

Agenda for the Congregation Annual Meeting
February 5, 2023, 9:30 am

1. Call to Order (Steve)
2. Establish quorum
3. Prayer (Pastor)
4. Secretary's Report:
 - a. Minutes of the Annual Meeting, January 30, 2022 (Debby)
5. Election of Council Members (Steve)
 - a. Art Hanson, Larry Bennett, Jeff Kamm for 3-year terms (3 vacancies – Full Term)
 - b. Gene Newlon and Ellen Lindhurst for 1-year terms (2 vacancies -Partial Term)
6. Reports:
 - a. Treasurer's Report
 1. 2022 Year End Report
 2. Budget for 2023
 - b. Pastor's Report
 - c. Parochial Report
 - d. Council President's Report
 - e. Committee Reports
 1. Audit
 2. Education and Outreach
 3. Fellowship
 4. Property/Work Crew
 5. Memorial Garden
 6. Worship and Music
 7. Altar Guild
 8. Endowment Committee
7. Report of Election
8. Election of Nominating Committee member
9. Election of Synod Assembly Voting Members (June-Thursday 8-Saturday 10 - Orlando)
10. Installation of New Council Members
11. Adjourn
12. Lord's Prayer

2022 Annual Meeting Report

February 5, 2023

Table of Contents

Section 1 Secretary's Report

Minutes of January 2021 Congregational Meeting

Section 2 Election

Nominating Committee

Section 3 Financial Reports

Treasurers Annual Report

Proposed Budget 2023

Section 4 Executive Reports

Pastor's Report

Parochial Statistics Report

Council President's Report

Section 5 Committee Reports

Audit

Education and Outreach

Fellowship

Property/Work Crew

Memorial Garden

Worship and Music

Altar Guild

Endowment Committee

Faith Lutheran Church of Rotonda West
Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes
January 30, 2022

President Downey J. Fisher called the annual meeting to order at 9:30am. Thirty six voting members of the congregation were present which constitutes a quorum. Pastor Brian Armen opened the meeting with prayer.

Jim Hughes moved to accept the minutes from the January 31, 2021 meeting as presented for filing, seconded by Mary Lou Fitzgerald. No additions or corrections were noted. The motion passed with a voice vote.

The nominating committee consisting of Larry Bennett, Jim Hughes and Debby Porter, presented three names to be placed on the ballot for the three open council positions: Jay Fisher (2nd term) Jim Taylor and Jeff Petersen (both 1st term). The floor was open for nominations, as there were none Tom Jackling moved that nominations be closed , seconded by Gary Rosemore. Motion carried. Mary Lou Fitzgerald then moved that the secretary cast a unanimous written ballot for the nominees, Tom Jackling seconded the motion and the motion passed with a voice vote. Larry Bennett then expressed thanks and appreciation to the two outgoing members, Lois Burger and Debby Porter, for their service on council.

The treasurer's report and proposed budget for 2021 were presented for review. Art Hanson moved to receive the treasurer's report and adopt the budget for 2022. Tom Jackling seconded the motion. Lynn Beck, treasurer, noted that while income did not quite meet the budgeted amount expenses were also less than budgeted. She expressed appreciation to the congregation for their continued financial support even with the trying circumstances of the past two years due to the pandemic. Jim Hughes moved to call the question, 2nd by Linda Jackling. Motion carried. Jay then presented the motion for a vote, the motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

The Pastor's report, parochial report, President's report and committee reports for 2021 were presented for review. Kathy Wiley moved and Lynn Beck seconded a motion to adopt the reports as presented in the annual report booklet. Pastor noted to add the letter "j" the endowment committee to the reports. Debby Porter noted that in the Education committee report 2020 should be changed to 2021. Jim Hughes thanked the Tuesday morning work crew for their dedication to the upkeep of the church building and property, reminding the members that it saves the church many hundreds of dollars. Pastor noted that the Endowment Committee requires three members from the congregation and asked the members to consider serving on this committee. A voice vote on the motions was then taken and the motion passed.

The next item was consideration of adding a Continuing Resolution Sabbatical Policy and Procedure to the constitution. This comes from the Mutual Ministry committee and has been approved by the church council. A lively discussion ensued. Jim Hughes pointed out that this policy is not about a certain Pastor; past, present or future, but designed to apply to any Pastor from this point forward. The specifics of any Sabbatical time granted to a particular Pastor is left up to the council serving at the time. Some members were for the policy but did not see the need to put it in the constitution as a continuing resolution. Both Pastor Brian, and Mary Lou Fitzgerald from the mutual ministry committee noted that this allowed a specific place for the policy since Faith does not have a policy and procedure manual. Mary Lou Fitzgerald moved to call the question, Toni Newton seconded the motion, the motion passed. Jay called for paper ballots to be handed out, instructing members to simply write yes to vote for the motion or no to vote against it. Lynn Beck and Debby Porter from the executive board were appointed as tellers. The motion carried with 23 "Yes" votes, 13 "No" votes and one abstaining.

