



**2022 Paynesville Lutheran Church  
Annual Meeting Agenda**  
Sunday January 22nd, 2023 at 10:30 AM  
(Backup date: Sunday January 28th, 2023 at 10:30 AM)

- a.) Call to order and establishment of a quorum
- b.) Opening devotion
- c.) Approval of Minutes from:
  - The January 30th, 2022 - Annual Meeting
  - The July 31st, 2022 - Special Congregational Meeting
- d.) Reports:
  - Pastor's Report
  - Council President's Report
  - Treasurer's Report
  - Boards:
    - Board of Deacon's Report
    - Youth & Family Board's Report
    - Board of Trustee's Report
    - Call Committee
- e.) Elections, installation & thank you to all outgoing leaders
- f.) Approval of 2023 budget
- g.) Unfinished Business
- h.) New Business
- i.) Closing prayer "The Lord's Prayer"

*\*Many reports were submitted in regular form and others given to complete the narrative budget throughout this annual report. We are grateful to all who have shared their gifts, time and talents in this way and in all the leadership roles of PLC.*

*\*Council and Board members remain following the meeting for a brief conversation.*

**Installation of Board & Council Members:**

L- In Holy Baptism our Lord Jesus Christ liberated you from sin and death and made you members of his Church. Through Word and Sacrament, you have been nurtured in faith. I ask

you together with all who are here gathered, to confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which

we are baptized.

L- On behalf of your sisters and brothers in Christ, I ask you: Are you ready to accept and faithfully carry out the duties and responsibilities of being a member of the leadership team of Paynesville Lutheran Church for which you have been elected?

**YES BY THE HELP OF GOD**

L- People of God, I ask you: Will you support these, your elected leaders, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized? Will you accept these duties and responsibilities ?

**YES BY THE HELP OF GOD**

L- I now declare you installed as elected leaders of Paynesville Lutheran Church. God bless you with His Holy Spirit, that you may prove faithful servants of Christ.

**AMEN!**



# Paynesville Lutheran Church

657 Maple Street | Paynesville, MN 56362 | (320) 243-3624

A CONGREGATION OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA.

“ Point others to Jesus  
Love generously and gracefully  
Cultivate disciples! ”



**2022 ANNUAL REPORT CONTAINS:**

**2022  
Year  
In Review**

**2022  
Narrative  
Budget**

**2023  
Proposed  
Budget**



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### Staff

Rev. Paul Shumaker, Lead Pastor  
Tammy Armstrong, Administrative Assistant  
Kari Shumaker, Worship & Music Coordinator  
Dave Shumaker, Custodian

### Executive Committee

Paul Shumaker	Pastor
Paul Evans	President
Michele Johnson-Amundson	Vice President
Kella Bugbee	Secretary
Karen Brendal	Treasurer

### Board of Deacons

Jackie Campbell	Worship & Music
Viola Bengtson	Social Concerns
Sharon Johnson	New Mem./Fellow.
Barb Ingalsbe	WELCA
Luan Johnsrud	Adult Ed
Allan Solum	Stewardship
Alison Martinson	Monthly Service Group

### Youth and Family Board

\*Matt Ellefson  
Marie Grothe  
Gretchen Roeske  
Kelley Heimerman  
Dayna Fuchs

### Board of Trustees

\*Dan Grothe  
Nathan Rindahl  
Dick Realdsen  
Bruce Brendal  
Nathan Martinson  
Loren Meierhoffer

### Endowment Committee

Brad Skoglund	Co-President
Julie Youngs	Co-President
Cheryl Bungum	Secretary
Stacy Rindahl	Treasurer
Ross Amundson	

### Music

Cheryl Bungum, Celebration Choir Director  
Paula Geier, Organist/CELEBRATION Accompanist  
Stephanie Johnson, Bell Choir Director  
Connie Osborne, Healing Harmonies Director  
Kari Shumaker, Solid Rock/YOLO/On The Horizon Dir.  
Nathan Rindahl, On the Horizon Dir.

### Worship & Music Committee

Kari Shumaker - Staff Liaison  
Jackie Campbell  
Karen Whitcomb  
Brad Nepsund  
Karen Johnson

### Sunday School Team

Kristine Buermann  
Jackie Campbell

### Women of the ELCA

Bev Aas	President
	Vice President
	Secretary
Karen Mehr	Treasurer
Rhonda Brady	Program/Mission Growth

### Columbarium Committee

Tom Cremers  
Darrel Voorhees  
Rick Hoyme  
Marv Niedan  
Bruce Brendal  
Pastor Paul Shumaker

### Triune Ministries

Marlys Sorenson  
Arlene Sullivan  
Lynda George

### Wedding Coordinators

Lindsay Albright

### Funeral Committee

Kathy Lura  
Lois Nehring

### Altar Guild Chairperson

Stephanie Johnson

### Bingo Coordinator

Doris Reid

### Cradle Roll

Karen Whitcomb

*\*Indicates Council Representative*





	Kitchen Supplies	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,489.41	\$ 7,500.00
	51724 - Accounting direct deposit fee	\$ 300.00	\$ 133.00	\$ 300.00
	51725 - Pastoral Discretionary	\$ 500.00	\$ 329.88	\$ 500.00
Total 51700 - Parish Expenses		\$ 87,634.38	\$ 58,109.92	\$ 73,381.12

52100 - Benevolence

	52101 - Bible Camps (GLBC & LCBC)	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
	52102 - ELCA Missionary Sponsor	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 1,250.00
	52103 - ELCA SW Minnesota Synod	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
	52104 - Lakeland Conference	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
	52105 - Lutheran Social Service	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
	52106 - Paynesville Ministerial	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00
	52108 - Paynesville Emergency Housing	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00
	52109 - Kozefo	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
Total 52100 - Benevolence		\$ 44,750.00	\$ 43,750.00	\$ 44,750.00

Total EXECUTIVE BOARD \$ 411,271.74 \$ 347,213.67 \$ 494,098.84

BOARDS

51200 - Board of Youth & Family

	51201 - Camperships	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -	\$ -
	51202 - Confirmation	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500.00
	51203 - iQuest	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500.00
	51204 - Nursery/Faith Bags	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50.00
	51205 - Senior High Youth	\$ 200.00	\$ 104.52	\$ 500.00
	51206 - VBS & Day Camp	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 700.00
	51207 - Youth & Family Ministry	\$ 100.00	\$ 99.38	\$ 250.00
	51208 - Sunday School	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ 250.00
	51209 - Wednesday Meals	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250.00
Total 51200 - Board of Youth & Family		\$ 3,500.00	\$ 203.90	\$ 3,000.00

51300 - Board of Trustees

	51301 - Carpet Cleaning	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ -
	51302 - Custodial Supplies	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,121.76	\$ 1,500.00
	51303 - Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 1,552.84	\$ 3,000.00
	51304 - Snow Lawn Service	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,158.32	\$ 9,500.00
Total 51300 - Board of Trustees		\$ 9,600.00	\$ 7,832.92	\$ 14,000.00

51400 - Board of Deacons

	51401 - Celebration Choir Music	\$ 250.00	\$ -	\$ 100.00
	51402 - Fellowship	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100.00
	51405 - Membership, & Adult Ed	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100.00
	51406 - Piano & Organ Maint. (\$100 per tuning)	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00
	51409 - Worship & Baptismal Supplies	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,564.40	\$ 2,000.00
	51410 - Youth/Praise Band Music	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100.00
Total 51400 - Board of Deacons		\$ 2,850.00	\$ 2,164.40	\$ 3,000.00

54000 - CAPITAL RESERVES

	54020 - Major Repair Reserve	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
Total 54000 - CAPITAL RESERVES		\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 10,000.00

Total Boards + Capital Reserves \$ 429,221.74 \$ 359,414.89 \$ 524,098.84

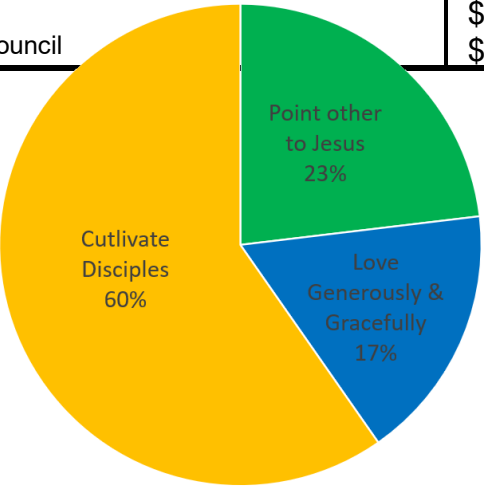
# Narrative Budget Explained

We have called this collection of pages a “Narrative Budget” in an attempt to tell God’s story in a new and creative way. Before we begin we must explain how we define a “Narrative Budget”. A narrative budget is a way to share our budget through pictures, stories and narratives. This does not replace the more conventional “Line item budget but serves to enhance it. More importantly the work of God’s church can never be understood solely through numbers on a page but on the impact of the individuals on one another and the impact of the body of Christ on the world.

Below is a snap shot of that impact, looking at the stewardship of the congregation through the lens of our mission statement. The pages to follow help to share even more deeply that impact!

Thank you for your generosity and your commitment to the mission we share to: Point others to Jesus, Love generously and gracefully and to Cultivate disciples!

2022 Expenditures	Point other to Jesus	Love Generously & Gracefully	Cutlivate Disciples	
<b>Personnel</b>	\$ 33,503	\$ 33,503	\$ 164,487	\$ 231,493
Pastors	\$ 12,796	\$ 12,796	\$ 102,366	\$ 127,958
Staff	\$ 20,707	\$ 20,707	\$ 62,121	\$ 103,535
<b>Program/Worship</b>	\$ 2,560	\$ 4,936	\$ 5,120	\$ 12,616
SS/iQuest/VBS/Triune Ministry	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Worship/Music/Choirs/Bands/Licenses/Copyrights	\$ 2,376	\$ 4,753	\$ 4,753	\$ 11,882
Youth Group/Confirmation/Bible Studies/Adult Ed./Ads	\$ 183	\$ 183	\$ 367	\$ 734
<b>Reaching Out</b>	\$ 4,011	\$ 10,011	\$ 32,022	\$ 46,044
Synod/ELCA	\$ -	\$ 6,000	\$ 24,000	\$ 30,000
Camps/Conference/LSS/Min. Housing/Missions	\$ 4,011	\$ 4,011	\$ 8,022	\$ 16,044
<b>Property</b>	\$ 41,361	\$ 9,855	\$ 9,855	\$ 61,070
Electricity/Gas/Water/Sewer/Garbage/Phone	\$ 16,584	\$ 3,554	\$ 3,554	\$ 23,691
Main. Fees/Equip./Insurance/Reserves	\$ 17,728	\$ 5,909	\$ 5,909	\$ 29,546
Supplies/Repairs/Lawn/Snow	\$ 7,050	\$ 392	\$ 392	\$ 7,833
<b>General</b>	\$ 1,842	\$ 3,684	\$ 3,684	\$ 9,210
Office Sup./Paper/Envelopes/Postage/Bank Fees	\$ 583	\$ 1,167	\$ 1,167	\$ 2,917
FICA	\$ 1,218	\$ 2,436	\$ 2,436	\$ 6,091
Conferences & Council	\$ 40	\$ 81	\$ 81	\$ 202



**2022 at a glance!**  
As we look back at the 2022 calendar year we have been blessed to share in ministry in some amazing ways!



**We welcomed 18 precious souls through the gift of baptism to the body of Christ in 2022!**

**Brinley Nichols**, daughter of **Reno & Mackenzie Nichols**, **Grayson Fuchs**, son of **Adam & Angela Fuchs**, **Hayden Thompson**, daughter of **John & Jennifer Thompson**, **Robert O'Fallon**, son of **Bob & Katy O'Fallon**, **Simon Unger**, son of **Paul & Elizabeth Unger**, **Kyler Kierstead & Trevin Kierstead**, sons of **Kristine Schultz-Kierstead**, **Avianna Yarmon & Ada Yarmon**, daughters of **Jesse & Krista Yarmon**, **Graclynn Heder**, daughter of **Blaine & JoHanna Heder**, **Orion Erickson**, son of **Brandon & Allison Erickson**, **Ronan Lippert**, son of **Lucas Lippert-Negen & Meghan Doll**, **Taysom Doll**, son of **Andrew & Brittany Doll**, **Everett Mueller Gessell**, son of **Evan & Rachael Mueller Gessell**, **Duncan Reeck**, son of **Justin & Lisa Reeck**, **Lou Winders**, son of **Jack & Josie Winders**, **Rayna Schmidt**, daughter of **Kimberlee & Brandon Schmidt** & **Jace Wendroth**, son of **Andy & Katie Wendroth**.

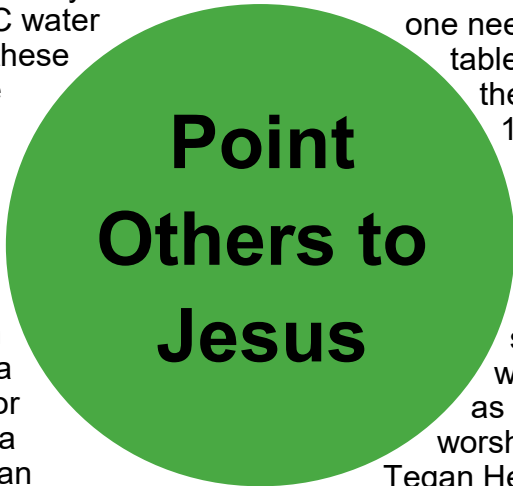


**Graduation Sunday June 5th, 2022**

We recognized **18 graduates** on Sunday, June 5th as a part of our worship service. Graduates received a quilt made by ladies of the congregation and a PLC water bottle. We are so grateful for these amazing young adults and we are excited to watch as they live out their God given gifts! Congrats to: Jordyn Bebus, Maggie Malling, Bennett Evans, Miller Mumm, Madison Hentges, Reese Reutzel, Alex Hoiseth, Easton Rindahl, Ellary Jacoby, Kianna Roeske, Alex Johnson, Connor Roufs, Makullen Kleist, Kendra Shepherd, Bryan Larson, Logan Utsch, Gretta Lemke & Gabe Voss!

