

ANNUAL REPORT

2021



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

First Lutheran Church
Brookings, SD
September 2021 - August 2022



A MESSAGE FROM ELCA PRESIDING BISHOP

*Elizabeth
Eaton*

Dear friends in Christ,

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

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

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

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

Elizabeth A. Eaton

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

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

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**2022
Annual Meeting Agenda**

**First Lutheran Church
Brookings, SD
September 18, 2022
9:30 am in the FLC Sanctuary**

Opening devotions from Pastor Jess Daum

- I. Call to Order and Welcome — Council President Kris Seas
- II. Approval of minutes from the September 26, 2021 Annual Meeting
- III. Pastor's Message
- IV. Acceptance of Written Reports
- V. Balance Sheet
- VI. Ministry Spending Plan
- VII. Elections
 - A) Council
 - B) Cemetery Board
 - C) Nominating Committee
 - D) Lay voting members to 2023 Synod Assembly
- VIII. Resolutions
 - A) Resolution of Remembrance
 - B) Resolution to Approve Contract for Cemetery Storm Cleanup

Closing devotions from Pastor Trey Daum

**Minutes of the First Lutheran Church Annual Meeting
Sunday, September 26, 2021**

Pastor David B. Zellmer opened the meeting with devotions

I. Call to Order and Welcome – Council President Tiff Lewis

II. Approval of minutes from the September 20, 2020 Annual Meeting

Julie Bergan Abraham motioned, Nichole Berkenhoff seconded, all approved by voice

III. Approval of minutes from the 1-24-21 Special Congregational Meeting

Julie Bergan Abraham motioned, Lonnie Bayer seconded, all approved by voice

IV. Approval of minutes from the 8-1-21 Special Congregational Meeting

Chris Svarstad motioned, Brad Erickson seconded, all approved by voice

V. Interim Pastor Message – Pastor David B. Zellmer

- A) Mitigation was completed in the lower level (Fellowship Hall, Sewing Room and the south end)
- B) Recognition of the many volunteers in the painting and updating the church. The church received a huge discount from Sherwin Williams for the paint. Special recognition for Ed Higgins for all the painting of the ceilings and Bob Algood for painting the bathroom stalls
- C) Approx. 1,200 feet of carpet have been purchased and laid
- D) An additional \$5,000 will be spent to recarpet the ramp leading to the MCH
- E) These projects were funded using the cash on hand in FLC checking accounts
- F) A generous end of life gift was received from Viola Bothe. A portion was tithed to the Synod with a large portion of the gift sent to the Foundation
- G) A piano was purchased for the balcony
- H) A microphone was purchased for the grand piano in the sanctuary
- I) The new electronic sign at the front of the church was donated by an anonymous donor
- J) Brookings Municipal Utilities electrical rebate \$.27/watt
- K) Randy Milton continues with installing new light fixtures
- L) Majority of light bulbs have been replaced with exception of the Parlor

VI. Acceptance of Written Reports

John Hayne motioned, Lonnie Bayer seconded, all approved by voice

VII. Balance Sheet – Wendy Flannery, Treasury Group

- A) The Treasury Group has been overly impressed with the kind financial support during COVID 19
- B) The 2022 proposed budget was presented

- C) Pastor Zellmer informed the congregation that staff would be receiving a 2.5% increase, which was met with applause
- D) In addition, medical, disability and retirement benefits will be available to full time staff (40 hour/work week) in 2022
- E) Pastor Zellmer explained the Income Less Expense is -\$16,000, rather than \$43,796. At the time of the Annual Report, financials from Portico were not finalized. Some of the staff will not be taking the medical insurance, which reduces the cost
- F) Thank you to Bob Bell for his 10+ years for his service to the treasury and financial aspects on behalf of First Lutheran Church
- G) Motioned by Chris Svarstad, Brad Erickson seconded, all approved by voice

VIII. Ministry Spending Plan

Kris Seas motioned, Dave Lenander seconded, all approved by voice

IX. Elections to Council

- A) Thanks to Tiff Lewis for her leadership this past year as President and her four years of service to the council
- B) Thanks to Nichole Berkenhoff for her leadership on the Call Committee and her four years of service to the council
- C) Lonnie Bayer was elected to serve the remaining three years of his term on council. Barry Dunn motioned and Deb Bortnem seconded, all approved by voice
- D) Julie Bergan Abraham motioned for the election of Kelly Deckert and Ross Abraham to the council for four-year terms respectively. Nichole Berkenhoff seconded, all approved by voice

X. Resolutions

- A) Resolution of Remembrance
Brenda Algood motioned, Brad Erickson seconded, all approved by voice
- B) Resolution to Sell the Parsonage Located at 403 8th St
Chris Svarstad motioned, Curt Stensland seconded, all approved by voice

XI. Questions: None

- A) Stuie Lewis expressed his gratitude and thanked Pastor Zellmer for the wonderful work he has done for the church these past nine months
- B) Pastor Zellmer spoke of his pleasure of working as a parish pastor. He enjoyed his time with the Women's Tuesday Bible Study, his Reformation Lecture and his Safari presentation

XII. Conclusion – Nichole Berkenhoff motioned, John Hayne seconded, all approved by voice

Closing devotions from Pastor David B. Zellmer

**Annual Report to the Congregation
Submitted by Pastor Jess Daum**

The Gospel of John 1:35-41

35 The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, 36 and as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" 37 The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. 38 When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" 39 He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. 40 One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. 41 He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah"

Come and see! This is the invitation Jesus issues. In this passage, Jesus invites John's disciples to *come and see* all he is up to in his mission and ministry. Read just a few verses further, and you'll find the disciples who responded to the invitation uttering the same words, "Come and see!" to those around them. The invitation to follow Jesus is contagious, and oh, what we witness along the way!

One year ago, Jesus invited me, Pastor Trey, and our family to "Come and see" what God is up to through First Lutheran Church in Brookings and beyond into the world. Thank goodness we decided to take him (and you) up on the invitation. We have been witnessing the Holy Spirit's wild and wonderful activity ever since. Here are a few things I saw in my first year as a part of this community engaging life and the world by and through God's gift of grace:

- Journey to Discipleship and Youth Ministry at First Lutheran
 - Joy and curiosity abound on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings as children, youth, and the adults alongside them learn about God's love for us in Jesus and the faith we share as gift.
- Our Sunday Worship Gathering
 - The rich worship life of our congregation is inspiring, uplifting, and profound. Instruments and voices of all kinds give glory to God. The baptismal font overflows as new Beloveds are joined to the Body of Christ through Holy Baptism. At the inclusive Table of Jesus, we are filled with the real presence of Christ sustaining us in our daily lives. Connecting with God and each other in person, online, and by radio continues to be a miracle week after week.

- Holy Huddles
 - Last fall 10 groups of First folks gathered for good and holy listening. These huddles served as a fantastic way for me to learn names and get to know people on a deeper level. Themes that emerged included the love of music and family in our congregation, desires to become involved in new ways, yearning to welcome people back or for the first time, hopes for small groups to get to know others better, and energy to live into a next faithful chapter as a community of faith.
- Christmas Worship Services
 - We welcomed Christ born among us with candlelit services. So many came to see what God was up to, to hear angels singing gloria and follow the star to the manger. It was indeed a holy night after a season of faithful preparation.
- January Response to High Covid Levels
 - All year we were flexible and responsive to Covid. January brought high levels of the virus, and I witnessed our Council make faithful decisions and all of us respond with patience and concern for our neighbors. We will continue in this way, flexibly shifting our gathering practices to preserve life and our ability to gather, whatever the future may bring. Thank you for your thoughtfulness.
- Lent “I Witness” Storytelling
 - In Lent we heard faith stories of several Beloveds from our congregation. They each witnessed to God’s faithful presence through the events of their lives. Some made us laugh, some had us wiping tears, all of these stories became testimonies to us that God is real and present and will never let us go.
- Holy Week/Easter
 - We celebrated the holy days of Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter witnessing the way Jesus has become our Messiah. Good Friday we revered the cross and gave thanks for the life God brings out of death. Easter Sunday we were greeted by an overwhelming bloom of flowers announcing that the tomb is empty, and Christ has risen indeed!
- Invitational Christian and the Year of 1,000 Invitations
 - In the Easter season we read “The Invitational Christian” by Pr. Dave Daubert. We learned how and why to invite others. I’ve witnessed you reaching beyond your comfort zone to invite people. One member met a new person waiting at the barber shop who noticed their FLC t-shirt and struck up a conversation. She took the opportunity to invite him to worship and even asked for his phone number to share with me. Keep on inviting folks to come and see!

