



CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
WORSHIPING TOGETHER



2023 Annual Report Christ Lutheran Church



2011 Brandon Avenue SW, Roanoke, Virginia 24015

540)982-8334, christlutheranroanoke.org

<https://www.facebook.com/christlutheranroanoke>

Trustees

Bill
Thomas
Charles

2023 Officers

President Chip
Vice-President Bob
Secretary Joan
Treasurer Jim
Financial Sec. Joyce

Church Council

Term Expiring 1/2025

Joan
Amy
Robin
Thomas

Term Expiring 1/2026

Lynne
Bob
Bob
Chip

Term Expiring 1/2027

Cheri
Mark
Carol
Parker

Youth Rep. Expiring 1/2025

Alex

Noah's Landing Preschool

Director:

Diana Pilat
2011 Brandon Ave
Roanoke, VA 24015
Office: 540) 982-2254
noahslandingpreschool.org

Officials & Staff for 2024

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

540)982-8334

www.christlutheranroanoke.org

Senior Pastor

The Rev. K. David Skole
pastordavid@christlutheranroanoke.org

Pastor

The Rev. Cynthia Keyser
pastorcindy@christlutheranroanoke.org

Organist

Director of Church Music

Nancy nancykellerdelaney@gmail.com

New Song Minister of Music

Kim
Kimmuch58@gmail.com

Church Office Administrator

Fiona
secretary@christlutheranroanoke.org

Updated: January 28, 2024

NOTES:

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**Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church
Recap of Investments with Wells Fargo Advisors by Fund**

ACCOUNT BALANCE as of December 31, 2023 \$ 1,720,583.76

Fund	Dedicated Fund Name	Year End Value by Fund
1	Liz Cadora Scholarship	\$ 17,986.15
2	Playground Fund	\$ 2,574.98
3	Miscellaneous Memorials	\$ 8,167.49
4	Ould Memorial	\$ 149,387.08
5	Overstreet Estate	\$ 43,960.85
6	Ministerial Scholarship Fund	\$ 5,812.58
7	Himes Estate	\$ 7,647.66
8	Brugh Estate	\$ 4,913.85
9	Thompson Estate	\$ 12,007.62
10	Lionberger Memorial Fund	\$ 3,199.26
11	Tusing Estate	\$ 350,301.84
12	Stultz Memorial	\$ 508,980.98
13	Jerry Higginbotham Memorial Scholarship Fund	\$ 224,867.68
14	Steinle Memorial	\$ 13,632.38
15	Esther Whitman Memorial	\$ 874.54
16	Columbarium Fund	\$ 12,857.90
17	Ed Martin Fund	\$ 26,429.62
18	Stained Glass Maintenance Fund	\$ 12,117.39
19	Heidi Clatterbuck Estate	\$ 20,162.57
20	Elizabeth Crowgey Young Fund	\$ 29.93
21	Madge Clark Estate Fund	\$ 53,791.64
22	** Christ Church Reserve Fund	\$ 158,981.17
23	Noah's Landing Reserve Fund	\$ 46,818.21
24	Capital Campaign Fund	\$ 14,577.79
25	SOS/Pastor's Discretion (15-20)	\$ 10,251.30
26	RR/Pastor's Discret Fund (15-44)	\$ 10,251.30
TOTAL as of	December 31, 2023	\$1,720,583.76

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Annual Report from Senior Pastor Dave – 2023

“But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and not be faint.” (Isaiah 40:31)

What a year we have been through. Challenges and opportunities abounded throughout the last twelve months and we as the Body of Christ rose up to meet them and not only survive but thrive. We are a blessed congregation of loving and dedicated disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ. We have weathered the storm of health challenges, financial challenges and persevered by the Grace of God and the power of the Holy Spirit.

As we experienced the loss of dear friends, we grieved together, supported one another, and worked to lift up one another in times of sadness. The Joy of the Lord is indeed our strength as we seek to love as God loves us. We cry and laugh together and honor those who have gone on and lean on each other to move forward day by day.

The Body of Christ is made up of the diverse gifted people among us who share of their selves and their talents in so many ways to do the work of the Lord here at Christ’s church and in the world beyond. Your willingness to welcome the stranger, feed the hungry, visit the sick and care for all people as if they might be angels in our midst is exemplary.

