Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

ANNUAL REPORT 2021

A MESSAGE FROM ELCA PRESIDING BISHOP

Elizabeth Eaton

Dear friends in Christ,

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

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

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

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

Elizabeth A. Eaton

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

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

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING OPENING LITURGY

Litany

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

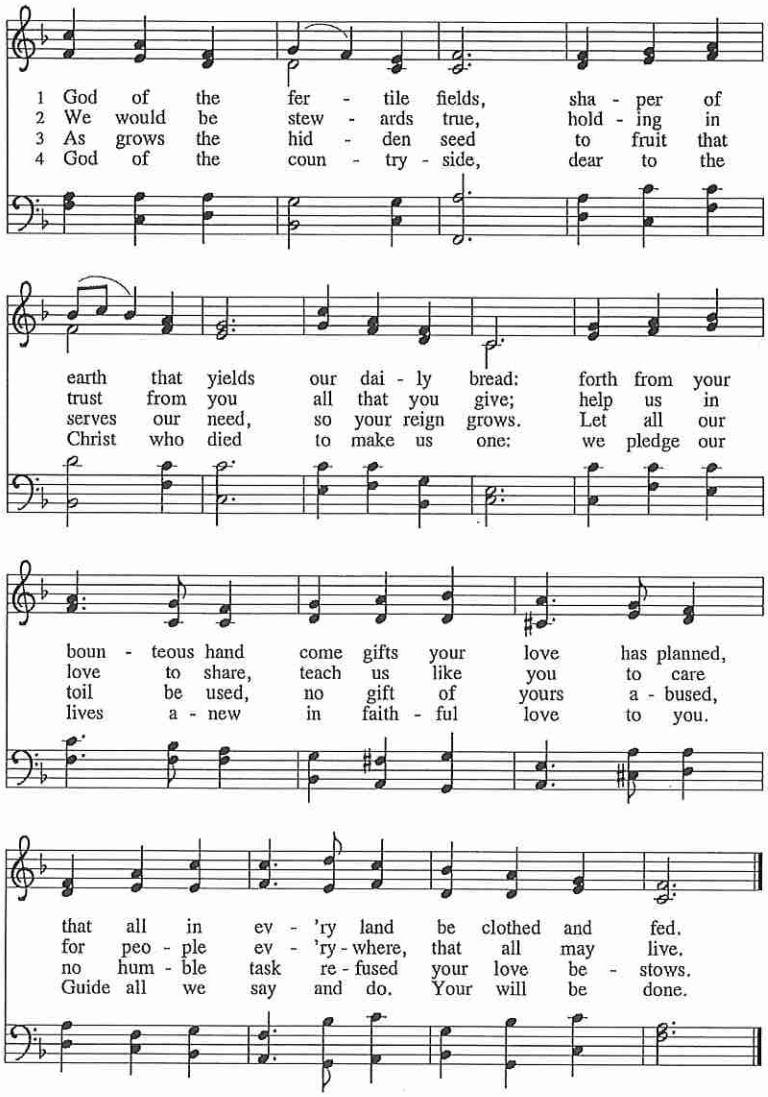
We remember the past year with lament and gratitude. We have lost so much, and so much still feels uncertain. We have also witnessed God's hand at work in new and unexpected ways. We delight at hidden seeds bearing surprising and wonderful fruit. When our own resources fail, when we cannot predict the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

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

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

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

God of the Fertile Fields



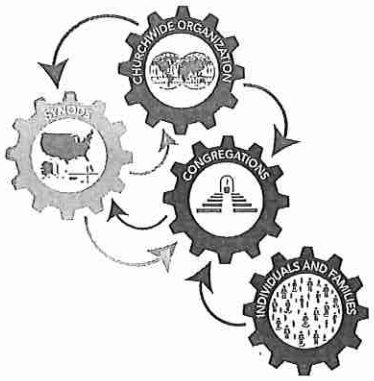
All Creation Sings #1063
Text: Georgia Harkness, alt.; © 1955, ren. 1983 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Reprinted under license #RP090721-1.

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

O God,
you have called your servants
to ventures of which we cannot see the ending,
by paths as yet untrodden,
through perils unknown.
Give us faith to go out with good courage,
not knowing where we go,
but only that your hand is leading us
and your love supporting us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen. (*ELW*, p. 317)

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

WHERE DOES MY **OFFERING GO?**



ELCA members in more than 9,300 congregations in the United States and Caribbean give approximately **$1.75 billion** in regular offering to support ELCA ministries in their local communities and worldwide. When members give through their **congregations**, a percentage of that money is then shared with the local **synod** and the national **churchwide organization.**

This unrestricted giving, called Mission Support, gives us both the foundation and the fuel to do God's work in the world and a portion of the gifts circle back to support ministries in synods and local congregations. Of these unrestricted gifts, the churchwide organization receives around 2.6 percent. This represents the largest portion of the ELCA churchwide organization's operating budget.

Your Mission Support helps fund the following churchwide ministries:

Grow the ELCA in the United States

25%

357

Plant and support 357 new congregations.

- **Enable congregations to renew their ministries** and reach out to their surrounding communities.
- **Work together** with our African Descent, American Indian and Alaska Native, Arab and Middle Eastern, Asian and Pacific Islander, and Latino/Latina members to develop networks and resources for ministry.
- **Develop and share resources** for faith, discipleship, prayer and worship.

Grow the Lutheran church around the world

18%

230

Send 230 missionaries in more than 48 countries, and more than 84 Young Adults in Global Mission in 11 country programs.

- **As a member of The Lutheran World Federation, we're in communion with 145 member churches** and directly connected to 85 companion churches in other countries.
- **Accompany new Lutheran churches,** expand ministries, and train leaders and evangelists.

Provide **coordination and support** for churchwide ministries

16%

1.1 million

Maintain constituent database, including 1.1 million records of rostered and lay leaders, members, donors and congregations.

- **Preserve and maintain archives and historic records** of the ELCA and its predecessor bodies.
- **Provide office space, equipment and human resources** for staff and operations.
- **Process 150,000 gifts** to ELCA ministries.
- **Equip congregations and synods** with resources to assist in risk management and legal matters.

Support and develop current and future **leaders** in the ELCA

15%

9,900

Recruit, prepare and implement a system for the assignment of 9,900 rostered ministers.

- **Support the work** of seven ELCA seminaries and 26 colleges and universities.
- **Identify, connect and provide** ministry resources and opportunities for networking for lay leaders.
- **Offer events and leadership opportunities** for youth and young adults.

Invest in **technology** and **communications**

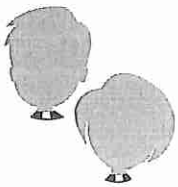
8%

Design and maintain communications tools to strengthen our Lutheran identity and grow awareness of our church and its mission and ministries.

- **Connect members with one another** through new technology and systems.

Provide governance and leadership

5%



65

Coordinate meetings and support for 65 synodical bishops.

- **Organize lay and clergy leaders from across the church to serve** on the governance boards and committees that provide guidance and oversight for ELCA ministries.

Grow and sustain financial resources

5%

Develop and promote efforts related to stewardship education, financial literacy, mission interpretation and growth in giving to all church ministries.

Address social issues and **work for justice**

4%

1 in 50

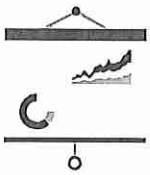
Support social ministry organizations, such as Lutheran Services in America, to impact the lives of **1 in 50** Americans.

- **Engage** in churchwide study and deliberation to create social statements and resources that address social, political, environmental and other public issues.
- **Equip** members and leaders to advocate with lawmakers in order to support policies that promote justice and peace.

Your designated gifts to ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response provide additional funds annually to address hunger, poverty and suffering around the world.