**Celebrating 1st Communion**

“Jesus said, ‘Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them.’” At Paynesville Lutheran Church we believe no one has to earn grace, and thus, no one needs to earn their way to the Lord’s table. On Maundy Thursday April 14th the PLC community celebrated with 15 young people (this does not include all those who received communion instruction individually throughout the year.) IN addition to receiving communion for the first time these students also assisted with worship by helping to strip the altar as a part of the Maundy Thursday worship. Riley Fuchs, Tegan Heimerman, Paisley Hellermann, Harper Heder, Robbie Heder, Maggie Johnson, Kloey Kleven, Melanie Klocker, Mitchel Klocker, Alyssa Ley, Alexander Lieser, Noella Meierhofer, Makya Price, Aylah Utsch, Cody Whelchel



**2023 Proposed Budget**

EXECUTIVE BOARD		2022 Budget	2022 Year End	2023 Proposed
51100 - Council				
51101 - Conventions		\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00
51102 - Council Expense		\$ 250.00	\$ 67.19	\$ 250.00
Total 51100 - Council		\$ 1,250.00	\$ 67.19	\$ 1,250.00
51500 - Staff Salaries				
51520 - Worship Stipends		\$ 10,175.00	\$ 6,622.00	\$ 9,875.00
51502 - Accounting		\$ 19,000.00	\$ 15,404.86	\$ 20,500.00
51503 - Administrative Assistant		\$ 40,000.00	\$ 38,168.10	\$ 41,000.00
51507 - Custodian		\$ 10,000.00	\$ 5,040.00	\$ 10,000.00
51509 - Associate Pastor		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 68,769.00
51509.1 - Transitional Expense		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00
51511 - Van Driver		\$ 700.00	\$ 520.00	\$ 800.00
51512 - Lead Pastor		\$ 78,294.00	\$ 78,332.42	\$ 82,907.62
51518 - Worship Coordinator		\$ 22,500.00	\$ 19,558.17	\$ 23,625.00
51620 - Youth Director-Elementary		\$ -	\$ 6,783.00	\$ -
GLLM Ministry Associate		\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ -
Wednesday Coordinator		\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
Seminary Student		\$ 2,300.00	\$ 2,068.00	\$ -
Future Staffing		\$ 20,000.00	\$ 330.84	\$ -
Total 51500 - Staff Salaries		\$ 210,969.00	\$ 180,815.19	\$ 265,476.62
51600 - Staff Expense				
51602 - Administrative Assist. Benefits		\$ 6,406.60	\$ 6,406.54	\$ 6,959.04
51610 - Pastoral Benefits (Sum)		\$ 49,793.76	\$ 49,625.40	\$ 92,668.36
51620 - Staff Travel		\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,963.83	\$ 2,000.00
51621 - Theological Conference		\$ 500.00	\$ 135.00	\$ 500.00
51623 - Youth Director-Continuing Ed-		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
51624 - FICA-Employers Portion - Staff Only		\$ 7,418.00	\$ 6,090.60	\$ 6,563.70
51626 - Worship Coordinator Cont Ed		\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
51627 - Staff Development		\$ 300.00	\$ -	\$ 300.00
Total 51600 - Staff Expense		\$ 66,668.36	\$ 64,471.37	\$ 109,241.10
51700 - Parish Expenses				
51701 - Advertising/Marketing		\$ 600.00	\$ 530.03	\$ 650.00
51702 - Bank & Simply Giving Fees		\$ 1,000.00	\$ 955.33	\$ 1,250.00
51703 - Cell Phone Stipends		\$ 240.00	\$ 240.00	\$ 480.00
51704 - Center Point Gas		\$ 6,500.00	\$ 6,776.94	\$ 7,500.00
51705 - City Water & Sewer		\$ 1,000.00	\$ 642.37	\$ 1,000.00
51707 - Computer Maintenance		\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00
51708 - Copier Expense		\$ 2,000.00	\$ 660.00	\$ 1,000.00
51709 - Copyright renewal & license fee		\$ 3,244.69	\$ 3,078.76	\$ 3,855.22
51710 - Office Supplies		\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,357.51	\$ 2,000.00
51711 - Pastor Worship Supplies		\$ 300.00	\$ 16.99	\$ 150.00
51712 - Postage		\$ 1,200.00	\$ 687.25	\$ 1,000.00
51714 - Stewardship Envelopes		\$ 900.00	\$ 739.40	\$ 749.90
51715 - Telephone & Internet Connection		\$ 4,020.00	\$ 4,169.09	\$ 4,020.00
51716 - Van/Bus Maintenance		\$ 300.00	\$ 405.01	\$ 500.00
51717 - Water Softener Service		\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ -
51718 - West Central Sanitation		\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,324.84	\$ 1,700.00
51719 -Insurances		\$ 12,500.00	\$ 11,963.00	\$ 13,426.00
Workers Comp Insurance		\$ 1,778.00	\$ 2,299.74	\$ 1,735.00
Bus Insurance		\$ 834.00	\$ 834.00	\$ 757.00
Building Insurance		\$ 8,193.00	\$ 7,599.26	\$ 9,434.00
Umbrella Insurance		\$ 1,230.00	\$ 1,230.00	\$ 1,500.00
51720 - Worship & Web Technology		\$ 2,500.00	\$ -	\$ 3,000.00
51721 - Xcel Energy		\$ 10,500.00	\$ 10,538.03	\$ 12,000.00
51722 - Copier Lease		\$ 3,800.00	\$ 3,780.00	\$ 3,800.00
Floodgates Collaborative		\$ 3,360.00	\$ 2,899.00	\$ -
Revitalization Program		\$ 5,000.00	\$ 2,493.10	\$ 6,000.00
Stewardship		\$ 4,999.00	\$ -	\$ -

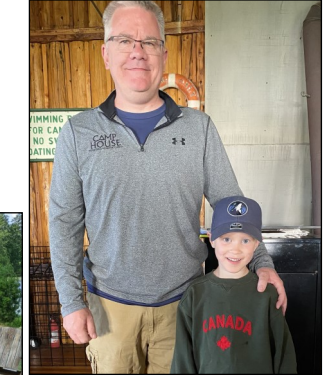


12.31.22

Account #	Account Name	11.30.2022	December Income	December Expense	12.31.2022
53204	Worship - Bell Choir	1,406.36			1,406.36
53352	Building Project	1,110.00			1,110.00
53211	Building Use Fee	-			-
53212	Bus Fund	-			-
53214	Camphouse (in-out)	7,609.80			7,609.80
53215	Camphouse Projects	389.56			389.56
53221	Worship - Choir	1,813.02			1,813.02
53222	Christmas Gift Project	3,467.85	595.00		4,062.85
53225	Community Service Center	892.00		(892.00)	-
53227	Youth Confirmation	1,155.98			1,155.98
53236	Endowment Fund	1,278.00			1,278.00
53240	Faith Chests	0.00			0.00
53245	Good Neighbor Fund	4,611.92			4,611.92
53247	Green Thumbs/Landscaping	1,292.05			1,292.05
53251	Insurance Deductible	3,758.28			3,758.28
53252	Youth - iQuest	2,284.30		(93.54)	2,190.76
53256	Lenten Offering	4,611.09			4,611.09
53257	Wed. Community Meals	580.45	84.00		664.45
53259	Major Building Repair Reserve (emergency fund)/(ELCA savings account + SF Savings Account Interest Income + FMV Adjustments)	45,121.10	2,000.00	2,347.25	49,468.35
53260	Mission of the Month	-			-
53262	Men's Group	254.95			254.95
53282	Quilters Fund	1,009.77			1,009.77
53294	Special Occasion Flowers (in-out)	255.80	120.00		375.80
53298	Sunday School Missions (Child Fund International)	1,255.11			1,255.11
53296	Sunday Cookies	-			-
53302	Undesignated (includes checking interest & Thrivent Choice)***	5,743.93	304.87		6,048.80
53303	Chairs	-			-
53300	Thrivent Choice	-			-
53307	Worship - Video/Sound/Projection (Worship needs)	(0.00)			(0.00)
53304	VBS	-			-
53308	Wedding Fees (in-out)	2,391.55			2,391.55
53310	WELCA	7,987.47	137.63	(204.90)	7,920.20
53315	Youth General	-			-
53317	Youth Mission Trip	4,314.83			4,314.83
53319	Youth Music Fund - Sounds Like Love	-			-
53323	Youth Special Events (in-out)	131.03			131.03
53325	Worship - Youth	889.85			889.85
53314	Youth Bible Camp Scholarships	-			-
53339	Piano/Organ Maintenance	220.00	600.00		820.00
53330	Worship-COVID needs	-			-
53331	Cont Ed - Staff	838.94	828.82	(55.00)	1,612.76
53335	Meet us on Maple Event	0.00			0.00
53337	Columbariom	3,520.00			3,520.00
53338	Women's Bible Study	30.00			30.00
53345	Haiti Mission Trip	1,135.12			1,135.12
53348	Fellowship (in-out)	392.33	183.00	(385.29)	190.04
53349	Kozefo	142.92			142.92
53353	Comfort Creators	270.00			270.00
53361	Shed Repair	-			-
53381	Funerals	100.00	(100.00)		-
53390	Summer Intern	839.57	(839.57)		-
53391	Trailer	1,000.00			1,000.00
53392	Ukraine Relief	-			-
	Special Funds Checking + MIF Special Funds Undesignated (**income column includes the interest from SF Checking Account & MIF - Special Funds Undesignated Account)	69,762.27	24.87		72,045.29
	ELCA Special Funds Savings (**income/expense column includes the change in Market Value and SF Savings Interest Income)	44,342.66	2,347.25		46,689.91
	Total Special Funds	114,104.93	3,913.75	716.52	118,735.20
	Totals Per Income Statement (SF Checking Interest is recorded in account 60200)		3,888.88	716.52	

CAMP HOUSE PLC Intergeneration Bible Camp Experience! Celebrating 1st Communion

The yearly opportunity for students, adults and families to attend Bible camp at Camp House in the summer is life changing opportunity that is looked forward to all year round. During this week we have adult and family volunteers, confirmation students, peer ministry high school students and church staff gathering together to sing praise to God, worship in the vibrant outdoors of Northern Minnesota, study Gods amazing Word, eat great meals, play and laugh a lot!







5:05 AM  
01/11/23  
Accrual Basis

Paynesville Lutheran Church  
Balance Sheet  
As of December 31, 2022

	Dec 31, 22
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
10250 · Special Funds Savings - ELCA	46,689.91
10100 · Operating Account	129,593.34
10200 · Special Funds Checking	72,045.29
10500 · MIF - Endowment	14,923.31
Total Checking/Savings	263,251.85
Total Current Assets	263,251.85
Fixed Assets	
Building and Land	1,100,000.00
Total Fixed Assets	1,100,000.00
Other Assets	
DR.MARVIN&MARGARET NIEDAN ENDOW	37,905.49
Don/Dixie Anderson Endowment	29,953.45
Church Endowment Fund	388,731.43
Church Music Enrichment Endowme	17,038.22
Church Scholarship Endowment	18,503.75
Lois Runge Endowment Fund	679,575.13
Seminary Endowment Fund	14,652.59
Total Other Assets	1,186,360.06
TOTAL ASSETS	2,549,611.91
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
24000 · Payroll Liabilities	
941 Liability	1,459.34
State W/H Liability	208.00
24000 · Payroll Liabilities - Other	1,606.14
Total 24000 · Payroll Liabilities	3,273.48
Total Other Current Liabilities	3,273.48
Total Current Liabilities	3,273.48
Long Term Liabilities	
24600 · Reshingle Roof Loan	92,261.04
24500 · Capital Improvement Loan	144,888.52
Total Long Term Liabilities	237,149.56
Total Liabilities	240,423.04
Equity	
32000 · Retained Earnings	2,444,367.68
Net Income	-135,178.81
Total Equity	2,309,188.87
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	2,549,611.91



Paynesville Lutheran Church  
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual  
January through December 2022

	Dec 22	Jan - Dec 22	Budget
56900 · Niedan Fund	0.00	1,000.00	
56200 · Sonstegard Scholar Grant	0.00	753.00	
56300 · Torbenson Music Grant	0.00	0.00	
56400 · Wandersee	0.00	13,580.30	
56500 · Runge Fund	0.00	27,674.31	
56600 · Anderson Fund	0.00	1,219.79	
56700 · Buss Fund	0.00	596.69	
Total 56000 · ENDOWMENT EXPENSE	0.00	44,824.09	
Total Expense	34,116.32	582,598.10	413,942.05
Net Ordinary Income	78,608.05	-135,809.41	-413,942.05
Other Income/Expense			
Other Income			
60200 · Interest Income	71.35	630.60	0.00
Total Other Income	71.35	630.60	0.00
Net Other Income	71.35	630.60	0.00
Net Income	78,679.40	-135,178.81	-413,942.05

In 2022 we grew leaders for the greater church through our Seminary Intern!

We were blessed to have Gavin Diehm serving as our seminary intern this past summer. Gavin began his two months internship with Paynesville Lutheran Church on Wednesday June 15<sup>th</sup> and was officially welcomed in worship on Sunday June 19<sup>th</sup> and wrapped things up in August.



He comes to us with a wide variety of experiences and a familiarity with our congregation as he has served with us in various capacities over the past few years.



This was a very unique partnership, as internships typically last a year in the church context. The reason Gavin was only with us for two months is because he is pursuing a different form of ordination, that of deacon, with a focus on hospital chaplaincy. Thank you to Gavin for your work and ministry with us! We look forward to seeing where God is leading you in the years ahead!



CROSSWALK CONFIRMATION



There are currently **37** students in the confirmation and preconfirmation programs at PLC. **10** - 6th graders participate in Sewers and there are **27** students involved 7th - 9th grade taking part in Crosswalk!



Point  
Others to  
Jesus

One of our students and their mentor working on a project.



On October 30th we were blessed to celebrate with **11** students and their families as they affirmed their baptism. Adesyn Bogie, Jayda Brooks, Carter Fuchs, Madison Kotschevar, Kadyn Kulzer, Henry Lemke, Madison McNab, Mason McNab, Kaydence Roeske, Hailey Savage & Eliana Szabo.







32 people enjoyed Family Game Night in December.

Point  
Others to  
Jesus

Thank you to all those who helped decorate  
for the Christmas season!



