



**CHRIST
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**
ZIONSVILLE

ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA & REPORT 2023-2024



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



Annual Congregational Meeting Agenda

June 9, 2024

- 1) Certification of Quorum
- 2) Opening Prayer
- 3) Call to Order
- 4) Officer's Report
 - a) Secretary's Report
 - a) Adoption of Agenda
 - i) The order of the agenda is specified in bylaw C10.01.04.
 - b) Minutes of prior annual meeting
 - c) Membership Statistics
 - b) Pastor's Report
 - c) President's Report
 - d) Treasurer's Report – see 7b
- 5) Organization Reports
 - a) Preschool Report
 - b) MomCo (MOPS) Report
- 6) Team Reports (Governance & MMLT)
- 7) New Business – Nominating Team
 - a) Elections
 - b) Review and adopt 2024-2025 budget.
- 8) Benediction
- 9) Adjourn



Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes

June 11, 2023

- 1) Certification of Quorum
 - a) Connie Niessink, Vice President, established that the quorum standard had been met.
- 2) Opening Prayer - Pastor Wes Smith
- 3) Call to Order
 - a) The meeting was called to order at 10:48 a.m.
- 4) Adoption of Agenda
 - a) The Agenda was contained in the Annual Meeting Packet provided prior to this meeting. The order of the agenda is specified in bylaw C10.01.04. Adopted as written.
- 5) Pastor's report
 - a) In addition to his report in the Annual Meeting Packet, Pastor Wes Smith thanked the congregation and staff, highlighted the new members, the baptism, the confirmands, and the death of a member, and stated his goals for the new year: small groups, and filling MMLT fellowship and stewardship positions (with stewardship shared among 3 or 4 people).
- 6) Officers' Reports
 - a) President's report: Jamie Stewart, President, thanked Becky Porter for her advice and support; she highlighted the accomplishments of the Governance Board for the year; she thanked Jeannie Phillips, who was instrumental in the strategic planning process; Jamie also thanked Bob Behrend for all the work he did reviewing the Constitution; she mentioned the construction as part of the Master Plan; and she thanked Candace Berger and Christina Merriott for their help throughout the construction. The President's full report was in the Annual Meeting Packet.
 - b) Secretary's report: Bill Beck, Secretary, could not attend this meeting. The minutes of the June 12, 2022 meeting were approved unanimously.
 - c) Treasurer's report: Cindy Cannedy, Treasurer, incorporated her report, with the presentation of the budget for 2023-2024, in the Annual Meeting Packet.
- 7) Preschool Board, Preschool, and MOPS reports:
 - a) Preschool Board: Cheryl Kussow spoke of the history of the program, which is now a Level III preschool. She mentioned the success of grant proposals, the work done with safety policies, the task force to establish the relationship between preschool and church, and the on-going interest in substitute staffing.
 - b) Preschool: Melissa Woldman, Director, whose report is in the Annual Meeting Packet, spoke of the joy of the preschool mission. She thanked the Pastor, Staff, and Preschool Board for the work they do and the help they provide. The success of grant applications has allowed many improvements, with the paving of the parking lot to be done imminently, and that they are waiting to hear about another grant. Only a few openings remain for the 2023-2024 school year.
 - c) MOPS: Whitnie Bauer, Coordinator: The report was in the Annual Meeting Packet, and Whitnie added that the group has grown, since Covid, to 30 moms. MOPS is important to them especially because of the community they provide for each other.
- 8) Governance Board Reports
 - a) Jamie Stewart thanked all, and Becky Porter in particular, without whom she said she could not have done the job of president; spontaneous clapping occurred for Becky Porter.
 - b) Team reports were included in the Annual Meeting Packet.
- 9) Mission Ministry Leadership Team (MMLT):
 - a) Ted Kussow thanked Pastor Wes and all the team leaders in the network: Angie Eugenio and Chris Emsley, Service network; Sue Haughton, Worship and Music; John Burkhardt and Brian Hardesty, Property; Jeannie Phillips, who has recently taken on Faith Formation; we are all thankful for Rhonda Blacklock, director of music. He welcomed incoming Candace Berger to the Service network, and Angie Eugenio, returning again.
- 10) Preschool Task Force: Becky Porter:
 - a) Becky gave a short history of the preschool and its relationship with the church. The task force, which continues to meet, will develop recommendations about optimizing this preschool-church

relationship so that both entities can thrive. Members include Cheryl Kussow, Anne Behrend, Jen McKinzie, Connie Steinhart, Scott Herbst, and Becky Porter.

11) Unfinished business. There was no unfinished business.

12) New business

a) Elections: The nomination team's slate of candidates for Governance Board, Audit Team, Endowment Team, Columbarium Team, and the Nominating Team for next year was printed in the Annual Meeting Packet. No nominations came from the floor. Deb Holbrook moved to accept the slate by acclamation. Tom Jones seconded. Unanimous vote was in favor.

b) Budget: Cindy Cannedy's prepared budget, pages 8 and 9 in the Annual Meeting Packet, generated questions about grant money (which, clarified, was used to create the Master Plan; no money remained), other grant money from the preschool (clarified as no grant money went into church funds), and what we would need to add to our pledges to compensate for the \$13,000 deficit (about \$130 per pledging unit). After discussion, Tom Jones moved to adopt the budget. No second was needed. Unanimous "aye" vote.

13) Other new business: Changes to Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions

a) The summary of proposed changes as required by the ELCA was in the Annual Meeting Packet. Connie Niessink moved to adopt the first three items; no second was required; the vote was a unanimous "aye". Connie Niessink moved to accept the changes to model our language, which again received a unanimous "aye" vote. Connie Niessink moved to accept changes to the format of the bylaws, and again the positive vote was unanimous.

b) Paul Schmidt asked the Governance Board to reconsider the deletion of the staff support team and to re-instate it. After significant discussion in favor of re-instating the team, John Burkhardt seconded. Discussion included that the staff support team is a two-way street, providing support to both staff and congregation, and when the team is in place, it can avert and deal with issues on both sides. The vote was unanimously in favor of the Governance Board's reconsidering the reinstatement of this team.

c) Tom Conrad asked about varying our worship services, to add drama, different liturgies, music. Jim Holbrook added that he would like more instrumental music in services. Sue Haughton, from the Worship and Music team, said they have been discussing this very issue. Barb Burkhardt encouraged interested people to join the Worship and Music team.

d) Angie Eugenio apologized for the inadvertent omission of the "In the Loop" group from the Service network report, pointing out the valuable mission of this group that Danielle Burrus and Carol Smith began.

14) Benediction: Pastor Wes Smith

15) Adjournment: the meeting was adjourned at 11:57 a.m.

Submitted by: JoAnne Tuffnell, substituting for Bill Beck, Secretary, Governance Board



Parish Report 2023-2024

This past year has seen an increase in membership (10), beautiful children brought into God's family through the waters of baptism (5), and one of our dearly beloved entrusted into God's Kingdom through death.

Average Sunday Worship Attendance In-person: 75

Beginning in 2024, Average Visitor Attendance per week: 4
(Includes repeat visitors. Office tracks visitor information and follow-up is made when contact information is provided).

Easter Attendance: 139

Christmas Eve Attendance: 198

(127 Traditional service, 71 Children's service)

New Members: 10

Members Released/Transferred: 0

Baptisms: 5

Deaths: 1 (Georgiana Schroeder)

Faith Formation:

Confirmands: 0 (4 slated for Reformation Sunday 2024)

Sunday Education Hour attendance: Up to 15 children and 10 adults participated (25% increase vs 2023)

St. Nick Day attendance: 115 Grand Total (42 kids, 38 adults, 35 volunteers)

Easter Egg Hunt attendance: 111 Grand Total (children, adults, volunteers)

46 kids attended (29 from Preschool, 10 from CLCZ, and the remaining from community or friends of church), 39 adults were parents.

