



ANNUAL REPORT 2023



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDING BISHOP ELIZABETH EATON



Dear friends in Christ,

Over the past year we have continued to experience changes in the world around us. Even as our church finds ways to adapt to this changing world, we find hope in the unchanging and always present promise of God's love through Jesus Christ. We change and adapt not to conform to the world but because we believe that the gift of God's Son is for the world, and that our congregations and worshiping communities are places to gather and be sent into the world, where we will tell the story of God's love in word and deed.

The ministries of our congregations, our synods and the churchwide organization provide ways for the church to move beyond the boundaries of structures and geography and to share God's love with people in our neighborhoods, our cities, our country and beyond. We engage in this ministry knowing that our church walks by faith, trusting in God's promise in the gospel, and that we exist by and for the proclamation of this gospel word. In John 15:5, Jesus reminds us, "I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing." We are connected by the promise that we do all through Christ and can do nothing apart from him.

God gives the Holy Spirit, who uses gospel proclamation — in preaching and sacraments, in forgiveness and in healing conversations — to create and sustain this faith. Just as we rely on God to sustain our faith, we rely on each other to sustain the ministries that offer God's love to the world. Through your generosity to each expression

of this church — your congregation, your synod and your churchwide organization — you add to our collective voice proclaiming God's love for all.

I am grateful for your generosity over this last year. My gratitude spreads far beyond your generous financial gifts. You've shared your gifts of time through countless hours of volunteering, serving and accompanying. You've shared the gifts of your voices as we've tried to discover and learn how God is calling us to be the church now and into the future. And, finally, dear church, you have shared the gift of the realness of God's love with the world around you. Be well, dear church, and stand steadfast in the promise of God's love and grace as you take that promise with you into the world.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elizabeth A. Eaton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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

“I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.” —John 15:5

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

OPENING LITURGY

Son of God, Eternal Savior

Recognizing that our faith is a living, busy, active and mighty thing, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with each of you.

And also with you.

Teach us to love you with all our heart, soul, mind and strength.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Descend on our hearts, that we may love others in the ways Jesus loves us.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Empower us to be enthusiastic in pursuing your vision for our congregation.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Move us to engage issues in our community in Christlike ways, and to pursue deep and authentic relationships with those with whom we serve and partner.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Strengthen us to face the barriers we encounter in doing your work, learning to work with others amid disagreement.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Give us the ability to adapt to the cultural, economic and social changes that occur in the neighborhoods we serve.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Guide us to be a healthy congregation that learns from its failures as well as its successes and offers wisdom to others.

Receive our prayer, O God.

As we strive to become the church that we proclaim to be, raise up leaders who focus on the gospel of freedom, forgiveness and reconciliation as given to us through God's indescribable act of love in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Renew us daily in our baptism, that we may discover vitality in our relationships with you, each other and those we serve in the world.

Amen.

1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,
2 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, so may we for oth - ers live.
3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and Prince of peace;
4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,

Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race,
Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed; free - ly may your ser - vants give.
hush the storm of strife and pas - sion, bid its cru - el dis - cords cease.
Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race:

you our head, who, throned in glo - ry, for your own will ev - er plead:
Yours the gold and yours the sil - ver, yours the wealth of land and sea;
By your pa - tient years of toil - ing, by your si - lent hours of pain,
by your pray - ing, by your will - ing that your peo - ple should be one,

fill us with your love and pit - y, heal our wrong, and help our need.
we but stew - ards of your boun - ty held in sol - emn trust will be.
quench our fe - vered thirst of plea - sure, stem our self - ish greed of gain.
grant, oh, grant our hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth your will be done.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship, 655

Text: Somerset C. Lowry

Music: IN BABILONE, Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen, 1710;

arr. Julius Röntgen

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Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

2023 Ministry Report



As another year has drawn to a close, we give thanks for what has been and look forward with anticipation and hope.

In 2023, the ministry of the Southeastern Minnesota Synod continued in earnest. Sixty-two congregations engaged in the call process even as some continue their call process into the new year. We were delighted to welcome 21 new rostered ministers into various settings within the synod.

For the first time in several years, we hosted a visit from a global companion synod. Bishop Atahualpa Hernandez of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Colombia (IELCO) spent a week visiting our synod's leaders, members, and ministries. It was a joy to spend time with him and learn from IELCO's excellent diaconal ministry among the most vulnerable in Colombia.

Our 2023 Synod Assembly, held in May, welcomed Dr. Susan Brower as the keynote speaker. Dr. Brower helped us understand demographic trends across the state and our communities. In May of 2024, we will use this information as a springboard for the focus of our next Synod Assembly. We will welcome Dr. Matt Bloom to share as we consider how each of us can impact our congregations and communities.

As I consider the ministry of the synod in 2024, I am drawn to the phrase *every congregation connected*. In 2023, congregations took advantage of the connections we have with each other; this was especially evident in the continued increase of collaborations between individual congregations. Throughout the synod, congregations have strengthened ministry through partnering with neighboring congregations.

As we draw on the strength of our internal connections, we have an opportunity to engage afresh with the communities our congregations are already a part of. What opportunities are there to be the church for the community beyond our buildings? What is already happening that we can come alongside? What needs of our neighbors currently need to be met?