Engage in **research** and **strategic planning**

2%



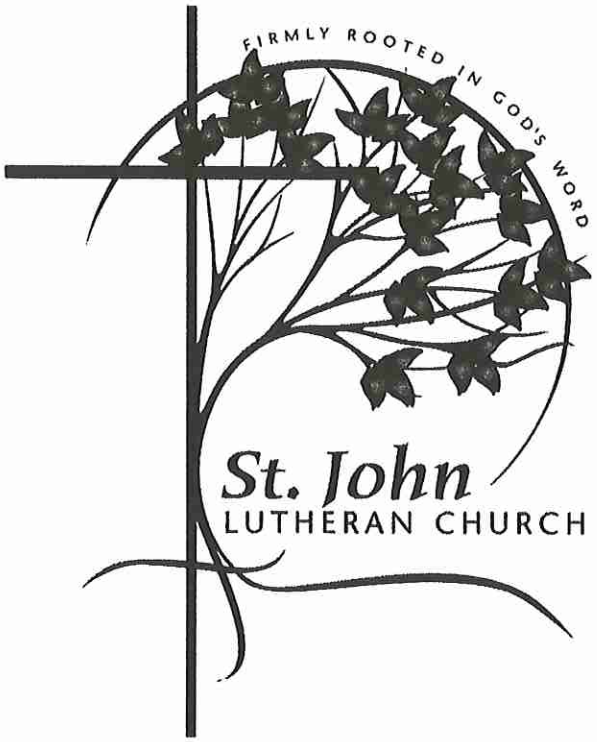
Research and analyze trends that impact the ELCA and develop innovative strategies to improve mission and ministry in the 21st century.

Sustain **ecumenical** and **interfaith relationships**

2%

Facilitate dialogue and common action among communities of other faiths, including the development of resources and communications for ELCA congregations.

- **Seek unity in faith and life** with all Lutherans and **six** full communion partners.



Annual Report for 2021

Dated: January 30, 2022

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
ELCA

401 3rd Ave NE

Waseca MN 56093

Table of Contents

Page

Church Staff and Church Council..... 9

About Us-Weekly Function & Weekly Function..... 10-11

Agenda for Annual Meeting 2021.....12

Annual Meeting Minutes January 2020..... .13

Financial Report.....F1-F6

Financial Audit.....20

President Michael Behsmann Annual Report 21

Attendance Statistical Report.....22

Pastors Letter..... .23-24

Pastoral Acts.....25

Memorials.....26

Group Reports

Bread Bakers..... 27

Prayer Shawl Ministry 28

Education Commission Report..... 29

St. John Lutheran Youth Group.....30

Congregational Life Report.....31

Pine Ridge Indian Reservation Report.....32

Men in Mission and Financial and Reports.....33-34

Music and Worship Committee Report 35

Prayer Team Ministry Report.....36

Quilters Report.....37

Scrip Report.....38

Social Ministry & Outreach Commission Report.....39

Women of the ELCA-Reports.....40-42

Video Ministry.....43

Lutheran Social Service.....44

Money Counters Report.....45

Building and Grounds Report..... 46

Nomination 2021 Report.....47

Proposed Budget Report..... F7-F9

Synod Ministry Report.....48

Updated 11/15/2021

CHURCH STAFF 2021

Pastor	John Omans	(Office) 507- 833-1703 (home) 507- 833-1525 (cell) 507- 201-1103
Director:	OPEN	
Administrative Assistant	Julie Keane	507-833-1703
Custodian	Bill Erdman	507-461-1359
Financial Secretary	Allan Tonn	507-234-5737
Youth Finance	Suzie Root	507-310-4128
Organists/Pianists	Jan Macklay	507-835-8706
	Allan Tonn	507-234-5737
Scrip Co Coordinator	Kari Priebe	507-521-4723
Scrip Co Coordinator	Pam Grunzke	612-910-7230
Senior Choir Director	Deb Wantoch-Yess	507- 835-3498
Assistant	Jan Macklay	507- 835-8706
Senior Choir Accompanist	Allan Tonn	507-234-5737

CHURCH COUNCIL 2021

President	Michael Behsmann	507-461-7490
Vice-President	Ann Ruedy	507-308-4779
Council Secretary	Koni Hudak (2023)	651-983-7342

COUNCIL MEMBERS AT LARGE

Rhonda Behsmann (2022)	507-461-7490
Terry Huber (2023)	507-461-5424
Koni Hudak (2023)	651-983-7342
Sue Michaels (2023)	507-381-4299

COMMISSION 2021

Congregation Life	Ann Ruedy	507-308-4779
Education	Terry Huber (2023)	507-461-5424
Social Ministry and Outreach	Rhonda Behsmann (2022)	507-461-7490
Worship and Music	Sue Michaels (2023)	507-381-4299
Building and Grounds	Kyle Gallagher (2022)	507-461-3347

EMAIL ADDRESS

Pastor John Omans	faith.worker@hotmail.com
Bill Erdman	erdmanwilliamharold@yahoo.com
Koni Hudak	konihudak@yahoo.com
Julie Keane	stjohn@hickorytech.net
Kari Priebe	priek@waseca.k12.mn.us
Suzie Root	szroot@hotmail.com
Ann Ruedy	amruddy@gmail.com
Al Tonn	atonn@hikorytech.net
Michael Behsmann	mikeb54@outlook.com
Kyle Gallagher	kyle5013@hotmail.com
Sue Michaels	suemichaels21@gmail.com
Terry Huber	amanda.southwick.2013@gmail.com

ABOUT US

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

401 3rd Avenue Northeast

Waseca, Minnesota 56093

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

Worship Services Sunday at 9:00 a.m.

9:20 a.m. Sunday School

Last Sunday of month

Facebook Live, YouTube channel

Video Voice of St. John Cable TV, Channel 8

Sunday at 5:00 p.m.

Monday at 10:30 a.m.

Sunday **SMART** Bus – 1-855-762-7821 (call before Sat. 3pm for reservation)

Tokens available for members traveling to worship services, contact the church office

MISSION STATEMENT

St. John is a Christian family of disciples alive in a Scripture-based, Spirit-led mission of ministry, worship and play. Disciples at St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church are expected to pray often, worship regularly, learn from the Scriptures, participate in the serving groups if physically able, offer their time and talent as the spirit calls them, and regularly contribute monetarily to support the mission and ministry of the church.

CONTACT US

Church Office: 507-833-1703

Office Hours: Monday—Friday 7:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m.—4:30 p.m.

Email: stjohn@hickorytech.net

Web Site: www.stjohnwaseca.org

Facebook: St John Lutheran Church ELCA

John Omans, Pastor

400 9th Street Southeast

Waseca, Minnesota 56093

Home phone: 507-833-1525

Cell phone: 507-201-1103

Email: faith.worker@hotmail.net

This is Christ's church.

SOUTHEASTERN MINNESOTA SYNOD
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

There is a place for you here.

We are the church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's grace.
Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person--questions, complexities and all.
Join us as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world.

WEEKLY FUNCTIONS (other than Worship)

Fellowship
10:15 —11:00 a.m. following worship each Sunday
Confirmation Wednesdays (September through May)
5:30 p.m. Confirmation Classes

MONTHLY FUNCTIONS

Executive Council — Second Tuesday of each month 6:30 p.m.
General Council — Second Tuesday of each month 6:30 p.m.
Commissions — Second Tuesday of each month, or more often as needed 6:00 p.m.

*Congregational Life
*Education
*Finance
*Social Ministry and Outreach
*Worship and Music
*Joint Communion ***(Suspended due to COVID)***
*Lake Shore Inn Nursing Home Second Thursday of the month *at 2:00 pm.*
*Colony Court Second Thursday of the month at 3:30 p.m.
* Women of the ELCA Bible Study Groups:
Mary — Second Tuesday of each month, 1:30 p.m. in Trinity Hall
Ruth — Third Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m. in Trinity Hall

Women of the ELCA Board — to be announced as needed
Women of the ELCA General Meetings — see Annual WELCA booklet
Senior Choir — Weekly practice following Sunday Worship approx. 10:30 a.m.
Men in Mission — Fourth Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m. in Trinity Hall
Quilters —Mondays 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
Quilters usually don't meet during the month of December

Annual Meeting Agenda 2022

Sunday, January 30, 2022

10:30AM @ St. Johns – Trinity Hall

Convening of the Meeting	Michael Behsmann
Opening Devotions	Pastor John
Approval of Minutes from previous meeting	Koni Hudak
Financial Report	Al Tonn
Auditing Statement	Merril Schulz
Organizational Reports	(Refer to Annual Report)
Nominating Committee Report	Michael Behsmann

- New Council Members
- Voting members (4) for Synod Assembly
- Voting members (6) for River Conference Assembly
- Nominating committee for 2022

Election of new officers	Michael Behsmann
Presentation of Financial Budget	Al Tonn
Old Business	Michael Behsmann

- Fellowship Hall – New Carpet
- Bell Tower – Ceiling repair, in process
- Food Shelf – renting spare in SS building
- Video Project – Status of Part 1

New Business	Michael Behsmann

- Video Project – Part 2 PROPOSED
- Wage Increase

Pastor Report	Pastor John
Voting Ballot Reading	Michael Behsmann
Thank You & Welcome to the new council of 2022	Michael Behsmann
Closing Prayer	Pastor John
Meeting Adjournment	Ann Ruedy

Annual Meeting Minutes

Sunday January 31, 2020

10:15 AM Church Sanctuary

Michael Schlueter called the annual meeting of St John's Lutheran Church to order at 10:15 AM.