Per the constitution a nominating committee for 2022 is to be formed with three members, one of which is an outgoing member of council. This is a one-year term with no re-election, therefore members of the 2021 committee cannot serve on the 2022 committee. Pastor noted that per the constitution one member is to be an outgoing member of council, the three council members whose terms are up at the end of 2022 are: Lynn Beck, Toni Newton and Art Hanson. Art volunteered to serve on the committee. Jay opened nominations from the floor and Steve Wolfe and Mary Lou Fitzgerald volunteered. Toni Newton moved to close nominations and appoint the three volunteers to the committee. Dave Deitrich seconded the motion, the motion passed with a voice vote.

The next order of business was electing representatives to attend Synod Assembly in the spring and conference assembly in the fall. One female and one male representative is needed. No nominations were received so the nominating is deferred for council to handle later in 2022.

At this time President Jay Fisher turned the meeting over to Pastor Armen who presided over the Installation of New Council Members: Jay Fisher, Jim Taylor and Jeff Petersen. The congregation pledged their support and welcomed the new members.

Jim Hughes moved that the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Jim Taylor, motion carried. President Jay Fisher adjourned the meeting at 10:25am. The meeting concluded with all joining in praying the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah B. Porter, council secretary (2021)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT 2022

Committee Members: Steve Wolfe, Art Hanson, Mary Lou Fitzgerald

The committee has been diligently searching for three candidates for 3-year terms and 2 candidates for 1-year terms willing to run for congregational council for 2023-2026. Members are always needed to step up to represent the congregation in this important service. These members have agreed to serve:

Art Hanson, Larry Bennett, Jeff Kamm for 3-year terms
Gene Newlon and Ellen Lindhurst for 1-year terms

Faith Lutheran Church - Rotonda West FL
Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2022

Thursday, January 19, 2023

Page 1 of 1

Account #	Account Name	YTD Balance
Assets		
1.10.101	Checking - Englewood Bank	34,443.07
1.10.102	Savings Account - Englewood Bank	5,324.28
1.10.104	ELCA Federal Credit Union	1,003.54
1.10.201	Mission Investment Fund - ELCA	110,222.06
1.20.101	Thrivent TMAFX Mod Ag-S 4678	56,772.61
1.20.103	Thrivent TLVIX Lg Cap Val -S 9287	72,882.59
	Total Assets	\$280,648.15
Liabilities		
2.10.100	Accounts Payable/Vendors	0.00
2.10.200	FICA Tax Payable	2,987.36
	Total Liabilities	\$2,987.36
Fund Balances		
3.10.100	GENERAL(BUDGET) FUND	7,293.51
3.20.100	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	
3.20.101	Pooled Interest/Change in NAV Balance	31,001.54
3.20.110	Undesignated Fund	68,003.34
3.20.150	Parsonage Fund Balance	135,543.08
	Total UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	\$234,547.96
3.40.100	RESTRICTED FUNDS	
3.20.120	Pass Through (Comment) Balance	186.99
3.20.122	Golf Outing Balance	15.00
3.20.123	St Francis Food Pantry Balance	750.00
3.20.124	Lilly/Poinsettia Balance	135.36
3.20.125	Micals on Wheels Balance	0.00
3.20.126	Kid's Needs Balance	0.00
3.20.127	Stewardship Letter	(368.10)
3.20.129	Seminarian Support Balance	0.00
3.40.109	Wedding/Funeral Fees Balance	6,089.88
3.40.110	Emergency Assistance Balance	2,155.41
3.40.111	Altar Flowers & Candles	(99.27)
3.40.112	Music	1,544.42
3.40.113	Landscape	1,104.62
3.40.114	Thrivent Choice	960.95
3.40.115	Memorial Garden & Gazebo	4,954.84
3.40.120	Ministry Opportunities (Youth/Shawl/Drama/PotLuck)	1,136.82
3.40.121	Love and Serve (Camper Lunch) Balance	2,734.25
3.40.200	Capital Improvement Fund	7,042.70
3.40.300	Endowment Fund	7,475.45
	Total RESTRICTED FUNDS	\$35,819.32
	Total Fund Balances	\$277,660.79
	Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$280,648.15

