



ANNUAL REPORT

2020



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



A MESSAGE FROM ELCA PRESIDING BISHOP ELIZABETH EATON

Dear friends in Christ,

This year has been a challenging one! The COVID-19 pandemic has changed the church and society. We have had to shift the ways we engage in ministry from a focus on in-person worship and meetings to livestream worship, virtual meetings and gatherings in the parking lot. We have had to shift to teaching children at home and working from home. We have not been able to travel to see friends or relatives or to celebrate life events. This has also been a time to address economic and social justice issues, to shift our thinking and our way of life.

In times such as this, our baptism in Christ makes a difference and makes us different. Like Christians before us, we recall that God is faithful to God's promises and God's people. We see that God enables us to connect with one another even when we are separated. Shifts in the world invite us to be innovative in how we do God's work and reach out to all ages in making disciples. We see that God is at work not only in our buildings but beyond them as well. We have found new ways to serve our neighbors and reach those in need.

As we experience this time of uncertainty, we sense something new emerging. In many places there are new strategies and renewed energy for ministry, often generated by emerging leaders. We have developed a framework to build on, and now is the time to engage in hard work together. As you do in your congregation, we want our collaborative efforts to be both faithfully thoughtful and sustainable. We want to build up the body of Christ today and for the future.

Looking across the church, I am grateful for your generous giving of time, talents and resources. Yes, God does continue to bless us! God will provide both relief from life's struggles and hope for a stronger church, God's church. We do not need to know how the future will unfold. As members in the body of Christ, we need only trust that God is with us and will provide.

Building up the body of Christ together,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elizabeth A. Eaton".

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

"The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love." —Ephesians 4:11-16

Table of Contents 2021

January 24, 2020 Congregational Meeting Agenda	Page 4
January 19, 2020 Annual Congregational Meetings Minutes	Page 5-6
Church Staff, Council and Committees	Page 7
Pastor's Report	Page 8
Membership Records	Page 9
Worship Attendance	Page 9
COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS	
President's Report	Page 10
Worship & Music	Page 11
Fellowship	Page 12
Building and Grounds	Page 12
Youth & Education	Page 13
Evangelism and Missions	Page 14
Stewardship	Page 14
TREASURER'S REPORT & 2021 PROPOSED BUDGET	Pages 15-18

Our Mission Statement:

*"To grow so deep in Christ through worship, education, and fellowship
that we celebrate by reaching out to others."*

2021 Annual Meeting Agenda

Bethany Lutheran Church

Sunday January 17, 2021

Call to Order

Devotion

Pastor Chad Whaley

Secretary's Report

Alan Beyer

Approval of 2020 Annual Meeting Minutes

Treasurer's Report

Nancy Bruns

* Audit Committee

Pastor's Report

Pastor Chad Whaley

Committee Reports

* Worship & Music

Linda Black

* Education

Kristin McElhinney

* Youth

Amber Marsh

* Stewardship

Dave Bahnsen

* Fellowship

Anne Fetzer

* Evangelism & Missions

Alan Beyer

* Buildings & Grounds

Curt Casper

New/Old Business

2021 Budget Discussion and Approval

Nomination and Election of New Council Members presented by Nominating Committee

Nancy Bruns, Linda Black and Alan Beyer

Nomination and Election of 2021 Nominating Committee

Jill Taylor

Nomination and Election of 2021 Annual Synod Assembly Delegates

Paula Casper

Closing Prayer

Adjournment

Bethany Lutheran Church
Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes
January 19, 2020

The meeting was called to order by President Hughes at 10:20 a.m.

Council members present were Del Hughes, Nancy Bruns, Wayne Frauenholtz, Tonya Samuelson, Dave Bahnsen, Alan Beyer, and Pastor Whaley. Members absent were Linda Black and Cheryl Fischer.

Pastor Whaley opened the meeting using the Litany in the Annual Report. Beth Kaufman accompanied the song "God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind".

