



MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH OF CAMROSE

Sharing Jesus Christ with All People



Living
our
Faith



2021

-

2022

CONGREGATIONAL

Annual Report



*To fulfill its mission, as stated in the Constitution
and in its mission statement, the congregation is guided by
core values which it adopted on May 31, 2006:*

God loves everyone.

Jesus is Lord.

We seek to be led by the Holy Spirit.

We rely fully on the Word of God.

God gives everyone gifts to share.



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A Message From Our Synod Bishop

Beloved of God,

May grace and peace be yours in abundance (1 Peter 1:2a).

I send you greetings in the Name of the One who is the light of the world, Jesus our Lord, as you gather for your Annual General Congregational Meeting. When you gather know that I am filled with gratitude to God for you; that I am thankful for our partnership in the gospel; and, that you continue to be in my prayers as I know I remain in yours.

This COVID-era has been a time of liminal space. The word “liminal” refers to a threshold; it is a word used to describe that which exists at the threshold, the border, between one thing and another.

You, as lay leaders, rostered leaders, congregations and ministries, have navigated these challenging times with perseverance, compassion, and hope. You have worked hard to ensure that your communities would be sustained and encouraged during these times. You have found ways to stay in touch, to communicate with one another, often in new and unexpected ways.

This threshold time has brought with it new understandings and learnings, changed attitudes, a re-assessing of what we should be about, treasuring some things and perhaps setting others aside.

But even aside from COVID, for many years now, the church has been living in a liminal space, seeking to discern God’s activity among us, in our communities, out there in our neighbourhoods.

There are new opportunities and possibilities before us, including recommitting to a missional model of listening, discerning, experimenting, reflecting, and learning, while continuing to ask the questions: where is God in our neighborhood? our community? our world? And equally important: how might we join God in God’s mission?

Creativity, ingenuity, openness, support, encouragement, trust, community.

When you gather, you will be making decisions about your priorities for ministry. You will be adopting budgets that enable ministry that joins in God’s mission of reconciliation in the world. You will be supporting your partners in ministry – the rostered ministers of this Synod, and especially those who serve among you as they, first and foremost, seek to equip you for the work of ministry: the building up of the Body of Christ.

Joining God’s mission means that your ministry is among the people with whom you live and move and have your being. Your ministry is done each day in the living out of your baptismal identity as God’s beloved children through your service in word and deed.



Ministry continues beyond the neighborhood and congregation through the many faces of the church and many facets of its ministries: our Synod and its staff, our National Church expression, the Lutheran World Federation, and our Companion Synod – The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Colombia.

As you gather be sure to join others across the Synod as you:

Receive and share the 2022 Synod Narrative Budget. I encourage you to share the brief Narrative Budget prepared in two formats for your use, hard copy text and video format

Review the Synod Council Meeting "Talking Points" (<https://albertasynod.ca/synodcouncil-highlights/>)

Subscribe to our Synod's e-mail newsletter: Wednesday's Word, Subscribing is easy on our Synod's website

Participate in learning and conversation the second Thursday (noon-1pm) of each month through Synod Connect, and/or the Rostered Leaders Zoom Gathering the first and third Wednesdays of each month, and/or the Lay Leaders Zoom Gathering the first Tuesday evening of each month.

Perhaps at this year's Annual General Meeting you might reflect, name and give thanks for the gifts and mission into which God has invited you and your congregation. Consider taking a few moments in small groups to listen to each other and then share with all gathered reflections on the following:

Share about a time or situation when you or your congregation recently experienced God's love.

What have we learned in this liminal time about what is important in our life together as the body of Christ?

As you gather, I ask you to prayerfully consider forwarding a tithe (1/10th) of your annual income as a congregation as your minimal offering for Benevolence for the ministry of the Synod and through the Synod to the wider Church. Some congregations have exceeded this mark already, but I would encourage all congregations to set this goal.

Thank you for your witness to patient trust in God and to sacrificial, cruciform love for your neighbors.

Know that I continue to be inspired and excited by the creative ways in which you have proclaimed the Gospel, offered pastoral care, knit together the body of Christ, and served the neighbor in our current reality.

Continue to be humble and gentle with one another. Honor each other. Make space for lament. Welcome moments of joy. Help each other live into hope. Learn from this journey in the coronavirus wilderness and let the learning lead us forward. Trust that God is at work in this time and look for the new things God is doing even now.

Know that you are held in prayer.

Most importantly, know that God is with you and even now is planning and nourishing seeds of resurrection life.

My support, prayers, and thanks accompany you. May God bless us and strengthen us to be the church we are called to be.

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit (Romans 15:13).

In Christ Jesus-
Shalom,

+The Rev. Dr. Larry Kochendorfer, Bishop
Synod of Alberta and the Territories
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

Spirit-Led Leadership Hope-Filled Discipleship Innovative Tradition Collaborative Partnerships

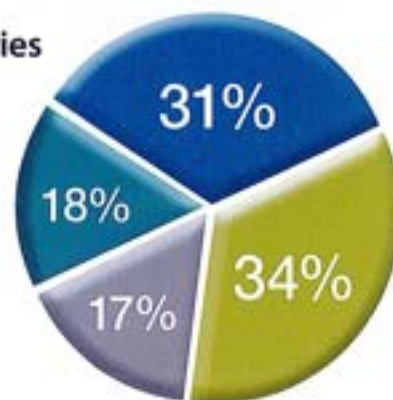




2022 Synod of Alberta and the Territories Budget

The Synod's 2022 budget of **\$768,950** supports ministries carried out under the umbrella of four Mission Priorities.

Spirit-Led Leadership – 34%
Collaborative Partnerships – 31%
Innovative Traditions – 18%
Hope-Filled Discipleship – 17%



Collaborative Partnerships

- We work to build relationships and partnerships with all people who seek a just and peaceful world.
- We seek opportunities to work together as congregations, specialized ministries, and Areas of our Synod, our Companion Synod, the ELCIC, and through the ELCIC with international partners.
- We serve with the Anglican Church of Canada and seek to strengthen relationships with ecumenical and interfaith partners witnessing mutual respect, and good stewardship.
- We express God's grace and love as we seek to abide in right relations with Indigenous Peoples and marginalized members of society.

Hope-Filled Discipleship

- We are a community of lifelong learners engaged in the practices of Biblical study, prayer, and reflection, including Dwelling in the Word.
- We welcome and affirm all people, with the uniqueness of their gifts, as valued partners in ministry.
- We equip, support, and inspire one another to be Christ's presence in the world.
- We practice healthy stewardship of creation, of our time, gifts, and resources in order to care for creation, serve our neighbour, and strengthen the body of Christ.

Innovative Traditions

- We are led by a faithful God as we walk together through changing times.
- We celebrate the continuing *semper reformanda* (always reforming) spirit of our Lutheran tradition in light of changing contexts.
- We seek the capacity to support creative and flexible approaches to ministry.
- We learn from experimentation and innovation.

Spirit-Led Leadership

- We mentor, support, and accompany lay and rostered leaders in ministry formation in order to equip the body of Christ for mission and ministry.
- We nurture a vision for joining God's mission in the world through listening, discerning, experimenting, reflecting, and learning.
- We model Jesus' presence in organizational and governance structures and in approaches to conflict resolution.

THANK YOU for your benevolence offerings, which, combined with those received from other congregations across the Synod, are vitally important and crucial to funding the Synod's ministries in 2022.

OUR VALUED PARTNERS INCLUDE

Anglican Church of Canada, Calgary Alliance for the Common Good, Canadian Lutheran World Relief, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, Greater Edmonton Alliance, The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Colombia, KAIROS, Lutheran Theological Seminary, Lutheran World Federation, World Council of Churches.

Agenda
Annual Congregational Meeting
June 12, 2022 1:00 pm In Person & via ZOOM

- 1. Welcome and Call to Order:** David Dahle
- 2. Opening Devotions:** Pastor Bev Swanson (page 9)
- 3. Visioning: A Special Presentation**
- 4. Motion to Hold Meeting In Person and via ZOOM**
- 5. Consideration and Adoption of Agenda**
- 6. Review of Congregational Meeting Minutes**
 - 6.1.** Annual Congregational Meeting of June 6, 2021 (page 10)
 - 6.2.** Special Congregational Meeting of October 17, 2021 (page 16)
- 7. Consideration of Reports**
 - 7.1.** Report of the Acting Senior Pastor (page 19)
 - 7.2.** Church Council Report (page 26)
 - 7.3.** Reports of the Committees (page 28)
 - 7.4.** Report of the Auxiliary (page 39)
 - 7.5.** Other Report (page 41)
 - 7.6.** Congregational Statistics (page 42)
- 8. Organizational Matters**
 - 8.1. Report of the Nominating Group and Elections** (page 43)

Installation of those elected will be _____.

The **Annual Planning Meeting** Phase 1: Committees are asked to arrange to meet as soon as possible to compile contact information and elect a Chair and a Secretary of the Committee. Please give these to Lori at the church office. Phase 2: To Be Announced - This meeting involves all members of Church Council and Standing Committee Chairs: Learning, Service, Support, Witnessing and Worship.
 - 8.2 Recommendations from Church Council**
 - 8.2.1 Bylaw Changes** (page 44)
 - 8.2.2 Collaboration Agreement** (page 45)
- 9. Endowment Fund Interest**
 - 9.1. Ministry Endowment Fund:**

That available income from the Ministry Endowment Fund be used as follows: \$1,000 to support needy children attending schools of the Lutheran Church in Colombia, and \$4,834.32 to support the costs of calling a second pastor.
- 10. Financial Matters**
 - 10.1. Motion for authorized signatories for charitable donation receipts**

That any one of the following be authorized to sign charitable receipts for Messiah Lutheran Church: 1) Mary Broen 2) Bookkeeper 3) Treasurer
 - 10.2. Motion for Appointment of Auditors**
 - 10.2.1.** That Messiah use an Internal Audit for the 2022-2023 fiscal year.
 - 10.2.2.** That _____, _____ and _____ be appointed to the Audit Group as auditors for Messiah Lutheran Church for the year ending April 30, 2023.
- 11. Motion for Signing Authority**

That any two of the following be appointed to sign cheques for Messiah Lutheran Church: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Bookkeeper.
- 12. Financial Reports and Recommended Budget** (pages 48-57)
- 13. Concluding Remarks**
- 14. Closing Devotions:** Pastor Bev Swanson (back cover)
- 15. Adjournment**

WORSHIP FOR A CONGREGATIONAL ANNUAL MEETING

OPENING THE MEETING

PRAYER

Gracious and loving God, we give you thanks for gathering us together into your church — whether we be in person, online or some combination of the two — to discern the work you call us to do. While this last year has been hard in many different ways, we know that you are with us at all times and in all places. Help us to know and trust your deep love and care. We ask that you help guide us today as we do your work. May we seek to be generous, compassionate, loving people of God. Keep us mindful of the many other needs in the world – conflicts, refugees, poverty, and all other concerns that we name before you now. All this we pray in your name. *Amen.*

READING 1 Timothy 6:17-19

HYMN *Gather Us In*
EvLW #532

LITANY

Leader: Your love has called us here. We acknowledge our anxiety. May we have the courage to pursue experimentation and innovation, and in all things practice a ministry of accompaniment.

All: *Be with us, God.*

Leader: Your love calls us to nurture Reconciled Relationships. To challenge racism and privilege, strive for peace and a healthy relationship with the Earth, and work towards a vision of an inclusive church.

All: *Be with us, God.*



Leader: Your love calls us to work together with one another, to share our resources and be in good communication.

All: *Be with us, God.*

Leader: Your love calls us to be faithful gospel witnesses. Let us seek ways to engage and empowered youth and youth adults, and look for opportunities to provide leadership and development for a changing world.

All: *Be with us, God.*
Amen.

HYMN *They Will Know We Are Christians*



Messiah Lutheran Church of Camrose
Minutes of the Annual Congregation Meeting
June 6, 2021 7:00 pm via ZOOM

1. Congregation President, Charlene Brown, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.
2. Pastor Calvin Skriver opened with the devotions as printed on the back cover of the Annual Report.
3. **MSC** that we hold the meeting via ZOOM.

4. Agenda

MSC that the agenda be adopted as printed.

5. Minutes

5.1 MSC (Dave Rogers, Jonathan Hawkins) that the minutes of the Annual Congregational Meeting of June 14, 2020 be adopted as presented with the addition of Elaine Taylor to the list of attendees for 2020.

6. Reports

6.1. Report of the Senior Pastor

As printed in the Annual Report with no further comments or questions.

6.2. Report of the Associate Pastor

As printed in the Annual Report. Pastor Bev spoke briefly to the discernment process and invited members to begin praying and listening for how God may be directing Messiah in the future even as plans are being made and a leadership team for the process is being formed.

6.3. Officers' Reports

As printed in the Annual Report.

The President thanked all those involved in bringing our worship services to life on-line, saying it was humbling to see the dedication, hard work and creativity of all those involved.

6.4. Reports of the Committees

Learning Committee: As printed in the Annual Report. Ray Blacklock added to the report that the Men's Bible Study group has flourished over the year despite not meeting in person. He thanked staff for their support and all those who gathered.

Service Committee: As printed in the Annual Report. Don Rebus reported that the Care Project has kicked into action with four requests for help that brought joy to those who received and those who gave assistance.

Support Committee: As printed in the Annual Report. Ron Foshaug thanked the members of the committee and helpers for all their work and resourcefulness.

Witnessing Committee: As printed in the Annual Report.

World Mission Group: As printed in the Annual Report.

Refugee Support Group: As printed in the Annual Report.

Camrose Refugee Centre: As printed in the Annual Report.

Worship Committee: As printed in the Annual Report.

6.5. Report of the Auxiliary

Messiah Lutheran Women: As printed in the Annual Report. Mary Broen announced that there will be a garage sale, date to be announced. As it will include a craft corner, she invited all crafters to get busy. Revenue will go to Messiah.

6.6. Other Reports

Hastings Lake Lutheran Bible Camp: As printed in the Annual Report with no further comments or questions.

6.7. Congregational Statistics

Received as printed with no questions or comments.

MSC (David Dahle/David Larson) that the reports be received into the record.

7. Organizational Matters

7.1. Report of the Nominating Group and Elections

The vice-President presented the Nominating Group Report with the following additions: Vice-president: Agnes Hoveland 2021-2023; Support Committee: Lois Larson and Don Saltvold 2021-2023. Volunteers are still needed for the Learning Committee (1) and Council - liaison with Service Committee (1).

MSC (David Dahle/Dena Grue) to adopt the slate of officers and committee members as presented.

Gratitude and appreciation were expressed to Charlene Brown and Chris Hohm for their leadership and hard work over the past year. Both are leaving their Council positions.

7.2 MSC (David Dahle/Dave Larson) that the following be added to the Bylaws.

2.11 Conflict Of Interest

2.11.A A Church Council member shall declare a conflict of interest and will not take part in any discussion or vote if he or she or any member of their immediate family in any way, directly or indirectly, benefits from an existing or proposed contract, transaction or arrangement with the congregation.

2.11.B The Church Council may declare that a real or perceived conflict of interest exists with a Council member and that member will not participate in any discussion or vote.

4.5 Conflict of Interest

4.5.A A committee member shall declare a conflict of interest and will not take part in any discussion or vote if he or she or any member of their immediate family in any way, directly or indirectly, benefits from an existing or proposed contract, transaction or arrangement with the congregation.

4.5.B A committee may declare that a real or perceived conflict of interest exists with a committee member and that member will not participate in any discussion or vote.

8. Endowment Funds Interest

8.1. No action.

8.2. MSC (from Council) that accumulated Panoptic Endowment interest funds go to the Messiah World Mission Group to be assigned to the support of needy children attending the schools of the Lutheran Church in Colombia.