Michael Schlueter requested a motion to have the secretary minutes for 2020 added to the agenda. Motion made by Nadine Omans, seconded by Bill Erdman. Motion passed.

Devotions were given by Pastor John.

A motion to approve the 2019 secretary's minutes was made by Duane Zabel, seconded by Jody Schroeder. Motion passed.

Al Tonn presented a review of the financial report. The church year ended with a positive balance of $15,391.45. This included a PPP (payroll protection program) loan from the federal government of $26,000 acquired through Round Bank. This loan was the available to apply for as a prevision of the cares act. The amount of the loan was based on 56 days of payroll, health insurance, and utility expenses. Having met those requirements the loan was forgiven. Gyles Randall had a question on December giving. Was the amount received in December the result of giving by many or a few? He was concerned that if the majority of the giving was from one person it may only be a one year gift, whereas if it was a gift by many the church could expect this giving to be continued form year to year. No answer was offered as Al Tonn does not see the individual giving information. Marie Tesch asked what the perpetual funds listed on pg. F2 could be used for. Al Tonn said to the best of his knowledge there were no specific requirements for its use. Having no more discussion Pam Grunzke made a motion to approve the financial report, seconded by Terry Huber. Motion passed.

The financial statement was audited by Vance Swanson. The books were found to be in order.

Due to the pandemic there was not a lot of action taken by the commissions

Nominations for voting members for the MN River Conference Assembly include Nadine Omans, Marie Tesch, and Rhonda Behsmann.

Nominations for voting members for the Synod Assembly include Nadine Omans. If anyone else is interested in being a voting member they should contact the church office.

Nominations for church council members was presented by Michael Schlueter. Hearing no further nominations from the floor a motion to cast a unanimous ballot was made by Don Wesseling, seconded by Gyles Randall. Motion passed.

Election results were presented by Michael Schlueter.

Al Tonn presented the proposed 2021 budget. Gyles Randall asked how the increase in the Pastor's salary was arrived at. Michael explained the 3% increase was based on similar increases given at other congregations in the area. Gyles suggested a merit increase. Koni Hudak asked if the merit increase would be permanent. Don Wesseling asked if we are within the synod recommendations. We are short of synod recommendations by $800. Al Tonn stated 1% of Pastor's salary was equal to $530. A motion was made by Gyles Randall to increase the Pastor's salary by an additional 2%, seconded by Russell Tesch. Motion passed.

Since this required an amendment to the budget a motion was made to amend the budget to include an additional 2% to the Pastor's salary by Rhonda Behsmann, seconded by Don Wesseling. Motion passed.

Pastor John presented his pastor's report.

Old business

Don Wesseling asked for an update on the parsonage windows and the video ministries. New parsonage windows have been installed on the north side of the parsonage. Mike Behsmann is checking on how costs for our internet system are being billed to us.

New Business

Gyles Randall commented on the Annual Report – well done.

Michael Schlueter thanked the Congregation, Pastor, and Council for all the support they gave him during the year. He then passed the virtual gavel to the incoming president Mike Behsmann. Mike introduced himself.

Pastor John led the congregation in the Lord's Prayer.

Nadine Omans made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Terry Huber. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 11:15 am.

Respectfully submitted by

Ann Ruedy

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH - 2021
REPORT OF FINANCES

GENERAL FUND INCOME & EXPENSE COMPARISON

	2019	2020	2021
Weekly Offering	233,682.98	207,324.70	223,895.42
Loose Offering	4,255.41	2,826.71	5,322.35
Weekday Services	9,985.78	12,173.31	8,560.38
Interest	4.34	5.55	8.03
Food Shelf Rent			2,550.00
Trinity Hall rentals + misc	790.05	26,240.00	330.00
GENERAL FUND INCOME TOTAL	248,718.56	248,570.27	240,666.18
EXPENSES	250,433.81	233,178.82	225,019.49
NET DIFFERENCE	-1,715.25	15,391.45	15,646.69

DIRECT DEPOSIT - SIMPLY GIVING

	2019	2020	2021
Total Received	40,275.64	44,978.62	62,472.91

BANK RECONCILIATION

Bank Balance 1-1-2021	71,673.50
Less: Unpaid checks 1-1-2021	-4,442.73
	67,230.77
Add: Deposits - 2021	339,224.47
Add: accounting note 12-15-21	268.91
	406,724.15
Less: Expenses - 2021	-324,328.94
Checkbook Balance 12-31-2021	82,395.21
Add: Checks yet to be cashed 12-31-2021	5,595.29
Bank Balance 12-31-2021	87,990.50

GENERAL, MEMORIAL, AND DESIGNATED FUNDS

General Fund Balance 12-31-2021	15,646.69
Designated Accounts Balance 12-31-2021	93,175.88
Designated Gifts Fund Balance 12-31-2021	89,925.38
Total Funds Balance 12-31-2021	198,747.95
Held in Mission Investment Fund	116,352.74
Held in Checking Account	82,395.21
Total - Gen Fund, Desig Acct, and Desig Gifts	198,747.95

TRUST FUND - DECEMBER 31, 2021
DESIGNATED ACCOUNTS

	Balance 1/1/21	2021 Income	2021 Expenses	Balance 12/31/21
Altar Supply/Flagon	75.23			75.23
Crisis Fund	532.13	250.00		782.13
Crossways Bible Study	185.08			185.08
Interest	752.01			752.01
Kitchen	255.00			255.00
Narthex Improvements	325.00			325.00
Other Choirs	293.80			293.80
Seminary Scholarship	605.81			605.81
Spirit Quest/Pneuma	519.85			519.85
St. John Youth - B. Penny	4,410.80			4,410.80
Stephen Ministry	1,995.98			1,995.98
Trinity Hall/Lord's House	7,791.98			7,791.98
VBS	45.84			45.84
Video Tech Ministry	2,009.95	170.00	142.00	2,037.95
Worship and Praise Hymnals	250.00			250.00
Undesignated-Memorials	16,431.25	33,458.38	9,000.00	40,889.63
Undesignated-Budget	16,568.34	15,391.45		31,959.79
TOTALS	53,048.05	49,269.83	9,142.00	93,175.88

DESIGNATED GIFTS - DECEMBER 31, 2021

	Balance 1/1/21	2021 Income	2021 Expenses	Balance 12/31/21
Building Fund	4,662.50	17,834.50	4,676.76	17,820.24
Carpet - Fellowship Hall	5,250.01	2,600.00		7,850.01
Debt Retirement	1,306.25			1,306.25
Facilities Improvement	12,783.12	5,484.83	3,452.50	14,815.45
Fair Trade Coffee	868.12	347.00	404.80	810.32
Fellowship Hour	1,812.58	398.00	148.95	2,061.63
Glory Singers	434.34			434.34
Handbell Restoration	86.38			86.38
Lenten/Advent Service Meals	716.49			716.49
Military Boxes	39.95	15.00		54.95
Mission Sponsorship/Operation Bootstrap	0.00	2,094.00	2,094.00	0.00
Neighborhood Service Center	0.00	2,135.48	2,135.48	0.00
Noisy Offerings	781.73	979.21	1,760.94	0.00
Outreach Programs	517.00		200.00	317.00
Sr. Choir	2,578.41	350.00	414.25	2,514.16
St. John Seniors	0.00	697.47		697.47
Sunday School	1,707.34			1,707.34
3rd Gear	1,571.96	2,480.00	400.00	3,651.96
Technology Project	0.00	23,589.00	11,191.44	12,397.56
Thrivent Choice	20,022.83	2,661.00		22,683.83
World Hunger	0.00	837.00	837.00	0.00
Miscellaneous Reimbursement	0.00	2,451.33	2,451.33	0.00
Subtotal	55,139.01	64,953.82	30,167.45	89,925.38
IRA Payroll Withholdings	0.00	30,472.00	30,472.00	0.00
TOTALS	55,139.01	95,425.82	60,639.45	89,925.38

