw of spring. Thanks again to all those that helped with this project last year, I think everyone agrees it was a great upgrade to our church.

Our elevator was drawn for a random safety inspection and needless to say, it needs some work to be brought up to current code. We have submitted a 5-year plan and signed work agreements with a contractor to perform the update. Plan to see some slight changes over the next few years.

Many of you may have "felt the heat" in the church sanctuary this fall as both of our A/C units were experiencing some voltage issues. Insurance has helped us through this situation and we will be installing two new units spring of 2022.

#### Coming up in 2022:

Spring checklist items needing to complete: Inspection of bell tower, caulking around outside of church and door frames, sealing concrete (if needed), gutter inspection to address peeling paint, spring stick/leaf removal. Other items that will need attention: varnish on balcony west window and outside trim of door frames (scheduled Spring 2022), ceiling tile replacement from roof leaks, power to sign on West entry, replacement of fan in sanctuary, upgrade carpet in offices, grass on SW corner of property and along sidewalk, and annual generator maintenance.

Respectfully submitted, Jon Zuk (Cell: 507-259-5168 -for any questions!)

#### **BOARD OF FINANCE**

2021 Board Members: Heather Eggler (Council Member & Co-Chair); Bruce Fish (Council Member & Co-Chair); Heather Swygman (3<sup>rd</sup> Year, 1<sup>st</sup> Term); Craig Pesch (3<sup>rd</sup> Year, 1<sup>st</sup> Term); Lori Kindschy (2<sup>nd</sup> Year, 1<sup>st</sup> Term); Hal Dessner (2<sup>nd</sup> Year, 1<sup>st</sup> Term); Glenn Pollock (1<sup>st</sup> Year, 1<sup>st</sup> Term). The other 1<sup>st</sup> Term, 1<sup>st</sup> Year position is open so we only had 5 board members in 2021.

The Board of Finance meets monthly in the week prior to the Church Council meeting. We monitor the financial affairs of the congregation and make recommendations on finance matters for consideration by the Church Council. This includes our operating funds, memorial funds, and endowment funds.

Congregational giving in 2021 exceeded giving in 2020 by \$2,974, which along with receipts of Thrivent Choice dollars and an allocation from our Endowment Fund earnings resulted in income for the year exceeding our expenses by \$15,574. It should be noted that our general fund expenses were about \$30,500 less than in 2020, primarily due to decreases in pastoral, worship and administrative spending. We spent significantly less in almost all categories than our approved 2021 general fund budget, ending the year \$62,784 under budget. This enabled us to maintain a balance of "zero" (\$0) on our operating line of credit (LOC) at Citizens State Bank (CSB) for the entire year.

We began 2021 with a balance of \$69,050 on the construction LOC we used to pay for renovations in the fellowship hall and Sunday school rooms. This loan increased to \$69,173 prior to being paid off by the end of May. Money to pay off this loan came from the following sources: \$42,148 from the Church Building & Grounds Memorial fund, \$22,025 from the Undesignated Memorial fund, and \$5,000 of earnings from the Endowment Fund.

The balance in our Memorial Funds is \$36,190, a decrease of \$40,976 from EOY 2020. Giving to our memorial funds in 2021 was \$40,065 while disbursements were \$81,041.

The balance in our Endowment Fund at EOY 2021 is \$564,499, an increase of \$45,817 from EOY 2020. Our Endowment Funds are invested at MBT Bank Hayfield in a savings account, in ELCA Mission Investment Funds (MIF), and in a TD Ameritrade account that is managed for us by Eaton Miller of PlanWell Financial Guidance in Blooming Prairie. Earnings from the Endowment investments may be used for purposes such as mission outreach and capital improvements as outlined in our endowment fund policy. In 2021, there were no gifts to our endowment funds, market appreciation was \$41,945, and earnings from investments were \$10,249. Disbursements were \$1,878 for investment management fees and \$4,500 for mission outreach.

We would like to thank our office manager Brenna Scanlan and treasurer Randy Demmer for their support of our efforts as a board. Special thanks to Judy Follmuth for volunteering to reconcile our cash account bank statements with our financial records each month. We are so blessed to worship and serve with you!

Thank you also to Heather Swygman and Craig Pesch, who have each completed terms of service on the board. Your faithful and dedicated service is very much appreciated!

We are truly blessed with the opportunities we are given to serve. Thanks be to God!

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Board of Finance, Bruce Fish and Heather Eggler

#### **BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP**

2021 Board members were: Cheryl Mestad (3<sup>rd</sup> yr., 2<sup>nd</sup> term), Evan Schmeling (3<sup>rd</sup> yr., 2<sup>nd</sup> term), Frank Moon (2<sup>nd</sup>yr., 1<sup>st</sup> term), and John Thoe (2<sup>nd</sup> year, 1<sup>st</sup> term). Pastor Paul served as the chair. We were short two members.

We did not meet in 2021, so I have nothing to report. Sorry, Corey

#### **BOARD OF YOUTH MINISTRY**

#### 2021 Board Members:

Adam Anderson, Sarah Fredrickson (Council Representative), Alexandra Hansen, Heath Klauer, Cierra O'Malley (Youth Representative), Denise Phillippe, John Schmeling, Michelle Towey

The Board of Youth Ministry navigated to a 'new normal' in the 2021 calendar year. The Board of Youth Ministry remained flexible and responsive in guiding the Trinity leadership team in the planning and opportunities for youth to gather and worship.

#### Noteworthy items for 2021:

- Youth Group Wednesdays (10-12 grade): Meetings held every Wednesday, 6:30-8:00 pm. Meetings were held all year with steady attendance. Sunday morning Youth Group gathering time was scheduled in the early months of the year; these meetings were paused due to low attendance. The team continues to think about different ways to meet the needs of Trinity Lutheran youth, adjusting as needed.
- Activities and Trips:
  - o July: Pastor Paul and Adam chaperoned a camping trip up north

- o October: Hayride, brats and bonfire night
- To increase communication with our youth, a Remind App group was set up to allow communication via technology.

The ELCA Youth Gathering will be held July 24-28, 2022 in Minneapolis, MN. A group of youth will be attending and representing Trinity Lutheran Church. The youth held multiple events (fundraisers and volunteerism) in 2021 to raise funds for this trip and experience, including 1) Burger nights at the Legion in the summer, 2) Bird Suet sales and 3) Silent Auction baskets. Various fundraising activities will continue in 2022.

In 2021 we experienced a change in leadership. In the fall, Adam Anderson transitioned out of the youth leadership role and we welcomed Michelle Towey into an interim youth leader role. In addition, Lisa Selk assists with leading Wednesday night youth gathering time. All leadership transitions have been successful. The Board of Youth Ministry is thankful for Adam and his time and talents her provided in this leadership role; he has been a blessing to Trinity Lutheran and our youth!

Thank you to the members of the Board of Youth Ministry, Trinity families and congregation and Trinity staff for the input and support provided in 2021.

Respectfully Submitted, Michelle Towey and Sarah Fredrickson

#### BOARD OF MEMBERSHIP AND EVANGELISM

In 2021 we welcomed 19 new members. Thank you to Eileen O'Connor for providing treats for those new members. Unfortunately, due to Covid we were not able to have some of our special events. We hope to bring fun events for everyone in 2022.