5:08 AM  
01/11/23  
Accrual Basis

Paynesville Lutheran Church  
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual  
January through December 2022

	Dec 22	Jan - Dec 22	Budget
53338 · WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY	0.00	275.00	
53390 · Summer Intern	0.00	160.43	
53392 · Ukraine Relief	0.00	500.00	
53339 · Piano/Organ Maintenance	0.00	260.00	
53335 · Meet us on Maple Event	0.00	8,701.15	
53330 · Worship-COVID needs	0.00	5.16	
53348 · Fellowship (in-out)	385.29	2,719.41	
53331 · Cont Ed - Staff	55.00	55.00	
53325 · Worship - Youth	0.00	9.98	
53204 · Worship - Bell Choir	0.00	29.95	
53212 · Bus Fund	0.00	795.44	
53214 · Camphouse (in-out)	0.00	3,231.36	
53215 · Camphouse Projects	0.00	1,883.56	
53221 · Worship - Choir	0.00	344.49	
53222 · Christmas Gift Project	0.00	3,952.17	
53225 · Community Service Center	892.00	1,607.14	
53227 · Youth Confirmation	0.00	428.49	
53236 · Endowment Funds	0.00	7,193.35	
53240 · Faith Chests	0.00	676.25	
53245 · Good Neighbor Fund	0.00	849.10	
53247 · Green Thumbs	0.00	1,060.70	
53252 · Youth-IQuest	93.54	3,245.16	
53256 · Lenten Benevolence	0.00	890.00	
53257 · Wed. Community Meals	0.00	5,079.36	
53259 · Major Building Repair			
53259.1 · Savings FMV Adjustment	-2,347.25	6,389.23	
53259 · Major Building Repair - Other	0.00	1,916.00	
Total 53259 · Major Building Repair	-2,347.25	8,305.23	0.00
53260 · Mission of the Month	0.00	911.00	
53282 · Quilters	0.00	904.34	
53294 · Special Occ. Flowers (in-out)	0.00	602.30	
53298 · Sunday School Missions	0.00	443.00	
53302 · Undesignated (inc chk int & TC)	0.00	2,376.43	
53304 · VBS	0.00	160.07	
53307 · Worship-Video/Sound/Projection	0.00	83.90	
53310 · WELCA	204.90	7,021.55	
53319 · Youth Music - Sounds Like Love	0.00	907.44	
Total 53200 · SF Expense	-716.52	71,867.91	0.00
Total 53000 · DESIGNATED GIVING	-716.52	71,867.91	0.00
54500 · Capital Improvements			
54502 · Interest Expense	992.54	7,355.17	
54501 · Capital Improvements	0.00	99,136.04	
Total 54500 · Capital Improvements	992.54	106,491.21	
56000 · ENDOWMENT EXPENSE			



Paynesville Lutheran Church  
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual  
January through December 2022

	Dec 22	Jan - Dec 22	Budget
51718 · West Central Sanitation	121.39	1,324.84	1,000.00
51719 · Insurances	830.91	11,963.00	12,500.00
51720 · Worship & Web Technology	0.00	0.00	2,500.00
51721 · Xcel Energy	770.33	10,538.03	10,500.00
51722 · Copier Lease	315.00	3,780.00	3,800.00
51724 · Accounting direct deposit fee	0.00	133.00	300.00
51725 · Pastoral Discretionary	0.00	329.86	500.00
Total 51700 · Parish Expenses	3,827.87	58,109.92	72,354.69
52100 · Benevolence			
52109 · Kozefo	500.00	6,000.00	6,000.00
52101 · Bible Camps	875.00	3,500.00	3,500.00
52102 · ELCA Missionary Sponsor	312.50	1,250.00	1,250.00
52103 · ELCA SW Minnesota Synod	2,500.00	30,000.00	30,000.00
52104 · Lakeland Conference	250.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
52105 · Lutheran Social Service	500.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
52106 · Paynesville Ministerial	0.00	0.00	500.00
52108 · Paynesville Emergency Housing	0.00	0.00	500.00
Total 52100 · Benevolence	4,937.50	43,750.00	44,750.00
Total EXECUTIVE BOARD	30,309.51	347,213.67	395,992.05
51200 · Board of Youth & Family			
51201 · Camperships	0.00	0.00	3,000.00
51205 · Senior High Youth	0.00	104.52	200.00
51207 · Youth & Family Ministry	99.38	99.38	100.00
51208 · Sunday School.	0.00	0.00	200.00
Total 51200 · Board of Youth & Family	99.38	203.90	3,500.00
51300 · Board of Trustees			
51301 · Carpet Cleaning	0.00	0.00	100.00
51302 · Custodial Supplies	107.43	1,121.76	1,500.00
51303 · Repairs & Maintenance	0.00	1,552.84	3,000.00
51304 · Snow Lawn Service	700.00	5,158.32	5,000.00
Total 51300 · Board of Trustees	807.43	7,832.92	9,600.00
51400 · Board of Deacons			
51401 · Celebration Choir Music	0.00	0.00	250.00
51406 · Piano & Organ Maintenance	600.00	600.00	600.00
51409 · Worship & Baptismal Supplies	23.98	1,564.40	2,000.00
Total 51400 · Board of Deacons	623.98	2,164.40	2,850.00
54000 · CAPITAL RESERVES			
54020 · Major Repair Reserve	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Total 54000 · CAPITAL RESERVES	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Total 51000 · OPERATING EXPENSE	33,840.30	359,414.89	413,942.05
53000 · DESIGNATED GIVING			
53200 · SF Expense			
53337 · COLUMBARIOM	0.00	5,700.00	
53381 · Funerals	0.00	500.00	

Worship Life of PLC



Wednesday night services averaged about 95 people in attendance at these worship experiences.



During Holy Week (Palm Sunday through Easter) 821 worshipped with us in person, 325 online.

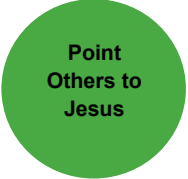


On Christmas Eve and Christmas Day 458 people worshipped with us in person, 150 online views.



Sunday morning services averaged about 110 people in attendance at these worship experiences.

18 worshiped at our Blue Christmas service in person, 34 online.

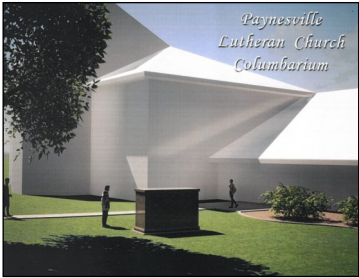




Trunk or Treat



For several years now we have been hosting a Trunk & treat event in our parking lot on Halloween. This event is a safe and fun way for youth and families to share in fellowship and dress in goofy costumes. This years was blessed with a beautiful evening and the largest turn out that we have ever had. We estimate that we saw some 300 people! Thank to all those who decorated their vehicles and handed out treats to kids in the Paynesville community.



PLC Columbarium

This year marked the congregation coming together to approve the building of columbarium. This will serve as one more we can be caring toward those around us by providing a place to lay loved ones ashes to rest. The columbarium was approved at a congregational meeting in 2022 and will be installed in the spring of 2023.



PLC celebrated the lives of 10 dear souls who **claimed their Baptismal Promise** in 2022. *Mary Cushman, Donna Ahrens, Kenneth Block, Sharon Nelson, Pamela Pfeifer, June Simpson, Laila Mohagen, Robert Haagenson, Sharon Lunz, Norma Gabrielson & James Atkinson.* May God bless their memories and those who continue to grieve their loss.



Beets Pickle's!

We had members make beets again this year, raising \$215 for Operation Christmas Outreach



New Refrigerator and Freezer!

Over the past few years the use of our church kitchen has grown especially on Wednesday nights! This past year we have purchased a new commercial refrigerator and freezer to help accommodate the many mouths that come for good food and fellowship! May they serve this congregation for many years!



5:08 AM  
01/11/23  
Accrual Basis

Paynesville Lutheran Church  
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual  
January through December 2022

	Dec 22	Jan - Dec 22	Budget
Total 51500 · Staff Salaries	14,007.04	180,815.19	210,969.00
51600 · Staff Expense			
51611 · Lead Pastoral Benefits			
51633 · Lead Pastor Health Ins Adj	107.60	1,400.00	1,400.00
51619 · Lead Pastor Profess. Expense	0.00	71.64	240.00
51618 · Lead Pastor Pension	782.94	9,395.28	9,395.28
51631 · Lead Pastor Group Survivor Ben	58.72	704.64	704.64
51617 · Lead Pastor Medical	3,003.00	36,036.00	36,036.00
51616 · Lead Pastor ELCA Disability	84.82	1,017.84	1,017.84
51615 · Lead Pastor Continuing Ed.	328.82	1,000.00	1,000.00
Total 51611 · Lead Pastoral Benefits	4,365.90	49,625.40	49,793.76
51634 · Admin Assist. Benefits			
51625 · Admin Asst Health Ins ADJ	115.38	1,499.94	1,500.00
51602 · Administrative Assist. Cont. Ed	250.00	250.00	250.00
51636 · Admin Assist Basic Group Life	28.63	343.56	343.56
51637 · Admin Assist Retirement	318.07	3,816.84	3,816.84
51635 · Admin Assist ELCA Disability	41.35	496.20	496.20
Total 51634 · Admin Assist. Benefits	753.43	6,406.54	6,406.60
51620 · Staff Travel	1,963.83	1,963.83	2,000.00
51621 · Theological Conference	-280.00	135.00	500.00
51624 · FICA-Employers Portion - Staff	538.94	6,090.60	7,418.00
51626 · Worship Coordinator Cont Ed	195.00	250.00	250.00
51627 · Staff Development	0.00	0.00	300.00
Total 51600 · Staff Expense	7,537.10	64,471.37	66,668.36
51700 · Parish Expenses			
51729 · Kitchen Supplies	0.00	4,489.41	4,500.00
51728 · Stewardship	0.00	0.00	4,000.00
51727 · Revitalization Program	0.00	2,493.10	5,000.00
51726 · Floodgates Collaboartive	840.00	2,800.00	3,350.00
51701 · Advertising/Marketing	0.00	530.03	600.00
51702 · Bank & Simply Giving Fees	78.52	955.33	1,000.00
51703 · Cell Phone Stipends	240.00	240.00	240.00
51704 · Center Point Gas	330.66	6,776.94	6,500.00
51705 · City Water & Sewer	0.00	642.37	1,000.00
51707 · Computer Maintenance	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
51708 · Copier Expense	10.00	660.00	2,000.00
51709 · Copyright renewal & license fee	16.06	3,078.76	3,244.69
51710 · Office Supplies	0.00	1,357.51	2,000.00
51711 · Pastor Worship Supplies	0.00	16.99	300.00
51712 · Postage	275.00	687.25	1,200.00
51714 · Stewardship Envelopes	0.00	739.40	900.00
51715 · Telephone & Internet Connection	0.00	4,169.09	4,020.00
51716 · Van Maintenance	0.00	405.01	300.00
51717 · Water Softener Service	0.00	0.00	100.00



**Paynesville Lutheran Church**  
**Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual**  
 January through December 2022

	Dec 22	Jan - Dec 22	Budget
43310 · WELCA	137.63	14,516.59	
43331 · Cont Ed - Staff	828.82	828.82	
43345 · Haiti Mission Trip	0.00	10.00	
<b>Total 43200 · SF Income</b>	<b>3,888.88</b>	<b>91,096.25</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Total 43000 · DESIGNATED GIVING INCOME</b>	<b>10,217.21</b>	<b>149,677.03</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>46000 · ENDOWMENT INCOME</b>			
46600 · Change in Market Value	60,258.06	-120,418.33	0.00
46001 · Endowment Contribution	0.00	156.74	
46100 · Checking Interest Income	3.24	68.81	0.00
<b>Total 46000 · ENDOWMENT INCOME</b>	<b>60,261.30</b>	<b>-120,192.78</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>112,724.37</b>	<b>446,788.69</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>112,724.37</b>	<b>446,788.69</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Expense</b>			
<b>51000 · OPERATING EXPENSE</b>			
<b>EXECUTIVE BOARD</b>			
<b>51100 · Council</b>			
51101 · Conventions	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
51102 · Council Expense	0.00	67.19	250.00
<b>Total 51100 · Council</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>67.19</b>	<b>1,250.00</b>
<b>51500 · Staff Salaries</b>			
51527 · Future Staffing	0.00	330.64	20,000.00
51526 · Seminary Student	0.00	2,056.00	2,300.00
51525 · Wednesday Coordinator	1,350.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
51524 · GLLM Ministry Associate	0.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
<b>51523 · Worship Stipends</b>			
51403 · Guest Ministers	0.00	1,967.00	2,800.00
51516 · YOLO Director	75.00	400.00	600.00
51515 · Praise Band Director	25.00	400.00	700.00
51514 · On the Horizon Director	0.00	350.00	800.00
51508 · Harmonies Director	50.00	600.00	400.00
51506 · Celebration Choir Director	60.00	120.00	600.00
51505 · Celebration Choir Accompanist	50.00	100.00	475.00
51504 · Bell Choir Director	0.00	30.00	300.00
51501 · Accompanists	240.00	2,655.00	3,500.00
<b>Total 51523 · Worship Stipends</b>	<b>500.00</b>	<b>6,622.00</b>	<b>10,175.00</b>
51502 · Accounting	1,162.00	15,404.86	19,000.00
51503 · Administrative Assistant	2,936.00	38,168.10	40,000.00
51507 · Custodian	344.00	5,040.00	10,000.00
51511 · iQuest Van Driver	0.00	520.00	700.00
51512 · Lead Pastor	5,984.28	78,332.42	78,294.00
51518 · Worship Coordinator	1,730.76	19,558.17	22,500.00
<b>51519 · Youth Director</b>			
51520 · Youth Director Elementary	0.00	6,783.00	0.00
<b>Total 51519 · Youth Director</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>6,783.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

**Operation Christmas Outreach**

Love  
Generously &  
Gracefully

**\$4062.85** was raised this year and many families were blessed with gifts during this Christmas Season as part of our "Operation Christmas Outreach." Our youth were able to pick out the gifts themselves this year. We are thankful to partner with the Paynesville Community Service Center to bring gifts to those in need during the Christmas season. A special thank you to Dayna and Byron Fuchs for working with group of young people all year and for their dedication to the ministry of out youth. We also must thank Colleen McNab for bringing this important ministry to the community and to PLC. She continues to guide us and lend her amazing heart to the ministry we share!



