

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH OF CAMROSE



Sharing Jesus Christ with All People



Installation March 25, 2023



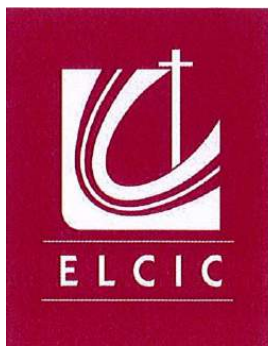
Choristers and Handbells Resume



Confirmation



Joint Anglican and Lutheran Service



Congregational
ANNUAL REPORT

2022
-
2023

*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.

You, as lay members, rostered leaders, congregations and specialized 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.

Our recent past has brought with it new understandings and learnings, changed attitudes, a reassessing of what we should be about, treasuring some things and perhaps setting others aside. There is an increased awareness of many issues in our lives, our communities, and world, which for many had existed unobserved, silent, hidden, ignored. Employment needs, violence, mental health concerns, food security issues, affordable housing, polarization, racism, climate change, losses of many kinds....

Along with many challenges 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, collaboration, partnerships.

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 2023 Synod Narrative Budget and correspondence from our Synod Council Chair, Diaconal Minister Karen Wedman, and Synod Treasurer, Paul Ellison.

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

Together review, ponder, discuss, and be in conversation about the "Listening Exercise" I initiated and reported on in 2022. A cover letter from Synod Council Chairperson, Diaconal Minister Karen Wedman, a brief report (including a PowerPoint version) and the complete Report are available on the Synod website: www.albertasynod.ca.

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

Participate in learning and conversation for the Rostered Leaders Zoom Gathering the first Wednesday of each month, and/or the Lay Members 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, your 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 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.

Since the Ponder Anew gatherings this fall/winter (6 in person and 1 online), our Synod has established a Vision for the Future fund (this title may change), focused in part on the vision illustrated in a dream budget which I shared at the gatherings. Already, a congregation in the synod has contributed a significant gift to this fund and I am aware that conversation is taking place with individuals and other congregations about gifts to the fund. You will be hearing more during 2023.

We do not know the future, but we have what we need. Jesus is feeding us. The Spirit is guiding us. We have the Scriptures. We have water. We have bread and wine. We have each other. Jesus is with us.

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.

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 we are walking 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

Our Ministry Story 2023

HOPE-FILLED DISCIPLESHIP
We live lives of hopeful service, affirming the rich diversity of God's family, and witnessing to Christ's liberating presence in the world.
Equip the saints for ministry and for building up the body of Christ.
—Ephesians 4:12

Children's sermon at St. Paul's Ellerstie, Edmonton

SPIRIT-LED LEADERSHIP
We trust in the Holy Spirit who "calls us through the Gospel, enlightens us with gifts, sanctifies and keeps us in true faith."
(Martin Luther's explanation—3rd Article of the Creed)
We, who are many, are one body in Christ. —Romans 12:5a

Synod Council Retreat, Mulhurst Lutheran Bible Camp

COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS
We work together joining God in God's mission of reconciliation.
We are given the ministry of reconciliation. —2 Corinthians 5:18

Installation of Andrea Wilhelm, intern pastor at Grace Lutheran Church, Bentley, and Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Red Deer.

INNOVATIVE TRADITION
We welcome creativity and experimentation as expressions of God at work.
For nothing is impossible with God. — Luke 1:37

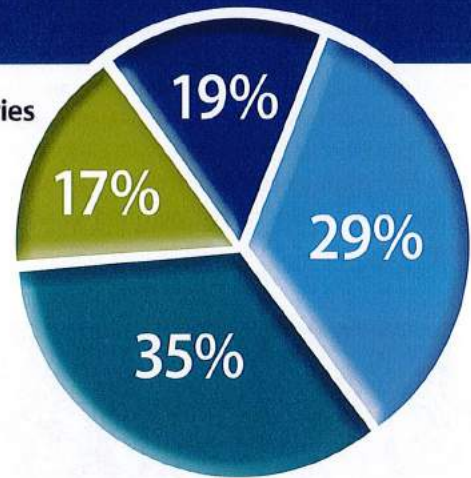
Picture reading from the quonset for Monthly Area-Led worship.



2023 Synod of Alberta and the Territories Budget

The Synod's 2023 budget of **\$636,100** supports ministries carried out under the umbrella of four Mission Priorities.

- Spirit-Led Leadership – 35%**
- Collaborative Partnerships – 29%**
- Innovative Traditions – 19%**
- Hope-Filled Discipleship – 17%**



Spirit-Led Leadership

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

Collaborative Partnerships

1. We work to build relationships and partnerships with all people who seek a just and peaceful world.
2. 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.
3. We serve with the Anglican Church of Canada and seek to strengthen relationships with ecumenical and interfaith partners witnessing mutual respect, and good stewardship.
4. We express God's grace and love as we seek to abide in right relations with Indigenous Peoples and marginalized members of society.

Innovative Traditions

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

Hope-Filled Discipleship

1. We are a community of lifelong learners engaged in the practices of Biblical study, prayer, and reflection, including Dwelling in the Word.
2. We welcome and affirm all people, with the uniqueness of their gifts, as valued partners in ministry.
3. We equip, support, and inspire one another to be Christ's presence in the world.
4. 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.

THANK YOU for your faithful 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 2023.