Thank you. Subnotted

#### BOARD OF WORSHIP, MUSIC AND ART

2021 members were: Heather Eggler (Council Representative), Nancy Matti, Harry Follmuth, Chris Thoe, Kathy Demmer, Gina Anderson and Mike Ferdinand. Highlights included:

 Trinity's COVID-19 Preparedness Plan continued to work well for our worship services.

- The board discussed the plan to continue to live stream the services long term as there is definitely interest in this from the congregation.
- We continued with Hymn Leaders A Huge Thank You goes out to them!!
- The Worship Band cut back during the summer and only performed the second Sunday of each month, then returned to 2 services a month in the fall. During the fall, Liz Fjerstad rejoined the Worship Band and has taken on the role as the band leader.
- Pastor Paul submitted his resignation to the congregation, his last day was <u>September</u>
   19th.
- We reduced to one service each Sunday starting during the summer and continued this throughout the rest of the year.
- The Trinity Worship Choir resumed this fall. We are glad to have them back!
- In December, the choir, community members and the string quartet were able to do Messiah again. It was great to have this back and as always, this was wonderful to hear.
- Bob Holton fixed up the banner cabinet and it looks great. Thanks Bob!
- Mike Ferdinand and Liz Fjerstad are currently looking at options to continue to improve our sound system and the usability of it. One of the monitors is currently not working and the band is having some issues properly controlling the sound with the current iPad.
  - Trinity is looking to put together a Technology Group here in 2022 to help with topics such as the sound system, the computer systems and software, the WiFi, live-stream capabilities, etc. If you are interested in being part of this group, please reach out to either the Church Office or Heather Eggler.
- Pastor Kristen Anderson accepted the position of Bridge Paster and began mid November. Welcome Pastor Kristen!
- Three Christmas Eve services (3pm, 4:30pm and 10pm) were held instead of two in order to offer worship to as many people as possible, while keeping social distance guidelines. There was also a live steamed only service on Christmas Day. This seems to have again worked well.

Submitted by: Heather Eggler

#### **BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

2021 Board Members: Amber Bolles – Randy Benson (Council Rep 1st term/3rd year), Denise Phillippe (since August 2020), Amanda Tank (2016), Nancy Schnable (2017), Danielle Woslager (2017) (half year), Allison Whalen (2021), Rebecca Rouhoff (2021), and Liz Fjerstad (2021).

2021 was a challenging year for the board, with covid interfering with our lives. Thanks be to God for helping us through each and every day. Pastor Paul and Denise taught First Communion classes during Lent with 11 3rd graders receiving communion on Maundy Thursday with their families at the altar railing while the rest of the congregation used the communion bags. We had about 50 students in confirmation who went through Luther's Small Catechism this year. The last day was April 28th. The last day of Sunday School was May 2nd. Vacation Bible School met here one evening in June, one in July, and one in August. Baptism or "Splash in the Spirit" was the theme. Additional trips to Good Earth Village for day camps were also offered. Our Sunday School theme this fall was "Very Awesome Promises and How God Always Keeps Them". Sunday School started with 12 adult/teen volunteers. Thank you to each and every one. Rally Day was Sept. 12th. WASS also started up again in September. 12 students were confirmed in the fall. The Sunday School Christmas program was held on Dec. 19th. May God bless all who have been involved in teaching His Word to all of our young people.

Submitted by Randy Benson

#### TRINITY WOMEN OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF AMERICA

2021 was an interesting year for us all. The women's Bible study group did not meet until May and then was cancelled due to a funeral. Our June meeting was also cancelled due to a funeral. By this time everyone had had their vaccine and booster. The quilters restarted in March wearing masks and trying to avoid close contact as possible. Quilters continued working their schedule throughout

the summer.

Our Bible study group has 6-8 members regularly. We began studying and learning about women of the Bible. Our December meeting was our potluck gathering.

Socks and underwear for the elementary school were collected in September.

We decided to go ahead with the bazaar in December. COVID still a concern, but other events were being planned in the area. Masks were encouraged when inside. The bazaar was a success due to many food and craft items brought in by members and 153 quilts for sale. See the financial report in this booklet. After the sale, quilts left were dispersed to Share Christmas,

Ronald McDonald House, Gift of Life House, and Rachel's Hope. We save a few to have in case of emergencies.

We have not reprinted our Christian Service booklet again this year. If the pandemic eases, we can re print later. We hope all the needs of the congregation can be met by the groups as it is now.

Submitted by Dorothy Gesme

#### 2021 FINANCIAL REPORT OF TRINITY WELCA Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

2021 FINANCIAL REPORT OF TRINITY LUTHERAN WELCA WOMEN OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA		
WELCA Checking 01/01/21		\$ 623.47
INCOME		
WELCA & Circle Offering	\$631.00	
Christian Service Groups	\$542.00	
Greeting Card Sales	\$48.00	
Quilt Sales	\$4,360.00	
WELCA Memorial	\$25.00	
Funerals	\$950.00	
Bazaar	\$1,932.75	
TOTAL INCOME	makki makki ana kana ka ana ka ana	\$ 8,488.7
TOTAL DOLLARS AVAILABLE		\$ 9,112.22
DISBURSEMENTS		
Groceries & Supplies	\$137.16	
SE MN Convention Offering	\$220.00	
Quilting Supplies	\$106.21	
Postage	\$50.00	
Staff Gifts	\$400.00	
Thankoffering/Churchwide	\$350.00	
WELCA Churchwide Offering	\$400.00	
ELCA World Hunger Appeal	\$500.00	
ELCA Disaster Relief	\$400.00	
ELCA Fund for Leaders	\$100.00	

Global Health Ministries	\$100.00	
Lutheran Social Services of MN	\$200.00	
Hayfield Backpack Program	\$300.00	
Hayfield Ambulance	\$300.00	
Hayfield Share Christmas	\$100.00	
Dodge County Faith in Action	\$200.00	
Peace and Power Ministry (Albert Lea)	\$200.00	
Habitat for Humanity	\$200.00	
	\$200.00	
Good Earth Village (Special Offering) Good Earth Village	\$500.00	
Lutheran Campus Center – Winona State	\$500.00	
Lutheran Campus Crossroads Center - Mankato	\$500.00	
Trinity Lutheran - Nielsen Youth Campership Fund	\$300.00	***************************************
	\$200.00	
Trinity Lutheran Good Samaritan Fund	φ200.00	
TOTAL DISPERSEMENTS	\$6,463.37	\$ 6,463.37
WELCA CHECKING ACCOUNT 12/31/21		\$ 2,648.8
Betty Moon, Treasurer		
Audited by Jim Gesme 01/05/22		

#### **MEMBERSHIP REPORT - 2021**

Gain in Membership: 45 new members

Baptisms – 14, Confirmed – 12, Other new members – 19

<u>Transfer-in</u>: Katelyn Bjornson (child Lane Holst), Cody Wentworth & Miranda Roberts (children Rylin and Winsley), Joseph & Karen Vincent, Jake & Kate Siemers (children Katelyn, Grayden, Ava), Merrideth "Skeeter" & Shirley Miner, Denise Phillippe, Angela Tebay, Tylor Ellis (child Zoey Ellis)

October 31, 2021 Confirmation Class: Sidney Anderson, Emily Hansen, Molly Hansen, Zander Jacobson, Brody Johnson, Braden Klauer, Corbin Krueger, Brayden Nelsen, Reese O'Malley, Grace Purrier, Wesley Scanlan, Jackson Thoe

Loss in Membership: 13 Deaths: 11

Letter of Transfer: 2

<u>Transfers-out</u>: Jessica (Kyllo) Schlaak to Trinity Lutheran New Richland, MN, Gary Stewart to Trinity Lutheran Faribault, MN