We truly have shown that our hope is in the Lord and that we can rely on God to renew our strength day by day. 2024 can be a year of soaring eagles, powerful runners, and those who will walk with others in service to all the people of God.

May the Lord continue to bless us and empower us to be a Blessing to all. Thanks be to God!

*In Peace,
Pastor Dave*

Average Sunday Church Attendance

YEAR	JA	FEB	MA	APR	MA	JU	JUL	AU	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AVG
2023	91	94	95	126	107	103	106	97	107	114	124	118	107
ONLINE	412	351	278	426	324	379	299	518	306	328	379	383	365
2022	59	72	99	145	96	96	75	83	95	88	96	120	94
ONLINE	390	310	214	190	198	248	243	224	224	281	259	280	255
2021	43	33	51	77	64	66	101	100	89	88	88	98	75
ONLINE	654	536	455	488	337	258	320	248	261	220	214	182	348
2020	182	193	161	N/A	75	70	55	57	65	49	64	54	93
ONLINE	N/A	N/A	991	1631	764	525	512	460	385	418	413	458	656
2019	162	174	175	223	180	167	160	153	173	191	185	229	181

Pastor Cindy's 2023 Annual Report

2023 Statistics

MEMBERS RECEIVED

BAPTISM:

Tread 7/30, Ridge 7/30, Theodore 10/15, William 11/19, Pierce 11/19.

CONFIRMED:

Kaya and Levi 5/28.

TRANSFERRED IN:

Ian, Sue, Lindy, Arielle Bakken, Janet, Mary, Judy, Parker.

MEMBERS REMOVED

DEATHS:

Stanley 1/13, Harry 2/9, Patricia 2/20, Boyd 4/13, John 5/14, Judith 8/12, Betty 9/27, Milton (Ed) 10/4, Gregory 10/23, John 11/7, Teresa 11/20.

TRANSFERRED OUT:

Cary & Jeanne 5/15, Deb 7/31, Anita & David 8/10, Kelly & Tim 11/1.

Yours Respectfully,
Fiona

“For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body... (1 Corinthians 12:12-13a)

Dear Friends in Christ,

Thanks be to God for the faith Christ Lutheran has been given and shared in 2023! Thank you to all of you for your willingness to serve, your care for one another, and your desire to grow in faith! 2023 has been a year of welcoming, reconnecting, and growing in relationship with God and one another.

The worship schedule we began in 2022 continues to serve us well. The Drive-in service at 9:00 am each Sunday is still providing joyful, meaningful worship beyond its “COVID” beginnings. In November, we moved inside to stay warm, but our “Casual Worship” continues to provide an uplifting experience. Thank you to Josh for keeping our services running, looking great online, and sounding good no matter how one participates! And thanks to Matt and Sean for their assistance. Thanks to Nancy, Kim and our awesome praise band for leading us in song each week! Our 11:00 am traditional worship service continues to expand as well. Thank you to Sue, Joan and the Worship and Music Committee for their thoughtful work behind the scenes. From worship planning to bulletin publishing, scheduling and serving to showing up to worship, many people make our worship services happen. We are blessed indeed.

Each Sunday between services we gather “Together @ 10”! Beginning in September we increased our intergenerational gatherings to twice a month. It is a true joy to learn and grow together with people of all ages. On alternate Sundays, we meet in age-level groups for more learning fun. If you haven’t made it to Together @ 10, try it out in 2024. You’ll be glad you did! Once again, a highlight of the year was our second annual Intergenerational Christmas Pageant, “Shepherds, Angels, and YOU.” Our cast included Christ Lutheran members age 0-104! Thank you so much to Kate, Donna, Lynne, Joan, Sue, Ed and so many others who keep us going and growing!

In 2023, Kaya and Levi affirmed their baptism in the rite of Confirmation. Confirmation ministry with 6th through 8th grade students continues through group gatherings, student/mentor conversations, and family projects. In the fall of 2023, our monthly group gatherings have grown to include Lutheran youth from around the Roanoke Valley. Each month we gather before the Roanoke Valley Lutheran Youth events. That group is growing as well in relationships and faith (and numbers). A big thanks to

my pastor and youth leader colleagues from around the valley for their willingness to serve and to work together!