**Faith Lutheran Church - Rotonda West FL
Consolidated Fund Activity Report as of 12/31/2022**

Thursday, January 19, 2023

Page 1 of 1

Account #	Account Name	Beg Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Transfers/JE's	End Balance
3.10.100	GENERAL(BUDGET) FUND	5,979.98	177,164.07	208,140.78	32,290.24	7,293.51
3.20.100	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
3.20.101	Pooled Interest/Change in NAV Balance	47,469.61	11,980.44	28,448.51	0.00	31,001.54
3.20.110	Undesignated Fund	99,021.53	1,294.04	21.99	(32,290.24)	68,003.34
3.20.150	Parsonage Fund Balance	135,543.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	135,543.08
3.40.100	RESTRICTED FUNDS					
3.20.120	Pass Through (Comment) Balance	540.00	3,895.38	4,248.39	0.00	186.99
3.20.122	Golf Outing Balance	0.00	800.00	785.00	0.00	15.00
3.20.123	St Francis Food Pantry Balance	375.00	825.00	450.00	0.00	750.00
3.20.124	Lilly/Pointsettia Balance	27.18	270.00	161.82	0.00	135.36
3.20.125	Meals on Wheels Balance	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.20.126	Kid's Needs Balance	300.00	0.00	300.00	0.00	0.00
3.20.127	Stewardship Letter	(59.50)	0.00	308.60	0.00	(368.10)
3.20.129	Seminarian Support Balance	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.40.109	Wedding/Funeral Fees Balance	6,178.14	675.00	763.26	0.00	6,089.88
3.40.110	Emergency Assistance Balance	425.41	1,730.00	0.00	0.00	2,155.41
3.40.111	Altar Flowers & Candles	39.76	1,020.00	1,159.03	0.00	(99.27)
3.40.112	Music	1,544.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,544.42
3.40.113	Landscape	1,104.62	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,104.62
3.40.114	Thrivent Choice	3,355.77	373.00	2,767.82	0.00	960.95
3.40.115	Memorial Garden & Gazebo	4,452.34	600.00	97.50	0.00	4,954.84
3.40.120	Ministry Opportunities (Youth/Shaw/Drama/PotLuck)	1,136.82	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,136.82
3.40.121	Love and Serve (Camper Lunch) Balance	1,439.51	3,867.00	2,572.26	0.00	2,734.25
3.40.200	Capital Improvement Fund	9,204.70	0.00	2,162.00	0.00	7,042.70
3.40.300	Endowment Fund	6,425.45	1,050.00	0.00	0.00	7,475.45
Total		\$324,503.82	\$205,543.93	\$252,386.96	\$0.00	\$277,660.79

**Faith Lutheran Church - Rotonda West FL
Treasurer's Report as of December 2022 for General (Budget) Fund**

Account #	Account Name	2021		2022		Proposed
		End of Year	End of Year	Annual Budget	Annual Budget	2023
Income						
4.10.100	Envelopes/Pledges	157,043.00	158,261.92	164,879.00	180,000.00	180,000.00
4.10.101	Loose (Cash/Checks)	9,792.00	17,561.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00
4.10.102	Other Inc/Special Worship Services	726.00	553.00	10,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
4.10.105	Interest	862.93	788.15	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
4.10.107	Transfer from Savings (or additional giving)	17,284.00	-	22,400.00	22,339.00	22,339.00
	Total Income	\$ 185,707.93	\$ 177,164.07	\$ 218,279.00	\$ 224,339.00	\$ 224,339.00
Expense						
Benevolence						
5.10.105	Synod Commitment (ELCA)	8,500.00	8,400.00	8,400.00	8,400.00	8,400.00
5.10.115	St Francis Outreach	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00
5.10.116	Meals on Wheels	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00
5.10.117	Kid's Needs of Englewood	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00
5.10.118	Special Giving Opportunities	-	-	500.00	500.00	500.00
5.10.119	Seminarian Support	-	2,400.00	2,400.00	-	-
	Total Benevolence	\$ 9,400.00	\$ 11,700.00	\$ 12,200.00	\$ 9,800.00	\$ 9,800.00
Pastoral Compensation						
5.10.135	Pastor Salary	37,399.92	39,600.00	39,600.00	41,600.00	41,600.00
5.10.139	Pastor Housing	26,299.92	27,900.00	27,900.00	29,300.00	29,300.00
	Total Pastoral Compensation	\$ 63,699.84	\$ 67,500.00	\$ 67,500.00	\$ 70,900.00	\$ 70,900.00
Total Staff Compensation						
5.10.151	Organist Salary	13,399.92	14,200.08	14,200.00	14,900.00	14,900.00
5.10.153	Substitute Organist Salary	-	575.00	1,000.00	1,400.00	1,400.00
5.10.155	Choir Director Salary	-	-	1,600.00	1,700.00	1,700.00
5.10.156	Custodian Salary	5,936.00	6,013.40	6,800.00	7,100.00	7,100.00
5.10.157	Office Secretary Salary	14,100.00	14,899.92	14,900.00	15,600.00	15,600.00
5.10.158	Bookkeeper Salary	774.96	733.82	1,200.00	1,300.00	1,300.00
5.10.170	Staff FICA Taxes	2,708.86	2,815.78	3,300.00	3,500.00	3,500.00