#### 2021 PASTORAL ACTS

<u>Baptisms</u>				
January 24	Waylon Eric Thraenert	May 14	Duke Reinhardt	
March 27	Ashtyn Marie Rouhoff		(non-member)	
March 27	Gavin Thomas Rouhoff	August 8	Zoey Kayo Ellis	
March 27	Natalie Elizabeth Rouhoff	September 12	Lane David Holst	
March 27	Brianne Marie Rouhoff	September 12	Blair Ann Perrigo	
May 2	Calvin James Wagner	November 11	Bowyn Julius Wagner	
May 9	Lincoln Lee Hanson	November 14	Winsley Marie Wentworth	
		November 28	Berit Quinn Mork	

<b>Weddings</b>	
June 5	Holli Nelson and Larry More (commitment ceremony)
June 12	Jason and Kristi Boley (non-member, off site)
June 19	Cole and Johanna (Bungum) Kruger
June 26	Bill and Michelle (Lechnir-Wiseman) Wyttenback
July 31	Rohen and Jenny (DeRaad) Smit (non-member)
August 21	Jacoby and Kaitlyn (Peterson) Zelinske
October 9	Danielle (Shelstad) and Cody McKenzie

#### **Funerals**

January 23	Tim Dahle (non-member,	June 18	Audrey Tindal (non-member,
-	graveside)		off-site)
January 25	Macy Jo Holtan	June 26	Pat Petit (non-member, off-site)
January 30	Delores Fredrickson	July 5	Virgil Heydt (non-member,
February 6	Boyd Demmer		off-site)
April 24	Gary Larson (non-member,	July 14	Marilyn Holtan (graveside
	graveside)		committal)
May 1	Marilyn Holtan	July 15	Emily Delzer (non-member,
May 20	Lois Rud		off-site)
May 21	Florence Jensen	July 18	Marlo Flo (graveside)
June 7	Jeanette Dahle	August 6	Todd Thompson
June 12	Jack Young (non-member,	October 8	David Bungum
	graveside)		
June 16	Bob Rud		

#### COVID-19 and Trinity Lutheran Church

#### **COVID-19 TEAM**

Team Members: Pastor Paul Hauschild through mid-September / Pastor Kristen Anderson beginning in November, Amber Bolles (Council representative), Kathy Demmer (R.N.), Kari Dessner (R.N.), Kim Pollock (R.N.), Denise Phillippe (staff)

The COVID-19 Team was formed and began meeting in December 2020. We are particularly grateful for the service of Trinity's Mayo nurses, who are close to statistics and trends. Through winter 2021, the team met virtually weekly or every other weekly; they were in email contact weekly. Beginning in spring 2021, the team met virtually as needed and remained in email contact with any new information or change in trends or official guidance. The team was tasked with using current statistics and information on Covid-19 for presenting recommendations on in-person worship and activities to the Church Council.

Trinity's Covid-19 Preparedness Plan, developed due to Minnesota requirements early in the pandemic (2020) and approved by the Council, remained in effect. The team discussed and recommended actions related to

- o suspending / resuming / continuing in-person worship and associated expectations
- wearing masks (face coverings)
- o singing during worship
- o meeting in person
- o consuming food or beverages (for example, resuming funeral luncheons)

- o conducting and setting expectations for educational programs for children and youth
- o starting fall 2021 programs
- o returning decision-making about precautions to individual groups
- o mitigating Covid-19 risks in ways other than those listed here.

Some recommendations were submitted to the Council for approval. Some went to the pastor or education director; sometimes these staff members sought team feedback.

References for recommendations have been based on Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) (guidelines for places of worship and other), U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Mayo Clinic guidance, and Hayfield Community Schools actions. Team members looked at local, state, national, and international data and trends available through MDH, CDC, and Mayo system. They also researched topics, applied Mayo-provided information and resources to Trinity (for example, infectious disease expert updates), attended webinars aimed at faith-based organizations, and reported observations of Trinity activities. Team decisions have been based on data, facts, and science, for the health and safety of Trinity members, not personal opinions of team members.

In 2021, the Council approved all recommendations of the Covid Team, with the exception of a December recommendation to require masks again, in light of the Omicron variant and in consideration of strained medical and educational systems.

Trinity Lutheran Church - Hayfield MN Treasurer's Report as of December 2021 for Trinity Lutheran Church General Fund