Secretary's Report: Minutes from the January 2019 meeting were submitted. Kent moved to accept the minutes as presented. Claudia seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Nancy gave an explanation of the 2019 Treasurer's Report. The audit committee found no discrepancies. Bruce moved to accept the report. Curt seconded. Motion passed.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Chad submitted his report and talked about 125 years of ministry by Bethany. We should celebrate and look forward to continuing our mission. He also thanked the congregation for the past nearly nine years of his ministry here. He thanked outgoing council members Wayne Frauenholtz, Tonya Samuelson, and Cheryl Fischer for their service. He also thanked Bethany staff Paula Casper, Jerry Dobbs, Patsy Ernst, and Jill Barnhart for their contributions. And he thanked all the members of Bethany for their gifts in sharing their ministry at Bethany.

Committee Reports: (submitted)

Worship and Music (Linda Black)

Education (Tonya Samuelson)

Youth (Cheryl Fischer)

Stewardship (Dave Bahnsen)

Fellowship (Wayne Frauenholtz)

Evangelism and Missions (Alan Beyer)

Building and Grounds (Curt Casper)

All committee reports were accepted as presented.

Business Agenda:

2020 Budget Proposal: Nancy Bruns led a discussion of the budget proposal. Claudia moved to accept the budget as presented. Beth seconded. Motion passed.

Nomination and Election of New Council Members: Beth nominated Kristen McElhinney. Paula seconded. Alan nominated Anne Fetzer. Jon seconded. Beth nominated Amber Marsh. Kent seconded. Motion passed.

Nomination and Election of 2021 Nominating Committee. Jamie moved to nominate Wayne Frauenholtz, Cheryl Fischer, and Tonya Samuelson to the 2021 Nominating Committee. Laura seconded. Motion passed.

Nomination and Election of 2020 Annual Synod Assembly Delegates: Neil moved to nominate

(Continued on page 4)

Bethany Lutheran Church
Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes (Continued)
January

(Continued from page 3)

Dave Bahnsen and Paula Casper as Synod Delegates and Jamie Zimmerman and Laura Twing as alternates. Wayne seconded. Motion passed.

Constitution: Pastor Chad explained the changes made from the 2019 Churchwide Assembly. Jamie moved to accept the Amendments to the Model Constitution for Congregations. Jon seconded. Motion passed.

Pastor Chad mentioned that Bishop Burk will be retiring this spring and that he will be presiding at a service here at Bethany on February 2nd.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer at 10:40 a.m.

Bethany Lutheran Church Staff

2020

Church Staff:

Pastor	Chad Whaley
Administrative Assistant	Paula Casper
Custodian	Patsy Ernst
Organist/Pianist	Jill Barnhart

Church Council:

President	Del Hughes
Vice President	Dave Bahnsen
Secretary	Alan Beyer
Treasurer	Nancy Bruns
Worship & Music	Linda Black
Education	Kristin McElhinney
Youth	Amber Marsh
Stewardship	Dave Bahnsen
Evangelism & Missions	Alan Beyer
Property and Grounds	Curt Casper
Fellowship	Anne Fetzer
Financial Secretary	Claudia Beyer

Retiring Council Members

Linda Black, Nancy Bruns and Alan Beyer

Nomination Committee

Cheryl Fischer, Tonya Samuelson and Wayne Frauenholtz

2020 Budget Committee

Jill Taylor, Nancy Bruns, Claudia Beyer, Del Hughes and Pastor Chad

Audit Committee

John Black, John Hierseman and Dave Poppen

Pastor's Report

Submitted by Pastor Chad Whaley

*Awake, Awake, and greet the new morn,
for angels herald its dawning.
Sing out your joy, for soon he is born, behold!
The Christ child of our longing.*

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! The words above are from the hymn, "Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn" (ELW 242). This is an Advent hymn that was sung in worship December 13th. Yet, the words are applicable anytime of the year. Each Christmas as we celebrate, we recall the new morn God ushered in as God came to earth in human flesh. God was doing a new thing.

We gather amidst a new year. It is one we have longed for and hope will be much better than the challenges we have experienced in 2020. Yet, even in everything we have endured over the past year God continued to remain faithful in creating life and doing new things.

We experienced many firsts. The first time we gathered for worship via Zoom meeting. The first time we streamed worship on Facebook. The first time hosting Vacation Bible School in an at-home format and subsequently faith formation for our youngest children. The first time holding council meetings, fellowship, confirmation, and other activities via Zoom Meeting. The first time being able to worship together online as a Synod as Bishop Current proclaimed the good news December 27th. I could list many more and these firsts will continue into 2021. This is the first time we have gathered for an annual meeting remotely.