OUR VALUED PARTNERS INCLUDE

Anglican Church of Canada, Calgary Alliance for the Common Good, Canadian Lutheran World Relief, World Council of Churches, Inner City Pastoral Ministry, Calgary Interfaith Council, Evangelical Lutheran Foundation of Eastern Canada, 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 11, 2023 1:00 pm

- 1. Welcome and Call to Order:** Agnes Hoveland
- 2. Opening Devotions:** Pastor Jeff Decelle (page 9)
- 3. Consideration and Adoption of Agenda**
- 4. Review of Congregational Meeting Minutes**
 - 4.1.** Annual Congregational Meeting of June 12, 2022 (page 10)
 - 4.2.** Special Congregational Meeting of January 22, 2023 (page 18)
- 5. Consideration of Reports**
 - 5.1.** Report of the Senior Pastor (effective March 20, 2023) (page 21)
 - 5.2.** Report of the Associate Pastor (and Acting Senior Pastor until March 19, 2023) (page 22)
 - 5.3.** Church Council Report (page 27)
 - 5.4.** Reports of the Committees (page 28)
 - 5.5.** Congregational Statistics (page 40)
- 6. Organizational Matters**
 - 6.1. Report of the Nominating Group and Elections** (page 41)
Installation of those elected will be June 18, 2023.
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 this information to Lori at the church office.
 - 6.2 Renewal 125 Initiative**
- 7. Financial Matters**
 - 7.1. 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) Elaine Taylor 3) Bookkeeper 4) Treasurer
 - 7.2 Motion to Approve the Audit Group Report** (page 42)
 - 7.3. Motion for Appointment of Auditors**
 - 7.3.1.** That Messiah use an Internal Audit for the 2023-2024 fiscal year.
 - 7.3.2.** That Yvonne Myrehaug, Ivar Saugen and Leann Reinhart be appointed to the Audit Group as auditors for Messiah Lutheran Church for the year ending April 30, 2024.
 - 7.4. Motions for Borrowing Power**
 - 7.4.1** That any two of the President, Secretary and Treasurer be authorized to borrow up to fifty thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) from a financial institution in Camrose, Alberta, for operating purposes and to execute the institution's form of note or notes in the name of Messiah Lutheran Church for a period of twelve months.
 - 7.5. 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.

8. Financial Reports and Recommended Budget (pages 43-53)

9. Concluding Remarks

10. Closing Devotions: Pastor Bev Swanson (back cover)

11. Adjournment



WORSHIP FOR A CONGREGATIONAL ANNUAL MEETING

OPENING THE MEETING

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

You are encouraged to acknowledge Indigenous lands in a way appropriate to your context. These words are provided as an example:

We acknowledge that the territories, on which we live are the traditional ancestral lands of the Indigenous Peoples, and is the common home to everyone in virtue of God, our Creator's, gracious gift and by the welcome of the Indigenous Peoples of these lands.

PRAYER

God of grace and hope, align our hearts, minds, and hands for the work of loving your world. Make your Spirit known in this gathering, to support our conversation and to guide our work in the ways of Jesus. Amen.

READING Revelation 22:1-2

HYMN *Lord, Let My Heart be Good Soil*
EvLW #512

LITANY

Leader: We thank you for creation and how it sustains life for all. Help our relationships with land and water to deepen and grow.

All: Let there be greening.

Leader: We thank you for humanity, in all its diversity, and how all people offer gifts for being true community. Help our relationships with neighbours, near and far, to deepen and grow.

All: Let there be greening.

Leader: We thank you for the Body of Christ around the world, and how it bears witness to your ways of justice, healing, and peace. Help our relationships with partners to deepen and grow.

All: Let there be greening.

Leader: We thank you for this faith community, and how we support each other on our spiritual journeys. Help our relationships with each other to deepen and grow.

All: Let there be greening. Amen.

**Messiah Lutheran Church of Camrose
Annual Congregational Meeting
June 12, 2022 1:00 pm
In Person & via Zoom
Minutes**

1. President David Dahle called the meeting to order at 1 p.m.
2. Pastor Bev Swanson led the devotion as printed in the Annual Report.
3. A special presentation regarding the discernment and visioning process entitled Challenged, Committed, Creative was presented by vice-president Agnes Hoveland. (Slides attached)
4. **MSC** to hold the meeting in person and via ZOOM.
5. **MSC** that the agenda be adopted as printed.
6. **MSC** that the minutes of the Annual General Meeting of June 6, 2021 and the Special Congregational Meeting of October 17, 2021 be adopted as printed.
7. **Reports**
 - Acting Senior Pastor's Report
 - Church Council Report
 - Committees
 - Learning
 - Service
 - Support - Outgoing chairperson, Ron Foshaug, thanked the members of the committee and particularly noted the long and dedicated service of many. The President extended a special thanks to Ron for his many years of service and leadership.
 - Witnessing
 - World Mission
 - Refugee Support
 - Camrose Refugee Centre
 - Worship - Committee chairperson, Darlene Dahle, offered an explanation of the repairs needed to the organ.
 - Auxiliary - Messiah Lutheran Women
 - Hastings Lake Bible Camp
 - Congregational Statistics

MSC that the reports be accepted into the record.
8. **Organizational Matters**
 - 8.1 **MSC** to adopt the slate of officers and committee members as presented in the Annual Report.
 - 8.2 **Recommendations from Church Council**
 - 8.2.1 **Bylaw Changes**

MSC that the following changes be made to the Bylaws:

That section 5 of the Bylaws pertaining to worship be amended as follows. (Additions in red, deletions have a line through them.)

5.2 To make provision for the development, coordination, supervision, and evaluation of the 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 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

That Section 10 of the Bylaws be deleted.

8.2.2 Collaboration Agreement

MSC 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.

9. Endowment Fund Interest

MSC That available income from the Ministry Endowment Fund be used as follows: \$1,000 be used 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. MSC That any one of the following be authorized to sign charitable receipts for Messiah Lutheran Church: 1) Mary Broen 2) Elaine Taylor 3) Bookkeeper 4) Treasurer

10.2.1 MSC that Messiah accept the Audit Group Report.

MSC That Messiah use an Internal Audit for the 2022-2023 fiscal year

10.2.2 MSC That Yvonne Myrehaug and Leann Reinhart be appointed to the Audit Group as auditors for Messiah Lutheran Church for the year ending April 30, 2023.

Agreed by consensus that Council appoint a third person to the Committee.