One of the gifts of being a congregation of the Southeastern Minnesota Synod is that no congregation must go it alone. We are part of a network with congregations and connections that strengthen us and multiply the impact we have in the communities to which we are called.

May the Spirit open our hearts and minds to all the ways God continues to invite us to participate in God's good work in the world!

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rev. Regina Hassanally". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of "Rev.", "Regina", and "Hassanally" being capitalized and prominent.

Bishop Regina Hassanally

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

OF

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH of PICKEREL LAKE

Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Congregation, January 28, 2024

Church Phone – 265-3355 Church Email – admin@concordiapickerellake.com

DIRECTORY OF CHURCH OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES FOR 2024

President (19) (21) (2023)	Christopher Sorensen	2 yr. term	402-4836
Vice-President (16)(18)(20)(22) (2024)	Robert Wittmer	1 yr. term	369-3664
Secretary (2023)	Amy Drescher	2 yr. term	383-9581
Financial Treasurers	Stephanie Johnson		402-7437
Council (20) (22) (2024)	RaAnna Pectorious	1 yr. term	402-8071
Financial Secretary (22) (2024)	Allan Wichmann	1 yr. term	373-9821
Dir. of Church Properties		1 yr. term	
Board/Church Properties (20)(22) (24)	Shane Christensen	1 yr. term	402-1529
Board/Church Properties (22) (2024)	Chad Miller	2 yr. term	473-0290
Dir. of Lay Ministry (2023)	Lynn Krueger	2 yr. term	383-8496
Board/Lay Ministry (2024)	Robert Nelson	2 yr. term	383-4992
Board/Lay Ministry (18)(20)(22)(24)	Wayne Olson	2 yr. term	301-4599
Dir. of Stewardship (22) (2024)	Amy Wallin	1 yr. term	383-6990
Board of Stewardship (22) (2024)	Chuck Reindal	1 yr. term	383-0711
Board of Stewardship (18) (19) (21)(23)	Kristine Christensen	2 yr. term	402-1530
Cemetery Committee			
Chair (02)(03)(06)(10)(14)(18) (2022)	Danny Steele	4 yr. term	383-2938
(09)(13)(17) (2021)	Mark Wallin	4 yr. term	383-6388
(2019) (2023)	John Morgan	4 yr. term	377-1761
(2020) (2024)	Mark Krueger	4 yr. term	402-9520
Church Administrative Secretary	Stephanie Johnson		402-7437
Church Custodians	David Masters		402-1262
	Michelle Masters		320-2362
2024 Nominating Committee for 2025:	Gordy Toenges & 2 additional at large members		

**Concordia Lutheran Church of Pickerel Lake
Annual Meeting
Sunday, January 29, 2023**

President Chris Sorenson called the annual meeting of Concordia Lutheran Church of Pickerel Lake.

Gordy Toenges and Jay Johnson were appointed tellers for the meeting.

At least 10% of eligible voters were in attendance per tellers.

Chris S. asked if everyone had signed the book and those who had not were given a chance to sign.

There were 45 voting members present.

Motion was called to accept the agenda.

Motion made by Robert Wittmer

2nd the motion by Jay Johnson.

Review of minutes from the 2022 annual meeting and the special congregational meeting. Chris gave the congregation time to read and review.

Chris Sorenson approved the minutes from the 2022 annual meeting. There were no additions or corrections.

Motion to accept the Secretary reports.

Motion made by Robert Wittmer

2nd the motion by Mark Wallin

Pastor Kristi gave a thank you to the congregation, leaders, and volunteers. Chris S. in return thanked Pastor Kristi Pastors report was on page 11.

Report of Committees: all committee reports are in the annual report and the congregation may review them at their own time.

RaAnna Pestorius reported the 2022 financial report.

Page 22: Miscellaneous Income

Page 23: Thrivent

Page 24: General Fund

Page 27: Maintenance Savings

Page 28: Memorial Savings

Page 29: Mission Support/Benevolence

Page 30: R-W-H Savings

Page 31: Youth Mission CD

Robert Wittmer made a motion to accept all reports as written.

David Sorensen 2nd the motion.

No old business.

New Business:

a. Consideration of approval of the Parish Agreement with Redeemer Lutheran Church.

Bob Wittmer made a motion to open the discussion in regard to making the Parish Agreement a permanent agreement with Redeemer Lutheran.

Mark Wallin 2nd the motion.

Pastor Kristi informed the congregation that Redeemer did vote on making the Parish Agreement a permanent agreement with Concordia Pickerel Lake and it had passed.

Phil Schmidt requested a paper ballot.

Announcement of Vote on making the Parish Agreement a permanent agreement with Redeemer Lutheran.

37 Yes votes

7 No votes

The vote passes to make the Parish Agreement permanent with Redeemer Lutheran.

Donna Nelson read the report of the nominations from the nominating committee. Donna asked for any nominations from the floor, no nominations were given. Nomination closed.

Amy Wallin made a motion to accept the nominations given from the nominating committee as written.

Kristine Christensen seconded the motion.

Amy Wallin presented the 2023 Budget. This can be found on pages 24-26 of your packet.

Chuck Reindal made a motion to accept the budget as written.

Bob Nelson 2nd the motion to accept the budget as written.

Any other new business.

Danny Stelle asked why the contact information was not in the annual report. The answer to the question was that we have made a new yearbook, and we will continue to update this yearly.