THRIVENT CHOICE

	Building Needs	Programs	Total
Balance in fund 1-1-21	1,608.50	18,414.33	20,022.83
Add: Deposit	1,330.50	1,330.50	2,661.00
	2,939.00	19,744.83	22,683.83
Less:			0.00
Balance in fund 12-31-21	2,939.00	19,744.83	22,683.83

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH - INVESTMENTS - 2021

MISSION INVESTMENTS FUND

Jan 1, 2021 Balance	141,600.66
Add: transfer from Roundbank checking	60,000.00
Add: Interest earned in 2021	998.79
Dec 31, 2021 Balance	202,599.45

EDWARD JONES ACCOUNT - STRAND MEMORIAL

Jan 1, 2021 Balance	11,978.58
Value as of Dec 31, 2021 (543.907 shares @ 25.85 per share plus $0.20 cash)	14,060.20

EDWARD JONES ACCOUNT - K. SCHROEDER MEMORIAL

Jan 1, 2021 Balance	36,079.34
Dec 31, 2021 Balance	36,079.34

Presently invested in Federated Tr US Treasury Obligations

CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT 2021

	Balance 1-1-21	Interest Earned	Balance 12-31-21
Spire Credit Union (matures 7-6-23)	6,425.53		6,425.53
Spire Credit Union (matures 1-29-23)	7,605.30		7,605.30
Spire Credit Union savings account	1,880.09	143.68	2,023.77
Dec 31, 2021 Balance	15,910.92	143.68	16,054.60

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS for 2021

Project: Material and labor to remove and replace 4 parsonage windows (due upon completion of the project started in 2020) Peter McGannon Construction	1,200.00
Project: 8 light fixtures in church basement bathroom and hallways	452.50
Project: Video technology update (ongoing) Church council moved to dedicate $9,000.00 from church treasury as start up money for this project. To date only $6,500 has been spent.	17,691.44
Project: New carpet in church basement (ongoing) downpayment (half of estimate)	6,000.00
TOTAL COST OF BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS for 2021	25,343.94

Paid from Undesignated Memorials	9,000.00
Paid from Techology Project funds	11,191.44
Paid from Building Fund	1,700.00
Paid from Facilities Improvement	3,452.50
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	25,343.94

WHAT IS THE OVERALL FINANCIAL PICTURE OF ST. JOHN LUTHERAN?

In assets that could be spent immediately:

Mission Investment Fund		202,599.45
Roundbank checking		82,395.21
Total		284,994.66

Subtract from that amount the 2021 budget surplus		15,646.69	
and the balance in the Designated Accounts		93,175.88	
and the balance in the Designated Gifts Fund		89,925.38	198,747.95
Total	(RESERVE)		86,246.71

Of the balance in the Designated Gifts Fund these could be used for Capital Improvements (Building Fund)

Building Fund		17,820.24
Thrivent (Building Fund portion)		2,639.00
Facilities Improvement		14,815.45
Total		35,274.69

St. John also has these investments

Strand Memorial	14,060.20
Schroeder Memorial	36,079.34

There are two endowment type Certificates of Deposit - the principal may not be used - only the interest can be spent

Interest	2,023.77

Auditing Statement

I have audited the financial records for St. John Lutheran Church for the year 2021 that were prepared by Mr. Al Tonn. I find all the accounts to be in good order, and excellent accounting practices were utilized

Merril Schultz

President's Annual Report 2021 – Michael L. Behsmann

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church Annual Meeting: January 30, 2022

No one can say this past year has been far from uneventful. We started out by reopening the church, wearing our face masks, spacing ourselves with no physical contact. Then the church was able to fully open for the middle of the year. With the new mutations we now are back to taking precautions with optional mask and spacing once again. The reopening committee has kept tabs on the status of this all year to safeguard all of us. The committee consisted of Pastor John, Koni Hudak, Ann Ruedy and myself.

The council and the congregation approved a three-year project to enhance video production for those watching church services outside the church on the internet via Facebook and YouTube. We have been working with the city of Waseca to enhance the video production with the cable companies. Which has much politics involved with the cable companies' willingness to improve their production equipment. When I learn more on the cable companies, I will share with you all.

We are now into the first year of the video project and I can tell you that the high-speed fiber optic internet cable and equipment cabinets are all installed and functioning.

There are three high-definition video cameras installed and functioning in the church. One in front of the Lectern, one in front of the Pulpit, and one in the back of the church for viewing the Altar, center aisle, etc. This is all new and is controlled by a video control console that I built from the old audio cabinet that was behind the Pulpit, this equipment is in the balcony. We have taken precautions and have installed locks to our balcony door for safeguarding the equipment. This next year I will be installing the computers, software, and special support equipment needed for operating this type of equipment.

Stay tuned, the equipment is starting to come together in phases, and I think you will be very pleased with the end product of our works and the videography staff who will be operating when I hand it over to them for recording Sunday services, Baptisms, Wedding, etc.

Next, Mr. Bill Erdman and I are going to be tearing the ceiling out of the Bell Tower area and putting in a new suspended ceiling and lights for this area. This project is starting in January 2022, we are looking for a few people that know this type of work to assist in the project.

As most of you already know a new carpet has been installed into the church basement and most of the walkway. Please see, enjoy, and tell a council person what you think of it.

I also worked on a project for renting space to the Waseca Area Food Shelf in the north end of the Sunday School building. Of which to the best of my knowledge is going well for both parties. I did extend a welcome and offer for the Food Shelf to stay long term if they are interested.

As this church year comes to an end with tough times, good times, and new events, we find the budget in the black and looking good for the near future. It will take support from each and every one of us to continue to keep it thriving.

Gracefully and respectfully,

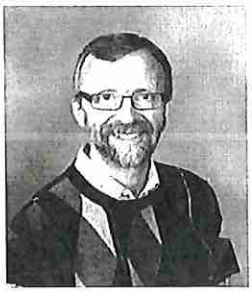
Michael L. Behsmann – President of St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, 2021

ATTENDANCE

STATISTICAL REPORT 2021

	Attendance
Sunday morning service	
January-May	1348
June – August	894
September-December	1412
Total	3654
Average Attendance per service	***52.2***
Online Live Stream average	***30-80 views*** ***5-10 comments*** ***5 lives***
Wednesday night services	
Lent -COVID	273
Advent-COVID	94
	Actual
Special Services	**Head Count**
Maundy Thursday (2 service) COVID	74
Good Friday- COVID	55
Easter Sunday (1 service) COVID	168
Confirmation (Oct. 31)COVID	118
Thanksgiving Eve COVID	22
Christmas Eve (3 services) COVID	149+48+50=247
Christmas Day (No service) COVID	0

Pastor's Report



Beloved in Christ,

"We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before God your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ." (1 Thessalonians 1:2-3)

I've been with you 10 years already! (Where did the time go?)

The gratitude I've expressed about this church through the years continues to ring true.

Today, I want to express thankfulness for St. John Church.

I am thankful, first of all, because here I have found people of persistent faith, hope, and love.

Here, I have met people who are motivated to acts of charity and giving and service, simply because of their faith in the Lord Jesus. They are disciples, following in his steps.

Here, I have met people who put love at the heart, the center, and the core of the Christian life.

Here, I have met people who have a steadfast hope in God, even when there are tough times, difficulties, and hardships.

And so, today, I want to say thank-you.

1) Thank you for your generosity. You are a giving people. Because of you giving, we continue a ministry of worship, preaching, teaching, Bible study, visitation and caring for the sick, serving the needs of people around the world in need of food, health kits, school supplies, clothing, and gifts of love. This church is blessed to have you. I am blessed to have you.

2) Thank you for serving. What you do is important and makes an eternal difference. Thank you to ushers, Sunday school teachers, caregivers, coffee brewers, quilters, Bible study leaders, Council members, Commission members, and so on.

