



WHOLLY  
DEVOTED

to loving God and our neighbor



Northwestern Minnesota Synod  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

**Annual Report 2022**





Northwestern Minnesota Synod  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

### **Is This as Good as it Gets?**

*"The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.... <sup>28</sup>God chose what is low and despised in the world..., to reduce to nothing things that are, <sup>29</sup>so that no one might boast in the presence of God." 1 Corinthians 1:18, 28-29*

*"Cultivate humility in your church. In gatherings of every size, teach us to boast only in the cross. Shape your church to be people of kindness, generosity, and justice. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**"*

- Excerpts from readings and prayers for January 29<sup>th</sup> – the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Epiphany, 2023

Beloved in Christ of the Northwestern Minnesota Synod,

In the 1997 movie by the same name, a mentally ill character played by Jack Nicholson, wonders aloud to a waiting room full of fellow sufferers, "Maybe this is as good as it gets." Over this last year, I've heard many of you lay and rostered leaders wonder the same thing about our life together as the church in this early part of the 21<sup>st</sup> century as we continue to deal with the lingering effects of the pandemic and the many years of gradual decline in church attendance leading up to it. Although this may not be everyone's reality, we all live among beloved neighbors for whom it is. For many of you, this means, among other things, that you are having to make some hard decisions at this year's annual meetings.

Paul's letters to the Christians in Corinth were written to people who never expected the church to amount to much of anything in this world, and Paul is encouraging them to be good with that. Then, 400 years later, things took an unexpected turn, and for the next 1,400 years or so, the church enjoyed a place of power and prestige in western society. That bygone era yielded mixed results for humankind, for the planet and for the Gospel. But having a big institution with lots of members enjoying great influence over the affairs of this world was never the point; it still isn't.

Consider that being a community of faith that feels its fragility and knows that its place in society is closer to the margins than it is to the center, is a better place from which to practice the way of Jesus – the way of love, service, and humility. There are two things that do not require slick, well-funded programming or big crowds of people, and they happen to be the two most important things: we can share the good news about Jesus Christ, and we can give ourselves, our time, and our possessions to love and serve the neighbors that God has placed among us.

"Will the people come back?" "Will our congregation survive another 5 or 10 years?" These are heartfelt questions that we ask because we cherish these congregations and what they've given us. But these are not Gospel questions. Some Gospel questions might be, "How can we use what we have to grow closer to Jesus?" "With whom can we share the good news, and how will we do it?" "Who needs our love and care, and how will we give it in a Christ-like spirit?" Focusing our life together on these questions costs us nothing – and everything. But what more could there for us be than this, for us who follow Jesus?

Beloved in Christ, thank you for your faithfulness in the Gospel. On behalf of our entire staff, we are grateful for you and for all that you do to share the love of Jesus Christ in the world.

In Christ,

Pastor Bill Tesch,

Bishop of the Northwestern Minnesota Synod of the ELCA



Zion Lutheran Church  
308 Lambert Street  
PO Box 56  
Oklee, MN 56742  
218-796-5128

# Oklee Lutheran Parish

Pastor Linda Molitor  
okleelutheran@gvtel.com  
218-796-5141

Parish Secretary Bonny Cote  
cotebon@gmail.com  
218-796-4688



Salem Lutheran Church  
29531 180th St SE  
PO Box 56  
Oklee, MN 56742

January 1, 2023  
[www.okleelutheran.org](http://www.okleelutheran.org)

## 2022 Annual Pastor's Report

The church is here to bring the good news of God's love for all through Jesus Christ who brings us into eternal life with God and shapes us into loving fulfilled people. As I look around the world and society, I see our need for Christ's redeeming love to heal the human heart and bring people together in mutual compassion.

Membership Changes: 3 Baptisms, 6 Confirmed, 4 deaths, 3 new members and 1 transfer out.

Being engaged as a church in the community is an ongoing goal. During 2022 Community Engagement has included raising money for Inter County's food drive through our Lenten Services giving of \$699 and raising money for the Reach Out For Warmth in the Summer Joint Services and September God's Work Our Hands Sunday of \$388. We also partnered with St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in a couple endeavors. We held our Community Block Party in July that was rained out and moved to the community hall, participated in an Ecumenical Thanksgiving service and served free Thanksgiving meals to 89 people on Thanksgiving with the Café.

In addition to community engagement, 2022 was about our new normal and trying a few new things. For our hybrid worship options, we continue to prerecord most services to be able to broadcast on Sunday morning as well as post online. During Lent we had our regular Holden Evening Prayer Service on Wednesday evening which was live streamed on Facebook. This year we had dramatic readings done by members portraying biblical characters which were very well received. During the summer we utilized a combined Sunday worship time alternating churches as well as doing outdoor Wednesday evening service on the parsonage lawn. We held a Blue Christmas Service as well as a Christmas Day service. We also had an online picture contest this last fall with the winners picked by likes on our Facebook page. Alice continues to keep our website current with information and pictures.

Overall worship attendance in 2022 was similar to 2021. Attendance continues to be below preCovid levels. This is a trend seen in a lot of churches. Between our broadcast and online worship services, we are able to reach more people. The hybrid ministry offers necessary convenience for people but has not shown much of a growing audience. While we post on both Facebook and YouTube almost all of the views are done on Facebook. Outside of special services, the viewership resembles similar to what we get in attendance at in person worship. Our combined in person and online views average between 70 and 100 people weekly total.

We have a great foundation with our worship traditions, expanded access with online and broadcast options and good families. Our parish and our town have struggled with community cohesion as the level of engagement from people has gone down. I completed ELCA Financial Empowerment training in 2022. Financial funding of our ministry is a big concern and we need to look at a modified model to our approach. A representative from the Synod office will be meeting with us on Monday, January 30th to discuss us doing a generosity drive this spring. They can share experience others have had, insights, and answer questions. Please come to the meeting.

In Christ, Pastor Linda Molitor

# Oklee Lutheran Parish

## 2022 Council

Name	Office	Cong.		Address		Phone
Eric Mickelson	Vice President	Zion		20555 340th Ave SE	Oklee	218-796-5767
Leif Kolstoe	President	Salem		28278 180th St SE	Oklee	218-796-5372
Kyle Vettleson		Salem		35229 230th St SE	Trail	218-796-4774
Conway Hamm		Zion		25239 240th Ave SE	Brooks	218-280-3723
David Hofstad		Salem		31398 180th St SE	Oklee	218-796-4810
Jami Hendrickson		Zion		30232 280th St SE	Trail	218-563-2392

### Zion 2022 Congregation Council

Name	Office	Term Ends	Terms	Address		Phone
Eric Mickelson	President	Dec. 2022	2nd	20555 340th Ave SE	Oklee	218-796-5767
Conway Hamm	Vice President	Dec. 2024	2nd	25239 240th Ave SE	Brooks	218-280-3723
Jami Hendrickson	Secretary	Dec. 2024	1st	30232 280th St SE	Trail	218-563-2392
Diane Hanson	Education	Dec. 2024	2nd	24604 310th Ave SE	Brooks	218-280-3683
Marcella Melby	Treasurer			PO Box 219	Oklee	218-796-4556

### Property and Management

Chad Parsley		Dec. 2022	2nd	29745 270th Ave SE	McIntosh	218-563-3600
John Pendelston		Dec. 2022	1st	PO Box 171	Oklee	218-796-4569
Steve Olson		Dec. 2022	2nd	29841 250th St SE	Brooks	218-796-4523

### Deacons

Norman Nelson		Dec. 2023	1st	PO Box 85	Oklee	218-796-5578
Nick Mickelson		Dec. 2023	1st	21803 370th Ave SE	Trail	701-620-9096
Gin Berns		Dec. 2023	1st	PO Box 14	Oklee	218-796-4875
Noah Hanson		Dec. 2023	1st	24604 310th Ave SE	Brooks	218-796-5272

### Salem 2022 Congregation Council

Name	Office	Term Ends	Terms	Address		Phone
Leif Kolstoe	President	Dec. 2023	2nd	28278 180th St SE	Oklee	218-796-5372
Kyle Vettleson	Vice President	Dec. 2022	2nd	35229 230th St SE	Trail	218-796-4774
Ginny Stoneouse	Secretary	Dec. 2024	1st	16414 320th Ave SE	Oklee	218-280-6406
Jill Kolstoe	Education	Dec. 2024	2nd	28278 180th St SE	Oklee	218-796-5372
Wyatt Vettleson	Fin. Secretary	Dec. 2023	1st	18801 290th Ave SE	Oklee	218-796-5006
Lisa Kolstoe	Treasurer			17242 280th Ave SE	Oklee	218-796-4591