Jim Thunstedt made a motion to adjourn the annual meeting.

Jenni Miller 2nd the motion.

Respectfully submitted: Stephanie Johnson

**Concordia Lutheran Church of Pickerel Lake
Special Congregational Meeting
Sunday, January 29, 2023**

The Special Congregational Meeting of Concordia Lutheran Church of Pickerel Lake was held on January 29, 2023, immediately following the annual meeting.

President Chris Sorensen called the meeting to order. Chris Sorensen called upon Gordy Toenges and Jay Johnson to be the tellers at the meeting. The tellers informed Chris S. that we had a quorum.

Chris Sorensen then opened the special meeting by introducing its purpose:

Voting to consider the approval of the call of Rev. Kristi Mitchell as pastor for the Concordia Pickerel Lake/Redeemer Lutheran Parish. Then to have Redeemer Lutheran Church extend the call to Rev. Kristi Mitchell on behalf of Concordia Lutheran Church of Pickerel Lake.

Chris Sorensen then called for a motion to initiate discussion on the motion at hand.

Cathy Wittmer made a motion to initiate discussion on the motion at hand. Donna Nelson seconded the motion.

Chris asked: Do I have a motion to vote on the motion at hand.

Julie Reindal made a motion to vote on the motion at hand. Collin Wittmer seconded the motion.

Tellers were asked to hand out blue ballots and pencils to eligible voting members. Tellers collected and counted the ballots.

41 yes votes

3 no votes

The Yes's have it, and the motion to consider the approval of the call of Rev. Kristi Mitchell as pastor for the Concordia Pickerel Lake/Redeemer Lutheran Parish. Then to have Redeemer Lutheran Church extend the call to Rev. Kristi Mitchell on behalf of Concordia Lutheran Church of Pickerel Lake is adopted.

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting is adjourned.

Respectfully submitted: Stephanie Johnson

PASTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Every day as Christians, we are faced with the opportunity and challenge of practicing our faith, of putting our thoughts and the words of our beliefs into action. Our God has extended a call to us, his followers, we are to love and serve him and his people throughout the days of our life. This is not always an easy task, and it may even be a responsibility that we don't even want to embrace. It is however, always the invitation extended to us by our Lord. "Come," our Lord says, "feed my sheep." "Come, and follow me." "Come, and I will give you rest." "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength." Over and over throughout the scriptures, God calls to his people, in various and many ways, to do his work in the world, care and serve one another, follow in his footsteps, and show his love to even the least of his people so that the whole world, and especially the people right near you, can see the light of Christ shining through you.

As God's followers and servants here in the Redeemer and Concordia communities you have been hearing his invitation to serve your neighbor, worship him, study his word, spread his love, shine his light, and fulfill his call for the sake of his world. Throughout these 2023 Annual Reports you will be reading, reviewing, and perhaps even remembering the ways in which the Concordia Lutheran Church community and Redeemer Lutheran Church community have been carrying out God's mission in this place and in this time.

While you read through this report, I hope you will be in prayer with God, giving him thanks for all that he has provided to us as a congregation, all that he has blessed us with in our parish partnership, and the many people he has connected us with during this past year. Or perhaps you might reflect on the way in which he might have asked you to go beyond your usual routine, or comfort zone, or tried and true way, to perhaps take a new path, walk a different way, or endeavor to be bold and adventuresome in your faith journey. Jot down, or circle in these pages the ways in which you were fulfilling God's call throughout the past year. Take note and praise God for the number of lives he touched through the hands and feet and hearts of the people in our congregations. It is also important to prayerfully consider how we might have missed the goal, dropped the ball, or let an opportunity to fulfill God's call slip on by. For these too, are the means in which we learn, and grow, and are challenged to answer his invitation to serve him and our neighbor.

As I reflect on 2023 as your pastor, and a child of God, I am struck by all the folks who give of their time, their energy, their talents, and/or their offerings day after day, week after week, month after month. How valuable each and every one of them is to God's work here and I thank them for their willingness to say "Yes Lord" over and over again. Thank you to each person who goes beyond their comfort zone to lend a hand in a new way or encourages others to join in God's work as well. Blessed are those who continue to advocate for congregational health and strength, and who seek to bring our congregations beyond any struggles and changes to hopeful and mutual care of the whole body of Christ.

In January of 2023, the Concordia and Redeemer congregations said yes to the beginning of a parish ministry for our faith communities. In March we began that agreement. It is no easy task to venture into such changes and the sharing of a pastor and ministry programs. And yet, you are doing it very well. As congregations you are bringing together the people, of all ages, and the resources necessary to carry out and accomplish the ministry needs of our two congregations and beyond. I thank the leaders of the Church Councils for the faithful attention to the mission and ministry needs at Redeemer and Concordia. Thank you also to the leaders of the boards and committees that assist in bringing ministry to life, keeping the doors open, and guiding our work. I especially thank our staff members who dedicate themselves to the work of these churches and go beyond their job descriptions and serve our congregations and our Lord in very generous ways.