3) Thank you for listening to, and tolerating, my preaching. Thank you, Lord, and thank you people of St. John congregation, for your grace.

4) Thank you for sticking with St. John Church through thick and thin. It is easy to move down the road to the new church in town every couple of years. To church members who stay, serve, give, and support through the valleys, I need to say, "Thank you. You are teammates, and it is an honor to be on your team."

5) Thank you for inviting your friends and family. The church grows primarily by word of mouth.

6) And, finally, thank you for allowing me to be me.

Thank you, thank you, thank you!

It is a privilege to serve here as your Pastor, and it my hope and prayer that together, we can serve our Lord in vital, meaningful, truly helpful and God-honoring ways. For that to happen:

Your leadership will be needed.

Your gifts and talents will be needed.

Your creativity and imagination will be needed.

So, thank you! Please stick around and stay involved! And together, let's discern where God is leading St. John Church!

Pastor's Report

Addendum

As an addendum, I was asked to explain our Benevolence dollars (the amount that we, as a congregation, send to our Southeastern Minnesota Synod).

We send about 6.2% of our revenue to the Synod each year. The suggested amount for congregations is 10%, but this is not mandated. There is no 'per-member' fee assessed to congregations.

The Synod uses their portion of Benevolence to support pastors, to consult with congregations, to conduct the call process for new pastors, and so forth.

Of the amount we send to the Synod, about 50% of that is sent to the ELCA. You can see on the page in this packet titled, "Where Does My Offering Go," how the ELCA distributes the revenue they receive. Of special note is missionaries. Many church bodies, other than Lutherans, choose to support missionaries on an individual basis in church congregations. One congregation might support one missionary in a certain country, and another congregation might support a different missionary in a different country. The ELCA supports ALL missionaries from a common fund from the Benevolence monies that congregations give. In a similar way, the ELCA supports 7 seminaries and its 26 colleges and universities through another common fund from the Benevolence monies, instead of seminaries and colleges making appeals to individual congregations.

I hope this helps to deepen our understanding of what 'Benevolence' is and where it goes.

Your servant in Christ,

Pastor John Omans

2021 Pastoral Acts

Annual Report of Activities for 2021

Baptisms 2021 (10)

Jessie Sophie Huber 3/21/2021

Sawyer Jay Root 5/30/2021

Grayson Mathew Bell 7/25/2021

Barret Duane Huber 09/12/2021

Briar Lou Huber 9/12/2021

Adler JoLynn O'Neil 9/12/2021

Lucille Mae Jewison 9/19/2021

Brock Bryan Kuhns 10/10/2021

Waylon Dean Durisen 11/14/2021

Raelynn Joyce Thompson 12/05/2021

Transfers In 2021

Marriages 2021

Transfers Out 2021 (3)

Don & Emma Priem 9/7/2021

Brenda Ridge 10/13/2021

Confirmations 2021 (7)

McKayla Baumgarten

Kendall Bowers

Alexis Brinkmann

Lexi Kanewischer

Siri Kuhns

Brody Overland

Solomon Wilson

Burials 2020-2021 (12)

Dorothy Wobschall 10/28/2020

Kathleen Gessner 10/30/2020

Larry Tilney 12/24/2020

Arlene Peterson 2/11/2021

Phyllis Lewer 2/16/2021

Glenwood Neumann 3/7/2021

Henry Lewer 3/29/2021

Marlys Wittmer (NM) 5/12/2021

Thomas Clarence Wolke (NM) 9-3-21

Gordon Wobschall 9/2/2021

Korrine Rietfort 12/9/2021

Linda Shell 12/16/2021

In Loving Memory

2021

Name	Designation	Donation
Phyllis Lewer	Building Maintenance	610.00
	Parsonage Windows	655.00
	Carpet Fund	30.00
	General Memorial	365.00
Leo Fette	Technology	4100.00
Glenwood Neumann	General Memorial	90.00
Nodland Estate	General Memorial	25,000.00
Henry Lewer	General Memorial	40.00
Jackie Krause	Technology	250.00
Michael & Carmen Klomp	General Memorial	20.00
Larry Tilney	Quilters	30.00
	General Memorial	30.00
	Carpet Fund	40.00
Howard Lundquist	General Memorial	300.00
	Quilters	130.00
Scott L Miller	Music Program	200.00
Arlene Peterson	General Memorial	40.00
	Carpet Fund	7,030.00
	WELCA	200.00
	Quilters	200.00
	Fellowship	100.00
	Technology	170.00
	TOTAL	**39,630.00**

EDUCATION COMMISSION

2021

This year started out with finally ending our Distance Learning- with about 4 active families. To celebrate the end of school- we had a Summer Kick-Off at Huber's Hilltop Farm. This was a congregational wide event, and we all had a lot of fun! We plan on making this a yearly event- and will pray the rain doesn't cut our time short again!

While the take home packets were a hit last year for the children to continue to learn at home, we are so lucky this year to be able to have the students attend Sunday School this year! We have started Sunday School the last Sunday of each Month, with the students leaving service right after the children's message. We have opened Sunday School to ages 3-6th Grade and have been averaging about 12 kids a session! For our early sessions, we focused our lessons on the sermon that was being given that morning but have recently been using Simply Loved Elementary Lesson Kits for our curriculum. This curriculum has been wonderful and has provided material to attend to all the ages that attend.

During the holiday Season, we held the annual Christmas Program during church. After changing the way that this has gone in the past, we went for a more "raw, un-edited" version of the Christmas Story- and received positive feedback from the congregation. The kids enjoyed dressing up and acting out the Christmas Story. After the Christmas show, we had a talent show, and had a great turn out. The 2nd annual Drive-Thru Nativity also had many students dress up and act out the live action nativity scenes.

Total Reimbursement was $336.99 with the following breakdown: $139.58-Simply loved Lesson Kits, $50.91= Supplies for Sunday School start-up, $89.84= Food for Summer Kick Off, $56.66= Snacks, water bottle, holiday kits, art kits, Christmas goodie bags

This year has brought forth a lot of change, but the participation has been great! In 2022, we hope to continue to teach our children the love that Jesus has for us and encourage the youth of our congregation to continue to grow in their Faith.

Education Commission Council Member,

Terry Huber

ST JOHN LUTHERAN YOUTH GROUP

January 1 – December 31, 2021

	Beg Balance	Ending Balance
CHECKBOOK BALANCE	$ 15,462.02	$ 15,462.02
Undesignated Funds	$ 6,890.45	$ 6,890.45
Designated Funds	$ 8,571.57	$ 8,571.57
Designated Funds		
3rd Gear Fundraiser	$ 6,777.41	$ 6,777.41
Youthwork Service Group	$ 74.92	$ 74.92
Memorials	$ 960.00	$ 960.00
Inbetweeners	$ 201.45	$ 201.45
Boundary Waters Trip	$ 557.79	$ 557.79

Submitted by: Suzie Root

Audited by: Merril Schultz

Lutheran Men in Mission Annual Report – 2021

Officers: President: Dennis Sommers, Vice President: Steve Schroeder, Secretary: Russell Tesch, Treasurer: Bill Erdman

We are grateful that God's love and compassion remains the same as our group of guys meets to grow into the vision of Lutheran Men in Mission: and that is, for every man (young and old) to become a bold, daring follower of Jesus. We invite men and youth in our congregation to live out their faith in a variety of ways, and are seeking new ideas and challenges to accomplish this. Regular meetings are held the fourth Tuesday each month in Trinity Hall unless noted otherwise in the announcements and Lifeline.

During the year we shared devotions followed by a program consisting of topics from videos and DVD's, discussions, and prayer. We worked on various service projects including College Care Packages and Bethlehem Inn. Different in-house chefs in the group take turns providing lunch.

Our first-time serving pancakes took place on Palm Sunday, offering "breakfast-to-go" carry-out. We were back in the kitchen after that, serving pancakes or continental breakfast the first Sunday of the month. We are grateful for the willing help in the kitchen and clean-up, sharing our stories and simply enjoying the blessings of being together.

Virtual "Zoom" Bible Studies, Book Studies, and **Bold Gatherings** were offered through the National Lutheran Men in Mission's Organization. Prayer requests and personal stories were shared along with the studies and videos. This group of dedicated brothers-in-Christ from various parts of the United States inspire and mentor one another on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 7 p.m. "Come and See!" Check with lutheranmeninmission.org or ask Pastor John, Gyles Randall, Dennis Sommers, and myself about taking part.