VBS attendance: 35 kids, 40 volunteers

Preschool:

Our program has a few spots left for the 24/25 school year, but we have confidence it will be full by August. We are currently searching for one more staff to help cover the Toddler classroom. We have successfully passed all our inspections this year and have maintained our level 3 paths the quality rating. 75% of our staff have a child development associate degree or higher. All staff are working hard towards their 20 hours of developmental training this year and have participated in several virtual early childhood conferences. We have had many successful well attended events this year including our Christmas worship program, Donuts with grown-ups, Pre-K graduation and bike race, and Field Day. Currently applying for a few more grants this coming year and was blessed with several this past year which helped us increase our Chapel and school library.

Current enrollment for 2023/2024 school year: 262

Projected enrollment 2024/2025 school year: 290

of staff members 2023/2024 school year: 13

of staff members 2024/2025 school year: 12 (in search for lucky #13)



Grace to you and peace from our Savior Jesus Christ,

As we reflect on the past year, I am overwhelmed with gratitude for the countless ways in which our congregation has demonstrated generosity, growth, and a steadfast commitment to following God's calling. These are all recurring themes at Christ Church, and as such Deuteronomy 6:5 comes to mind: *Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.* This year has been a remarkable journey, filled with blessings and achievements that have strengthened our community and lifted the words of Deuteronomy off the page. A few highlights.

One of the most encouraging developments of the past year has been the spike in volunteerism within our congregation. Your willingness to step up and contribute your time and talents in various areas of ministry has been instrumental in furthering God's kingdom here on earth. For example, our nursery attendants, audio/visual helpers, and those involved in delivering children's sermons play a crucial role in creating a worship experience that is inclusive and enriching for all ages. Your dedication to serving members of all ages is deeply appreciated.

Our Faith Formation program has undergone a revitalization of sorts, not only engaging our older members but our younger ones, too. Through engaging classes, meaningful discussions, and intentional discipleship, we are continually deepening and stretching our understanding of God's Word and how it applies to our lives - all thanks to your commitment to lifelong learning and spiritual growth.

One of the cornerstones of our church family is our Member Directory. This valuable resource not only helps us stay connected with one another but also fosters a sense of belonging and unity within our congregation. Thank you to everyone who contributed to keeping our directory updated and accessible throughout the year.

Another highlight of the past year was the concerted effort to tidy and improve our church facilities. From organizing storage spaces to beautifying our worship areas, your dedication to maintaining a welcoming environment for all who enter our doors has not gone unnoticed.

The funded and ongoing transformation of our Youth Room into a vibrant and engaging space has engaged our youth and offers a space where they can grow in faith. This small change is a testament to our commitment to nurturing the faith of our younger members. Through your support, we are creating a safe and inviting place for our youth to grow in their relationship with God and one another. We must remember that our youth aren't the future of the church, they *are* the church, here – now. Thinking otherwise is to our detriment.

Recently, we faced challenges, such as the HVAC system needing rescue. Your swift response and willingness to support the necessary and long-needed repairs ensured that our church remained a comfortable and welcoming sanctuary for all who seek solace and community within its walls.

As a way to supplement some of these expenses CLC opened its doors to a few outside groups such as Insomnia Mom and Dance Fit.

None of these accomplishments would have been possible without the dedication and hard work of our incredible staff and volunteers. Their commitment to serving our congregation with excellence and compassion is truly inspiring.

I am also grateful for the wonderful stewardship of resources from the Mission Ministry Leadership Team and the Finance Team. Their careful management of our finances and assets has allowed us to continue our ministry and outreach efforts with confidence and effectiveness. It isn't overly flashy, but keeping the lights on is in fact ministry.

Despite the challenges posed by external circumstances, our Sunday attendance has remained steady, and the nursery has proven most valuable - a testament to your commitment to worshiping together and supporting each other as a faith community. Your presence and participation in our worship services are a source of encouragement and strength to us all.

Finally, I am humbled by the new members who have joined our congregation this year, those who have returned after a period of absence, and those for whom Christ Church has always been a soft resting place. Your decision to make Christ Lutheran Church your spiritual home speaks volumes about the warmth and hospitality of our community, and we are blessed to welcome all with open arms.

As we look ahead to the coming year, let us continue to embrace God's calling to love and serve our neighbors with joy and generosity. Together, we can make an even greater impact on the world around us and further God's kingdom here on earth.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Wes Smith', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Pastor Wes Smith III

Dear Christ Lutheran Family –

It's been a privilege to lead the congregation this last year. We have been so grateful for your encouragement, support and engagement. Together we keep Christ Lutheran Church thriving to care for one another, for our community and to spread the Good News of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Pastor Wes continues to be a blessing as he leads, encourages & cares for each of us.

A family is strongest when it's tightly connected and members can easily communicate with one another often and effortlessly. As a result, one of our initiatives has been to update our Member Directory. It's been redeveloped into a user friendly format, was distributed to the congregation via the E-News and is available, in electronic or hard copy format, anytime by request at the church office. Let's all make a point of using this to call one another, send cards & notes in the mail or email to check in & say hello. Please let the office know anytime you've had a change in your contact information. We'll do an official update of this Directory a minimum of annually. Additionally, after 8 years, we've also produced a new Pictorial Directory which will be printed and distributed this summer. This will allow us to "put a name with a face" and further bond us together. A huge thank you to CLC member, McKenzie Stewart, for facilitating this by volunteering her time to be our photographer. We are indebted to her.

As we learned a couple of years ago when we all read "The Intentional Christian", a church is most inviting to its own members and guests when it's tidy and well cared for. Like any home, over time, a church can become cluttered with "stuff" that's outlived its use but we're hesitant to get rid of. This past year, we've done the disciplined task of decluttering the church by selling old furnishings that were stacked everywhere or stuffed in closets. A particular emphasis was the Youth Room. Old furnishings were sold and with a generous donation from a member, our youth are purchasing a few new things to make it "their" room. This is a big step in letting our youth know they're important to us. We want to encourage them to bring their friends, grow in their faith and spread the Gospel. Going forward we'll respect our youth by remembering while we're all welcome to use it, we won't rearrange or redecorate it because – it's "their" room.

We experienced a huge blessing when our members stepped up in a big way for "HVAC Rescue". Enough donations were received (over & above the annual pledges) to replace not only the large Sanctuary HVAC unit but also the unit that services the kitchen. Both of these HVAC units were in desperate need of replacement, and you all rallied to the cause. The new units have been installed and are working well.

Tina Lizama, our Office Administrator, joined us last year and has been an amazing addition to our staff. She's organized, accurate, capable, dependable, and extremely pleasant. We're lucky to have her as part of our family. A QR Code has been added to the Sunday bulletin to make giving easier for those that don't carry cash or a checkbook. Teresa Anderson provided refresher training for the Ushers on the AED machine on the wall in the narthex.

It's been a productive and wonderful year at Christ Lutheran. Member participation is strong. With God as our focus the future is exciting.

Blessings!

CLCZ Governance Board

Connie Niessink – President
Jeff Berger – Vice President
Jamie Stewart – Secretary
Cindy Cannedy – Treasurer

Bob Behrend
Randy Eugenio
Jennifer McKinzie
JoAnne Tuffnell

Organization Reports

Christ Lutheran Church Preschool Board

Mission of the Ministry

The purpose of the Board is to support the preschool, director, and staff in carrying out the mission of the preschool. The Board is responsible for safeguarding the integrity of the organization, and also serves in advisory and advocacy capacities. Areas of involvement include spiritual direction, programming, communication, finance, policy development and additional areas as needed or desired. The Board serves as the primary conduit of information between the director, the governing body of the Church, and members of the congregation.