While the written Annual Report is a valuable tool for every faith community, it cannot contain or lift-up all that we have been about in this past year. For instance, I would not be able to get down on these pages all the sweet conversations I have had with folks week after week, or share all the stories that the children and youth have touched my heart with throughout the year. How could I possibly put into words the numerous meaningful conversations I have had in the homes, or at the hospital bedsides, or after worship, or in my office, or around the meal table with people in need, people in grief, people who are celebrating, people who are unhappy, people who are angry or hurting, or people who have a lot of unanswered questions. I would love to be able to list all the joyful moments from our worshipping together, our singing together, our laughing together, or our serving together but that would for sure double the size of this book and nobody wants that. ☺ It is truly a privilege to be your pastor and I appreciate your partnership in ministry.

I am thankful for the ability to spend time away in continuing education and spiritual care. Time of refreshment for the mind, body and spirit are important for all of us and I certainly have valued my time in spiritual care, preaching classes, book studies, text studies, Blue Earth River Conference meetings, colleague groups, assemblies and sabbath rest.

As we move into the work of 2024 together, I am grateful to know that we do not do any of this work alone. For as our God calls us into the world to do his work he walks with us, ever present. He also provides us with one another for this journey, so that you and I can share with one another in the joys and sorrows, or the celebrations and struggles that come our way as we worship and serve and grow and love as the body of Christ in the world. May God continue to guide our ways as we work to fulfill the call he has placed in our lives as his baptized children.

In His Grace and Peace,

Rev. Kristi Mitchell

2023 GENERAL FUND GIVING ANALYSIS

By Households

<u>Dollar Range</u>	<u>Total dollars in each range</u>	<u>Giving households in each range</u>	
\$0.00	\$0.00	63	
\$0.01 - \$50.00	\$360.00	9	
\$50.01 - \$100.00	\$160.00	2	
\$100.01 - \$200.00	\$563.00	3	
\$200.01 - \$300.00	\$753.04	3	
\$300.01 - \$400.00	\$800.00	2	
\$400.01 - \$500.00	\$950.00	2	
\$500.01 - \$600.00	\$600.00	1	
\$600.01 - \$700.00	\$3,220.00	5	
\$700.01 - \$800.00	\$800.00	1	
\$800.01 - \$900.00	\$0.00	0	
\$900.01 - \$1000.00	\$0.00	0	
\$1000.01 - \$1500.00	\$4,005.00	3	
\$1500.01 - \$2000.00	\$12,855.00	7	
\$2000.01 - \$3000.00	\$19,852.00	8	
\$3000.01 - \$4000.00	\$17,282.14	5	
\$4000.01 - \$5000.00	\$14,002.00	3	
\$5000.01 - \$6000.00	\$16,670.00	3	
\$6000.01 - \$7000.00	<u>\$13,239.88</u>	<u>2</u>	
Total Envelope Offerings	\$106,112.06	122	Total Households
Total Loose Plate Offerings	<u>\$1,466.52</u>		
Total General Fund Offerings	\$107,578.58		

Concordia Lutheran Church of Pickerel Lake
2023 General Offering Monthly Breakdown

<u>Month</u>	<u>Total Amount</u>
January	\$ 10,079.88
February	\$ 19,740.38
March	\$ 7,809.76
April	\$ 7,492.90
May	\$ 6,178.88
June	\$ 5,221.88
July	\$ 6,581.88
August	\$ 4,550.88
September	\$ 7,900.50
October	\$ 10,168.50
November	\$ 8,816.50
December	\$ <u>13,036.64</u>
Total giving for 2023	\$ 107,578.58

2023 Household - Member breakdown

122	All Households
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222 All members listed as **Active** Members

76 All members listed as **Inactive** Members

298	Total Members
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32 **Those listed as Non Members**

Board of Church Properties Report 2023

Snow removal for 2023 went well. I would like to thank everyone who helped with that project.

We did minor maintenance at the church. There was minor hail damage on the church.

The parsonage is empty but is being maintained.

The ladies restroom in basement was updated.

Thank you to the Wallin Family for mowing the church and parsonage lawn.

Ring cameras were ordered by Pastor and installed by Bob Wittmer who has also cleaned up dead trees on church property.

Submitted by Gordy Toenges

Board of Lay Ministry Report 2023

In 2023 the deacons of Concordia Lutheran Church assisted with worship that includes communion. The board also has the responsibility of compiling a monthly list of members to assist with ushering and reading the Sunday lesson. Lay ministry also is responsible for the care of the altar candles and purchasing of communion wine.

The Board of Lay Ministry wishes to thank all the members who have assisted throughout the year with services it is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted.
Lynn Krueger

2023 SUNDAY SCHOOL

Finances

1/1/23 \$2,054.89 Beginning balance

06-Feb \$30.50 Offering

06 - Mar \$23.00 Offering

20- Mar \$9.25 Offering

01- May \$38.85 Offering

\$101.60 Total Offering

Other Income/Deposits

26-May \$25.00 Dokken Memorial

24-Mar \$1564.56 closed the youth checking account

\$1,589.56 Total Income

Expenses

13-Oct \$85.00 Amy Schmidt for Wednesday faith night (food and supplies)

09-Nov \$60.00 Amy Schmidt for Wednesday faith night (food and supplies)

\$145.00 Total Expenses

\$3,601.05 Checkbook balance

\$1,191.24 VBS Checkbook balance

Christian Education Report 2023

- We had VBS June 25th-29th
- Confirmation have been meeting on Wednesdays we have 4 students
- Youth groups with Redemeer have been meeting once a month. There are Pickeral Lake kids participating.
- Started with Faith night in October in conjunction with Confirmation the second Wednesday of the month. Five kids have been attending.