In the summer of 2023 our Vacation Bible School took on a different format. “Journey Together: VBS for Everyone” was a delightful experience for people of all ages. We gathered on a Friday evening, Saturday morning/afternoon, and Sunday morning to connect, learn, eat and play together. Watch for details about weekend VBS this summer!

From July to November, I had the marvelous opportunity to meet in small groups with many of you. We talked about ourselves, our passions, and our hopes for the church. Check out the Evangelism section of this Annual Report for more details. Thank you to the Evangelism Team – Amy and Diane – for supporting, encouraging and facilitating this marvelous opportunity!

I am blessed beyond measure for the opportunity to serve as one of your pastors and I am looking forward to the ministry we will share in 2024 and beyond!

*In Peace,
Pastor Cindy*

Director of Church Music **2023 Annual Report**

This year we added the receiving of the offering at the 11 AM service, so now our traditional service is much the same as it was before the pandemic.

I continue to change musical settings of the liturgy at different seasons of the liturgical year, and continue to select the hymns, and work together with the pastors on worship planning. For the outdoor service I continue to play keyboard one Sunday a month, with Kim taking musical leadership on the other Sundays.

I am grateful to our choir for their faithful attendance at weekly rehearsals and services, and for their commitment to liturgical worship and leadership. Selecting and planning the music they sing has been a challenge for me at times. I found great resources for small choirs this summer when I attended the national conference of the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians (ALCM). I thank Christ Lutheran for making it possible for me to attend these conferences as part of my continuing education. Some of the music you have heard the choir sing in recent months was music I discovered at the conference.

I give thanks to the Pastors, staff, Congregation Council and members of Christ Lutheran for their continued support of the music ministry program and my work as Director of Church Music.

*Respectfully submitted,
Nancy*

Habitat for Humanity An International Movement to build homes for those in need. We continue to participate in the building of homes for families in our community who are willing to work on and pay for their own homes. This year will participate in an “Apostle’s Build “ home for a deserving mother and her children, If you would like to participate, contact Pastor Dave.

Social Club {this is an outreach to approximately 20 adults who live in subsidized assistant living and seek interaction and hospitality to promote health and vitality.} We meet two Thursdays a month and provide a meal and activities to uplift the lives of all. If interested, please contact Wanda.

Other ministries we support include: The West End Center, The RAM House, St. Francis Food Bank, CHIP (child health), and Caroline Furnace Camp.

LIFE & Women’s Events Committee **2023 Annual Report**

CRAZY SANTA CHRISTMAS PARTY

Our Christmas gathering for women happened on the evening of December 11. This fellowship event, held at the home of Bev, opened with potluck appetizers and beverages. Then the 25 ladies attending blindly pulled numbers and found seats to view the choosing and opening of gifts each had brought. The Crazy Santa part of the evening happened when the exchange became the opportunity to take a gift someone had already unwrapped, thereby making that person choose another. The laughter and good times have become an annual party enjoyed together for many years.

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON WITH A MISSION

For quite a number of years, ladies of the congregation have been invited to attend a Christmas luncheon to support a worthwhile organization while enjoying a meal together. This year we joined together on Wednesday, December 13. The location has varied but has now landed in the fellowship hall. For 2023, we expanded to include gentlemen as well timing it to combine with the traditional day of Pastor’s Lunch Bunch so attendance was about 30. Our mission this time was Child Health Investment Partnership of the Roanoke Valley with emphasis on the New Mothers’ Program. Many checks and baby items were donated by our generous members who enjoyed a delicious lunch prepared by our resident chef Pastor Dave. The room was festively decorated and the good food was followed by some holiday trivia puzzles and the traditional Left-Right game of gift passing.

Bev

For the last three decades Christ Lutheran has reached out through our Social Club to provide meals and activities for over 24 adults living in assisted housing. We are blessed to welcome our friends to the church for a home cooked meal and fun activities to brighten their days.

We continue to support the jail ministry in area as well as the Child Health Investment Partnership (CHIP), the West End Center for Youth, St. Francis House Food bank and the VA Interfaith Center.