Faith Lutheran Church - Rotonda West FL
Treasurer's Report as of December 2022 for General (Budget) Fund

Account #	Account Name	2 0 2 1		2 0 2 2		Proposed
		End of Year	End of Year	Annual Budget	Annual Budget	2 0 2 3
5.10.180	Treasurer Stipend	-	-	599.00	599.00	599.00
5.10.190	Financial Secretary - Stipend	743.67	737.53	990.00	1,040.00	1,040.00
	Total Staff Compensation	\$ 37,663.41	\$ 39,975.53	\$ 44,589.00	\$ 47,139.00	
Pastoral Ministry Expense						
5.10.140	Pastor Retirement	11,599.92	11,268.84	12,300.00	12,900.00	12,900.00
5.10.142	Pastor Health/Disability/Life/Retiree Support	14,901.48	20,725.56	19,700.00	20,500.00	20,500.00
5.10.143	Pastor Mileage & Phone	1,034.88	1,726.64	4,500.00	3,500.00	3,500.00
5.10.144	Pastor Business Expense	108.65	75.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00
5.10.145	Substitute Pastor Salary	550.00	3,275.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
	Total Pastoral Ministry Expense	\$ 28,194.93	\$ 37,071.04	\$ 38,700.00	\$ 39,100.00	
Worship & Music						
5.10.301	Worship Supplies	840.27	856.51	1,000.00	1,200.00	1,200.00
5.10.302	Choir Supplies	-	-	200.00	200.00	200.00
5.10.306	Instrument Maintenance	270.00	-	500.00	500.00	500.00
	Total Worship & Music	\$ 1,110.27	\$ 856.51	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 1,900.00	
Administration						
5.10.501	Church Supplies (consumables)	1,443.72	704.51	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
5.10.504	U.S. Postage	306.00	533.00	400.00	500.00	500.00
5.10.505	Office Machine Expenses	4,523.35	4,379.51	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
5.10.507	Membership Fees	200.00	61.25	200.00	200.00	200.00
5.10.508	Church Utilities and Alarm Monitoring	7,434.98	6,976.05	7,500.00	7,500.00	7,500.00
5.10.509	Church Telephones	2,394.65	2,487.37	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
5.10.510	Church Technology	1,761.99	1,299.14	1,400.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
	Total Administration	\$ 18,064.69	\$ 16,440.83	\$ 17,500.00	\$ 17,700.00	
Leadership and Training						
5.10.601	Stewardship	635.67	589.57	600.00	600.00	600.00
5.10.602	Evangelism	100.86	-	200.00	200.00	200.00
5.10.603	Publicity	2,897.95	3,149.88	3,500.00	3,500.00	3,500.00

**Faith Lutheran Church - Rotonda West FL
Treasurer's Report as of December 2022 for General (Budget) Fund**

Account #	Account Name	2021		2022		Proposed 2023	
		End of Year	Annual Budget	End of Year	Annual Budget	Annual Budget	Annual Budget
5.10.605	Mtd Gulf Conference	250.00	250.00	-	250.00	250.00	250.00
5.10.606	Synod Assembly	75.00	2,000.00	1,782.42	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
5.10.607	Fellowship	-	400.00	-	400.00	400.00	400.00
5.10.608	Education	90.00	100.00	50.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
5.10.610	Stephen Ministry	-	500.00	-	500.00	500.00	500.00
	Total Leadership and Training Expense	\$ 4,049.48	\$ 7,550.00	\$ 5,571.87	\$ 7,550.00	\$ 7,550.00	\$ 7,550.00
<i>Property</i>							
5.10.703	Lawn Service	2,520.00	2,640.00	2,640.00	2,640.00	2,750.00	2,750.00
5.10.704	Maintenance (Interior/Exterior)	10,764.63	11,500.00	10,199.54	11,500.00	11,500.00	11,500.00
5.10.706	Church Insurance	10,213.64	10,000.00	10,113.72	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
5.10.709	Church Real Estate Tax	5,998.16	4,400.00	6,071.74	4,400.00	6,000.00	6,000.00
	Total Property	\$ 29,496.43	\$ 28,540.00	\$ 29,025.00	\$ 28,540.00	\$ 30,250.00	\$ 30,250.00
	Total Expense	\$ 191,679.05	\$ 218,279.00	\$ 208,140.78	\$ 218,279.00	\$ 224,339.00	\$ 224,339.00
	Difference Income (Expense)	\$ (5,971.12)	\$ -	\$ (30,976.71)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Pastor's Report to the Congregation for 2022