All of these "firsts" have not been easy. We have had to explore, learn, adapt and experiment. At times it has been exhausting. Other times it has been exhilarating. Some of those attempts failed. Some have led to growth and new life. Through all these firsts, we have never been alone. The One who calls us to greet the new morn has walked alongside. The Light of that new day has shined amidst our darkest of moments. He has given us the strength to persevere. He has been the hope we cling to each new day. He has comforted us in our grief. God has provided for our needs.

The new day God has ushered in and continues to usher in will not end in 2021. There will be the first time gathering again to worship in our beloved building. There will be the first potluck we will share together. There will be the first time we kneel together around the altar and share in the Lord's Supper. Through all these firsts, we will continue to sing our joy for the Christ child has come, is here and will come again. Just as our ancestors have done and just as those who come after us will do. It may take a while until it is safe to sing communally, but our song flows forth through our love for one another and our neighbors.

People of God, thank you for your faithfulness to the ministry of Bethany in a difficult year. Thank you for all did in the name of Jesus Christ and will continue to do in this new year. I am so proud of all we accomplished amidst a global pandemic. We truly learned, in many new ways, how to be church together in a turbulent time and where it seemed each day through us another curve ball that we had to adapt to.

Blessings,



Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn (ELW 242); Text and music © 1983 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission under OneLicense.net A-726405.

Membership Records

(Taken from Synod Congregational Report)

	<u>Baptized</u>
1. Baptized Membership at the end of 2019	305
2. Baptized Members received during 2020	
A. By Baptism, children 15yrs. And younger	
B. By Baptism, 16yrs. And older	
C. By Affirmation of Faith	3
D. By Transfer	
E. From other sources and statistical adjustment	
F. Total members received in 2020	3
3. Baptized Members removed during 2020	
A. By Death	2
B. By Transfer	
C. For other reasons and statistical adjustment	
D. Total members removed this year	2
4. Baptized Membership at the end of 2020	306
5. Baptized youth confirmed in 2020	

Worship Attendance

2020 Worship Note

Much of the year worship was held online making accurate numbers of those participating in worship difficult. With that said, special services had significant amount of “views” on Facebook.

Palm Sunday had 444 views. Easter had 653 views. Christmas Eve currently has 304 views. Our weekly average views, not counting those special services, is 163 views. Additionally, we were able to hold many outdoor services that averaged 20-25 people in attendance. While unable to arrive at an exact number of followers to our Facebook page, it is safe to say that number has grown abundantly.

President's Report

Submitted by Del Hughes

In last year's report I stated "2020 may present challenges, but, it will also be a time of joy and celebration." Little did I/we know what was in store for us!

2020-the year of COVID, COVID, COVID. Guidelines and protocols came from the CDC, world of science, medical field and our Synod and Bishop. As a result in early March we abandoned In-Person Services and closed the Church building to all activities. Face-masks, social-distancing, frequent hand washing, and conscientious cleaning/disinfecting became the norm.

As a Council our goal then and now is a continued commitment to the safety and well-being of our congregation. We have been guided by national and local statistics as we kept our facilities closed and looked for alternatives.

Thus, new opportunities and methods presented themselves. Pastor Chad with his personal phone began virtual Worship Services via Facebook. July 19th we started outdoor In-Person Services. We had excellent weather for many such services. Linda provided us with the methods to implement Communion. We have improved our equipment and technical skills so that Virtual Services will continue after we resume regular worship (whenever that may be).

We find Joy in this progress. Faith Formation Classes, Bible Studies and Council Meetings have gone virtual. Anne offered fellowship via technology. Kristin and Amber have developed Take-Home Packets for our youth during VBS and Sunday Schooling. Al developed a video for our postponed 125th Celebration. Pastor and Paula have put together materials for Advent and beyond.

Truly 2020 has presented challenges but, it has also given us the opportunity to reach out and expand our borders. THANKS BE TO GOD!