Youth Ministry Annual Report 2023

The Youth Group of Concordia and Redeemer have gathered together in fun and meaningful ways throughout the past year. We began the year with an exciting sledding event in Albert Lea. Then in February the students united in an evening of Random Acts of Kindness giving out gift cards for food, gas and groceries to a variety of people. It was a time of mission with a whole bunch of joy and excitement.

During March and the Lenten season, the students served our congregations as they assisted in leading our worship services. The Youth Group continued serving the congregations by creating Easter cards which were sent to our homebound and elders in April. Our group traveled to Fairmont at the end of April for an afternoon of bowling and burgers.

We celebrated a faith milestone for our 9th grade students with a Confirmation Sunday as they affirmed their baptism and faith at both Redeemer and Concordia. We honored our high school senior graduates during worship in May and gave thanks for their accomplishments. The confirmation students of both congregations came together for an end of the year picnic and outdoor games in May as well.

In September we resumed our joint confirmation classes and began gathering for Youth Group with a campfire, smores and outdoor games. October's event was focused on Halloween with pumpkin bowling, pumpkin decorating, snacks and roasting pumpkin seeds. The students created new Birthday Bags for the Alden Food Shelf. The bags will be given to people who utilize the Food Shelf. The youth also created Thanksgiving cards that were sent out to the elders of Concordia and Redeemer.

We ended the year in December sharing in a meal, baking and decorating Christmas cookies, and making ornaments for our homebound and nursing home members. We look forward to the fun and excitement and mission opportunities in the next year.

Submitted by Pastor Kristi Mitchell

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN OF PICKEREL LAKE

2023 CEMETERY REPORT

GENERAL FUND MONEY

HOME FEDERAL CHECKING:

BALANCE ON HAND – January 1, 2023..... \$ 18317.62

INCOME:

Interest from CDs.....	\$ 117.51
Interest from Government Bonds	\$ 326.42
Concordia Pickerel Lake Church (2023 church mowings)	\$ 675.00
Concordia Pickerel Lake Church (2023 parsonage mowings)	\$ 675.00
Bayview Funeral Home.....	\$ 625.00
Bonnerup Funeral Home.....	\$ 50.00
Grave Sites (Politz).....	\$ 480.00
Union Bank & Trust (W Schmidt).....	\$ 5610.80
Harlen Lutteke Trust.....	\$ 2365.00
Trade & Labor Federal Credit Union (Eric Nelson).....	\$ 900.00
Memorials & Gifts.....	\$ 2935.00

TOTAL INCOME..... \$ 14759.73

EXPENSES:

Lawn Mowing/Cemetery (9).....	\$ 1845.00
Lawn Mowing/Church Yard (9).....	\$ 675.00
Lawn Mowing/Parsonage (9).....	\$ 675.00
Schrader Enterprises (spray).....	\$ 269.00
John Morgan (metal detector).....	\$ 124.99
Todd Politz (Grave Sites Buy Back).....	\$ 800.00

TOTAL EXPENSES..... \$ 4388.99

BALANCE ON HAND – DECEMBER 31, 2023..... \$ 28688.36

HOME FEDERAL PASSBOOK SAVINGS (General Fund):

BALANCE ON HAND – January 1, 2023..... \$10870.27

INCOME:

Interest.....	\$ 5.44
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TOTAL INCOME..... \$ 5.44

EXPENSES:

None.....	\$ 0.00
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BALANCE ON HAND – DECEMBER 31, 2023..... \$10875.71

PERPETUAL CARE MONEY

HOME FEDERAL PASSBOOK SAVINGS (Perpetual Care Fund):

BALANCE ON HAND – January 1, 2023..... \$ 26114.07

INCOME:

Grave Sites \$ 4320.00

(Politz x 12)

Interest.....\$ 14.20

Misc Gifts/Memorials.....\$ 10.00

TOTAL INCOME..... \$ 4344.20

TOTAL EXPENSES:..... \$ 0.00

BALANCE ON HAND – DECEMBER 31, 2023..... \$ 30458.27

OTHER PERPETUAL CARE RESOURCES:

2 Perpetual Care CD's..... \$ 36483.98

Thrivent Mutual Funds..... \$ 11792.43 (as of 6/30/23)

In 2023 Concordia Lutheran Cemetery received memorials in memory of the following:

Harlan Lutteke

John Perschbacher

Marilyn Horning

Kim Politz

Leann Knutson

Derald Morfitt

Barb Gilbertson

John Herteb

Lehrayn Harkman

LaMoyne Heidemann

Eric Nelson

Dick Tavis

Louis Tomschin

Wanda Lande

David Mullenbach

Robert Beck

Board of Stewardship Report

2023 General Fund Activity and 2024 Budget

General Fund Activity Summary:

Our member contributions for 2023 were \$107,578.58

Our member contributions in 2022 were \$101,095.93

Our expenses for 2023 were \$107,472.00

2024 Budget Summary:

Projected expenses for 2024 are: \$110,460.00

Concordia Lutheran Church of Pickerel
Budget Worksheet by Account

Account	Budget 2023 This Year	2023 Actual	Budget 2024 Next Year
Expense Accounts			
Major 01, Program			
Minor 01, Christian Education			
00 Christian Education	0	0	0
01 Sunday School Materials	300	0	50
02 VBS	0	0	0
03 Confirmation	100	170	100
Minor, Christian Education:	400	170	150
Minor 02, Worship & Music			
00 Worship & Music	0	0	0
01 Music & Books	750	59	300
02 Summer Bulletin Inserts	50	42	50
03 Misc. Worship Supplies	1,200	1,184	1200
Minor, Worship & Music:	2,000	1,285	1,550
Minor 03, Stewardship			
00 Offering Envelopes	300	323	300
01 Tithel.ly Service Fees	50	32	50
02 Vanco Service Fees	120	131	120
03 Devotionals	250	248	250
Minor, Stewardship:	720	734	720
Major, Program:	3,170	2,189	3,170
Major 02, General			
Minor 01, Pastor (Salary/Benefits)			
00 Personnel Expenses	0	0	0
01 Pastor's Salary	25,800	24,454	25697
02 Pension, Ins & Disability	15,971	16,066	15050
03 Pastor Furnishing Allowance	0	1,200	1200
04 Continuing Ed/Prof Exp	650	515	650
05 Pastor Social Security	1,974	1,962	2058
06 Pastor's Cell Phone	255	220	225
07 Pastor's Internet	300	300	450
Minor, Pastor (Salary/Benefits):	44,950	44,717	45330
Minor 02, Mileage Reimbursement			
00 Mileage Reimbursement	1,050	966	1000
Minor, Mileage Reimbursement:	1,050	966	1000
Minor 03, Administration Secretary			
00 Administration Secretary	16,200	16,200	16,200
Minor, Administration Secretary:	16,200	16,200	16,200
Minor 04, Custodian			
00 Custodian	5,000	5,535	5,400
Minor, Custodian:	5,000	5,535	5,400

Account	Budget 2023 This Year	2023 Actual	Budget 2024 Next Year
Minor 05, Organist			
00 Organist	4,200	3,360	3,500
01 Supply Organist	600	300	400
Minor, Organist:	4,800	3,660	3,900
Minor 06, Supply Pastor			
00 Supply Pastor	375	494	550
Minor, Supply Pastor:	375	494	550
Minor 07, Payroll Taxes - Employer			
00 Payroll Taxes - Employer	1,400	1,920	2,000
Minor, Payroll Taxes - Employer:	1,400	1,920	2,000
Minor 09, Office Expenses			
00 Office Expenses	0	0	0
01 Bank Charges	0	0	0
02 Computer/Equip/Software	750	1,447	1500
03 Copier Contracts	2,300	1,796	1,700
04 Misc. Church Expenses	500	63	250
05 Other Office Supplies Exp	500	23	250
06 Safe Deposit Box Rent	30	30	30
07 Paper Supplies/Bulletins	500	197	250
08 Phone/Internet/Web Site	1,600	1,664	1,600
09 Postage	350	265	350
Minor, Office Expenses:	6,530	5,485	5,930
Minor 10, Other Operating Expenses			
00 Other Operating Expenses	0	0	
01 Conference Dues	85	65	70
02 Mandatory Synod Conferenc	500	469	500
05 Fellowship Food Expense	0	0	0
Minor, Other Operating Expenses:	585	534	570
Major, General:	80,890	79,511	80,880
Major 03, General Property			
Minor 01, Church Utilities			
00 Utilities-Church	0	0	0
01 Electric	5,000	3,304	4,500
02 LP Gas	7,000	7,443	7,500
Minor, Church Utilities:	12,000	10,747	12,000
Minor 02, Parsonage Utilities			
00 Utilities-Parsonage	0	0	0
01 Electric-Parsonage	800	699	800
02 LP Gas-Parsonage	1,000	1,063	1,200
03 Parsonage Maintenance	1,500	742	800
Minor, Parsonage Utilities:	3,300	2,504	2,800
Minor 03, Taxes & Insurance			
00 Property Taxes	0	0	0
01 Property Taxes	50	55	60
02 Insurance-Liability & WC	6,000	6,098	6,000
Minor, Taxes & Insurance:	6,050	6,153	6,060

Account	Budget 2023 This Year	2023 Actual	Budget 2024 Next Year
Minor 04, Property Expenses			
00 Property Expenses	0	0	0
01 Garbage Removal	650	626	650
02 Lawn Mowing	2,200	1,350	2,000
03 Church Maint/Mech/Misc.	1,000	2,062	1,100
04 Custodial Supplies/Equip	1,200	1,170	1,200
05 Elevator Maintenance	1,300	1,160	1,300
Minor, Property Expenses:	6,350	6,368	6,250
Major, General Property:	27,700	25,772	27,110
Total Expense:	111,710	107,472	110,460

Miscellaneous Income

Miscellaneous Income

Fiscal Year 2023

Financial Statement in U.S. Dollars

Income

FC Co-op 2019-2020 Retirement Stock	546.40	
Hy-Vee Charge Account Overpayment	15.00	
WCTA Patronage Dividend	158.66	
FC-Coop 2021 Retirement Stock	194.07	
FC-Coop 2022 Retirement Stock	231.27	
Distribution of Equity 2023	385.75	
Interest Income	14.39	
Total Income		1,545.54