Two pieces of scripture come to mind as I write another annual report to the congregation. The first is Luke 9:62 (where) Jesus replied, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God." Jesus' instruction to his followers was to have a steady, persistent, consistent focus on where we are going when it comes to doing God's work. I will say more on that in a moment.

For now, please allow me a moment of situational awareness as I summarize this past year. 2022 started in the waning shadow of a global pandemic. Having expended a lot of energy, individually dealing with personal circumstances, as a congregation with adaptations in our ministry, and societally in our country and world, we were ready for things to get back to normal. And they almost did.

An important part of getting back to normal was the gift of Sabbatical I received from the congregation. July and August were spent reconnecting with activities that had been put on the back burner for too long. Time for spiritual renewal, reconnecting with nature, reading, listening and rest away from the daily responsibilities of ministry. In addition to my gratitude to the congregation I extend my thanks to Pastor Autumn who covered the pastor care and worship life of the congregation while I was away.

In September, upon my return from Sabbatical, I was re-energized and recommitted to the work we were engaged in moving forward. Through our council meeting and committee meetings we made plans for Fall and Winter. Then on September 28th, hurricane Ian made a turn to visit. Our lives were turned upside down and the result has significantly impacted individuals, families, communities, organizations (including faith communities), and the whole Southwest Florida region. We know the recovery will take years.

In our congregation, some have moved to be closer to family. Others were not able to return south for the season, and may never return. Those who remain struggle to piece back together homes and lives. We continue to find ways to support one another and our community. Our facilities weathered the storm with minimal damage. And we remain a resource for our community and a witness.

Our greatest challenge from Ian is the financial impact on our congregation. You will note the details in our financial reports. With members of our Faith family not being able to return and having to direct financial resources to hurricane recovery, we fell short financially. We are grateful for our Faith family's faithful support over the years. Because of this we have the financial resources to weather the storm and move forward in life, faith and ministry. God is faithful in walking with us through this time. We are faithful in our support of God's work caring for one another and our community. Thank you!

As Jesus' words remind me, we must look forward or "we are not for service in the kingdom of God." Paul picks up on this theme as he writes in Philippians 4:13-14 "Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."

As we enter 2023, we will be focusing on moving forward in our life together. We are committed to being a community gathered at worship, two services in person (in season) and one service in the summer, as well as continuing our on-line presence through live streaming and recording of our worship. We remain committed to our small group study and service opportunities through Our Life Together (OLTG), The Camper Ministry, Lutheran Chicks, Work Crew, Bible reading groups, Special Music, Choir, Friendship Dinners, Ladies Luncheon, Men's Breakfast, and a resurgence of Holy Grounds. All of these

ministries happen because people are willing to step up and lead, and others are willing to join in faith, life and service. Thank you!

It is my hope and prayer that all of these activities will help us live out our mission as God's people in this coming year. I encourage you to invite family, friends, neighbors to join in any (or all) of these activities as they are able. The number one evangelism tool is still your invitation to someone using Jesus' words, "come and see."

Our congregation's guiding words, Listening, Caring, Serving, will carry us through this year, focusing on listening to God's word and the community around us, Caring as our hearts are transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit and we Serve our community and support those around us, particularly those most in need.

Looking farther ahead, in 2025 Faith will celebrate its 50th anniversary as a congregation and community of faith. Our constituting date is March 2, 1975, if we use that as a "kick-off" to our celebration, as we did for our 40th in 2015, we have a day of celebration, and then head quickly into our summer season of limited activity. By the time fall rolls around, it is hard to refocus on any event that carries over from 8 previous months.

As we prepare for our 50th anniversary, I am encouraging all of us to look at beginning the celebration in 2024 (next year). We could begin our 49th year with a recognition on Saturday, March 2, 2024 (Sunday March 3) and plan events over the next 12 months to celebrate our 50 years culminating on Sunday, March 2, 2025. If this sounds like something that interests you and you would like to help lead, please speak to me, or better, drop an email to me and Barb in the church office: office@alivingfaith.org.