### Property and Management

David Hofstad		Dec. 2024	1st	31398 180th St SE	Oklee	218-796-4810
Ted Linder		Dec. 2023	2nd	26751 170th St SE	Plummer	218-796-4575
Toni Johnson		Dec. 2024	2nd	34178 220th St SE	Oklee	218-796-4777

### Deacons

Justin Rystad		Dec. 2023	2nd	29500 190th St SE	Oklee	218-796-4792
Paula Christianson		Dec. 2022	1st	30498 170th ST SE	Oklee	218-796-4823
Shirley Dessellier		Dec. 2022	1st	PO Box 96	Oklee	218-796-4814



## Pastoral Record for Zion and Salem Lutheran Church

January 1 – December 31, 2022

### Baptism

6/5/2022	Decklynn Lou Garthus	Salem
6/8/2022	Braxton Jon Verbout	Zion
7/6/2022	Crew Decker Akason	Zion

### First Communion – October 30th

Zion	Logan Lee	Salem	Ryleigh Sherman
------	-----------	-------	-----------------

### Confirmation – May 8, 2022

Zion	Landon Klasen	Salem	Ciara Mitzner
	Hayz Hanson		Shelby Sherman
	Ben Lee		Kendra Christianson

### Deaths

Zion		Salem	
Winton Mickelson	10/27/2022	Darryl Mathson	7/9/2022
		Einar Kvasager	7/24/2022
		Donna Cantwell	7/27/2022

### New Members

5/1/2022	Myrtle Woods	Zion
	Carol Roisland	Salem
	Stacey Hofstad	Salem

### Letters of Transfer

Dede Vettleson from Salem to Piedmont Valley Lutheran, Piedmont, SD, 6/7/2022

# Oklee Lutheran Parish

## Congregational Numbers

Confirmed Membership	Parish	Zion	Salem
1/1/2014	344	183	161
Percentage		53.20%	46.80%
1/1/2015	347	184	163
Percentage		53.00%	47.00%
1/1/2016	349	184	165
Percentage		52.70%	47.30%
1/1/2017	355	189	166
Percentage		53.20%	46.80%
1/1/2018	331	165	166
Percentage		49.80%	50.20%
1/1/2019	297	163	134
Percentage		54.90%	45.10%
1/1/2020	297	162	135
Percentage		54.50%	45.50%
1/1/2021	302	163	139
Percentage		54.00%	46.00%
1/1/2022	272	131	141
Percentage		48.20%	51.80%
1/1/2023	263	132	131
Percentage		50.20%	49.80%

INCOME DIVISION	TOTAL	ZION	SALEM
2014	\$ 74,211.00	\$39480.25	\$34730.75
Percent		53.20%	46.80%
2015	\$ 74,461.00	\$39464.33	\$34996.67
Percent		53.00%	47.00%
2016	\$ 75,551.00	\$39815.38	\$35735.62
Percent		52.70%	47.30%
2017	\$ 75,551.00	\$40193.13	\$35357.87
Percent		53.20%	46.80%
2018	\$ 77,669.00	\$38679.16	\$38989.84
Percent		49.80%	50.20%
2019	\$ 79,310.00	\$43541.19	\$35768.81
Percent		54.90%	45.10%
2020	\$ 82,806.00	\$45,129.27	\$37,676.73
Percent		54.50%	45.50%
2021	\$ 86,325.00	\$46,615.50	\$39,709.50
Percent		54.00%	46.00%
2022	\$ 92,476.92	\$ 44,573.88	\$ 47,903.04
Percent		48.20%	51.80%
2023	\$ 97,318.92	\$ 48,854.10	\$ 48,464.82
Percent		50.20%	49.80%

# Oklee Lutheran Parish

## 2022 Financial Report

Beginning Balance - January 1, 2022		\$ 9,342.40
INCOME		
Joint Service	\$ -	
Misc. No Budget	\$ 389.91	
Salem	\$ 47,903.04	
Zion	\$ 33,605.55	
Adjustment		
TOTAL INCOME		\$ 81,898.50
EXPENSES		
Auto Expense	\$ 711.95	
Computer Allowance	\$ 600.00	
Electricity	\$ 1,253.97	
Heat (pre-paid for season)	\$ 2,289.00	
Miscellaneous	\$ 361.59	
Office Supplies	\$ 618.35	
Copier	\$ 1,429.32	
Parsonage Insurance	\$ 481.50	
Postage	\$ 649.38	
Repairs - Parsonage	\$ 846.23	
Dial My Calls	\$ 50.00	
Telephone Parsonage	\$ 1,187.44	
Telephone Zion	\$ 987.06	
Water-Garbage	\$ 919.05	
Work. Comp Insurance	\$ 221.65	
Bulletins Etc	\$ 1,872.79	
Confi-1 Com	\$ 576.95	
Lent	\$ 409.18	
Misc.	\$ 558.58	
Pastor's Contining Ed	\$ 513.62	
Pulpit Supply	\$ 875.00	
Synod Assembly	\$ -	
Youth Group	\$ -	
FICA - Pastor	\$ 3,337.92	
Pension-Insur.	\$ 20,572.08	
Pastor - Salary	\$ 43,632.96	
FICA - Secretary	\$ 726.84	
Secretary - Salary	\$ 3,999.96	
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$ 89,682.37
Ending Balance - December 31, 2022		\$ 1,558.53

Respectfully submitted by:  
Bonny Cote

# Oklee Lutheran Parish Budget Worksheet

	2021 BUDGET	2021 ACTUAL	2022 BUDGET	2022 ACTUAL	2023 BUDGET
<b>INCOME</b>					
Salem	\$39,709.50	\$33,091.30	\$47,903.04	\$47,903.04	\$48,464.82
Zion	\$46,615.50	\$35,011.67	\$44,573.88	\$33,605.55	\$48,854.10
Tithle	\$0.00	-\$1,024.62	\$0.00		
Joint Services	\$0.00	\$318.40	\$0.00		
Miscellaneous		\$401.00		\$389.91	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$86,325.00</b>	<b>\$67,797.75</b>	<b>\$92,476.92</b>	<b>\$81,898.50</b>	<b>\$97,318.92</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>					
<b>OPERATIONAL</b>					
Miscellaneous	\$250.00	\$114.79	\$250.00	\$361.59	\$250.00
Office Supplies	\$600.00	\$982.44	\$850.00	\$618.35	\$850.00
Copy Machine	\$1,500.00	\$1,429.32	\$1,500.00	\$1,429.32	\$1,500.00
Postage	\$900.00	\$1,356.88	\$1,000.00	\$649.38	\$1,000.00
Auto Expenses	\$2,500.00	\$732.48	\$2,000.00	\$711.95	\$1,500.00
Parsonage Insurance	\$400.00	\$319.14	\$400.00	\$481.50	\$400.00
Work. Comp. Insurance	\$500.00	\$466.00	\$500.00	\$221.65	\$500.00
Lawn/Snow Removal	\$850.00	\$0.00	\$850.00	\$0.00	\$850.00
Repairs	\$500.00	\$544.25	\$500.00	\$846.23	\$5,500.00
Electricity	\$2,000.00	\$1,723.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,253.97	\$1,500.00
Heat	\$750.00	\$845.00	\$800.00	\$2,289.00	\$100.00
Telephone	\$2,250.00	\$2,238.16	\$2,250.00	\$2,224.50	\$2,250.00
Water & Garbage	\$900.00	\$792.11	\$900.00	\$919.05 *	\$925.00
Secretary Comp. Allow.	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00
<b>Total Operational</b>	<b>\$14,500.00</b>	<b>\$12,143.57</b>	<b>\$14,400.00</b>	<b>\$12,606.49</b>	<b>\$17,725.00</b>
<b>PROGRAM</b>					
Bulletins, Devotions Etc.	\$2,000.00	\$1,960.65	\$2,000.00	\$1,872.79	\$1,750.00
Synod Assembly	\$500.00	\$106.50	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Confirm/1st Com.	\$750.00	\$578.36	\$750.00	\$576.95	\$750.00
Lent	\$300.00	\$600.00	\$300.00	\$409.18	\$450.00
Pastor's Contin. Ed.	\$1,000.00	\$654.50	\$1,000.00	\$513.62	\$1,000.00
Pulpit Supply	\$750.00	\$700.00	\$750.00	\$875.00	\$750.00
Youth Group	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Block Party					\$250.00
Misc.	\$0.00	\$2,548.88	\$0.00	\$558.58	\$0.00
<b>Total Program</b>	<b>\$5,800.00</b>	<b>\$7,148.89</b>	<b>\$5,800.00</b>	<b>\$4,806.12</b>	<b>\$5,950.00</b>
<b>SALARIES</b>					
<b>Secretary</b>					
Salary	\$3,750.00	\$3,750.00	\$4,000.00	\$3,999.96	\$4,000.00
FICA	\$275.00	\$286.92	\$306.00	\$726.84	\$306.00
<b>Total Secretary</b>	<b>\$4,025.00</b>	<b>\$4,036.92</b>	<b>\$4,306.00</b>	<b>\$4,726.80</b>	<b>\$4,306.00</b>
<b>Pastor</b>					
Salary	\$41,450.00	\$41,453.66	\$43,633.00	\$43,632.96	\$45,000.00
FICA	\$3,170.00	\$3,163.45	\$3,337.92	\$3,337.92	\$3,337.92
Pension/Insur.	\$17,380.00	\$19,408.27	\$21,000.00	\$20,572.08	\$21,000.00
<b>Total Pastor</b>	<b>\$62,000.00</b>	<b>\$64,025.38</b>	<b>\$67,970.92</b>	<b>\$67,542.96</b>	<b>\$69,337.92</b>
<b>Total Salaries</b>	<b>\$66,025.00</b>	<b>\$68,062.30</b>	<b>\$72,276.92</b>	<b>\$72,269.76</b>	<b>\$73,643.92</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$86,325.00</b>	<b>\$87,354.76</b>	<b>\$92,476.92</b>	<b>\$89,682.37</b>	<b>\$97,318.92</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$86,325.00</b>	<b>\$67,797.75</b>	<b>\$92,476.92</b>	<b>\$81,898.50</b>	<b>\$97,318.92</b>
<b>LESS TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$86,325.00</b>	<b>\$87,354.76</b>	<b>\$92,476.92</b>	<b>\$89,682.37</b>	<b>\$97,318.92</b>
<b>BALANCE</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>-\$19,557.01</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>-\$7,783.87</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>