- Breaking Ground on the Food Security building
 - I've witnessed powerful partnership and good stewardship as the ground has been broken for a collaborative space to house the Brookings Area Food Pantry, United Way Brookings offices, Senior Food Commodity boxes, and the Backpack Program. The road leading up to this building will be named Hope Drive. How many folks will come and see God's tangible provision for them in this place!
- Vacation Bible Fest Holy Experiment
 - We tried something new this year, hosting a week of summer gatherings for people of all ages to connect with each other and God in an informal way. We played, we danced, we got creative, and we learned about serving others. Thanks be to God for the many people who helped make this week happen and their ability to embrace new possibilities and tap into the Spirit's holy imagination.
- Sale and Removal of the White House at 403 8th Street
 - We have a new view as the house that was recently used as a parsonage to the east of the sanctuary has been sold and moved to become home for a new family in a new neighborhood.
- 50 Faithful Years of Service of Jo Gauthier and Diane Almos
 - I'm thankful for the chance to see Jo and Diane in action. They are two powerful servants of God! The impact of their work in our congregation could never be measured. My heart was glad to witness your gratitude for them as they retire.
- Welcoming Office and Communications Coordinator Cyndi Johnson and Events and Facilities Director Doriane Paso
 - God is good all the time! I witnessed this truth in the way God has sent two new gifted staff members to serve the next chapter of our congregation's life.
- 15% Increase to Giving
 - As we continue to recover from the effects of life with Covid, we can celebrate that our congregation continues to bear witness to God's faithfulness with increased generosity. Thank you for your intentional giving. It makes our ministry with Jesus possible and gives us the opportunity to grow as we see how God is calling us to invite all people to come and see!

- Participation in a Lily Grant funded cohort called “From Relevance to Resonance.”
 - Luther Seminary’s Dr. Andrew Root has invited us and 23 other congregations to ask the question: “How do we experience something bigger than ourselves?” Over the next two years, we will experiment and discover how to notice God’s presence as we live with *these people in this moment*. We are receiving a \$10,000 grant to help us live in this question. Look for invitations to live in the moment connected with God and the beloved others God gives us.

With gratitude for what we have seen so far, I am so excited to issue the invitation to you to Come and See what God has in store for us in the year to come!

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Jess Daum



So, Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up Ephesians 4:11-12

Annual Report to the Congregation Submitted by Pastor Trey Daum

My Church? We're ready!

Dear First Lutheran Church Family,

Many of you know that I have the honor of serving part time in the National Guard. I joined about 7 years ago and for several years I remember thinking how odd it was that just about all of the work hours for the Guard are called "training". I suppose it makes sense - the office administration, workplace visitation that chaplains do, the ceremonies and events that get held - it is all training to ensure we're ready for a time when further service is needed.

This fall, as a congregation, we're gathering the life of our congregation around the idea of "Ready!" What does it mean to be a ready church, a ready community, ready families, and ready people?

These are as important times as any to make sure we're ready for what's next, but as I reflect on the last year of our ministry together as a congregation, I can't help but share how proud I am of just how ready we already are.

Last year we provided rich and welcoming times to gather around God's word: to encounter the sacred scriptures and accompany them with song, prayer, proclamation and witness. We've worked to welcome-well all of God's people so that no matter the circumstance they are in, they would know they can find the Spirit of Christ at FLC. Each song prepared, each communion cup filled, each offering given, each blade of grass cut and microphone set up, they all serve our common ministry. Thank you to all who help ready our worship life: singers and ringers, strummers and drummers, altar guild, all who prepare our space (inside and out) for friends and strangers alike, those who greet and welcome, those who count and clean. Thank you.

I also want to recognize the staff who support the good readiness of our worship life: Pastor Jess, Pat Anderson, Mary Ermel, Rick Jensen, Doriane Paso, Barbara Horten, Craig Vostad, Taylor Hoffmeier, Cyndi Johnson, Judy Alickson, Jason Liles and the innumerable volunteer servants of the church who welcome, usher, decorate, fold bulletins, sing, play instruments, and support the congregation's ministry of worship. I also know that all the staff have a key role in supporting our worship life. This is also a great chance to express sincere gratitude for both Diane Almos and Jo Gauthier, who in direct and indirect ways have made everyone's time in our worship gatherings meaningful, warm, vibrant, and faithful. I am deeply grateful for their ministry here.

I also think of how we are a ready church by the ways we care for others. While I think all of our shared ministries are congregational care, I'm grateful to be a part of those ministries in which we care for and visit the seniors of this community and those who are sick or ill, as well as how we connect with those who are connected and yet far away: at school, in Belize, wintering in warmer weather, on deployment, or otherwise geographically apart.

Sometimes I take for granted just how ready we are: ready to respond to those in need, ready to care for those who are disconnected, ready to proclaim new life in Christ, ready to surround one another with warmth and love, connection and community. We're ready, First Lutheran family, to usher in the reign of God.

I am so honored to be a part and partner in the readiness work of our Church. I pray God will make us increasingly ready for what's next.

In Christ
Pastor Trey Daum



Annual Report to the Congregation
First Lutheran Church Children’s Ministry
Submitted by Kari York, Faith Formations Director

When preparing the Annual report for Children’s Ministry, I find myself trying to retrace the steps of the past year while sharing my excitement for the upcoming year. As Director of Children’s’ Ministry, I work closely with our Pastors and the Children, Youth, and Family Team (C, Y, F, team) which consists of a small group of members working towards support and development of the Children’s Ministry mission. Once again, we found ourselves in an “unusual year”. We referred to this year as our year of Jubilee. *A time to rest, forgive, trust in the Lord, and start anew.*

After a year without our youngest students in the building, early June of 2021 we offered another Hybrid VBS. Families once again were provided with curriculum and materials to take home while each evening an hour of large gathering full of songs, skits, prayer, and more took place on site. The first night we gathered outside. The remaining evening gatherings were moved inside as the winds were 60MPH+. With a shortage of volunteers, we recruited helpers from Brookings and Dell Rapids. It was wonderful to be joined by several families from Ascension as well as some other visiting families.

As always, August & September kicked off the busyness of a new educational year. Steppingstones classes, volunteer training, planning, prepping and so much more. God provided a beautiful day for a Rally Day full of song, SDSU ice cream, a food truck, games, service projects and so much more. It was encouraging to see so many friends returning to our community after more than a year away. September also began our new educational year. With COVID concerns still looming, great thought and care was taken to provide a safe environment to learn about Christ and his works in person. Smaller class sizes, bigger rooms used for classes, non-rotational programming, and less shared materials were some of the ways safety was addressed. These changes also brought a new type of curriculum. Journey to Discipleship used a curriculum teaching about our Liturgy, rituals, traditions, and important times of the church year. Adults and children of all ages remarked how much new information they learned from this curriculum.



October brought another change with the arrival of two new Pastors. Pastor Jess, Pastor Trey, and their family joined our community with excitement, new ideas, and a needed new energy. As we continued to consider COVID precautions, we were able to bring our big Fall/Halloween event back indoors. With a comfortable number of participants, our hearts were full of joy to see this intergenerational event full of joy and laughter return.



December began with an Advent Fest. Preparing for Advent in such an interactive manner was exciting. A festival of worship, song, advent crafts, service projects, and of course food, was held. Those who participated commented how they appreciated interactive, engaging events, where all ages were considered, and the space for fellowship with others from our community, while also offering accessibility to the Pastors and staff. They commented this creates a sense of comfort for their entire family. On December 12 at the 10:30 service our journey children, volunteers and a few youth helpers presented the Christmas service. With a few new songs sprinkled into the service we were so impressed with the group. Many students were new young children, most had

no in-person Journey for a year to practice/learn a variety of songs, and a short time to learn songs, the whole group did amazing. Our Song leader, Jenna York, and a



Senior High Student from Ascension, Noah Stremmel, as our Pianist, spent Wednesday evenings, Sunday mornings, and our Saturday practice working with the group on this program. They did such an amazing job. We appreciated Noah giving of his time, patience, and talents while he also played for other churches and maintained a busy school/activities schedule. As always, we appreciate Jenna's dedication along with Dave Law. We also had Jacob York and Jacob Law test out their new skills on acoustic and bass guitar this year.

Due to an uptick in COVID cases, our Children’s programming took an extended Christmas break this year. Pausing programming is never an easy position to be in; especially when we had not been in person at all the previous year.

Once programming resumed, the rest of the year went smoothly. Lutheran Outdoors staff spoke at two Sunday services in February, meeting with those who were interested in more camp information. We had a joyful Palm procession at the Palm Sunday services and we held several successful Steppingstone classes.