*"I really enjoyed being a part of Operation Christmas Outreach! I often think about how bad I have it, but seeing how many kids don't even receive Christmas gifts really opened my eyes to how fortunate I actually am. Shopping was an amazing experience, and I felt so good picking out gifts to give to kids in need."*

*"Today was honestly such an amazing afternoon!! It was so heartwarming to know that we are doing something so amazing for our community! I felt many emotions while we were shopping, it makes me realize how grateful I am for everything that I have! It's crazy to realize that so many people don't get the opportunity's that we do! I want to thank the*

*church and everyone who made this possible"*

*"Today meant a lot to me, I knew it was going to mean a lot but it meant more then I thought it was going to. It was kinda hard because I have done it for little kids before and it was easier than it was today. I thought it was going to be easy because I could just get stuff that I would want but I know that other people want more than what I want so the*



*last couple of dollars was probably the hardest part because things add up quickly and we only had a limited amount. It made it easier because I got to work with someone that just makes everything easier in general. I am really glad I got to do this and will definitely be doing it in the future."*

*"Today I found it amazing and awesome that so many kids will be getting presents this year and that so many people are willing to donate there money that they spent there time making it to people they don't know but that are in need of it. Christmas is a amazing holiday because you get to give gifts to people even if they don't give you anything because that is the point of the holiday."*







afford Christmas is really eye opening and makes me realize how fortunate I am and really humbles me."

"I felt very happy and it felt good to give to others, knowing we'll be making other kids' Christmas wishes coming true."

"I thought today was very impactful and a lot of fun! It was very meaningful buying gifts that we knew would make a very positive impact on teens in our community and that even go to school with us. It was a lot of fun spending time with our peers and getting to do

something like this that is so meaningful to our community. I loved paying for another family because it was amazing seeing how happy we made them. It makes you think about how excited the students receiving these gifts will be. It was really amazing just being able to realize that even though we didn't have a huge group that we will have made such a big impact on so many people."



Love  
Generously &  
Gracefully

FOOD! MUSIC! FUN! For the months of June - September PLC hosted a community-wide event called Meet Us on Maple Street! It was a wonderful chance to see one another and greet our neighbors! We shared in delicious food, warm weather, beautiful music and most of all amazing fellowship! The PLC community and the greater Paynesville community showed up and it was a glorious time to be together and give thanks to God for community!



Paynesville Lutheran Church  
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual  
January through December 2022

Ordinary Income/Expense	Dec 22	Jan - Dec 22	Budget
Income			
41000 · REGULAR GIVING			
41100 · Envelopes	42,245.86	417,304.44	
Total 41000 · REGULAR GIVING	42,245.86	417,304.44	
43000 · DESIGNATED GIVING INCOME			
43100 · Operating Designated Income			
43101 · Building	6,328.33	58,580.78	
Total 43100 · Operating Designated Income	6,328.33	58,580.78	
43200 · SF Income			
43381 · Funerals	-100.00	500.00	
43392 · Ukraine Relief	0.00	500.00	
43391 · Trailer	0.00	1,000.00	
43390 · Summer Intern	-839.57	160.43	
43339 · Piano/Organ Maintenance	600.00	600.00	
43338 · Women's Bible Study	0.00	282.00	
43337 · Columbarium	0.00	5,720.00	
43335 · Meet us on Maple Event	0.00	7,201.15	
43215 · Camphouse Project	0.00	750.00	
43348 · Fellowship (in-out)	183.00	2,312.61	
43352 · Building Project	0.00	1,110.00	
43212 · Bus Fund	0.00	514.62	
43214 · Camp House (in-out)	0.00	6,845.75	
43221 · Worship - Choir	0.00	535.00	
43222 · Christmas Gift Project	595.00	3,620.00	
43225 · Community Service Center	0.00	1,607.14	
43227 · Confirmation	0.00	800.00	
43236 · Endowment Fund	0.00	5,185.44	
43240 · Faith Chests	0.00	104.78	
43247 · Green Thumb/Landscaping	0.00	355.00	
43252 · IQuest	0.00	2,950.00	
43256 · Lenten Offering	0.00	5,501.09	
43257 · Wed. Community Meals	84.00	4,139.75	
43259 · Major Building Repair Reserve			
43259.2 · Savings Interest Income	0.00	433.66	
43259.1 · Savings FMV Adjustment	0.00	1,343.72	
43259 · Major Building Repair Reserve - Other	2,000.00	12,912.23	
Total 43259 · Major Building Repair Reserve	2,000.00	14,689.61	0.00
43260 · Mission of the Month	0.00	911.00	
43282 · Quilters Fund	0.00	541.00	
43294 · Special Occ. Flowers (in-out)	120.00	606.00	
43298 · Sunday School Missions	0.00	655.14	
43302 · Undesignated (inc chk int & TC)	280.00	5,883.26	
43304 · VBS	0.00	160.07	

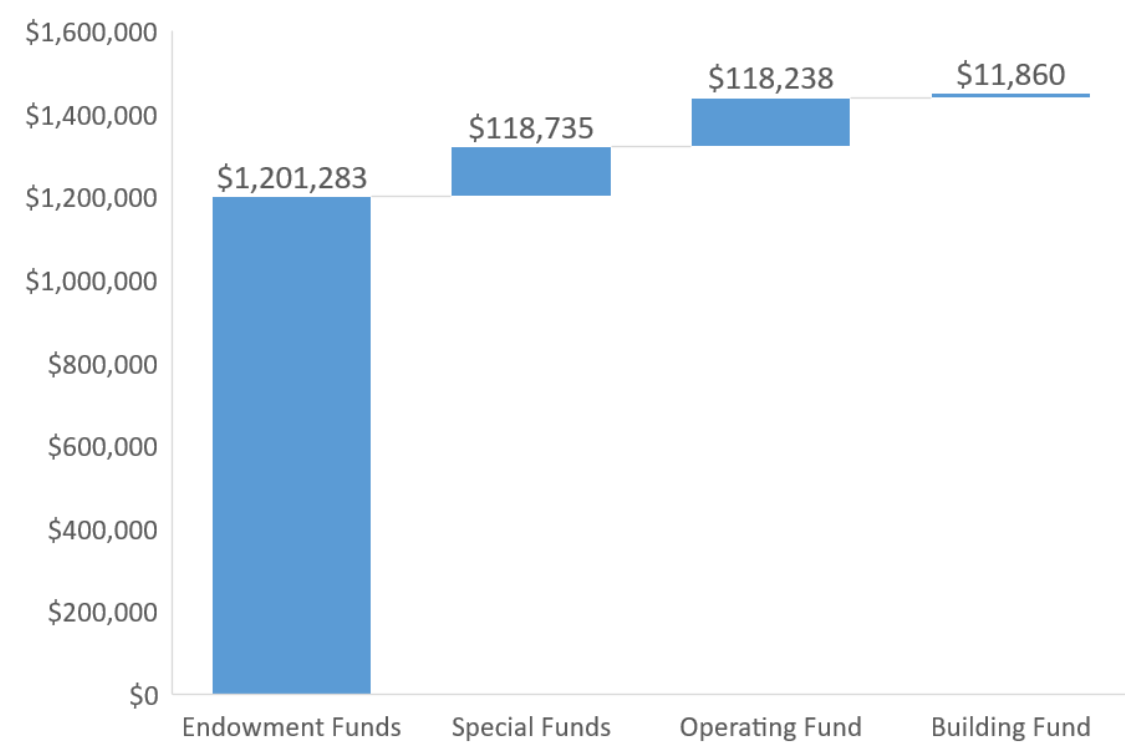


2022 Year End Financials for Paynesville Lutheran Church

\*The following 2021 financial summaries were compiled by the PLC accountants at Christianson CPA's & Consultants Paynesville MN.

Paynesville Lutheran Church 2022 Yearly Financial Summary	
Operating Fund	
2022 Total Giving -	\$417,104.44
2022 Year-end Expenses -	\$359,415
2022 Checking Account Balance -	\$118,238
Building & Roof Fund	
2022 Year-end Checking Account Balance -	\$11,860
2022 Total Giving -	\$58,580.78
2022 Total Building Loan Payment -	\$49,444.14
Principal Paid -	\$52,728.31
Interest Paid -	\$6,715.83
Building Loan balance as of 12/31/2022 -	\$144,889
2022 Total Roof Loan Payment -	\$6,614.89
Principal Paid -	\$6,000.00
Interest Paid -	\$614.98
Roof Loan balance as of 12/31/2022 -	\$92,261
Special Fund	
Year-end Balance -	\$118,735
Year-end Checking Account Balance -	\$71,540
Year-end ELCA Saving Account Balance -	\$46,690
2022 Total Special Funds Income -	\$91,096.25
2022 Total Special Funds Expenses -	\$71,867.91
Endowment Fund	
Year-end Balance -	\$1,201,283

PLC Funds At A Glance



Mission of the Month

Each month PLC takes on a new mission. We support that mission with our prayers, our financial help and by purchasing needed items. These are the missions served and the gifts given!

**January** was the Mitten Tree event where warm clothe are gathered and given to those most in need in our community - 2 Head bands, 14 Scarves, 23 Hats, 18 Pairs of Gloves, 9 Pairs of Mittens, and 19 Pairs of Socks were collected.

**February** we supported the work of our Quilters by raising \$421.00. There is more in-formation on where these amazing quilts have gone in this report.

**March** is food shelf month and PLC collected 80 pounds of food and an additional \$715.14 for our local food pantry!

**April's** mission went to "Buck a Chick" and raised \$136.00. These dollars go to buy-ing chickens for poverty stricken parts of our world. Chickens provide an on going food source!

**May** we are so thankful for the ministry of our "Green Thumbs!" They care for the church grounds and work diligently all season long. We raised \$355.00 to help them in their care of our church.

**July** is the time we get ready for school by providing much needed school supplies for area youth. \$390.00 was raised along with a donation of a large box of school supplies.

**August** we supported the children that we have adopted through Child Fund and the Kozefo school in Haiti, raising \$655.14 for their needs.

**September** was focused on collected supplies for the iQuest and Sunday School ministries right here at PLC.

**October** was the month we focused our attention on a great need that is often over-looked. We called it undie month, as we collected underwear and socks for those in need, an often overlooked necessity. Together we collected:

- Boys 14 pairs of boxers, 36 pairs of socks, 5 T shirts,
- Girls - 40 pairs of briefs, 29 pairs of socks
- Babies - 4 packages of diapers totaling 150 diapers
- Women - 23 pairs of briefs, 13 pairs of socks
- Men - 25 pairs of boxers, 22 pairs of socks, 6 T shirts
- November & December focused Operation Christmas Outreach!



PLC Quilters

The quilters made 134 total quilts in 2022!  
30 went to the Veterans Hospital in St. Cloud.  
25 to those in need in the community  
2 raffled off to raise money for the Operation Christmas Outreach program.  
20 Were given to our graduation seniors.  
57 are ready to go were needed!  
Well done quilters!





## 2022 marked the return of the Meatball Supper!



On Wednesday April 27th, after taking a hiatus during the COVID pandemic we were thankful to hold our annual meatball supper and silent auction again this year. Over **600** people enjoyed the delicious meal. The event grossed **\$6225.45**, the proceeds are used for scholarships, Bibles, Mission of the month, and other needs of our church and community. Thank you to all those who served, cooked, planned, implemented and enjoyed the Meatball Supper 2022!



One of the new experiences this year involved transforming our sanctuary into addition seating! We are so blessed to have a facility that is able to be used in such a variety of ways!

## iQuest Student Warm Clothe Drive

### Large Print Bibles

In December PLC was blessed with five large print Bibles! This wonderful gift was given the church by Beverly Stowell and Karen Mehr. They saw a need and took it upon themselves to solve it! We are so thankful that they did! Large print Bibles are a great aid to those who have difficult with their vision and want to participate fully in worship. These Bibles match the translations that are already in the sanctuary and can be found on the credenza as you enter the worship space.



The iQuest students, families and the entire congregation joined together to provide warm clothe for those in the community that have gone without. Here is what you have done together:

- 58 Hats**
- 33 Sets of Mittens**
- 26 Scarves**
- 61 Jackets**
- 11 Snowpants**



Love  
Generously &  
Gracefully

# Paynesville Lutheran Endowment Fund(s)



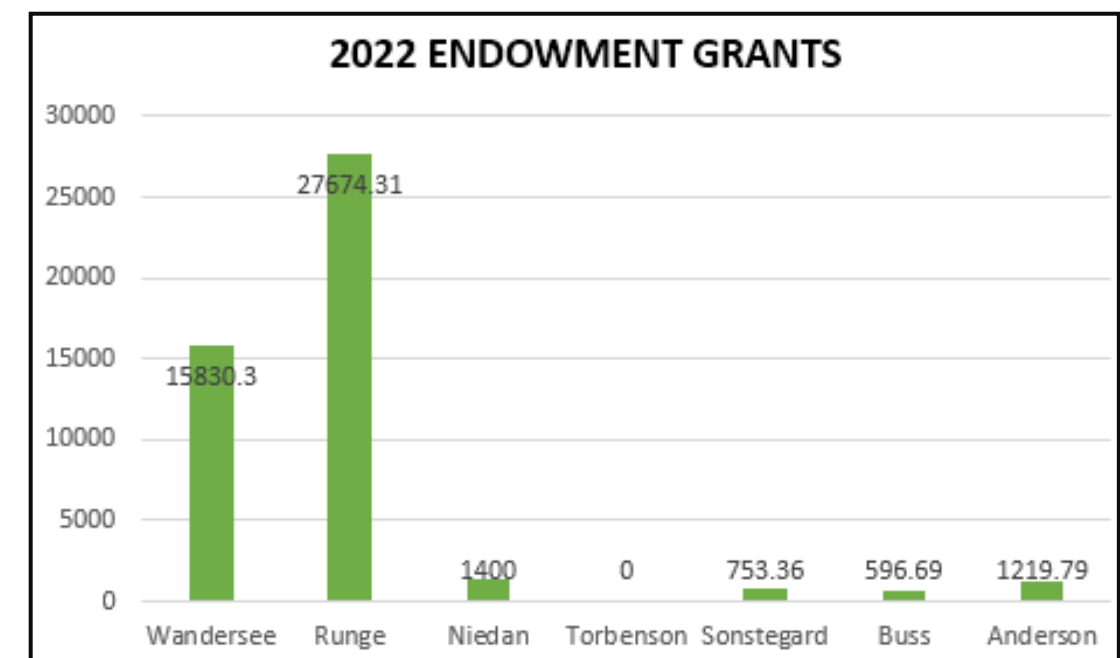
Paynesville Lutheran Church has been blessed by the gifts of many in countless ways since its beginnings. The PLC endowment program is just one of those areas rooted in selfless generosity.

The Paynesville Lutheran Church Endowment is a perpetual financial giving tool for those who wish to give now and in the future. There are seven different funds that make up the "PLC Endowment fund", each has its own set of guidelines for granting. The December balance of the total PLC Endowment is **\$1,201,283!**

The beauty of this fund is that a percentage of the interest each year is given away to worthy individuals and causes. In the year of 2022, **\$47,474.45** was given away through your generosity and the work of our Endowment Committee.