# Oklee Lutheran Youth Group

## 2022 Year End Report

Our Youth Group had been busy for a few years fundraising for the 2021 (later scheduled to 2022) ELCA Youth Gathering in Minneapolis. But in March 2022, after we paid a deposit down to secure our spot, we received word that it was completely cancelled and would not be rescheduled. Our kids were heartbroken. And because some wouldn't have the opportunity to go to the one scheduled for 2024 in New Orleans due to aging out, we decided to make a memorable trip happen for this group of 17 kiddos. We decided to head to the Wisconsin Dells, hitting up fun and interesting places along the way. We really tried to include something for everyone on this trip—whether it be exploring nature, big wheels, amusement park fun, a ball game, waterparks, animals, and of course, worship.

Submitted by the Youth Group Committee  
Shannon Moen, Robyn Morinville & Amanda Nelson.

### 2022 Financial Report

Checking Acct		
Opening Balance 1/1/2022		\$ 9,892.22
Income:		
Wreath Sales	\$ 3,025.00	
Lent	\$ 1,054.00	
Ski Trip	\$ 120.00	
Raffle	\$ 5,720.00	
National Youth Group Refund	\$ 2,850.00	
Transfer from Saving	\$ 4,000.00	
Klub Dinner	\$ 1,058.00	
Bingo Night	\$ 2,580.00	
Total Income		\$ 20,407.00
Expenses:		
Wisconsin Dells	\$ 14,856.84	
Wreaths	\$ 1,858.00	
Raffle	\$ 3,000.00	
Advertising	\$ 49.50	
Ski Trip	\$ 619.00	
Bingo	\$ 500.00	
Total Expenses		<u>\$ 20,883.34</u>
12/31/2022 Check book Balance		<u><u>\$ 9,415.88</u></u>

Investor Savings Account		
Opening Balance 1/1/2022		\$ 10,252.67
Donation	\$ -	
Transfer from Checking	\$ -	
Interest	\$ 25.84	
Total Income		<u>\$ 25.84</u>
Transfer to Checking	\$ 4,000.00	
Total Expense		<u>\$ 4,000.00</u>
Balance 12/31/2022		<u><u>\$ 6,278.51</u></u>



## The Youth Group

raised monies for the Youth Gathering, but it was canceled. So it was decided to head to the Wisconsin Dells, having some fun and seeing some interesting places along the way. We really tried to include something for everyone on this trip—whether it be exploring nature, big wheels, amusement park fun, a ball game, waterparks, animals, and of course, worship.



# Salem Lutheran Church Oklee, MN Annual Meeting

January 22, 2023 - Following morning service  
Agenda

1. Determination of Quorum - (10 voting members)
2. Call to Order - President Leif Kolstoe
  - A. Opening Prayer - Pastor Linda Molitor
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Pastor's Report - Pastor Linda Molitor
5. Secretary's Report - Ginny Stoneouse
6. Treasurer's Report - Lisa Kolstoe
7. Financial Report - Toni Johnson
8. Submission and Reception of Written Reports
9. Nomination Committee Report. Kyle Vettleson (2 terms), Paula Christianson (1 term), Shirley Dessellier (1 term).
  - A. Nominations from the Floor
10. Election of Council Members
11. Presentation and adoption of Proposed Budget for 2023
12. Nominations of Nominating Committee
  - A. A Nominating Committee of 5 (five) voting members of this congregation, two of whom, if possible, should be outgoing members of the Congregation Council, shall be elected at the annual meeting for a term of one year.
  - B. Election of Nominating Committee - may vote by hand
13. Election of Board of Education Member
14. Election of Synod Delegate
15. Old Business
16. New Business
17. Adjourn
18. Closing Prayer - Pastor Linda Molitor

The Congregation Council will meet in front of the church immediately following the Annual meeting to set a time and date for their first meeting.



# Salem Lutheran Church

## 2022 Annual Meeting

The congregational annual meeting was held on January 23, 2022 following worship service.

The meeting was called to order by Salem Lutheran Council President Leif Kolstoe.

Pastor Linda lead the members attending in an opening prayer.

A motion was made to except the agenda as stated in the report – 1<sup>st</sup> by David Hofstad, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jill Kolstoe, motion carried.

Pastor Linda presented the Pastor's report (Page 3)

The secretary's report was read by Lisa Kolstoe. A motion was made to the minutes as read – 1<sup>st</sup> by Vincent Dessellier, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ted Linder, motion carried.

The treasurer's report was presented by Lisa Kolstoe. A motion was made to accept report as presented – 1<sup>st</sup> by David Hofstad, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ginny Stoneouse, motion carried.

Motion made to accept all written reports as presented in annual report – 1<sup>st</sup> by Alice Hofstad, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kyle Vettleson, motion carried.

**Nomination Committee Report** – Being there is currently no nomination committee, council members going off the board need to find a replacement for their seat. Council members whose first term is up: Kelly Brekke and Toni Johnson. Toni agreed to stay on the board for a 2<sup>nd</sup> term. It was decided to not reinstate Kelly Brekke for a 2<sup>nd</sup> term. Cody Trontvedt and Josh Vettleson's second terms are up. David Hofstad and Ginny Stoneouse agreed to be on the board. Paula Christianson was also asked to rejoin the board; we will reach out to her to confirm that she is willing to act as a member of the board. Kyle Vettleson will be going off the board in 2022.

Salem's annual Budget was read by Leif Kolstoe. Motion to accept the budget as presented – 1<sup>st</sup> by Toni Johnson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kyle Vettleson, motion carried.

Current Board of Education members are Jill Kolstoe, Erica Motteberg, and Chelsey Vettleson. Jill's term expires December 2021. Erica Motteberg nominated Jill Kolstoe back onto the Board of Education. Motion made to cast unanimous ballot – 1<sup>st</sup> by Lisa Kolstoe, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Chelsey Vettleson, motion carried.

Synod Assembly will be on Saturday, May 21, 2022. If anyone is interested in being a synod delegate, please contact Pastor Linda.

Old Business: Quarter round was removed when new flooring was installed. WELCA has requested that this be replaced. We are waiting on obtaining a permit from the state in order to proceed with chair lift. The fencing was removed. Leif has it if anyone wants fencing otherwise it will be hauled to Evan's Steel. The sinking headstones were discussed. The water damage on the ceiling will be repaired this summer.