Soc. Sec. Allowance       454.92       4,792.72         Housing Allowance       Pastor Totals       56,400.76       \$109,435.45       \$13         Director of Christian Education Salary       2,975.00       34,212.50       3         DCE: FICA       209.74       2,413.13       3         DCE: Pension/Medical       0.00       14,340.10*       1         DCE: Mileage Reimb       0.00       0.00       85.00       85.00         DCE: Continuing Education       85.00       85.00       85.00       85.00         DCE: Cell Phone Reimburse       (83.41)       (83.41)       (83.41)       (83.41)       85.067.32       \$5         Senior High Youth Director Wages       0.00       1,478.60       13.11       13.11       13.11       13.11       13.35.00*         Pulpit Supply       0.00       1,335.00*       1,335.00*       1,335.00*       1,335.00*	Tuesday, Jar Account #  Income 4000.00 4010.00 40110.00 40110.00 40110.00 40110.00 5001.00 5001.00 5004.00 5005.00 5005.00 5007.00 50550.00 50500.00 5070.00	Account # Account Name  Income  Weekly Offerings  4000.00  Other Receipts  Total Offerings  4010.00  Thrivent  4015.00  Endowment Earnings  4017.00  Covid19 Assistance Income  Expense  5001.00  Mission Support  5003.00  Camp Onomia  5004.00  Good Earth Village  5005.00  Lutheran Social Services  5005.00  Winona State Campus Ministry  5005.00  Crossroads Lutheran Campus Ministry  Totals for OUTREACH  5050.00  Pastor's Salary  Pastor's Salary  Pastor's Salary  Prof, Exp/Study Allow.	Period Activity  42,146.45 85.00 \$42,231.45 \$7.00 0.00 0.00 \$42,318.45 2,434.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.0	YTD Balance  293,114.64 423.00 \$293,537.64 \$293,537.64 1,824.00 4,500.00 0.00 0.00 \$299,861.64  22,561.85 400.00* 2,000.00 1,500.00 0.00 \$27,061.85 42,603.65 39,356.01 1,179.68 1,458.50	Previous YTD  290,322.51 241.00 \$290,563.51 \$290,563.51 1,207.00 4,500.00 700.00 45,941.04 \$342,911.55  23,381.00 400.00 1,500.00 0.00 \$27,881.00 48,233.04 49,153.67 1,096.75 1,668.55	Annual Budget  27,368.00 200.00 2,000.00 1,500.00 600.00 200.00 49,698.00 49,590.00 2,700.00 2,000.00
Mission Support	4010.00 4015.00 4016.00 4017.00	Thrivent Endowment Earnings Misc. Church Fee Income Covid19 Assistance Income	87.00 0.00 0.00 0.00	1,824.00 4,500.00 0.00 0.00	1,207,00 4,500.00 700.00 45,941.04	
Mission Support   2,434.00   22,561.85   23   23   24   24   24   24   24   24	1		\$42,318.45	\$299,861.64	\$342,911.55	
Camp Onomia       0.00       400.00*         Good Earth Village       0.00       2,000.00       1,500.00         Winona State Campus Ministry       0.00       1,500.00       1         Winona State Campus Ministry       0.00       600.00       0         Crossroads Lutheran Campus Ministry       0.00       600.00       0         Pastor's Salary       0.00       527,061.85       \$27         Pastor's Salary       4,570.84       42,603.65       44         Pastor Pension/Medical/Dental       0.00       1,179.68       1         Mileage Reimb Pastor       0.00       1,279.68       1         Prof. Exp/Study Allow.       0.00       1,458.50       1         Soc. Sec. Allowance       454.92       4,792.72       2         Housing Allowance       1,375.00       20,044.89       2         Director of Christian Education Salary       2,975.00       34,212.50       3         DCE: FICA       0.00       14,340.10*       11         DCE: Continuing Education       85.00       85.00       85.00         85.00       85.00       85.00       85.00         86.70       85.00       85.00       85.00         86.70       85.00	Expense 5001.00	Mission Support	2,434.00	22,561.85	23,381.00	
Coog Earth Village	5003.00	Camp Onomia	0.00	400.00*	400.00 2 000 00	
Winona State Campus Ministry       0.00       600.00         Crossroads Lutheran Campus Ministry       0.00       0.00       600.00         Pastor's Salary       0.00       \$2,434.00       \$27,061.85       \$27         Pastor's Salary       4,570.84       42,603.65       48         Pastor Pension/Medical/Dental       0.00       1,179.68       1         Mileage Reimb. Pastor       0.00       1,179.68       1         Prof. Exp/Study Allow.       454.92       0.00       1,458.50       1         Prof. Exp/Study Allowance       Pastor Totals       \$6,400.76       \$109,435.45       1         Soc. Sec. Allowance       Pastor Totals       \$6,400.76       \$109,435.45       \$13         Director of Christian Education Salary       2,975.00       34,212.50       \$1         DCE: FICA       0.00       1,343.13       2         DCE: Pension/Medical       0.00       1,340.10*       1         DCE: Continuing Education       85.00       85.00       85.00       85.00         BCE: Cell Phone Reimburse       85.00       85.00       85.00       85.00       85.00         BCROTCA       1,478.60       1       1,478.60       1       1         BCROTCA	5004.00	Good Earth Village Lutheran Social Services	0.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	
Crossroads Lutheran Campus Munistry         0.00         0.00           Totals for OUTREACH         \$2,434.00         \$27,061.85         \$27           Pastor's Salary         4,570.84         42,603.65         48           Pastor Pension/Medical/Dental         0.00         39,356.01         49           Mileage Reimb. Pastor         0.00         1,179.68         1           Prof. Exp/Study Allow.         0.00         1,458.50         1           Soc. Sec. Allowance         Pastor Totals         \$6,409.76         \$109,435.45         1           Director of Christian Education Salary         2,975.00         34,212.50         5           DCE: FICA         209.74         2,413.13         2           DCE: Pension/Medical         0.00         14,340.10*         12           DCE: Continuing Education         85.00         85.00         85.00           DCE: Cell Phone Reimburse         85.00         85.00         85.00           Senior High Youth Director Wages         3,186.33         \$50,967.32         \$51           SHYD: Cell Phone Reimburse         0.00         1,335.00*         1           Pulpit Supply         0.00         1,335.00*	5006.00	Winona State Campus Ministry	0.00	600.00	600.00	
Pastor's Salary       4,570.84       42,603.65       48         Pastor Pension/Medical/Dental       0.00       39,356.01       49         Mileage Reimb Pastor       0.00       1,179.68       1         Prof. Exp/Study Allow.       0.00       1,458.50       1         Soc. Sec. Allowance       0.00       1,375.00       20,044.89       1         Housing Allowance       Pastor Totals       \$6,400.76       \$109,435.45       \$130         Director of Christian Education Salary       2,975.00       34,212.50       36         DCE: FICA       209.74       2,413.13       2         DCE: Pension/Medical       0.00       14,340.10*       12         DCE: Continuing Education       85.00       85.00       85.00         DCE: Cell Phone Reimburse       85.00       85.00       85.00         Lay Professional Totals       \$3,186.33       \$50,967.32       \$51         Senior High Youth Director Wages       0.00       1,478.60       1         SHYD: Cell Phone Reimburse       0.00       1,335.00*       1         Pulpit Supply       0.00       1,335.00*	5007.00	Crossroads Lutheran Campus Munistry  Totals for OUTREACH	\$2,434.00	\$27,061.85	\$27,881.00	
Pastor Pension/Medical/Dental       0.00       39,356.01       49         Mileage Reimb Pastor       0.00       1,179.68       1         Prof. Exp/Study Allow.       0.00       1,458.50       1         Soc. Sec. Allowance       454.92       4,792.72       5         Housing Allowance       Pastor Totals       \$6,400.76       \$109,435.45       \$130         Director of Christian Education Salary       2,975.00       34,212.50       36         DCE: FICA       0.00       14,340.10*       12         DCE: Pension/Medical       0.00       14,340.10*       12         DCE: Continuing Education       85.00       85.00       85.00         DCE: Cell Phone Reimburse       85.00       85.00       85.00         Senior High Youth Director Wages       (83.41)       (83.41)       (83.41)         SHYD: FICA       0.00       1,478.60       1         SHYD: Cell Phone Reimburse       0.00       1,478.60       1         SHYD: Gell Phone Reimburse       0.00       1,335.00*       1	5050.00		4,570.84	42,603.65	48,233.04	