Worship and Music Committee Report

Submitted by Linda Black

Even though this was not a traditional year in our church, we did not miss a beat with our worship services. Thanks to everyone who made that happen!

Our pianist Jill Barnhart is such a blessing to us with her amazing musical talents enhancing our worship services each week. She also helped select choir music and directed the choir (when we were still able to meet).

Thanks to Pastor Chad for offering special worship services both outside and inside the church via Facebook Live and for learning new editing skills. The cameras have been a wonderful addition to our services giving us the ability to reach out to many more people who were not able to attend in person. We will continue to broadcast our services weekly even when we are able to worship together once again, so that is one positive of this pandemic.

I have a very dependable group serving on the Altar Care Committee who have helped decorate our worship space each month: Sue and Del Hughes, Paula Casper, Peaches Sweat, Patsy Ernst, Cindy Knoop, Jill Taylor, Deb and Mark Anderson, Nancy Bruns, Beth and Kent Kaufman, John and Linda Black, and the Poppen, Marsh, and Samuelson families.

Even though my Worship Committee was only able to “meet” via email this year, I thank them for their help and support: Eulyn Frostestad, Beth Kaufman (choosing all the hymns and decorating), Cindy Knoop (decorating), Deanna Weismann (helping me sort through and clean out all the choir music files), Pastor Chad, and Linda Black (choir, lectors, and decorating). Thanks also to Paula for organizing our Greeters into March and helping in many other ways.

Our two confirmands from this year will be honored with their families at a later date: Auron Marsh and Chloe Klabo.

Nineteen people assisted with lector duties this year. Next year we will have four new readers.

Bethany hosted the ecumenical Ash Wednesday service on February 26th.

Two new candle lighters for our acolytes were purchased from the Elsa Boedeker and Janet Friis memorial funds.

Thank you to Bonnie Conner for once again donating the spray of lilies for the Easter cross.

On All Saints Day November 1, twenty members 80 years and older were honored with carnations and a blessing during the service.

Our choir has sadly not been able to meet since March but hopefully will again in the not-too-distant future. We all really miss singing together safely. A big thanks to Cliff and Monica Hinkhouse for donating their piano to us, which will eventually be used for choir rehearsal.

A candlelight Christmas Eve service was held via Facebook Live at 5:00 PM on the 24th.

Fellowship Report

Submitted by Anne Fetzer

The fellowship committee hosted two community dinners in January and February. Events scheduled from March through the end of the year were cancelled due the COVID pandemic. Adjusting to the church closure, the committee held online fellowship using Zoom video conferencing during the spring. These took place until the congregation resumed worshipping together outdoors in July. Ideas like a canned food drive or premade community meal pickup have been discussed to fill the fellowship void, but due to the pandemic uncertainty and changing guidelines, implementing these ideas are put on hold.

To wind up 2020, Fellowship is coordinating a hot cocoa and story time online event with Youth and Education in December. Over the winter months, the committee plans to restart online fellowship to help the congregation stay connected through conversation and virtual companionship.

Building and Grounds Report

Submitted by Curt Casper

All in all, it has been a pretty quiet year. I would like to thank everyone who helped to keep the outside of the building looking beautiful this summer. Thank you to Neil and Chris Korsmo for the new trees by the street. There were also two trees planted at the parsonage given thru memorial funds. Thank you to Del for helping make the advent wreaths. A big thank you goes out to Patsy for the fine work she does keeping the church clean.

Education & Youth Report

Submitted by Amber Marsh and Kristin McElhinney

We are proud of how our children, youth, and their families at Bethany have adapted and succeeded in learning and committing to our Lord in an unprecedented time.