Family Promise is an ongoing ministry providing temporary housing for families in need. We provide meals and activities four weeks per year with care and compassion.

Prayerfully consider if you feel called to reach out and put into action God's Love.

RAM HOUSE LUNCHESES MINISTRY

A group of our Christ Lutheran members continue to provide for and help assemble our monthly bagged lunches for RAM House. Others continue to financially support this ministry—which we rarely need because people are so generous. We have used this financial assistance, however to give our chief cookie bakers a break in November, buying our cookies from Fresh Market instead. Many others in our congregation support this effort with prayer and with love.

We've been providing these lunches since March 2020, when the RAM House dining room was closed due to Covid. At that point, we provided 75 to 150 lunches—the 85 lunches for many months and for the past many months, we've been making 120 lunches. The need at RAM has increased because even those who have a home need an extra boost of a free meal. Now, we give our lunches the final Friday of each month, when people are most needy at the end of the month full of paying for other needs.

RAM continues to search for a new home—but in the meantime, they continue to do all they can to support “the least of these”, in Roanoke community. And we've continued to help in our own small way . . .

*With love and gratitude,
Kathy*

Family Promise An ecumenical outreach in cooperation with area congregations to provide temporary housing to families in need. We continue to partner with Raleigh Court Presbyterian and St. Elizabeth Episcopal to provide four weeks of food and support for those in need. If you are interested in supporting this ministry, please contact Georgia.

Noah's Landing Preschool **Director's Report 2023**

Noah's Landing Preschool began the 2023-2024 school year in September with a total enrollment of 36 children, which is a slight decrease in the number of students from the last school year. We have one less 2 yr. old class due to fewer enrolled students. One of our teachers moved on to a position at an elementary school, but all our other teachers remain on staff.

This school year continues to be a return to more normal procedures. We continue to clean and disinfect the toys as always, and we have had a relatively healthy start to the school year. We added several field trips back to the four-year old curriculum (Virginia Western Arboretum, Brandon Oaks Nursing Home and visiting Santa at the History Museum's Fantasyland.)

We continue to operate with our same schedule of Monday through Thursday classes. We have early morning drop-off at 8:30 am and Lunch Bunch every day, and both options are available for an additional fee. We have additional enrichment activities such as Music/Creative Movement, Library time and Chapel time during the week. We also have after school programs with Soccer Shots and Little Leapers. We will begin registration for the 2024-2025 school year in late January - early February 2024. Preschool classes are held for children ages 12 months to 5 years old Monday - Thursday from 9am - 12noon with optional extended days until 1:00pm. The preschool continues to use several classrooms in the educational wing of the church during the week. We are very appreciative of the opportunity to use the church facilities.

The preschool curriculum centers on first-hand, direct experiences that are developmentally appropriate for young children. Opportunities for growth and development are provided in the areas of physical development (Creative Movement), social awareness, personal hygiene and safety, literature and language skills, art and creative expression, music, science and math, and spiritual growth (weekly chapel time with Pastor Dave).

Noah's Landing offers an excellent, experienced teaching staff and low teacher/student ratios. Within this atmosphere of love and trust, we hope to give each child a feeling of self-confidence and knowledge of God's love.

Diana Pilat/Director

Christian Education/Faith Formation Committee **2023 Year End Report**

In 2023, Sunday faith formation “Together @ 10” provided opportunities for people of all ages to learn and grow in faith together. From January through May, we gathered for Intergenerational learning, food and fun on the first Sunday of the month. On the other Sundays, children, youth, and adults gathered separately for Bible classes. Beginning in September, we increased our Intergenerational events to include the third Sunday of the month as well. For the month of December all ages met together each of the first three Sundays in preparation for our second annual Intergenerational Christmas Pageant. “Shepherds, Angels, and YOU” was a big hit led by a cast aged 0 to 104!

Throughout the year on Monday mornings, members met for Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall with the pastors to study the lessons for the upcoming Sunday’s worship. The Women’s Bible study met on Monday evenings as well. If you are interested in beginning or leading a Bible study group in 2024, please let Pastor Cindy know!