Mileage Reimb Pastor       0.00       1,179.68       1         Prof. Exp/Study Allow.       0.00       1,458.50       1         Soc. Sec. Allowance       454.92       4,792.72       5         Housing Allowance       Pastor Totals       \$6,400.76       \$109,435.45       \$130         Director of Christian Education Salary       2,975.00       34,212.50       36         DCE: FICA       0.00       14,340.10*       12         DCE: Pension/Medical       0.00       14,340.10*       12         DCE: Continuing Education       85.00       85.00       85.00         DCE: Cell Phone Reimburse       85.00       85.00       85.00         DCE: Cell Phone Reimburse       (83.41)       (83.41)       (83.41)         Senior High Youth Director Wages       53,186.33       \$50,967.32       \$51         SHYD: FICA       0.00       1,478.60       1         SHYD: Cell Phone Reimburse       0.00       1,335.00*       1         Pulpit Supply       0.00       1,335.00*       1	5055.00	Pastor Pension/Medical/Dental	0.00	39,356.01	49,153.67	
Prof. Exp/Study Allow.       0.00       1,458.50       1         Soc. Sec. Allowance       454.92       4,792.72       5         Housing Allowance       Pastor Totals       56,400.76       \$109,435.45       \$130         Director of Christian Education Salary       2,975.00       34,212.50       36         DCE: FICA       209.74       2,413.13       2         DCE: Pension/Medical       0.00       14,340.10*       12         DCE: Continuing Education       85.00       85.00       85.00         DCE: Cell Phone Reimburse       85.00       85.00       85.00         DCE: Cell Phone Reimburse       (83.41)       (83.41)       (83.41)         Senior High Youth Director Wages       53,186.33       \$50,967.32       \$51         SHYD: FICA       0.00       1,478.60       1         SHYD: Cell Phone Reimburse       0.00       1,335.00*	5060.00	Mileage Reimb Pastor	0.00	1,179.68	1,096.75	
Soc. Sec. Allowance       454.92       4,792.72       5         Housing Allowance       Pastor Totals       1,375.00       20,044.89       23         Director of Christian Education Salary       56,400.76       \$109,435.45       \$130         DCE: FICA       2,975.00       34,212.50       36         DCE: Pension/Medical       2,09.74       2,413.13       2         DCE: Mileage Reimb       0.00       14,340.10*       12         DCE: Continuing Education       85.00       85.00       85.00         DCE: Cell Phone Reimburse       85.00       85.00       85.00         Lay Professional Totals       \$3,186.33       \$50,967.32       \$51         Senior High Youth Director Wages       0.00       1,478.60       1         SHYD: Cell Phone Reimburse       0.00       1,31.11       1         Pulpit Supply       0.00       1,335.00*	5070.00	Prof. Exp/Study Allow.	0.00	1,458.50	1,668.55	
Housing Allowance       1,3 / 2.00       20,044,89       23         Director of Christian Education Salary       \$6,400.76       \$109,435.45       \$130         DCE: FICA       2,975.00       34,212.50       36         DCE: Pension/Medical       0.00       14,340.10*       12         DCE: Mileage Reimb.       0.00       0.00       0.00         DCE: Continuing Education       85.00       85.00       85.00         DCE: Cell Phone Reimburse       (83.41)       (83.41)       (83.41)         Senior High Youth Director Wages       53,186.33       \$50,967.32       \$51         SHYD: FICA       0.00       1,478.60       1         SHYD: Cell Phone Reimburse       0.00       113.11       0.00         Pulpit Supply       0.00       1,335.00*       0.00	5080.00	Soc. Sec. Allowance	454.92	4,792.72	5,602.08	
Director of Christian Education Salary       2,975.00       34,212.50       36         DCE: FICA       209.74       2,413.13       2         DCE: Pension/Medical       0.00       14,340.10*       12         DCE: Mileage Reimb       0.00       0.00       0.00         DCE: Continuing Education       85.00       85.00       85.00         DCE: Cell Phone Reimburse       (83.41)       (83.41)       (83.41)         Senior High Youth Director Wages       53,186.33       \$50,967.32       \$51         SHYD: FICA       0.00       1,478.60       1         SHYD: Cell Phone Reimburse       0.00       113.11       1         SHYD: Supply       0.00       1,335.00*	5085.00		\$6,400.76	\$109,435.45	\$130,754.17	
DCE: FICA       209.74       2,413.13       2         DCE: Pension/Medical       0.00       14,340.10*       12         DCE: Mileage Reimb.       0.00       0.00       0.00         DCE: Continuing Education       85.00       85.00       85.00         DCE: Cell Phone Reimburse       (83.41)       (83.41)       (83.41)         Senior High Youth Director Wages       53,186.33       \$50,967.32       \$51         SHYD: FICA       0.00       1,478.60       1         SHYD: Cell Phone Reimburse       0.00       113.11       0.00         Pulpit Supply       0.00       1,335.00*	5136.00	Director of Christian Education Salary	2,975.00	34,212.50	36,045.44	
DCE: Pension/Medical       0.00       14,340.10*       12         DCE: Mileage Reimb.       0.00       0.00       0.00         DCE: Continuing Education       85.00       85.00       85.00         DCE: Cell Phone Reimburse       (83.41)       (83.41)       (83.41)         Senior High Youth Director Wages       53,186.33       \$50,967.32       \$51         SHYD: FICA       0.00       1,311       113.11         SHYD: Cell Phone Reimburse       0.00       10.00       10.00         Pulpit Supply       0.00       1,335.00*	5137.00	DCE: FICA	209.74	2,413.13	2,726.23	
DCE: Mileage Reimb.       0.00       0.00         DCE: Continuing Education       85.00       85.00         DCE: Cell Phone Reimburse       (83.41)       (83.41)         Lay Professional Totals       \$3,186.33       \$50,967.32       \$51         Senior High Youth Director Wages       0.00       1,478.60       1         SHYD: FICA       0.00       113.11       1         SHYD: Cell Phone Reimburse       0.00       0.00       1,335.00*	5138.00	DCE: Pension/Medical	0.00	14,340.10*	12,315.34	
DCE: Continuing Education       85.00       85.00         DCE: Cell Phone Reimburse       (83.41)       (83.41)         Lay Professional Totals       \$3,186.33       \$50,967.32       \$51         Senior High Youth Director Wages       0.00       1,478.60       1         SHYD: FICA       0.00       113.11       1         SHYD: Cell Phone Reimburse       0.00       0.00       0.00         Pulpit Supply       0.00       1,335.00*	5139.00	DCE: Mileage Reimb.	0.00	0.00	223.63	
DCE: Cell Phone Reimburse       (83.41)       (83.41)         Lay Professional Totals       \$3,186.33       \$50,967.32       \$51.         Senior High Youth Director Wages       0.00       1,478.60       1         SHYD: FICA       0.00       113.11         SHYD: Cell Phone Reimburse       0.00       0.00       0.00         Pulpit Supply       0.00       1,335.00*	5140.00	DCE: Continuing Education	85.00	85.00	218.37	
Lay Professional Totals       \$3,186.33       \$50,967.32       \$51         Senior High Youth Director Wages       0.00       1,478.60       1         SHYD: FICA       0.00       113.11         SHYD: Cell Phone Reimburse       0.00       0.00         Pulpit Supply       0.00       1,335.00*	5141.00	DCE: Cell Phone Reimburse	(83.41)	(83.41)	83.41	
Senior High Youth Director Wages       0.00       1,478.60       1         SHYD: FICA       0.00       113.11         SHYD: Cell Phone Reimburse       0.00       0.00         Pulpit Supply       0.00       1,335.00*		Lay Professional Totals	\$3,186.33	\$50,967.32	\$51,612.42	
SHYD: FICA       0.00       113.11         SHYD: Cell Phone Reimburse       0.00       0.00         Pulpit Supply       0.00       1,335.00*	5142.00	Senior High Youth Director Wages	0.00	1,478.60	1,861.13	
SHYD: Cell Phone Reimburse 0.00 0.00 0.00 Pulpit Supply 0.00 1,335.00*	5143.00	SHYD: FICA	0.00	113.11	142.39	
Pulpit Supply 0.00 1,335.00*	5144.00	SHYD: Cell Phone Reimburse	0.00	0.00	0.00	
	5145.00	Pulpit Supply	0.00	1,335.00*	0.00	