9. Financial Matters

9.1. MSC (David Dahle/Dave Larson) that any one of the following be authorized to sign charitable receipts for Messiah Lutheran Church: 1) Mary Broen 2) Bookkeeper 3) Treasurer 4) MLW Treasurer

9.2.1 MSC (Erhard Pinno/Gordon Myrehaug) that Messiah use an Internal Audit for the 2021-2022 fiscal year. **AND**

9.2.2. that Max Lindstrand, Yvonne Myrehaug, and LeRoy Johnson be appointed to the Audit Committee as auditors for Messiah Lutheran Church for the year ending April 30, 2022.

10. Signing authority MSC (Stephen Kristenson/Jonathan Hawkins) that any two of the following be appointed to sign cheques for Messiah Lutheran Church: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Bookkeeper.

11. Financial Report and Recommended Budget

Discussion: Although giving remained faithful during the past year, Council recognized the need to develop some short- and long-term strategies for managing our resources in a realistic manner. A Budget Task Force has submitted some recommendation for consideration. Talks are beginning with other congregations in the area as to how we might collaborate in some areas. The discernment process will also help us understand where God wants us to serve.

MSC (Chris Hohm/Dave Rogers) that the 2021-22 budget be accepted as presented.

12. Concluding Remarks

The President thanked everyone for how we have pulled together in remarkable ways during this remarkable year. Ray Blacklock added his thanks and posed the idea of some sort of celebration of God's goodness to us. Pastor Calvin thanked the staff for their hard work and commitment, and everyone for their work, willingness to adapt and ongoing support.

13. Closing Devotions: Pastor Bev Swanson

Pastor Bev led closing devotions ending with the song, One in the Spirit. And the previously muted people said: Thanks be to God. Thank you. Thank you.

14. Adjournment at 8:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Gail Stolee
Council Secretary

Attachments:

List of Voting Members Present (page 13)

2021-2022 Council and Committee Members (page 14)

2021-2022 Budget (page 15)

List of Attendees Annual Congregational Meeting June 6, 2021

Carolyn Andersen
Sheila Becker
Norma Blacklock
Ray Blacklock
Jim Brager
Marie Brager
Lavona Broen
Lorne Broen
Mary Broen
Charlene Brown
Neil Brown
Darlene Dahle
David Dahle
Mary Ellen Eriksson
Vincent Eriksson
Sylvia Engen Espe
Loretta Foshaug
Ron Foshaug
Milt Gilbertson
Nora Gilbertson
Sharon Gilbertson
Dena Grue
Alice Haldorson
Karen Hansen
Jonathan Hawkins
Michelle Kennedy-Hawkins
Chris Hohm
Rosanna Heise Hohm
Agnes Hoveland
James Hoveland
Laverne Hoveland
Marilyn Hoveland
Helga Jensen
Ioan Jober
Eleanor Kopperud
Jane Kristenson
Steve Kristenson

Dave Larson
Lue Lindseth
Alice Lindstrand
Max Lindstrand
Donny Loewen
Shirley Loewen
Vi Madison
Lori Mokry
Don Myrehaug
Gordon Myrehaug
Joanne Myrehaug
Yvonne Myrehaug
Frieda Ness
Ruth Ofrim
Carolyn Olson
Karen Olson
Kiva Olson
Lloyd Olson
Odell Olson
Erhard Pinno
Don Rebus
Leann Reinhart
Dave Rogers
Don Saltvold
Letha Saltvold
Carole Saugen
Ivar Saugen
Arlene Skriver
Pastor Calvin Skriver
Ken Skriver
Lori Skriver
Pastor Bev Swanson
Dale Swanson
Elaine Taylor
Cece Watts
Wilf Willing
83267107912 (unknown who this caller was)

74 Attendees



Messiah Lutheran Church of Camrose 2021 - 2022 Council and Committee Members

Church Council

President

David Dahle to June 2023

Vice-President

Agnes Hoveland to June 2023

Secretary

Gail Stolee to June 2023

Treasurer

Dave Stolee to June 2022

Members at Large

Carolyn Andersen to June 2023

Dave Larson to June 2022

Donny Loewen to June 2022

Lael Olson to June 2022

Vacant to vacant

Committees

Learning Committee

Cathie Bartlett, Maureen Engen, Karen Hansen, Karen Olson to June 2022

Dave Rogers to June 2023

Service Committee

Sharon Gilbertson, Ben & Bev Thomas,

Bonnie Smith & Ralph Van Assen to June 2022

Don Rebus..... to June 2023

Support Committee

Ron Foshaug, Milt Gilbertson, Carl Hoybak, Don Myrehaug, Gord Myrehaug,

Dale Swanson to June 2022

Lois Larson, Don Saltvold to June 2023

Witnessing Committee

Stacey Haugen, Erhard Pinno, Ken Skriver to June 2022

Shirley Loewen, Sharon Ofrim, Leann Reinhart to June 2021

Worship Committee

Darlene Dahle, Rosanna Hohm, Cheryl Nester..... to June 2022

Dena Grue, Ioan Jobber, Lue Lindseth to June 2023

Resigned during the year.



**MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH
2021/22 BUDGET
To April 30, 2022**

	Budget 2021/22
Revenue	
Envelopes	325,000
Envelopes NSNO Declared	14,700
Envelope total	339,700
Plate	-
MLC general	5,300
Easter	6,000
Lent	200
Thanksgiving	10,000
Christmas	12,000
Music performances	-
Facility use and fees# for service	6,000
Expense recoveries	
Interest & Other recoveries**	4,200
Operating Revenue	383,400
*Restricted Donations	
Revenue	383,400
Designated	
Total Revenue	

*change in accounting procedures

**includes common share interest

Expenses

Neighbor Aid	2,400
Synod Benevolence	35,795
Salaries & benefits	305,243
Program expenses	
Worship - schedule 1	5,150
Learning - schedule 2	3,900
Witness - schedule 3	200
Service - schedule 4	700
Support - schedule 5**	75,750
Capital projects - schedule 5	-
Expenses	429,138
Designated	-
Total expenses	429,138

Excess (deficit) income	(45,738)
Restricted funds transferred	
Excess (def) operating income	(45,738)

Messiah Lutheran Church of Camrose
Minutes of the Special Congregational Meeting
October 17, 2021 7:00 pm via ZOOM

Opening Prayer: President David Dahle

- 1. MSC** that the Agenda be adopted as presented.
- 2. MSC** that the meeting be held by Zoom with permission to record.
- 3. MSC** that the recommendation from Church Council regarding the Mission Endowment Fund and the Panoptic Mission Endowment Fund be accepted as presented. The motion reads as follows:

There are three parts to the recommendation:

- A. Combine the original Mission Endowment Fund and the Panoptic Mission Endowment Fund.*
- B. Invest the balance in the two endowment funds with ELFEC (Evangelical Lutheran Foundation of Eastern Canada).*
- C. Replace the existing Endowment Fund Policies with the following:*

MINISTRY ENDOWMENT FUND

- 1. The purpose of the Ministry Endowment Fund is to enhance the mission of the church by funding new and ongoing ministry projects.*
- 2. The earnings generated by the fund should encourage and enable Messiah to continue to provide for innovative ministry to the community of Camrose and other parts of the world. The intention of the Fund is to find more opportunities to meet needs in our congregation and communities without impacting the current cash flow reflected in the ongoing operational budget.*
- 3. The sources of funds for the Ministry Endowment Fund may include any gift designated for the Fund by the donor, or any bequest designated for the Fund by Church Council. It may include planned gifts such as, but not limited to, cash, bequests, life insurance, trusts, real property, securities, mineral rights and charitable gift annuities.*
- 4. Gifts to the Ministry Endowment Fund which are not in the form of cash shall be liquidated in a prudent, orderly and timely manner.*
- 5. The capital of the fund shall be invested through ELFEC, the Evangelical Lutheran Foundation of Eastern Canada, and only investment returns shall be used. It is acknowledged that this includes an element of risk, and that some years there may be investment losses. The amount to be used shall be determined by Church Council on an annual basis taking into consideration investment returns averaged over the preceding five years.*
- 6. Recommendations for areas of ministry to be funded by the available income of the Ministry Endowment Fund will be presented by Church Council for consideration by the membership of Messiah Lutheran Church at its annual meeting or at a constitutionally called special meeting.*
- 7. Members of Messiah Lutheran Church may suggest to Church Council in writing at least two months in advance of the annual meeting about how the earnings should be spent.*
- 8. The terms of this policy may be amended or revoked by a vote of the congregation at its annual congregational meeting or at a constitutionally called special meeting.*
- 9. This policy does not create a trust.*

4. Report on the state of affairs at Messiah

a. The Vice-President reviewed the six-month interim staffing plan including the creation of the position of Administrative Coordinator currently held by Lori Mokry and the move of Pastor Bev to Acting Senior Pastor. During this interim period all positions will be reviewed and updated.

b. The Treasurer expressed gratitude to all who had contributed to the Roof Fund and announced that the small balance remaining will be covered by a generous bequest from the estate of Norma Branes.

The deficits of the past few years and including in this year's budget are not sustainable. The departure of one pastor will have some impact this year. If giving remains at the strong levels shown over the summer, we may be able to achieve a balanced budget by the end of this fiscal year.

Some concern was expressed that the savings achieved be used to top up other salaries.

At this time, the plan is to engage preaching relief for Pastor Bev on a once-a-month basis.

c. The President explained that the Restrictions Exemption Program (REP) was adopted to enable weddings, funerals, receptions and other gatherings. The additions beyond the provincial REP were in order to ensure maximum safety between all persons coming in close contact in the church.

d. The President, Pastor Bev and one member of Council have been conferring with representatives from our sister churches in New Norway and Bashaw about future collaboration and sharing of services. The current thought seems to be to share a pastor on half and quarter time bases. A proposal will be prepared for the October 20 Council meeting.

These are early stage discussions and would require congregational approval. Nothing could realistically be enacted until at least May 2022.

Pastor Bev noted that one student from New Norway has already been welcomed into the confirmation program here.

5. Pastor Bev Swanson offered a closing prayer. The meeting adjourned at 8:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Gail Stolee
Council Secretary

Attachments:
List of Voting Members Present (page 18)



List of Attendees Special Congregational Meeting October 17, 2021

Andersen, Carolyn
Blacklock, Norma
Blacklock, Ray
Brager, Jim
Brager, Marie
Dahle, Darlene
Dahle, David
Foshaug, Loretta
Foshaug, Ron
Grue, Dena
Hansen, Karen
Harder, Signe
Hawkins, Caleb
Hawkins, Jonathan
Hawkins, Michelle
Hohm, Chris
Hohm, Rosanna
Hoybak, Carl
Hoveland, Agnes
Hoveland, James
Jensen, Dan
Jensen, Helga
Jober, Ioan
Kristenson, Jane
Kristenson, Steve
Lindseth, Lue
Lindstrand, Alice
Lindstrand, Max

Loewen, Donny
Loewen, Shirley
McFall, Shirley
Olson, Karen
Olson, Kiva
Olson, Lloyd
Olson, Odell
Pinno, Erhard
Reinhart, Leann
Rogers, Dave
Rogers, Patricia
Roy, Carole
Saltvold, Don
Saltvold, Letha
Saugen, Carole
Saugen, Ivar
Skriver, Arlene
Skriver, Ken
Stolee, Dave
Stolee, Gail
Swanson, Pastor Bev
Swanson, Dale
Taylor, Elaine
Thygesen, Ellalynn
Vanderjagt, Leny

53 Attendees



PASTORAL REPORT

Acting Senior Pastor

As look over the last year, so much has happened... so much has changed or shifted and much continues as it always has.

In August, Pastor Calvin Skriver left and our staffing configuration shifted. Lori Mokry was given some of the administrative duties and I took on the leadership as Acting Senior Pastor. This included adding to my present role some of the other leadership duties as well as leading and supervising our staff. I will name some of the areas I have worked in and am responsible for as I move through this report. I also want to note that as things have transitioned it has taken us all a bit of adjusting as we discovered our new roles. We are still in a bit of that adjustment, but it is becoming smoother as time moves on. It is also an adjustment as we slowly wind our way out of this pandemic that is present, as we find our new way of being together. Some things are back to usual and others not there yet and some things many never be the same. I would like to outline the main areas of my ministry, although I will not likely touch on everything that I am involved in. They are not named in any order of importance, as all of these ministries are very important, but because our worship is where we start our week, and it carries out into our lives, I will begin with worship.

WORSHIP:

I begin with Worship because it is, of course, at the core of our ministry as it is not only about worship services. We worship in our services and we carry that worship out into our lives. In fact, worship and our work are part and parcel of each other. Our work is how we live out our worship in the world.

I oversee the worship services working alongside our very competent staff and so many amazing volunteers. Our worship services are a joint effort, Tova and I meet regularly to plan worship. Then she takes the music end of things and does her magic with planning music as well as working with worship leaders, while I work with the liturgy, prayers, preaching and children's message. We then come together weekly to go over the service the next Sunday. The office staff (Lori and Shirley McFall) work on the bulletin with input from myself and Tova as well as making sure the readers have what they need. The tech team, led by Lowell Dahlman, and supported by many volunteers then makes sure it goes on line and is supported during the service. Tova enters the script into the screens and makes sure our copyright information is correct and Lowell adds the graphics. Then behind the scenes we have the volunteers who makes sure other things are taken care of like ushering, preparing communion, creating schedules for readers and communion servers and preparation and chancel care, live-streaming and broadcasting, running the screens and the sound. Meanwhile we have a faithful group of people working to make sure worship happens during service for our children (including help with the children's message as well). This is another part of our Sunday morning worship. As we end our service we then carry our worship into our lives and the world beginning now with coffee fellowship organized by our Witnessing Committee which is an extension of our worship together.

I appreciate the work of every single person in our worship preparation and on Sunday mornings. I am sharing this in a bit more detail because I am not sure many of you know how much goes into each Sunday's worship. It's quite something to think about when you see it all come together. It is a joy to oversee such an amazing group of people working together to make worship happen in our midst. It must make God's heart glad too.

Our Worship Committee works tirelessly behind the scenes and in person to support all of this process. The pandemic was a huge amount of work for our Worship Committee as they worked so hard to make sure all the protocols were in place for safety. So I want to send a special thanks to the Worship Committee who saw that all this was handled so carefully and efficiently. It took a lot of extra work! And thanks to all who do so much every Sunday, staff and volunteers, to make our worship experience meaningful and a good experience for all. **THANKS SO MUCH ALL OF YOU!**

I have also been very concerned with the many who could not receive communion during the pandemic. I am happy to announce that I can once more enter the lodges and homes to bring communion. Please let me know if you want communion brought to you privately or as a group.

WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS:

Of course, officiating at weddings and funerals are a huge part of our worship together. I enjoy preparing couples for their union. It is an honor to be with families as they grieve and celebrate the lives of those they love, as well as be with people as they are in those last days and moments of their lives. There have been some funerals we are now catching up on as people were not able to meet to honor their loved ones during the pandemic and many people chose to wait to have these services.

LEADERSHIP OF STAFF:

I am the one in charge of leading our staff, both on a day to day basis and spiritually. Our staff meets every week on Thursday over lunch hour to reflect on our lives in ministry, to pray together, to support one another and to discuss the areas of ministry that we are involved in. We also attempt to meet regularly socially to connect or for retreat time together. We did have a staff retreat where we went through the discernment process together and enjoyed a meal together. This was a wonderful time of connection and sharing. I have also had an opportunity to meet with each of our staff to do staff reviews in the past year and to check in and find out where I can best support their ministry. The staff interact quite a bit as we minister together, and I am always aware of needs and available should they need to talk. I really appreciate all the gifts this ministry team brings to our midst along with the leadership of our council and committees. I am very grateful for our ministry team that works with me so tirelessly to serve this congregation using the gifts they have each been given. There is quite a gap when there is only one pastor here, so many including some of you in our church, have had to step up to help. I appreciate all of the support and help you have each offered in this time of transition. Some of their reports will follow mine.

ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS:

I am in attendance in as many committee meetings as possible. (sometimes my schedule does not allow me to attend) As well, I attend council meetings and ministerial meetings. All of these are opportunities to connect with all of you in many ways. I am constantly grateful for how everyone in our church works so well in ministry together.

There are regular synod meetings, as well as meetings with our East Central area which are connections with fellow pastors and diaconal ministers. I recently attended a retreat with our East Central pastors out at Hastings. This was a great time of fellowship. I only attended our pastor's study conference on zoom this year. Hopefully, next year I can go to the in person event, usually held in Canmore. There have also been some synod meetings that worked on possible collaboration in the area. I find I have to gage just how many meetings that I attend as I need time for other parts of my ministry.

PASTORAL CONNECTIONS: (pastoral care, counseling, visiting, phone visits and on line connections)

I support our people in our faith community and our city in various ways. With some I meet to visit and talk and provide care either in person, on zoom or by phone or texting. These are sacred times as we journey in faith and life together. If you would like a visit any time please do let me know. Many people contact me by phone or text or at the office. My cell number is available to make contact.

We have only been allowed to visit in hospital, because of Covid-19, when people are palliative or under special circumstances. This is hard as a pastor because we want to be present when you are in hospital or needing care when you are ill. You remain in our prayers and our thoughts. I think these things will open up as time goes on. All of us in ministry find this hard. If you or a loved one is needing end of life care please and would like me to come please do let me know so that I can be there with you.

Lately, we have been able to enter the lodges for visiting. This has allowed for some opportunities to make visits and hold services and bring communion. We can now also visit in people's homes in lodges. I value these moments and if you want a pastoral visit please too let me know. I am always happy to come.

Also, our coffee time after church has begun and that has been so good to connect in that way. I love to join the Wednesday morning zoom coffees and our summer coffee on the lawn. These times of connecting are so enjoyable.

During the pandemic, I started to put a weekly devotional connection on line for people to join with. Many have expressed that this "**Connecting in the Word**" has been appreciated in amongst your week. If you are not familiar with this, you can find it on line through our website.

DISCERNMENT PROCESS AND SMALL GROUP MINISTRY:

I have had many opportunities to lead small groups this past year. The main focus of our small group ministry has been on our discernment groups. These times of discerning together were so rich, as we celebrated, remembered, looked forward and dreamed together. The discernment thoughts were compiled into a summary which was put in the last Messenger for you to see. These results along with our visioning day have been compiled and will guide our direction as we move forward and plan.

Other small groups that I led this past year began as Alpha concluded. These included the initial planning group for discernment and the other discernment groups beginning in January, Advent groups as well as a study on "Connecting through Creation" last Spring.

As well, many other small groups took place in our midst that I was not a part of. This part of our church ministry is so important for our connections. (this came out very strongly in our discernment process) And so I will be looking at some new groups in the fall.

YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY:

We had a wonderful confirmation connection weekly, which is a collaboration between our congregation, the congregations out at New Norway and Armena. We met with the kids on Zoom and it has worked very well.

We were finally able to confirm our students in June of last year where we combined two classes (Covid did not allow us to do an in person confirmation until June 2021) We started out our opening of worship services with a wonderful confirmation

celebration time. What a way to begin meeting together again! This year our confirmation Sunday will take place in August.

We also have some really neat new opportunities with our youth. In conjunction with our CLBI students as their practicum, we gathered two groups together. We had 5-6 senior girls who met with two of our CLBI gals weekly for youth events together. This was so successful that the young people as well as their leaders enjoyed it fully. We would like to continue this in this fall because it was so successful. Then we gathered the boys in youth program with Jon Stolee and some CLBI male students. These gatherings were equally successful. It seemed that having two groups worked well at this time because of the ages of the kids. We hope this can also continue in the fall.

We have not had much for family activities in our church during the pandemic but we are starting some family gatherings now as things open up.

Sunday School has continued as we opened up and they met every second week. The attendance has been very steady and it has gone well. In keeping with this we have continued to have children's messages always in our services on line and in person once we started meeting. These are appreciated by the families but also by some adults I hear.

ACTING SENIOR PASTOR MINISTRY:

Along with the things I have mentioned above, there are many other day to day things that I am a part of because of my leadership role here. It includes day to day decision making, work with our administrative staff to make things run smoothly, writing articles and newsletters, writing reference letters that are requested and taking phone calls in the office, visits and just sitting down to discuss a sermon or a spiritual need or to pray together. If you have any needs or a desire to connect, I really encourage you to drop in or give me a call. As you can see my role is many faceted and I would not succeed alone. We are all ministers in this faith community and the ministry together is what makes this beautiful place thrive. Thank you all for joining myself and our staff in ministry here at Messiah. There is no small ministry or minister here. I appreciate that we are a part of this body of Christ together.

SELF-CARE AND CARE OF FAMILY:

Because of the fullness of my ministry, I am very aware that self care and time away is needed both for myself and to be present with my family. There is provision made for me to take one Sunday off a month so that I can either go away or just take some time to breathe. I really appreciate these times. I either bring in pastoral leadership and pulpit supply or offer a lay led service during these times. Most often it is pulpit supply. I pay attention to my own soul in my own private spiritual practises, retreat times away as well as family times away.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my family personally for all the ways they step aside and step up to help in the ministry of this church. They have gone over and above for many years which sometimes can go very unnoticed. Dale, as my partner, does so much behind the scenes to make things run smoothly as well as being my sounding board. There are numerous ways he has been there in partnership with me in ministry here in this place, too numerous to mention actually. Brendyn's unconditional love is such a support every day. Keysha has stepped up musically over and over to lead worship here in our midst. She has often been asked by me to fill in some other gaps that have been needed in other ways also. Thanks Keysha!

I know my work here would not run as smoothly as it does with out this incredible support system at home. So thank you so very much!

And a special note of thanks to you, our church family for your many years of support through the many years we have ministered here. Thank you so very much!!

Filled with the power of the Holy Spirit, joined together in the work of God's church and led by our incredible God we are who we are here at Messiah. I am honored to be with you in this ministry and excited to see where we will go from here as we worship and work together. Thank you all for who you are in this place. Every one of you is important in the faith and life of our community.

Respectfully Submitted,
In the Peace and Love of Our Lord,
Pastor Bev Swanson

STAFF REPORTS

Audio Visual Ministry Coordinator

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Music Ministry Coordinator

This last year has been interesting, to say the least. I could not have been so successful without the help of my fantastic and very dedicated worship team who have spent many hours volunteering their services to help lead the congregation in song as well as lending their amazing creative ideas and talents to the services.

I am responsible for many different roles but some of the main duties include:

- ◇ Meeting with Pastor Bev to plan worship
- ◇ Planning the music for services
- ◇ Organizing and practicing with the worship teams and leaders
- ◇ Entering the script and songs into EasyWorship for the screens
- ◇ Checking for correct copyright for songs
- ◇ Playing for worship, funerals and weddings
- ◇ Directing and accompanying the choirs (vocal and handbells) (Choirs will resume in the fall)
- ◇ Planning creative services such as Good Friday

This has been a challenging time for the congregation from many different angles, but I have seen a lot of growth. It is the difficult times that refine and mold us into the people that God wants us to be, even though that process is not usually very fun and can be frustrating and exasperating sometimes. God is stretching his people in so many different ways and that usually includes taking us into areas we'd rather not deal with. I don't know about you, but I have always found that even though the road might be bumpy and full of potholes, the other side is always worth it and often far better than it was on the initial side. To have complete trust in where He is leading us and to surrender our lives to that is both the greatest joy as a Christian and also the scariest thing. When we do get to the point of complete surrender, the freedom we experience is beyond our wildest expectations.

I can't wait to see where God will lead this church both in the near and far future. And yes, some of it will be scary to enter into and some of it will take us out of our comfort zones into places we'd rather not go, but do we trust... can we trust God to provide for our every need and be open to His voice guiding us? I think we can. So, enjoy the ride and tune your ears to hear the slightest whisper of His voice. Then come share the stories of what He is doing!

Respectfully submitted,
Tova Olson, Music Ministry Coordinator

Administrative Coordinator

In August of 2021, I assumed the role of Administrative Coordinator in response to the need created after the departure of the Senior Pastor. Additional responsibilities and authority were delegated to me to keep the office and administrative needs of Messiah operating efficiently. There are many aspects to the daily functioning of the office. Some are regular daily duties, while many things are unscheduled and tend to 'pop up'. You never know what a day in the office will bring!

First and foremost, we want to make anyone who calls the office or enters the church building feel welcome and share God's love with them. This makes attention to detail and being able to work through numerous 'interruptions' invaluable skills.

After Doreen Brewer's retirement and I began working four days a week, I was surprised to find myself in some unexpected situations. As the first faces of Messiah, Shirley McFall (regularly working Wednesday) and I found that during the pandemic we were having people drop in for assistance with food, shelter or mental health concerns. Quite often working alone in the office, we developed strategies to deal with these requests in cooperation with Pastor Bev, Neighbor Aid, Open Door and Canadian Mental Health. These were certainly opportunities for growth in myself dealing with these difficult situations.

Thanks to Shirley for flexibility in covering for my holidays and unexpected illness. Thank you to volunteers who assist in the office (as well as many other areas of Messiah): Dena Grue - Messenger Editor; Signe Harder - bulletin board designer extraordinaire; Carolyn Andersen, Mary Broen, Dena Grue, Elaine Taylor and Cece Watts who all took a morning or afternoon shift to answer phones when Shirley was not available.

It is wonderful to have people meeting in the building again. We are especially thankful that Martha's Table was able to find a new home here.

Thank you to those who offer me support and encouragement - Pastor Bev, fellow staff members, congregational members and friends! Your understanding of the difficult transition for me, with Pastor Calvin Skriver's departure, means so much to me. Your prayers, gifts and friendly caring visits are appreciated more than words can express!

Respectfully submitted,
Lori Mokry, Administrative Coordinator

Pastoral Acts: January 1 - December 31, 2021

Baptisms (4)

Connor Cowan, Karson Lindstrand, Rozie Pollom, Bonnie Pool

Confirmation (6)

Emily Brosius (*baptized at Zion Lutheran, Wetaskiwin*), Rhys Didriksen, Shelby Hasselbohm, Caleb Hawkins, Joseph Soanes, Zachary Stolee

New Members (4)

Randy & Donna Pollom, Ella Lynn Thygesen *welcomed back to Camrose*, Dave Rogers, Glenys Smith

Transfers In (2)

Maureen Engen, Judy Engen

Membership Withdrawn, Transfers Out and Other (37)

Jason Jensen, Brittany Dewart, Jillian Dewart, Andrew Fox, Owen Fox, Tanya Fox, Bonnie Horte, Douglas Horte, Erica Horte, Gary Horte, Karen Horte, Nicole Lee, Addison Lee-Potvin, Ashli Lindholm, Michael Luciuk, Aaron Mokry, Danielle Nagy, Grayson Nesvold, Jesse Nesvold, Liam Nesvold, Andrew Olson, Ian Pedersen, Dwayne Radke, Jordyn Riexinger, Evan Sadoway, Andrew Wowk, Karsten Nielsen, Katrina Stuckey, Calvin Skriver, Lori Skriver, Doreen Brewer, Ed Brewer, Kathy Andreas, Keegen Andreas, Emma-Jean Delaine, Rayanne Delaine, Jacob Snyders

Marriages (2)

Melissa Skretting & Christopher Rohuede (*Pastor Harold Rust*); Erhard Pinno & Glenys Smith

Funerals (11)

* non-member

Douglas Hawkins, *Marion Burnstad (*Pastor David Eriksson*), Norma Branes, *Judith Brown (*graveside service*), Elvera Millang (*Pastor Colin Millang*), *Bernice Bolding, *Richard (Dick) Clemens (*at Burgar Funeral Home*), Jens Jensen (*Pastor Gordon Jensen*), *Sherlyn McKay, Grant Skippen, *Willis Bolding (*Pastor David Eriksson*)

Other Members Removed by Death (6)

Donald Anderson, Marion Bennett, Kenneth Midbo, Dwayne & Greta Roth (*funeral held May 28, 2022*), Rev. Laverne Hoveland (*funeral was held January 10, 2022*)



Council Report 2021 - 2022

Church Council Members

President	David Dahle
Vice-President	Agnes Hoveland
Secretary	Gail Stolee
Treasurer	David Stolee
Member at Large (Learning)	Donny Loewen
Member at Large (Service)	Vacant
Member at Large (Support)	David Larson
Member at Large (Witnessing)	Carolyn Andersen
Member at Large (Worship)	Lael Olson (<i>until Sept 15</i>), Dena Grue (<i>from Sept 23</i>)

Dave Larson and Donny Loewen will not be seeking new terms on Church Council. Thanks are extended to both Dave and Donny for their many years of service (Dave, 8 & Donny, 4).

Normally Council meets 10 times a year (once a month from January through June with no scheduled meetings during July and August). This past year Council met 18 times, starting with three times in the month of June alone. On many occasions the meetings extended so long that quorum was in danger of being lost as many, including the chair, were close to nodding off.

After the June 6, 2021 Annual Meeting, Council worked on completing a mutually accepted *Conclusion Agreement* with Pastor Calvin Skriver which resulted in Pastor Calvin leaving Messiah as Senior Pastor effective July 31, 2021. In order to cover the administrative responsibilities of Pastor Calvin's position as Senior Pastor, Pastor Bev Swanson assumed the Position of Acting Senior Pastor for an interim period of 6 months. Some of the administrative duties of our departing Senior Pastor were assumed by Lori Mokry in a newly created position of Administrative Coordinator. Lori began this position for a 6-month interim period. Recently after the 6-month review of both Pastor Bev and Lori in their new positions, Council recommended that Pastor Bev continue in her role of Acting Senior Pastor for an additional 12 months, and the position of Administrative Coordinator became a permanent position with Lori being recommended as the ongoing holder of this position.

Just before the previous Annual Meeting the final report of the Budget Task Force was presented to the outgoing Council. This Task Force was chaired by Bishop Steve Kristenson and included Carolyn Andersen, Max Lindstrand, and Sharon Gilbertson. The report was first discussed by the current Council on June 30, 2021 and continued to be looked at throughout this past year. One of the major recommendations of the Task Force was to review the policies around the Mission Endowment and Panoptic Mission Endowments. Our treasurer, Dave Stolee, undertook this review and presented recommendations to Council on consolidating these two funds into one Ministry Endowment Fund and investing this fund in ELFEC (the Evangelical Lutheran Foundation of Eastern Canada). These recommendations were subsequently approved at a Special Congregational Meeting on October 17, 2021.

This past year the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic continued to have an impact on our life as a worshipping community. Many hours were spent by Council on this issue as provincial guidelines kept changing. The Worship Committee is to be commended for their work in monitoring the provincial health regulations related to COVID-19 and recommending policies to Council that protected the health of our members when in-person worship was allowed to resume. During this time our well-developed online

ministry helped us to continue serving our own members as well as others in Canada and beyond. Many thanks go out to our worship team under the leadership of Pastor Bev and Tova Olson.

Another theme of Council deliberations this year has been the exploration of collaboration with nearby rural congregations. This exploration began when several members of Messiah participated in a Collaborative Partnership Gathering hosted by the Synod of Alberta and the Territories. As a result of this Synod initiative, Messiah was approached by Kathy Nelson, the President of Bethesda Lutheran Church in New Norway, to consider the possibility of a collaborative ministry. Leanne Walton, President of Zion Lutheran Church in Bashaw also expressed interest in joining this collaboration. A sub-committee of Council made up of Pastor Bev, Donny Loewen and David Dahle met with Kathy and Leanne and produced a first draft of a three-year renewable Collaboration Agreement to present to Council. Later treasurer David Stolee was added to the sub-committee and further discussions on financial details were discussed. At its May 18th meeting Church Council voted to bring a recommendation on this collaboration to the Annual Meeting for approval.