*Though this fund is an incredible asset it is important to remember that this fund is not designed to support the current operating ministries of PLC.*

2022 Grants	
Purpose	Grant \$
Post-Secondary Education Scholarship	\$20,506.06
Paynesville Food Shelf	\$500.00
Eden Valley Food Shelf	\$500.00
FFA	\$1,000.00
Haiti	\$500.00
Ukraine ELCA World Relief	\$500.00
LCBC	\$500.00
Trailer	\$1,000.00
Summer Intern	\$1,000.00
Green Lake Lutheran Ministries	\$500.00
Meet Us On Maple	\$1,500.00
Eden Valley Post Prom	\$500.00
Paynesville Post Prom	\$500.00
Camp/Mission Trips	\$2,650.00
Seminary	\$1,929.82
Building Fund	\$3,766.85
ROSE Center	\$515.43
Girls Scouts	\$1,000.00
Eden Valley Library	\$2,000.00
Paynesville Area Library	\$2,021.16
WACOSA	\$3,300.28
Green Roof	\$784.85
Ellie Hamilton	\$500.00
<b>Total Grants for 2022</b>	<b>\$47,474.45</b>





# Paynesville Lutheran Endowment Fund(s)

## The Fund’s Mission

The Paynesville Lutheran Church Endowment Fund is a non profit foundation which bestows gifts, scholarships and grants from resources generated by the fund. All gifts are given to further our congregation’s mission statement to

- Point others to Jesus,
- Love generously and gracefully, and
- Cultivate disciples.

## The Fund’s Philosophy

Through safe and secure investments with a reasonable rate of return, our benefits become more than just interest rates. Currently the fund is invested in the ELCA Endowment Fund Pooled Trust, which directs dividends to the ELCA Mission Investment Fund thus supporting God’s church in a multitude of ways.

## The Fund’s Story

The Endowment Fund started with a large bequest from a member of the congregation. Additional endowments have been added since the original gift. Contributions to the funds are invested and only up to 5% of the value of the funds

### Get Involved!

Your gift is a living legacy that will continue to give to God’s work for perpetuity! That means that every dollar given is put in a fund and only a portion of the interest is given away so that that gift may live on and give over and over again.

### How Can I Give?

- Make a donation to PLC Endowment Funds to celebrate a special occasion or a memorial.
- Include the PLC Endowment in your estate planning.
- Life insurance policies may name the PLC Endowment Funds as sole beneficiary or one of several beneficiaries.
- Property can be donated to the PLC Endowment Fund in a trust, while you retain income from it during your lifetime.
- Set up a charitable gift annuity, this provides immediate and future tax benefits with PLC Endowment Fund receiving the assets after the passing of the donor.
- Include PLC Endowment Fund as a partial or whole beneficiary on your IRA/401k.

*If you have questions on how to gift to the endowment funds, contact the church office.*

### Endowment Funds

Paynesville Lutheran Church (PLC) is blessed with a wonderful Endowment program that seeks to support ministry inside and outside of the church in all the ways you see here and so much more. The PLC Endowment fund is made up of 7 different endowments funds.

#### Wandersee Fund

- College sophomores, juniors, or seniors. attending a Lutheran University.
- Paynesville Lutheran Church building fund.
- Special ministries of Paynesville Lutheran.
- Community needs.
- Ministries of the church at large.

#### Torbenson Music Fund

- Music training scholarships for PLC musicians.

#### Sonstegard Scholarship Fund

- College freshmen attending a Lutheran University.

#### Buss Seminary Scholarship Fund

- Seminary scholarship & seminary debt reduction.

#### Lois Runge Fund

- Scholarship for any post-secondary education.
- Paynesville Lutheran Church building fund.
- Special ministries of Paynesville Lutheran.
- Community needs.
- Ministries of the church at large.

#### Don & Dixie Anderson Fund

- General Endowment

#### Dr. Marvin & Margaret Niedan Fund

- Camperships
- Mission Trip Scholarships

The Fruits of the Spirit

*“Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self-Control”*

## Community Wide Vacation Bible School (VBS)

For many years the summers of Paynesville have been blessed to share in our community VBS with all of the community churches. This we had the pleasure of hosting this event as the normal school location was being renovated. Look at the impact this congregation has had on these precious souls. Thanks be to God!





EDUCATION HOUR

We continue to cultivate disciples through a wide variety of ways including education. Our goal is to provide meaningful and thought-provoking topics to deepen faith and encourage learning in our community. Here are some of the topics covered this year.

- Brad Skoglund - Paynesville Elementary Crossing Guards
- Sue Feliciano - AmeriCorps for Seniors, Foster Grandparent Program and Senior Companion
- Pat Flicker, WACOSA - Changing Lives for People with Disabilities
- Dick Geer - Farmers Market & Minnesota Grown
- Kari Shumaker - Women of the Bible
- Arlene Sullivan, Marlys Sorenson & Lynda George - Triune Ministry Janell Bullard, PAS Superintendent - Operating Referendum informational meeting.
- Kelley from the ROSE Center
- Pat Hansen, Friends of the Paynesville Library
- Stephanie Johnson - Altar Guild
- Luan Johnsrud - What is the story behind our tree ornaments known as Chrismons
- Butch Mueller - Guatemala Stove Project
- Luan Johnsrud - Christmas music and memories



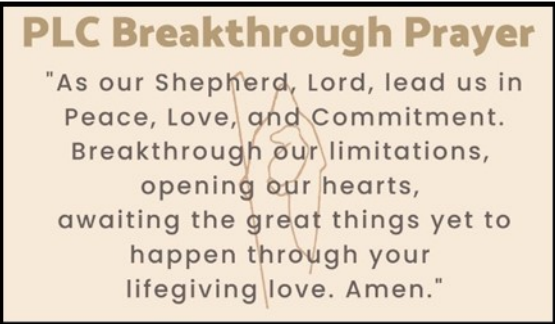
“Breakthrough Prayer Initiative”

We introduced this year a “breakthrough prayer” that invites us into a deeper relationship with God.

This prayer was designed and written by the PLC Breakthrough Prayer Team to invite God to open our hearts to new possibilities. The power of prayer is an incredible gift that we often take for granted. Paynesville Lutheran launched into a congregation wide breakthrough prayer initiative to do just that!

We asked that you set your clock, watch, alarm to 6:57 am or pm or both. Then we invited you to pray this prayer each and every day. There is no magic to 6:57 it is simply our address and we thought it would be an easy time to remember!

We continue to see God leading us in new and innovative ways!



Call Committee

One of the ways the Breakthrough Prayer opened our eyes to God’s greater imagination was through the movement to call another pastor to serve with us at PLC. We are excited for the work this important committee is doing and look forward to hearing an update as they have them. Please keep the call committee and the candidates in your prayers!

Members Present: Quorum of confirmed members (some online and some in person)

Council President Paul Evans called the meeting to order.

New roof project not budgeted for this year. After Spring storms, the shingles must be replaced and the Church Council has made a motion to replace the roof this Fall and requesting \$110,000 which includes a \$10,000 materials cost buffer. Todd Lemke seconded. [Motion carried]  
No nay votes in person and no nay votes online.

The on-site Columbarium needs funding to kick-start project. The Church Council has made a motion for a \$40,000 line of credit to begin project. Kathy Lura seconded. [Motion carried]  
One in-person vote against, 3 out of 10 voted online in favor, no nay votes online.

Special announcement that we are in need of volunteers to apply for service on a Call Committee in search of a Youth Minister. The Church Council made a motion to add a second pastor with a youth focus to PLC. The Call Committee process begins immediately.

Michele Johnson Amundson moved to adjourn meeting. Margaret Nieten seconded. [Motion carried]

The meeting was adjourned by President Paul Evans at 11:05am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Secretary Kella Bugbee



**Approval of the 2022 Budget:**

Karen Brendal’s previous motion was approved with a second by Ross Amundson and 25 for, 1 against. [Motion Carried]

**Old business:** none

**New Business:** none

Steve Whitcomb moved to adjourn the meeting; Shirley Reek seconded. [Motion Carried]

Pastor Paul closed with the Lord’s Prayer.  
The meeting was adjourned by President Paul Evans

Respectfully Submitted,  
Secretary Gretta Lemke

**2022 PLC LEADERSHIP BALLOT**  
**Executive Committee**  
Paul Evans—President  
Michele Johnson-Amundson—Vice President  
Kella Bugbee—Secretary  
**Youth & Family Board**

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**Endowment Committee**  
Ross Amundson  
Cheryl Bungum  
**Audit Committee**  
Steve Brown  
Sue Hecht  
Diane Dutcher

**Our Youth!**

Our youth programs are growing by leaps and bounds! There are 55 young people in grades K-5 joining us each Wednesday for our iQuest afterschool program. More than 60 young people in grades 6-12 join us each week for 6th grade Sowers and 7-9th grade Confirmation and 10-12th grade Sr. High Youth Group.



Our Sunday School program is growing, we had an increased number of youth attending Sunday School this fall. We have 20 students attending on Sunday mornings.  
We are thankful for all of our adult helpers who make these programs possible!





## PLC 5K!

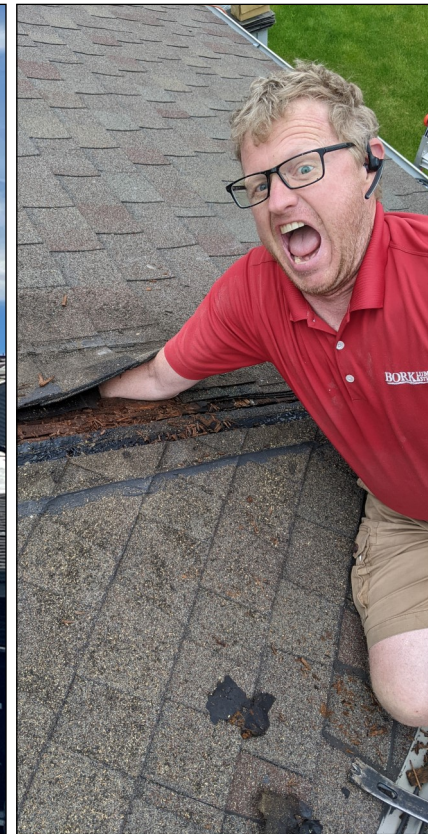


We finally had a great weather day for the PLC 5K. What a great way to grow disciples and care for our bodies—a true gift from God!

Cultivate  
Disciples

## A NEW ROOF IN 2022!

We are blessed with an amazing church building and so much ministry happens within these walls. We are so thankful for the new roof. You can tell from some of these photos that we really needed it!



### Faith Full Friends—PLC's home visitor ministry

Thank you to everyone who offered care, support and prayers for your neighbors the last several years. Through the years we have been fortunate to have a faithful group of people who have been committed to visiting those who have not been able to get out and about or those who have other challenges and appreciate some extra support. Visits include personal contact, phone calls, and notes, as well as prayer.

**The Prayer Chain** at Paynesville Lutheran Church is made up of individuals, couples and families who have joined together in this vital ministry! The power of prayer gives us a deep connection to our God. And we know that God answers our prayers often in ways we wouldn't expect. Thank you for embracing this powerful ministry.

## Paynesville Lutheran Church Annual Meeting Minutes Sunday, January 30, 2022 10:00 AM

Members Present: Quorum of confirmed members (Some online, Some in person)

Outgoing President Stephanie Johnson Called the meeting to Order.

Devotional as Worship. Pastor Paul Shumaker led us in a prayer.

Welcome: Stephanie Johnson welcomed all in attendance and gave instructions as to how the motions and discussion

Approval of the January 17, 2021 Annual Meeting Minutes

Paul Evans moved to approve the January 17, 2021 annual meeting minutes. Bev Oz seconded.  
[Motion Carried]

### Pastoral Report

Pastor Paul Shumaker—

With many changes – including Pastor Adam Butler's departure – This congregation is different than the 2020 congregation. Nonetheless, the congregation continues to nurture leaders. This congregation does this without even thinking. We have more youth bands as churches have bands in general, a tremendous staff, and have three seminary students in our midst.

PLC is going to face some continuing challenges. Expenses have exceeded our giving, so we can't hire another pastor at this moment. If this changes, we can call a meeting and change the budget midyear.

We are not seeing many worshippers in person on Sundays, so offering is low. Wednesday nights are bigger than they have ever been. PLC had four Meet Us on Maple Street events—that was so life giving. That has proven to be a real opportunity to minister to the community, too.

We have challenges, but all churches are facing these challenges, we are not alone. He thanked supporting staff, the council, and janitor Dave Shumaker.

### Council President's Report

President Stephanie Johnson—

2020 and 2021 did not look the same. She Extended gratitude to staff at PLC.

The Covid-19 Pandemic has not gone away, and the council has taken the time to have discussions on how to keep our members as safe as possible. PLC has stayed by our mission, pointing, leading, and cultivating others.

The checkbook is healthy, although our general giving is down. There were more months where general giving was lower than what we have seen in the past.

### Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Karen Brendal- presented the budget and made the motion to approve the 2022 Budget.

### Elections:

Gretta Lemke presented and moved to accept the 2022 PLC leadership ballot with the addition of Marie Grothe to the youth and Family Board.