11. MSC 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: MSC That the 2022-2023 budget be accepted as presented.

13. Concluding Remarks: Broad, deep and heartfelt thanks to everyone for their attendance, enthusiasm, assistance, and faithfulness; to the tech team of Rosanna, Chris, Dale and Lowell who did the nearly impossible to make the hybrid style interactive meeting run smoothly, to Pastor Bev and all the staff; and to Council for their leadership and hard work. As someone remarked, "It feels good!"

14. Closing Devotions: Pastor Bev Swanson led the closing as shown on the back cover of the Annual Report.

15. Adjournment at 2:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Gail Stolee
Council Secretary

Attachments:

1. List of Voting Members Present (page 12)
2. Visioning Presentation: Challenged, Committed, Creative (page 13)
3. 2022-2023 Council and Committee Members (page 16)
4. 2022-2023 Budget (page 17)

Attachment 1. Messiah Lutheran Church Annual Congregational Meeting Attendance on June 12 2022

Attending In Person

Carolyn Andersen	Karen Hansen	Shirley McFall
Wilfred Aspenes	Signe Harder	Yvonne Myrehaug
Irene Bishop	Frank Hoehn	Cheryl Nester
Ray Blacklock	Judy Hoehn	Sharon Ofrim
Jim Brager	Agnes Hoveland	Carolyn Olson
Marie Brager	James Hoveland	Lloyd Olson
Lavona Broen	Marilyn Hoveland	Erhard Pinno
Darlene Dahle	Carl Hoybak	Helen Sather
David Dahle	Ioan Jober	Don Saltvold
Arnell Dahlin	LeRoy Johnson	Letha Saltvold
Greta Dahlin	Eleanor Kopperud	Carole Saugen
Maureen Engen	Leann Kruger (Reinhart)	Ivar Saugen
Hazel Erga	Audrey Lett	Glenys Smith
Lyle Erga	Lue Lindseth	Berniece Sogge
Sylvia Espe	Alice Lindstrand	Dave Stolee
Ron Foshaug	Max Lindstrand	Gail Stolee
Dena Grue	George Litke	Elaine Taylor
Nora Gilbertson	Donny Loewen	Bev Swanson
Alice Haldorson	Lorraine Mackwood	Leny Vanderjagt

Attending on Zoom

Colin Anderson	Milt Gilbertson	Joanne Myrehaug
Rena Anderson	Sharon Gilbertson	Ruth Ofrim
Sheila Becker*	Dave Larson	Dave Rogers
Chris Hohm	Lois Larson	Patricia Rogers
Rosanna Hohm	Vi Madison	Dale Swanson
Lowell Dahlman*	Don Myrehaug	

*not a member
Total members = 72



Attachment 2. Visioning Presentation

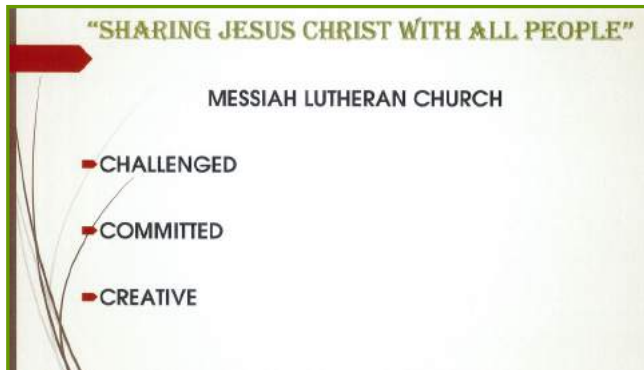
Welcome and Introduction

Good afternoon! I am excited!!

We, on Church Council, are excited about the possibilities and opportunities we here at Messiah have before us.

Over the last several months we have done much praying, searching, and discussing. Pastor Bev led a discernment process which many of you participated in. Then Council, Staff members Pastor Bev, and Lori Mokry as well as representatives from a variety of

groups and committees met in a day long facilitated visioning session. In the discernment and visioning process, this is what you said:



We are **Challenged**: challenged to face what is ahead.

We are **Committed** to our mission and to moving forward together. Over and over, you said this community of faith is very important to you.

And, we are **Creative** with a vast wealth of talents to explore, think, listen, plan together, stretching out discovering ways to serve.

Empowered by God’s love we are called, gathered, gifted, and equipped.

We are a group of FAITHFUL AND TALENTED PEOPLE with a desire to continue the legacy of Messiah,

building on our STRONG HISTORY IN THIS PLACE.

Some of the significant existing community programs such a as Neighbour Aid and Habitat for Humanity had their beginnings at Messiah.



WHAT WILL BE OUR NEW LEGACY? WHO ARE WE CALLED TO BE NOW?

The last 3 years have shown how we are able to meet CRISIS AS OPPORTUNITY. We were blessed to have the faithful service of the music ministry team and the technical knowledge of our AV Ministry team which made it possible to continue to worship under trying circumstances. Our virtual ministry provided an amazing outreach during the pandemic.

As a result, we have discovered that hybrid ministry is one of our strengths.

Throughout the discernment process you told us how important our church community is to you. This SENSE of caring for and about each other is what gives us strength.

We have a STRUCTURE AND ORGANIZATION that provides a strong base through our Council, Standing Committees, Pastor and Staff. As well as our committees there are wonderful groups such as Wednesday workers, the Care Group, and Lectio that have sprung up to meet particular needs. There is always opportunity for more such groups to arise as needs present.



We have a large building DOWNTOWN which is easily accessible and could be used in a variety of new ways. For example, how about Lunch and Learn series in collaboration with Camrose City Centre, the Chamber of Commerce, Camrose Mental Health and Augustana?