Progress of the Ministry

- We have welcomed Connie Niessink as the Gov Board President representative on our Preschool Board. It has been very helpful for communication and coordination between the two boards.
- We continued to be blessed by a Grant obtained by Melissa for literacy (\$5000). We have also applied for another \$100,000+ grant and should find this summer the status. We appreciate our Path to Quality Level - PTQ level 3 status (safety and educational quality) that allows us to apply and the United Way, Lilly Endowment, Office of Early Childhood and Out-of-School Learning for offering these. Because of being PTQ L3 for 10 years we received a \$1000 grant also.
- These grants supported special events for the staff and families: The Family Day offers free food from Grace Truck, free books from the mobile Library, Parks Dept Creek Stompers, activities and fun music by Mr. Dan. The new blacktop in the back parking lot is safer and smoother with better drainage to reduce falls. The school grants allowed us to purchase additional faith formation material and literacy resources especially for our non-native English speaking families.
- Congregational connections are occurring. We have had some families come to attend our Church and MomCo (Mops) and their children attend Sunday school and VBS. Several families asked if they could use our sanctuary for prayer. Our prayer quilt ministry provided a quilt for a former preschool child who has cancer. Many preschool children have attended our St. Nick and Easter Egg hunt. We were able to offer a parent night (childcare) for several of our Preschool and MomCo (Mops) families.
- Approved new policies and discussed activities related to collection of summer tuition, document retention, new custodial services and oversight by Melissa, tuition review in local area, increased tuition and registration fees to cover an increase potentially in the Church tithe (due to rising costs of utilities, supplies, ...) and also charges for late pickups and drop-in care. We were also able to install special classroom door locks in case of an active shooter incident.
- Expressing gratefulness for all the support the Church and parents gave such as Anne Behrend volunteering to help with preschool operational accounting and Roger providing Law consultation in addition to their roles on the Board. Also, the many people who spread mulch and donated items and money for tuition assistance. I appreciate all board members for working with the Governance Board task force to explore our governing model and all considering our partnering ministry especially Jennifer who crosses between both.

How Can you Help?

Tuition Assistance Donations: We appreciate the many people who have donated to our tuition assistance fund for families in need. We have averaged needing over \$10,000/yr in requests, so we pray for your continued support, so we do not need to utilize operational funds and detract from our educational spending and staff compensation. Because of PTQ level 3, on being On My Way Pre-K and CCDF providers we have helped some families also get government childcare assistance.

Substitutes and Teachers: As an ongoing request, the preschool is always in need of substitute teachers to ensure a high standard of care for children when the regular teachers are absent. In addition, periodically we are in need of additional staff. Please consider a 4 or 7 hour paid opportunity or share this need with others you know who might be interested. We also have administrative needs that are paid/or volunteer. We follow the Zionsville school schedule which is a benefit. We also pay for 20+ hours of continuing ed. Thank you!

Vision for the Ministry

- Continue to encourage Church membership and parents to support families with tuition assistance donations so that they can afford quality Christian education for their child.
- Update the Board policy and procedure manual to reflect any changes to our governance structure, and revisions that align with our vision, Director and approve additional draft policies.
- Participate in a more in-depth Strategic Plan exercise with board, Church, staff and families.
- Determine the impact of faith opportunities on children and classroom inclusion. Review current spiritual goals for children's development and support additional staff faith training. Provide more visual reminders of our Christian focus.
- Improve Church/School engagement. Implement mentoring ministry between congregation and young families or parenting seminars or bible studies for families with young children.
- Finalize revised/new finance policies and procedure proposals with Governance Board and Finance team as part of our governance discussions and revised charter.
- Maximize utilization of grants available through 2024 and obtain additional as needed to improve our educational and outreach ministry and support an aging facility (heating/cooling).
- Increase awareness of teaching and sub positions to better support the school when staff is sick or unavailable or we are in need of new teachers.

Submitted by: Cheryl Kussow, Preschool Board Chair

Board Members: Melissa Woldman (Director), Anne Behrend (Finance), Cheryl Kussow (Board Chair), Roger Burrus (large) – Voting Advisors: Pastor Wes Smith, Connie Niessink (Gov Bd President)

Thank you to Outgoing Board members: Jen McKinzie (Secretary)



Preschool Kids at
Congregational Events!



Christ Lutheran Church Preschool Director's Report

Mission of the Ministry

Christ Lutheran Church Preschool provides a Christian atmosphere in which children can learn, play, and develop with the assurance of the child's safety and well-being. We provide a faith based, high quality early childhood education to encourage children and families to know Christ and to serve His world. Our goal is to offer a safe and nurturing environment that promotes the physical, social, spiritual, emotional, and cognitive development of each child through an integrated curriculum approach.



Progress of the Ministry

This was my third full year as the Director of Christ Lutheran Church Preschool and what a great year it has been. My bonds with the staff and families are growing and we were able to spend more time together in fellowship throughout this year. Our staff changes slightly year by year, and this year we have gained some wonderful ladies to support our mission.

- The program remains mostly full, and families are excited to return next year.
- We are possibly losing 2 staff this year (going back to college and internship) so we are actively searching for new staff to join our team.
- CLCP is talked about with the highest praise on social media outlets by our current and past families.
- Summer Camp is slowly filling up for the 2024 summer.
- We have successfully passed all our inspections this year and have maintained our level 3 paths to quality rating.
- 75% of our staff have a Child Development associate degree or higher.
- All staff are working hard towards their 20 hours of development training this year, and participated in several virtual early childhood conferences, and we also brought in a team of trainers.
- Chapel has continued twice weekly in our sanctuary, a few teachers have helped me out with Chapel this year, and Cheryl K. has helped with many ideas which is always appreciated.
- Successful Christmas program, Donuts with grownups, ice cream social, Pre-K graduation, Pre-K bike race, and Field Day events this year, looking forward to many more next year.
- Received several small grants this past year, which helped increase our Chapel and school library.
- Currently applying for another grant and awaiting word on one that I have already submitted.

Vision for the Ministry

- Retain current staff and families in the coming years and continue the reputation we have in the community.
- Continue to strengthen the relationship between the Church and the Preschool by offering more activities for the congregation and preschool to be together.
- Continue to improve and implement more family engagement activities. Applied for a grant to help with this.
- Continue to research grant opportunities to improve our program and church.

Submitted by: Melissa Woldman, Director of Christ Lutheran Church Preschool

Committee Members: Preschool staff- Andrea Caniff, Beth Ganci, Cheryl Gardner, Maria Luciani, Hayley Motter, Tasha Porter, Kara Richer-Carr, Jamie Roehl, Stefanie Roehl, Erin Shafer, Wendy Svenstrup, Annie Sweeney, and Desiree Woodruff



MomCo formerly MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) 2024

Mission of the Ministry

MomCo is a ministry to mothers of young children. We provide a safe space for mothers to bond and form friendships, explore and deepen their faith, and also listen to speakers on various topics relating to her as a woman, a mother, a wife, and a Christian.

Progress of the Ministry

This was my third year as the Coordinator for our MomCo/MOPS group. We've seen a resurgence in attendance following our "Covid years", and had close to 25 moms and 2-3 childcare rooms at each meeting.

- We've welcomed about 5 new moms into our group this year, and helped care for their children during our meetings as well.
- At our last meeting in May, we had 12+ registrations submitted with payment already for the '24-'25 year.
- We were able to accommodate all the children registered to attend our childcare last year, and even were able to provide a baby room when needed (many babies graduated to the toddler 1 room). We hope to continue to build our childcare roster and have a baby room available at all times. We maintained the state ratio of children vs. caregivers at each meeting.
- This year we learned about personal growth and how it affects our mothering, had a visit from a local OB/GYN NP to discuss women's health matters, local Christian author Marianne Miller also visited us and taught us some lessons in saying no to children. In the new year, we learned about personal finance from a Christian financial planner, we celebrated our community with a "Galentine's" themed meeting. In March, which is National Disability Month, we learned about what its like to parent a child with special needs and what they want us to know and how to approach them. Lastly, we had a delightful visit from Cheryl Kussow who spoke about the Fruits of the Spirit and helped us arrange flowers. We closed the year with introducing the new name/theme, pre-registering moms, and preparing for summer.
- Comments from our end of year survey submitted at our last meeting:
 - "Your service is blessing the lives of so many - thank you!"
 - "A relaxing time with other moms in the same season of life".
 - "It's a wonderful place to build connections and a community of women in the same boat as you"

Vision for the Ministry

- Retain current members and continue to recruit new members.
- Strengthen our bond with the church community by offering MNO activities for working mothers to attend (social membership), finding Mentor Moms from the church community to commit to attending a couple meetings with us, helping man the baby care tent at the Fall Festival, etc.
- Continue to offer quality and relevant speakers and meeting topics for our moms.
- Continue to offer quality childcare for our MOPPETS and provide them with fun and engaging lessons on Christ.