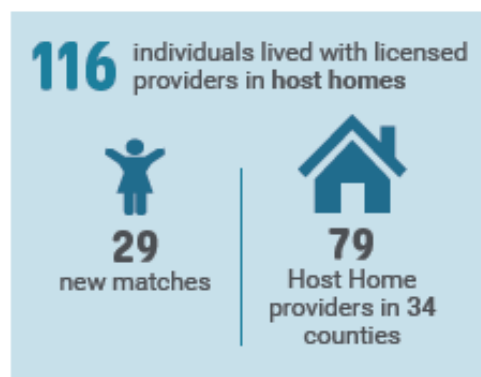
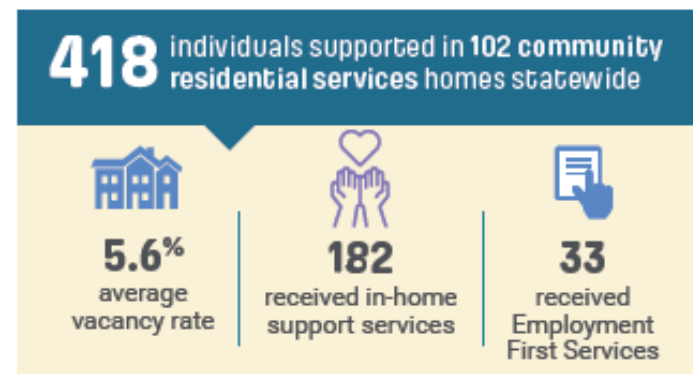
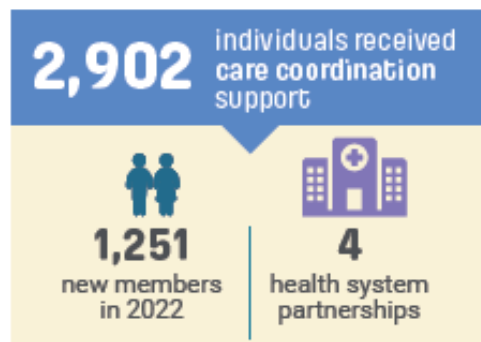
With a vote of 25 for, 1 Nay against, and a second by Shawn Reinke, the ballot was approved.  
[Motion Carried]





Through  
**DISABILITY SERVICES**  
we empower people with identified needs to  
shape the lives they imagine for themselves

**10,045**  
Individuals & Families  
Served



"I can see that they love caring for Greg. They look for new ways to put a smile on his face. Knowing he's laughing and enjoying himself in his home, that just warms my heart."



## Worship Coordinator's Report



**Kari Shumaker**

In reflecting on 2022, I have found it to be a year of returning. This past year, we have been able to begin to come out from what was into what will be. Worship looks very similar to years past however, there are some things that have changed and we are adapting to those changes. One worship service on Sunday mornings, a new way of engaging volunteers for worship, and having a greater chance to step into the larger ministry of PLC have been some of the changes that we have adapted to in 2022.

For worship this fall, we have leaned into the Narrative Lectionary weaving our way through the Bible beginning in the Old Testament and journeying into the New Testament at the beginning of 2023. It has been a joy to hear these different voices and perspectives come alive each week as we work our way through the Biblical Narrative.

It has been wonderful to welcome back the CELEBRATION CHOIR and the Bell Choir along with our many worship bands this year! Your participation in worship has added so much, thank you for your dedication and willingness to share your gifts in this way.

On a personal note, I appreciate the support of Pastor Paul, the Church Council and the congregation as I continue to take courses at Luther Seminary. I am grateful for the opportunities that I have had to share in pastoral care through visits, conversations with others and preaching more often. It has been extra helpful to put the things that I am learning into practice through the context of Paynesville Lutheran Church.

## Administrative Assistant's Report



**Tammy Armstrong**

From the office,

2022 was a year full of opportunities. It was nice to have a year that was pretty much back to "normal." We had a busy year with Sunday and Wednesday worship services and all our youth and adult education opportunities. Many wonder what happens at PLC during the week, and to say that we only have people in the building on Sundays and Wednesdays is an understatement. There are activities every day, from board and committee meetings, dance classes, Bible studies, group meetings, music group practices, and so much more there is never a dull moment.

The church office was kept busy coordinating daily and weekly activities, preparing for worship services, baptisms, and funerals. Creating bulletins, reports, flyers, and so much more.

The summer of 2022 was busy not only with Camp House and our Meet Us On Maple events, but also a time to prepare for the upcoming iQuest year. As Wednesday youth coordinator, it was a busy time putting together curriculum for the 2022-2023 school year, lining up teachers and all the other aspects that go with our iQuest program. We were blessed to have over 55 students in grade K-5 join us each Wednesday. To say PLC is hopping on a Wednesday night is an understatement and we couldn't do it without the numerous volunteers that help each week from Pastor Paul and Kari, teachers, kitchen volunteers, our bus driver Dave Ampe, youth helpers, and janitor Dave Shumaker, and of course parents and our youth.

Thank you for your continued support as we move into 2023.



Grace and Peace to you,

This past year has been filled with growth, following the time of isolation that took place with the pandemic. We are emerging not as the same church that we were prior to that time, but as a more resilient and thoughtful congregation. I give thanks to God for all of you and for the ways that we continue to be Christ in this community and in each others lives!

We have adapted to this time in varied ways. For instances, though our worshipping body is growing it is not yet where it was. That being said we have moved to one service on Sunday mornings. I know this isn't ideal for everyone but it has provided a more robust and fuller sanctuary for worship. There has also been a large increase in Sunday School age youth and families coming to worship on Sunday mornings, which is evident by the "children's message" (a time that continues to fill us all with joy). We have found continued growth in our youth activities and a continued need for our on-line worship offerings.

This last year also began our time of discernment and search for an additional pastor. The call committee was formed and got underway in the early fall and have been working very hard to find the right candidate to present to you the congregation and to join our team. This is an incredibly important and arduous process, as there are not as many pastors to choose from as there was were. However, we have faith that God will guide us in this process and soon we will be moving forward in unbelievable ways. Let us continue to keep the call committee in our prayers as they do their work. Their work is one of confidentiality and due diligence and we must put our trust in their leadership as we await what is to come. God is good!

In this time of transition we were also blessed to have a seminary intern for the summer months which was a breathe of fresh air and a huge help! We are excited to see where God leads Gavin Diehm and we pray our paths will cross once more along that journey.

There is so much to cover with this end of the year report that it is impossible to get to everything, but I must recognize the dedication and hard work of the staff of Paynesville Lutheran Church. We are blessed with staff members with a breadth and depth of knowledge that allows them to continue their amazing work while taking on additional responsibilities in the absence of a second pastor. Thank you to the staff of PLC for all that you do each and every day. A huge thankyou to all the ministry teams as well. Thank you to our church council, boards, committees, music teams and leaders, teachers, mentors and guides. It is not exaggerating when I say that the ministry that we share would not be possible without the selfless work done by so many.

In Christ, Pastor Paul

### Pastor's Report



Paul Shumaker



We keep youth and young families safe while supporting increased stability and a healthy transition to adulthood through  
**YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT SERVICES**

**6,300**  
Individuals & Families  
Served

**3,337** children, youth & families participated in education and group settings



**21**

children supported in preschool settings



**30**

young scholars received leadership education through the LSS STEAM Freedom School



**32**

families received support through home visiting



**56**

youth participated in youth councils and LGBTQIA2S+ support groups



**75**

parents/partners/family members/allies attended "Trans Northland Friends, Family and Allies" group



**133**

families received kinship support



**2,990**

individuals received sexuality education

Youth received independent living skills support & resources in 56 counties

**75**

group meetings

individual meetings

**102**

Youth visited resource centers 1,016 times at 4 locations



**474**

clothing items provided

**6,934**

hygiene products provided

**8** street outreach workers made 4,226 contacts with youth, distributing

**1,631**

opportunities for transportation assistance

**3,222**

life-saving naloxone kits

**15,800**

basic needs/survival items



**354**

youth received housing services

**7.5**

months average length of stay

All residents of Renaissance House participated in mental wellness services

**217** education presentations on health, safety and prevention of sex trafficking



**42**

youth who have experienced exploitation/trafficking received support, safety and affordable housing services

**447**

youth received health services/supplies







We help caregivers and older adults maintain healthy, balanced lifestyles through  
**CAREGIVER & COMPANION SERVICES**

► **3,984**  
 Individuals & Families Served

### Through caregiver and companion services



**607**  
 individuals received caregiver support & respite services



**68**  
 caregivers enrolled in support groups



**121**  
 caregivers participated in classes & workshops



**151**  
 hours of emergency care planning to 32 caregivers



**347**  
 hours of remote support

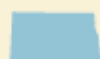


**220**  
 foster grandparent volunteers supported 1,296 children and youth at 193 partner site schools

**1,220** older adults supported by **289** senior companion volunteers in MN and ND



**56**  
 MN counties



**25**  
 ND counties



**352**  
 individuals received coaching and support to make a healthy transition home following a hospitalization

"I couldn't care for him the way I do without the respite Tami provides. I know Dean, too, looks forward to her visits. She's trustworthy, she's so dependable, she's so caring."



LYNNE & ORDEAN



**Paynesville Lutheran Church** is blessed with many incredible ministry partners here are just a few:



PLC is blessed to be a ministry partner with two Bible camp ministries - Green Lake Lutheran Ministries (GLLM) & Luther Crest Bible Camp. Over the years we have sent many youth, young adults, families and volunteers to our camps where they have grown in their faith, strengthened relationships and created new ones. All this happens in some of the most beautiful areas

of our state! When you combine the rich beauty of God's creation and vibrant relationships from caring people, it is a life changing experience. Camp House, one of the camps of GLLM, has been the site of our **intergenerational camp experience**. You will see in varies location in this report the amazing impact this unique camp experience is have on our congregation! Thank you GLLM and LCBC for the important ministry we share!



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

There are many expressions of the church and two incredibly important ones are the Southwestern Minnesota Synod (SWMN) and the Churchwide office of the Evangelical Church in America (ELCA). PLC is a partner in not just our

part of Minnesota but also a part of the greater church. Through these partnerships we are able to assist with Young Adults in Global Mission, Lutheran Disaster Response, Good Gifts and global food assistance and so much more. We are so much stronger together as we embrace our calling to be church in Paynesville and well beyond! Thank you to the Bishops and their staffs at the Southwestern Minnesota and the church wide offices of the ELCA for your leadership and partnership!



**Lutheran Social Service**  
 of Minnesota

Lutheran Social Services (LSS) of Minnesota is an extension of ours and many churches as we partner to seek care for those in need of mental, physical or financial health. It is a challenging and growing need in our community and the entire state. Thank you to the efforts of our partner at LSS for all of their incredible work!

It has been, and continues to be, an immense blessing for us to partner with the students and teachers of Haiti. We have sent groups to Kozefo in Haiti where we have embarked on deepening our relationship with our fellow people of God and in turn we have been taught much more than we could ever have imagined. Thank you to Sarah Lien and to all those who make this important work possible and for sharing the joy of life we find in the young people of Haiti! We are blessed by you!



These are just a few of the ministry partners that we are blessed to be working with, once again thank you to all of them and all of their leaders for work. You will find more in depth year end reports from each of them in the pages following.





## 2022 Congregational Report

God is at work in inspiring and life-changing ways at Shores of St. Andrew Bible Camp, Green Lake Bible Camp, and Camp House! As we processed what to include in this very brief report, it became clear that we were only going to have space to include a small snapshot of our year with so many of the details not fitting on the pages. In truth, the story of this year is the story of the ministries that work in partnerships with us. We give thanks for all of the ways that your ministry has impacted the work and mission we share. It has been such a joy to partner with you in such impactful and successful ways this year!

In this report, you will find a brief summary of our year, but please watch for our official Annual Report. This will be mailed out to congregations in January, before our Annual Meeting on February 14, 2022.

### Program Ministry

It is such a blessing to share that this summer we served 345 more kids and families as part of our summer camp and day camp ministry than last year and reached 90% of our pre-pandemic numbers! Safe, fun, and impactful all come to mind when considering the summer and it seems that things will only progress as we look ahead to 2023. We heard great feedback surrounding the move of all youth summer camps to the Shores of St. Andrew Bible Camp site as well as ending the camp week with the "Campapalooza" all family event on Thursday evening.

Retreat ministries at GLLM bounced back in the summer after many slow months during the height of the pandemic with fall and winter bookings also looking strong! Confirmation groups, crafting retreats, education events, and our own programmed retreats have all made for busy weeks! In fact, between May 1st and December 1st there were only 4 days that we didn't have at least one group at camp! Although numbers are not finalized, we are projecting that we will host 1,100 more guests on site in 2022 vs 2021. It has been amazing to see so many of you on site this year!

Through the addition of "Serve Boldly" in the fall of 2022, GLLM has expanded its ability to do ministry across the country through service trips! Beginning in 2023, congregations will have the opportunity to book trips in Nashville, Chicago, and Milwaukee with more locations to come in 2024. We expect to serve 450 high schoolers in 2023 and 1000+ in future years. This is a big deal that only happens through the work and generosity of the Serve Boldly Founders who had vision for their organization's next move. We can't wait to see how God will use this bold ministry moving forward...

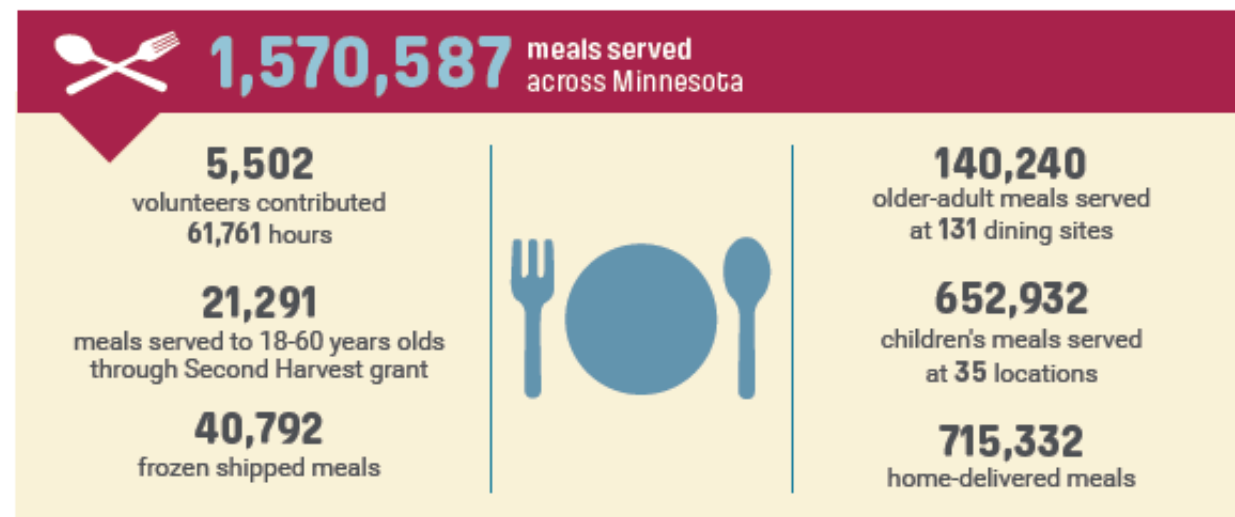
### Properties

All three of our camps had significant projects taken on by our staff and volunteers this year. At Shores of St. Andrew Bible Camp, the final Cottage remodel was completed along with a major upgrade to our Health Aid Station. At Camp House, we contracted with a local forester to remove brush and trees from around buildings which will better prepare the site for inclement weather and fire, and a new beachside worship area was added. At Green Lake Bible Camp, work continues at the Stave Chapel. Landscape, concrete sidewalks, and grass planting were all major projects taken on. This year was also a difficult year for repairs and unplanned replacements. We replaced 2 furnaces, 2 air conditioners, did a major repair to an underground water leak, and replaced our bus totalling over \$100,000 of unplanned expenses.