Events and Projects Summary

Packed and mailed Care Packages for college students with the support of a Thrivent Action Team Project.

Gave Master Builder Bibles to new members and invited them to participate in LMM.

Participated in the **Bold Gatherings** and used segments in our meeting.

Sponsored the coach to Lutheran Night at the Twins on July 26th, playing games on the way and handing out prizes, plus treats in the Family Section at the ballpark.

Viewed in two parts the "Jesus" DVD that was recorded live in Branson, Missouri this year.

August and October meetings were hosted at the homes of Mike Behsmann and Bill Erdman-thanks!

December supported a Thrivent Action Team Bethlehem Inn Project Pancake Breakfast with donations of money, matching funds, and items from their Needs/Wish Lists. We were grateful for the congregation's generosity! Thank you!

Several from St. John's attended the LMM Synod Retreat on October 2nd at the Good Earth Village Bible Camp near Spring Valley. This year's topic was **Exercising Your Body and Soul** with Mark Pataky, Ph.D., Exercise Physiology, Mayo Clinic. We learned about the benefits of exercise for your spirit and well-being in the beautiful setting of Good Earth Village and had a chance to work off our lunch during the afternoon activity of clearing buck thorns and brush along the trail.

Sent the men in our congregation who are homebound, living in Nursing Homes, Assisted Living, and those with special needs, Christmas cards.

The treasurer's report reflects the stewardship of the gifts and offerings we have collected, supporting various ministries of the ELCA and special mission and fellowship project

Submitted by Russell Tesch, secretary

MEN IN MISSION FINANCIAL REPORT

2021

Checking Account: January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021

January 1, 2021 starting balance **$802.75**

Expenses:

Morgan Meats	350.13
Cash Wise	259.79
Bethlehem Inn	1500.00
St. John Scrip	100.00
Oaxaca Street Children	500.00
Men in Mission	300.00
Waseca Chamber	225.00
Bus driver	80.00
Pine Ridge	100.00
Paper Fees	24.00
Collage Care Packages	75.00
Minnesota Twins	1040.00
Lake Crystal Bus	1080.00

Total of bills paid.	5633.92

Starting Balance	$ 802.75
Total of Deposits from Men in Mission activities	$ 5233.00
Total Balance	$ 6035.75
Less Checks	- $ 5633.92
Ending Balance	$ 401.83

Submitted by: Bill Erdman

Auditing Statement to be provided by Vance Swanson

QUILTING GROUP

St. John Quilters 2021 Annual Report

In 2021 our quilts and blankets went to the following:

210 - Lutheran World Relief
102 - Neighborhood Service Center
111 - Pine Ridge
56 - Individual sales
4 - Made for St. John to give to high school graduates
80 - Quilts and flannel receiving blankets for WELCA Baby kits sent to LWR
563 - Total distributed

In addition, we donated 72 yards of fabric and 24 spools of thread to WELCA for Fabric Kits for Lutheran World Relief. To Haiti we sent 342 rolled bandages, several boxes of fabric and 47 pillowcase dresses sewn by Ann Ruedy. Some of the quilters sewed at home 54 school bags for Pine Ridge. We made 167 dog and cat beds for the Humane Society by putting our fabric scraps into a pillowcase and sewing it shut.

Financial Summary: Balance January 1, 2021			$5334.35
Income:	Memorials	$ 330.00	
	Quilt sales	2085.00	
	Donations	218.00	$2633.00
Expenses:	Batting, fabric, sheets	$ 247.94	
	LWR Shipping	480.00	
	Supplies	0	
	Misc. (altar flowers and gifts)	122.95	
	Donation to St. John budget	2000.00	$2850.89
Balance 12/31/2021			$5116.46

(Includes balance of Roemhildt Thrivent Choice dollars.)

Some quilters used their Thrivent memberships to apply for Thrivent Action Team Projects and received Community Impact Cards in the amount of $250 each. We could not do what we do without this help and we are so grateful to Thrivent.

Our quilters work days are slowly returning to normal although we have not resumed the pot-luck lunches. We have encouraged wearing masks and spacing ourselves whenever possible. We enjoyed two special lunches at the Pizza Ranch celebrating Christmas in July and again in December. Beginning in January 2022, Ann Ruedy will be co-leader of the quilters. I am so grateful that she agreed to help with the leadership of this group of twenty-one members. Bonnie Lewer has cut fabric squares at home about 20 years for the quilters. She is now joining us on Mondays at church to continue her work. Her dedication is such a blessing for our group.

We appreciate any help we get with this project and thank you for your continued support.

Financial records were audited by Sue Michaels. Report submitted by Jean Miller.

2021 Annual Scrip Report

	Receipts from Sales	Inventory Expense	Operating Expense
January			
February	$430.00		
March	$555.00		
April	$275.00		
May			
June	$1,175.00		
July	$150.00	$2,450.00	
August	$775.00		
September	$1,925.00	$6,019.50	$8.75
October			
November	$2,330.00		
December	$2,140.00	$4,228.75	$8.75
Totals	$9,755.00	$12,698.25	$17.50

Disbursements for Youth Activities in 2021:

Mission Trip	$3,313.77
Car Rental	$0.00
Good Earth Village	$0.00
Twins Game	$180.00

2021 Profits from card sales: $331.40

Total Assets December 31, 2019 = $43,774.57

Card Balance:	$11,640.00
Savings:	$25,000.00
Checking Acct:	$7,134.57

Thank you to the local businesses and national vendors for their contributions.
Thank you to the people who participate by purchasing scrip.
Thank you, Scrip Team, for giving your time to sell scrip.
We're all working together to support valuable Christian youth experiences.†

Submitted by Kari Priebe and Pam Grunzke, Scrip Coordinators

Social Ministry and Outreach Commission

Annual Report 2021

Our objective is to involve all the members of our congregation in spreading the gospel, deepening the faith and activities of our members. Also, to welcome and nurture new members and to openly display to visitors what we are involved with at St. John's.

Commission meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00pm. All are welcome to attend.

The Neighborhood Service Center Food Drives in March/October collected 244/101lbs of food, financial donations were $1225/$1282. We further assisted with St. Paul's and Christ the King with over 300lbs of food and around $2500 collected with the Nativity Drive threw.

We once again were able to assist with school bags and Christmas gifts for Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota.

Our Goals in 2022 include:

March/October Neighborhood Service Center Food Drives
Pine Ridge school bags and Christmas gift giving.
Upgrading our Undie Sunday giving
Military Christmas Boxes (9 given in 2021)

Continue in updating our data base to better enable speedy communications. Create service opportunities and the welcoming of new members.

We began to work with our Regional Synod on additional programs to further educate our parishioners on becoming a more blended congregation.

Expanding the commission board with additional members to better see what the congregation is needing. We would enjoy your ideas for social ministry and outreach, please notify the church office or any church council member.

We thank our members for all the time, talents, and resources you contributed to all our projects in this difficult time.

Members: Rhonda Behsmann, Nadine Omans

Respectfully submitted by Rhonda Behsmann

Women of the ELCA

WOMEN OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (WELCA)
ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2021

BOARD MEMBERS

Shirley Raetz-Chair/Recorder **Linda Sandborg**
Marie Tesch-Treasurer **Nadine Omans**
Myra Battenfeld

We the Women of St. John Lutheran Church have accomplished the following in 2021

Service –

*Celebrated Bold Women's Day
*Co-sponsored a Valentine card making activity for St. John Shut-ins with the Sunday School
*Held three General Business meetings, including a Mission Project work day in the fall and seven Board Meetings
*Held receptions for Graduation, Confirmation, and First Communion
*Hosted Fall Festival
*Co-sponsored a Christmas Fellowship activity with the Sunday School, including a talent show and Christmas card making for various congregation members.

Projects-

*Clean acolyte gowns
*Provide Baptismal Banners and Napkins
*Collect postage stamps
*Provide 3rd grade Bibles
*Support the Sunbeam Pre-Sunday School Ministry, including newborns with the SPLASH program
*Visit St. John WELCA Honorary/Shut-in members, did not visit them this year due to COVID but sent them cards
*Send sympathy and get well cards to all WELCA members and birthday cards to the Honorary members
*Activated the following Thrivent Action Teams – LWR Personal Care Kits (91), School Kits (132), Fabric Kits (32), Baby Care Kits (102), and Fall Festival. The Quilters also did several Action Teams for quilting supplies.