Whatever this next year holds for us, our experience through the last year reminds us God is faithful! Thank you, God! And because God is faithful, we hear Jesus' and Paul's instruction to keep our focus forward, and move into the future with confidence because God is leading the way.

Thank you for your support and partnership in our ministry together here at Faith Lutheran Church!
+Pastor Brian

Parochial Statistics Report

Following are the statistics for the year 2022:

Baptisms: 1

Confirmed: 0

Weddings: 0

New Members: 13

Deaths: 5

Removed (by request or by council): 2

Current Membership: 189

2022 President's Report

First, I would like to say, it has been my pleasure to serve as your council president. I thank God for guiding the council on the issues our church has faced this year. We could not have done the work of the church without all the dedicated volunteers who continuously give of their time and talents to make our faith life possible.

Recently I saw a joke on the internet that summed up the year for many of us, **I'm going to stay up on New Year's Eve this year, not to bring in the new year but to make sure this one leaves.** 2022 has had its fair share of challenges. We can thank the past leadership of the church who put us in a position to handle these challenges. We were able to provide pastor Armen with his promised and earned sabbatical, and he has come back to us with a renewed commitment to the church, also we have been able to make progress in repairing the damage due to hurricane IAN, we were very fortunate that there was no significant damage to the church itself as our expenses to repair the damage didn't rise to the level of our insurance deductible.

As we close out yet another atypical year, we are blessed to have the worst of the Covid scare behind us (hopefully) and can focus on our ministry going forward. We have had many positives to point to during this challenging year, we are now able to worship remotely should the need arise, many volunteers have stepped up to restore our church property, Pastor Hardenstine came forward to fill in for pastor Armen when we needed her, and with a single request we were able to continue the funding of the camper outreach.

Although expenses did exceed contributions this year our church is still in a solid financial position, and I pray that this will continue for years to come.

Personally, it was our pleasure to be able to represent Faith at the Synod Assembly as it gives you a sense of the direction that the Synod is heading and hopefully a voice in it. I feel it is important for our church leaders to have that voice.

Faith is not just the name of the church, but it is how this congregation lives every day. As pastor Armen frequently points out it is our Faith Life Together.

Respectfully

Steve Wolfe
Council President

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Audit Committee Report 2022

The audit committee has reviewed the financial transactions of Faith Lutheran Church for the calendar year 2022. Our review included bank statements, brokerage statements, checks, invoices, payroll records, tax returns, and insurance policies.

In our opinion, the Treasurer's Report for 2022, and the Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2022, fairly present the financial activity for the year 2022, and the financial status as of December 31, 2022.

Respectfully submitted, Brian Lindhurst, Chairman, Kathryn Gallagher and Gene Newlon

EDUCATION and OUTREACH REPORT, 2022

Our "Tech Team," who operate the video and sound board in order to provide live streaming and video recordings of our worship services for members to view in the safety of their homes, continue to be dedicated servants. A special thanks to Jim Porter, Lou Taylor, and Brian and Ellen Lindhurst.

Linda Schleede continues to serve heading up our Eucharistic Ministry. Lou Taylor remains the coordinator of Stephen Ministry, with the help of Linda Ovitz, a new member and an experienced Stephen Minister. Linda Schulz, with the help of the Lutheran Chicks, continues to be dedicated to providing lunches for the community "campers" every Tuesday. Our deepest thanks to the members of AA, who hold weekly meetings at our church and donate many snacks to add to the lunch bags. They have been very generous.

Thanks, also, to those who have donated clothes and other personal items to make life a little more comfortable for the campers. We continue to place a jar in the narthex to collect change so we can provide laundry detergent, dryer sheets and quarters so the campers can do their laundry. And Lou Taylor, our publicity person, continues to keep the local newspapers informed of our goings-on.

The "Our Lives Together" group continues to be graciously hosted by Autumn and Jim Hardenstein in their home every other Wednesday.

My personal thanks to all the volunteers who so diligently work behind the scenes to serve our church and community.

Respectfully Submitted,

Toni Newton, Education and Outreach

Fellowship Report for 2022

As a fairly recent appointee to Church Council to fill an unexpired term, I acquired the duties of Fellowship coordinator. Still finding my way, I can report not much has happened, but look to the future as planning is underway.

Coffee is provided at the outdoor 8:30 am service as well as coffee and snacks for the Tuesday men's work group and Lutheran Chicks.

The monthly Ladies luncheons continued thanks to the efforts of Kathie Wiley.

The men have continued to meet for a monthly breakfast gathering at Stefano's.