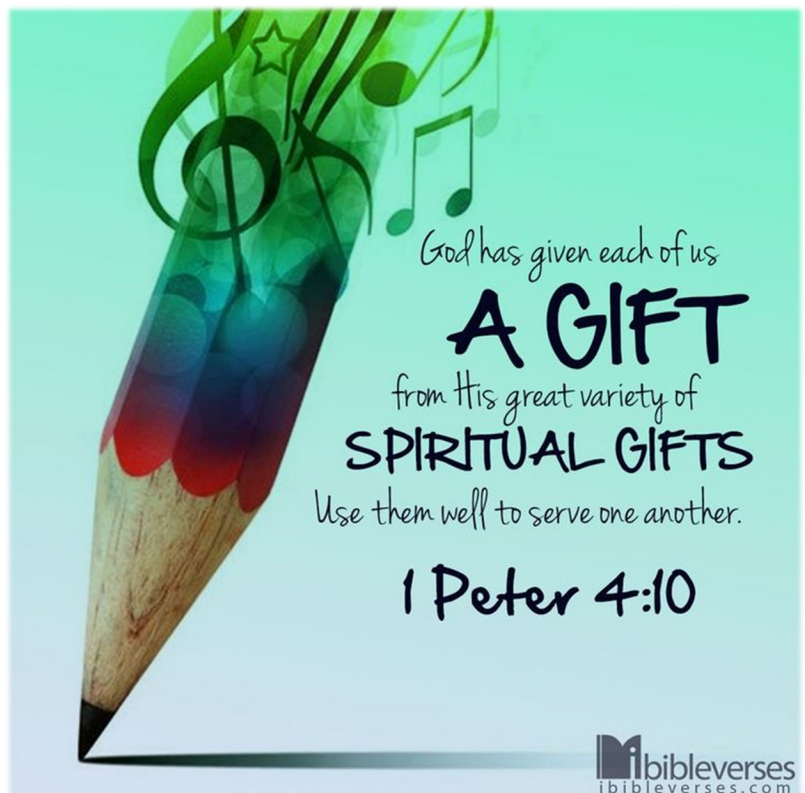
Another focus for this past year's Council was the discernment process that was carried out under the leadership of Pastor Bev. This discernment process culminated in a one-day Visioning Retreat held on April 27th which involved Council members and Committee Chairs or their designates. The decision to recommend to the Annual Meeting going ahead with the collaboration with New Norway and Bashaw is a direct result of this discernment process. This collaboration will enable Messiah to call a second pastor and the two rural congregations to share a half-time pastor. Thus Messiah will have a pastoral staff of 1.5 FTE and New Norway and Bashaw will each have a pastoral staff of .25 FTE.

Finally, I will list some of the most important additional activities that the Council has been involved in this year. Position descriptions of all staff have been reviewed and revised. Revisions of the Bylaws for the Worship Committee were approved and will be recommended to the Annual Meeting.

Guidelines for Communion Preparation and Clean-up, Communion Assistants, Greeters, Lectors, and Ushers were all revised. Council has approved Messiah becoming a host for Martha's Table. A Worship Technologies Task Force has been formed. The fees for renting our facilities have been revised.

I want to thank all the members of Church Council for their dedication and hard work through what has been a very challenging year. As we look towards the future, we continue to ask for God's guidance as we seek to discern how God is calling our congregation to share Jesus Christ with all people.

Respectfully submitted,
David W. Dahle
President of the Congregation



STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Learning Committee

Members: David Rogers (Chair), Pastor Bev Swanson, Donny Loewen (Council Rep), Karen Olsen (Secretary), Cathie Bartlett, Karen Hanson, Maureen Engen.

With the COVID pandemic still being with us, we continued most activities via Zoom sessions for a second year. Each group decided whether to continue that way, or to switch to live meetings, after Sunday worship resumed in the sanctuary.

Sunday School - Under the hardworking leadership of Michelle Kennedy Hawkins, Sunday School resumed when Messiah resumed in-person church services this year. There were enough volunteers to allow live Sunday school for children every second Sunday.

Pastor Bev and Jon Stolee made creative use of Zoom and some live gatherings to maintain connection with the church youth. They were ably assisted by some students from CLBI who had regular gatherings with our youth.

Adult Sunday School – This class was not held during the COVID restrictions. The Missions Committee took advantage of its time slot for its Missions Month presentation early in 2022. One 'live' session at Messiah with a guest speaker was held in April 2022, but then the class continued as a Wednesday Zoom class through April and May with a series on the Tabernacle (Exodus and Leviticus).

Confirmation – Bev led a class in Zoom including Bethel, Scandia/Armena, New Norway and Messiah churches, with each respective pastor alternating in leadership. The use of Zoom proved an advantage, allowing group discussion among the candidates even when there was only one candidate from any particular church. Especially in winter, in-person gatherings could not safely have provided this interaction.

Friendship Club – it was not feasible to continue this club this year, so it ended after COVID restrictions began.

Men's Saturday Bible study – This long-running group continued in Zoom for a second year, and still finds that venue convenient after some in-person gatherings have restarted. It has been obvious this year that Zoom allows participation at home for those unable to come to Messiah in person.

Lectio – on hold during the pandemic restrictions, this gathering resumed after in-person worship services resumed.

Alpha – The second session began in fall 2020, once again on-line via Zoom, and ended in May 2021. Lives have been changed, leading to a commitment to Christ.

Other learning activities — Some groups and leaders were creative in their use of Zoom during this year. Pastor Bev led an online series on Creation, an Advent series, and a Lenten series on prayer. As part of the church Discernment process, she and David Dahle led online sessions with several committees and study groups.

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Rogers, Chair



Service Committee

Members of the 2021-22 Service Committee: Sharon Gilbertson, Ben and Bev Thomas, Bonnie Smith, Ralph Van Assen, and Don Rebus Chair and Pastor Bev is our pastoral representative.

Sub-Groups of the Service Committee:

Meals on Wheels – Since 1972 the Camrose and District Support Society continues its oversight and support of "Meals on Wheels." The purpose of "Meals on Wheels" is to provide meals for people so that they can remain in their current accommodation and receive one nutritious meal per day. There are currently eight churches and four community organizations who supply drivers for the delivery of meals. Meals are provided for each day of the week some fresh and some frozen. The "Brookside" kitchen continues to prepare the meals. Messiah provides four delivery vehicles on Tuesday and two on Thursday. An additional service provided by the drivers is simply to give the recipients someone with whom they can exchange a "hello!" greeting.
Thank you Marie Brager for being coordinator.

Martha's Table - This Neighbor Aid program is restarting on May 17.

Thank you Sharon Gilbertson for securing coordinators for May to Jan and having a coordinators' training session. A special thank you to our Volunteer Coordinators secured to date:

May/June - Donnie & Shirley Loewen

July/August - Judy Sturek/ Cece Watts & Carolyn Andersen

September - Gail & Dave Stolee

October - Signe & John Harder

November - Carol & Ivar Saugen

December - Sharon & Milt Gilbertson

January - Darlene & David Dahle

Thank you to Elaine Taylor and Lavona Broen for being Oversight Coordinators for this program.

Neighbor Aid - There are 21 churches responsible for Neighbour Aid. Currently there, are 6 Board Members one each from Bethel, Messiah, Resurrection, Centre Point Alliance, Century Meadows Baptist, City Lights and Camrose Community Church. The City of Camrose, Cargill, The Norsemen Inn, Walmart, Super Store, Safeway, Co-op, Save-on-Foods support Neighbour Aid corporately. Jo-Anne Tweed, Program Director, works with 2-3 other paid staff. Neighbor Aid interacts with Open Door and Canadian Mental Health Association. Temporary shelter for those over 25 is always in demand, especially men. Family Resource Centre offers parenting programs.

Messiah is active in many Neighbor Aid programs including the Food Bank.

Thank you to Odell Olson for being Messiah's liaison member for Neighbor Aid.

CLWR - CLWR's main work now is to keep the local church informed of the needs around the world and to encourage financial support. One special appeal is the yearly "Gifts from the Heart" around Christmas time.

Thank you Marilyn Hoveland for coordinating CLWR efforts.

Ministry with Seniors - During this year the Committee has been coordinating Spring Tea gatherings in homes, entertaining over 100 seniors 80+ yrs. Also the Committee coordinates 8-10 volunteers to phone seniors for their birthday greetings.

Thank you Ruth Ofrim for coordinating this ministry.

Lunch Fest in January, the month of **Education Classes** and **"EATING TOGETHER"** were cancelled due to Covid-19 this year. Hopefully next year we will continue with these popular events.

Volunteer Appreciation

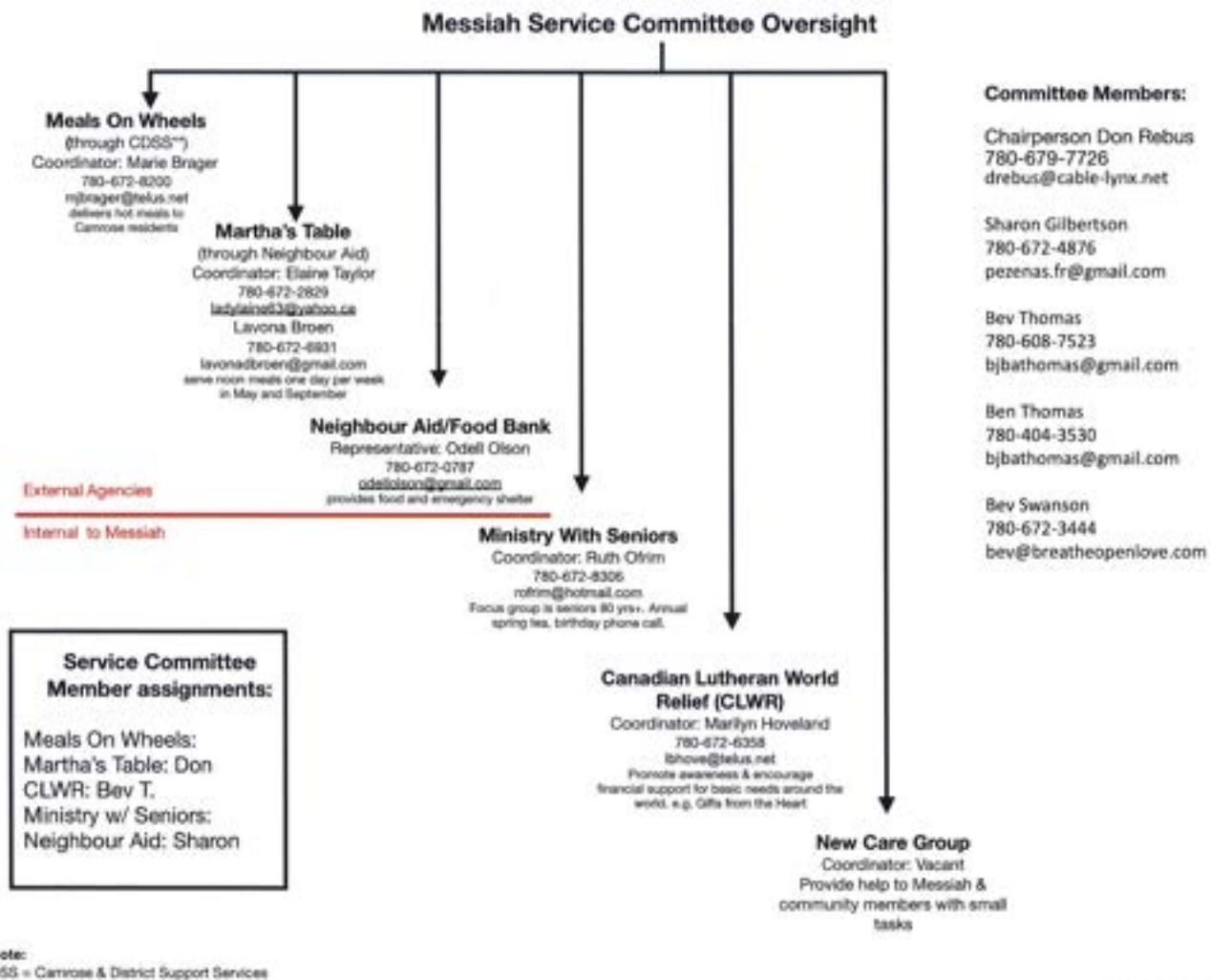
Volunteer appreciation recognition has been deferred until the autumn when we can have an in-person event. Groups that have active volunteers are:

All those who make worship services go well,
 All those who keep the building safe and standing,
 All those who teach and serve,
 All who keep us informed,
 All those who feed us, and
 All those who help out in the office.

Care Group - This program, started near the end of last year with one request and now this year we had over 25 requests that involved a group of 24 volunteers at Messiah who are available, at no cost, to help with or do tasks for you from changing light bulbs, helping with spring clean up outside, to giving rides in Camrose as needed etc...

Thank you Bev Thomas for coordinating this activity of need in our community.

Next Oversight chart lists sub-committees and co-ordinators.



Respectfully submitted,
 Don Rebus, Chair



Support Committee

Ron Foshaug, Chair; Lois Larson, Secretary;
David Larson, Council Liaison
Members: Milt Gilbertson, Carl Hoybak, Don Myrehaug,
Gordon Myrehaug, Don Saltvold, Dale Swanson

Repairs and capital expenditures have been done as needed to keep MLC and its projects functioning throughout the year.



Projects this year have included:

Elevator part replaced and maintenance done
Elevator pit sensors cleaned, electrodes worked on
Lori to book maintenance sessions for elevator
Scaffolding setup for replacement of repaired organ pipes and for bulb replacement in two projectors
Replacement of TV that monitors security cameras
Building lockup volunteers obtained and scheduled
Building drawings completed
Mowing of Moland Cemetery
Two replacement refrigerators for the Fellowship Centre kitchen obtained
Repair of leaking toilet in wash rooms
Tech task force set up to meet regularly
Purchase of larger external hard drive to archive service recordings
Purchase of second monitor for service broadcasts
West 2nd floor back door graffiti removed
Roof fundraising organized, poster prepared and updated
Offering counting volunteer schedule setup with 5 teams involving 14 volunteers
Consultation regarding fees and compensation, responded to Council's inquiries
Preparation of Support Committee budget
Snow shoveling and lawn mowing volunteers obtained and schedules set up
Checklist for building lockup created
Discernment meeting with Support Committee and Pastor Bev
Security system review completed
Eastlink consultations regarding worship broadcasts
Headset replacements

The Committee wishes to thank all those who have helped us accomplish our mandate. Thanks to the snow shovelers; the lawn mowers; the Wednesday workers; offering counters; Pastor Bev, and the MLC office staff; MLW for continuing to serve our congregation in so many ways; Dena Grue for editing the Messenger; office staff for going above and beyond; the custodians, Carolyn and Lloyd Olson for their great care of our building; Loretta Foshaug for scheduling; Tova Olson for keeping our instruments in good repair; Sheila Becker for keeping all our finances in order; Lowell Dahlman and all those who worked on our audio visual needs; and thanks to those who diligently open and lock up our building. Thank you!

Respectfully submitted,
Lois Larson, Secretary

Witnessing Committee

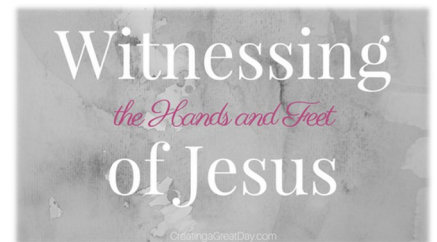
Members: Shirley Loewen (Chair), Leann Reinhart (Secretary), Carolyn Andersen (Council Rep), Ken Skriver, Erhard Pinno, Sharon Ofrim, Cecelia Watts, and Pastor Bev Swanson.