Trinity Lutheran Church - Hayfield MN Treasurer's Report as of December 2021 for Trinity Lutheran Church General Fun

	3/,440.44	343,/6/.00	\$44,200.48	\$37,856.89	\$4,052.41	Totals for ADMINISTRATION	
	244.30	1,000.00	2,410.05	770.44	115.61	Other Administrative	5395.00
	300.00	300.00	1,709.25	0.00	0.00	Interest Expense	5390.00
	300.00	700.00 1,500.00	1,442.72	1,305.44	142.00	Postage	5385.00
	10/ 56	2,800.00	3,223.13	3,074.12*	311.11	Telephone/Internet	5380.00
	(202.51)	3,500.00	3,675.00	3,765.51*	694.00	Office Equipment Maint.	5375.00
	(26.51)	3,200.00	3,167.70	2,577.45	380.06	Office Supplies	5370.00
	100		0.00	1,538.33	0.00	Back Up Secretary	5364.00
	415.80	3,203.00	3,434.52	2,787.20	0.00	Pension/Disability/Admin.	5360.00
	348.37	2,009.00	1,786.42	1,660.63	171.24	FICA/Medicare Admin.	5355.00
	5,877.23	26,255.00	23,351.67	20,377.77	2,238.39	Secretarial Wages	5350.00
	\$6,499.82	\$10,450.00	\$3,701.59	\$3,950.18	\$0.00	Totals for GROWTH IN FAITH	
	1,300.00	1,500.00	572.51	200.00	0.00	Conventions/Conferences	5280.00
	74.22	100.00	258.25	25.78	0.00	Library	5275.00
	(157.58)	1,000.00	736.90	1,157.58*	0.00	Devotional Materials	5270.00
	433.18	500.00	633.93	66.82	0.00	Adult Study	5265.00
	1,000.00	2,500.00	0.00	1,500.00	0.00	Gen Fund Trans to Youth Fund	5252.00
	3,850.00	4,850.00	1,500.00	1,000.00	0.00	Gen Fund Trans to Children's Fund	5250.00
	(\$456.29)	\$2,150.00	\$1,921.76	\$2,606.29*	\$162.71	Totals for STEWARDSHIP	
	(86.501)	450.00	513.44	555.98*	0.76	Direct Deposit Fee	5210.00
	(138.82)	400.00	385.79	538.82*	161.95	Worship Invitations & Advertising	5207.00
	(337.24)	500.00	334.30	837.24*	0.00	Stewardship	5205.00
	125.75	800.00	688.23	674.25	0.00	Offering Envelopes	5200.00
	\$6,385.13	\$14,391.00	\$10,071.10	\$8,005.87	\$2,111.58	Totals for WORSHIP	
	(478.98)	600.00	525.00	1,078.98*	102.70	Gifts/Honorariums	5393.00
	(76.77)	1,000.00	156.89	1,076.77*	500.65	Congregational/Kitchen Activities	5190.00
	2,480.00	3,000.00	1,330.00	520.00	520.00	Worship Band Compensation	5187.00
	(190.00)	1,200.00	1,785.42	1,390.00*	0.00	Altar Supplies	5180.00
	233.69	500.00	255.64	266.31	140.31	Service Bulletins	5175.00
	126.19	575.00	420.65	448.81	247.92	FICA/Medicare Worship	5170.00
	1,071.00	1,071.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Children's Choir Director	5165.00
	402.00	927.00	913.50	525.00	300.00	Worship Choir Pianist	5160.00
	1,743.00	1,818.00	909.00	75.00	0.00	Worship Choir Director	5155.00
	1,075.00	3,700.00	3,775.00	2,625.00	300.00	Organist	5150.00
	\$35,758.52	\$199,088.00	\$184,370.11	\$163,329.48	\$9,587.09	Totals for MINISTERIAL	
	\$7,178.29	\$10,105.00	\$2,003.52	\$2,926.71	\$0.00	Other Ministerial Totals	
•	Vernaming						
	Annual Budget	Annual Budget	Previous YTD	YTD Balance	Period Activity	Tuesday, January 18, 2022 Account # Account Name	Tuesday, Jan Account #
	Page 7 of 3		cn General Fund	ity Lutheran Chur	ember 2021 for Trin	Treasurer's Report as of December 2021 for Trinity Lutheran Church General Fund	
			1				

Trinity Lutheran Church - Hayfield MN
Treasurer's Report as of December 2021 for Trinity Lutheran Church General Fund

Tuesday, January 18, 2022         Period Activity         YTD Balance         Previous YTD         Annual Budget         <		(\$345,533.00)	\$28,126.89	\$15,574.27	\$19,505.76	Difference	Differ
## Account Name  Custodian Wages FICA/Medicare Custodial Backup Custodial Help Natural Gas Electricity Water Repair and Maintenance Janitor Supplies Insurance  Totals for OUR CHURCH HOME  ## Account Name  Period Activity Period Activity  ## Account Name  Period Activity ## Account Name  ## Previous YTD Annual Budget ## Annual Budget Annual Budget Annual Budget ## Annual Budget Annual Budget Annual Budget ## Annual Budget Annual	\$62,783.96	\$345,533.00	\$314,784.66	\$284,287.37	S22,812.69	Total Expense	
## Account Name  Custodian Wages FICA/Medicare Custodial Help Natural Gas Electricity Water  Repair and Maintenance Janitor Supplies Insurance  Period Activity Period Activity  Period Activity  ATD Balance  Previous YTD  Annual Budget Anr	\$2,342.19	\$43,819.00	\$42,638.62	\$41,476.81	\$4,464.90	Totals for OUR CHURCH HOME	
## Account Name  Custodian Wages FICA/Medicare Custodial Help Natural Gas Electricity Water Repair and Maintenance Janitor Supplies  Period Activity Period Activity ATD Balance Previous YTD Annual Budget Anr Annual Budget Annual	(1,352.72)	9,000.00	10,265.12	10,352.72*	1,385.00	Insurance	5450.00
## Account Name  Custodian Wages FICA/Medicare Custodial Help Natural Gas Electricity Water Repair and Maintenance  Period Activity  Period Activity YTD Balance  Region Activity YTD Balance  Previous YTD Annual Budget Annual B	(278.80)	1,500.00	2,197.33	1,778.80*	62.95	Janitor Supplies	5445.00
## Account Name  Custodian Wages FICA/Medicare Custodial Help Natural Gas Electricity  Water  Period Activity  Period Activity  YTD Balance  Previous YTD  Annual Budget  A	189.02	6,000.00	6,379.93	5,810.98	625.82	Repair and Maintenance	5440.00
# Account Name Period Activity YTD Balance Previous YTD Annual Budget Anrual Budget Anrual Fic Account Name Previous YTD Annual Budget Anrual Raccount Name Previous YTD Annual Raccou	157.25	700.00	644.76	542.75	0.00	Water	5435.00
t#         Account Name         Period Activity         YTD Balance         Previous YTD         Annual Budget	1,308.30	8,000.00	7,974.01	6,691.70	155.17	Electricity	5430.00
t#         Account Name         Period Activity         YTD Balance         Previous YTD         Annual Budget	774.74	6,000.00	4,543.61	5,225.26	1,260.36	Natural Gas	5425.00
t# Account Name Period Activity YTD Balance Previous YTD Annual Budget Anr Custodian Wages FICA/Medicare Custodial 147.36 865.03 755.73 883.00	200.00	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Backup Custodial Help	5420.00
January 18, 2022 Account Name Period Activity YTD Balance Previous YTD Annual Budget	17.97	883.00	755.73	865.03	147.36	FICA/Medicare Custodial	5410.00
January 18, 2022 Account Name Period Activity YTD Balance Previous YTD Annual Budget Ann	1,326.43	11,536.00	9,878.13	10,209.57	828.24	Custodian Wages	5400.00
	Annual Budget Remaining	Annual Budget	Previous YTD	YTD Balance	Period Activity	Account Name	Tuesday, Janu: Account#
	Dog 2 of 2						

<sup>\* =</sup> Income/Expense exceeds amount budgeted to date

If the accounts in the subtotals have changed or if ledger and subsidiary account attributes have changed, Previous YTD totals may not represent a valid comparison.