Submitted by: Whitnie Bauer, Coordinator, MOPPETS, Finance

Committee Members: Mandi Doyle (Hospitality), Sue Jordan (Service), Alex Scott (Crafts), Tara Orelup (Care), Kelli Allen (Small Group Discussion), Lisa Winterbottom (MNO).

Governance Team Reports

AUDIT COMMITTEE GUIDELINES FOR CONDUCTING ANNUAL FINANCIAL REVIEW *Christ Lutheran Church – Zionsville*

Audit process:

Fiscal year: 2022-2023

- ☒ Compare previous years' reports to insure no financial accounts or instruments were missed in this year's reports.
- ☒ Verify the Treasurer's balances in all bank and similar accounts.
- ☒ Verify regular reconciliations of the checkbook/ledger/journal balances with the actual bank account balances. (minimum sampling – 2 months)
- ☒ Verify that
- a) all receipts/monies were counted by two or more persons each week,
 - b) that signed counters' reports reconcile with deposits, and
 - c) that receipt records reconcile with the totals reported by the Treasurer.
- (minimum sample – 4 weeks)
- ☒ Verify that internal controls can prove that designated and/or restricted funds were recorded as such in the accounting records, reported as such to the individual, and that totals received actually were spent for the designated purpose. (minimum sample- 5 gifts from at least two different funds)
- ☒ Verify that payments were properly requested, authorized, and recorded, and that checks were written sequentially. Verify that each check has authorized signature(s) and that the payee properly endorsed them. (minimum sample – 25 checks)
- ☒ Verify that internal controls over purchasing and accounts payable are appropriate: Are the purchases authorized by proper staff/committee chair/officer, with proper support and paid on time, etc. (minimum sample – 2 months)
- ☒ Review payroll procedures, including: minister(s) is/are paid according to the terms of call voted by the congregation; other employees are paid proper amounts; withholding is done in accordance with federal and state requirements and all forms filed in a timely manner; appropriate W-2's and/or 1099's are prepared at year-end for all employees, including ministers; deposits of payroll taxes were made and paid in a timely fashion; (minimum sample – two payroll cycles)
- ☒ Review/verify the location of important documents, such as contents of any lock box or safe, certificates of deposit, titles, deeds, mortgages, promissory notes, insurance policies, etc.

Funds Received:

General Fund
Building Fund
Endowment Fund
Pre-school

Accounts Received:

Bank Balances
Old National
Fidelity
Endowment Fund
CD's, etc

Considerations for future audits:

- committee members should have a background in accounting, audit, or financial record keeping
- an individual with audit/accounting knowledge could review/update the audit sheet to better fit our current church financial operation with has both paper and computer elements
- The church accountant should assemble the documents listed in the audit procedure prior to the committee meeting to perform the audit.
 1. A balance sheet for all funds, showing the beginning balances, summary of receipts and disbursements by fund, and the closing fund balances.
 2. An inventory of major assets and liabilities of the church corporation, such as certificates of deposit and endowment fund statements.
 3. A copy of the approved budget for the year being audited.
 4. Disbursement requests showing authorizations, payroll records, etc.
- The accountant should also be available during the audit to provide any other documents required for the audit

Conclusion: nothing was found indicating any unauthorized activity

Committee: Carol Smith, Jason Hess, Tom Jones,
with assistance from Treasurer: Cindy Cannedy

Ministry Team Name: Columbarium

Mission of the Ministry

Our columbarium, located at the southeast side of the church, has a fund balance (as of May 16) of \$10,809.71. The funds are used for upkeep, maintenance, and to enable the beginnings of a possible future columbarium wall.

Progress of the Ministry

The gardens have reached maturity; the team has hired a gardener for the first time this year to keep them in their beautiful condition. The gardens add to the sense of serenity around this sacred space.

Metrics Highlighting Achievements

Currently, we have 4 niche spaces available. If you have questions about the columbarium and/or the gardens, please talk with Margie Kilgus.

Vision for the Ministry

We are blessed to have this columbarium ministry at Christ Lutheran Church and we hope you will visit the garden.

Submitted by: JoAnne Tuffnell

Committee Members: JoAnne Tuffnell, Margie Kilgus, Barbara Starkey, Keith Anliker



Ministry Team Name: Endowment Fund

Mission of the Ministry

The 7 members of the Endowment Team met twice during the current fiscal year. The Charter was updated to reflect new policies.

Progress of the Ministry

The Team may allocate grants (a maximum of \$1000 each) to members of the congregation which will benefit the congregation, enhance its mission and/or provide social services for those in need in our local communities. Grants will not be allocated for operating expenses.

Grants may be allocated up to 4% of the Balance on January 1, of the fiscal year, which was on January 1, 2024, \$90,000. (There have been \$10,000 in grant disbursements since the beginning of the fund.)

Metrics Highlighting Achievements

The current Balance of the Endowment is \$100,000. The balance on April 30, 2023, was \$85,000 Since the inauguration of this fund, \$40,000 has been donated, the Principle, which cannot be invaded, thus representing the gifts which are protected in order to create income which is used to distribute for grants.

Vision for the Ministry

The Team has committed itself to regularly remind the congregation of this opportunity to make lasting gifts on behalf of special occasions, loved ones, etc., and the opportunity to apply for and receive funding for worthwhile projects which further the mission of our congregation.

Submitted by: Paul Schmidt, Endowment Chair



Ministry Network Team Reports

Mission Ministry Leadership Team (MMLT)

Mission of the Ministry

The mission of the MMLT is to work together to involve the congregation in events and activities that enable all of us to be Servants Proclaiming, Reflecting and Celebrating Christ.

Progress of the Ministry

The MMLT consists of the Chairs of all the CLC ministry networks. It meets monthly to ensure all ministry networks have the support they need to serve the congregation and the wider community. The MMLT itself also has a Chair who reports progress and ensures alignment between MMLT events and activities and Governance Board objectives.

Each network group has given a report below of the activities for the year and some of what to look forward to next year. Please take a few minutes to read about the wonderful progress these committees have made throughout the year to move our mission forward. I am very thankful for these group leaders for their cheerful dedication and support for our ministry to each other and the community. Especially, I am thankful for Pastor Wes's leadership through it all.

Our goal is to get everyone at CLC engaged in the ministry of our Church in whatever way the Holy Spirit is leading you. In the reports below you will see numerous examples of how folks have gotten involved through the Network Leadership Teams. You will also see some plans for next year. Please reach out to me or these leaders if you would like to be involved in one of these groups in a small or big way or have an idea for something new. For those of you who helped in these groups last year I thank you and pray that you feel led to continue in your support of CLC even if you decide to help in a new way next year.

Submitted by: Ted Kussow, MMLT Chair

MMLT Members: Kristen Hess (Fellowship), Jeannie Phillips (Faith Formation), John Burkhardt & Brian Hardesty (Property), Candace Berger (Service), Becky Porter (Stewardship), Pastor Wes (Worship and Music). Pastor Wes is also a member of the MMLT to provide guidance, support and interface with Governance Board.