We thank all of our dedicated members who have met regularly, the second Thursday each month, by Zoom. We want to "Thank" our technical and office staff for their time and talents providing Zoom links to all of our meetings, and Wednesday morning virtual coffee time. We also acknowledge two groups we work in partnership with, the World Mission Group (Erhard Pinno reports to us), and the Camrose Refugee Group led by Yvonne Myrehaug. We have been so well informed of our new neighbors arriving in Camrose and of the work and ministry happening in Lutheran Missionaries in El Salvador, Burundi, Columbia, Tanzania and Papua New Guinea.

Hospitality is a major part of witnessing. However, due to the continued pandemic, meeting in groups of any size has not taken place. BUT we celebrated Easter with an Easter Breakfast which was extra special and quite well attended. We implemented AHS recommended procedures in the serving of food. Coffee fellowship following church service has resumed and in July & August will have coffee on the lawn. Lunchfest (soup & sandwiches), and Potlucks will tentatively start in September. All of Messiah's committees take turns hosting these activities.

We welcomed new members in February at our Membership Sunday and continue with friendship follow-up.

This past year the committee took on the ministry of phoning the Messiah Families of the Week that were being prayed for.



Other responsibilities of the Witnessing Committee are:

- ◊ Manning the Welcome Centre each Sunday morning.
- ◊ Delivering Sunday bulletins Friday mornings to Memory Lane, Deer Meadows, Rosealta, and Seasons were put on hold and will be revisited in the fall.
- ◊ Wednesday morning coffee on the lawn – July and August
- ◊ Participating in the Samaritan's Purse Christmas Shoebox ministry.

We continued to be challenged with witnessing amongst our church family for this past year with Covid regulations. We encourage all of Messiah to stay connected with one another to share compassion, listen, and share God's Love with each other. May God continue to lead and guide us sharing Jesus Christ with all people.

Respectfully submitted,
Shirley Loewen, Chair

Witnessing Committee - World Mission Group
Sharing Jesus Christ, *Cross Culturally*, with all People

Existing for the purpose of keeping before the congregation Jesus' command to go into all the world with the Gospel, the World Mission Group normally met on the first Monday of each month to study, pray, plan action, and have fellowship. Each of our meetings was through ZOOM which was particularly advantageous in that it permitted Connie Landstrom of Gibsons, BC. to participate.

The Biblical basis for our opening meditation was drawn from several books of the

Bible, and from related publications, usually with a mission outreach theme.

Although our most important activity is regularly praying for missionaries, the Group specifically directed its energies to the support of these people and related activities:

1. Messiah's most specific connection with a missionary is to **Rev. Brian Rude** who has served for 33 years in El Salvador among marginalized people. Although Rev. Rude has officially retired as a full-time missionary of the Alberta Synod, he nevertheless carries on with his God-given mission in that country, and so Messiah will continue its prayer support of him. The World Mission Group, augmented by President David Dahle and Rev. Calvin Skriver, pre-recorded a message of thanks to Rev. Rude, which was forwarded to him through the Synod Office, along with such greetings from other folks who have supported him in prayer and with finance. Rev. Rude has sent a message of appreciation to Messiah for its support.

2. A characteristic of the January **World Mission Month** over the years has been providing for the congregation during the adult class preceding the worship service a series of speakers representing various aspects of outreach in the Name of Jesus, usually beyond Canada's borders. As a response to the Covid pandemic, Pastor Skriver suggested using the *Messenger* distribution list to send out, not only once per month (the normal time for distributing the *Messenger*) but once each week corresponding to the normal times when speakers would be presenting on Sunday mornings. Therefore, last year and this, such a distribution took place on the first Monday of January, and the subsequent four Fridays. People not on the e-mail distribution list received their copies either through the mail or by personal delivery.

Other features of World Mission Month, 2022, were (1) the use of the Children's times during the worship service to emphasize the theme for the day, (2) video greetings from the authors of the *Messenger* articles, (3) appropriate music, and (4) congregational prayers related to the featured ministry.

The WM Group acknowledges with great appreciation the cooperation and support of Pastor Bev, the office staff, the musicians, and the technical team in the production area, for their combined efforts toward making the month a success.

BASIC FACTS REGARDING WORLD MISSION MONTH 2022

DATE	PRESENTER(S)	EMPHASIS
Jan. 2	Rev. Brian Rude Ryan and Shiv Cole Connie Landstrom	Pastoral Ministry in El Salvador Ministry through MAF in Papua New Guinea Bible Teaching in Congregations in Tanzania
Jan. 9	Lisa Koester Xayavong	Bible Translation in SE Asia, via Wycliffe Bible Translators
Jan. 16	George Watts	Ministry to people in business in Rwanda
Jan. 23	Tricia Hoeppner	Teaching Ministry in the Lutheran Church in Colombia
Jan. 30	Charles Jackson/ WMPL	Challenge to be Gospel-Sharing at home and abroad

With the lifting of restrictions such that people may be able to gather together again for educational purposes (for example the Adult classes prior to worship), it is not clear what format World Mission Month may take in 2023.

3. The Group, the congregation through the Messenger, and some individuals, have been prayerfully supporting the George Watts family in Rwanda in their ministry to local people in business.
4. Ryan and Siobhain Cole serve in Papua New Guinea under "Mission Aviation Fellowship," he as a pilot, she in a "Ground Staff" role.
5. The Synod of Alberta is in a "Companion" role with the Lutheran Church in Colombia (IELCO). At Messiah's Annual Meeting, June, 2021 it was agreed to make the interest available from a Mission Endowment Fund for the support of needy children wanting to attend the Lutheran Schools of IELCO. And further, a Fund has been established at Messiah - a fund to which Messiah members may contribute to support needy children wanting to attend these schools. "Thank you!" to each donor for contributing to this Fund.
6. A regular item on our agendas is giving prayerful consideration to another one of Messiah's mission priorities, viz. welcoming and helping refugees to settle in Canada. We applaud the work of Messiah's Refugee Group, and also of the Camrose Community's combined work to facilitate the reception and settling in of refugees.
7. For promotional purposes, the bulletin board in the Link has featured world mission issues. The *Messenger* also contains reports of mission activity.

We appreciate the support received from the Witnessing Committee as it oversees our activities. We are thankful that we have a yearly allocation of funds to support these activities.

The Chair acknowledges with appreciation the active participation in the World Mission Group of Vincent and Mary Ellen Eriksson, Nora Gilbertson, Connie Landstrom, Erhard Pinno, Cece Watts and Pastor Bev Swanson.

This Group, which is neither appointed nor elected, hereby encourages others who support its purposes, and would like to share in its activities, to make themselves known to the Group. You are welcome!!

Respectfully submitted,
Ray Blacklock, Chairperson



To God be the Glory!

Witnessing Committee - Refugee Support Group

This year our congregation has been privileged to welcome Mengestab Gebremariam and the Fikiru Assefa family to Messiah and to Camrose.

Mengestab arrived on November 7, 2021 and was required to quarantine for two weeks because he had not been able to get his vaccination records released from Israel. Following his quarantine, he began meeting with volunteers to assist with securing documents, English tutoring and some social events as permitted by his vaccination status. In addition, he passed the exam for his learner's permit and is currently practicing for his driver's test. In January, Mengestab commenced English training five

days a week through the LINC program. Near the end of January, he began working at EDO Japan four evenings a week (typically 4:00 pm to 9:30 pm) and near the end of March began work at Camrose Pizza the remaining three evenings per week. He continues to attend his online classes five days per week and to work seven evenings per week. Mengestab's long term goal is to open a restaurant in Canada as he had done so in Israel and really enjoyed the experience. When he is able, Mengestab spends time with his half-sister, Letish and her family. He also has been taking riding lessons and has enjoyed outings with Messiah members who have reached out to him.



The Fikiru Agelgile Family arrived March 17, 2022 after having first been scheduled to arrive in November. We had rented their apartment and had it ready for them to move in on their originally scheduled arrival date in November, but their arrival was delayed because of a fingerprint that needed to be redone. The girls (ages 17 and 20) were very anxious to be enrolled in school when they arrived in March, as they had not been permitted to go to school during their time in Kenya. They are very happy with their program at Camrose Composite High School, and as you may have noticed, are doing their practicum for their AV course for Messiah Sunday morning services. Yeamlak is working part time at Burger King and Eden, who loves to cook, is helping with the cooking at home since the others in her family are often working in the evenings. Helen works at Burger King about thirty hours per week and Fikiru works at Tim Horton's between fifteen and twenty hours per week. Fikiru worked as a commercial trucker in Ethiopia so is working toward taking the exam for his Class 1 license. Helen and Fikiru are also taking an English class through CALC and meet regularly for ESL work with tutors. The family is anxious to give back and have asked to do volunteer work. Helen and the girls have helped sort and move furniture and household items at the Mall where we are collecting for Ukrainian refugees. The girls also volunteered at the Camrose Refugee Fundraiser at the Bailey Theatre and helped set up at Messiah's garage sale. They have been our most enthusiastic volunteers and have a heart for the Ukrainian people since they have lived through the experience of being forced to leave their country.

Thanks to the members of the Witnessing Committee and Refugee Support Committee who have helped to make our families feel welcome in our community and who are making their transition to life in Canada successful.

Respectfully submitted,
Yvonne Myrehaug

Witnessing Committee - Camrose Refugee Centre

The Camrose Refugee Centre has become increasingly busy and is grateful for the presence of Action for Healthy Communities in Camrose and the work of its one full time staff member and one one-half time staff member. Some of the needs we have encountered in the community are beyond our capacity to deal with and the resources the Action for Healthy Communities can access through its Edmonton office are extremely valuable to many newcomers in Camrose.

During the current year the Centre assisted in completing Group of Five Applications for a single woman and for two families of three. We have received notification from IRCC that all of the applications are now in the review process. It is not clear how long

the process will take but we are encouraged that the files are already made active in the IRCC system. Group of Five applications are private sponsorships so the responsibility for the families lies with the private sponsors but the Centre has agreed to support the sponsors as they assist their families in the adjustment to life in Canada.

The Board made the decision this year to increase its support of youth in arts and sports activities. Last year we supported financially a girl in youth choir, six children in soccer programs, two in gymnastics, one in hockey, one in football and one in horseback riding. This involves preparing applications and, in some cases, helping parents with schedules and transportation from time to time. It is also one of the most rewarding pieces of work with newcomers. The delight of the children at being able to participate in these activities is beyond description. We have also made an effort to interact with the youth on a personal basis as individuals or in small groups.



The work of filling out forms is ongoing and time consuming but is a critical service to newcomers. Needs have been for EI applications, Alberta support applications, rent subsidy applications, child care subsidy applications, PR renewals, and apartment rental agreements.

This year the Centre partnered with Century Meadows Baptist Church to host a "shop for free" Christmas event

for newcomer families identified by the Camrose Refugee Centre and by Action for Healthy Communities. We hosted twenty-six adults and thirty-six children throughout the event which had to be coordinated to accommodate social distancing. The Centre provided a variety of household goods, beds and bedding, toys, and some clothing and Century Meadows provided household items, bedding, some furniture, and a large amount of clothing. There was a gingerbread house station so that each family was able to make gingerbread houses and also a snack and beverage station. Each child was given a gift from the Refugee Centre and each family was offered a Bible by Century Meadows. Many of the families accepted the Bibles with gratitude.

We continue to be amazed at the amount of support needed by newcomers in our community and hope to help to fill the need.

Respectfully submitted,
Yvonne Myrehaug, Volunteer Coordinator

Worship Committee

The Worship Committee members have included Darlene Dahle (Chair), Rosanna Hohm, Ioan Jobe, Lue Lindseth, Cheryl Nester (Recorder of Minutes), and Leny Vanderjagt. When Lael Olson left the position of Council Liaison, Dena Grue stepped in and Leny filled Dena's position as a worship committee member. Cheryl, we will miss you! Thanks for preparing such prompt and accurate Minutes!

There are many volunteers to thank! These include our greeters, ushers, communion prep people and those who assist Pastor Bev in serving Holy Communion. Loretta Foshaug, thank you for the recruiting and scheduling these volunteers. If you are

currently feeling more comfortable attending an in-person worship service, please contact Loretta and tell her you are ready to volunteer!

We are also thankful for our audio and visual technicians and for Rosanna Hohm who has been recruiting and scheduling them. Several of them are our youth! However, we are always in need of more technicians so if you want information on what the various tasks entail, talk to Rosanna.

Lori Mokry and Shirley McFall, thank you for preparing our informative weekly Worship Folders!

For the service on May 15, 2021, there were 17 volunteers involved in directly supporting our service. Granted it was a Holy Communion Sunday so that would have included the 3 who prepared and served communion but there's a lot of volunteers participating every Sunday! That's wonderful! Thank you!

Pastor Bev Swanson is responsible for overseeing, planning and putting together worship services along with the ministry team. We thank her for her leadership and of course her presiding and preaching at our services.

We are thankful for Tova Olson's gift of music and for her extensive knowledge of musical selections that she and Pastor Bev can select from to support the Readings prescribed for each service by the *Revised Common Lectionary*. Under Tova's leadership we also thank our many very talented volunteer vocalists who have included, often weekly, Lael Olson, Kiva Olson, Lloyd Olson and Keysha Swanson. What a commitment! We also acknowledge Charlene Brown who was the vocalist during our Lenten services and the musical contributions of Michelle Kennedy Hawkins, Juanita Hohm, and Carolyn Olson who have participated in other special services. We also have a very talented drummer in our midst. Thanks Caleb Hawkins!

In the Fall we look forward to resuming choir and handbell opportunities. Since Tova is employed on a contract basis, we need to budget for these opportunities.

The last time we offered two Sunday morning services was on April 1, 2012. Since then, and in conversation with Joy Berg, we have sought to provide a "blended service" meaning that the music chosen over the course of a month for example, includes both contemporary selections and traditional hymns. Which style is prevalent on any particular service depends on the Readings and the nature of the worship service.

On August 19th, the Worship Committee recommended to Church Council that . . . *one Sunday per month a supply Pastor will cover Messiah's service*. This was approved by Council so we are thankful that, so far, Pastor Craig Wentland, Pastor Julianna Wehrfritz-Hanson and Pastors Darryl & Rita Roste have been able to cover for Pastor Bev. On another Sunday, Donny Loewen shared his Faith Journey. Thanks Donny!



A lot has happened since March 17th of 2020 when our in-person worship was cancelled due to COVID 19! Although we worshipped in-person from September 13, 2020 until November 9th 2020, in-person worship did not resume again until June 20th, 2021, Confirmation Sunday.

Reading the advice from Bishop Larry Kochendorfer, and the frequent updates from Alberta Health on the *Guidance for Places of Worship*, the Worship Committee, with support from Council, was able to offer a safe place for in-person worship. Hand sanitizing, masking (sometimes optional, other times recommended or required, depending upon the advice given), and physical distancing, which we encouraged by the use of pew markers placed on the end of every other pew, were effective. The first pew marker was a flower (thanks Lael) and later was a Chrismon made by our committee members. In addition, worshippers were encouraged to share the peace by non-physical means such as waving or nodding and the offering plates were placed at the entrance to each aisle, rather than being passed. The plexiglass shields that were constructed by the Support Committee in December of 2020 remained in place until recently. Their purpose was to help limit the spread of air-borne particles. They are now used as shields for our drum set to help control the volume of the drums.

We were fortunate that the Alberta Government provided us with a two-year supply of masks.