Mission-

*Lutheran World Relief Kits sent–School Kits(132), Personal Care Kits(91),Baby Care Kits(102) Fabric Kits(32), Quilts (See Quilters Report), and money for shipping. Projects were blessed at a Sunday Service.
*Haiti Missions-sent multiple items and contributed to Global Health Ministries (Bandages)
*Annual Christmas giving of $3100 to 11 various outside ministries and missions (see WELCA Financial Report) and 3 St. John programs (Crisis Fund, Technology Fund and Sunbeams/ Splash) and to St. John staff.
*Sent Welcome packets with the Gather magazine to new women members

In person **Bible Study** meetings, using the magazine '**Gather**' Bible Studies monthly, one at 1:30PM on the 2nd Monday and one at 7:00PM on the 3rd Tuesday. Each General WELCA meeting has devotions and project work. Women of all ages are invited and there is a Women's Ministry Booklet available listing all the activities for the year. WELCA activities did start up slowly in 2021 after being put on hold during 2020 due to the pandemic. The WELCA Board wishes to thank all the Women of St. John for their stewardship in offering their time, talent, and donations this past year. You are an important part of St. John's ministry.

Respectfully submitted by Shirley Raetz, WELCA Chairperson

WELCA Gift Giving & Monetary Mission & Ministry Support Report 2021
St. John Lutheran Women of the ELCA #11962

Mission Statement: ***To mobilize women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ***

150.00 Women of the ELCA – Bold Women's Sunday & Katie's Fund
400.00 Women of the ELCA Quarterly Offerings
265.00 Women of the ELCA Thank offering
10.00 Minnesota River Conference/SE MN Synodical Women of the ELCA Conv. Exp. Fund
350.00 Lutheran World Relief for Donation & Shipping
150.00 Bethlehem Inn, Waseca
200.00 Waseca Schools Back Pack Program
150.00 Waseca Area Neighborhood Service Center for Feminine Hygiene
200.00 Pine Ridge Indian Reservation Christmas – Sue Erdman
150.00 St. John's Staff Christmas Gift
150.00 St. John Lutheran Senior Choir
250.00 St. John Lutheran Crisis Fund
200.00 St. John Lutheran Technology Fund
200.00 ELCA Disaster Response
125.00 Marie Sandvik Center
200.00 Good Earth Village Bible Camp
125.00 ELCA Lutheran Campus Ministry, Mankato
150.00 Global Health Ministries
150.00 Operation Bootstrap Africa
25.00 We Raise Foundation
300.00 WELCA Sunbeam/Splash Project
250.00 WELCA Triennial Gathering Scholarships Fund

2021 total $4,150.00 for our mission and ministry focuses

PURPOSE STATEMENT: As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world.

Thank you to your generosity and loving hearts and helping hands through the St. John Lutheran Women of the ELCA!

Marie Tesch, Unit Treasurer
St. John Lutheran Women of the ELCA

St. John Lutheran WOMEN OF THE ELCA Treasurer's Report 2021

SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE January 1, 2021 $ 7332.28

INCOME

Funerals	$ 100.00
Memorials/Donation	550.00
Projects & LWR Mission Kits	184.05
Interest	3.78
Total Income	$837.83
Transferred from checking	$550.00

[Designated Funds]

{Kitchen Fund	$2282.32}
{Dishwasher Fund	2774.56}
{GEV Scholarship	386.00}
{Triennial Scholarship	1088.00}
{Sales, Cards &Napkin	16.10}
{Projects	209.11}
{Flower Memorials	485.54}
{Sunbeams/Splash	300.00}
{LWR Kits	100.00}
Total Designated Funds	$7641.63

EXPENSE (to checking)

Third Grade Bibles	91.00
Preschool/Sunbeams/Splash	347.62
Projects & Designated	75.21
Flower/Altar & Corsages, etc.	127.25
Total Expense -	641.08

Total Undesignated Funds $ 437.40

Savings Account balance $ 8079.03

Balance December 31, 2021 $ 8079.03

****

CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE January 1, 2021 $ 176.36

INCOME

Circle/General Meeting	$ 807.50
In & Out	355.00
Altar Flowers & Corsages	1347.50
Service Group Donations/Fall Festival, etc.	3946.50
Fellowship Hour/LWR/Action Teams/WELCA	515.00
Thank offering	265.00
TOTAL INCOME	$ 7236.50
From Savings (projects/designated/flowers/misc.)	$ 641.08
TOTAL	$ 8053.94

EXPENSES

In & Out	$ 440.00
Food/Supplies/Hospitality	171.22
Cards/Postage/Fees/Office Supplies	234.10
Altar Flowers/Plants	1347.87
WELCA Synodical Offering	400.00
River Channels/Subscriptions/Devotions/Misc.	184.96
MN River /SE MN Synod Offerings/Conv. Exp	10.00
Women of the ELCA & Katie's Fund	150.00
Gifts/Donations (those not listed separate)	2975.00
Fall Festival/Kitchen Supplies	245.10
St. John's Crisis Fund	250.00
Preschool /Sunbeams-Splash	347.62
Third Grade Bibles	91.00
Lutheran World Relief Shipping/Donation	344.00
Thank offering	265.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	$7455.87

Checking Balance December 31, 2021 $ 598.07

Detailed treasurer's reports were printed and approved at WELCA Board and Business Meetings and placed on file along with an audit review statement.

Marie Tesch, St. John WELCA Treasurer

MEDIA MINISTRY

VIDEO MINISTRY

For many years, St. John Lutheran Church has recognized the needs of elderly members who may be home-bound along with other community citizens who are unable to attend Sunday worship services. Thus, each Sunday the worship service is video-recorded for broadcasting on the Waseca PEG (Public-Education-Government) channel later Sunday afternoon (5:00 p.m.) and the following Monday (10:30 a.m.). A team of long-term videographer volunteers consisting of Marcia & Dennis Bartz, Pam and Dominic Grunzke, Merril Schultz, Dennis Sommers, Curt Yess, and Gyles Randall provided this service in 2021. Curt also duplicates the video disk for special occasions such as baptisms for presentation to the baptismal family. I am most grateful to the members of this team, who amongst their other responsibilities in our church, have stepped forth to record our worship services so they can be shared with the Waseca community. In addition, our video ministry has been enhanced by Curt Yess using his camera to provide a live service each Sunday on Facebook and Pastor Omans using his camera for weekly recording of Friday Faith and Family messages and Sunday worship services available from our website (stjohnwaseca.org) on YouTube. With a massive undertaking by Mike Behsmann to replace old communication technology in St. John Lutheran, we look forward to being able to use one camera to provide our worship services to all three delivery methods sometime in 2022.

Gyles Randall, Coordinator (835-4511)

Gyles

Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota

About LSS of Minnesota

Since 1865, Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota has responded to Minnesota's changing needs by being wholly committed to making life better for our citizens.

Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota traces its history to 1865 when Vasa Lutheran Church opened its church to care for four children in need. Pastor Norelius came up with a community response that inspired hope and changed the life of the community. Today, Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota holds these values at the core of its vision and mission. Our work is grounded in two principles – God loves all people without condition and God yearns for us to love the neighbor.

Mission

Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota expresses the love of Christ for all people through service that inspires hope, changes lives, and builds community.

Vision

All people can live and work in community with dignity, safety, and hope.

Serving to Meet Growing Demands

Our 2,300 staff serve 1 in 65 people in Minnesota. We serve in each of Minnesota's 87 counties and in more than 300 communities. With an annual budget of $98 million funded from public, private and charitable sources, LSS is one of the state's largest, nonprofit social service organizations.

Strategic Imperatives

Our service outcome goals are organized around children, youth and families; people with disabilities; and older adults. They shape our planning and action.

Jackie Wood, MA, LPCC, Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor

Areas of Expertise: Geriatric/aging population, Grief and loose, Mood/anxiety disorders, Self-esteem/identity concerns, thought disorders and therapy support to individuals, families, couples and those who are military connected. She is taking new clients in the Lutheran Social Service Mankato office and in the St. John's Lutheran Church counseling office in Waseca. Call 612-879-5212 for information or to make an appointment.