Faith Formation Task Group

Stewardship Committee Annual Report 2023

The Stewardship Committee focused efforts this year on an extended Stewardship and pledge campaign through the early fall. The campaign was focused not only on dedicating pledges, but also focused on the reasons we as individuals and as a congregation value our time at Christ Lutheran.

The three week campaign as presented in three parts:

I love my church

I volunteer at my church

I pledge to my church.

We engaged members and heard their many reasons why they attend and participate with the Christ Church Community.

The third week we invited members to return their pledges.

As of the congregational meeting on Dec 17, pledges were reported to be higher than this time last year.

We are encouraged for the year ahead!

*Thank you,
Blue*

helpful in fostering and creating new relationships and in making connections.

Christ Lutheran Church is filled with gardeners and readers! Many of our members and friends love hiking and spending time outside. Whether it’s singing, playing instruments or listening, our congregation loves music as well. We are passionate about caring for the needs of children and adolescents, creating and sustaining community, welcoming ALL people, reaching out to our neighbors who are hungry and/or unhoused, and caring for God’s creation.

Since the last small group in October, a number of ideas from the discussions have been implemented. Table Talk groups began in January 2024. (Seven groups of 6-8 people have committed to sharing a meal together once a month for six months.) A Christ Lutheran Pickleball group has formed and meets twice a month at Garst Mill Park. A “Green Team” has begun meeting once a month. They are providing educational information, collecting eggshells for composting, and have multiple projects planned for 2024. Watch for more information to come about a new Picture Directory and Hospitality Teams to provide meals for those who are grieving or recovering from health issues.

In the coming year, the Evangelism Team will continue the small group discussions and work to build on the commonalities and strengths we have identified. If you have an idea you would like help implementing or if you would like to serve on the Evangelism Team, please contact Pastor Cindy, Diane or Amy!

*Respectfully Submitted,
Christ Lutheran Evangelism Team*

Christ Lutheran – Social Ministries – 2023

Throughout 2023 the gracious members of Christ Lutheran Church continued our support of impactful ministries of outreach to the greater Roanoke community.

We engage in acts of compassion and care for those outside of our church family by lifting the marginalized in our city and treating so many people with love. The many facets of this includes support of the importance of holy hospitality in feeding the hungry with activities such as continual support of our unhoused neighbors at the Rescue Mission and the Roanoke Area Ministry, (R.A.M.) House.

Many of our members actively participated in numerous buildings of houses through the Roanoke Area Habitat for Humanity. As a congregation we participated in the building of the Apostle’s House with Habitat and 24 other congregations in Roanoke.

Christ Lutheran Youth Report 2023

2023 brought some new ideas for the structure of youth activities. Most area youth groups were struggling to engage the kids in returning to church youth activities as they were “out of the habit” post Covid. The Roanoke Valley Lutheran churches pastors and youth advisors met and planned combined youth group monthly activities. Combining the groups has had a positive affect with attendance, as well as allowing us all to get to know other youth in the area.

Each church has taken a turn planning an activity for the month. Assisting Wheatland Lutheran planting a community garden, St Marks Lutheran with their food bank and clothing store, participating in National fruitcake tossing day at St Phillips, Quiz bowl at College Lutheran, and shopping for Christmas families and lock in at CLC are some of the activities we’ve enjoyed this year. We have also participated in Virginia Synod events and enjoyed being able to be housed together at these events.

We are always thankful for Pastor Cindy and Pastor Dave’s commitment to the youth and are thankful for the congregation’s support financially as well as in prayer.

*Youth Advisor
Respectfully submitted
Debbie*

Evangelism Committee Report 2023

On Sunday, March 26, the Evangelism Committee participated in an Evangelism Workshop at St. Philip Lutheran Church led by Assistant to the Bishop/Director for Evangelical Mission John. During the workshop, each group was invited to identify one action they could take within their congregation in the coming months. Our committee decided to invite the congregation to participate in one-time small discussion groups facilitated by Pastor Cindy. The purpose of the groups was two-fold: 1) to encourage community and conversation and; 2) to find areas of common interest, passion and strength from which to empower and encourage congregational ministries.