On October 10th 2021 we recognized the 120th anniversary of our church by a PowerPoint prepared by Lois Larson and Darlene Dahle. That presentation is still on our website. What a journey we have been on!

During the Fall of 2021 the Worship Committee reviewed the Lector, Greeter, Usher, Communion Assistants and Communion Preparation and Clean-up Guidelines. These were submitted to Church Council for approval and can be found on our website under *Governance Manual, Section F, Worship*.

In February the Worship Committee members recruited 27 authors for a Lenten Devotional Booklet. The devotions were based on texts taken from the daily lectionary. That month we also participated in a session on discernment, offered by Pastor Bev.

This Spring we reviewed and updated Worship Committee's Vision and Responsibilities. These will be presented for approval at our Annual General Meeting. One change was the duplication of a responsibility, so one was deleted; another was omitting "*in children*" in our responsibility *to nurture the faith through celebration of baptism* . . . because adults are also baptized. Lastly, we added another responsibility, which we are already doing . . . *to make provision for online ministry*. Furthering our vision, we have had much discussion regarding what our worship should entail, including whether it is participatory, and how to support our online presence.

During the year members of the Worship Committee were encouraged to read two books: *Becoming a Hybrid Church* and *Leading In A Liminal Season*. In February Darlene attended a three-day online conference sponsored by the ELCA called *Ignite the Church*.



During Holy Communion, in addition to grape juice, we are now offering a wine specifically prepared for Holy Communion. This wine is available at Universal Church Supplies in Edmonton and is used in place of a generic wine purchased locally. We are currently wanting to expand the Chancel Care Group so that specific attention

can be given to the cleanliness and repair of linens, paraments and furnishing such as candle holders. Perhaps a new banner could be designed and created. Is anyone willing? We thank the Brosius family and Pastor Bev for the time they have spent preparing our sanctuary for worship. We are currently in conversation with Pastor Bev about preparing the altar and the front of the sanctuary for service.



Our last items of business have concerned Church Council's request that we review the use of our sanctuary by persons other than our members or adherents. Lastly, we have just received from Tova a recommendation from Barsley Pipe Organ for some organ repairs. This is a Calgary company. The time-line for repairs is in the next year or two and are estimated to be between \$4000-\$5000. Other repairs costing approximately \$1900 are scheduled to be completed in June. and will be covered by two designated funds, the Music Organ Fund and the Worship/Music Fund. I have asked Tova to give you an update at the Annual Meeting.

We have been so blessed over the years to have had our pipe organ tuned by volunteers, first by Bishop Stephen and Jane Kristenson and after they left, by Lloyd and Tova Olson. What a gift you have been to our congregation. Thank you!

For all that is, Thanks; For all that will be, Amen

This was the theme for our 100th anniversary celebration. We continue to be blessed and look forward to what our Lord has in store for us now!

Respectfully submitted,
Darlene Dahle, Chair

AUXILIARY

Messiah Lutheran Women Annual Report: January 1 - December 31, 2021

2021 was very similar to 2020, as we were still in the confines of Covid 19. Being restricted by Covid and Canadian Lutheran World Relief not accepting any more projects, we sat dormant. No funeral lunches were allowed, no quilting was being done. We waited for better days. Please read our financial report for information.

Our Future

Our future was decided on March 28th 2022. We closed MLW Auxiliary and became small groups. MLW Executive has resigned. The mission of the small groups is "Sharing Jesus Christ with all people through Bible study and service." Bible studies have resumed in some groups and each small group(circle) will have their own executive and project if desired. Erna Litzenberger will be a contact person for the groups. Support may still be given individually to any charity you wish and you would then receive a receipt directly.

The treasurer's report for our last balance of funds: CLWR \$1,000.00, the Watts family \$1,000.00, Sunday school bibles for grade 3 (5) \$162.70, the residual balance to Messiah Lutheran Church for Camrose Refugee Center -Ukrainian refugees. These payments were authorized at the March 28th meeting.

Unfortunately change is inevitable, not only for us but around the world. We will adjust because we are in God's plan.

It has been a privilege for me to serve as your President these past years and great to work with Lois Larson, Diane Scarsbrick, and Carole Saugen. I thank them for their faithfulness. We hope to get together in some way during the year. Please give ideas to Erna.

Respectively submitted,
Mary Broen, President MLW to March 28th, 2022

MLW Treasurer's Report January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021

Balance January 1, 2021		\$6,912.38
O/S Deposit Dec 31, 2020		\$370.00
True Balance January 1, 2021		\$7,282.38

Deposits:

Feb 17/21	\$335.00	
Mar 3/21	\$345.00	
Apr 21/21	\$130.00	
Sept 21/21	\$130.00	
Nov 21/21	\$54.00	
O/S Dec 31/21	\$500.00	
Total	\$1,494.00	
Balance		\$8,776.38

Expenditures:		
Apr 28/21 CLWR (Myanmar)	\$1,000.00	
Apr 28/21 Messiah Church	\$2,000.00	
Apr 28/21 Brian Rude Mission	\$500.00	
Apr 28/21 Watts family	\$500.00	
Sep 21/21 CLWR	\$1,000.00	
Nov 24/21 Merry Christmas Fund	\$200.00	
Total Gifts	\$5,200.00	

Balance Dec 31, 2021		\$3,576.38
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Note:

July 1, 2021 garage sale proceeds deposited through MLW

Proceeds \$3,100.40

Expenditures

Messiah Lutheran Church \$2,790.40

Camrose and District Hospice Society \$310.00

Net \$0.00

Hastings Lake Lutheran Bible Camp 2021 Annual Report to Congregation

Greetings from Hastings Lake Lutheran Bible Camp, in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Covid 19 made 2021 another challenging year for our Camp ministry to *Make Christ Known*.

Early in the year, all at Camp events were canceled, and our AGM in May was held by Zoom, as Covid restrictions prevented large gatherings from happening.

Finally, on June 24th, restrictions loosened up and our Board held their first in-person Board Meeting of 2021 on the deck of the newly built Trinity Lodge. No Zoom, and no electronics were allowed! We were all so thankful as Andrew Carlson, our Camp Director & Sharnelle Umphrey, our Program Director, shared their exciting plans for the upcoming summer.

The program would have extra staff, more cleaning, and everyone would practice all the Covid safety measures that we'd all become accustomed to. We planned for attendance to be 70% of a normal year, and ended the summer at nearly 85%! God kept the Camp gates open for a wonderful eight weeks of Camp, that allowed us to renew acquaintances and enjoy the newly built Trinity Lodge! The new Day Camp VBS Ministry to our Congregations also had a very successful start.

Unfortunately, in September the Delta variant struck, and we had to replace our planned Thanksgiving Celebration with a very cold & windy outdoor campfire. Turkey & all the fixings were replaced with cocoa & cookies. Still, more than 100 people showed up with warm smiles on their cold faces.

October saw us try two mini-banquets in our new Trinity Lodge and they were a big hit, despite the constraints of Covid. I'm hoping we'll see more of those! In November, we had our second Hastings Lights, and it was also a great success.

Financially, group rentals were only about a third of normal volumes, as rental groups remained cautious. Donations were also down from normal years. However, both were offset by generous bequests and Government funding, which combined with careful planning and cost controls, meant we were able to end the year with only a small financial loss.

As I write this in the middle of the Omicron wave, it looks like the uncertainties of Covid will make 2022 another financially challenging year. The highest inflation factor in years means substantial increases in our costs, and corresponding increases in our 2022 registration fees. As we all know, Covid waves come quickly and unexpectedly, yet we need to commit to hiring staff months in advance of the summer program. We go forward in faith, trusting God ([Mark 11:22-24](#)).

At our AGM in May of 2021, we voted to change the timing of our AGMs going forward, to be in February, and this year's AGM is planned for Sunday, February 27th, 2022 at Rez Church in Camrose. We are planning for a hybrid in person and by web conference, hoping that we'll be able to meet in person, but planning for the eventuality that we may not. Please plan to attend this AGM as we discuss the future of Noah's Ark, our oldest and much loved building at the Camp.

I also want to make you aware of the wonderful year-round conference facilities that we now have at Hastings Lake. Our Solomon's Lodge (built in 2014) and Trinity Lodge (built in 2020) may be rented individually or together. They combine for 4 meeting rooms, 2 kitchens, 13 bedrooms (59 pillows), and 6 washrooms (2 are handicapped). Consider planning a full weekend at Hastings and include things like cross country skiing, nature walks, etc. for your council, youth or family retreats.

Hastings Lake would like to thank all congregations and individuals for their continued prayers and financial support towards our important ministry. Should you wish to further support our Camp by volunteering as a board or committee member, please let us know. We welcome you!

In His Service,

Roger Osness

Board Chair, the Hastings Lake Lutheran Bible Camp Association

roger@osness.com

www.hastingslake.com

Camp Phone 780-662-2557



Statistics

January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021

Members Received	Baptized	Confirmed
By Child Baptism	2	
By Adult Baptism	2	2
By Affirmation of faith, transfer, or from non-Lutheran	8	14
Total New Members Received	12	16
Baptized Members Confirmed		5

Members Removed	Baptized	Confirmed
By Death	11	11
By Transfer	4	3
By Request and to Responsibility List	33	27
Total Members Removed	48	41

	Baptized	Confirmed
Membership Dec. 31, 2020	555	448
Membership Dec. 31, 2021	519	423
Active Members	268	
Adherent list (active but not members)	45	
Responsibility List	609	

Households 284

Services

Total number of Sunday Worship Services (am & pm)52
 Total number of Weekday Worship Services 11
 Total number of Services with Holy Communion 13
 Average Sunday worship attendance62 (after reopening June 20)
 Average YouTube views 189



2022 Report of the Nominating Group

Church Council	Continuing to Serve until June 2023	Nominated to Serve a One-Year Term 2022-2023	Nominated to Serve a Two-Year Term 2022-2024
President	David Dahle		
Vice-President	Agnes Hoveland		
Secretary	Gail Stolee		
Treasurer	Dave Stolee		
Member at Large			LeRoy Johnson
Member at Large			Dena Grue
Member at Large			Max Lindstrand
Member at Large	Carolyn Andersen		
Member at Large			Mary Broen

Learning Committee	Continuing to Serve until June 2023	Nominated to Serve a One-Year Term 2022-2023	Nominated to Serve a Two-Year Term 2022-2024
Council Liaison:	Dave Rogers		
			Karen Hansen
			Cathie Bartlett
			Maureen Engen
			Donny Loewen
			Glenys Smith

Service Committee	Continuing to Serve until June 2023	Nominated to Serve a One-Year Term 2022 -2023	Nominated to Serve a Two-Year Term 2022-2024
Council Liaison:	Don Rebus		
			Sharon Gilbertson
			Ben Thomas
			Bev Thomas

Support Committee	Continuing to Serve until June 2023	Nominated to Serve a One-Year Term 2022-2023	Nominated to Serve a Two-Year Term 2022-2024
Council Liaison:	Lois Larson	Don Myrehaug	
	Don Saltvold	Gord Myrehaug	
			Milt Gilbertson
			Carl Hoybak
			Dale Swanson
			John Harder

Witnessing Committee	Continuing to Serve until June 2023	Nominated to Serve a One-Year Term 2022-2023	Nominated to Serve a Two-Year Term 2022-2024
Council Liaison:	Leann Reinhart		
	Shirley Loewen		
	Sharon Ofrim		
	Cece Watts		Erhard Pinno
			Wil Amundson
			Bonnie Pool

Worship Committee	Continuing to Serve until June 2023	Nominated to Serve a One-Year Term 2022-2023	Nominated to Serve a Two-Year Term 2022-2024
Council Liaison:	Lue Lindseth		
	Ioan Jober		
			Leny Vanderjagt
			Rosanna Hohm
			Darlene Dahle
			Deanna Didriksen

Thank you to those who have agreed to serve on Council or on a Standing Committee. Our Council and Committees serve an essential and vital role in Messiah's ministry of sharing Jesus Christ with all people.

We wish to extend our enormous gratitude to those that have chosen to move on. Thank you for your service!

We especially wish to acknowledge the long-term service of Ron Foshaug (30+ years) and Dave Larson (8+years).

Respectfully submitted by Agnes Hoveland, Vice-President, and Chair of the Nominating Group and Marie Brager.

Recommendations from Church Council

Recommendation 1

That the following changes be made to the Bylaws:

(Note: Additions are in red; deletions have a line drawn through them)

5. WORSHIP COMMITTEE

- 5.2 to make provision for the development, coordination, supervision and evaluation of the worship and music programs of the congregation.
- ~~5.3 to make provision for the development, coordination, supervision and evaluation of the music programs of the Congregation~~
- ~~5.4~~ 5.3
- ~~5.5~~ 5.4
- ~~5.6~~ 5.5 to make provision for the nurturing of faith in children through celebration of baptism, communion and regular worship
- ~~5.7~~ 5.6
- 5.7 to make provision for online ministry
- 5.8
- 5.9

~~10. AUXILIARIES~~

- ~~10.1 Messiah Lutheran Women is an auxiliary of the Congregation. It exists in its own right and is governed by its own constitution. However, this constitution and the actions of the auxiliary must comply with the Constitution, Bylaws, policies, procedures and decisions of the Congregation.~~
- ~~10.2 Messiah Lutheran Women may provide support for the Congregation in areas which are negotiated between the Congregation and Messiah Lutheran Women.~~
- ~~10.3 Auxiliaries provide a written report of their activities to the Annual Meeting.~~

Recommendation 2

That Messiah Lutheran Church (Camrose) form a three-year renewable collaboration agreement with Bethesda Lutheran Church (New Norway) and Zion Lutheran Church (Bashaw) with the following general arrangement:

Messiah will call one new full-time pastor, and then from its 2.0 FTE pastoral staff will contract out a .25 FTE pastor to Bethesda, and a .25 FTE pastor to Zion.

Rationale:

Since the return to in-person services and the departure of Pastor Calvin, we have all been thinking about what the future of Messiah holds. As a congregation we have spent the last months in a discernment process, listening for where God is leading us now and talking with each other about what we believe that to be. Then in late April, Council and Committee representatives gathered for a day of visioning with a professional facilitator to pull together what we have learned. We want to thank all of you who have prayed and participated in whatever ways in this important process. We don't often take the time for such careful listening and widespread shared conversations about our church and our faith. It has been a very healthy exercise. What has emerged is a definite sense of optimism about Messiah's future. We are called and committed and looking for ways to creatively move forward. (You will hear more about the results of the discernment/visioning process at the annual meeting.)

One of our challenges is that a congregation our size needs additional pastoral resources beyond our one pastor. The challenge for many smaller congregations is having any pastor at all. In both cases, finances also play a part. So when we were approached by the congregations of Bethesda, New Norway and Zion, Bashaw, about sharing a pastor, we looked seriously at how that would benefit all three congregations and explored a collaboration agreement with them. This idea had strong support in the visioning workshop and we hope may also help us in the areas of family and youth ministry. It is for this reason that Council has presented the above recommendation for your consideration.

Assuming that a pastor may be available later in this fiscal year, the approximate costs of this agreement for Messiah would be \$30,000 in the current budget year and then \$50,000 for each of the subsequent budget years. In the current budget year, \$4,834 from the income of the Ministry Endowment Fund and \$10,713 from the Reserve Youth Fundraising account, for a total of \$15,547 could be allocated to this project.

If the offerings in any of the first three years of this Agreement do not increase sufficiently to cover the additional costs, funds from current bequests could be used as a safety net to prevent us from going into debt. At the end of the three-year period, the judgment would be made whether to renew the Agreement for another three years, revise it, or terminate it.

Pastor Bev supports this initiative and is open to being the main pastor shared 50/50 between Messiah and the two rural churches. She has also expressed her willingness to consider a phased-in retirement after three years if this should be necessary.