Laci Thompson was welcomed as our new Nursery co-coordinator. It was exciting to see our newly remodeled nursery being staffed by middle school staff, high school staff and adults. Laci continues to serve our congregation through our nursery mission in a loving and professional manner. The addition of many families with young children has provided an opportunity to expand the nursery mission. We look forward to those changes as we move forward.

Our steppingstones program is one that educates and supports our children/youth and their families during significant faith or life events. This mission will be changing and growing to meet the needs of our congregants. It is an exciting time to see all generations come together to celebrate Gods work in our lives. We look forward to creating experiences that will allow for long lasting relationships through our steppingstone’s programs.



This spring saw our CYF team participated in a several hour retreat where we were able to discuss our goals, vision, and purpose of this team in our congregation. We have lost and gained members over the years. This year an original member of the team, Julie Bell, will be stepping down. She, like so many others, has been such a faithful and committed servant to the children, youth, and families of this entire community. We are so blessed for her participation in our mission. We will miss her. We know that there are more “Julie Bell’s” out there waiting for God to call them to such service. Our arms are always open to accept those who feel the calling to this mission.

As we continued our “year of Jubilee” the church was experiencing an influx of people, families, and children along with the return of many who had been away since COVID. A decision was made to try something new. We would give a “rest” to traditional Vacation Bible School. In its place we would create four nights full of varied offerings as a fellowship and outreach for all people. As a congregation we accomplished more than we had expected to. New visitors have come back to visit the church after attending VBF, members participated in a church activity outside of worship service for the first time, deeper relationships were formed, we found people came back night after night bringing more visitors with them. It was an exciting time.



We are now preparing for all that the start of a new educational year brings. Rally Day will be held on September 11. A church mission fair will take place along with all the fun and fanfare of Rally Day. This will be another wonderful way to introduce people to all that FLC offers. Volunteer trainings will be taking a fun new twist as we welcome many new volunteers. We anticipate changing our Sunday Journey a bit as we have grown in numbers on Sundays. We are on track for the largest number of Journey to Discipleship students since 2018-2019. As we move forward with more of a rotation version of programming this year, we are using almost every space available for activity spaces and classrooms. This is exciting, when just two years ago there were no children in the building on Wednesday evenings.



We continue to recruit volunteers and co-teachers for this year. Our theme will be **“You are invited to walk with Jesus”** and **“Team Jesus”**. We will be exploring times when Jesus has invited others to join him, how we are to make disciples of others, and how Jesus is always with us. There is excitement and energy around this year’s programming. We hope to begin to incorporate ideas that were sprouting prior to covid in a big way. These ideas create a way for all generations to engage in a manner that makes Journey to Discipleship, Steppingstones, and our Faithful Family Events an energizing learning experience for all.

An area of our mission that we work to grow is our music and worship teams which help us with our Wednesday & Sunday worship/praise times. Currently we have one song leader who will graduate high school this year. You don’t have to be a good singer, dancer, or musician. Join us!!!!



As we emerge from our “year of Jubilee” the excitement, energy, ideas for intergenerational engagement, expansion of our church family and embracing of new ideas is electrifying. We pray that everyone can continue to find a space for rest, forgiveness, trust in the Lord and excitement for continued new beginnings. We are thankful for the ongoing support of the Council, volunteers, and those who have supported us through these last few years of constant uncertainty and transition. We are one family in Christ, this has been shown in a meaningful way as we have moved through COVID, three long term Pastors moving on, major reconstruction, retirement of long-time staffers, new staff, an Interim Pastor, New Pastors, new programs, members who have left, while new visitors and members have joined us and so much more. Thank you for your ongoing interest and support of the children of this community.



Annual Report to the Congregation
First Lutheran Church Youth Ministry
Submitted by Madison McCabe, Director of Youth Ministries

Howdy, y'all! What a year it has been: new pastors, in person everything, new opportunities, old traditions, trips, and lots of joy! As I come to the close of my second year here at First Lutheran, I am immensely grateful for the experiences I have been able to share with our community. Thank you all for your continued support, interest, and guidance. On to the reflections!

*****CONFIRMATION*****

This last year we had the joy of gathering in person all together again on Wednesday nights throughout the year. Small groups gathered and studied the Lutheran Doctrine of The Lord's Prayer. We held large group with the pastors as well as service/contextual learning nights. In October, the confirmation students held a Fall Festival for the Journey students and families.

In November, we celebrated the Affirmation of Baptism for the 10th graders, who were the guinea pigs in the covid confirmation experience. The work y'all put in is to be celebrated, we as a congregation are so proud to have been able to still grow with y'all in this tough season. Blessing on your continued faith journey.

The 9th graders were invited to a retreat to focus on their faith statements and experience God in a different context. Thanks to Pastor Cassandra Lamb for letting us use the University Lutheran Center to host this event space. The Sunday following the retreat, students attended a church service and chatted in between services with folks (a wonderful time had by all). The 9th graders submitted faith projects and wrote Faith Statements throughout the year. We are so excited to Affirm these lovely folks in their baptismal promises this coming October. In December the Children, Youth, and Family team hosted an Advent



Festival for all to enjoy and many of the confirmation students did join in the fun. During Lent the confirmation classes attended the Lenten services and debriefed with their small groups after. The witnesses who shared from our congregation left a powerful impact on the confirmation reflections. Thanks to all the folks who felt called to share their stories in this season. At the end of the Confirmation year and Lenten Season small groups were each given a part to reflect upon and create an expression to the large group, explaining what their assigned day was about (Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, etc.). The

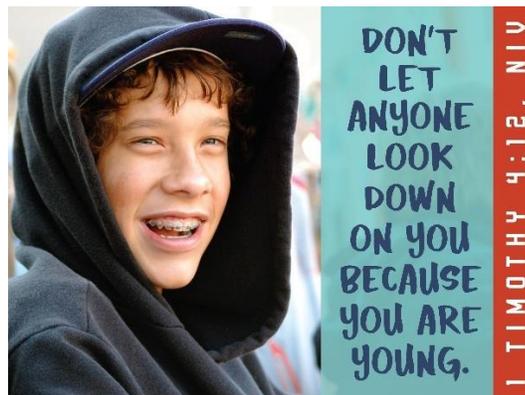
students were outstanding in their gumption for the activity. Cheers to all the young humans who join us week in and week out. Y'all are why I am here.

Thank you to every volunteer and mentor who has stepped in and shown up; you are the weave that makes our confirmation fabric strong. Each and every one of y'all makes a lasting difference in the lives of our youth.

YOUTH IN CONFIRMATION = 92 YOUTH CONFIRMED = 26

YOUTH GROUP

Over the last year Youth Group has had a steady group of individuals full of excitement for what our weekly conversations can bring. Fires, Bible studies, Gaga ball, frisbee golf, ice cream, letter folding to just scratch the surface. During Fall Fest our youth group assisted and played games. During the confirmation Lenten reflections our high schoolers performed a condensed skit of Stations of the Cross for the confirmation students. Youth Group doesn't have as many flashy events as confirmation does, but the deep conversations and weekly check-ins are part of the bold growth of these young adults. To the youth who create space to join in our community at First Lutheran, in all your busyness you are richly rewarded and appreciated. I am excited to continue growing and learning with you all. The youth, as do I, hold a great appreciation for Stue Lewis, who is present week in and week out with our high school youth group. Stue, thanks for bringing the dad jokes we all need. **Stue you are a rockstar!!**



SUMMER YOUTH TRIP

As part of our high school youth program, we have a summer experience. This last year was the first trip to be organized since 2019. We had a core group of excited individuals going on summer trip. We spent a significant amount of time fundraising, which ranged from pot pies to Flamingo flocks, lots of sweets and treats, to collecting fabric. Our original goal was to attend the National Youth Gathering held in Minneapolis, but as the news came in February that the Gathering was canceled, we promptly shifted our plans to head to the Boundary Waters, in Northern Minnesota at Voyager Lutheran Ministry Camp. In July the crew drove the 8.5 hours to Lake Vermillion where we were outfitted for our canoeing and camping trip on the water. We spent 3.5 days on the water and 3 nights out on the trail. Seeing God's great creation and reflecting on different ways to experience God and life left a lasting impression with our youth, without a doubt. Thank you to Stuie Lewis for helping to lead this momentous trip. I hold great appreciation to the parents and families who helped

along the way and to all the folks who gave me guidance in my first season of fundraising. Y'all helped keep me grounded. And a tremendous thank you is sent to all the folks who helped us reach our goals be that by monetary donations, helping with the fundraisers themselves, words of encouragement, and prayers. We did the dang thing, and that was a big deal... Now on to the next one!