New Business: A discussion was held regarding switching to a 10 member board. This was tabled being we currently have 11 members on the board, hoping to find a 12<sup>th</sup>. Our constitution needs to be updated. This will be looked at during 2022 to approve at the 2023 annual meeting. A discussion was held about getting a Wi-Fi thermostat that will alert someone if the temperature drops below a certain temperature. It was also mentioned that it may be beneficial to install a Wi-Fi smoke detector. We need people to volunteer to help clean the church. A discussion was held regarding the cemetery and the flowers/memorials on graves. It was decided that these items need to be removed by July 1<sup>st</sup>. Plans to celebrate Salem's 130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary were briefly discussed. Alice has been doing research on the history of the stained glass windows.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting. 1<sup>st</sup> by David Hofstad, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kyle Vettleson.

# Salem Lutheran Church 2022 Treasurer's Report

	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2023 Budget Proj.
Beginning Balance - January 1, 2022		\$46,712.58	
Income			
Offerings		\$55,162.76	
Bell Bank Donation/David & Stacey Hofstad		\$4,500.00	
Transfers from Cemetary Maint.		\$1,755.00	
Transfers from Building Fund		\$1,225.00	
Transfer from Memorial Fund		\$1,289.00	
RLC Coop Dividend		\$84.93	
Thrivent Choice		\$408.00	
Dinner Incomes		\$1,841.00	
		<hr/>	
Total Income		\$66,265.69	
Total Funds Available		<hr/> \$112,978.27	
Expenses			
Electricity	\$2,500.00	\$3,076.98	\$2,500.00
Parish	\$47,903.04	\$47,903.04	\$48,464.82
Worship Supplies	\$200.00	\$97.24	\$200.00
Lutheran Magazine	\$450.00	\$0.00	\$400.00
Propane	\$1,400.00	\$868.05	\$1,400.00
Synod	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
Synod Delegate	\$450.00	\$0.00	\$450.00
Organist	\$2,800.00	\$1,755.00	\$2,800.00
Postage/Supplies	\$100.00	\$100.78	\$100.00
Insurance	\$3,300.00	\$3,846.37	\$4,000.00
Sunday School	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
Bible Camps	\$500.00	\$300.00	\$500.00
Bible School	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
Safe Deposit Box	\$8.00	\$8.00	\$8.00
Pathways	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$400.00
Repairs & Maintenance	\$500.00	\$2,043.46	\$750.00
Treasurer	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Clavenova		\$7,630.00	
Picnic		\$224.14	
Lawn Mowing		\$1,755.00	
		<hr/>	
Total Disbursements	\$62,661.04	\$72,158.06	\$64,122.82
Ending Balance - December 31, 2022		<hr/> <hr/> \$40,820.21	

# Salem Lutheran Church

## 2022 Treasurer's Report

### Memorial Fund

Beginning Balance - January 1, 2022	\$3,590.17
Income	
Donations/Memorials	\$585.00
Interest Received	<u>\$10.42</u>
Total	<u>\$595.42</u>
Transfer for Clavenova	-\$1,289.00
Ending Balance - December 31, 2022	<u><u>\$2,896.59</u></u>

### Building Fund

Beginning Balance - January 1, 2022	\$12,050.36
Income	
Memorials/Donations	\$848.00
Interest Received	<u>\$50.50</u>
Total	<u>\$898.50</u>
To General Fund for Repairs	-\$1,225.00
Ending Balance - December 31, 2022	<u><u>\$11,723.86</u></u>

### Cemetery Maintenance Fund

Beginning Balance - January 1, 2022	\$7,216.13
Income	

Submitted by:  
Lisa Kolstoe



# Salem Lutheran Church

## 2022 Cemetery Report

### Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund

Beginning Balance - January 1, 2022	\$9,149.97
Income	
Donations	\$2,170.00
Interest Received	<u>\$42.48</u>
Total	<u>\$2,212.48</u>
Ending Balance - December 31, 2022	<u><u>\$11,362.45</u></u>

### Certificates of Deposit

Cemetery Perpetual Care	13951	\$13,255.45	1.60%	2/21/2024
Cemetery Maintenance	13986	\$5,559.06	0.20%	1/21/2023

Thrivent Mutual Fund Values                      \$7,977.00

**Submitted by:**  
**Lisa Kolstoe**

Photo Contest  
winner for  
First Place  
Church Life  
by  
Kyle Vettleson



## SALEM WELCA ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Salem WELCA continues to be an active organization. The group offers a monthly Bible Study opportunity to all women of Salem. In addition, the group works to support Salem members and provides outreach to the local community and worldwide missions.

WELCA supported the Salem membership this year in the following ways:

- Mailed monthly newsletters to newly baptized children

- Paid ½ the registration for Salem youth to attend Bible Camp

- Served meals for students and staff during VBS sessions

- Hosted reception for Salem high school graduates and confirmation students

- Offered scholarships to Salem graduating high school seniors

- Recognized newly baptized and new members during worship

- Provided breakfast on Easter Sunday

- Continued to provide altar care and communion preparation duties

- Purchased new white altar paraments

- Provided donation to help fund purchase of new clavino

- Managed purchase and display of Easter lilies and poinsettias

- Member representatives attended MN Synodical Spring and Fall WELCA conferences

- Provided meals for funerals held at Salem

WELCA supported the work of the church in the local community and worldwide mission:

- Packaged and distributed school kits through Lutheran World Relief

- Sponsored fundraising to purchase animals to be distributed by the ELCA Good Gifts Program

- Made financial donations to the following:

  - Local Food Bank

  - North Country Food Bank

  - Northland Rescue Mission

  - Pathways

  - Haiti Medical Mission

A highlight of the year was the annual Holiday Cookie Sale where the women of Salem worked together in community to raise funds making it possible for the outreach missions of WELCA to continue.

Submitted by

Elaine McGeary-WELCA Secretary

## SALEM WELCA 2022 TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning Balance January 1, 2022		4343.78
Income		
Checking Interest	0.87	
General Meetings Offering	395.00	
Flowers (Lilies, Poinsettias)	60.00	
Garden Valley Dividend	45.35	
Serving Funerals	1050.00	
Noisy & Quiet Offering	285.98	
Cookie Sale	1697.50	
History Book	10.00	
Amazon Smile	85.02	
Fall Dinner	1841.00	
Annual Meeting	160.00	
Easter Breakfast	88.00	
Total Income	5718.72	
Expenses		
Telephone/Internet	663.48	
Supplies	673.38	
Gifts	348.03	
Flowers (Lilies, Poinsettias)	110.50	
Bible Camp	1187.50	
Donations	705.00	
Splash Program	58.00	
Advertising	63.00	
Scholarship	100.00	
Animals	300.00	
Salem Church/Fall Dinner	1841.00	
Paraments	490.68	
Total Expenses	6540.57	
Ending Balance December 31, 2022		3521.93

Submitted by:  
Diane Kolstoe, Treasurer



## Salem Sunday School 2022 Year in Review

Salem Sunday School started 2022 after the Christmas break with lessons in Doubting Thomas, Ruth, The Lord's Prayer and House on the Rock. The kids participated in various activities (games, cooking, experiments, crafts, movie, and singing) in their rotations of each lesson for a fun way to learn about that particular bible story. Our last day of the 2021-2022 Sunday School year was May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022. Awards were given out during church service to the kids, followed by a delicious cook-out held by the Salem Church Council.

Confirmation was held at Salem on May 8<sup>th</sup> for three students. Congratulations to Salem's confirmands: Shelby Sherman, Ciara Mitzner, and Kendra Christianson.

Rally Sunday kicked off the beginning of a new Sunday School year (2022-2023) on September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022! Our Sunday Funday included creating fall décor, cookie decorating and some games outside in the sunshine during Sunday School. During church, a slideshow of VBS was presented along with the 3<sup>rd</sup> graders and 8<sup>th</sup> graders receiving bibles for the next step of their faith journey. A free will offering potluck lunch was served after for all to enjoy!

3<sup>rd</sup> grade – Marvin Stauffacher, Braylee Lundeen, Avaeya Vettleson, Claire Whalen, Easton Vettleson, Ansley Brekke and Ryker Olson

8<sup>th</sup> grade – None

Sunday School lessons for the 2022-2023 year are:

- \* Isaac and Rebekah
- \* Ten Men Healed
- \* Hannah and Samuel
- \* Lydia

On September 25, 2022 our confirmation class started something new for the Salem congregation by serving coffee to sip in your pew during church. It is called "Heavenly Brew"! It is a wonderful addition to our morning!