Dedicated Mission Support Statement

Dedicated Mission Support

Fiscal Year 2023

Financial Statement in U.S. Dollars

Beginning Balance	
Beginning Balance	486.80
Expenses	
Mission Support	1,086.80
Total Expenses	1,086.80
Income	
Mission Support Offering	100.00
Mission Support Offering	150.00
Mission Support Offering	400.00
Interest Paid	0.05
Total Income	650.05
Ending Balance	
Ending Balance	50.05

Thrivent Statement

Dedicated Thrivent

Fiscal Year 2023

Financial Statement in U.S. Dollars

Beginning Balance

Beginning Balance	0.00	
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Expenses

Thrivent Money to WELCA	2,583.00	
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Total Expenses		2,583.00
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Income

Thrivent Grant Payment	101.00	
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Thrivent Grant Payment	154.00	
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Thrivent Grant Payment	714.00	
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Thrivent Grant Payment	51.00	
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Thrivent Grant Payment	72.00	
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Thrivent Grant Payment	94.00	
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Thrivent Grant Payment	11.00	
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Thrivent Grant Payment	17.00	
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Thrivent Grant Payment	56.00	
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Thrivent Grant Payment	1,240.00	
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Thrivent Grant Payment	73.00	
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Total Income		2,583.00
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Ending Balance

Ending Balance	0.00	
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Dedicated Youth Fund

Dedicated Youth Fund

Fiscal Year 2023

Financial Statement in U.S. Dollars

Beginning Balance			
Beginning Balance		0.00	
Expenses			
Moved to Memorial CD		290.89	
Total Expenses			290.89
Income			
Deposit		2,752.61	
Donation for Confirmation		100.00	
Total Income			2,852.61
Ending Balance			
Ending Balance		2,561.72	

Maintenance Savings Statement

Maintenance Savings

Fiscal Year 2023

Financial Statement in U.S. Dollars

Beginning Balance

Beginning Balance	32,907.54
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Expenses

Moved to Maintenance CD	20,000.00
Jim & Dudes Women's Bathroom	2,022.90
R&R Flooring - Bathroom Floor Tile	2,637.50
Total Expenses	24,660.40

Income

Interest Earned	25.71
Interest Earned	6.45
North Star Insurance Check - roofs	77,741.35
Interest Earned	18.15
Interest Earned	75.90
Total Income	77,867.56

Ending Balance

Ending Balance	86,114.70
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Memorial Savings Statement

Memorial Savings

Fiscal Year 2023

Financial Statement in U.S. Dollars

Beginning Balance		
Beginning Balance	22,277.56	
Expenses		
Moved to Memorial CD	25,000.00	
Total Expenses		25,000.00
Income		
In Memory of John Perschbacher	590.00	
Lowell & William Schmidt Charitable Trust	14,027.00	
Harlan Lutteke Memorial	5,000.00	
Interest Earned	12.03	
Interest Earned	8.43	
In Memory of Bob Beck	850.00	
Interest Earned	8.56	
Interest Earned	8.96	
Total Income		20,504.98
Ending Balance		
Ending Balance	17,782.54	

R-W-H Savings Statement

R-W-H Savings

Fiscal Year 2023

Financial Statement in U.S. Dollars

Beginning Balance		
Beginning Balance	17,997.00	
Expenses		
Moved to R-W-H CD	18,004.79	
Total Expenses		18,004.79
Income		
Interest Earned	7.79	
Total Income		7.79
Ending Balance		
Ending Balance	0.00	

Maintenance Certificate Statement

Maintenance Certificate

Fiscal Year 2023

Financial Statement in U.S. Dollars

Beginning Balance			
Beginning Balance		0.00	
Expenses			
	Total Expenses		
Income			
New CD		20,000.00	
Interest Income		100.32	
Interest Income		100.82	
Interest Income		100.23	
	Total Income		20,301.37
Ending Balance			
Ending Balance		20,301.37	

Memorial Certificate Statement

Memorial Certificate

Fiscal Year 2023

Financial Statement in U.S. Dollars

Beginning Balance

Beginning Balance	0.00	
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Expenses

Total Expenses		
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Income

New CD	25,000.00	
Interest Income	125.40	
Interest Income	126.03	
Interest Income	125.28	
Total Income		25,376.71

Ending Balance

Ending Balance	25,376.71	
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R-W-H Certificate Statement

R-W-H Certificate

Fiscal Year 2023

Financial Statement in U.S. Dollars

Beginning Balance			
Beginning Balance		0.00	
Expenses			
	Total Expenses		
Income			
New CD		18,004.79	
Interest Income		90.31	
Interest Income		90.76	
Interest Income		90.23	
	Total Income		18,276.09
Ending Balance			
Ending Balance		18,276.09	

Youth Certificate Statement

Youth Certificate

Fiscal Year 2023

Financial Statement in U.S. Dollars

Beginning Balance

Beginning Balance	22,743.23
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Expenses

Moved to New Youth CD	20,000.00	
Early Withdrawal Penalty	11.37	
Transfer to Dedicated Youth Fund	2,752.61	
Total Expenses		22,763.98

Income

Interest Income	20.75	
New CD	20,000.00	
Interest Income	100.32	
Interest Income	100.82	
Interest Income	100.23	
Total Income		20,322.12

Ending Balance

Ending Balance	20,301.37
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December 15, 2023

Concordia Lutheran Church of Pickerel Lake
69471 190th St
Albert Lea, MN 56007-5485

Dear Concordia Lutheran Church of Pickerel Lake,

I hope this letter finds you well and filled with the joy of knowing the profound impact you've had on the education of future church leaders! Your steadfast support of scholarships at Luther Seminary is truly the lifeblood of our mission. Enclosed please find information on the scholarship funds you support, the names of this year's awardees, and current fund values.