SENIOR STEPPINGSTONE

This last May we hosted seniors and their guardians for a night of discussion and reflection about faith, life, and what lies ahead. On Senior Sunday we as a congregation wrapped them in blessings and quilts made prayerfully by our loyal First Lutheran Quilters. A deep and heartfelt thank you to the many quilters who supported this ministry. Blessings to our First Lutheran seniors as you go onto your new experiences.



SCHOLARSHIPS

I was privileged enough to support the scholarship committee in the review of applications and the announcements of the scholarships. We joyously awarded 3 high school recipients and 7 post-secondary recipients' scholarships. Congratulations one and all.

*****CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY TEAM*****

The Children, Youth and Family Team (CYF Team) has monthly meetings to discuss, debrief, and plan the bigger on-goings of our CYF Ministry and is now hard at work planning this fall's Rally Day! Thank you for your diligent work and immense support. All our CYF events are made possible through your dedication!

Thank you to all the folks who have been present in this season. I am privileged and blessed to see God working in each and every one of y'all.

In peace and prayer,
Madison McCabe
Director of youth Ministries



Annual Report to the Congregation
First Lutheran Church Music Ministries
Submitted by Pat Anderson

“We become what we sing. By singing together of God’s beautiful creation, we shape our lives as caring creatures among other beloved creatures. By singing together the Christ story, we acknowledge the joining of holy and earthly that shapes our lives as followers of Christ. By singing together of the coming of the Holy Spirit, we connect with a greater community that transcends space and time. We become what we sing. May all our songs be true.” Susan Palo Cherwien

As the music coordinator for the 8:30 worship service, my job is to work with the Pastors and all musicians to ensure that “our songs be true.”

We began Sanctuary Choir in the fall, expecting there may be a few bumps in the road-and there were. We took off one full month for COVID and then also missed some opportunities to enhance worship when we had many people ill. However, it was a joy to be able to gather again and sing! We continue to welcome new members to our choirs.

Part of what I do is to plan a service that enhances and sheds light on the texts and themes for the day and year. We continued to use Cantors and Song leaders throughout the summer and during the year. A huge thank you to: Ross and Julie Bergan Abraham, Craig Long, Matthew Dulas, Tyler Holmquist, Michele Nielson, Lisa Svobodny, and Don and Kay Norton for leading worship.

Special Music was provided by many different individuals for various occasions during the church year. At Easter, we had a glorious Brass Ensemble comprised of: Jeff and Garner Soukup, Matt Nelson, Jacob York, Barb Jensen, and Matthew Dulas.

This year the choir had one college student receiving a scholarship. That student was Matthew Dulas, the grandson of members, Jack and Brenda Hayne. He played euphonium, sang in the choir and was song leader monthly. Fortunately, his schedule enables him to continue with us this year.

Despite schedule changes and rehearsal space challenges, music remains an important part of our worship at First Lutheran, as we profess our faith through music.

Pat Anderson, Music Coordinator for 8:30 worship



**First Lutheran Cemetery Ministry Team
Annual Report to the Congregation
Submitted by Brad Erickson,
Nicki Brooks, Ken Nelson**

The First Lutheran Cemetery Committee members are Nicki Brooks, Brad Erickson, Ken Nelson, and Pastor Jess Daum. Brad Erickson is chair of this committee.

Last year the cement surface around the columbarium was repaired by Total Epoxy.

First Lutheran Cemetery is open for burials of non-members as well as members. The cost for a monument permit is \$150, which is the same as Greenwood Cemetery charges. Costs for niches in the columbarium vary by level. Contact our sexton, Dan Billet for more information.



Cement surface repaired



Columbarium and Niches

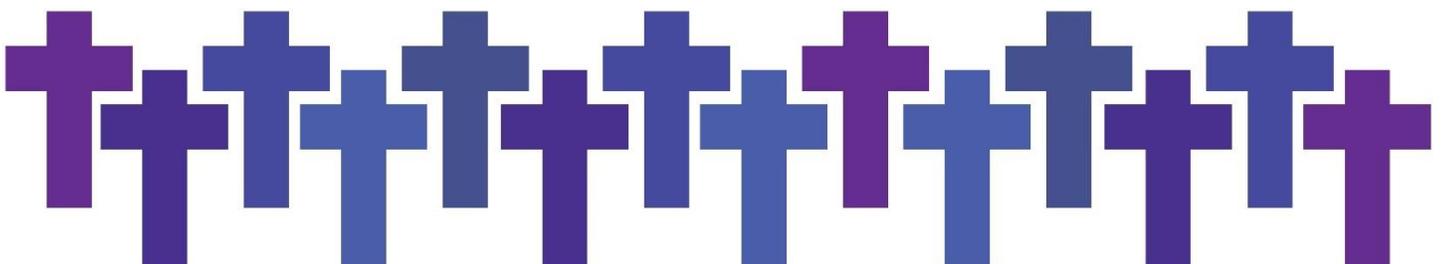
This May, the cemetery was devastated by the Derecho that took out 102 trees. As of mid-August, cleanup is still ongoing through M&J Tree service. Once all trees and roots have been removed, holes will be filled, and grass planted. We are probably looking to start replacement of trees next spring. **Once new trees are planted, we will need many volunteers to water these new plantings.** Thanks also to Teen Challenge of the Dakotas for volunteering to help with the massive cleanup.



The cemetery requires much annual maintenance to provide perpetual care. Contributions and memorials to the cemetery fund are welcome for maintenance as well as continued improvements. In addition to First Lutheran Cemetery, the congregation provides lawn care maintenance at Pioneer Cemetery and Sterling Lutheran Cemetery. Reitz Lawn Service is our current mowing service for First Lutheran Cemetery, while Bachar Lawn Care and Landscaping mows both Pioneer and Sterling Cemeteries. Turfguard will spray for weeds and unwanted growth.

Regular maintenance has made spring and fall cleanups much easier for our volunteers. We are thankful that a nice crew shows up for the cleanups. There was a good crew of volunteers that helped out this spring, and the committee says “Thanks” for your help. **Fall cleanup is scheduled for Tuesday, October 4, at 10 AM.** In case of inclement weather, the cleanup will be the following Tuesday (October 11), same time.

As per cemetery rules, artificial flowers, decorations, and plants in pots are allowed only on the monument, end base of monument, or foundation from May 1 to October 1. During cleanup, we will be discarding items not in compliance, so if you have concerns, please come out before our October 4 cleanup and remove the listed items.



**First Lutheran Activity Center and MCH
Annual Report to the Congregation
Submitted by Doriane Paso, Director of Events and Facilities**

What a pleasure to join the First Lutheran team just when the 2022-2023 action is revving up. I look forward to enjoying the seasons of the church and our community and to helping create meaningful memories for all who pass through our doors. Always feel free to stop for a chat!

In Him – Doriane



**First Lutheran Preschool
Annual Report to the Congregation
Submitted by SueAnn Mouw, Director**

First Lutheran Preschool

Wow! First Lutheran Preschool is beginning its' thirty-eighth year of operation and I am starting my twenty-fifth year as director. Being at the helm of this program and seeing all the growth and changes firsthand, has been a fascinating journey for me.

Did you know that kindergarten is considered the new first grade? With growing expectations for school-age children, it makes preschool a valuable and necessary start to our children's educational process. FLP is so fortunate to have such a highly motivated, caring, and creative staff. They have developed a very successful, age-appropriate, educational curriculum and testing technique. It has been recognized and recommended by kindergarten teachers and screeners throughout Brookings and surrounding communities.

This year, once again, we had to deal with the pandemic and all the obstacles and controversies that go along with it. We worked diligently to keep ourselves apprised of the ever-changing CDC guidelines and implementing our own Covid Protocol, all while striving to keep the children safe and engaged. We were very happy to be able to invite families and friends back last school year to enjoy our Christmas Programs and Graduation Ceremonies in person.

As always, I must give my amazing staff the credit for our excellent program. The children and I truly benefit from such a wonderful and dedicated group of women. Together, we continually work toward improving all aspects of the preschool and implementing new and exciting ideas into our curriculum.

I am looking forward to another rewarding year.

Respectfully submitted,
SueAnn Mouw

Mission Coffeehouse Annual Report to the Congregation

Submitted by Jeanne Eclov, MCH Manager



Greetings from everyone here at Mission Coffeehouse! We are beginning our 16th year of service and I am beginning my 8th year as manager. Our loyal patrons return every week, and we also welcome many new customers. We seem to be getting busier every day!