From July 5 through October 15 Pastor Cindy, met with 18 small groups of Christ Lutheran members and friends totaling 93 individuals. In each group participants were encouraged to share their connection to Christ Lutheran Church, hobbies and joys within and outside the congregation, and issues and groups about which they are passionate. In every case, the discussions were

Church Council Annual Report 2023

The Congregational Council dealt with current and long-range issues affecting the year’s operations of the church and the future of the church and its physical plant. To paraphrase the closing line from Walter Cronkite’s 1950’s television show “You Are There:” It was a year like any other year, only you were there.

We dealt with financial issues.

The departure of two stalwart members of the financial team provided an opportunity to evaluate our methods of handling money. The lingering post pandemic economy made us aware that we had to be more candid about our income and expenses.

The departure of Dan left a vacancy at the helm of the Finance Committee. Dan had been looking at the way we spent out financial assets. His successor, Jim, had a similar analytical approach, and in the budget for 2024 you will see how the collaboration of these two leaders resulted in a more realistic plan for using our financial assets for the good of the Church and its community.

Mid-year, we came to face the need to share our cash flow challenges with the congregation. Members received a letter from Church Council asking them to evaluate their financial support of God’s work, and their collective response put us on solid ground by the end of the year.

To assure that our finances were being properly managed, a three-person audit committee was appointed to provide a checks and balances of our finances. We have also restructured a staff position so that we will have continued up-to-date financial reports for the Council to monitor.

We discussed the Church’s physical plant:

Several issues made us focus on the need to provide long-range planning for the physical plant. The members of the Property Committee provided their skilled labor to replace or repair parts of the physical plant, but some issues continue to wait to be addressed – most notably the need to repair some of the stained-glass windows.

There is an additional need to “download” crucial historical information from members and staff who have a working knowledge of the utilities and the buildings. We need to have a written description of anticipated needs and known physical assets so that when the current members of the committee are basking on beaches years hence a member will have a “go-by” to help address problems as they arise. To that end, the Property Committee and other members have committed to constructing a guide to the physical plant.

(continue on next page)

Other Issues and Activities:

In addition to the finances and the physical plant, your Congregational Council addressed many issues and activities, addressed in the several committee reports.

*We approved an expansion of duties and responsibilities for our Office Administrator;

*We approved the report of the Higginbotham Scholarship Committee’s recommendation for scholarships, and the year saw an increase in the amount of each scholarship from \$500 to \$1,000;

*We supported Warren who orchestrated our annual picnic on church property, a good time was had by all; Our youth engaged in activities throughout the year benefiting many in the community.

*Church Council President,
Mike*

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church
2023 Annual Finance Committee Report

Members:	Dan, Chairperson (Jan – June)	Pastor Dave Skole
	Jim, Chairperson (July – Dec)	Diana
	Judy, Treasurer	Tom
	Joyce, Financial Secretary	Tom
	Donna	
Church Council Representative:	Mike	

The Finance Committee met three (3) times in 2023 to discuss the financial ministry of Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church. Highlights of the meetings were:

January 31, 2023

1. Presentation by Wells Fargo Advisors Representatives - Wells Fargo Advisor reps opened the meeting by reviewing in brief detail the specifics of the Diversified Stock Income Plan in which the church’s funds are invested. It was noted in the presentation that since the funds were moved to WFA at the end of 2013, the portfolio has averaged a return of 8.86% (after fees which are less than 1%). The presentation then moved to a discussion of the makeup of the church’s portfolio which consists of US Large Cap Equities (77%), US Mid-Cap Equities (20.8%), and Cash (2.1%). WFA will be making the following recommended changes to the holdings in the account – removing 2 underperforming stocks, adding 3 stocks with higher rates of return on dividends, and reducing the

Property Committee Annual Report 2023

During 2023, the Property Committee continued the maintenance of the building and the two rental houses.

Our activities this year included:

- Numerous general repairs
- Worked with HVAC contractors on several heating/cooling system issues
- Worked with roofing contractors for roof leak repairs
- Cleaned and painted portico ceiling (after roof repairs)
- Replaced the badly deteriorating exterior signage
- Held monthly Handy Folks work days

Thanks again to the Handy Folks group who continue their efforts to keep up our Church Facilities.