Salem had one 5<sup>th</sup> grader receive her First Communion on October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Congratulations Ryleigh Sherman.

December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022 our Confirmation and Sunday School students presented the Christmas program "The Light Before Christmas"! The Sunday School families provided a potluck meal after the program for all to enjoy! We are so thankful that we can come together again to celebrate Jesus's birth. The kids did a fantastic job and we are so proud of them for all the hard work they put in to making the program a success!

We have 30 Sunday School students from Pre-K to Confirmation. Teachers volunteering this year have been Chelsey Vettleson, Erica Motteberg, Jill Kolstoe, Elaine McGeary, Jordan Larson, Jane Kolstoe, Kyle Vettleson, and Leif Kolstoe. We are always looking for teachers, let us know if you would like to help!

We are looking forward to exploring our faith more in this new year!

God bless!

Salem Board of Education  
Erica Motteberg, Chelsey Vettleson and Jill Kolstoe

## 2022 Salem Sunday School/VBS Financial Report

Beginning Balance - January 1, 2022 **\$1,695.79**

### Income

Offerings	218.00	
Salem Church	450.00	
Rally Sunday Lunch	266.00	
Christmas Dinner	421.00	
Donations/Memorials	215.00	
 Total Income		 <b>\$ 1,570.00</b>

### Disbursements

Teaching Materials (Sunday School)	531.14	
Teaching Materials (VBS)	559.24	
Christmas program	203.52	
Rally Sunday	64.13	
 Total Disbursements		 <b>\$ 1,358.03</b>

Ending Balance - December 31, 2022 **\$1,907.76**

\* Palms were donated by Ted and Jenny Linder



## Salem Vacation Bible School 2022 Year in Review

Salem hosted four evenings of vacation bible school that was held on August 1<sup>st</sup> – August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022. We had about 24 kids participate this year. The theme was Monumental – Celebrating God's Greatness! The kids took off on an off-road adventure through colorful canyons and sunbaked trails of the southwest exploring God's awesomeness through the story of Joseph.

Day 1 – God loves you no matter what

Day 2 – God is with you everywhere

Day 3 – God is in charge

Day 4 & 5 – God is stronger than anything and God is surprising

Each evening began with a tasty meal provided by and served by the truly amazing ladies of the Salem WELCA! The kids moved to Opening Celebration for opening prayer, group activity, our lesson focus of the day and to meet our bible buddy of the day. Our crews then grouped together to get ready for the evening adventures as kids were apart of one of three crews. Our crews were: The Cactus Crew, Rockin' Rattlesnakes and the Roadrunners. Each crew rotated between three different activities each evening: Canyon Crafts, Awesome Bible Adventures, and Red Rock Rec. After each crew completed the evening's rotations, everyone headed back to Canyon Closing for singing and prayer. The evening ended with each crew member enjoying a snack that was unique to each days lesson served from the Cactus Café!

Thank you to all who made this year's VBS a success! There were many adults and youth who volunteered their time to assist with activities, pictures, snacks, decorating and set up/clean- up. Also, thank you to all the parents for sharing your children with us during this time. We hope they had a great experience. We are truly blessed to be surrounded by so many wonderful people!

God is GREAT!

Salem Board of Education

Chelsey Vettleson, Erica Motteberg, and Jill Kolstoe





# Salem Lutheran Church

## 2022 Membership Changes

	Confirmed	Baptized
<b>Beginning Membership 1/1/22</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>178</b>
Additions:		
Additions by Baptism		
Decklynn Lou Garthus		1
Additions by Confirmation		
Ciara Anne Mitzner	1	
Shelby Ann Sherman	1	
Kendra Leigh Christianson	1	
Additions By Other		
Carol Roisland	1	1
Stacey Hofstad	1	1
 Total Additions	<hr/> 5	<hr/> 3
Losses:		
Losses by Transfer		
DeAndra Vettleson	1	1
Losses by Death		
Einar Kvasager	1	1
Donna Cantwell	1	1
Darryl Mathson	1	1
Losses by Inactive		
Matthew Anderson	1	1
Jay Bruski	1	1
Dylan Gustafson	1	1
Courtney Gustafson	1	1
Mike Hahn	1	1
Daniel Hahn	1	1
Garth Larson	1	1
Tracy Lee	1	1
Brandon Lee	1	1
Dale Olson	1	1
Ryan Voeltz	1	1
 TOTAL LOSSES	<hr/> 15	<hr/> 15
<b>Ending Membership 12/31/22</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>166</b>

# Salem Membership List

Family		Confirmed		# Con.	Baptized	# Bap
Anderson	Gunnar			1		1
Bakken	Brett & Stephanie			2	Noah, Hazel	4
Berns	Mcauli			1	Orin, Patrick	3
Brekke	Alex			1	Savanna, Isabella	3
Brekke	Arlen	Deb		2		2
Brekke	Kelly			1	Elliot	2
Brekke	Kevin			1		1
Christianson	Clarence			1		1
Christianson	Paula		Kendra	2	Brennen	3
Dessellier	Andy			1		1
Dessellier	Jessi			1		1
Dessellier	Mike	Grace		2		2
Dessellier	Vincent	Shirley		2		2
Flatgard	Craig	Shelly	Levi, Jamie	4		4
Garthus	Decklynn					1
Hegge	Ronald	Ellen		2		2
Hegge	Ross			1		1
Hofstad	David	Stacey		2		2
Hofstad	Leslie	Alice		2		2
Johnson	David			1		1
Johnson	Toni (Knutson)			1		1
Kimball					Daxon	1
Knutson	Cassandra			1		1
Kolstoe	Jane			1		1
Kolstoe	Hannah			1		1
Kolstoe	Leif	Jill		2	Ava	3
Kolstoe	Matt	Lisa	Emily	3		3
Kolstoe	Sonia			1		1
Kolstoe	Tom	Diane		2		2
Kvasager	Joel	Jennifer		2		2
LaCoursiere	Charles			1		1
Larson	Edward	Sharon		2		2
Lee				0	Jack III	1
Lessard	Myrna			1		1
Linder	Dan			1		1
Linder	Dennis			1		1
Linder	Orrin	Phyllis		2		2
Linder	Ted	Jennifer	Sophia	3		3
Linder	Shannon			1	Zelene Kimball	2

# Salem Membership List

Magnell	Michelle			1	Tanner, Ian,	
					Brock, Carter	5
Magnell			Nolan	1		1
McGeary	Elaine			1		1
McGeary	Paul			1		1
Mitzner	Talia (Vettleson)		Aurora, Ciara	3	Isabella	4
Motteberg	Erica		Jordan Larson	2	Carter, Hilde	4
Olson	Conway	Kimberly	Sidney, Paige	4		4
Olson	Sara			1		1
Olson	Janae			1		1
Olson	George	Ardell		2		2
O'Neill					Hazel	1
O'Neill	Patrick	Jennifer	Peyton	3	Quentin,	
					Owen, Calvin	6
Roisland	Carol			1		1
Rosten	Irene			1		1
Rystad	Justin		Dawson, Peyton	3		3
Rystad	Phyllis		Grayson	2		2
Sherman	Amy			1		1
Sherman	Jesse			1		1
Sherman			Bailey, Shelby	2	Ryleigh	3
Smith	Jon	Sue	Molly	3		3
Smith	Megan			1		1
Smith	Samantha			1		1
Smith	LeAnn (Bruski)			1		1
Sorenson	John			1		1
Sorenson	Karl	Rita	Karleigh	3		3
Sorenson	Wavell			1		1
Sorenson	Karl Jr.			1		1
Spong	Mark	Holly		2		2
Stenberg	Donald	Alma		2		2
Stenberg	Mark			1		1
Stenberg	Matthew			1		1
Stenberg	Jeff			1		1
Stoneouse	Kristy			1		1
Stoneouse	Orlean	Virginia		2		2
Syrtveit	Loretta			1		1
Torkelson	Gloria			1		1
Tougas	Sandra			1		1
Tougas	Tyler			1		1
Trontvedt	Cody	Brianna		2		2
Trontvedt	Gene		Kaytlin	2		2
Vettleson	Josh	Nicole		2	Easton, Bristol,	
					Hudson, Watson	6
Vettleson	Kyle	Chelsea		2	Olivia, Graham	4
Vettleson	Pam (Kolstoe)			1	Miah	2
Vettleson	Wayne	Debbie		2		2
Vettleson	Wyatt		Bryn	2	Atley, Avaeye	4
Voeltz	Vernon	JoAnne		2		2
Whalen	Sarah		Carlee	2	Claire	3
Whalen	Chase			1		1
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>131</b>		<b>166</b>