A big thank you to Kurt at Kool Beans for their excellent supply of Fair-Trade coffee beans and great service. Everyone loves our delicious coffee!

The 14 volunteers that choose to work in this busy environment are the key success factors. It is hard work, yet they show up with smiles and giving hearts to help this ministry of First Lutheran Church. Thank you to all the volunteers, staff, and FLC for your support.



Thursday Morning Patrons



TUESDAY MORNING PATRONS



Mission Interest Quilters
Annual Report to the Congregation
September 1, 2021 – Present 2022

The First Lutheran Church Mission Interest Quilters made and distributed more than 300 quilts and sold several quilts and seasonal items with the help of our First Lutheran members and friends. The quilts were distributed to the following agencies locally and world-wide:

Lutheran World Relief (LWR) – 200 quilts
Domestic Abuse Families – 7 quilts
Gifts & Donations to area families – 4 quilts
FLC Graduation Seniors – 17 quilts
County Sheriff & Police Dept. – 18 blankets
Haiti Mission – 15 quilts
Sleep in Heavenly Peace – 5 quilts
Salvation Army – 7 quilts
Gifts – 27 lap robes

The Mission Quilters received income from memorials, monetary donations, personal gifts, and proceeds from the sale of quilts and seasonal items in the amount of \$4863.00 to cover expenses for quilting supplies and special mission projects. Donations were also received through gift cards from Thrivent Action Team Projects during the year. Expenses for the year were \$4987.88. Additional upcoming expenses will include approximately \$800 to send the mission quilts overseas in October of 2022. The Mission Quilters also made a donation to the Belize Mission Project to support a scholarship for school tuition, supplies, a computer, and transportation for a Belize student. Financial donations were made to the Brookings Back 2 School project and Marissa's House in Sioux Falls. An additional project this past fall was to individually help an international student from the SDSU University Lutheran Student Center.

In June of 2022, the FLC Quilters group held an "Afternoon Tea" for members of the church and Brookings community. The tea offered a time of fellowship as well as an opportunity to display examples of what the quilters groups had accomplished during the past year and to share the list of the many agencies where quilts are donated. The "Afternoon Tea" provided a profit of \$1796.00 through ticket sales, financial donations, and quilt sales. Expenses for the tea were covered in part through Thrivent Team Action Project gift cards.

During the summer of 2022, 27 lap robes were quilted and distributed to individuals now living in area care centers. Including these most recent donations, the quilters group have now donated nearly 75 lap robes to the individuals living in assisted living and care centers in the community for members of First Lutheran Church.

There are two quilting groups working through First Lutheran Church. One group meets on Tuesday mornings and the "Sew What" group meets on Monday evenings throughout the year.

There are presently 20 individuals that consistently meet during the Monday evenings and Tuesday morning sessions. The Mission Quilters welcome new members at any time to either of the quilting groups – no matter what the skill level or past sewing experience is! The group always is looking for volunteers to help cut fabric squares, assemble and tie quilts, bind or hem quilts, enjoy the fellowship, and support the mission outreach program of First Lutheran Church. Fabric donations of curtains, sheets/pillowcases, tablecloths, etc. are always welcome.



Anyone who works on a quilt, who devotes her time, energy, creativity, and passion to that art, learns to value the work of her hands. And as any quilter will tell you, a quilter's quilting friends are some of the dearest, most generous, and most supportive people she knows.

Jennifer Chiaverini.



God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them.

Hebrews 6:10

**Photos from the Quilter's
"Afternoon Tea"**

Belize Mission Team Annual Report to the Congregation

*“I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit...so that you will love one another.”
John 15: 16-17*

Who is Dee? What does she do?

Dee Shanley, First Lutheran Church missionary in Belize, has volunteered for the past four years to teach sewing in a christian high school. By serving there, Dee is also able to coordinate and monitor the Belize Mission Team’s student scholarship program. She knows the students and their families well after living there and embedding herself in the community. Her outreach also includes instructing the local women in sewing skills in the evening and on weekends. This past spring FLC member Jean Gentry traveled to Belize to support Dee for several weeks where they visited students and families to assess needs for the coming school year. They found many people needing assistance and the needs are real. They also investigated opportunities for a team mission trip and have proposed a service trip for 2023 as described on the next page. Dee and the Belize Mission Team extend a heartfelt thank you to all who support this FLC ministry.



Student Scholarships and Financial Summary

Thanks to generous donors from FLC and the community, we supported thirty-three student scholarships for tuition with additional funds for lunches, school materials, and transportation as needed during the past 2021-22 school year. Cost to support one scholarship, plus the extra needs, for fall 2022 is \$450. Through generous donors, we also support higher education opportunities for several students. Through personal contacts with our scholarship recipients and their schools, and, especially through Dee’s direct connections on the ground, we can ensure the integrity of this ministry.

Additional fundraising through the annual Purses for a Powerful Purpose Christmas Luncheon and Sale along with donations from Sunday morning rolls sales has increased our ability to support various needs of students and their families. A luncheon in July provided donors with an update on student needs. We will use the funds currently on hand and future donations to continue this support in the next fiscal and school year. Just ask any of the leaders listed below for ways to engage!

Dee Shanley, Deb Pederson, Jean Gentry, Virginia Heesch, Kathy Greenlee,
Kim Retterath, and Mary Moeller

Proposed 2023 “Travel with a Purpose” Trip

We have selected Camp Se Konsa, located near Dee’s school, (<http://www.campsekonsa.com/>) as the best site to center our service. Camp developers Mark and Dana are remarkable Christian leaders who have created the first camp specifically designed to care for children with special needs and their families. Since special education and inclusion policies are not prioritized in Belize, families lack knowledge on how to care for and educate their children. Our group could provide a few hours of respite care at the camp for parents as well as help with the site development. We have worked with Mark and Dana in past years, and they can provide a safe and inspiring week of service while offering options that fit the needs of volunteers.

WHO WILL GO? We would like to identify interested travelers with a minimum of 10 volunteers required by the camp. FLC membership is NOT a criterion, however, a heart for serving others is!

We estimate a 7–9-day trip to cost around \$2,400 including airfare, in-country travel, accommodations, and most meals. Additional cultural tours will be determined by group interest. More information can be provided by contacting Dee at deeshanley48@gmail.com or Mary Moeller at 605-690-8862.

We thank God for this opportunity to serve, trusting that the Spirit will lead and guide our way. We thank FLC for faithful prayers, generous support, and a solid commitment to our mission. While many of you already help with our fundraisers, we always welcome more hands! Just ask any of the leaders listed on the other page for ways to engage!



First Lutheran Church Foundation Annual Report to the Congregation

The *FLC Foundation* allows the management of the Church's long-term assets to be separated from the day-to-day management of the Church. This ensures the demands of the present do not cause the opportunities of the future to be neglected.

The Foundation currently has Endowment Funds designated in support of:

Youth	Cemetery
Preschool	Scholarships
Seminary Scholarships	Sabbatical

The Endowment Funds are invested in the ELCA Pooled Trust and managed by the ELCA Endowment fund to provide perpetual support to each of their designated areas. All gifts to the FLC Foundation are invested with only the earnings being used each year. If you are interested in supporting these programs in a perpetual way, we encourage you to contact any of the Foundation Board members.

The ELCA Pooled Trust has not been immune to the recent widespread investment market downturns. The Pooled Trust posted the following annual returns as of June 30, 2022:

1 year = -11.29%
3 years = 4.77%
5 years = 5.10%
10 years = 6.71%

Performance figures were obtained from the ELCA Endowment Fund Pooled Trust second quarter 2022 report. Past performance does not guarantee future results.

On 7/1/2021 the Foundation had total assets of \$2,247,288. For the twelve months ending 6/30/2022, the Foundation received contributions totaling \$17,359 and made distributions totaling \$89,406 (see detail) The Foundation ended the most recent calendar quarter on June 30th, 2022, with total assets of \$1,930,842.

Details of the distributions made during the last fiscal year are as follows:

- • \$11,233 was distributed in support of the FLC Cemetery
- • \$14,923 was distributed to our youth through the FLC Scholarship Fund
- • \$9,284 was distributed in support of the FLC Youth program
- • \$19,166 was distributed via the Seminary Scholarship fund
- • \$1,965 was distributed via the Preschool fund
- • \$1,903 was distributed via the Sabbatical fund
- • \$30,932 was distributed via the Undesignated fund

These distributions are only possible because of the generous support received from the many people who care deeply about the ministries of First Lutheran.