Ministry Team Name: Service Network

Mission of the Ministry

Our mission is to inform the congregation of service opportunities to our church family, our community, and to global missions. We seek to enlist the help of congregational members in leading and performing these acts of service.

Progress of the Ministry

Service to the congregation:

- Organized, provided and served meal following the funeral service for Georgi Schroeder. 60+ people were served.
- Provided and served meal before the Lenten service on February 21st.
- Prayer chain led by Donna Svobada. The prayer chain has continued to support requests for prayers of congregation members, family, and friends.
- Organized and supported the meal chain for two new births within the congregation: Bode Bergman and Nolan Smith.

Service to the community:

- Contributed to the Shalom House's summer lunch program.
- The spring blood drive was held April 14th. Christina Merriott gave a brief temple talk the 7th to encourage donations. We had 13 whole blood units and a double red cell which I was told should translate into enough at 3 people per unit should help over 50 people. The fall drive is currently scheduled for November 24th.
- Sixteen volunteers set up and hosted the baby care tent which served 30 families at the Lion's Park Fall Festival on Saturday and Sunday.
- Donated 641 pairs of socks, 26 scarves and 31 hats/hand warmers to the Wheeler Mission through our Socktober community drive.
- Through the annual Christmas giving tree, delivered over 100 items in gifts and gift cards to LCFS for their Christmas store.
- Elsie's Circle has provided several prayer quilts for members of our congregation and our community. Members can request a prayer quilt for anyone who needs prayerful support. Contact: Linda Callecod.
- The Blessing Box was rescued and re-deployed on CLC property this past fall and is already supporting those in need in our community with basic emergency food needs.

Service to global missions:

- Elsie's Circle made 7 quilts in March and 5 quilts in October for Lutheran World Relief. Contact: Linda Callecod.

Metrics Highlighting Achievements

During the past year, Christ Church members continued to be generous and gracious with their giving.

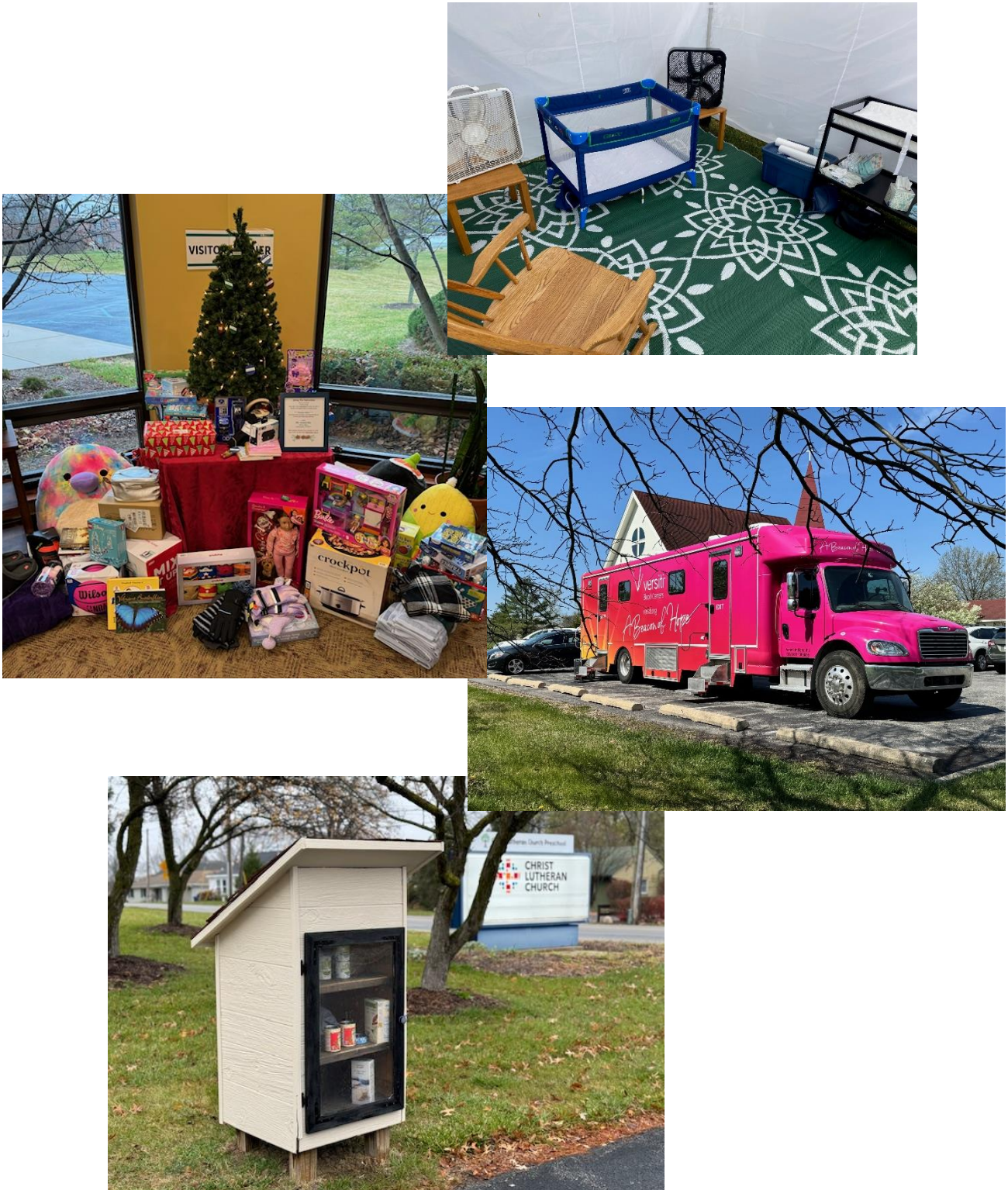
1. Over the Christmas season, we donated over 100 items to the Caring Center and LCFS holiday programs.
2. During Socktober, we collected and donated 641 pairs of socks, 26 scarves and 31 hats/hand warmers to the Wheeler Mission. Socks are a number one need for people experiencing homelessness.
3. Through Elsie's Circle provided 12 quilts for Lutheran World Relief.

Vision for the Ministry

Our vision is that each member of the congregation will embrace the role of servant with gifts of time, talent, and treasure in support of our congregation, community, and global church.

Submitted by: Candace Berger, Service Network Chair

Committee Members: Danielle Burrus, Carol Smith, Martha Schmidt, Tom Jones, Chris Emsley, Angie Eugenio, Barb Starkey, Linda Callecod



Ministry Team Name: Faith Formation

Mission of the Ministry

Our mission is to provide opportunities, resources, and training to help people of all ages deepen their relationship with Jesus and each other, enabling us to fulfill our greater purpose to be servants proclaiming, reflecting, and celebrating Christ together



Progress of the Ministry

- Our ministry has grown as new families have joined our church and we continue to engage preschool and MOPS families. Our Sunday education program now includes Faith Stepping Stones which is an opportunity for families to join their children to learn about important milestones in their faith journey such as the Lord's Prayer and the sacrament of Baptism, both of which were a focus this year. It is worth mentioning that any child who joins the Sunday education hour is given a free Bible to take home.
- With an all-volunteer staff, we have focused on doing a few events and activities well vs adding new ones. These include Vacation Bible School (VBS), Breakfast with St. Nick, Parents Night Out, and the Easter Egg Hunt. In addition to serving our church families, these activities include a significant outreach and evangelism component so that we can share God's love with families outside of our church.

Achievements of the Ministry

- Up to 15 children and 10 adults participated in our Sunday Education hour (25% increase vs 2023)
- 5 members once again gave children's sermons
- 40 volunteers helped prepare for and carry out Vacation Bible School for 35 kids
- 115 people joined us for Breakfast with St. Nick as either volunteers (35) or guests (38 adults, 42 kids)
- 23 volunteers helped give our CLCZ, preschool and MOPS parents a night out while they took care of 38 kids in February
- 111 people including children (46), adults and volunteers joined us for the Easter Egg Hunt
- Our high school and middle school youth baked Thanksgiving pies for people in need and helped with VBS, Breakfast with St. Nick, Parents Night Out and the Easter Egg Hunt.