Based on our current level of giving it would be a strong financial challenge to add a full-time pastor on our own, but Council believes that the congregation could meet the challenge of adding a pastor if we share one half of a position at Messiah with the two rural congregations. Several individuals have already indicated their willingness to increase their offerings beyond their current giving to support this exciting new ministry. The Council is hopeful that others in the congregation will also be willing to endorse this proposal financially.

Treasurer's Report

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.
Psalm 107:1.

While 2021-22 has been another challenging year, we thank God's for His faithfulness that supports us in all times and in all things.

Messiah's year began with a budget that included a deficit of \$45,738, with an acknowledgment that changes needed to be made. An unplanned change came with Pastor Skriver's leaving at the end of July. Functioning with only one pastor for the remainder of the year resulted in salary savings that would have balanced the budget if income had continued at the level of the year before. But income actually declined. Some of this was related to the impact of Covid, and some to loss of members through death, moves, and for other reasons. The year would have ended with a deficit of about \$23,000 were it not for funds from bequests.

We give thanks for three bequests received during the year, and honour the memories of Arlene Person, Norma Branes and Jens Jensen . A total of \$127,000 has been received. A portion of these funds have been used already to complete the fund raising for the roof repairs made in 2019, and to balance the budget for 2021-22. Some monies from these bequests are being reserved to provide for work that will soon be needed on the organ, and for new roofing that will be needed on the sanctuary within a few years. Messiah is blessed to have faithful members that have included the congregation in their wills. Perhaps others have as well, or may wish to consider doing so.

A significant change in October was congregational approval of the merger of the two endowment funds into the Ministry Endowment Fund, and investment with ELFEC (Evangelical Lutheran Foundation of Eastern Canada). For the last few months of 2021 we were happy to receive \$1,690 of income. With the volatility of world markets we know there will be gains and losses, but are confident that over time we will receive a higher return than before.

The major change in the 2022-23 budget proposal presented for the annual meeting is provision for the addition of a second pastor, to be shared by the congregations in New Norway and Bashaw. You will find background to this elsewhere in this report. This is what Council has sensed, through the engagement of the congregation in the discernment and visioning process, as what God is calling Messiah to do. It presents a challenge to the congregation for increased giving. There are other adjustments in the budget to cover such items as increased insurance premiums and higher heating costs.

I wish to express my appreciation for the work Sheila Becker does as Messiah's bookkeeper. Accounting and reporting requirements are more complex than they used to be, and we depend on Sheila's expertise and experience to record and report on our financial matters. The support of Lori Mokry and Shirley McFall in the office is also much appreciated.

I welcome any questions or concerns members may have about Messiah's finances. Please feel free to call me at any time.

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Stolee, Treasurer

Audit Group Report – Financial Year Ending April 30, 2022

The Audit Committee conducted the following audit activities:

1. Reviewed salary rates
2. Examined payroll information for all employees
3. Reviewed 2021 T4 slips and traced wages to the general ledger on a test basis.
4. Confirmed net pay using bank statements on a sample basis
5. Compared sample bank statements to general ledger for payroll on a test basis
6. Reviewed bank reconciliations on a test basis
7. Reviewed bank statements
8. Reconciled a sample of invoices to cancelled cheques and the general ledger
9. Compared bank deposits of monthly offerings with general ledger entries
10. Discussed the process for tracking designated offerings
11. Reviewed the list of Reserve Accounts including balances
12. Reviewed the list of online banking payments
13. Reviewed cash receipts on a test basis and determined that they:
 - a) reconciled to the bank deposits
 - b) were used exclusively for church approved projects and programs
 - c) were used in accordance with the donor's designation
 - d) were acknowledged with official receipts
 - e) were recorded in the appropriate general ledger account
14. Reviewed the Financial Statements prepared by Grant Thornton Accounting for the year ending April 30, 2021.
15. Conducted an additional tracking of donations for one randomly selected Sunday.

The above noted review resulted in no concerns for the audit committee. We wish to recognize the complexity of the accounting system and the excellent work of Sheila Becker in the management of these financial records of Messiah Lutheran Church!

Prepared for the Annual Meeting of Messiah Lutheran Church by the Audit Committee:
LeRoy Johnson, Yvonne Myrehaug, and Max Lindstrand (March 14, 2022)



Financial Statements

Messiah Lutheran Church

April 30, 2021

On the basis of information provided by management, we have compiled the statement of financial position of Messiah Lutheran Church as at April 30, 2021 and the statements of operations and changes in net assets for the year then ended.

We have not performed an audit or a review engagement in respect of these financial statements and, accordingly, we express no assurance thereon.

Readers are cautioned that these statements may not be appropriate for their purposes.

Camrose, Canada
October 21, 2021

Grant Thornton LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants

Messiah Lutheran Church Statement of Operations

Year ended April 30	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2020 Actual
Revenue			
Envelopes	\$ 366,000	\$ 343,765	\$ 345,160
Christmas	14,300	12,115	15,323
Easter	9,000	10,589	9,256
Thanksgiving	8,600	10,363	8,605
MLC General	9,150	5,885	9,153
Plate	3,600	434	3,634
Facility use and fees for service	7,500	5,469	7,595
Government COVID Support	-	5,000	-
Interest	-	3,776	2,681
Expense recoveries	400	-	65
Restricted donations	-	50	-
Other contributions	-	2,144	-
	<u>418,550</u>	<u>399,590</u>	<u>401,472</u>
Designated (Note 1)	<u>-</u>	<u>62,320</u>	<u>121,198</u>
	<u>418,550</u>	<u>461,910</u>	<u>522,670</u>
Expenditures			
Salaries and Benefits (Schedule 1)	304,000	290,009	295,842
Support (Schedule 2)	69,670	69,385	73,847
Benevolences (Schedule 3)	38,563	38,563	38,592
Worship (Schedule 4)	5,150	3,507	4,915
Learning (Schedule 5)	3,900	1,055	2,039
Service (Schedule 6)	800	21	103
Witness (Schedule 7)	200	-	99
	<u>422,283</u>	<u>402,540</u>	<u>415,437</u>
Designated (Note 1)	<u>-</u>	<u>44,524</u>	<u>161,035</u>
(Deficiency) excess of revenue over expenditures	<u>\$ (3,733)</u>	<u>\$ 14,846</u>	<u>\$ (53,802)</u>

Messiah Lutheran Church
Statement of Changes in Net Assets
Year ended April 30

	Unrestricted	Invested in Capital Asset	Endowments	Total 2021	Total 2020
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 36,634	\$ 676,744	\$ 120,867	\$ 834,245	\$ 888,047
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures	14,796	-	50	14,846	(53,802)
Balance, end of year	<u>\$ 51,430</u>	<u>\$ 676,744</u>	<u>\$ 120,917</u>	<u>\$ 849,091</u>	<u>\$ 834,245</u>

Messiah Lutheran Church
Statement of Financial Position
April 30

	2021	2020
Assets		
Current		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 132,778	\$ 110,483
GST receivable	1,062	3,536
Prepaid expenses	<u>2,645</u>	<u>4,356</u>
	136,485	118,375
Endowment term deposits	120,917	120,567
Fellowship Center	<u>676,743</u>	<u>676,743</u>
	<u>\$ 934,145</u>	<u>\$ 915,685</u>
Liabilities		
Current		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 22,701	\$ 19,270
Deferred contributions for designated expenditures (Note 1)	<u>62,353</u>	<u>62,170</u>
	<u>85,054</u>	<u>81,440</u>
Net assets		
Unrestricted	51,430	36,634
Net assets invested in Fellowship Center	676,744	676,744
Net assets restricted for endowments (Note 2)	<u>120,917</u>	<u>120,867</u>
	<u>849,091</u>	<u>834,245</u>
	<u>\$ 934,145</u>	<u>\$ 915,685</u>

On behalf of the council





Messiah Lutheran Church
Notes to the Financial Statements
 April 30, 2021

1. Deferred contributions for designated expenditures

	Balance beginning of year	Receipts	Expenses	Internal Transfer	Balance end of year
Mission interest	\$ 2,349	\$ 1,457	\$ 324	\$ -	\$ 3,482
Panoptic interest	1,232	1,093	1,232	-	1,093
Building access fund	518	-	-	-	518
Capital projects	-	1,985	17,548	(17,365)	1,801
Coffee/Lunch fund	482	50	39	-	494
CP roof fund	-	30,060	-	30,060	-
Family camp	1,969	-	-	-	1,969
Professional development	223	500	205	-	518
Music (Organ)	1,558	-	-	-	1,558
Music co-ordinator	44	-	-	-	44
Other	2,362	5,828	5,828	1,000	1,362
Refugee fund	16,591	400	-	-	16,991
Samaritan fund	3,213	500	1,930	-	1,782
Senior pastor initiatives	1,805	-	193	-	1,612
TV ministry / sound system	223	5,510	3,597	-	2,135
Youth fundraising	10,713	-	-	-	10,713
Other (proj) - columbia	-	1,800	1,800	-	-
Worship (Music)	4,612	-	320	-	4,292
Education	1,260	-	-	-	1,260
IMW El Salvador	2,000	5,220	7,220	-	-
Camrose Refugee Centre	11,018	4,000	4,288	-	10,729
Reserve Capital Maintenance	-	4,100	-	4,100	-
Lunch/Fest	\$ 62,170	\$ 62,503	\$ 44,524	\$ 17,795	\$ 62,351

2. Net assets restricted for endowments

	2021	2020
Panoptic endowment	\$ 57,710	\$ 57,680
Mission endowment	63,207	63,207
	\$ 120,917	\$ 120,887



Messiah Lutheran Church
Schedules to the Financial Statements
 Year ended April 30

Schedule of Salaries and Benefits

Schedule 1

	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2020 Actual
Salaries	\$ 304,000	\$ 159,273	\$ 166,698
Housing	-	39,235	40,800
Contract workers	-	37,563	32,004
AHC and benefits	-	24,091	24,310
Pension and ACCEPT	-	16,292	15,947
CPP and EI	-	11,343	11,540
Travel allowance	-	1,492	3,918
Supplementary staff	-	720	625
	\$ 304,000	\$ 290,009	\$ 295,842

Schedule of Support

Schedule 2

	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2020 Actual
Insurance	\$ 19,820	\$ 23,807	\$ 20,125
Heating fuel	14,000	15,747	16,090
Electricity	10,500	7,411	11,449
Telephone/communications	4,000	4,922	4,530
Professional fees	4,000	4,305	3,690
Office supplies	5,090	2,948	5,326
Synod/national conference	1,000	2,187	952
Water, sewer, local improvements	2,000	1,875	2,077
Custodial supplies	1,200	1,657	1,112
Postage	1,200	1,650	895
Software agreements	700	656	673
Counselling supervision	900	600	615
Advertising	400	547	184
Miscellaneous	1,100	345	2,608
Offering envelopes	650	296	407
Bank charges	200	195	362
Website	200	195	195
Staff retreats	300	172	-
Conference/pastor study	1,600	70	1,101
Inspections/maintenance	-	-	644
Conference dues	500	-	476
Office equipment lease	-	-	307
Audio/video equipment	-	-	29
Office library	200	-	-
Volunteer screening	200	-	-
	\$ 69,670	\$ 69,385	\$ 73,847

*Praise God,
 From Whom
 All Blessings
 Flow*

Messiah Lutheran Church **Schedules to the Financial Statements**

Year ended April 30

Schedule of Benevolences

Schedule 3

	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2020 Actual
Alberta Synod ELCIC	\$ 36,163	\$ 36,163	\$ 36,192
Camrose Neighbor Aid	2,400	2,400	2,400
	<u>\$ 38,563</u>	<u>\$ 38,563</u>	<u>\$ 38,592</u>

Schedule of Worship

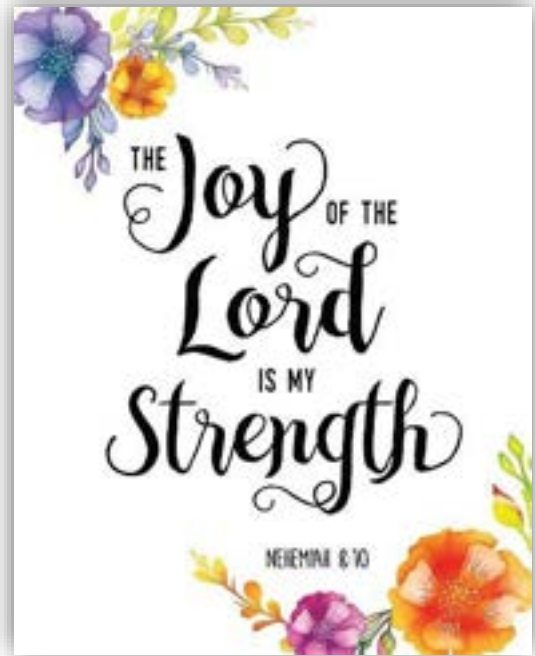
Schedule 4

	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2020 Actual
Worship supplies	\$ 2,350	\$ 1,637	\$ 2,425
Copyright licenses	1,200	1,067	1,006
Continuing Education/Carryover	500	500	500
Eternity for Today	350	303	370
New music	400	-	614
Choir program	150	-	-
Chancel Care	200	-	-
	<u>\$ 5,150</u>	<u>\$ 3,507</u>	<u>\$ 4,915</u>

Schedule of Learning

Schedule 5

	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2020 Actual
Video licensing	\$ 600	\$ 513	\$ 513
Baby ministry	500	461	441
Adult education	500	152	405
Confirmation ministries	1,000	(187)	380
Youth program	500	77	-
Sunday school	500	39	272
Family programs	200	-	28
Library	100	-	-
	<u>\$ 3,900</u>	<u>\$ 1,055</u>	<u>\$ 2,039</u>



Messiah Lutheran Church **Schedules to the Financial Statements**

Year ended April 30



Schedule of Service

Schedule 6

	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2020 Actual
Other	\$ 100	\$ 21	\$ -
Sunday School	200	-	53
Other Ministries	200	-	50
Ministry with seniors	100	-	-
Volunteer appreciation	100	-	-
Office resources - brochures	100	-	-
	<u>\$ 800</u>	<u>\$ 21</u>	<u>\$ 103</u>

Schedule of Witness

Schedule 7

	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2020 Actual
World Missions Group	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ 50
Ministry to new members	100	-	49
	<u>\$ 200</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 99</u>

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH		Draft			
2022/23 BUDGET					
as of April 30, 2022		To Apr 30		100%	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Actual	Budget
	2020/21	2021/22	2021/22	%	2022/23
Revenue				of Bud	
Envelopes	325,665	325,000	297,756	92%	330,300
Envelopes NSNO Declared	18,100	14,700	15,600	106%	15,600
Envelope total	343,765	339,700	313,356	92%	345,900
Plate	434	-	301	0%	348
MLC general	5,885	5,300	6,226	117%	6,500
Easter	10,039	6,000	7,417	133%	8,000
Lent	550	200	565		-
Thanksgiving	10,363	10,000	9,711	97%	10,000
Christmas	12,115	12,000	12,135	101%	13,000
Music performances		-			-
Facility use and fees# for service	5,469	6,000	7,600	127%	6,000
Coffee or Food					2,500
Expense recoveries	5,000	-		0%	
Local Designation Donation			4,844		3,600
Bequest transfer/deficit			22,999		
Interest & Other recoveries**	5,920	4,200	5,669	135%	4,200
Operating Revenue	399,539	383,400	390,823	102%	400,048
*Restricted Donations	50				
Revenue	399,589	383,400	390,823	102%	400,048
Designated	62320		61,911		
Total Revenue	461,909		452,734		
*change in accounting procedures					
**includes common share interest					
Expenses					
Neighbor Aid	2,400	2,400	2,400	100%	2,400
Synod Benevolence	36,163	35,795	35,795	100%	35,008
Salaries & benefits	290,009	305,243	258,183	85%	256,700
Program expenses					
Worship - schedule 1	3,507	5,150	3,912	76%	4,500
Learning - schedule 2	1,053	3,900	1,486	38%	3,350
Witness - schedule 3	-	200	-	0%	2,600
Service - schedule 4	21	700	-	0%	700
Support - schedule 5**	69,385	75,750	89,047	119%	94,790
Capital projects - schedule 5	-17,795	-	-	-	-
Expenses	384,742	429,138	390,823	91%	400,048
Designated	44,524	-	61,911		-
Total expenses	429,266	429,138	452,734		400,048
Excess (deficit) income	14,847	(45,738)	(0)		-
Restricted funds transferred	50				
Excess (def) operating income	14,797	(45,738)	(0)		-