CHALLENGED

- CHANGE AND UNCERTAINTY ALL AROUND US
- SUSTAINABILITY (DEMOGRAPHICS, FINANCES)
- HEARING AND NURTURING OUR YOUTH
- AGING BUILDINGS
- ONE PASTOR ONLY AT THIS TIME
- MANY IDEAS-SETTING PRIORITIES
- MANAGING CHANGE

We are looking forward, not a u-turn but moving forward. In today's terms, A REBOOT.

CHALLENGED

Two years of pandemic induced uncertainty has made us both eager and uncertain as we try to find our footing and see what's next. So many things are changing so quickly all around us.

Attitudes towards church have been changing for years. For many traditions as we have known them are being challenged. The fear and isolation experienced during COVID may have caused others

to seek God.

OUR CHANGING DEMOGRAPHICS, lowered attendance, and decreasing offerings ARE CAUSING US TO THINK ABOUT sustainability in different ways.

COMMITTED

- TO MOVING FORWARD:
 - IN ONGOING PRAYER, CONVERSATION AND LISTENING
 - WITH MESSIAH'S CORE VALUES
 - IN SPIRITUAL GROWTH
 - IN RENEWAL
 - CHANGE WHEN NEEDED
 - SEEKING NEW OPPORTUNITIES
 - OUTREACH AND WELCOMING
 - RISK TAKING



How do we nurture the faith and engagement of our children and youth who are drawn in so many directions and whose ideas are very different from what many of us take for granted?

Our wonderful building which has served us so well seems in constant need of repair and yet is under-used.

One pastor cannot possibly do all that is needed in a congregation of our size and complexity.

How do we manage change? How do we set priorities that will strengthen us for ministry in the future?

Pastor Bev asked a challenging question a few weeks ago: "Do we want to be well?" The process of discernment and visioning of the past several months showed that the answer is YES.

CREATIVE

- Finding Opportunities to be welcoming extending hospitality to all
- Capitalize on our online ministry and expand our capacity
- Vary worship styles and possible times
- Facility use - Space rental
- Outreach/Reaching out-refugee support, community service
- Empowered Committees and small groups
- Collaborative Ministry-share pastor

COMMITTED

You told us that despite the challenges, you are committed to moving forward with ongoing prayer, conversation and listening for God's guidance.

You are committed to Messiah's core values

1. God loves everyone
2. Jesus is Lord,
3. We seek to be led by the holy spirit,
4. We rely fully on the word of God,
5. God gives everyone gifts to share

You want this to be a place of spiritual growth as well as outreach.

You understand that renewal means change.

You are open to new opportunities.

New opportunities for outreach and to be welcoming.

You know there are risks in doing, but also in not doing.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

- SHARE YOUR GIFTS
- WELCOME NEWCOMERS
- FEED THE HUNGRY
- TEACH
- MAKE MUSIC
- GIVE FINANCIALLY
- HELP AT EVENTS
- VISIT
- LISTEN AND PRAY
- SERVE ON COMMITTEES



CREATIVE

Hospitality is a familiar value at Messiah. But are there new people, groups, ways of extending hospitality. Our young people especially value inclusion whether of Indigenous, LGBTQ++, or other marginalized communities. What do hospitality and inclusivity mean to us now?

How can we capitalize on our on-line capacity beyond Sunday mornings?

I AM THE VINE YOU ARE THE BRANCHES

“I am the vine you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.”

Do we want to consider different approaches to worship?

Renting our space is not a new idea, but what are some new possibilities to explore?

Refugee support and resettlement is not entirely new to us, but in this age of war, and climate refugees, what will it mean? How do we respond?

So much of what happens at Messiah is because of the work of small groups and committees. We need to empower and support their work and encourage their

new ideas.

The draft Collaboration Agreement proposal offers a creative opportunity for us and the rural parishes of Bashaw and New Norway. Could we make it work?

WHY ARE WE HERE?

TO SHARE JESUS' LOVE WITH ALL PEOPLE

HOW WILL WE DO THAT?

- WHAT ARE PRIORITIES?
- HOW DO WE FURTHER EQUIP?
- WHERE DO WE WANT TO GO FROM HERE?

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE or HOW CAN I HELP?

Learn, teach, share your gifts, spread the good news, feed the hungry, Martha's Table, pray, think up new ways to serve, connect with the community, ask questions, support one another, help at events, give what you can, welcome newcomers, help to organize, sing, play instruments, wash dishes, worship, show up, lead, love, thank, encourage one another, wash someone's windows and MORE...

REMAIN IN ME AND I IN YOU, YOU WILL BEAR MUCH FRUIT; APART FROM ME YOU CAN DO NOTHING"

"I AM THE VINE YOU ARE THE BRANCHES. IF YOU

MAKING CONNECTIONS AND BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS THROUGH OUR FAITH COMMUNITY IN-PERSON AND ON-LINE.

Our Vine is Christ and fed by this Vine we are families, couples, singles, children, elders, newcomers, pastor, staff and our community at large. A community of seekers, prayers, thinkers, artists, writers, speakers, philosophers, and more.

WHY ARE WE HERE?

Empowered by Jesus's love we listen, pray and plan. We reach out where we see need, encouraged by our work together to then in turn lead and encourage. What do we see as priorities? What are our short- and long-term goals and what do we need for equipment to venture out on this journey together?

Where do we want to go from here as we chart a new and exciting course building on our many strengths and talents?

and exciting course building on our many strengths and talents?

During the discernment process a major theme surfaced and this is what you said is vital:

Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church, and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever.

Amen

Eph 3:20

YES, AND AMEN

MAKING CONNECTIONS AND BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS THROUGH OUR FAITH COMMUNITY, IN-PERSON AND ON-LINE.