Vision for the Ministry

- We have an opportunity to step up the engagement of our youth. In addition to upgrading our Youth Room, we are partnering with Fellowship to plan social activities such as Indians games, Pacer games, game nights, etc. See Kristen's report. We would love to have a volunteer(s) to work with us on what youth ministry should look like now.
- We have several ideas to increase involvement of kids and adults in Faith Formation including incorporating music during the Education hour, involving kids in the Christmas service, providing a class or event for parents on a regular basis, and providing an adult education option delivered by Pastor.



Submitted by: Jeannie Phillips, Faith Formation Ministry Network Leader

Network Members: Angie Eugenio, Cheryl Kussow, Jeannie Phillips, and Pastor Wes



Ministry Team Name: Property and Grounds

Mission of the Ministry

The Mission of the Property Team is to be good stewards of the physical properties that God has blessed us with. The network is responsible for, but not limited to:

- Maintaining, protecting, and improving the property of this congregation.
- Coordinate claims for property insurance.
- Oversee acquisition and maintenance of Church equipment, property, and grounds.
- Developing short-term and long-term plans for congregational property including the acquisition, usage, maintenance, and inventory thereof.

Progress of the Ministry

The following are some of the key highlights from 2023/2024:

- HVAC Replacements – Sanctuary and Kitchen (April 2024)
- Replaced Front Door Mechanical Mechanism – (March 2024)
- Updating of Fellowship Hall Men's Restroom - ongoing
- Fall Work Day (October 2023) – various indoor and outdoor projects completed.
- Spring Work Day (April 2024) – various projects.
- Arranged for oversight or committee completion of many internal maintenance projects.
- Parking lot refurbishment for two rear areas of church (August 2023).
- Installation of a Guard Arm for CLCP to control rear parking area access and create a safer environment for the children under our care – (May/June 2024)

John and I appreciate the assistance of all those who have volunteered to help with ad hoc projects, but we need more skilled (i.e. electrical, plumbing, IT, etc.) volunteers to manage the various tasks that surface. Special thanks to Greg Holbrook for his electrical expertise – he saved the Congregation quite a bit this year.

Vision for the Ministry

Our vision for the property and grounds network is as follow:

- Replace dated HVAC units using costly coolant.
- Update Fellowship Hall including flooring and lighting in conjunction with Hybrid project timeline.
- Continue to manage aging aspects of the congregational infrastructure in order to smooth out costs and transitions.

John and I would like to thank our Work Day Warriors (you know who you are) for their support and assistance. The facility would not continue to portray such a warm and inviting environment without their hard work and dedication.

Submitted by: Brian Hardesty, Property Team Co-Chair

Committee Members: Brian Hardesty, John Burkhardt, Joe Travis.
Doug Bosworth, and Mark Balaska





Ministry Team Name: Fellowship

Mission of the Ministry

To coordinate and help facilitate Fellowship events within the congregation that bring people together to socialize, build new relationships and connect the cross generations in an interactive social setting. Fellowship also supports the fellow MMLT ministries in creating engaging events where members and non-members feel welcome to gather and share their time and talents.

Progress of the Ministry

The Fellowship network has many facets that not only plan and host events for people to participate in to develop relationships and have fun, but also to support aspects of our Church that allow, operationally, fellowship to happen smoothly.

- **Kitchen Support** - We appreciate the people who throw out old food that could make us sick, make sure we can eat with knives and forks and know how to make coffee keeping us energized and meeting new friends at Church! All important tasks that make joining together enjoyable! A few of those roles are Kitchen supervision (informally Cheryl Kussow), Sunday Morning Hospitality Trainer (Cheryl Kussow), and Kitchen Supply Coordinator (Sue Haughton). We also appreciate all of you who keep it clean and organized.
- **Small Groups** - Although our Small group ministry is under our Faith Formation network, small groups by their nature support relationship development among our members. Please join in, in groups such as Elsie's circle - sewing prayer quilts, bible study groups, singing in the choir, participating in a prayer group or a card club. Leaders are published yearly and all are welcome to join.
- **Sunday Morning Hospitality** – The Kussows, Phillips, Jeffers, Luczeks, Hardestys, Jen McKinzie, Candance Berger, Connie Steinhart, Deb Holbrook and many others have kept us socializing on Sunday mornings.
- **Random Acts of Fellowship** – Many times through the year different MMLT events need people to help prepare food. We have an adhoc team of guys and Middle and HS youth who now have become the official breakfast providers for Faith formation events such as Shrove Sunday and Breakfast with St. Nick. We also have those who help with confirmation dinners, choir parties and more that celebrate relationships.
- **Fellowship Events this Year** – Assisted with the Church picnic, Pacers Family Fun Night, Lutherfest, Support Lenten suppers, Assist with Maundy Thursday Supper, Congregational Fellowship Game Night.

Vision for the Ministry

- Encourage others to assist in coordinating additional events that they have a passion for so that the planning is spread among many.
- Utilize the time and talents of more members by asking the Time and Talent coordinator for additional people with varying skills to assist with events (from planning, clean up, photography, decorating etc...).
- Encourage people to invite and bring nonmembers to at least one event per year.
- Continue to communicate our events early so people can schedule and prioritize them.
- Continue to develop event reports on all fellowship events to facilitate successful events and transfer of knowledge.
- Work with other MMLT ministries and Preschool to coordinate where fellowship can assist in making events more relational between members, the school and our community so everyone gets to know someone deeper that they do not know well.

- Develop a balance of events from sporting events, large dinners, small gatherings and cultural events that recognize diverse interests and accommodate varying ages.
- Facilitate events that are varying in cost and most often are financially self-supporting.
- Ensure hospitality is offered every Sunday to show our welcoming to all.
- Kitchen is kept clean, organized and sanitary for all to enjoy with procedures that facilitate that goal.

Submitted by: Kristen Hess, Fellowship Chair

Supporting Members: Andi Hardesty, Cheryl Kussow, Rose Conrad, Glenn and Joanne Tuffnell, Ted Kussow, Tom and Gretchen Jeffers, Mark Balaska, Jason Hess, Jeannie Phillips, MMLT and Governance Board, Property team who sets up many chairs and tables... the list goes on!



Ministry Team Name: Director of Music

Shout for joy for the LORD, all the earth. Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. ~ Psalm 100:1-2; 4.

It is an honor and a joy to report to you on the Music Ministries of Christ Lutheran Church. The Sanctuary Choir has grown from 19 members to 22 members. Our choir season kicked off with a retreat at Zionsville Town Hall on August 26th, where we spent the day meeting our new members, singing a lot of new music, working on our Christmas cantata, playing music games and enjoying fellowship together. The choir presented John Leavitt's "What Child is This?" during our worship services on Sunday, December 17th, with a small chamber ensemble to accompany the work.

Celebration Bells is at capacity with 13 ringers. This season we were graciously gifted an additional 2 octaves of Malmark handchimes, so the choir now has 5 octaves of handbells and 5 octaves of handchimes. The additional chimes have greatly added to our repertoire; they have also increased the skills of those who ring the really low bells and the very highest bells. In December, we attended a "Ring and Share" event at Cross of Grace Lutheran Church in New Palestine, IN, where we heard beginning school choirs, existing church choirs, community choirs and small ensembles play music that they were working on for worship or programs at their school or in the community. We played "Sing We Now of Christmas", a standard piece in the handbell repertoire.

Kantorei continues to serve in a less rigorous rehearsal/worship schedule. We continue to offer shorter term singing opportunities for men's ensemble (Fortress) and women's ensemble (Musae) during the summer months.