#### Trinity Lutheran Church - Havlield MN Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2021

Account #	Account Name	YTD Balance
Assets		
1000.00	General Checking	1,112.22
1020.00	Memorial Checking	(3,367.25)
1030.00	Memorial Savings	39,557.54
1040.00	Children's Checking	73.01
1100.00	Youth Checking	2,771.99
1115.00	Youth Savings	2,600.00
1350.00	WELCA Checking	2,648.85
1380.00	Endowment Savings CSB	882.06
1385.00	Endowment InvestmentMIF2402	67,714.60
1386.00	MIF Demand736	3,045.63
1410.00	Endowment TDAmeritrade	396,000.00
1411.00	Gain/Loss TDAmeri	77,814.53
1412.00	Div/Int TDAmeri	25,065.68
1413.00	Exp/Withdrawal TDAmeri	(6,023,90)
1500.00	Gilderhus InvestmentsMIF2411	44,171,24
1501.00	MIF Demand744	3,671.13
1700.00	Church Building	3,748,804.90
1720.00	Church Contents	305,000,00
1720.00	Total Assets	\$4,711,542.23
Liabilities		
2900.00	FICA & Medicare Payable	(464.66)
2905.00	Federal Tax Withheld	(1,936.32)
2910.00	State Tax Withheld	(1,778.40)
	Current Accounts Payable	(\$4,179.38)
2000.00	Accounts Payable/Vendors	2,482.86
	Total Liabilities	(\$1,696.52)
Fund Balance		1075000 11
3000.00	Trinity Lutheran Church General Fund	4,056,232.41
3020.00	Children's Fund	73.01
3040.00	Youth Fund	5,371.99
3060.00	Gilderhus Seminary Fund	47,842.37
3080.00	Endowment Fund	564,498.60
3100.00	WELCA	2,648.85
3199.00	In and Out Fund	381.23
	Total Non-Memorial Funds	\$4,677,048,46
3500.00	Undesignated Memorials Fund	16,485.54
3530.00	Church Bldg & Grounds Fund	9,389.71
3540.00	Office Equipment & Furnishings Fund	(639.49)
3550.00	Nielsen Scholarship Fund	300.00
3560.00	Music Fund	5,924.70
3580.00	Good Samaritan Fund	2,861.79
3620.00	Church Equipment & Furnishings Fund	0.00
3630.00	Kitchen Equipment & Furnishings Fund	39.03
3640.00	Missions & Outreach Fund	1,315.61
3650.00	Learning Resources Fund	513.40
_ ~~~~~	Total Memorial Funds	\$36,190.29
	Total Fund Balance	\$4,713,238.75
	Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	\$4,711,542.23

Audixed January 19, 2022 by:

Jeff Tank

Jim Burmeister

Trinity Lutheras Church - Hayfield MN 2022 Presentation Budget Report for Trinity Lutheran Church General Fund

5150.00 5155.00 5160.00 5165.00 5170.00	5142.00 5143.00 5144.00 5145.00	5136.00 5137.00 5138.00 5139.00 5140.00 5141.00	5050.00 5055.00 5060.00 5070.00 5070.00 5085.00	Expense 5001.00 5003.00 5004.00 5005.00 5006.00 5007.00	Account #
Organist Worship Choir Director Worship Choir Planist Children's Choir Director FICA/Medicare Worship Service Bulletins	Senior High Youth Director Wages SHYD: FICA SHYD: Cell Phone Reimburse Pulpit Supply	Director of Christian Education Salary DCE: FICA DCE: Pension/Medical DCE: Mileage Reimb. DCE: Continuing Education DCE: Cell Phone Reimburse	Pastor's Salary Pastor Pension/Medical/Dental Mileage Reimb Pastor Prof. Exp/Study Allow. Soc. Sec. Allowance Housing Allowance	Mission Support Camp Onomia Good Earth Village Lutheran Social Services Winona State Campus Ministry Crossroads Lutheran Campus Ministry	Account Name
	Other Ministerial Totals Totals for MINISTERIAL	Lay Professional Totals	Pastor Totals	Totals for OUTREACH	
3,000,00 1,818,00 927,00 500,00 478,00 400,00	7,540,00 577,00 240,00 1,400,00 \$9,757,00 \$168,713,00	36,414,00 2,786,00 14,100,60 1,000,00 750,00 240,00 \$55,290,00	54,850.00 22,607.00 2,500.00 1,750.00 5,459.00 16,500.00 \$103,666.00	22,900.00 200.00 2.000.00 1.500.00 600.00 200.00 <b>\$27,400.00</b>	Yr Bcg 01/2022
3,700.00 1,818.00 927.00 1,071.00 575.00 500.00	8,486.00 649.00 270.00 700.00 \$10,105.00 \$199,088.00	35,700.00 2,731.00 14,100.00 1,000.00 750.00 0.00 \$54,281.00	49,698.00 49,590.00 2,700.00 2,000.00 5,714.00 25,000.00 \$134,702.00	27,368.00 200.00 2,000.00 1,500.00 600.00 200.00 \$31,868.00	Yr Beg 01/2021
3,700.00 1,818.00 927.00 1,071.00 575.00 500.00	4,000.00 306.00 0.00 700.00 \$5,006.00 \$190,556.00	36,703.00 2,808.00 10,049.00 1,000.00 750.00 270.00 \$51,580.00	48,233.00 50,435.00 2,700.00 2,000.00 5,602.00 25,000.00 \$133,970.00	24,540.00 400.00 2,000.00 1,500.00 600.00 0.00 \$29,040.00	Yr Beg 01/2020
3,700.00 1,765.00 900.00 1,040.00 513.00 750.00	5,000.00 400.00 0.00 900.00 \$6,300.00 \$182,289.00	35,634.00 2,726.00 9,170.00 1,000.00 750.00 0.00 \$49,280.00	46,100.00 45,909.00 2,700.00 2,000.00 5,000.00 25,000.00 \$126,709.00	22.830.00 400.00 2.000.00 1.500.00 600.00 0.00 \$27,330.00	Yr Beg 01/2019