**First Lutheran Church Audit Committee
Annual Report to the Congregation
Fiscal Year 2021**

The First Lutheran Church Audit Committee has concluded the audit for the 2021 fiscal year with the information we were given. We have followed the Synod guidelines and have had excellent cooperation from everyone in the finance department. We are truly blessed. Transactions we asked to review were verified or reconciled. The transition of new software still needs to work out some glitches. In the best interest of the congregation, we feel it would be best to conduct a two-year audit and give that report at next year's Annual Report.

We thank the congregation and staff for this opportunity and the trust and confidence that they have placed in us.



**First Lutheran Church Treasurer's
Annual Report to the Congregation**

Finance, much like faith, is not for the faint of heart, as we negotiated our way back to 'near-normal'. On behalf of the First Lutheran Church Council, we present the stewardship summary.

God has seen fit to bless us this year, as we recorded a 15% increase in giving. Expenses were high but necessary as we tended to matters such as carpet and paint, giving this beautiful space a bit of a facelift.

It has been our process this year to vet our proposed budget first through the Council, then through an open Congregational meeting to compile our guideline budget for the 2022/2023 fiscal year.

Reiterating what was said at last year's Annual Meeting, South Dakotans are indeed generous. Managing that generosity is something the Treasurer's team takes very seriously.

RESOLUTION A

RESOLUTION OF REMEMBRANCE

Origin: Church Council

Whereas: the following persons were members of the First Lutheran Congregation who died in the faith this past year, and have been committed to the Lord of Life:

<i>Gerald Foster</i>	<i>Barbara Peterson</i>	<i>Robert Larson</i>
<i>Wanda Barton</i>	<i>Lena Bortnem</i>	<i>Kevin Moad</i>
<i>David Haugan</i>	<i>Delila Davis</i>	<i>Phyllis Sander</i>
<i>Dwain Wieber</i>	<i>Marjorie Quam</i>	<i>Matthew Corbett</i>
<i>Lethe Anderson</i>	<i>Wayne Hillisted</i>	<i>Orville Gab</i>
<i>Rachel Grothe</i>	<i>Anita Weber</i>	<i>Sharon Ueland</i>
<i>Donna Steen Wallum</i>	<i>Ruth Volstad-Fenner</i>	

Therefore: Be it resolved that we commend our brothers and sisters to the loving care of a gracious and loving God.

RESOLUTION B

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE CONTRACT FOR CEMETERY STORM CLEANUP

Origin: Church Council

Whereas: A storm on May 12, 2022 caused significant damage to the First Lutheran Church Cemetery located on the north side of West 8th Street S., just east of the intersection with 16th Ave W., including the loss of more than 100 trees;

Whereas: The First Lutheran Cemetery is a community cemetery and columbarium garden, organized to be a peaceful, beautiful place of rest. Originally established around the time of formation of the congregation in 1880, the cemetery has served the community faithfully throughout its 140 years;

Whereas: The cemetery is owned and operated by the congregation and its maintenance and stewardship, including clean up necessitated by storms, is our responsibility;

Therefore: *Let it be resolved* that the congregation approve a contract between First Lutheran Church and MJ Tree Service for the clean-up of 100+ trees at the First Lutheran Church cemetery in the estimated amount of \$60,000.

Be it further resolved that the First Lutheran Church Council be authorized to enter into such contract on behalf of the congregation.

**Statistical Report
(September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2022)**

	<u>August 31, 2021</u>	<u>August 31, 2022</u>
Baptized Membership	2000	1989
Baptized	14	21
Funerals	16	9
Weddings	1	3



MCH Tip Jar Totals

Brookings County Youth Mentoring Program	\$969.93
Brookings County Food Pantry	\$1135.38
Project Joy	\$1241.04
ELCA Good Gifts/Heiffer Int'l	\$1837.14
Kelly McGeough Foundation	\$1018.26
Lutherans Outdoors	\$1029.72
Sleep in Heavenly Peace	\$1495.93
Belize Higher Education Scholarship Fund	\$1239.99
Brookings Regional Humane Society	\$1299.43
Brookings County Food Pantry	\$1196.94
Brookings Backpack Project	\$1055.34
Special Olympics	\$1054.16
TOTAL	\$14573.26



Mission and Ministry Outreach

South Dakota Synod/ELCA Mission Support

\$24,709.00

Congregational Ministry Outreach

Adult Fellowship	\$937.36
Assistance to Individuals	\$1,983.33
Belize Adult Mission	\$35,976.18
Brookings Food Pantry	\$971.22
Childcare at FLC	\$2,400.21
Christ in Our Home Devotionals	\$1,692.10
Christian Ed Children	\$2,632.28
Christian Ed Family Event	\$2,219.72
Christian Ed High School	\$266.63
Christmas Dinner	\$826.31
Confirmation	\$800.00
Lutheran World Relief	\$45.00
Sunday Radio/Brookings Register	\$3,653.00
Vacation Bible Fest	\$1,168.41
Volunteer Recognition	\$557.04
Young Adult Ministry	\$24.00

Subtotal \$80,861.79

Scholarships

Postsecondary	\$12,000.00
Seminary	\$---
Subtotal	\$12,000.00

**\$14,033 Seminary unused portion returned to Foundation

**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
BALANCE SHEET
31-Aug-22**

ASSETS

CASH

Unrestricted		\$ 49,716.00
Restricted/Dedicated		\$ 182,204.00

Total Cash

FIXED ASSETS

Minivan	\$ 11,000.00	
First Lutheran Church	\$3,500,000.00	
New Addition	\$3,800,000.00	
403 8th St Lot	\$ 20,000.00	
Undeveloped Property	\$ 54,900.00	
Total Fixed Assets		<u>\$7,385,900.00</u>

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Short-Term

Total Short-Term Liabilities		\$0
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Long-Term

Total Long-Term Liabilities		\$0
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Total Liabilities		\$0
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NET ASSETS

Unrestricted	\$ 49,716.00	
Restricted/Dedicated	\$ 182,204.00	
Investment in Fixed Assets	\$7,385,900.00	

Total Net Assets		\$7,617,820.00
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TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		\$7,617,820.00
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First Lutheran Church
Chart of Account Balances
 Sep 01, 2021 through Sep 30, 2022

Asset Accounts	Balance as of 2021-09-01	Balance as of 2022-09-30
Balcony Chairs (017-40-10-24)	\$580.00	-\$2,044.60
Belize Adult Mission (017-40-10-27)	\$15,029.87	\$37,976.18
CHRISTMAS MARKET (017-40-10-56)	\$3,563.02	-\$172.93
CONFIRMATION FUNDRAISER (017-40-10-76)	\$0.00	\$350.00
Cemetery (017-40-10-19)	\$11,562.90	\$5,685.34
Christmas Meal (017-40-10-22)	\$501.32	\$826.31
ELCA Nat'l Youth Gathering (017-40-10-75)	\$3,412.62	\$5,814.47
Fdn'ts./Capital Campaign (017-40-10-89)	\$262.16	\$662.16
Food Pantry (017-40-10-06)	\$65.00	\$971.22
Hand Bell Ministry (017-40-10-79)	\$9,886.52	\$9,923.18
Heifer International (017-40-10-42)	\$30.00	\$30.00
LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF (017-40-10-86)	\$175.00	\$220.00
Lilies/Poinsettia Fund (017-42-32-20)	\$0.00	\$696.00
Memorial (017-40-10-20)	\$95.00	\$555.00
Mission Outreach (017-40-10-01)	\$3,790.00	-\$10,670.00
New Flooring 2021 (017-40-10-33)	\$3,452.80	\$0.00
Playground/Sports Eq (017-42-32-07)	\$639.04	\$639.04
Puerto Rico (017-40-10-87)	\$5,512.32	\$5,512.32
SR. PASTOR'S DISCRET (017-40-10-09)	\$1,483.33	\$1,983.33
Schol,baptism Envelop (017-40-10-14)	\$5.72	\$25.72
Schol,for/to Schools (017-40-10-28)	\$367.00	\$0.00
Semin Schol 4 Distrib (017-40-10-92)	\$14,033.00	\$0.00
UNDESIGNATED (017-40-10-02)	\$193,785.85	\$55,806.00
Wedding Consultants (017-40-10-30)	\$0.00	\$300.00
Youth Gathering (017-40-10-29)	\$0.00	\$1,389.56
Youth/Camp Scholarships (017-42-32-05)	\$1,500.00	\$2,505.00
Liabilities		
Wedding Deposits (012-00-10-01)	\$0.00	-\$300.00
Pension Payable (012-00-05-01)	\$0.00	\$8,154.90