In the coming year, we would welcome any new singers to Sanctuary Choir. No audition is needed and singers of all ages are welcome to join. Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm. Celebration Bells is full, but would welcome ringers as substitutes or who may be interested in forming a new choir! Rehearsals for Celebration Bells are on Thursday evenings at 6:30pm.

Submitted by: Rhonda Blacklock, Director of Music



Ministry Team Name: Worship and Music

Mission of the Ministry

The Worship and Music network at Christ Lutheran Church (CLC) is dedicated to fostering a meaningful worship experience for every member of our congregation, regardless of age. We strive to encourage active participation, utilizing the diverse interests and talents of our members. We extend heartfelt gratitude to all those who have generously served as assisting ministers, communion assistants, ushers, acolytes, altar guild members, banner changers, and children's messengers. The music at CLC, led by our Sanctuary Choir, Kantorei, Celebration Bells, and talented instrumentalists, serves as an integral and uplifting component of our worship to God.

Progress of the Ministry

The year 2024 was marked by significant progress and positivity within the Worship and Music committee. Here are some highlights:

- Annual Church Picnic: We kicked off the year with our beloved Annual Church Picnic, fostering fellowship and community spirit among our members.
- All Saints Sunday: We solemnly remembered and honored those who entered the Church Triumphant last year, including beloved member Georgiana Schroeder.
- Sunday Attendance: While numbers are only one measure of our ministry's success, we are pleased to note a growth in our Sunday attendance, welcoming new individuals and families into our congregation.
- Advent Cantata: Our Advent Cantata, "What Child is This," directed by Rhonda Blacklock, beautifully ushered in the Advent season with inspiring music and worship.
- Children's Sermons: Attendance at children's sermons saw a notable increase, thanks to the dedication of those who teach and nurture our youngest members in the faith.
- Celebration Bells: Our Celebration Bells ensemble continued to uplift our worship services with their melodious praise. Thanks to a generous donation, we were able to expand our hand chimes collection, enhancing our musical offerings.
- Reintroduction of Janzow Liturgy: This year, we reintroduced elements of the Janzow liturgy, which will now be incorporated into our worship on the last Sunday of each month.
- Advent Meditations and Christmas Eve: Our ½ hour Advent Meditations and Music services proved to be a cherished tradition, offering a peaceful respite during the busy Advent season. Special performances by the Lilly Chorus & Joyful Sound were particularly well-received, with increased midweek attendance reflecting our congregation's commitment to this tradition. On Christmas Eve two services were offered – one focused on children and a more traditional option. Support for our Christmas Eve services was strong even with Advent 4 earlier in the day.
- Blue Christmas Service: Now in its second year, our Blue Christmas Service was warmly received as a meaningful tradition, offering solace and comfort to those experiencing grief or loss during the holiday season.
- Holy Week and Easter Services: Our Holy Week services, including Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday, provided powerful opportunities for worship and reflection as we commemorated the events of Christ's passion, death, and resurrection.

- Prayer Vigil: Due to lack of interest and signup, the Good Friday prayer vigil will be shelved for the time being.

Vision for the Ministry

- Technology Integration in Worship: Continue livestreaming worship services for members who are unable to attend in person, allowing them to participate remotely. Embrace technology as a tool for enhancing worship experiences and expanding outreach efforts while understanding our limitations. Pastor and Tina will work with the A/V team to help grow the pool of volunteers and establish periodic training sessions.
- Youth-Led Worship Services: Empower the youth of the congregation to plan and lead worship services on designated Sundays. Provide training and mentorship opportunities for young leaders to develop their God-given skills, be it public speaking, singing, or planning. Encourage youth involvement in all aspects of worship, from selecting hymns to delivering faith-statements as they are comfortable.
- Sacred & Creative Expression: Cultivate a culture of creativity and artistic expression within the congregation by offering opportunities for members to explore and share their talents in music, drama such as theatrical performances that explore themes of faith, spirituality, and social justice. The Music and Worship Team will provide resources and support for artists to integrate their creative gifts into worship and ministry activities.

Stretch Goal

- All Saints Sunday Memorial Garden: Create a dedicated memorial garden on church grounds where members can honor their departed loved ones on All Saints Sunday. Offer opportunities for families to plant flowers or trees in remembrance, accompanied by personalized plaques or markers. Organize a special ceremony or service to commemorate those who have passed away, including a moment of reflection and prayer.

In summary, 2024 was a year of growth, enrichment, and deepening spiritual engagement within the Worship and Music Ministry at Christ Lutheran Church. We want to continue to make our worship meaningful for all ages at Christ Lutheran. Please bring us any of your ideas.

We look forward to continuing this journey of faith together in the year ahead.

Submitted by: Pastor Wes Smith

Committee Members: Bob Russell, Barbara Burkhardt, Gretchen Jeffers, Tina Bergner, Rhonda Blacklock, Becky Walter, Angie Eugenio, William Steinke, Amy Foley, Sue Haughton



Additional Small Groups

Altar Guild

The Altar Guild is the mighty “behind the scenes” volunteers who prepare and clean up communion each Sunday, keep the font cleaned and filled, put oil in the candles, make the baptismal banners and change the big banner, paraments and mosaics to reflect special Sundays and seasons of the church year. They are also responsible for decorating the narthex and sanctuary at Christmas and Easter. In addition, they make sure that any sponsored flower arrangement is made.

Presently we have 14 wonderful and dedicated people who serve on Altar Guild. They are Barb Burkhardt (coordinator), Andi Hardesty, Deb Gates, JoAnne Tuffnell, Connie Ashenfelter, Chris Emsley, Connie Steinhart, Linda Callecod, Barb Starkey, Gretchen Jeffers, Sue Haughton, Margie Kilgus, Jen Luczak and Tom Jones (banners).

The members chose what months they can serve and a team of 3-4 members are assigned for each month. They coordinate within themselves, whether they want to do the communion preparation or clean-up and create their own schedule so that all the needed monthly tasks are completed.

If you have an interest in serving on Altar Guild, a member will train you until you feel comfortable in the procedures. We have only one annual meeting. If you would like to become a member of this congenial group or have any further questions, contact Barb Burkhardt or any altar guild member to express your interest.

CLCZ Book Club

The CLCZ Book Club has been one of the small groups of Christ Lutheran Church of Zionsville for 14 years. It began meeting in the spring of 2010 and continues to meet monthly on the second Thursday of every month at 1 pm, usually at the church but occasionally at a restaurant or in one of the members' homes.

We have 24 members on our roster, but about 10-15 members are able to attend our meeting on a regular basis. We meet from September through May. We select our books by nominating and then voting on books in which members have expressed an interest. Each year's list will usually consist of a mix of fiction, non-fiction, perhaps a biography or memoir. In our discussions we try to look at the social, moral, ethical and religious, if any, issues that the author presents.

Our book club welcomes new members at all times. We have quite a few members who are not members of CLCZ and we are delighted with their presence.

Occasionally the book club participates in a church-sponsored event like a food or clothing drive. We have prompted fellowship events such as the outing to the Broadway in Indianapolis show Come From Away in January 2020.

The next book club event, which is open to all members of the church and guests is a visit on Thursday, July 11, 2024, midday, to the Indiana Historical Society's exhibit Resist which depicts the bravery of Notre Dame students and others throughout the state who one hundred years ago resisted the efforts of the Ku Klux Klan to infiltrate all sectors of Indiana residents' social, judicial, municipal, legislative and religious affairs. The book club in April read a book, Fever in the Heartland by Tim Egan, that deals with the meteoric rise in 1924 of the KKK to power in Indiana and across the nation.

For more information about the field trip to the IHS on July 11 or about the book club, and a list of all books read throughout the years, contact Gretchen Jeffers at glakeside67@aol.com or at 315-567 6137.