5435.00 5440.00 5445.00 5450.00	5400.00 5410.00 5420.00 5425.00 5430.00	\$350.00 \$355.00 \$360.00 \$364.00 \$370.00 \$375.00 \$385.00 \$385.00 \$395.00	5250.00 5252.00 5265.00 5270.00 5275.00 5278.00	5200.00 5205.00 5207.00 5210.00	5180.00 5187.00 5190.00 5393.00
l Maintenance pplies	Custodian Wages FICA/Medicare Custodial Backup Custodial Help Natural Gas Electricity	Secretarial Wages FICA/Medicare Admin. Pension/Disability/Admin. Back Up Secretary Office Supplies Office Equipment Maint. Telephone/Internet Postage Interest Expense Other Administrative	Gen Fund Trans to Children's Fund Gen Fund Trans to Youth Fund Adult Study Devotional Materials Library Conventions/Conferences	Offering Envelopes Stewardship Worship Invitations & Advertising Direct Deposit Fee	Altar Supplies Worship Band Compensation Congregational/Kitchen Activities Gifts/Honorariums
Totals for OUR CHURCH HOME		Totals for ADMINISTRATION	und  Totals for GROWTH IN FAITH	ing Totals for STEWARDSHIP	ies Totals for WORSHIP
700.00 6,000.00 2,000.00 9,000.00 \$42,319.00 \$309,142.00	11,536.00 883.00 200.00 5,000.00 7,000.00	26,785.00 2,049.00 3,203.00 1,500.00 3,200.00 3,500.00 2,800.00 1,500.00 300.00 1,000.00 \$45,837.00	4,850.00 2,500.00 500.00 1,000.00 1,000.00 1,000.00 \$9,950.00	800.00 500.00 400.00 600.00 \$2,300.00	1,400.00 3,000.00 500.00 600.00 \$12,623.00
700.00 6,000.00 1,500.00 9,000.00 \$43,819.00 \$345,533,00	11,536.00 883.00 200.00 6,000.00 8,000.00	26.255.00 2,009.00 3,203.00 0.00 3,200.00 3,500.00 2,800.00 1,500.00 300.00 1,000.00 \$43,767.00	4,850.00 2,500.00 500.00 1,000.00 1,000.00 1,500.00 <b>\$10,450.00</b>	800.00 500.00 400.00 450.00 \$2,150.00	1,200.00 3,000.00 1,000.00 600.00 \$14,391.00
700.00 6,000.00 1,500.00 9,000.00 \$43,575,00 \$330,787.00	11,310.00 865.00 200.00 6,000.00 8,000.00	25,740.00 1,969.00 3,116.00 0.00 2,250.00 3,500.00 2,800.00 1,200.00 1,000.00 541,875.00	4,850.00 2,500.00 500.00 1,000.00 100.00 1,500.00 \$10,450.00	800.00 500.00 150.00 450.00 \$1,900.00	\$00.00 3,000.00 1,000.00 0.00 \$13,391.00
700.00 5,000.00 1,000.00 9,500.00 \$41,627.00 \$309,009.00	9,500.00 727.00 200.00 6,000.00 9,000.00	20,856.00 1,595.00 2,794.00 0.00 2,500.00 3,2500.00 2,800.00 1,200.00 300.00 500.00	2,000.00 2,000.00 400.00 750.00 100.00 1,500.00 \$6,750.00	\$00.00 500.00 0.00 450.00 \$1,750.00	\$00.00 3,000.00 1,000.00 0.00 \$13,468.00





# Southeastern Minnesota Synod

of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

I am often asked what my vision for the synod is, and my reply is always the same: that we would be a people walking together for the sake of the proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ. I know that how we live into that proclamation in our particular communities and congregations will change with the resources we have and the context in which we serve. How we proclaim is nuanced, but what we proclaim (the gospel!) is unified and unchanged.

It seems fitting to pause, reflect upon, and give thanks for all the ways the Spirit has invited us into this holy vocation of proclamation in 2021.

For the first time ever, the Southeastern Minnesota Synod hosted a one-day digital Synod Assembly. We learned some things along the way. Overall, the Assembly was a success: we accomplished necessary business, heard from ministry partners, celebrated some milestones, and cast our sight toward the coming year. It is our hope and plan to meet in person for Synod Assembly in 2022. We will, of course, make adjustments as necessary.

As COVID cbbs and flows, so too has our ability to gather in person. We have continued to take full advantage of all digital and hybrid options, and, as we have been able, we've had inperson gatherings, too. 2021 allowed us to host gatherings for pastors and deacons new to the synod, retired rostered ministers and spouses, and candidates for ordained ministry.

Pastors, deacons, and church professionals were able to gather for a few days this fall to explore together the theme of Embracing Sabbath. The learnings that happened during that retreat are already being shared in congregations across the synod.

While our ability to physically visit our global partners has been hindered, our connections with them remain strong. We have continued regular conversation and partnership with our siblings in Colombia, South Sudan, Tanzania, and ministries at our southern border.

The greatest joy of 2021 has been being present with congregations again. The Office of the Bishop staff and I have delighted in worshipping with you on Sunday mornings, enjoying outdoor fellowship and festivities over the summer months, and sitting around meeting room tables as we discern the work of God together.

It is my fervent hope that in 2022 our ability to gather together will only increase and that we will continue on the road of gospel proclamation together.

In Christ,

Rev. Kegja Hussanally

Bishop Regina Hassanally

Southeastern Minnesota Synod ELCA | www.semnsynod.org

# ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING OPENING LITURGY

Litary

Today our congregation gathers in prayer and hope to begin another year of ministry. We bring with us the memory of a year like no other, even as we move into a future that we cannot yet imagine. Yet even now, as in every age, God is our refuge and strength. In times of plenty and want, in times of conflict and peace, in times of growing and pruning, we remember:

#### God has called us for such a time as this.

We remember the past year with lament and gratitude. We have lost so much, and so much still feels uncertain. We have also witnessed God's hand at work in new and unexpected ways. We delight at hidden seeds bearing surprising and wonderful fruit. When our own resources fail, when we cannot predict the future, when we must rely on God alone, we remember:

#### God has called us for such a time as this.

We celebrate this moment and the many ways God has held us together as a community. We give thanks for the gift of our church building and the welcome it provides, even as we bless God for the marvel of technology and the new bonds of connection it makes possible. When our bodies need sanctuary, when our minds need expanding, when your grace must transcend our limitations, we remember:

#### God has called us for such a time as this.

We look ahead to the road we will travel together this year. We anticipate and receive with joy the new gifts God's love has planned. We pray for the grace to let go of what has served its holy purpose. When we are trailblazers or followers, when we are seekers or visionaries, when we must walk by faith and not by sight, we remember:

## God has called us for such a time as this.

And so we pray: Grace our meeting, O God, with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the Spirit who has guided the church from the beginning, the Spirit of our risen Lord Jesus, the Spirit who sends us as healers and restorers of your beloved world. You are the source of our life together. You are the rock and cornerstone.

You have called us for such a time as this.





#### All Creation Sings #1063

Text: Georgia Harkness, alt.; © 1955, ren. 1983 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Reprinted under license #RP090721-1.

Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, in the public domain. For further use of this hymn, including podcasting/streaming, please request permission from the copyright holder or report usage under a valid license.

#### O God,

you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown.

Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen. (ELW, p. 317)

Change and the need for creativity have become constants over the last year and a half in many aspects of life, including the church. This was the case for **Living Christ** Lutheran Church in Flagstaff, Ariz., even before a global pandemic caused many of us to rethink what it means to be church. Generosity from all three expressions of the ELCA (the churchwide organization, the Grand Canyon Synod and members of Living Christ) helped turn a congregation "on the road out of town, near the mall" into an online presence reaching over 500 people a week from Phoenix to the Philippines. (Read more about Living Christ in the current issue of "Stories of Faith in Action" at ELCA.org/SOFIA.)

Many other congregations have found new ways to connect both when inperson worship was impossible and when congregations began to return to their sanctuaries. Generosity, especially through Mission Support, helped us find and support these new ways of being connected. Early in the pandemic, ELCA Worship launched the "Worship in the Home" webpage, with Scripture, hymn links, prayers and reflections for each

Sunday. These resources were and continue to be used in congregations across the ELCA—even at **Sitka Lutheran Church** in Alaska, whose members printed and hand-delivered "Worship in the Home" resources to fellow members without internet access.

Change and creativity have taught us many things. As Pastor Sandra Rudd of Sitka Lutheran Church noted, "The pandemic was a stark illustration of the fact that the church is not a building. A lot of people say that, but we didn't fully know it until we didn't have a building to use. We learned that there are many ways to be connected as the church." Throughout the pandemic, the ELCA has changed and adapted, doing ministry in new and creative ways, because of the generosity of its members. Even now, you may be gathering in a new way for your annual meeting, to discern how you will steward the gifts shared generously with your congregation to do ministry in your community and beyond. As you have these important conversations, remember that your gifts of time, talent and resources have helped create new spaces beyond our walls and buildings where we continue to worship, serve and love God and each other.