*Respectively Submitted;
George
Chair - Property*

Yarn ’n Prayer Annual Report 2023

We have had a wonderful year of providing prayer shawls for those that are hospitalized, in cancer treatment centers, and nursing homes, as well as Baptisms in our church family.

We continue to meet the Third Wednesday of each month at 3:30-5:00pm in the Church Parlor. We are always encouraging people to attend, and it is a good way to meet other church members.

In a small friendly and productive giving group, we teach knitting, crocheting and we have yarn supplies available to use. If you have an interest and want more information, please contact myself, or just come to a session the third Wednesday of each month.

We always need people to help deliver as well.

*Team Leader,
Rita*

Worship & Music Ministry 2023 Annual Report

The Worship and Music Committee reviews and discusses our worship experience to ensure that it is welcoming, meaningful and inspirational and emphasizes Biblical roots and rich liturgical heritage. The committee provides ongoing support for our Pastors, the Altar Guild, Choir, Ushers, Greeters and Communion assistants and lay readers, and furnishes supplies as needed. Current members are: Betty, Emily, Gudrun, Tom, Ed, Alice, Sue, Joan, Pastor Dave, Pastor Cindy and Nancy.

We continue to offer two services each Sunday; a casual service that meets in the parking lot or the fellowship hall, depending on the weather, and a traditional service in the Sanctuary. The casual service is available on Facebook live and FM radio broadcasting.

Alice coordinates and helps deliver altar flowers to members who are unable to attend services or are in the hospital. Emily schedules communion assistants and lay readers, and along with her husband Joel, changes the altar drapes and banners for each church season. Sue Vail coordinates greeters and ushers for the 11 a.m. service and Fiona schedules all the assistants for the early service. Joan & Chip continue to handle all the Altar Guild duties. Special thanks to Jean and Alice for filling in for the Schumann's on Sundays when they were out of town.

Thank you to all members of the congregation who volunteer their time and talents to ensure that our worship services remain uplifting and welcoming. A special thanks to Sue for serving as the chair for this committee for several years. We appreciate all your leadership, and your brownies were always appreciated at our meetings!

Respectfully submitted,
Joan

footprint in one stock which has gotten too large.

2. The minutes from the November 1, 2022, meeting, as well as the 4th Quarter 2022 Wells Fargo Advisors Investment Report and Reconciliation were reviewed and approved.
3. Reviewed the proposed Financial Records Audit Procedure and the Financial Records Audit Checklist as revised December 12, 2022. These were forwarded to the Church Council for their review and approval.
4. Pastor operated vehicles follow up – both vehicles are no longer leased by the church as of the end of 2022. The Pastors own their vehicles. The pastors will be reimbursed for their vehicle mileage at the IRS rate.
5. Rental House 1 & 2 discussion – Confirmed that the monthly rent on each house be increased by \$100 beginning January 1, 2023.
6. A review of the annual fixed costs (real estate taxes and insurance) was presented to the committee as information.

June 20, 2023

1. Donna joined the Finance Committee.
2. The minutes from January 31, 2023 meeting as well as the 1st Quarter 2023 Wells Fargo Advisors Investment Report were reviewed and approved.
3. Chairperson distributed financial charts and graphs pertaining to the YTD May 31, 2023 church financials and outlook for remainder of 2023 and 2024 and led a discussion related to the documents. May YTD finished **(\$59K+) (expenses)** over income. While that is not good, it is not time to panic. However, it must be taken seriously in case it does not improve as the year progresses. This information was presented at the June 13th Church Council meeting. The Church Council passed a proposal to have a letter issued to church members apprising them of the situation and to make sure they keep their benevolence to the church up-to-date as paying the church's monthly bills cannot be delayed.
4. Chairperson let the committee members know that he and Daphne are leaving Roanoke and moving to Nashville, TN to be closer to family so this was to be the Chairperson's last meeting with the Finance Committee.
5. Audit of 2022 financials is underway.
6. Romar Elevators Inspection and Preventive Maintenance Service agreement – this agreement was approved and executed by Church Council at their June 13th meeting. Cost is \$450/visit x 2 visits for a total of \$900 annually. Also includes an annual inspection fee at a cost of \$45.90/inspection. Not having a service agreement makes a service call more expensive - \$300 plus 2 hours travel time from Danville, VA at \$200/hour.
7. Church website rebuild – This proposal to rebuild the church's website for a cost of \$2,299.99 was approved by the Church Council at their June 13th meeting and conveyed to the website company Go Daddy. This company is the one that supplied the current website which is out of date and difficult to edit.