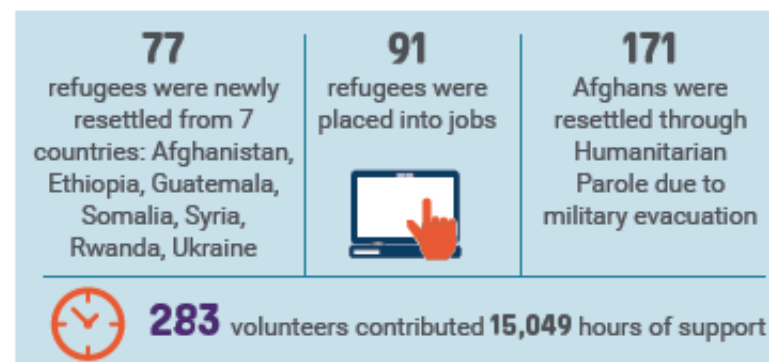
We offer healthy, delicious meal options available to anyone statewide through  
**NUTRITION SERVICES**

**33,866**  
Individuals & Families  
Served



Through  
**REFUGEE SERVICES**  
we help new arrivals secure housing, enroll in classes, find employment and connect with support they need to gain self sufficiency

**905**  
Individuals & Families  
Served



"LSS does so much for us, and the Circle of Welcome team – they work so hard for me. Tomorrow, they are taking me for my driver's test. Every week, they take me to the grocery store even though the shops are far from my home. They are very kind."





We provide services that help strengthen  
**INDIVIDUALS & FAMILIES**  
to promote resiliency

**12,867**  
Individuals & Families  
Served

**802** households received  
supportive housing  
services

**225** families received support  
through family resource centers

**411** children received emergency  
care and resources

**2,886** received mental health supports  
and services in **84** counties through



**21,143**  
in-person  
therapy visits  
**10,297**  
telehealth visits

**70**  
employer  
groups (EAP)  
**14**  
school partnerships

#### Through adoption, foster care and therapeutic foster care services



**127**  
relative/kinship  
families served  
in domestic and  
international  
programs



**235**  
children  
placed in  
foster care  
& adoption  
programs



**12**  
countries  
in which we  
provided  
adoption  
services



**7 years**  
average age  
of a child  
placed



**194**  
children/youth  
were supported  
by **99**  
therapeutic  
foster care  
providers



**37**  
counties in  
MN and ND

**\$202,436**

granted through the Adoption Support Fund,  
eliminating fee barriers for adoptees, birth  
and adoptive families accessing adoption  
and post-adoption services

**40**

children/youth adopted from  
therapeutic foster care

Through crisis nurseries  
in **5** counties

**693**

children received

**1,232**

days of care &

their families received

**30,586**

resource items (such as  
diapers and clothing)



**222**

youth from  
**11** communities  
participated in  
Camp Noah day  
camps in **7** states

Tornado disasters  
were the most  
common reason  
for camps

**1,215** received support through Deaf &  
Hard of Hearing services

**22**

Deaf mentors

Deaf mentor sessions

**585**



**37**

workshops held across the state

We are so blessed to have such talented property staff and volunteers.

#### Financial Position

Although our year end financials are not finalized as of the writing of this report, it seems that our total regular income will increase by \$400,000 versus 2021, but still miss our budget projections set at the beginning of the year. We missed income projections for summer camp based on having to limit our capacities in response to staffing shortages and retreat numbers that didn't meet expectations based on our overestimating of how fast demand would return in January through May.

#### Water's Edge Strategic Process

At our Annual Meeting a year ago, the GLLM corporation unanimously approved a capital campaign with proposed projects across all three sites and a signature project of renovating the retreat and conference center at Green Lake Bible Camp. We are well on our way with the lead gift portion of fundraising and will be sharing exciting updates surrounding our fundraising efforts and project start dates in the coming months.

I am so very thankful to the many of you who have welcomed myself and other GLLM staff into your homes to discuss these important initiatives. Thank you for sharing your passion for our work and your generosity towards the projects!

#### Closing

I truly believe that we will look back at 2022 and remember it as one of the most important years in the history of GLLM. Increased camper numbers and a drastic increase to retreat ministries - yes. But most importantly, new partnerships and relationships, new ministry opportunities, and big/inspiring projects will be the year's legacy.

As we consider the year ahead, we have so many reasons to be excited regarding what is to come. We are projecting increased participation across all our programs, we are set to start significant work within our capital projects, and we are excited to invest in new and existing relationships and partnerships.

The format of this report doesn't allow near the space needed to process the entire year nor thank all that contributed to its success. The almost 200 congregations and thousands of people who are connected to this organization are a special group. Thank you so much for partnering with us again this year as we share (together) the life-changing love of Jesus in vibrant settings in community and creation!

Gratefully,

Travis Aufderheide  
Executive Director  
Green Lake Lutheran Ministries

For a digital copy of this report, you may download a copy at [www.gllm.org/promotional-resources](http://www.gllm.org/promotional-resources)





LUTHER CREST

# BOARD PRESIDENT REPORT

2022 Annual Meeting



*Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 NLT*

*For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven. A time to be born and a time to die. A time to plant and a time to harvest. A time to kill and a time to heal. A time to tear down and a time to build up. A time to cry and a time to laugh. A time to grieve and a time to dance. A time to scatter stones and a time to gather stones. A time to embrace and a time to turn away. A time to search and a time to quit searching. A time to keep and a time to throw away. A time to tear and a time to mend. A time to be quiet and a time to speak. A time to love and a time to hate. A time for war and a time for peace.*

**With gratitude and blessings,**

**Greg Tvrdik**  
Luther Crest Board President

To everything, there is a season. As I sit at my desk in awe of the color of a sunny fall afternoon, this verse runs through my head. We are amongst a season of transition and change at Luther Crest. As I sat with Dave as he discussed his plan moving on from his duties as Executive Director at Luther Crest it was hard to hear, to let go of a deeply rooted colleague that I have in Dave, but also the season of new beginnings excites me.

There are new things in store for Luther Crest and I cannot wait to see how the Holy Spirit is working in and through Luther Crest.

**A few highlights I'd like to share with you as we look back at the last year.**

One of them being the overwhelming response in helping clean up the Luther Crest grounds after a tornado in May. People showed up with trucks, tractors, skid loaders and chainsaws. Young and old showed up and cleaned the affected areas within a weekend. I'd like to thank you for giving your time to clean up, you are the hands and feet of Luther Crest. Besides the tree damage and damage to the lakefront worship area when working with our insurance provider they uncovered roof damage on a number of buildings and we are in the process of replacing roofs with the insurance dollars provided to us.



We promote long-term financial stability for people in all stages of life through  
**EMPLOYMENT, FINANCIAL  
& LEGAL SERVICES**

**23,155**  
Individuals & Families  
Served

Financial counseling clients repaid

**\$9,459,111** to creditors

**7,695**  
individuals attended  
financial counseling  
workshops

**1,058**  
borrowers had at  
least one student  
loan repayment  
counseling session

Managed **\$35M** in pooled trusts



processed  
**\$4.3M**  
for individuals  
served



**69%**  
of individuals reported  
improved social  
connectedness

**22** individuals under guardianship  
had their rights restored



**56,388**  
hours of support  
**\$56M**  
managed for  
326 individuals

**115**  
individuals provided with  
supported decision-making  
services

Provided employment services to

**8** people advancing in a  
health care career



**15** adults with a criminal conviction

**503** people with disabilities

**1,112** families

TERESA



"My social worker recently said to me, 'You are doing so well; you don't need me anymore.' I know I will need support from others for a while yet. But I know I rely on that support much less than I used to. I'm so happy that I can make my own decisions now."



In another indication of the pandemic loosening its grip, for the first time in three years LSS was able to host LSS' Deaf & Hard of Hearing Family Services Minnesota Hands and Voices celebration. Families came together to celebrate acts of exceptional service and dedication aimed at breaking down barriers to full and abundant lives. LSS Deaf & Hard of Hearing Family Services is one of the newer additions to LSS' continuum of services. Like all LSS services, Deaf & Hard of Hearing Family Services create greater possibilities. Living with differences can be isolating. LSS creates life-changing connections with the people and resources needed to assure that all people can live and work in community with full and abundant lives, such as connecting families with deaf mentors who help deaf individuals and their parents see possibilities instead of limitations.

Fall of 2022 brought the in-person return of another great tradition for the first time since 2019 – the annual LSS Celebration for Changing Lives! The evening was filled with greeting old and new friends, sharing laughs and heart-warming stories of courage, and – most importantly – hearing stories of lives changed. We are deeply grateful for the outpouring of love and financial support at the event. It was good to be together again.

At the beginning of this letter, I mentioned our 2,500 employees – without whom services could not continue. Like all employers, LSS is working hard to attract and retain our workforce. And this year, once again, we are honored to be recognized by our employees as a 2022 "Top Workplace" in the annual Star Tribune survey.



It was a year with many highlights, and much for which to be grateful. Blessing upon blessing. Because of the trust placed in LSS, we are strong, resilient, and growing – connecting more individuals and families with brighter futures and bigger possibilities than ever before. Our teams are looking forward, innovating, and putting what we've learned to work to create even more effective and measurable outcomes for the lives we impact.

I hope you enjoy learning more about what the LSS movement is accomplishing in the lives of our neighbors this year and every year.

In gratitude,

Patrick Thueson  
President



You never know who God has in store for us. As the board discerned transition and what to do next, Don Johnson of the Lutheran Outdoor Ministry Network, provided direction for a successful transition. He suggested that good next steps come with a non rushed timeline and offered the direction that it is good to have a time of interim to transition from Dave's 15 years at Luther Crest. The board interviewed three potential interim candidates and are happy that Jerry and Carolyn Fritsch will see Luther Crest through this time of transition. Not ever having met Jerry and Carolyn before I feel I have known them for years and Luther Crest is in good hands during this time. They are an answer to prayer and discernment. Jerry and Carolyn began their work with us on October 17, 2022 and will continue through Mid-May 2023. We will begin the process to seek our next Executive Director in November.

In appreciation of my fellow board members, thank you. I thank you for your willingness to jump on an impromptu Zoom call to chat through storm damage, have a conversation regarding the leadership transition or interview potential interim directors. Thank you for sharing your gifts and partnering in the leadership of Luther Crest.

With thanks to Dave Holtz. Words lack to describe what you have done for the Luther Crest organization over the last 15 years. Your vision, execution and hard work has touched the lives of many and your legacy will forever be imprinted in the history of Luther Crest. **Well done, good and faithful servant.**



Luther Crest is called to **inspire faith. community, and stewardship in God's creation.**



# VISION 2025 LUTHER CREST



**THE FOCUS HAS BEEN  
AND WILL REMAIN**  
SHARING CHRIST'S LOVE WITH YOUTH

**YOUTH FACE MANY  
CHALLENGES TO THIS  
IMPORTANT TRUTH.**

At Luther Crest, we will be known as a positive advocate for youth. We will be their advocate as we bring them face-to-face with Christ's love through the authentic people and place of Luther Crest. We will be for kids, for family, for faith, and for God's work in their lives.

In five years, we will look back and marvel at "what we created together" as God's stewards, advocates, and followers.

## **LUTHER CREST MISSION**

TO INSPIRE FAITH, STEWARDSHIP, AND  
COMMUNITY IN GOD'S CREATION.

## **LUTHER CREST PURPOSE**

TO STRENGTHEN THE FAITH OF ALL PEOPLE AND  
EQUIP THEM WITH SPIRITUAL ARMOR AND  
INSPIRE THEM WITH NEW COURAGE TO LIVE  
FOR CHRIST AS STEWARDS, IN GOD'S CREATION  
AND COMMUNITY.

## **LUTHER CREST VALUES**

PASSIONATE. AUTHENTIC. ACCOMMODATING.



**PATRICK  
THUESON**  
—  
President



**Lutheran  
Social Service**  
of Minnesota



Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota is a movement of 25,000 – 2,500 employees, 10,000 volunteers, and 12,500 supporters — all of whom are critical to our successful support of the individuals and families seeking to change their lives through our services. I am pleased to share with you a sampling of what this movement has accomplished in the past year in every county of the state and beyond. This has been a year of strength, growth and innovations.

In Duluth, we celebrated the grand opening of the new LSS Bethany – Services for Children, Youth and Families. LSS has evolved services as the needs of youth and families in the community have changed, from Bethany Children's Home in Duluth, an orphanage that opened in 1916, to the Bethany Crisis Shelter, which offered emergency shelter care beginning in the early 1970s. Today, as part of LSS' statewide services for children, youth and families, the beautiful new LSS Bethany touches lives throughout northeast Minnesota and beyond with safe emergency shelter for children, as well as new early intervention and prevention services. These early intervention and prevention services include parent education and coaching, behavioral health, family visitation, and reunification support.

In Crosslake, we gathered at LSS' Camp Knutson for the groundbreaking of a new dormitory. Located in northern Minnesota, Camp Knutson gives campers with identified needs a life-changing experience of community. The new camper cabin is designed to better-welcome campers who use wheelchairs and accommodate other needs.

LSS continues to grow services that meet individuals and families where they are, and provide what they need, to change their own lives. One such service that creates greater independence and self-sufficiency is LSS Meals. Over the course of this past year, we've added two new production kitchens that have expanded our delivery of nutritious meals to not only older adults, but also veterans and children living with food insecurity.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, most of LSS' employees continued to deliver in-person services – albeit with extra safety protections. Conversely, some services were most-safely delivered remotely. While the pandemic may not be over, we are transitioning to more in-person work as situations allow. It's been fun to witness the outpouring of warmth and joy between colleagues as they reconnect, or in some cases, eagerly meet newer coworkers face-to-face for the first time.



THANK YOU

## Your Ongoing Support is Meaningful

Even though students have not been physically in school for the majority of the 2022-23 school year, please know that your ongoing monthly sponsorship is still going toward their education.



As a board, we decided that it was important to **continue paying our teachers and staff despite school not being in session.**

So, as always, your sponsorship has been going toward teacher and staff salaries, as well as for students' textbooks and uniforms.



Our staff leaned on what they learned during the pandemic shutdown and reenacted a **distance learning program** in October. Each teacher prepared learning packets and homework each week for parents to pick up and drop off for their students.