Some highlights of 2020:

- Our Confirmation Class has continued their Faith Formation through online (Zoom) education. Two completed in May 2020 with Pastor Chad and, due to COVID-19, will be confirmed Spring 2021. Seven are currently participating through an online platform. Thank you, Pastor Chad for your flexibility and willingness to adapt, and to the youth & their families for your commitment.
- A resource collection was created for Bethany's children, youth, and families that they can access on Bethany's website. It includes a variety of resources, including videos, songs, devotionals, short lessons, etc.
- We provided Senior gifts in May to our six high school graduating seniors to show our support & prayers for their next endeavor. Pastor Chad included them into an online worship service as well. We wish them all the best!
- Our Faith Formation education for grades 4-6 began outdoor classes in the fall for a brief period, before transitioning to online education. Children are able to interact through Zoom each Wednesday, watch recorded videos, and participate in family activities that are also emailed weekly. We have a consistent group of students participating.
- Our Faith Formation for ages 2-8 transitioned to "Faith at Home Kits" starting in September. The monthly kits provided supplies and guidance for Bible lessons, songs, crafts, prayers, and other activities for children to participate with their families. We opened this initiative to the community and are thankful for the participation & interest we have received in this program. In October & November we had 24 children each month participate and in December we had 54 kids participate through 34 families.
- Our Vacation Bible School shifted to a "VBS at Home" program this summer with 50 children in our community participating, ranging from ages 2-15. The theme this summer was "Camp S'more Jesus." Families were able to register for a three-day kit that included supplies for crafts, snacks, and other activities and a website with daily video lessons & songs.

Thank you to Pastor Chad for your dedicated work, and to our congregational members for your unfailing prayers to lift our children in the love of God. Amongst the challenges that 2020 and COVID-19 have brought us, we are appreciative of the blessings the Lord gave Bethany in new ways to connect and share with our young families. Our children are our future, and we are so thankful for the support that Bethany gives them.

We strive towards making meaningful connections and providing support to our Bethany High School youth in the coming years. We pray that Bethany will continue to foster and grow the connections with our children & youth to further their relationship with God.

Amber Marsh and Kristin McElhinney
Education & Youth Co-Chair Members

Evangelism and Missions Report

Submitted by Alan Beyer

With great challenges come great opportunities and this past year has provided us with both in abundance. Our church may have reached a new paradigm shift in its emphasis, moving from drawing people in to reaching out in ministry. This is especially true in our Sunday services and children's ministry.

Our committee worked on many projects and I thank all who participated.

Designated Shelter: Beginning last year and continuing this year, we met several times with Cedar County Emergency Management, obtained supplies, and took training in becoming a Designated Shelter for Cedar County.

Anamosa State Penitentiary: Pastor Chad led the Free Indeed worship service at the penitentiary in February. Due to the COVID pandemic, visitors have not been allowed inside since so we will wait until next year to resume sharing in worship services with these men.

HACAP: Bethany continues to join other churches in town for monthly food distribution.

God's Work Our Hands: Our annual day of service had to be modified this year because we could not work in groups. Instead, we celebrated its purpose to aid in our community in three ways: Many members helped friends and neighbors in cleaning up after the derecho storm. Members also cleaned up around the church while maintaining social distance. And, finally, we donated clothes and supplies to Hoover Elementary and DVIP.

125th Anniversary: A committee was formed in February to celebrate Bethany's 125th anniversary, an event to be held on October 25th. With the pandemic curtailing activities as this, the council voted to postpone the celebration until next year. We did acknowledge the special day with a special prayer and blessing and a video which included historical events of our church and remembrances from several members. Thanks to Pastor Chad for his technical help in making this video.

Bethany continued to support outreach programs such as the school backpack program, the Hope Chest, which offers clothing for needy families, served 22 individuals / families, 180 bags of supplies for the Food Pantry, the Angel Tree, and hosting a blood drive. The quilters made 112 quilts which are taken to the Domestic Violence Shelter, the VA Hospital, derecho victims in Cedar Rapids, Hope Chest, and the Comfort Quilt Shelf.

Our church is blessed with many who offer their time and expertise in service. Thank you to all of you.

Stewardship Report

Submitted by Dave Bahnsen

No report submitted.