Ephesians 3:20: "Now to him, who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen"

YES, AND AMEN

Attachment 3. Messiah Lutheran Church of Camrose 2022 - 2023 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 2023

Members at Large

Carolyn Andersen to June 2023

Mary Broen to June 2024

Dena Grue to June 2024

LeRoy Johnson to June 2024

Max Lindstrand to June 2024

Committees

Learning Committee

Dave Rogers to June 2023

Cathie Bartlett, Maureen Engen, Karen Hansen, Donny Loewen,
Glenys Smith to June 2024

Service Committee

Don Rebus..... to June 2023

Sharon Gilbertson, Ben & Bev Thomas to June 2024

Support Committee

Lois Larson, Don Myrehaug, Gord Myrehaug, Don Saltvold to June 2023

Milt Gilbertson, John Harder, Carl Hoybak, Dale Swanson to June 2024

Witnessing Committee

Shirley Loewen, Sharon Ofrim, Leann Reinhart, Cece Watts to June 2023

Wil Amundson, Erhard Pinno, Bonnie Pool to June 2024

Worship Committee

Ioan Jobber, Lue Lindseth to June 2023

Darlene Dahle, Deanna Didriksen, Rosanna Hohm, Leny Vanderjagt ... to June 2024

Resigned during the year.

Attachment 4.

**MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH
2022/23 BUDGET
To April 30, 2023**

	Budget 2022/23
Revenue	
Envelopes	330,300
Envelopes NSNO Declared	15,600
Envelope total	345,900
Plate	348
MLC general	6,500
Easter	8,000
Lent	-
Thanksgiving	10,000
Christmas	13,000
Music performances	-
Facility use and fees# for service	6,000
Coffee or Food	2,500
Expense recoveries	
Local Designation Donation	3,600
Bequest transfer/deficit	
Interest & Other recoveries**	4,200
Operating Revenue	400,048
*Restricted Donations	
Revenue	400,048
Designated	
Total Revenue	

*change in accounting procedures

**includes common share interest

Expenses

Neighbor Aid	2,400
Synod Benevolence	35,008
Salaries & benefits	256,700
Program expenses	
Worship - schedule 1	4,500
Learning - schedule 2	3,350
Witness - schedule 3	2,600
Service - schedule 4	700
Support - schedule 5**	94,790
Capital projects - schedule 5	-
Expenses	400,048
Designated	-
Total expenses	400,048

Excess (deficit) income	-
Restricted funds transferred	
Excess (def) operating income	-

Messiah Lutheran Church of Camrose
Special Congregational Meeting
To Consider the Call Committee's Recommendation
12:00 noon, January 22, 2023
Messiah Church Sanctuary

1. Welcome: Pastor Bev Swanson
2. Call to Order: 12 noon, David Dahle, President
3. Chairperson: The Rev. Julianna Wehrfritz-Hanson, Dean of the East Central Area who is representing the Synod of Alberta and the Territories
4. Invocation: Pastor Julianna read 2 scriptures: John 20:21-23, and 1 Timothy 4: 12-16 and led in prayer.
5. Address by Rosanna Hohm, Chairperson of the Call Committee
 - a. Gave a background of the contract between Messiah and the parishes of Bashaw and New Norway and the arrangement that has been made to collaborate our ministries.
 - b. Described the procedures and activities of the call committee which is comprised of Carolyn Andersen, Lavona Broen, Emily Brosius, Rosanna Hohm, Michelle Kennedy-Hawkins, Maria Skriver, Jon Stolee and Ben Thomas.
 - c. Presented a biography of Rev. Jeff Decelle as the candidate that they are recommending that Messiah call. Rosanna used a slide show and a video to familiarize the attendees with Rev. Decelle.
6. Financial Information: David Dahle on behalf of Dave Stolee, Treasurer, presented salary implications for the new position. Pastor Swanson would serve ½ time Bashaw/New Norway and ½ time at Messiah. Pastor Decelle would serve full time at Messiah as Senior Pastor.
7. **MSC** That we accept the proposed salary and benefit package presented by Church Council which follows the recommended salary guidelines set out by the Synod of Alberta and the Territories. (See the attached *Remuneration Costs for New Pastor* which indicates that for the period March 20, 2023 to April 30, 2023 the salary will follow the 2022 Synod guidelines and beginning May 1, 2023 the salary will follow the 2023 Synod guidelines.) See **Addendum A.** (page 19)
8. **MSC** That we extend the Letter of Call to Pastor Jeff Decelle to be Senior Pastor at Messiah.

95 registered to vote, 93 ballots cast, 88 Yes, 4 No, 1 abstained

Voting was done by secret ballot and had well over the 2/3 majority required to pass. For list of voters see **Addendum B.** (page 20)
9. **MSC** That ballots be destroyed.
10. Adjournment: 1:34 pm

Respectfully,
Dena Grue, Secretary pro tem



Addendum A

Remuneration Costs for New Pastor (Based on Synod Recommended Pastoral Pay Scale)

	2022	2023 Add annual increment Plus 7.5% to the base
Base Salary	\$55,315	60,050
Housing Allowance	<u>20,400</u>	<u>20,400</u>
Subtotal	75,715	80,450
 Benefits		
CPP	2,953	3,223
EI	1,334	1,334
ELCIC Pension	6,057	6,436
Disability Insurance	2,650	2,816
ELCIC Health, Dental	5,892	5,892
Continuing Education	600	600
Cell phone allowance	<u>300</u>	<u>300</u>
Total benefits	19,787	20,601
	=====	=====
Total	95,502	101,051

Note: Some of benefit costs for 2023 are estimates.