***This year 2021, LSS continued to serve their clients remotely by appointment only. Therefore LSS was not meeting at St. John Lutheran Church.**

Submitted by: Julie Keane, Office Assistant

Report on Nominations 2021

The following persons have been nominated and have indicated their willingness to serve.

Council Positions (vote for one each)

President (One-year term)	*Ann Ruedy*
Vice President (One-year term, following year president)	*Michael Behsmann*
Council members :	
(26-month term)2024	*Alex Cooper*
(26-month term)2024	*Rhonda Behsmann*
(26-month term)2024	*Diane Blowers*
(26-month term) 2024	*Kyle Gallagher*

Voting Members for the Minnesota River Conference Assembly
Sunday, February 13, 2022
(Nominate six)

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.

Voting Members for Synod Assembly
Mankato, MN Saturday, May 7, 2022
(Nominate three-plus one youth or young adult)

1.
2.
3.

Nominations for selecting new Council members in 2022

1. Mike Behsmann
2. Ann Ruedy
3. Koni Hudak
4. Terry Huber
5. Sue Michaels

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH - PROPOSED BUDGET 2022

PERSONNEL		2021 budget	2021 actual	difference	2022 proposed	+ or - change
	Pastor					
101	- salary	56,268	56,268.00	0.00	57,674.70	1,406.70
102	- pension, medical, housing equity	41,639	41,372.04	266.96	43,116.29	1,477.29
103	- HSA	450	450.00	0.00	600.00	150.00
104	- mileage	2,000	994.00	1,006.00	2,000.00	0.00
105	- parsonage utilities	3,850	3,823.21	26.79	4,000.00	150.00
106	- parsonage internet, phone, cable	2,100	2,228.12	-128.12	2,250.00	150.00
107	- professional library	300	0.00	300.00	300.00	0.00
108	- continuing education	700	358.84	341.16	700.00	0.00
	Possible Position to be determined					
111	- salary	10,000	0.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	0.00
112	- pension	0	0.00	0.00		0.00
121	Church Administrative Assistant	25,000	24,592.06	407.94	25,625.00	625.00
131	Church Custodian	13,056	13,223.55	-167.55	13,382.40	326.40
141	Organists	7,020	6,886.31	133.69	7,090.20	70.20
151	Sr. Choir Director	3,930	3,929.08	0.92	3,969.30	39.30
152	Sr. Choir Accompanist	1,000	757.79	242.21	1,000.00	0.00
161	Financial Secretary	600	0.00	600.00	1,200.00	600.00
171	Support Staff - Continuing Ed	300	0.00	300.00	300.00	0.00
181	FICA/Medicare - Employer portion	5,000	3,759.44	1,240.56	5,000.00	0.00

SYNOD, CONFERENCE & COMMITTEES		2021 budget	2021 actual	difference	2022 proposed	+ or - change
201	Benevolence	15,000	15,000.00	0.00	15,000.00	0.00
202	MN River Conference	290	0.00	290.00	290.00	0.00
203	Good Earth Village	300	300.00	0.00	300.00	0.00
204	Waseca Ministerium	60	60.00	0.00	60.00	0.00
211	Synod/Conference Expense	1,300	200.00	1,100.00	1,300.00	0.00
221	Stewardship	200	229.52	-29.52	300.00	100.00
222	Social Ministry/Evangelism	750	591.33	158.67	750.00	0.00
223	Congregational Life	1,000	92.35	907.65	800.00	-200.00

SUPPLY		2021 budget	2021 actual	difference	2022 proposed	+ or - change
301	Worship devotionals	1,500	1,437.58	62.42	1,500.00	0.00
302	Worship envelopes	700	382.64	317.36	500.00	-200.00
303	Worship supplies - wine, wafers, candy	750	249.52	500.48	750.00	0.00

F7

		2021 budget	2021 actual	difference	2022 proposed	+ or - change
311	Computer - technology - hardware, software	800	273.48	526.52	800.00	0.00
312	- storage and backup	650	662.72	-12.72	750.00	100.00
313	- repair, technical support	1,000	55.00	945.00	1,000.00	0.00
321	Office - copying costs - fixed leases	2,800	2,995.44	-195.44	3,100.00	300.00
322	- copying costs - per sheet cost	1,500	1,086.63	413.37	1,500.00	0.00
323	- general	3,000	1,077.27	1,922.73	2,000.00	-1,000.00
331	Church phone, internet	3,100	2,837.84	262.16	2,800.00	-300.00
341	Postage	2,000	2,267.55	-267.55	2,500.00	500.00
351	Music and music supply	300	300.00	0.00	300.00	0.00
361	Copyright licenses	450	405.00	45.00	600.00	150.00
371	Miscellaneous	800	1,491.75	-691.75	1,250.00	450.00

MAINTENANCE		2021 budget	2021 actual	difference	2022 proposed	+ or - change
401	Custodial supplies	600	102.73	497.27	300.00	-300.00
402	Church maintenance - routine	6,500	3,685.67	2,814.33	6,500.00	0.00
411	Insurance - property	9,650	9,751.75	-101.75	10,200.00	550.00
412	- workman's comp	2,000	1,951.00	49.00	2,000.00	0.00
421	Utilities - church	9,500	7,024.39	2,475.61	9,500.00	0.00
422	- education building	9,500	7,221.12	2,278.88	9,500.00	0.00
431	Elevator/Lift - license and maintenance	1,750	1,695.06	54.94	1,750.00	0.00
441	Labor - lawn mowing, snow removal, facilities set-up	2,100	570.00	1,530.00	2,100.00	0.00
451	Miscellaneous	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

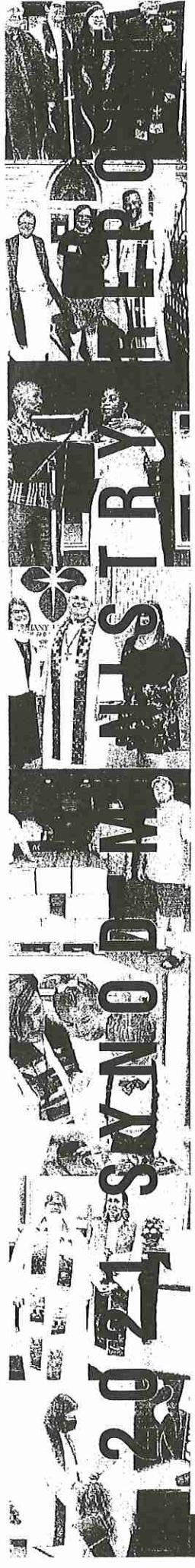
EDUCATION		2021 budget	2021 actual	difference	2022 proposed	+ or - change
501	Vacation Bible School	1,000	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
511	Sunday School	800	453.81	346.19	800.00	0.00
521	Confirmation	500	387.45	112.55	750.00	250.00
531	Cross-Gen Ministry - Faith 5	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
541	Adult Bible Study	500	0.00	500.00	250.00	-250.00

MISCELLANEOUS		2021 budget	2021 actual	difference	2022 proposed	+ or - change
601	Substitute Pastors	1,200	946.00	254.00	1,200.00	0.00
611	Substitute Secretary	100	0.00	100.00	500.00	400.00
621	Sunday bus tokens	160	0.00	160.00	160.00	0.00
631	Miscellaneous Gifts	500	0.00	500.00	500.00	0.00
641	Simply Giving charges	500	592.45	-92.45	600.00	100.00
		258,323	**225,019.49**	33,303.51	**263,967.89**	**5,644.89**

2022 BUDGET PRESENTATION

Proposal from council:

Pastor John	
proposed salary increase of 2.5%	1,406.70
health ins and pension increases	1,477.29
Julie Keane	
proposed 2.5% salary increase for 2022	
hourly rate increased from 14.50 to 14.86	606.00
(annualized salary = 24,850)	
Bill Erdman	
proposed salary increase of 2.5%	326.00
Organists	
proposed increase of 1% - from $97.30 per service	
to $98.27 per service	70.20
Deb Wantoch-Yess	
proposed salary increase of 1%	39.30
	3,925.49



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Southeastern Minnesota Synod
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

In Christ,

Rev. Regina Hassanally

Bishop Regina Hassanally