Treasurer's Report 2020

Submitted by Nancy Bruns

	2020 Actual	2020 Budget	2019 Actual	2018 Actual
General Operating Fund				
Income:				
Regular Offerings	159,419.17	152,000	152,264.37	153,851.70
Special Offerings	550.00	3,800		
Non-Budgeted Income	600.00		1,066.85	1,126.97
Total Income	160,569.17	155,800	153,331.22	154,978.67
Expense:				
Administration	15,382.42	16,948	18,023.37	17,205.46
Education	2,623.36	3,566	3,357.40	4,147.61
Evangelism	213.95	200	0.00	0.00
Fellowship	197.22	600	594.04	341.71
Mission Support	20,226.92	19,000	19,424.46	19,456.31
Pastor	83,250.26	84,556	82,700.08	80,876.59
Property and Maintenance	20,152.37	25,272	33,589.43	23,543.83
Stewardship	0.00	200	0.00	0.00
Worship	9,501.75	11,120	10,781.76	10,037.41
Youth	0.00	500	0.00	37.08
Total Expenses	151,548.25	161,962	168,470.54	155,646.00
Beginning Balance	10,365.67		10,288.99	23,264.32
Total General Fund Income	160,569.17		153,331.22	154,978.67
Total General Fund Expense	-151,548.25		-168,470.54	-155,646.00
Transfer in from MIF			17,500.00	
Transfer out to MIF				-10,000.00
Transfer out to Special Funds			-2,284.00	-2,308.00
Ending Balance	19,386.59		10,365.67	10,288.99
Mission Support from General Fund				
Southeastern Iowa Synod, ELCA	15,941.92			
Free Indeed Prison Ministry	531.00			
UI Lutheran Campus Ministry	531.00			
UIHC Hospital Chaplaincy Program	531.00			
Lutheran Services in Iowa	531.00			
Wartburg Seminary	531.00			
DVIP - Domestic Violence Intervention Program	531.00			
Iowa City Shelter House	531.00			
WBARC	468.00			
Bishop Burk gift allocated to ELCA Fund for Leaders and ELCA World Hunger	100.00			
	<u>20,226.92</u>			

Special Funds 2020

Fund	Starting Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Transfers	Ending Balance
Angel Tree	0.00	1,085.00			
West Branch Community Schools - Hunger Programs			1,085.00		0.00
Continuing Education	1,150.58				1,150.58
Cookie Walk Fund	1,332.74				
Iowa City Shelter House			444.25		
Free Indeed Prison Ministry			444.25		
UIHC Hospital Chaplaincy Program			444.24		
					0.00
Good Samaritan Fund	988.96				
donations		15.00			
					1,003.96
Hope Chest Fund	467.42				
purchases for clients			769.97		
donation from West Branch Firefighters for family in need		500.00			
other donation		100.00			
transfer from Internal Ministries Fund				750.00	1,047.45
Improvement Fund	705.78				
purchase wireless mic			705.78		0.00
Internal Ministries Fund	5,812.32				
background checks for emergency shelter volunteers			57.24		
transfer to Hope Chest Fund				750.00	5,005.08
Quilters Fund	702.82				
donations		34.00			
dish rag sales		50.00			786.82
Temporary Memorial Fund	6,505.19				
purchase 2 candle lighter/extinguishers			294.74		
purchase TV and stand			635.56		
purchase trees for parsonage property			531.06		
purchase camera system			3,002.86		2,040.97
Thrivent Choice Fund	111.22	8.00			119.22
Youth Fund	1,352.82				
donation to West Branch After Prom			100.00		
gifts for high school grads			136.16		1,116.66
Youth - Noisy Coin	81.76				81.76
Other Accounts 2020					
	Starting Balance	Interest	Disbursements	Transfers	Ending Balance
Missison Investment Fund ELCA	48,189.43	569.74			48,759.17
Sagert Memorial Lighting Fund (CD)	4,755.40				
offset to electricity expense		11.85	11.85		4,755.40