Addendum B

Messiah Lutheran Church Special Congregational Meeting Attendance on January 22, 2023

Alice Haldorson	Frank Hoehn	Lorne Broen
Agnes Hoveland	G. Erna Litzenberger	Lorraine Mackwood
Ann Reiten	George Litke	Lorraine Tennis
Arlene Skriver	Glenys Smith	Lue Lindseth
Arnell Dahlin	Gord Myrehaug	Maria Skriver
Audrey D. Lett	Greta Dahlin	Marie Brager
Berniece Sogge	Ioan Jobber	Marilyn Hoveland
Bev Swanson	Irene Bishop	Marion Midbo
Caleb Hawkins	Jacqueline Lovely	Mark Skriver
Carl Hoybak	James Hoveland	Mary Broen
Carol Green	Jane Arial	Mary Ellen Eriksson
Carol Roy	Jane Kristenson	Maureen Engen
Carolyn Andersen	Jill Jellett	Michelle Kennedy Hawkins
Carolyn Olson	Jim Brager	Milt Gilbertson
Cecelia Watts	Joanne Myrehaug	Nora Gilbertson
Charlene Brown	Jocelyn Bergh	Norma Blacklock
Cheryl Nester	Jon Stolee	Ray Blacklock
Chris Hohm	Jonathan Hawkins	Rena Anderson
Colin Anderson	Judy Hoehn	Rosanna Hohm
Connie Bjornson	Karen Hansen	Sharon Gilbertson
Dale Swanson	Ken Gabrielson	Sharon Ofrim
Daphne Gabrielson	Ken Skriver	Shellie Carson
Darlene Dahle	Keysha Swanson	Shirley Loewen
Dave Rogers	Kiva Olson	Shirley McFall
David Dahle	Lael Olson	Signe Harder
David Jellett	Lavona Broen	Stephen Kristenson
Dena Grue	Leann Kruger	Sylvia Tentinger
Don Myrehaug	Leroy Forre	Tova Olson
Don Saltvold	LeRoy Johnson	Vi Madison
Donny Loewen	Letha Saltvold	Wilf Aspenes
Elaine Taylor	Lloyd Olson	Wilf Willing
Eleanor Kopperud	Lorene Willing	Zachary Stolee
Erhard Pinno		

Total: 97 Attendees



PASTORAL REPORTS

Senior Pastor beginning March 20, 2023

It's a bit funny to write an annual report after only a few weeks in this role as your senior pastor, but since my time with you has been short so far, I probably won't garner any complaints with only a brief report!

I mentioned a few weeks ago that I was on the long-term plan in getting to know you. Messiah is a big place and it will take time for meet you all. With our online and Eastlink ministries, there are many people who join us each week that I may not ever meet in person. It's also a great reminder to me that I don't need to try to do everything in the first weeks, but that there is much time in front of us to be acquainted, as we partner in ministry together.

How wonderful to begin this call among you right before Easter: sharing your joy at seeing people return to worship gatherings after three long years of pandemic; enjoying so many meals and fellowship times with you over the course of those first few weeks; seeing the heart of service at Messiah in the hospitality of Martha's Table on Tuesdays and the outpouring of generosity at the Garage Sale for the support of refugees in our community. It's been a joy to see such active lay leadership in meetings, and so many Messiah members and friends volunteering in so many ways in our church and in the Camrose community. What an incredibly gifted place this is!

We have set off on a collaborative partnership experiment to share our pastoral resources with New Norway and Bashaw. This is a new thing for us as congregations, and for Pastor Bev and myself. I believe that we are blessed whenever we can find ways to work together and so I'm sure this ministry will be a blessing to us, and to the East Central Area and for the wider-Church.

There are, of course, challenges, too: budget realities, an enormous building, aging members, and significant changes in our society to the ways that people relate to institutions like the church. There is no doubt that we are not going back to the way it was. It feels as if we are living in a wilderness time, uncertain where the path ahead leads.

But God's people have been in the wilderness before. And although it took forty years, God faithfully led them each day on the journey, even if the ones who had set out from Egypt never set their eyes on the promised land.

I'm not always sure which way we are headed, or that I will see with my own eyes what the new thing God is doing with the church. I am certain that God does not leave God's place right in front of us, continuing to provide what we need even in this time.

Through it all we continue to faithfully proclaim the good news that Jesus is risen from the dead, and that God is always doing a new thing among us, bringing life where we least expect it.

It is a joy to be called to serve as your pastor — on the long-term plan! I am excited to explore and experiment with you in some new ways of ministry. I am honoured to be a companion with you in the wilderness.



I am grateful for your welcome to my family in our move to Camrose, and we are blessed to already feel at home among you even though it's only been a few weeks.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Jeff Decelle, Senior Pastor

Associate Pastor and Acting Senior Pastor until March 19, 2023

As many of you know I have had the privilege of serving in various capacities and calls here at Messiah for 25 years. I have served as Pastoral Counselor/Spiritual Director during most of my time here along with other roles. I was originally contracted as Pastoral Counselor on a part time basis. Since then I have served in a variety of ways. I became a Diaconal Minister and then later became Ordained as Pastor. During this time, I have served as Diaconal Minister, Associate Pastor, Acting Senior Pastor, Pastoral Counselor and Spiritual Director which has carried throughout the years.

I am now called into a new role. After Pastor Calvin left, I took on the Pastoral Leadership as Acting Senior Pastor. I was in this role until Pastor Jeff came on March 20th. At this point, I transitioned into being the Collaborative Pastor serving Messiah Lutheran a collaborative ministry between three parishes.

I have spent the first part of this year in leadership here at Messiah as well as taking care of the pastoral and spiritual care. This also included leading and supervising staff, hiring, being responsible for all worship and pastoral acts, attending as many council and committee meetings as possible and empowering our church to grow and thrive in the midst of transition and connecting with our ecumenical community and our community people in general. I also held many funerals and memorials for precious people within our faith community and our community at large. This was my honor to be present to many in this time. As well, I have grieved and celebrated the lives of both my mother-in-law and my Dad.

A highlight of my week has been the welcoming of Martha's Table and our friends in the community who come join us in sharing a bowl of soup and some great conversation. I am finding that I recognize some of our guests around town and sometimes in our worship. Some have sought me out for private conversation and pastoral care. What a wonderful energy this time of connection brings to our church as we break bread together in this very real way.

During this time, I also met with Pastor Jeff as he was discerning his call to Messiah. It also meant that I was responsible to begin the process of transition after Pastor Jeff was called and so began to meet with the New Norway and Bashaw parishes to plan our ministry going forward.