Activities have been proposed and subsequently canceled due first to lingering Covid concerns and then the devastating effects of Hurricane Ian. However, plans are under way for several events in early 2023, so please look for them and participate as you are able.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Lindhurst

2022 Work Crew Report

2021 had Covid and now 2022 had IAN. It didn't set us back as much as changed our focus from daily maintenance to recovery. During this trying time many volunteers stepped up to get our church and grounds back in order.

The ongoing tasks were grounds cleanup, bush trimming and continuing the mulch spreading on the borders of the church property. Also, every year the work group sets up the Christmas nativity decorations and assists in other church holiday decorations.

Special projects of note this year include replacing the glass on the sign and painting it, as well as painting the cross in the front of the church. All light poles around the church were cleaned and painted. The garage was painted as well as kitchen cabinets and the men's restroom counter top.

During the heat of the summer, we decided it would be a good idea to re-paint the lines and handicap symbols in the parking lot, and sand and seal all the benches around our church. Finally, we replaced all the mulch around the church building with a larger bark in hopes it will last longer and help the roots of the plants.

The work crew is a valued asset to the church as it saves thousands of dollars in maintenance and repairs, as well as bringing members closer together. Jokes are told, donuts are eaten, and much coffee is drunk. As always, if you are willing and able, we can use more hands. Please consider joining us for the monthly breakfast and the weekly comraderie.

Faith's Memorial Garden

At seven years old, Faith's Memorial Garden continues to be a place of peace, meditation, remembrance, internment and worship. Comments from people are: it is such a restful place, it is beautiful, so serene and a wonderful place to meditate and just to sit and take in nature --most of the time you can hear the sounds of nature. The space just outside the gated area was used for worship services during the covid epidemic.

The Memorial Garden continues to be overseen by a committee consisting of Jeff Petersen (liaison from council), Jim Hughs, Marcia Wilkins, Mary Lou Fitzgerald and newcomer Noma Hickok. Gardening is sporadically being done by Linda and Harold Schultz, Marcia Wilkins, Jay Fischer, Mary Lou Fitzgerald and the Tuesday Morning Work Crew. Hurricane Ian limited workers and time working in the garden. Thank you for your help and commitment to the garden. The committee always welcomes new members to both the committee and the gardeners. Just let me (Mary Lou Fitzgerald) know if you are interested. There are a minimum number of meetings and sprucing up of the area.

Additional memorial bricks bordering the sidewalk were placed in 2022. Each was purchased for a fee of \$100 from the following:

Ralph Crites from Kathy Wiley

Bricks now awaiting placement from Noma Hickock and John and Laura Kohler

Three bricks honoring previous pastors of Faith will be placed as part of the 50th year celebration.

During the past year the following has taken place in/and for the garden:

- Easter sunrise service was held.
- For Christmas Eve 2022, the cross in the garden was illuminated with 4 candles, and featured poinsettias.

The Memorial Garden fund has a balance of just under \$4500. Funds are used to mulch and fertilize. Bricks, to honor, remember or commemorate a special event may be purchased for a fee of \$100. Four people have prepaid for their interment. *Anyone who wishes a Christian burial may be buried in the Memorial Garden.* Guidelines for the memorial garden and bricks are in a brochure in the narthex of the church. Funds to perpetuate the garden can also be donated.

2023 looks to be a year of some new plantings and trimming in the area around the garden. So take some time to visit the garden, any time, and enjoy the natural beauty of God's creation.

Mary Lou Fitzgerald, chair

Worship and Music Committee Report 2022

Members: Jeff Petersen, Pastor Brian Armen, Candace Montesi, Marcia Wilkins, Mary Lou Fitzgerald, Debby Porter, Noma Hickok, Toni Newton, Jim Porter, Ellen Lindhurst, Lou Taylor

As COVID lessened, we were able to meet more frequently than in 2021. The committee met five times during the calendar year on the following dates: 1/25, 3/6, 9/26, 12/12, and a short impromptu meeting regarding flowers for the altar. At each meeting the members report on the progress of their area of responsibility. Volunteers for each area are always needed and appreciated.

Candace Montesi continues to lead us musically with her awesome performances on the organ and piano at our services. We have been fortunate to have Dan Marino fill in on keyboard duties when Candace is unavailable. The Praise Group, Ann and Chris Banting, have once again offered us inspiring musical performances. Other musicians who have contributed their musical offerings to us include: Brian Wing on guitar and vocals, Jim Porter on flute, his daughter Janette on oboe, and Jeff and Julie Petersen on flutes and alto saxophone. Thanks to the musicians who have enhanced our worship experience.

Our tech team, which operates the video and sound board to provide live streaming and video recording of our worship services for members and others to view from their homes, is especially appreciated. Thank you, Jim Porter, Lou Taylor and Ellen Lindhurst.