# Confirmation and Graduation 2022 at Zion & Salem



 Photo Contest winner for  
Second Place Church Life  
by Eric Mickelson





**Zion Lutheran Church  
Oklee, MN  
Annual Meeting  
January 29, 2023 - Following morning service  
Agenda**

1. Determination of Quorum - (10 voting members)
2. Call to Order - Eric Mickelson
  - A. Opening Prayer - Pastor Linda Molitor
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Pastor's Report - Pastor Linda Molitor
5. Secretary's Report - Richard Hendrickson
6. Treasurer's Report - Elizabeth Follmann
7. Financial Report - Elizabeth Follmann
8. Submission and Reception of Written Reports
9. Nomination Committee Report - Eric Mickelson (2 terms), Chad Parsley (2 terms) , John Pendelson (1 term) and Steve Olson (2 terms) are done this year.
  - A. Nominations from the Floor
10. Election of Council Members
11. Presentation and adoption of Proposed Budget for 2023
12. Nominations of Nominating Committee
  - A. A Nominating Committee of 5 (five) voting members of this congregation, two of whom, if possible, should be outgoing members of the Congregation Council, shall be elected at the annual meeting for a term of one year.
  - B. Election of Nominating Committee - may vote by hand
13. Election of Board of Education Member
14. Election of Synod Delegate
15. Old Business
16. New Business
17. Adjourn
18. Closing Prayer - Pastor Linda Molitor

The Congregation Council will meet in front of the church immediately following the Annual meeting to set a time and date for their first meeting.

# **Zion Lutheran Church**

## **Annual Meeting Minutes**

### **January 30, 2022**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY President Eric Mickelson

Pastor Molitor led us in Prayer.

Motion to accept the agenda by Arlen Fore, 2nd by Patty Mickelson

Pastor's report: It was a harsh year for deaths, but we had 5 new members. We will have to look more into reaching people online, and Pastor Linda is looking for help and ideas on how to do this.

Secretary's report was read, motion made to accept minutes:

1st - Patty Mickelson 2nd – Lavonne Brown

Treasurer's report: given by Liz Follmann, motion made to accept report:

1st - Bonny Cote 2nd – Arlen Fore

Motion to approve written reports by Liz Follman, 2nd by Arlen Fore.

Nominations: Richard Hendrickson nominated Jami Hendrickson. Conway Hamm, Steve Olson, and Diane Hanson have not found nominations, so they will be up again for nomination. There were no other nominations for the vacant position. Motion to accept nominations by Arlen Fore, 2nd by Don Brown, motion passed.

Motion to appoint Richard Hendrickson for interim treasurer by Arlen Fore, 2nd by Shirley Cyr, motion passed.

Motion to approve the budget by Lavonne Brown, 2nd by Arlen Fore, motion passed.

Next year's nomination committee is Eric Mickelson, Chad Parsley, and John Pendleton. There is still a vacant position. Conway Hamm was nominated to also be on the committee. A vote was unanimous to accept.

Education Board Member - Diane Hanson was nominated, motion by Patty Mickelson, 2nd by Arlen Fore, motion passed.

The Synod Assembly is meeting March 12 in Detroit Lakes, and on May 21 they are meeting on Zoom. If anyone is interested, contact Eric Mickleson or Pastor Linda.

# 2022 Zion Financial report

Beginning Balance: January 1, 2022 \$ 3,885.71

## Income

Offering & Coffee	\$ 34,607.77	
Tithe.ly (online offering)	\$ 12,229.75	
Transfer from Scholarship Fund	\$ 400.00	
Thivent	\$ 356.00	
Auction/Meal	\$ 1,941.00	
Replace Cash for Auction	\$ 300.00	
Fish Fry	\$ 2,533.00	
Replace Cash for Fish Fry	\$ 200.00	
Protective Life Ins. Payout (Scholarship)	\$ 463.82	
RLC Dividend Check	\$ 105.70	
Egg Bake	\$ 330.00	
Insurance Payment from Parish	\$ 481.50	
Income adjustment	\$ -	
Total Income		\$ 53,948.54

## Expenses

Budgeted Expenses		
Parish	\$ 33,605.55	
Synod	\$ 1,200.00	
Organist	\$ 768.83	
Financial Secretary	\$ 831.15	
US Treasury	\$ 132.54	
Supplies	\$ 59.65	
Fuel	\$ 3,533.22	
Electric	\$ 4,424.22	
Snow/Lawn Care	\$ -	
Insurance	\$ 4,884.56	
Repairs	\$ 270.00	
Total Budgeted Expenses		\$ 49,709.72

Non-Budgeted Expenses		
Income Adjustment	\$ 285.00	
Scholarship (Karena Melby)	\$ 400.00	
Transfer to Scholarship Fund	\$ 463.82	
Cash for Auction	\$ 300.00	
Cash for Fish Fry	\$ 200.00	
Advertisement for Auction	\$ 48.00	
Easter Flowers	\$ 77.50	
Confirmation Banquet	\$ 85.36	
Egg Bake Advertisement	\$ 18.00	
Total Non-Budgeted Expenses		\$ 1,877.68

Total Expenses \$ 51,587.40

Ending Balance: December 31, 2022 \$ 6,246.85

# Zion Passbook Savings Report

Grace McManus Scholarship \$ 772.76

**Building Fund** \$ 4,384.81

Elevator \$ 666.00

Windows \$ 3,056.78

Undesignated \$ 662.03

Memorial Fund

Undesignated \$ 2,229.94

Building \$ 2,154.71

Elevator \$ 130.00

Sunday School \$ 345.00

**Memorial Fund Total** \$ 4,859.65

Memorials given in Memory of

<b>Zion Budget</b>	<b>2022 Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>2023 Budget</b>
Parish Funds	\$ 46,000.00	\$ 33,605.55	\$ 47,000.00
Synod	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00
Synod Assembly	\$ 400.00	\$ -	\$ 400.00
Organist	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 768.83	\$ 1,500.00
Financial Secretary	\$ 900.00	\$ 831.15	\$ 900.00
U.S. Treasury	\$ 400.00	\$ 132.54	\$ 400.00
Supplies	\$ 500.00	\$ 59.65	\$ 1,000.00
Fuel	\$ 2,600.00	\$ 3,533.22	\$ 2,600.00
Electric	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 4,424.22	\$ 5,000.00
Lawn & Snow	\$ 750.00	\$ -	\$ 750.00
Insurance	\$ 4,700.00	\$ 4,884.56	\$ 5,100.00
Repairs	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 270.00	\$ 1,400.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 65,550.00</b>	<b>\$ 49,709.72</b>	<b>\$ 67,250.00</b>



# Zion Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund 2022 Report

Beginning Balance - January 1, 2022	\$37,249.63
-------------------------------------	-------------

## Income

Marge Stenberg, Memorial	50.00
Richard Burchell, Memorial	50.00
Sale of lots	550.00
Deloris Haugen, Memorial	15.00
Interest	147.59

Total Income	\$812.59
--------------	----------

## Disbursements

Cemetery Mowing	900.00
-----------------	--------

Total Disbursements	\$900.00
---------------------	----------

Ending Balance - December 31, 2022	\$37,162.22
------------------------------------	-------------

Cemetery Board  
Isaac Melby, Sexton  
Norman Nelson, Treasurer  
Cliff Melby

Submitted by  
Norman Nelson, Treasurer

# Zion Sunday School 2022

## Financial Statement

Beginning Balance 1-1-2022 \$ 1,626.06

### Income:

Offerings \$ 84.00

Coffee/Brunch \$ 122.00

Potluck \$ 211.00

Total Income: \$ 417.00

### Expenses:

Curriculum \$ 365.56

Palms \$ 41.54

Rally Sunday \$ 91.07

Christmas Program \$ 175.22

Total Expenses \$ 673.39

Balance ending 12-31-22 \$ 1,369.67

Submitted by: Liz Follmann



# Zion WELCA Treasurer's Report

Beginning Balance - January 1, 2022	1199.12
-------------------------------------	---------

## Income

Flowers	120.00
General	100.00
Bazaar	2498.00
Memorials	0.00
Total Income	<u>2718.00</u>