2021 Proposed General Operating Fund Budget

	2021 Budget	2020 Actual	2020 Budget	2019 Actual
Income				
Non-budgeted Gen Fund Income		600		1,067
Special Offerings	3,950	550	3,800	
Offering Revenues	158,000	159,419	152,000	152,264
Total Income	161,950	160,569	155,800	153,331
Expenses				
Administration				
Admin Assistant Salary	7,498	7,313	7,314	7,166
Bank/Vanco Service Fees	410	406	390	391
Continuing Education - staff				
Copier Maintenance	1,000	798	1,000	1,009
Employer Payroll Taxes	1,657	1,556	1,634	1,608
Fall Conference-Synod	300		300	300
Internet Expenses	840	840	845	844
Mileage	1,250	813	1,600	1,432
Offering Envelopes	138	138	135	135
Office Supplies	700	452	700	792
Postage	500	508	450	403
Software and Technology	3,400	2,051	1,600	2,721
Synod Assembly	150	120	570	814
Telephone--Office	415	415	410	408
Nonbudgeted exp		-27		
SubTotal Administration	18,258	15,383	16,948	18,023
Education				
Adult Education	300	190	400	449
Christ in our Home	116	116	116	116
Confirmation	250	286	250	221
Library	300	131	350	256
Living Lutheran	50		50	11
Sunday School	1,500	1,025	600	648
Vacation Bible School	1,500	875	1,800	1,656
SubTotal Education	4,016	2,623	3,566	3,357
Evangelism				
Activities and Supplies	200	214	200	
SubTotal Evangelism	200	214	200	0
Fellowship				
Activities and Supplies	500	197	600	594
SubTotal Fellowship	500	197	600	594
Mission Support				
Christmas Eve Offering 10%				295
Local Mission 2.5%	3,950	4,185	3,800	3,803
SE IA Synod ELCA 10%	15,800	15,942	15,200	15,226
Synod Assembly Special Offering		100		100
SubTotal Mission Support	19,750	20,227	19,000	19,424
Pastor				
Admin Benefits/Retiree Support	0	284	569	554
Basic Group Life	605	569	569	158
Continuing Education	850	103	850	850
Disability Benefit	1,296	1,219	1,219	1,979
FICA/Medicare	6,138	5,774	5,774	5,626

2021 Proposed General Operating Fund Budget

	2021 Budget	2020 Actual	2020 Budget	2019 Actual
Housing Equity	3,086	2,903	2,903	2,829
Parsonage--Telephone & Cell phone	774	775	774	774
Parsonage Electric	1,900	1,886	2,200	2,060
Parsonage Gas	900	843	1,200	1,133
Parsonage Water & Sewer	2,230	1,896	1,500	1,453
Retirement	9,501	8,938	8,938	8,709
Salary	61,716	58,060	58,060	56,575
SubTotal Pastor	88,996	83,250	84,556	82,700
Property and Maintenance				
Church--Electric	3,500	3,278	4,100	4,079
Church--Gas	2,500	2,171	3,000	2,891
Church--Water & Sewer	612	610	560	686
Cleaning Supplies	400	311	400	526
Custodian Salary	5,200	5,200	5,200	5,109
Insurance	5,212	5,158	5,012	4,959
Maintenance & Improvements	5,000	3,424	7,000	15,340
SubTotal Property and Maintenance	22,424	20,152	25,272	33,590
Stewardship				
Brunch/Materials/Postage	200	0	200	
SubTotal Stewardship	200	0	200	0
Worship				
Accompanist	1,500	700	1,500	1,400
Choir Director	750	325	750	650
Bulletins/Sundays & Seasons.com	395	395	395	395
Church Copyright License	525	303	525	526
Flowers	50	90	50	-45
Music Supplies				
Organist-Pianist	6,710	6,800	6,600	6,700
Piano and Organ Repair	250	115	250	215
Pulpit Supply	600	150	600	509
Worship Supplies	600	624	450	432
SubTotal Worship	11,380	9,502	11,120	10,782
Youth				
Activities	500		500	
SubTotal Youth	500	0	500	0
Total Expenses	166,224	151,548	161,962	168,470
Transfer from Mission Investment Fund				17,500
Transfer to Mission Investment Fund				
Transfer to Internal Ministries				-2,284
Net Increase/Decrease to General Fund	-4,274	9,021	-6,162	77

Budget Committee: Pastor Chad Whaley, Del Hughes, Claudia Beyer, John Black, Jill Taylor, Nancy Bruns

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING OPENING LITURGY

LITANY

L. O God of all power and love ...

C. ... we give thanks for your unfailing presence.

L. O God of all power and love, we give thanks ...

C. ... for the hope you provide in times of uncertainty and loss.

L. O God of all power and love ...

C. ... we ask you to send your Holy Spirit to enkindle in us your holy fire.

L. O God of all power and love, we ask you ...

C. ... to revive us to live as Christ's body in the world.

L. O God of all power and love, we ask to be ...

C. ... a people who pray, worship, learn, break bread, share life, heal neighbors, bear good news, seek justice, rest and grow in the Spirit.