**Families were thrilled to have this option so that their children can continue to learn, even if remotely.**

*\*This report is taken from portions of the Kozefò Winter Newsletter.*



### OUR FOCUS

- Priority to events that draw upon our faith, leadership, relational, and direct experiences knowing that experiences live long in our hearts and minds especially when we establish human connections at Luther Crest.
- Prominent place for the next generation to experience faith formation and to grow as leaders being laser-focused on ministering to youth and their families
- Be the "go to" place for youth, families and young adults for Christ-centered retreats that spur a lifelong commitment to faith.



### OUR PLAN

#### Program Offerings

- Enhance facilities, programs, and whole offerings to address the primary youth markets.
- Emphasize the Kids Camp offering and expand the season and reach with creative programming.
- Intentionally develop program offerings with an eye toward repeatability and efficiency.
- Fill Luther Crest facilities during the off season (Oct through April) with programmed youth events.
- Leverage "large" off-season conference center opportunities with limited content development.
- Assess the monetization of all programs and services to ensure value proposition and return.

#### Marketing

- Position Luther Crest for sociological, religious, and denominational change with progressive marketing.
- Develop an effective social media and digital content development plan

#### Site and Facilities

- Develop a land-use and expansion plan without negative impact to land value or future flexibility.

#### Area of Fund Raising

- Develop a comprehensive Luther Crest Advancement Program including but no limited to Annual, Capital, Planned and Special Event Funding.

### OUR METHODS

1. With summer camps as a cornerstone, we will develop and upgrade facilities to accommodate more campers along with developing a new comprehensive land use plan.
2. This vision will inspire substantial growth in the Luther Crest partner and donor base in the future, and become exceptional at connecting and nurturing lifelong Luther Crest campers - past and present.
3. Our marketing will intentionally and significantly reach outward to families who have no church affiliation and remain intent on delivering the gospel message in clear ways to demonstrate how faith can impact life and leadership. Expand our marketing and social media strategies to reach well beyond our traditional ELCA network focus by asking "who is not at camp?" Who are we missing, and how can we reach them?"
4. We will seek to monetize our program offerings and pricing to ensure our annual operational costs are covered with camp and retreat income so that capital campaigns and planned giving donations will be used for scholarships, facility enhancements, camp expansion projects, and program development.



*\*This report is taken from portions of Luther Crest Bible Camp's Annual Meeting Packet.*





"For we are co-workers  
in God's service;  
you are God's field,  
God's building."

— 1 Corinthians 3:9 (NIV)

One of the beautiful parts of synod ministry involves driving across this large territory and seeing the changing colors from one season to the next: bright yellow-greens of springtime, rich deep greens of summer, the golden crops in late summer, the brilliant colors of leaves in the fall, and then the rich dark soil of early winter.

In his first letter to the Corinthians, St. Paul describes the church in beautiful images: as coworkers in God's service, a field, and a building! As we look ahead to 2023, I consider the image of the church as a field.

### You are God's Field

The first thing I want to say is, *"Thank you!"* Thank you for planting God's Word in the world and loving your neighbors as we move through the global pandemic. Thank you for the generosity you share to further partner and synod ministries during times of transition, challenge, and celebration. Whether lay or rostered leaders, we are coworkers for God's mission. We lead and serve in our various congregational ministries with the patience of gardeners and farmers, believing and trusting that it is God who gives the growth. I give thanks to God for you!

### Planted Together

Our synod identity statement says God has planted our congregations in cities, farms, and towns together under one prairie sky, and that by God's grace, together we have what we need. As I visit our congregations and listen to rostered and lay leaders, several things are clear:

- Like the earliest Christian communities, congregations today – from those in open country to larger cities and small towns - are very different from each other! Paul's letters to those early churches reflect the unique circumstance of each. Our congregations today are emerging the pandemic each facing their own unique challenges and opportunities And so this is a time to listen to one another's hopes and concerns, seek to understand, and continue to remind each other that we are still in this together. *What does it mean to know that we as churches are connected to each other today?*
- God has given unique gifts to each congregation: the fruits of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23), and the gifts given to equip the saints for the work of ministry for building up the body of Christ. (Eph. 4:12). Lay and rostered ministry is not a solo endeavor; we are all partners because we are the body of Christ. *Whose gifts might you discover and lift up as you look to the new year?*
- Congregation identities have been shaped by the context in which God has planted us. That includes geography, and cultural and denominational histories. It also includes the mile-markers along the way: congregation and community crises, anniversaries, transitions, and the new things we have discovered over time. Post-pandemic, we acknowledge that we cannot retreat to some of the nostalgia or habits of the past. *What is God calling you and your church to be and do in this new year?*
- Our context also provides important signposts as we consider how God is calling us into the future. Our communities have changed drastically in the past few years. The needs of our neighbors are significant. Many congregations are partnering for new ministries of serving, faith formation, staffing, and worship. *How is the Spirit leading you to be the hands and feet and smile and love of Jesus with others in your area today?*

### "God's demonstration plot"

When a seed is planted and tender shoots start to emerge from the soil, it's hard to imagine the plant that will grow there. Corn or beans, daffodils or iris bulbs, tomatoes or pumpkins.... from small beginnings grow plants that can be beautiful and sustain life. As we emerge from this global pandemic, we can see how the rate of change sped up innovation and creativity across our congregations. We see new fruit.

### NOVEMBER 28: BACK TO CLASS

Students returned to school Monday, November 28. **On that first day, there were 95 students and by Friday December 2, enrollment was up to 144.** The students did not wear uniforms like all the other schools at that time in Haiti as a safety precaution. There was joy in the students' faces, because they got the chance to return to school and reunite with their friends.

The teachers continue to be hopeful and motivated to teach, despite the case of kidnapping and the dishonest acts and economic inflation that continues in the country. ANACS School Director, Mr. Baudelaire, reports, **"We thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your support and prayers, as we never give up on our goal."**



Teachers Prepping Remote Learning  
Packets

Staff packaged books, notebooks, pens, pencils, and lessons for each student in all grades.



Return to School in November

The students did not wear uniforms like all the other schools at that time in Haiti as a safety precaution.



Parents Picking Up Remote Learning  
Materials

The parents were very happy with the distance learning initiative and that their children could continue school.



Finally Back to Learn and Play

There was joy in the students' faces, because they got the chance to return to school and reunite with their friends.



## ANACS Fall Timeline Recap

### SEPTEMBER 5: FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

Classes at A New Arrival Center School (ANACS) started on September 5th, with 134 students, across grades 1-9, arriving ready to learn.

### SEPTEMBER 12: SCHOOL START POSTPONED NATIONWIDE

After just a week into the school year, the **Ministry of Education postponed the opening of school until October 3rd**. This delay was based on insecurity within the country, the fuel shortage, and an economic crisis with rising prices. Our school staff agreed to plan for the lost days of instruction to be extended at the end of the school year if possible.

### OCTOBER 2: NATIONAL SAFETY CONCERNS

In a press release on Sunday, October 2, the Ministry of National Education and Vocational Training (MENFP) recognized how **"the first week of the 2022-2023 school calendar will be difficult** for the relaunch of school activities in several parts of the country." They expected "a gradual and difficult back to school."

### OCTOBER 5: MORE SAFETY CONCERNS REPORTED BY STAFF

Staff at ANACS recognized this difficulty, reporting on October 5th that **"It is impossible to start school for the moment, because the climate does not allow. The danger is everywhere on the streets of the country.** We thank you for thinking of us and for always keeping informed of the news. It goes straight to our hearts! Every prayer counts because it is our only hope."

### OCTOBER 7: REMOTE LEARNING PLAN ENACTED

The decision was made on October 7th to launch a remote learning plan. School staff worked together to prepare a package for each child with all the documents needed (books, notebooks, pens, pencils, etc...) and lessons prepared by teachers for each of the classes. Parents were contacted to come to the school to pick up materials. 85% of the students had materials picked up. The parents were very happy with this distance learning initiative. **ANACS was the only school in their community that did not stop working in these difficult times that Haiti is going through.**

### OCTOBER 21 & NOVEMBER 16: PARENT MEETINGS HELD

On October 21st and again on November 16th, staff members met with families while they were picking up distance learning materials to gather feedback from those living in the community. **Parents mentioned that the neighborhood is fragile, and they do not agree to risk their children's life sending them to school,** because gangsters have gotten the control of almost all areas of Pernier. In the meantime, they also mentioned that they are satisfied with the program prepared for them.

One of my professors, Prof. Craig Van Gelder, wrote that growing up on a farm in rural Iowa provided a lesson for understanding the church being missionary by nature. Extension agents then would introduce new farming technologies, seeds, and fertilizers in strips of land along major highways that served as *demonstration plots* for these new innovations. Van Gelder writes, "The church is God's demonstration plot in the world. Its very existence demonstrates that his redemptive reign has already begun. Its very presence invites the world to watch, listen, examine, and consider accepting God's reign as a superior way of living."<sup>1</sup>



As we move into new levels of activity in our congregations, it's easy to turn inward, wonder where the people have gone, and focus on scarcity and survival. But dear friends, many in our world are watching to see what kind of church we will be in the future. People in our communities long for healing and hope. I believe God is calling and sending this church to live out the way of Jesus for this time, in the context where we're planted. God's reign is breaking into our world, and in Jesus Christ God is reconciling the whole world to God's very self.

**"You happen to be God's field in which we are working."** (The Message).

**I give thanks for these partners in ministry who make us all better together:**

- Pastoral staff: now-retired Synod Minister Pr. Stephen Cook, and current Synod Ministers Pr. Heather Culuris and Pr. Naomi Mahler, focusing on candidacy, transitions, call process, and equipping; Director for Evangelical Mission (D.E.M.) Pr. Troy Pflibsen; Synod Administrative staff Tammy Schacher, Kristin Bakeberg, and Maggie Berggren; new Synod Youth Ministry Coordinator Pr. Nikoli Falenschek; Gifts of Grace team Pr. Andrew Hermodson-Olsen and Pr. Kelly France; and ELCA Regional Gift Planner Pr. Keith Pearson. We are also pleased that GSB Consultants Pr. Pete Reuss and Paul Marsh are working with us in generosity and stewardship ministries.
- I give thanks that we have celebrated ordinations and welcomed 11 new rostered ministers in 2022: Pr. Janet Adams, Deacon Jill Davis, Pr. Susan Christianson, Pr. Jeremy Hallquist, Pr. Jon Wendt, Pr. Chuck Shingledecker, Pr. Sherri Larson, Deacon Brenda Handel-Johnson, Pr. Paul Bravinder, Pr. Sarah Jones, Pr. Allison Peterson, Pr. Austin Krohnke, Pr. David Nelson. Please cheer them on in their ministry. And as you see people in your congregation or community who you think have the gifts for rostered ministry, consider asking them if they have considered full-time ministry. You could be the one to plant the seeds of a call in their hearts.
- Synod governance: Synod Council, boards, and committees, including the rejuvenated Partnership Committee with the Southeastern Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa and networks like the Racial Justice Network and Faithful Innovation and Coaching.
- Conference Deans and Chairpersons who keep us connected close to home.

The generosity of your Mission Support sustains all we do together in the synod and with our partners in outdoor ministries, campus ministries, colleges & universities, seminaries, across the ELCA, and around the world. Our Mission Support comes back to us by providing us with a whole, full-time staff member - D.E.M. Pr. Troy - who is working with many congregations as they plan for their future. We give thanks for the relationships we share with Lutheran World Relief, Lutheran Disaster Response, and Lutheran immigration and Refugee Services. Through them, you are there, standing with people experiencing war, unrest, hunger, disasters, and so much more. Thank you!

Thank you for your witness as the church today. Thank you for your generosity and partnership. I give thanks for the signs of God's presence all around us and in our life together. *"You are God's field."*

Thanks be to God!



+ Rev. Dee Pederson, D. Min  
Bishop, Southwestern Minnesota Synod, ELCA



Southwestern Minnesota Synod

<sup>1</sup>Craig Van Gelder, *The Essence of the Church: A Community Created by the Spirit* (Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Books, 2000), 99.





## A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDING BISHOP ELIZABETH EATON



We have seen many changes throughout the years and throughout the world. Sometimes we've been left yearning for the days when things didn't feel so complicated. Other times, we have seen something new happen and have asked, "Why did this take so long?" The church has been through its own changes as well. Some of these have left us wishing for simpler times while others have us waiting for even more to come about.

But, dear church, God still is unchanging. God's love is still the foundation on which the church was built. While we have seen many changes, both in the world and at the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the eternal love of God and the good news that dwells with Christ's death and resurrection continue to provide hope for everyone. This is why our mission remains steadfast, whether that is through our traditional mission work in places near and far or from new ventures and visions that encourage us to think of different ways to reach even more people.

The writer of Hebrews reminds us: "Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God" (13:16). That could not be truer in the work we have been doing in each expression of the church. Your gifts continue to benefit the good work of spreading the good news throughout your communities, your synods and the whole church. We are all answering the call to continue to do good work with the help of your support, whether that is through your resources, your time or your talents.

I am grateful for your generous support of each expression of the church. God calls all of us to continue to do the good work, and you continue to answer that call. We also continue to join you in that call and will remain true to looking toward God's unchanging promise. There is still much change and learning that will come before us, but God's steadfast love energizes us for the work God is still doing in the world through this church.

In Christ,

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

**"Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God"**

(Hebrews 13:16).



## What's been going on in Haiti?



As an organization focused on education and hope, we often don't enjoy sharing the, often horrific and sad, realities of what our friends in Haiti are experiencing around them. However, we feel it is important to share these updates with you so you have insight into what our teachers, staff, students, and their families are going through. Over the last few months:

**Gang warfare has deepened, and reached many of the neighborhoods in which our staff and students live**, since the assassination of President Jovenel Moïse in the summer of 2021

The prime minister **raised the price of fuel**, sparking protests of anarchy. A gang blocked the port through which most of the fuel comes into the country, leading to a crisis as everything in Haiti runs on diesel generators. When there's no fuel, it impacts almost every part of daily life.

**Cholera is spreading**, as it has before, partly because armed gang presence is preventing aid groups and doctors from providing care.

**Kidnappings, targeting both rich and poor Haitians**, happened at a rate of four a day in October, according to the U.N.

For the first time ever, **hunger has reached "catastrophic" levels** in the Cité Soleil neighborhood, which has left thousands facing famine-like conditions. While none of our students or staff live in Cité Soleil, we have heard that they are hungry because getting food has become extremely difficult due to increasing costs and unsafe streets.