Pastor Jeff and I were installed on March 25th and it was a beautiful collaborative service which reminds me of how church should be, worshipping as one. Since we were installed into our new roles, I have begun travelling out to the country twice a month to preside at worship and have begun other connections with those congregations including lodge services, pastoral care moments, community coffees and Bible Studies. Meanwhile, I have continued with my present ministry here at Messiah. This means I am preaching here once a month and presiding and leading worship once per month along with my other kinds of ministry.

Pastor Jeff and I went on a retreat to begin our work as a pastoral team. During this time, we identified the parts of ministry that we would each take in our partnership. We decided that my role would be to be involved in worship (worship committee and worship planning), confirmation, shared pastoral acts, pastoral care and spiritual direction trying to keep it at half time. We are also here to support one another as we flow together in ministry.

We are in transition so it will take a bit of time to find our rhythm but we are making good progress.

I found there was some grief involved with not being here every week to worship with you all but am very much enjoying the people and the new connections in the parishes out in New Norway and Bashaw. We are getting to know each other and are having some Bible Studies together as well during the week. They have welcomed me very warmly. I very much enjoy the drive to the country especially when the weather has been so lovely.

A high point in our time in the last month has been a collaborative evening out in Bashaw where a number of folks from Messiah joined in a potluck and an evening vesper service worshipping together.

Highlights of my ministry have been worshipping with you, sharing with the children in children's time, walking with you as we celebrated the lives of your loved ones (although also really sad), working with our church to open to something new, and journeying with you in all that we live in together.

It has been an honor to serve our God along with you in this place... and among the people in this community and at Messiah, Bashaw and New Norway. God is indeed with us. We are one in the Spirit as we serve together, in our own sacred places but flowing love into the world as one in Christ. I think we need to be more intentional about collaborative ministry going forward as this will be how "church" thrives as things change in this world. We need to work together!

I would like to leave us with this verse that I have often used in thinking of our collaborative ministry and ministry in general here at Messiah this last while:

"Behold, I am doing a new thing, now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." Isaiah 43:19

We are emerging out of difficult times and God is indeed making new collaborative new and life-giving ways to live and serve as people of God together. I think God is doing many exciting things in our midst through the power of the Spirit. Let us remain open as we join together in sharing ministry together as one in the Lord.

Thank you for many meaningful years serving our God together.
Peace Be With You.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pastor Bev Swanson



STAFF REPORTS

Music Ministry Coordinator

Handbells and Choir resumed this year – after way too long of a break. It was good to have these groups back together and making music again. They are a great bunch of people who have grown a lot in their music-making skills. I enjoy spending rehearsal time with them every week.

As Darlene has already listed the names of those people who have been involved in worship leading, I will not individually list them here. I appreciate every single one who helps out, but there are a few who have gone above and beyond to help lead worship here at Messiah the last few years. Without them there would have been many Sundays without a worship team and/or leader.

Good Friday service this year saw many new people, some from other churches and some who hadn't darkened the door for a while. This service is my favorite service to plan of the whole year, not only for the creative element, but for the message that is central to this service. I hope that this service can continue to grow in future years as an outreach into the community both for those who can't make their own Good Friday service and also for those who don't have a church family to call home. This year's service was very moving with many tears being shed. I am deeply grateful for the opportunity that this service provides me to share the gospel in a creative way with so many people.

Respectfully submitted,
Tova Olson, Music Ministry Coordinator



Administrative Coordinator

It always surprises me how quickly the year goes by! This past year brought change for me last summer when my husband, Tony, accepted a job working back in the oil and gas industry as a field operator. This meant trying to arrange different days off to match his schedule. Shirley McFall deserves the biggest THANK YOU for supporting me in this strange schedule! We both have to be flexible and accommodating to make it work. This was especially appreciated after the attempt to train another person for the office did not work out how we had hoped. Thank you to volunteers who assist us in the office or took a shift to open the doors and answer phones when Shirley or I were not available.

Our goal is to we make anyone who calls the office or enters the church building feel welcome and to share God's love with them. This makes attention to detail and being able to work through numerous 'interruptions' invaluable skills. Anyone who spends any time in the office quickly realizes how busy and filled with people it can be!

We love seeing the church building being used more. Unfortunately, this came with new challenges with intruders in the building or camped out on Church property. These were certainly opportunities for growth in myself dealing with these situations and I have become quite adept at using our video surveillance system.

With Pastor Bev dealing with deaths in her family last fall and taking time away, we worked hard to keep her informed of what was happening here in the office and continue to get everything done. Once she returned we had some projects to get back

on track and then we moved into Advent and Christmas. These are always such busy times and I appreciate having the office closed following those intensely busy times.

In the new year the staff were privileged to have a meeting with a prospective Senior Pastor prior to the call meeting. With thanks to God, the call was issued and accepted. Then we began planning for Pastor Jeff's arrival - right in the midst of another busy Lent, Holy Week and Easter! Pastor Jeff and I covered a lot of questions in those first few weeks after his arrival. We have accomplished some goals already - with others going on a longer range list.

It has certainly been interesting to navigate the Collaboration process and Pastor Bev's transition to half time at Messiah. The installation service of Pastor Bev and Pastor Jeff was definitely a highlight of the last year.

Thank you to those who continue to offer me support, encouragement and your expressions of appreciation!

Respectfully submitted,
Lori Mokry, Administrative Coordinator



Part-time Administrative Assistant

Working in the administration of Messiah in 2022 has been challenging and rewarding in many ways. As a staff we contributed to the discernment process to help set the course of MLC in the community. I feel we worked through this process while expressing our individual interests.

Previous volunteer and employment opportunities have always offered chances for me to look at ways and means to improve efficiency. Here at MLC I feel I have contributed through consultations, clarifying, streamlining and documenting the numerous and complex processes needed to run the business of the Church. I have a better handle of the technical needs of the equipment and website. Never a day goes by where I do not learn something.