## Expenses

Youth Bible Camp	450.00
Gifts	50.00
Flowers, Groceries, Supplies	621.77
Donations	1750.00
Advertising	54.00
Total Expenses	<u>2925.77</u>

Ending Balance - December 31, 2022	<u><u>991.35</u></u>
------------------------------------	----------------------

Submitted by Kaye Munt

## Investors Savings Account

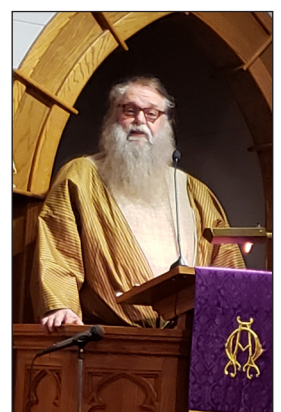
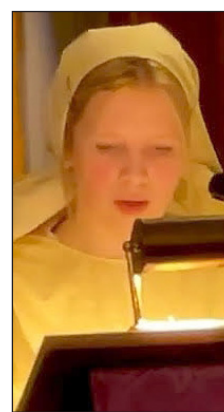
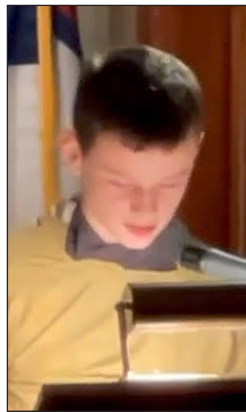
Balance ending 12-31-2022	1461.56
---------------------------	---------

# Zion Lutheran Church

## 2022 Membership Changes

	Confirmed	Baptized
<b>Beginning Membership 1/1/22</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>164</b>
<b>Additions:</b>		
Myrtle Woods	1	1
<b>Additions by Baptism</b>		
Braxton Jon Verbout		1
Crew Decker Akason		1
<b>Additions by Confirmation</b>		
Landon John Klasen	1	
Hayz Fitzgerald Hanson	1	
Benjamin Alan Lee	1	
<b>Additions by Adjustment</b>		
<b>TOTAL ADDITIONS</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Losses:</b>		
<b>Losses by Death</b>		
Winton "Mickey" Mickelson	1	1
<b>Losses By Transfer</b>		
Jerry & Judy Schue	2	2
<b>Losses By Removal</b>		
<b>TOTAL LOSSES</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Ending Membership 12/31/22</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>164</b>

## BIBLICAL VISITORS DURING LENT





## Zion Membership List

Family		Confirmed		# Con.	Baptized	# Bap
Akason	Crew					1
Austad	David	Joyce		2		2
Austad	Dean			1		1
Berns	Madison			1		1
Berns	Makay			1		1
Berns	Virginia			1		1
Brekke/Gilbertson	Casey/Kayla			2	Connor	3
Brown	Donald	LaVonne		2		2
Burbage	Dawn			1		1
Christianson	Leona			1		1
Cote	Lonny	Bonita		2		2
Cote	Vi			1		1
Cyr	Shirley			1		1
Dudycha	Jessica			1	Hunter, Hannah	3
Sirjord	Kelsie			1		1
Ekeberg	JoAnn			1		1
Flateland	Gayle			1		1
Follmann	Elizabeth			1		1
Fore	Arlan	Sheryl		2		2
Fore	Jayden			1		1
Fore	Leif	Dawn		2	Ezra	3
Gunderson	Brad	Nancy		2		2
Gunderson	Cheyenne			1	Luther VI	2
Gunderson	Jamie	Suzan		2		2
Gunderson	Shelby			1		1
Gunderson	Sydney			1		1
Halverson	Ashley (Gunderson)			1	Gunnar, Aubrey, Ellie	4
Hamm	Conway			1		1
Hamm	David			1		1
Hamm	Kari			1		1
Hanson	Diane		Noah	2		2
Hanson	Monica (Pendelton)		Lillian, Hayz	3	Jett	4
Hendrickson	Morris			1		1
Hendrickson	Richard	Jamie		2	Emma, Natalee, Lola	5
Jensen	Bonnie			1		1
Johnson	Jeff	Pam		2		2
Johnson	Marie			1		1
Johnson	Seth			1		1
Klasen	Randy	Mandy	Landon	3	Stephanie, Parker, Bryer	6
Knutson	Kayla (Hamm)			1	Theo	2
LaJambe	Doris			1		1
Larson	Bennett	Virginia		2		2
Lee	Adam	Sarah	Caden	3	Trevor, Jacob, Teagan	6
Lee	Benjamin			1		
Lee	Gary	Sandra		2		2
Lerohl	John	JoAnn		2		2
Lerohl	Katie			1		1
Lerohl	Sam			1		1
Melby	Cliff			1		1
Melby	Isaac	Marcella	Karena	3		3
Melby	Sydney			1		1
Mickelson	Eric	Patty		2		2
Mickelson	Heath			1		1
Mickelson	Marshall			1		1
Mickelson	Nickolas			1	Archer	2
Mickelson	Linda			1		1

## Zion Membership List

Moen	Jason	Shannon	Brody, Ella	4	Taylor	5
Morinville	Robyn		Keira		Jackson, Easton	
				2	Harper, Brooklyn	6
Munt	Kaye			1		1
Nelson	Amanda		Maverick	2	Avery, Davis, Trey	5
Nelson	Thomas			1		1
Nelson	Norman	lone		2		2
Nelson	Ordean			1		1
Nelson	Wallace			1		1
O'Neill	Pam			1		1
O'Neill	Cheryl			1		1
O'Neill	Logan			1		1
Olson	Corey			1		1
Olson	Nickolas			1		1
Olson	Katie			1		1
Olson	Kayla			1		1
Olson	Larry	Roberta	Aurimy	3	Lucas	4
Olson	Steve	Karen	Jacob	3		3
Opdahl	Roger	Debbie		2		2
Parsley	Chad	Amy	Tyler	3	Jaylee, Jaden	5
Pendelton	John	Tammie		2	Amy	3
Pendelton	Katie			1		1
Pendelton	Lacey			1		1
Person	David	Jennifer		2		2
Person	Jade			1		1
Peterson	Brian	Alletti	Marin	3	Alex	4
Plante	Alice			1		1
Rahier	Gary			1		1
Sandeen	Betty			1		1
Schue	Lars			1		1
Sorenson	Kenneth			1		1
Svensen	Lucille			1		0
Svensen	Everett			1		0
Swenson	Mike			1		1
Verbout	Braxton					1
Vettleson	Mark	Anita		2		2
Willett	Jeremiah			1		1
Woods	Myrtle			1		1
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>132</b>		<b>164</b>





# Activities from Salem & Zion





# Generosity

Generosity is a spiritual practice that includes more than what we give financially to the church. It includes generosity of the land, generosity of space and building, generosity of time, generosity of finance, generosity of voice and talent, generosity of leadership, and generosity of care - it all matters. What makes it possible for us to do ministry in these generous ways is our calling to live as an interdependent church. We, as the church, as a synod, have an opportunity to participate in ministry and mission that is greater than ourselves, and larger than our individual congregation's ministries. We are able to live into a much greater mission together.

Mission Support funds the work of our synod: our evangelical outreach, mobility, call process, candidacy, retreats, education, multicultural mission, support to our new start ministries, support of local social ministry, relationships with our global companion synod, ecumenical relations, synod governance, Synod Assembly, stewardship, conflict resolution, communication, and administration.

## Supporting New Ministry/ Mission Starts and their Developers



### Table of Mercy

At Table of Mercy, you will find Pr. Grant Vanderford offering a ministry of presence with our neighbors experiencing homelessness and economic insecurity, in the Moorhead area. Table of Mercy, your sister church, exists for the sake of the gospel outside the walls of a church building, walking with folks out on the streets, in local shelters and supportive housing, and wherever folks find themselves on life's journey. Table of Mercy delivers the Word and Holy Communion in places where

people do life, whether on the streets of Moorhead or at the laundromat where dignity comes in the form of clean clothes. They deliver, on behalf of all of us, a reminder that no matter whether you are housed or unhoused, you are enough, you are loved, and you are children of God.



### A Community Called Grace

A ministry of the wider Bemidji community, A Community Called Grace with Pastor Emily Papke-Larson offers space and time to meet with folks who want to engage their faith in new ways, including Outdoor Worship; Pints of Grace: Pub Theology, a monthly open gathering to discuss faith, philosophy, meaning and ideas, good beer and great conversation; Cups of Grace: Coffee Shop

Theology, a monthly open gathering similar to Pints of Grace and held in an alcohol-free setting, with good coffee and great conversation; and Fall and Spring Bible/Book Studies – with a special focus on work by LGBTQ+, BIPOC and female authors!