L. O God of all power and love, we ask you to be with us ...

C. ... wherever and however we gather. Unite us in common prayer and send us in common mission, that we and the whole creation might be restored and renewed, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Build Us Up, Lord



1 Build us up, Lord, build us up; set in
2 Build us up, Lord, build us up; let our



us a strong foun - da - tion. Lead us to do your
lives re - flect your glo - ry. Cast a - way all our



ho - ly will; form and shape your new cre - a - tion.
doubts and fears; help us tell the world your sto - ry.



Build us up, Lord, build us up; as we
Build us up, Lord, build us up; help us



guide and teach each oth - er, help us to share your love with the
bear good fruit for you, Lord, give us vi - sion and keep us



world: ev - 'ry sis - ter, ev - 'ry broth - er.
sure. Grant us faith that's stead - fast and true.



Refrain
Grow - ing in Christ, we plant seeds for the king - dom; we fol - low in



faith what's be - gun! Lord, set in our hearts the pow'r of your



word to spread the news of your Son!

Text: Mark Glaeser, b. 1956, and Donna Hanna, b. 1952

Text © 2003 Augsburg Fortress

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

In the early verses of Ephesians 4, the apostle Paul writes to the Christians in Ephesus, a city on the Aegean Sea at the mouth of a river and at the intersection of three trading routes. The letter was written about ten years after the church had started. During the early years of this congregation, Jews and Gentiles from several ethnicities and nationalities had come together to form "one body." Paul was aware that they had done well and commended them for their faith and love.

The word "one" appears more than seven times in the first four verses. This reflects the importance Paul gave to being called into the "unity of Christ." He wanted to note that, although many of the church members came from far off, there is "one Lord, one faith, one baptism." This oneness reflects God's gift of reconciliation in Christ.

A second emphasis from Paul was that, as believers, they were to "bear with one another in love." This would require humility, gentleness and patience as each of them practiced their faith. It would require tolerance to "maintain unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

A third emphasis was that each person had been given gifts by God and that these gifts were given to increase the whole. Because the Ephesian church was a young congregation and its members were just beginning in their faith journey, their understandings were often tossed to and fro. But as they grew in faith, each person contributed to building up the body of Christ.

The fourth and final emphasis was that by "speaking the truth in love," each person must grow into Christ. This means taking time to learn about one another and their gifts. Knowing these gifts, we can do God's work both within and beyond the faith community. When there are decisions to make or relationships to reconcile, we know to begin with prayer and reflection, always desiring to speak the truth in love — not for our own benefit but for God's glory, that we might become more complete.

As our members and friends gather today, whether face-to-face or online, we are reminded of our calling into "unity in Christ." We come from many places and work in many contexts, and yet we recognize "one Lord, one faith, one baptism."

Whether new to a worshipping community or further along the journey, we realize that humility, gentleness and patience are required both in the good times and especially in times of uncertainty and struggle. God wants us to be more complete through our work. Christ provides the way. The Holy Spirit is with us for guidance and courage. Each of us has been given the gifts to be complete, and through our faithfulness we will grow stronger and work together as one body.

LET US PRAY: LORD, LET THE WORDS OF THE APOSTLE PAUL DWELL IN US DEEPLY. MAY WE EMBRACE THE RECONCILING POWER OF ONENESS WITH CHRIST. MAY THIS ONENESS GUIDE OUR CONGREGATION AS WE LIVE INTO THE NEW REALITIES OF THESE TIMES. AS WE MEET NEW PARTNERS IN MINISTRY, MAY WE TAKE TIME TO GET TO KNOW THEM WITH PATIENCE, HUMILITY AND LOVE. HELP US TO SEE HOW SHARING OUR GIFTS WILL MAKE YOUR WORK EASIER AND MORE FULFILLING WHILE BRINGING ALL OF US CLOSER TO CHRIST. MAY THE BLESSINGS YOU GIVE EACH DAY STRENGTHEN US TO A LIVING, DARING CONFIDENCE IN YOUR GRACE. AMEN.