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH					
2022/23 BUDGET					
as of April 30, 2022		To Apr 30			
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Actual	Budget
Schedule 1: Worship	2020/21	2020/21	2021/22	% of Bud	2022/23
Program expenses					
Chancel care (old "altar guild")	0	200	0		200
Choirs new music	0	400	0	0%	400
Choirs program expenses	0	150	0		150
Choirs student bursary	0	-	0		-
Continuing education-carry over	500	500	500		500
Copyright license	1,066	1,200	1,074	90%	1,100
Eternity for Today	303	350	386	110%	350
Instrument maintenance	****	-	145		-
Organ scholarship	0	-	0		-
Worship (EasyWorship) subscription	271	350	268		300
Worship supplies	1,366	2,000	1,539	77%	1,500
Total program expenses	3,507	5,150	3,912	76%	4,500
Schedule 2: Learning					
Program expenses					
Adult education	150	500		0%	500
Baby Ministry	461	500	133	27%	500
Confirmation*	-187	1,000	455	45%	900
Sunday School	39	500	292	58%	400
Family programs	0	200		0%	100
Library	0	100		0%	-
Stewardship programming	0	-			-
Training/miscellaneous	0	-			-
Video license	513	600	435	72%	600
Vacation Bible school supplies		-			-
Youth program expenses/misc	77	500	172	34%	350
Total program expenses	1,053	3,900	1,486	38%	3,350
*previous year adjustment missed					



MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH					
2022/23 BUDGET					
as of April 30, 2022		To Apr 30			
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Actual	Budget
Schedule 3: Witness	Actual	2020/21	2021/22	% of Bud	2022/23
Benevolence	2020/21				
Missionary sponsorship		-	-		-
Program expenses	-				
New members		100	0	0%	100
Coffee or Food					2,500
Ministry to inactives	0		0		
Outreach	0		0		
Programs	0		0		
World Mission Group	0	100	0	0%	-
Total program expenses	0	200	0	0%	2,600
Total witness expenses	20	200	-	0%	2,600
Schedule 4: Service					
Benevolence					
NeighborAid	2,400	2,400	2,400	100%	2,400
Program expenses					
Community programs	0	0	0		0
Ministries	0	200	0		200
Issue exploration	0	0	0		0
Small group leadership	0	0	0		0
Ministry with seniors	0	100	0	0%	100
Resource care leaflets	0	0	0		0
Service Comm misc	21	100	0		100
Sunday adult class expenses	0	200	0		200
Volunteer appreciation	0	100	0	0%	100
Total program expenses	16	700	0	0%	700
	2,416	3,450	2,400	70%	3,100



MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH					
2022/23 BUDGET					
as of April 30, 2022		To Apr 30			
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Actual	Budget
Schedule 5: Support	2020/21	2021/22	2021/22	% of Bud	2022/23
Benevolence					
Alberta Synod**	36,163	35,795	35,795	100%	35,008
Seminary student assistance	0	-	0		-
Total benevolence	36,163	35,795	35,795	100%	35,008
Program expenses					
Advertising	546	400	527	132%	360
Audio/visual supplies	****	-	1,322		200
Audit/Accountant	4,305	4,000	4,305	108%	4,300
Bank charges/op loans	195	200	346	173%	390
Capital purchase/contingency	0	-	0		-
Conference dues	0	500	451	90%	450
Conf-other/pastors' study	70	1,600	260	16%	600
Counselling supervision	600	900	1,645	183%	1,100
Convention-synod/national	2,187	1,000	451	45%	1,000
Custodial supplies	1,657	1,200	268	22%	1,000
Church Council miscellaneous*	345	1,100	743	68%	620
Inspections/Maintenance	****	-	4,698		4,000
Insurance	23,607	25,000	26,518	106%	31,000
Offering envelopes	296	650	580	89%	580
Office equipment lease	****	-	5,288		5,900
Office library	0	200	29	14%	40
Office supplies	2,948	5,000	2,529	51%	2,900
Postage & shipping	1,650	1,200	727	61%	1,100
Repairs & maintenance	****	-	3,648		3,500
R & M Computer/telephones	****	-	177		250
Software agreements	656	700	667	95%	700
Staff/lay development	0	-	50	0%	100
Support Comm misc	0	-	0		-
Taxes & improvements					
Telephone/Internet	4,922	4,000	5,062	127%	3,200
Utilities-electricity***	7,411	10,500	8,056	77%	9,100
Utilities-heating fuel***	15,747	14,000	18,722	134%	20,000
Utilities-water & sewer	1,875	2,000	1,593	80%	2,000
Volunteer screening	0	200	0	0%	-
Website	195	200	195	97%	200
Staff retreat	172	300	190	63%	200
Total program expenses	69,385	74,850	89,047	119%	94,790
Capital projects (roof rec)	-17,795	0	0	0%	0
AV capital	0	0	0		0
Use des funds avail (deficit recover)	0	0	0	0%	0
Total capital projects	(17,795)	-	-	-	-
Total support expenses	51,590	134,287	124,842	93%	129,798
* Camrose ministerial membership, visioning speaker, CS appreciation, books (Hybrid church), Zoom subscription, Prof admin					
**10% of 2020/2021 Envelope + Plate + MLC General					
***will still change when invoices come in					
****moved to Capital Maintenance					

Analysis of Messiah's Proposed Stewardship of its Proposed Resources 2022-2023

		% of Total			
Salaries and Wages for Staff		\$256,700	65%	*Building/Capital	
				AV Capital	0
				Custodial Supplies	1,000
				Inspections/maintenance	4,000
				Insurance	31,000
				R & M reg/comp	0
				Utilities-electricity	9,100
				Utilities-heating fuel	20,000
				Utilities-water/sewer	2,000
				Capital purchase/contingency	0
				Capital Projects	0
					<u>67,100</u>
In Support of All Ministries - Support Committee					
Synod		35,008	9%	**Office	
				Advertising	360
				Audio/Visual supplies	200
				Audit	4,300
				Bank charges/op loans	390
				Offering envelopes	580
				Office equipment lease	5,900
				Office library	40
				Office Supplies	2,900
				Postage & shipping	1,100
				Software agreements	700
				Telephone	3,200
				Website	200
					<u>19,870</u>
Total		\$396,298	100%		
Check from Summary Page		400,048			



***General Ministry Support	
Chur Coun Miscellaneous	620
Conference Dues	450
Pastor's Study Conference	600
Counselling Supervision	1,100
Conventions	1,000
Staff/lay development	100
Volunteer screening	0
Staff retreat	200
	<u>4,070</u>

Messiah Lutheran Church					
2021-2022 Financial Report (unaudited)					
	At				At
DESIGNATED FUNDS	Apr 30	Received	Disbursed	Internal	Apr 30
	2021			transfer	2022
Building Access Fund	518.38		518.38	0.00	0.00
Bequests until assigned	0.00	77,000.00	35,626.58	50,000.00	91,373.42
Capital/Major Projects (CP Main)	1,801.10	3,350.00	500.00	25,056.77	29,707.87
recovery to general re: roof*	17,795.41	0.00		-17795.41	0.00
CP Roof*	0.00	12,429.00	-12,627.77	-25,056.77	0.00
Capital Maintenance	0.00	0.00	-518.38	-518.38	0.00
Coffee/Lunch Fund	493.94	391.30	472.02		413.22
Education (Learning Comm)	1,260.37	0.00	58.81		1,201.56
Interest Endowmt Fund-Missi	3,482.09	99.05	0.00	-3,581.14	0.00
Interest Endowmt Fund-panoptic	1,092.57	532.50	1,092.57	-532.50	0.00
Interest Ministry Endowment	0.00	1,836.00	115.32	4,113.64	5,834.32
Misc/Other	1,362.34	50,000.00	0	-50000	1,362.34
Music Fees	44.45	150.00	0.00	-194.45	0.00
Music Organ Fund	1,557.58	700.00	1,762.17		495.41
Proj Sen Pastor initiatives	1,612.43	0.00	0.00		1,612.43
Refugee Support	16,991.25	750.00	8,648.71		9,092.54
Proj Family Camp	1,969.44	0.00	0.00		1,969.44
Samaritan Fund	1,782.35	1,400.00	934.25		2,248.10
Staff prof dev (worship)	517.69	500.00	0.00		1,017.69
TV Ministry/Sound System	2,135.03	525.00	839.42		1,820.61
Worship/Music	4,291.64	0.00	9.95	194.45	4,476.14
Youth Fundraising	10,713.11	0.00	0.00		10,713.11
Camrose Refugee Centre	10,727.12	3,800.00	6,717.70		7,809.42
CRC other specific(Ukraine)	0.00	24,845.00	3,841.76		21,003.24
Current yr reserves Bldg Debt ret	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other:					
IMW El Salvador	0.00	1,700.00	1,700.00		0.00
IELCO Columbia	0.00	6,300.00	6,300.00		0.00
other outside charity (Neighbor Aid)	0.00	550.00	550.00		0.00
CLWR	0.00	4,370.00	4,370.00		0.00
Total	80,148.29	191,227.85	60,911.49	-18,313.79	192,150.86

Note: Designated fund reserves less endowment fund, building debt, Camrose

Refugee Centre and IMW El Salvador Reserve

163,338.20

*done before opening balances in Grant Thornton reports

Endowment Fund (new mission)	63,207.48			-63,207.48	0.00
Endowment Fund (panoptic)	57,709.91	50.00		-57,759.91	0.00
Mission Endowment Fund	0.00			120,967.39	120,967.39
Total Endowment Funds	120,917.39				120,967.39

Messiah Lutheran Church – Visioning Session

April 27, 2022 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Attendance: Carolyn Andersen, Lavona Broen, Mary Broen, Darlene Dahle, David Dahle, Dena Grue, Carl Hoybak, Agnes Hoveland, LeRoy Johnson, Lori Mokry, Dave Rogers, Dave Stolee, Gail Stolee, Pastor Bev Swanson

Objective: In the next few years, what are some directions we could go to meet the challenges and strengthen Messiah's mission (to share Jesus Christ with all people)?

Values: God loves everyone, Jesus is Lord, Holy Spirit-led, Rely on the Word of God, God gives everyone gifts to share

Visioning Session Agenda:

1. Unique features & strengths of Messiah
2. Challenges & opportunities facing Messiah
3. What steps/directions can we take to meet the challenges & strengthen Messiah's mission?

Strengths of Messiah

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| -History/heritage | -Large enough to with stand divisions | -Professional in AV tech and so skilled among church members in general |
| -Obvious location | -Small groups – many, active | -Staff that are considerate of all |
| -Music (pipe organ, worship, choirs) | -Strong community outreach | -Willingness to serve others & looking for places to serve |
| Beautiful facility, BIG, useful | -Socially active! Community builders | -Willing & open to ask God's leading |
| Willing & faithful volunteers – diverse in talents & ideas | -Strong virtual ministry (YouTube, East Link) | -Well thought of in the community |
| -Committee structure (members & non members) | -Professionalism in tech | -Friendliness/welcoming |
| -Refugee support | -Spirit led worship | -Counselling ministry reputation |
| -Broad range of ideals & still be able to be in community together | -Leadership in the community | |

Challenges facing Messiah

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| -Monocultural church in a multicultural society | -Building use & accessibility (hearing, mobility, etc.) | -Online church – very accessible for people; lots of choices online |
| -Declining participation/attendance (impacts volunteers, finances, Covid has had a huge impact, some people lose the habit of attending, others worried about health) | -Stewardship avoidance (hard to talk about money) | -Appealing to younger families & youth |
| -Expectations of members (previous staffing levels vs. current) | -Budget sustainability | -Importance of relationships & fellowship |
| -Trying to do the same amount of work with less resources (impacts volunteers, staff, Council) | -Outreach ministry to older members in homes | -How to help people get into small groups |
| -Balance between security & openness | -Difficulty attracting new members | -How to handle strained relationships from Covid |
| -Aging demographics | -Stretched leadership & what leadership should look like | -Leadership & staffing |
| | -Meeting needs of individuals | -LGBTQ |
| | -Cliques | -Lacking in participation, music. Worship, choir (versus "performing") |
| | -Leadership & staffing | -Collaboration with other churches & organization |
| | -Working relationships & environment | |
| | -Change is hard! Change vs. tradition | |

Challenges in the Community

- More multicultural society
- Church attendance decline/secularization
- Social issues
- More activities on Sundays
- Many people unfamiliar/never been in a church
- Family violence
- Lack of affordable housing
- Working parents very busy
- Financial difficulties
- Food insecurity
- Transportation
- War
- Mental health challenges, increased anxiety in children
- Divisive polarization on issues & responses
- inclusivity
- Perception of "the church" as judgemental

Opportunities

- Martha's Table leadership
- Collaboration with New Norway & Bashaw to share a Pastor
- Serving refugees
- Renting out parts of the building; offer our space
- Christian gift shop
- Connection! Small groups, 1:1
- Worship ministry online (more virtual? How to connect more?)
- Home visitation, connection, Stephen Ministries
- Support services – real life help, connection
- Invite people back "we miss you"
- More emphasis on evangelism
- More youth involved in programs in the church
- Another type of service
- Emphasis on youth
- Main Street location
- Drop in times – public, youth
- Food as needed
- Bequests – seed funding

In the next few years, what are some directions we could go to meet the challenges and strengthen Messiah's mission (to share Jesus Christ with all people)?

7	7	5+3=8	7	9	3	7	6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Solicit community renters -Making better use of our facility -Use of facilities -Use space to generate income 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Call youth/family ministry Pastor -Youth & family 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Outreach (NA, SOS, individuals) -Reaching out IN community -Evangelism post-Covid, outreach -Community Outreach -Build on our strengths like refugee support -Inclusivity -Small groups -Enhanced small groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Collaboration (rural, St. Andrew's, immigrant) -Collaboration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Two different worship services -Review entire worship style (music, sermons, children's story) -online virtual ministry -build on music program with youth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Asset management -improve audio system -Welcome! (sign in front) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Visitation (Stephen Ministry) -Enhance senior's program (reimagine senior's visitation) -a plan to serve those isolated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Review leadership

Direction Areas:

- Worship style / services
- Collaboration
- Rent out facility to generate more income
- Seniors ministry
- Family & Youth ministry
- Leadership
- Outreach & small groups



WORSHIP FOR A CONGREGATIONAL ANNUAL MEETING

CLOSING THE MEETING

LITANY

Leader: Faithful God, we thank you for seeing us safely through another year.

All: *We trust in your faithfulness to be with us this coming year.*

Leader: Hopeful God, you continue to show us the vision of a future of justice, peace and mercy.

All: *Empower us with your hope, and lead us into your ways of righteousness.*

Leader: Loving God, we give you thanks for your presence with us this day.

All: *Fill us with your love, so that we may embody your love in all we do this year.*

Leader: In your holy name we pray,

All: *Amen.*

HYMN *We Are Called*
EvLW #720

Leader: Go in peace. Faithful, hopeful, and loving.

All: *Thanks be to God.*

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