# Area Conversations and Strategies/Missional Vision and Planning

## A New Journey Lutheran Parish

A New Journey Lutheran Parish consists of four congregations that have worked hard over the last year to form a union for the sake of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Each of the four congregations has a long history of rich and faithful ministry. As A New Journey Lutheran Parish, they have come together to share resources, passions, and ministry to meet the needs of the neighbors in surrounding communities and to live out their calling as children of God.

Through the hard work of committed members and a willingness to build a new identity in Christ together, A New Journey Lutheran Parish lives. They have called their first pastoral leader/mission developer to join them in January to continue to nurture the growth of this ministry.



## Synod Mission Supported Ministries

The money that you generously share with the synod goes to support many ministries. From the Mission Support you give, 47% goes to the churchwide expression to enable the ELCA to begin new ministries and accompany existing congregations as growing centers for evangelical mission. These funds also provide the staff and resources for the development of new leaders, partnership with churches around the globe, alleviating poverty, working for justice and peace, and so much more.

Also, a percentage of the remaining 53% goes to support these ministry partners:

- + Lutheran Campus Ministry of Bemidji
- + Luther Seminary
- + Oak Grove Lutheran School
- + Minnesota Council of Churches
- + The Way (formerly Native American Christian Ministry)
- + Crossroads Campus Ministry at MSUM
- + ELCA Colleges and Universities
- + Lutheran Advocacy – Minnesota
- + Parish Nurse program



## Mark your calendars

Great Synod Get Together – Saturday, March 18<sup>th</sup> @ First Lutheran Church, Bemidji  
Synod Assembly – Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> @ four locations across the Synod

More information for both events coming soon!



Northwestern Minnesota Synod  
Concordia College  
Moorhead, MN 56562



218.299.3019



[www.nwmnsynod.org](http://www.nwmnsynod.org)



# Pathways Lutheran Outdoor Ministries

*"Providing unique environments where God encounters people and renews them to live lives of love"*



First and foremost, Pathways would like to say THANK YOU your many thoughts and prayers for our campers and staff as well as for your generous financial support. That support comes in a variety of ways and we are grateful. The ministry of Pathways would not be possible without each and every one of you. We especially need your continued assistance in promoting camp and encouraging people to attend our youth and family programs, so be on the lookout for brochures to share with your congregation about this summer's schedule.

In January of 2022 we welcomed our program director, Kale Johnson, to the year-round staff. Kale's leadership and passion for faith forming camp experiences are a major reason why we had a fantastic summer camping season at Camp Emmaus. We saw an increase of 52 campers compared to the previous year but we are still trailing behind pre-pandemic levels. Although short-staffed, our summer ministry team did an amazing job of connecting young people to their faith and creating an intentional, Christian community where everyone was welcome and felt God's love. In addition to our summer programs, we saw a sizeable boost in our retreat revenue with new and existing groups utilizing our spaces.

We are excited to be purchasing Camp Emmaus from Trinity Lutheran Church in Moorhead. This is a significant step forward for our organization and one we did not take lightly. We are fortunate to be in a financial position where we have completed our first \$200,000 payment giving Pathways full ownership of the camp and decision making authority over the property. We now have 5 years to complete the terms of the purchase agreement and the remaining \$500,000 payment to Trinity's capital campaign.

Throughout the year, we continue to see a variety of support throughout our donor base. We are seeing a slight decline in giving from church budgets, but we have made up for that with increases in giving from foundations/endowment funds, individual donors and businesses. Pathways is extremely grateful for the financial support that we receive. If you or your congregation have not considered supporting Pathways this past year, now is a great time to invest in the faith formation of our youth and families.

The Pathways Board of Directors voted to work with consultant and former camper, Brenda Moore & Associates. Brenda is guiding us through strategic decisions in order to align our physical assets with our mission of offering unique environments where God encounters people and renews them to live lives of love. Brenda's experience and insight are a guiding light for our organization to follow as we move into the future.

In April of 2022, we were able to participate in a Total Inclusion symposium put on by the Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Network. The Executive Director, Program Director and Board Chair were able to explore ways to make camp more inclusive and welcoming to marginalized groups. We currently have two elements that we are pursuing: guidelines for working with youth with behavioral challenges and installing handicap access to our chapel and lakefront at Camp Emmaus. We continue to look deeper into what total inclusion looks like for Pathways and our sites.



# Pathways Lutheran Outdoor Ministries

*"Providing unique environments where God encounters people and renews them to live lives of love"*



This year we completed some major facility improvement projects. The electrical work was finished on the new maintenance garage at Camp Emmaus. The boys' bath house was spruced up in a similar fashion to what we did to the girls' bath house in 2020. Thanks to a facility improvement grant we replaced water heaters, freshened up paint and completed landscaping work. At Camp Minne-Wa-Kan, Concordia Language Villages was greeted with new siding on the chapel and a freshly seal coated ball court.

While 2022 brought with it some challenges, it allowed for opportunities to grow and adapt while bringing with it some exciting successes and strengths. As we look ahead to 2023, we need your continued help and support. Your financial support allows us to continue our ministry and support the facilitation of our camping season. Besides financial support, we ask that your congregation's Pathways representative attend our Annual Meeting in March. We also strongly encourage your congregation to promote camp within your church walls and beyond. Camp happens because we have campers who want to attend, so please spread the word! Once again, thank you for your continued support. We look forward to what 2023 brings for Pathways and our partnership with your congregation!





# Oklee Parish Photo Winners



Left:  
1st Place  
Nature  
Brennen  
Christianson



Right:  
2nd Place  
Nature  
Fran Leader



Left:  
1st Place  
Community Life  
Paula  
Christianson



Right:  
2nd Place  
Community Life  
Jill  
Kolstoe





# A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDING BISHOP ELIZABETH EATON



Dear friends in Christ,

We have seen many changes throughout the years and throughout the world. Sometimes we've been left yearning for the days when things didn't feel so complicated. Other times, we have seen something new happen and have asked, "Why did this take so long?" The church has been through its own changes as well. Some of these have left us wishing for simpler times while others have us waiting for even more to come about.

But, dear church, God still is unchanging. God's love is still the foundation on which the church was built. While we have seen many changes, both in the world and at the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the eternal love of God and the good news that dwells with Christ's death and resurrection continue to provide hope for everyone. This is why our mission remains steadfast, whether that is through our traditional mission work in places near and far or from new ventures and visions that encourage us to think of different ways to reach even more people.

The writer of Hebrews reminds us: "Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God" (13:16). That could not be truer in the work we have been doing in each expression of the church. Your gifts continue to benefit the good work of spreading the good news throughout your communities, your synods and the whole church. We are all answering the call to continue to do good work with the help of your support, whether that is through your resources, your time or your talents.

I am grateful for your generous support of each expression of the church. God calls all of us to continue to do the good work, and you continue to answer that call. We also continue to join you in that call and will remain true to looking toward God's unchanging promise. There is still much change and learning that will come before us, but God's steadfast love energizes us for the work God is still doing in the world through this church.

In Christ,

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

**"Do not neglect to do good and  
to share what you have, for such  
sacrifices are pleasing to God"**

(Hebrews 13:16).

# ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

## OPENING LITURGY

### Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart

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.**

The musical score is written for four voices (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in the key of B-flat major (two flats) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a steady rhythm. The lyrics are printed below the vocal staves, with some words in italics. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and single notes, providing a harmonic foundation for the voices.

1 Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart;  
2 I ask no dream, no proph - et ec - sta - sies;  
3 Have you not bid me love you, God and King;  
4 Teach me to love you as your an - gels love,

wean it from earth, through all its puls - es move;  
no sud - den rend - ing of the veil of clay;  
all, all your own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind?  
one ho - ly pas - sion fill - ing all my frame:

stoop to my weak - ness, strength to me im - part,  
no an - gel vis - i - tant, no op - 'ning skies;  
I see your cross; there teach my heart to cling,  
the bap - tism of the heav'n - de - scend - ed dove,

and make me love you as I ought to love.  
but take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.  
Oh, let me seek you and, oh, let me find!  
my heart an al - tar, and your love the flame.

Text: George Croly, 1780-1860

Music: MORECAMBE, Frederick C. Atkinson, 1841-1897

Text and music are in the public domain. Reproduced from Evangelical Lutheran Worship, hymn #800. May be reproduced without restriction.