Your dedication enables talented and innovative students to answer their calls to ministry. Here are some compelling highlights:

- **138 students** graduated in the class of 2023, sent to do God's work in the world and to make an impact on countless people.
- **67% of students graduated last year with no student loans.** Donor sources made up 96% of all of our operating support.
- **Luther Seminary awarded 439 scholarships in 2022-3!**

Without your support, many talented students who feel a call to ministry would not be able to serve. Thank you so much.

If you have any questions or comments about your report, please contact me at dsassenberg001@luthersem.edu or 651-641-3530. Thank you for the transformative impact you continue to have. We are all deeply grateful for your support!

Sincerely,



Dan Sassenberg, CFRE
Senior Director of Advancement



Marie Toenges Endowed Scholarship Fund

Fund Number: 23352-13300

The Marie Toenges Endowed Scholarship Fund was established in July, 1989, by the estate of Marie Toenges, following her death in October, 1988, at the age of ninety-six. Marie was an active lay leader in her congregation, Concordia Lutheran Church of Pickerel Lake, Minn., who wanted to strengthen Luther Seminary as an important training ground for the future leaders of the church. This fund provides financial support for deserving students enrolled in any degree program.

Financial Summary	Fiscal year ending 6/30/2022	Fiscal year ending 6/30/2023
Value of the fund's investments:	\$29,998.14	\$29,450.93
Total gifts to the fund:	\$26,987.64	\$26,987.64
Investment earnings available to spend on scholarships:	\$1,322.09	\$1,415.88

Student(s) Receiving an Award:

Mara Stillson, Master of Arts

WELCA 2023 Annual Report

We had one official meeting on November 28th.

Our outreach projects this year were:

Making 20 family health kits for distribution to Alden School Families through Spirit of Christmas.

Quilters made 158 60"X80" quilts and 9 40"X60" Baby quilts. 173 were distributed: 58 to Lutheran World Relief, 9 to an Orphanage in Bogota, Columbia, and 106 locally.

We served 3 funerals.

7 Christmas gifts were distributed to Concordia shut-ins in December.

\$2200 was distributed to various organizations for our WELCA Christmas Outreach.

We planned a WELCA social to help members learn how to make our communion bread and to learn to tie quilts on Jan. 24th, 2024.

WELCA Financial Report 2023

\$ 6,283.92
Income

Beginning Balance

\$ 4,423.00 Thrivent
 \$ 1,050.00 Memorials/Funerals/Gifts
 \$ 3.00 Fair Quilt Premium
 \$ 585.00 Thankoffering

\$ 6,061.00

Total Deposits

Expenses

2475.00 Christmas Gift Outreach
 \$75.47 Kitchen Supplies
 \$21.90 Cradle Roll
 New Christmas
 \$152.97 Decorations
 \$100.00 Shipping Quilts
 \$337.32 Quilting
 \$58.06 Funeral Flowers/Confirmation Flowers

\$3,220.72

Totals Expenses

\$ 9,124.20

**Checking Account Balance Ending
 2023**

\$ 1,691.84

Savings Account Balance

\$ 10,816.04

WELCA Total on Hand

Submitted By: Jenni
 Miller

12/31/2023

NOVEMBER 2023

The Altar Guild met at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 28, 2023, in conjunction with the WELCA meeting. Thirteen members were present. Sandy Morgan opened the meeting. Cathy Wittmer read the minutes from the November 2022 meeting.

Sandy appreciates how everyone is taking care of their responsibilities each month. Seventeen poinsettias have been ordered for Christmas. She reserved twenty at Hy-Vee. She mentioned that we need 18 Easter lilies to fill the cross for Easter Sunday and two for the altar.

Members have the option of turning in a bill to Jenni Miller if you would like to be reimbursed for what you spend on altar flowers.

Sandy once again reminded us to fill the Communion cups just $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{2}{3}$ full with wine. Check the linens to make sure they are clean after a Communion service. Sandy will purchase a new cloth for the breadbasket.

Pastor Kristi likes the Communion bread cut into bite size pieces. A pizza cutter works well.

A bread making class will be held on Wednesday, January 24th at 5:30 pm at Donna Nelson's home.

Please return the Altar Guild church key to Sandy if it is not needed.

Lynn questioned whether the Communion wine should be refrigerated. The general consensus was no, but to perhaps to buy a smaller amount at one time. It was also mentioned to never dump the leftover Communion wine down the drain or put the bread into the garbage. It either has to be consumed or placed outside on the ground behind the church.

We are in need of three additional Altar Guild members to complete the months of February, April and November. Otherwise, the 2024 Altar Guild schedule will remain the same.

Submitted by Cathy Wittmer