Annual cost to host the website will not change at \$239.88/year. The church will be reimbursed the rebuild cost from one of the non-restricted investment funds maintained by Wells Fargo Advisors.

8. Roof leaks and missing slate – Repairs have been made. Cost was minimal – less than \$2K.
9. There are two Pastor Discretionary funds located in the Operating account maintained at Pinnacle Bank. One of the funds (Account 1520) has a balance as of May 31st of \$21K+ and the other (Account 1544) has a balance of \$24K+. Neither of these funds is earning interest with the bank so it was decided to move \$10K from each fund to Wells Fargo Advisors. A recommendation was sent to the Church Council to approve this change.

October 30, 2023

1. Jim has been appointed by Church Council to serve as the Chairperson of the Finance Committee moving forward.
2. The minutes of the June 20, 2023 meeting and the 3rd Quarter 2023 Wells Fargo Advisors Investment Report were reviewed and approved. The portfolio value dropped \$77,937.53 despite deposits of \$27,491.88.
3. The Statement of Income and Expense for September was distributed and reviewed. September envelope offerings received were above budget. As well, giving for each month beginning July 2023 has increased as compared to the corresponding months in 2022. The very positive response from the congregation to the need for giving has been gratifying and appreciated.
4. Chairperson inquired as to the status of the 2022 audit. Five members of the congregation participated in the audit. Discussion revealed that the work of the committee was completed with no problems or issues identified; however, the final audit letter is not in hand at this time.
5. Jim Weber requested that the Finance Committee reiterate its recommendation to church council to reimburse from the WFA to the church operating budget \$3,080.00 for new signage, and \$1,750.00 for roof repairs. Diana requested that we make certain that Noah's Landing pay that portion of the cost that relates to the preschool. Jim also pointed out that the cost of rebuilding the church website has already been reimbursed and that was approved by church council.
6. A copy of the most recent treasurer job description, which needs updating, was distributed as a means of referencing the position's duties. A discussion was held as to how the church might purchase some additional support for this role. Options include the possibility of increasing the Church Office Administrator's hours so that some task or tasks, such as writing accounts payable checks, might be added to that position's duties. Additionally, it was felt that some contingency funds should be put into the budget in case some contracted contingency funds

should be put into the budget in case some contracted services for other responsibilities, such as report preparing, become necessary. It may be that a member of the congregation would be willing to take on a more limited treasurer role if some of the duties were relegated elsewhere. A specific plan needs to be sorted out in the coming weeks.

7. Jim and Pastor Dave presented committee recommendations for the 2024 budget. By and large, committees were able to request less funding than last year by focusing more on actual 2023 spending and future anticipated needs of each department. An increase in staff pay was included, as well as \$12,000 in new funds for treasurer support as described above. Other minor changes were made, and the final total budget was just 1.6% greater than what was approved for 2023. The budget proposal as developed by the committee was forwarded to the Church Council.

Summary

1. Thanks to the Finance Committee members for their assistance and participation in overseeing the finances of the church during 2023.
2. Thanks also to the hard work by both Judy and Joyce for making sure the church's finances are kept in order. Their dedication is appreciated, and it should be noted that they continue to do this important work as volunteers.
3. Thanks to the members of Christ Lutheran Church for their continued financial support of the ministry of the church during this extraordinary year. As the year closed out giving has substantially increased, and the pledges received as of the annual Congregational Meeting were \$278,000 vs \$206,000 for 2023. Although the pledge drive was officially closed additional pledges have continued to come in and will likely continue into the new year. The congregation approved the recommended budget for 2024 in the amount of \$570,998.
4. A special thanks to Dan for his years of faithful service as Chairperson of the Finance Committee and assistance in helping me to transition into this role. The congregation's, Council's and Committee's support is appreciated.
5. Any questions regarding the contents of this report, please let me know.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jim, Finance Committee Chair*