Elsie's Circle

We in Elsie's Circle meet, get out sewing machines, scissors, ironing boards, select fabrics from many donated ones, and put together quilts. Many of our quilts are prayer quilts, in which the congregation participates by tying a square knot while saying a prayer for the recipient. Other quilts go to Lutheran World Service to be sent where needed around the globe. This year we are also making quilts for LCFS's Pando Project. We have been meeting for many years, once a month at church - and would love to have you join us. Contact Linda Callecod, Barb Burkhardt, Connie Steinhart, JoAnne Tuffnell, or Margie Kilgus to learn more.

In the Loop

Now in its fourth year, members of the Christ Lutheran Church "In The Loop" group crochet and knit scarves and hats for the unhoused in our community. Our meetings are simple: a gathering of people who relax and work on projects and share ideas in the Youth Room at church and sometimes at the home of a member. In addition, we encourage those who cannot join us at a meeting to crochet or knit hats and scarves at home and bring them to church for a blessing. In October, we count and display our hats and scarves on the altar at church and Pastor Wes Smith conducts a blessing during a Sunday service.

We enjoy the needlework, fellowship, and ministry of reaching out to those in need. Everyone is welcome, including family and friends from the Zionsville community and beyond. We can provide yarn, needles and hooks, beginner patterns, lessons, and lots of encouragement.

In the past, our scarves and hats have gone to Wheeler Mission and the Horizon House in Indianapolis. This year, we will donate our work to the Zionsville American Legion, whose members will give them to veterans in need. If you have questions or would like to join contact Danielle Burrus. "In The Loop" group also has a Facebook page where they display photos of some of their work.

OWLS (Older Wiser Lutherans)

The Owls meet on the 4th Sunday of each month, September through May. We meet at different restaurants after the Church service for Food and Fellowship. We help with different projects throughout the year, we have packed lunches, made kits for babies, also for college kids taking finals. Our last meeting of the year is a pitch-in picnic at the Burkhardts, our most attended meeting and a great time!! If you have questions or would like to join contact Linda Callecod.

Pastor's Midweek Bible Study

Pastor Wes's midweek Bible studies, held on the second and fourth Tuesdays from 9:30 to 10:30am, offer a welcoming space for all to explore a variety of topics. We discuss contemporary issues, delve into Pastor Wes's recent sermons, and preview upcoming lectionary passages. Join us for thoughtful discussions and community fellowship.

Tuesday Prayer Group

Our prayer circle has been meeting for over 20 years, and God has heard thousands of prayers! We meet weekly for an hour, on Tuesdays between 1 and 2pm, usually in the Luther Room at church. (In summer we meet twice a month, usually in someone's home, at noon, bringing our own lunch, with prayers following from 1-2 pm.) We follow the format "ACTS" - Adoration (a psalm of praise to God), Confession (we repeat a common confession from the hymnal), Thanksgiving (we go around the circle and give our thanks, and Supplication (we pray for those in the church bulletin and for any others we bring to God). Our only "rule" is confidentiality; what is said in prayer group stays with us. We welcome all who wish to join, whether for one time or for every week.

Women's Bible Study

Our study group meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month from 11:30am to 12:30pm, in the Luther Room. Together we select our book to study. This year we have explored the book of Romans. Taking the summer off, we plan to study the book of Acts beginning in September. All are welcome (and if men come, we'll change the name of the group!)

Outside Groups

Dance Fit

We are pleased to host Dance Fit, a vibrant fitness community that promotes freedom, boldness, and self-expression. With attendance ranging from 10 to 25 people per class, this partnership not only provides great exposure for our congregation but also supports a local group dedicated to health and wellness. We look forward to continuing our healthy relationship with Dance Fit.

Insomnia Mom

We are delighted to host Insomnia Mom at Christ Church. This Zionsville-based business supports busy moms and women across Indiana with services ranging from tutoring and college advice to financial education and small business expertise. By providing our facilities for their intermittent meetings, we help foster their mission and strengthen our community ties. We look forward to a continued healthy relationship with Insomnia Mom.

2024-2025 Slate of Candidates

i) Governance Board (3-year term)

- (1) Sally Anliker
- (2) William Luczak

ii) Columbarium Team (3-year term)

- (1) Margie Kilgus

iii) Nominating Team (1-year term, total 6 not counting Pastor)

- (1) Gary Ashenfelter
- (2) Barbara Burkhardt
- (3) Randy Eugenio
- (4) Deb Gates
- (5) Ted Kussow
- (6) Connie Niessink



	2024- 2025 Plan	Year To Date Thru 4/30/24	2023- 2024 Plan	2022- 2023 Actual
Income				
General Operating Fund				
Contributions	305220	273379	291800	273546
Special Offerings	4000	1439	4000	926
Thrivent Choice	2000	2092	2000	1743
GF Ministry Contributions	2835	11339	2275	3684
Other, including investment gain/(losses)	0	10668	0	1072
Total Income	314055	298918	300075	279899
Expenses				
General Operating				
Personnel				
Staff-Comp/Benefits	187135	142174	180134	181389
Staff-Other	6144	4139	5856	6103
Subtotal Personnel	193279	146313	185990	187492
Operations & Property				
Admin/Operations	20155	16925	20365	21761
Utilities	23800	19214	30300	30391
Building/grounds maint.	58480	32863	53356	45832
Insurance	9980	9473	9400	8834
Prof Svs & fees	14650	13373	14300	13992
Subtotal Operations & Property	127065	91849	127721	120810
Network/Ministry Teams				
Relationship Network	0	0	0	0
Faith Formation	8116	2271	5850	3810
Worship & Music	12553	7355	11750	11793
Evangelism/Marketing	4970	1143	4970	1853
Caring Network	2015	630	1715	158
Fellowship	4050	2049	4050	3432
Stewardship	300	366	300	192
Subtotal Networks/Ministry Teams	32004	13815	28635	21238
Total Expenses General Fund	352348	251976	342346	329541
CLCP - Church Offset	35824	23023	28446	60037
Fund Transfers/Reclassification	(5000)	(4167)	(5000)	5000
Net General Fund Surplus/(Deficit)	(7469)	65797	(18825)	0

	2024- 2025 Plan	Year To Date Thru 4/30/24	2023- 2024 Plan	2022- 2023 Actual
CLC Preschool Fund				
CLCP Income				
Tuitons/Fees Income	320600	265033	319175	282225
Registration Income	20000	16960	19600	21285
Other Income	17640	5790	16800	13670
Gifts/Scholarships				
FSSA/CBS Grant Income	0	14113	0	239539
Total CLCP Income	358240	301896	355575	556719
CLCP Expenses				
Preschool Comp/Benefits	262585	200950	265958	211248
Preschool Oper Expenses	59786	42220	58254	282008
Total Preschool Expenses	322371	243170	324212	493256
CLCP Church Offset and Transfer	(35824)	(23023)	(28446)	(60037)
Net CLCP Surplus/(Deficit)	45	35703	2917	0
Building Fund				
Pledge contributions	58420	102825	60800	60260
Grant Income/Renovation Revenue				
Architect Fees/Building Updates	0	44797	0	64073
Mortgage Interest	26536	24029	28662	26656
Mortgage Principal Payments	38144	29871	36018	0
Net Building Surplus/(Deficit)	(6260)	4128	(3880)	0
ELC Benevolence Fund				
Income	26541	27057	25300	27034
Expenses	26406	25716	25300	27591
Net Benevolence Surplus/(Deficit)	135	1341	259	0
Endowment Fund Income	0	4845	0	0
Other Funds Income	0	15143	0	0
Endowment Expense	0	0	0	0
Transfer to Building Maintenance Fund/General Fund	5000	4167	5000	(5000)
Other Funds Expense	0	0	0	0
Columbarium Income	0	750	0	750
Columbarium Expense	0	84	0	105
Normal Net Mission Plan Surplus/(Deficit)	(7549)	125954	(14788)	18994

A rectangular wooden sign with a dark, textured surface. The text is white and centered. The first line is in a cursive script, the second is in a bold serif font, and the third is in a smaller serif font.

now entering
THE MISSION FIELD
Mt 28:19-20