During Pastor Brian's sabbatical, we all appreciated the guidance and help of Pastor Autumn Hardenstine. She is always willing to help, and goes the extra mile to assist when needed.

We have a number of worship assistants who have helped us throughout the year. They include: Debby Porter, Brian and Ellen Lindhurst, Jim Taylor, Jay Fisher, Nancy Smith, Kathryn Gallagher and Cyndy Hoops.

Our Eucharist Ministry is headed up by Linda Schleede. Lou Taylor is the Stephen Ministry coordinator. Linda Schultz coordinates and helps a number of ladies to provide lunches for the community "campers" every Tuesday.

In our, hopefully, later stages of the COVID world, an inquiry was conducted about the interest and efficacy of starting the choir again. Candace Montesi will host a volunteer choir between services, in the choir room, starting the second week of January, 2023. Depending on response, they may perform at some services. A bell choir will be organized by Debby Porter and conducted by Jeff Petersen, if interest is sufficient.

Outdoor worship starts the second Sunday of January 2023 at the 8:30 am service. This has presented a number of challenges this year with getting the grounds presentable and safe. The Tuesday Work Crew continues to ready the area.

As the price of flowers is continually increasing, it was decided that use of some silk flowers would be acceptable in the absence of live flowers on the altar.

Thanks to all of the coordinators who have worked so diligently behind the scenes to supply our services with the volunteers needed for our worship services.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Petersen, Worship & Music Committee

Altar Guild 2021

Two thousand twenty-two was a rather interesting year for the Altar Guild. The total number of communicants was 3831, which was a decrease over 2021. They were very slightly up before September 28, but then Ian paid a visit and attendance fell off. Faith has a long way to go to get to the level of 2019, when we had just over 6000.

Again this year we have lost members because of moving or no longer being able to attend, but we welcome Debbie Easterday and Linda Ovitz, who came forward and became members of the Guild. Debby Porter is a tremendous help as she cleans up after the 10:30 service. This makes a crew of 13. We have 2 husband and wife teams and many members are doing multiple months.

So what is expected of a member? On either Friday or Saturday, you set up the altar for communion—filling communion cups, placing communion vessels and linens on the altar and changing the colored cloth paraments at different liturgical seasons. (This year the changing of paraments and filling of candles was done mostly by Harold Schultz and Brian Lindhurst.) After service the communion glasses are counted and recorded. The altar is then cleared and the linens that were used for communion are laundered. How long does it take to set up the altar? About 40 minutes, plus about 20 minutes to clean up!

- With early services outside there is a second altar to set up, but everything is placed in a cart and there is plenty of help taking things outside and setting up.
- Wine continues to be purchased around the time of Jewish holidays since it is on sale, saving about 25%.
- Special displays of lilies and poinsettias adorned the altar at Easter and Christmas. Thank you to those who sponsored the flowers. Easter lilies and poinsettias that remained in church were planted in or near the Memorial Garden. There are 16 lilies pointing their little heads thru the soil near the large gate to the Memorial Garden. Poinsettias will be placed in the park area of the garden.

Special thanks to Debbie Easterday, Linda Hughes, Linda and Tom Jasper, Gloria Marsh, Margaret Murphy, Kathy Myers, Linda Ovitz, Julie Petersen, Linda Schleede, Linda and Harold Schultz, Pam Sinclair and RoseAnne Woodliff for their commitment to Faith's Altar Guild in 2022. Also, Debby Porter, who helps by cleaning up after the late service

This ministry is so important to our worship! More help would be appreciated in 2023 so two could team together when there are two services. How about using a portion of your time and becoming a member of the Guild? You will be trained and hopefully working with another person so ask as friend. It really is an easy job but so necessary!

If you need more information or have questions, just ask me and perhaps I can encourage you. For me, the time I spend doing the altar is a time when I am in conversation with God.

Mary Lou Fitzgerald, chair

Endowment Report 2022

The Faith Mission and Ministry Endowment Fund was a concept championed by Fred Warner and a number of other members over 15 years ago. Building on that foundation, the Mission and Ministry Endowment Fund was incorporated into our constitution as a resource to fund God's ministry as a part of our life together. We have received a number of donations over the years that "seeded" our fund. This year we received an estate gift (the first in recent memory) from the estate of Pastor Pat Large, the third pastor serving Faith. The financial reports of the congregation include the financial information for the Endowment Fund. If you need help with, or would like more information on, including Faith's Endowment Fund in your estate planning, please contact our church office.

Sincerely,

Your Endowment Committee: Larry Bennett, Debby Porter, Jim Taylor
and the congregation Pastor, President and Treasurer.