FICA Payable (012-00-03-01)	\$0.00	-\$2,313.23
Sales Tax Payable (012-00-03-02)	-\$981.34	-\$4,568.41
FEDERAL WH TAX Payable (012-00-03-03)	\$126.45	-\$36,697.70
Building Fund Clearing (012-00-03-04)	-\$76,040.91	-\$275,186.02

Income

Cemetery Income (015-93-00-01)	\$10,456.00	\$33,922.12
Coffee House (015-92-00-01)	\$748.65	\$0.00
MCH Tip Jar (015-92-00-02)	\$3,129.98	\$7,619.23
MCH Sales (015-92-00-03)	\$9,006.27	\$69,140.79
Preschool Tuition (015-32-00-01)	\$140,144.00	\$152,107.02
Nonrecurring Gifts (015-31-06-02)	\$9,585.58	\$1,089.99
Youth & Family (015-31-06-03)	\$14,650.67	\$11,997.80
Wedding Fee Income (015-31-06-04)	\$1,025.00	\$1,845.00
Mission Partners Income (015-31-06-05)	\$0.00	\$3.00
Golden Age Income (015-31-06-06)	\$289.52	\$0.00
Foundation Income (015-31-06-07)	\$7,000.00	\$0.00
Memorial Income (015-31-06-08)	\$4,467.00	\$0.00
Preschool Gifts (015-31-06-09)	\$7,987.00	\$2,694.00
Other Dedicated Receipts (015-31-06-10)	\$35,618.91	\$27,174.00
Sugg. Fac. Use Gratuity (015-30-06-06)	\$350.00	\$1,995.00
Envelope Offering (015-30-05-01)	\$633,847.81	\$608,198.00
Loose Offering (015-30-05-02)	\$5,925.08	\$46,758.87
Radio Broadcasts (015-30-05-04)	\$1,035.89	\$0.00
Interest/General Checking (015-30-05-05)	\$353.03	\$109.31
Thrivent Funds (015-30-05-08)	\$739.00	\$1,301.00
PPP Loan Funds (015-30-05-10)	\$101,952.00	\$0.00

Expense

Cemetery Expenses (016-93-00-01)	\$10,902.50	\$43,178.25
MCH Payroll (016-92-00-01)	\$40,192.49	\$45,955.75
Coffee House Expenditures (016-92-00-02)	\$861.17	\$129.93
MCH Tip Jar (016-92-00-03)	\$4,674.80	\$9,382.45
MCH Food & Supplies (016-92-00-06)	\$8,782.64	\$59,590.79
MCH Sales Tax Payable (016-92-00-07)	\$640.16	\$1,705.68
MCH Credit Card Fees (016-92-00-08)	\$587.91	\$0.00
Youth & Family Expenses (016-91-52-03)	\$1,324.45	\$850.49

Wedding Expenses (016-91-52-04)	\$175.00	\$175.00
Mission Partners Expenses (016-91-52-05)	\$0.00	\$11,126.00
Foundation Expenses (016-91-52-07)	\$7,000.00	\$17,766.95
Memorial Expenses (016-91-52-08)	\$0.00	\$60.00
Other Dedicated Expenses (016-91-52-10)	\$29,955.07	\$27,174.56
Preschool Teacher Pay (016-90-10-01)	\$104,511.70	\$100,540.50
Preschool Director's Pay (016-90-10-02)	\$33,600.00	\$33,901.97
Preschool Supplies (016-90-10-03)	\$8,134.81	\$3,733.37
Preschool Misc. (016-90-10-04)	\$0.00	\$650.13
Utilities/Church (016-85-78-01)	\$57,590.17	\$91,313.13
Telephone/Church (016-85-78-02)	\$7,445.96	\$3,202.44
Insurance/Church Bldg (016-85-78-04)	\$15,459.08	\$19,478.14
Repairs/Church (016-85-78-06)	\$12,370.88	\$70,525.77
Grounds/Church (016-85-78-08)	\$1,427.41	\$61,585.76
Utilities/Other Property (016-85-78-10)	\$2,999.06	\$994.00
Custodial Supplies (016-85-78-16)	\$5,788.98	\$6,959.61
Snow Removal/Contract (016-85-78-17)	\$6,367.39	\$0.00
Parsonages Maintenance (016-85-78-18)	\$1,496.96	\$11.67
Organ/Piano Maint (016-85-78-19)	\$1,295.78	\$1,218.90
Capital Expenditures (016-85-78-20)	\$0.00	\$62,677.19
Van (016-85-78-25)	\$368.94	\$1,064.68
Property Taxes (016-85-78-26)	\$4,194.60	\$3,277.24
Stewardship Envelopes (016-84-76-04)	\$354.60	\$355.15
Synod Youth Gathering (016-83-75-07)	\$0.00	\$11,487.41
Worship Supplies (016-82-74-01)	\$4,763.18	\$4,110.87
Web Page (016-82-74-03)	\$3,685.78	\$2,805.57
Funeral/Wedding (016-82-74-04)	\$600.00	\$176.48
Advertising (016-82-74-05)	\$6,554.59	\$3,914.51
Adult Fellowship Activ's (016-82-74-06)	\$396.08	\$937.36
Hospital Flowers (016-82-74-08)	\$83.07	\$0.00
Devotionals (016-82-74-10)	\$1,925.00	\$1,692.10
Volunteer Recognition (016-82-74-11)	\$594.69	\$557.04
Journey Chris Ed 3-5th (016-81-73-02)	\$845.00	\$2,632.28
Christian Ed/Family Event (016-81-73-04)	\$1,426.41	\$2,219.72
Background Checks (016-81-73-05)	\$477.07	\$0.00

Christian Ed/High School (016-81-73-08)	\$332.59	\$266.63
Stepping Stones 6-12 (016-81-73-09)	\$0.00	\$1,249.06
Vacation Bible School (016-81-73-10)	\$1,076.10	\$1,168.41
Elem Min 0-5, Stepping Stones (016-81-73-11)	\$138.96	\$326.57
Young Adult Ministry (016-81-73-13)	\$424.12	\$24.00
High School Ministry (016-81-73-15)	\$839.82	\$642.92
Christian Ed/Confirmation (016-81-73-16)	\$1,790.62	\$800.00
Middle School Ministry (016-81-73-18)	\$547.77	\$0.00
Miscellaneous (016-81-73-19)	\$1,464.09	\$1,855.34
Music Copyrights (016-80-61-01)	\$1,743.16	\$2,196.10
Music/Music Ed (016-80-61-02)	\$543.22	\$177.17
Instrumentals/Artists (016-80-61-05)	\$300.00	\$1,430.00
Cont Education (016-60-52-60)	\$844.84	\$230.86
Childcare (016-60-52-65)	\$100.00	\$2,400.21
Travel & Meals (016-60-52-67)	\$0.00	\$1,148.66
MCH - Food/Coffee (016-60-52-86)	\$84.54	\$1,208.02
Argus and Zoom (016-60-52-87)	\$1,459.74	\$15.96
Pastors' Compensation (016-59-52-01)	\$149,286.29	\$189,151.48
Other Ministry Comp (016-59-52-02)	\$120,677.81	\$173,020.44
Support Staff Comp (016-59-52-03)	\$162,909.67	\$144,672.15
Postage/Office (016-55-42-07)	\$6,799.80	\$3,769.67
Office Supplies (016-55-42-08)	\$9,389.04	\$9,922.60
Church Copier Expense (016-55-42-09)	\$10,777.28	\$11,105.24
Bank Charges (016-55-42-10)	\$334.62	\$1,417.98
Info Tech/Computer (016-55-42-22)	\$2,082.44	\$1,641.44
Misc Benevolence Exp (016-50-42-01)	\$0.00	\$683.52
SD Synod/ELCA (016-50-42-02)	\$24,600.00	\$24,708.54
Discretionary Fund (016-50-42-09)	\$0.00	\$2,142.86
Regional Charities (016-50-42-19)	\$2,149.67	\$43.59
Mission Trip (016-50-42-31)	\$0.00	\$3,763.75
Christmas/Annual Meeting (016-50-42-32)	\$460.00	\$578.73

FLC 2021-22 BUDGET to ACTUALS and 2022-2023 PROPOSED BUDGET

INCOME

<u>Account Name</u>	2021-'22 Budget	2021-'22 Actual**	2022-'23 Budget
**Rounded to nearest dollar			
BUDGETARY INCOME			
Envelope Offering	\$725,000.00	\$608,198.00	\$797,500.00
Loose Offering	\$29,000.00	\$46,759.00	\$31,900.00
Radio Broadcasts	\$1,800.00	\$0.00	\$1,980.00
Interest/General Checking	\$300.00	\$109.00	\$330.00
Thrivent Funds	\$750.00	\$1,301.00	\$825.00
FACILITY USE			
Sugg Facility Use Gratuity	\$2,000.00	\$1,995.00	\$2,200.00
DESIGNATED GENERAL PURPOSE			
Non-recurring gifts	\$0.00	\$1,090.00	
Youth & Family	\$11,500.00	\$11,998.00	\$12,650.00
Wedding Fee Income	\$2,000.00	\$1,845.00	\$2,200.00
Golden Age income	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Foundation income	\$6,000.00	\$0.00	\$6,600.00
Memorial income	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Preschool Gifts	\$2,250.00	\$2,694.00	\$2,475.00
Other Dedicated Receipts	\$12,000.00	\$27,174.00	\$13,200.00
PRESCHOOL			
Preschool Tuition	\$142,500.00	\$152,107.00	\$156,750.00
COFFEEHOUSE			
Coffee House	\$2,240.00	\$0.00	\$2,464.00
MCH Tip Jar	\$15,000.00	\$14,573.26	\$16,500.00
MCH Sales	\$70,000.00	\$69,141.00	\$77,000.00
CEMETERY			
Cemetery Income	<u>\$11,000.00</u>	<u>\$33,922.00</u>	<u>\$12,100.00</u>
TOTAL	\$1,033,340.00	\$972,906.26	\$1,136,674.00

EXPENSE

BENEVOLENCE/MISSION

SD Synod/ELCA	\$24,000.00	\$24,709.00	\$27,600.00
<i>Belize Airfare</i>			\$1,000.00
University Lutheran Center & Lutheran Outdoors of SD	\$6,000.00	\$44.00	\$6,000.00
Christmas/Annual Meeting	\$460.00	\$579.00	\$460.00
<i>Sr. Pastor/Assoc. Pastor</i>			
<i>Discretionary Budget</i>			\$4,000.00

OFFICE SUPPLIES

Postage/Office	\$5,000.00	\$3,770.00	\$5,000.00
Office Supplies	\$11,500.00	\$9,923.00	\$11,500.00
Church Copier Expense	\$10,550.00	\$11,105.00	\$10,550.00
Info Tech/Computer	\$3,000.00	\$1,641.00	\$3,000.00
Bank Charges	\$380.00	\$1,418.00	\$380.00

COMPENSATION

Pastor's Compensation	\$180,000.00	\$189,151.00	\$207,400.00
Other Ministry Comp	\$130,560.00	\$173,020.00	\$156,477.00
Support Staff Comp	\$168,000.00	\$144,672.00	\$195,040.00
Benefits - Support Staff (Distributed among Pastor, Other Ministry and Support Comp.)	\$48,000.00	**Included in above Comps	**Included in above Comps

EXECUTIVE**COMMITTEE**

Cont Education	\$3,000.00	\$231.00	\$4,000.00
Childcare	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00	\$6,000.00
MCH - Food/Coffee	\$100.00	\$1,208.00	\$100.00
Argus & Zoom	\$1,200.00	\$16.00	\$1,200.00

WORSHIP/MUSIC/ARTS

Music Copyrights	\$1,900.00	\$2,196.00	\$1,900.00
Music/Music Ed	\$700.00	\$177.00	\$700.00
Instrumentals/Artists	\$1,800.00	\$1,430.00	\$1,800.00

EDUCATIONAL**MINISTRIES**

Journey, Christian Ed 3-5th	\$4,900.00	\$2,632.00	\$4,900.00
Christian Ed/Family Event	\$1,600.00	\$2,220.00	\$1,600.00
Background Checks	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$400.00
Christian Ed/High School	\$400.00	\$267.00	\$400.00
Stepping Stones 6-12	\$600.00	\$1,249.00	\$600.00
Vacation Bible School	\$2,000.00	\$1,168.00	\$2,000.00
Elem Ministry 0-5 Stepping Stones	\$600.00	\$327.00	\$600.00
Young Adult Ministry	\$420.00	\$24.00	\$420.00
High School Ministry	\$4,200.00	\$643.00	\$4,200.00
Christian Ed/Confirmation	\$1,900.00	\$800.00	\$1,900.00
Middle School Ministry	\$550.00	\$0.00	\$550.00
Miscellaneous	\$2,200.00	\$1,855.00	\$2,200.00

*Adult Ed Curriculum** Added
to Devotionals Budget*

**CONGREGATIONAL
LIFE**

Worship Supplies	\$3,200.00	\$4,111.00	\$3,200.00
Web Page	\$4,000.00	\$2,806.00	\$4,000.00
Funeral/Wedding	\$600.00	\$176.00	\$600.00
Advertising	\$5,650.00	\$3,915.00	\$5,650.00
Adult Fellowship Activ's	\$600.00	\$937.00	\$1,600.00
Hospital Flowers	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Golden Age	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Devotionals	\$1,550.00	\$1,692.00	\$1,550.00
Volunteer Recognition	\$750.00	\$557.00	\$750.00

*Hospitality **Added to AFA*

**MEMBERSHIP
PARTICIPATION**

Stewardship Materials	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
Stewardship Envelopes	\$400.00	\$355.00	\$400.00

PROPERTY/FINANCE

Utilities/Church	\$61,000.00	\$91,313.00	\$61,000.00
Telephone/Church	\$7,500.00	\$3,202.00	\$7,500.00
Insurance/Church Bldg	\$17,586.00	\$19,478.00	\$17,586.00
Repairs/Church	\$18,000.00	\$70,528.00	\$18,000.00
Grounds/Church	\$1,500.00	\$61,586.00	\$7,980.00
Utilities/Other Property	\$3,580.00	\$994.00	\$0.00
Custodial Supplies	\$6,000.00	\$6,960.00	\$6,000.00
Snow Removal/Contract	\$12,000.00	\$0.00	\$12,000.00

Parsonages

Maintenance**Added to

Grounds/Church	\$2,400.00	\$11.67	\$0.00
Organ/Piano Maintenance	\$1,600.00	\$1,219.00	\$1,600.00
Capital Expenditures	\$3,000.00	\$62,677.00	\$3,000.00
Van	\$600.00	\$1,065.00	\$600.00
Property Taxes/Fees	\$4,500.00	\$3,277.00	\$4,500.00

PRESCHOOL

Preschool Teacher Pay	\$107,000.00	\$100,541.00	\$110,210.00
Preschool Director's Pay	\$37,200.00	\$33,902.00	\$38,316.00
Preschool Supplies	\$8,000.00	\$3,733.00	\$8,000.00

RESTRICTED

Wedding Expenses	\$1,200.00	\$175.00	\$1,200.00
Foundation Expenses	\$6,000.00	\$17,767.00	\$6,000.00
Other Dedicated Expenses	\$12,000.00	\$27,175.00	\$13,200.00

COFFEEHOUSE

MCH Payroll	\$47,000.00	\$45,956.00	\$48,410.00
Coffee House			
Expenditures**Moved to			
MCH Food & Supplies	\$1,200.00	\$129.93	\$0.00
MCH Tip Jar	\$15,000.00	\$14,573.26	\$16,500.00
MCH Food & Supplies	\$45,700.00	\$59,591.00	\$49,172.00
MCH Sales Tax Payable	\$5,000.00	\$1,706.00	\$5,000.00

CEMETERY

Cemetery Expenses	<u>\$15,400.00</u>	<u>\$43,178.00</u>	<u>\$17,673.00</u>
TOTAL	\$1,077,136.00	\$1,264,161.86	\$1,136,674.00

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING OPENING LITURGY



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

God has called us for such a time as this.

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

God has called us for such a time as this.

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

God has called us for such a time as this.

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

God has called us for such a time as this.

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

You have called us for such a time as this.

God of the Fertile Fields

1 God of the fer - tile fields, sha - per of
2 We would be stew - ards true, hold - ing in
3 As grows the hid - den seed to fruit that
4 God of the coun - try - side, dear to the

earth that yields our dai - ly bread: forth from your
trust that you give; all that you give; help us in
serves our need, so your reign grows. Let all our
Christ who died to make us one: we pledge our

boun - teous hand come gifts your love has planned,
love to share, teach us like you to care
toil be used, no gift of yours a - busied,
lives a - new in faith - ful love to you.

that all in ev - 'ry land be clothed and fed.
for peo - ple ev - 'ry - where, that all may live.
no hum - ble task re - fused your love be - stows.
Guide all we say and do. Your will be done.

All Creation Sings #1063

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

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

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

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

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

ANNUAL REPORT

2021