I enjoy meeting and getting to know our church and community members as we move away from Covid restrictions. Helping members of our community in their various needs (example Martha's Table lunch initiative) is particularly satisfying.

I am grateful for the encouragement, support, leadership and friendship from all staff and Board particularly the organization provided by Lori Mokry. Without these dedicated talented colleagues, the last 2 years would have been much more difficult. I look forward to progress at MLC as we move forward with a collaboration model and a new senior pastor.

Respectfully submitted,
Shirley McFall, Administrative Assistant



Pastoral Acts: January 1 - December 31, 2022

Baptisms (3)

Aurora Stolee, Krew Matthiessen, Ava Storvik

Confirmation (1)

Sevrin Lindstrand

New Members (2)

Ken & Daphne Gabrielson (transfer from Grace Lutheran, Wetaskiwin)

Transfers Out, Membership Withdrawn and Other (7)

Darcy, Bonnie & Matthew Tranmer; Mark, Emma, Harvey & Simon Gjesdal

Marriages (4)

Lily Goodbrand & Nicholas Brady; Leah Timmons & Nicholas Wolbeck *Pastor Barron Timmons*; Breanna Roste & William Schultz *Pastor Edgar Roste and Pastor Richard Schultz*; Lindy Davis & Skip Wenzel @ *Lions Garden Barn*

Funerals (20)

* non-member

Rev. Laverne Hoveland (*passed Dec 30, 2021*), Doreen Hoyme, Annette Nowakowski, *Tage Pedersen @ *Burgar Memorial Chapel*, Dwayne Roth (*passed March 21, 2021*) & Greta Roth (*passed March 10, 2021*), *Julia Siemens *Interment by Pastor Bev Swanson in Edberg*, Rev. Vincent Eriksson, Bernard Williams, *Constance Olsen *Inurnment by Pastor Bev Swanson @ Skudesness Church*, *Connie Kvale *Pastor Bev Swanson & Pastor Kevin Nelson*, Dale Harder, *Adrianna Pederson *Inurnment by Pastor Bev Swanson (passed February 15, 2021)*, *Isabelle Swanson *Pastor Bev Swanson & Pastor Linda Hall*, *Gerry Davis, *Julianna Friesen *Interment by Pastor Bev Swanson in Meeting Creek*, *Jose Hernan Ariza *Bishop Larry Kochendorfer & Pastor Bev Swanson*; *Pastor Ralph Kassen *Welcome by Pastor Bev Swanson & Dr. John Lucas Presiding*; Neta Specht; Tormod Arthur (Art) Reiten; *Jason Heise @ *Burgar Memorial Chapel*



Council Report 2022 - 2023

Church Council Members

President, David Dahle
Vice-President, Agnes Hoveland
Secretary, Gail Stolee
Treasurer, David Stolee

Member at Large (Learning), LeRoy Johnson
Member at Large (Service), Carolyn Andersen
Member at Large (Support), Mary Broen
Member at Large (Witnessing), Max Lindstrand
Member at Large (Worship), Dena Grue

At the June 12, 2022 Annual Congregational Meeting, the congregation approved going ahead with the collaboration with Bethesda Lutheran Church in New Norway and the Bashaw Lutheran Parish (Zion Lutheran Church and St. Peter's Lutheran Church). As a result of this agreement the congregation also approved calling a second pastor with one half of the additional costs to be covered by the two rural congregations. A major focus of the Church Council this past year has been to carry out these two recommendations from our last Annual Meeting.

The Call Committee was appointed by Church Council and installed at the Sunday morning service on July 10, 2023. Members of the Call Committee were: Carolyn Andersen, Lavona Broen, Emily Brosius, Michelle Kennedy Hawkins, Rosanna Hohm (chair), Maria Skriver, Jon Stolee, and Ben Thomas. On behalf of the Council and the congregation I want to express my thanks to the Call Committee for their service. At a Special Congregational Meeting on January 22, 2023, the congregation voted to accept their recommendation that Pastor Jeff Decelle be called as our Senior Pastor effective March 20, 2023. Pastor Jeff accepted the call on February 2, 2023. At a joint installation service held on March 25, 2023, Pastor Jeff Decelle was installed as senior pastor at Messiah and Pastor Bev Swanson was installed in a new position with half of her time spent at Messiah and the other half spent serving New Norway and Bashaw.

Prior to the Special Congregational Meeting on January 22, 2023 a signing ceremony for the Collaboration Agreement was held on January 16, 2023 with David Dahle from Messiah, Kathy Nelson from New Norway, and Leanne Walton from Bashaw.

Church Council is in the process of establishing a special revenue generating committee chaired by LeRoy Johnson under the name the Renewal 125 Committee as we look towards celebrating the congregation's 125th anniversary in 2026.

I want to thank all the members of Church Council for their dedication and hard work during this past 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



**Signing of the Collaboration Agreement
January 16, 2023**

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Learning Committee

Chair: Dave Rogers

Secretary: Glenys Smith

Members: Maureen Engen, Cathie Bartlett, Karen Hansen, Donny Loewen

Council Liaison: LeRoy Johnson

With Pastor Jeff Decelle's arrival in March and the new division of roles, our committee-to-staff liaison passed from Bev to Jeff.

The fall of 2022 completed the transition back to 'normal' (live in-person) learning situations at Messiah. There are eight midweek adult groups. However, some groups chose to keep their Zoom format, such as the women's monthly Faith Circle and the men's Saturday morning study.

The Sunday morning adult class has alternated between a DVD series on the Life of Martin Luther, and the series 'My Faith Journey' as told by members of our congregation. The faith journeys have been well received and some have brought younger family members back to hear the story.



Sunday School, the Friendship Club, and the Library continue to be challenging.

We have had enough hardworking teachers to hold Sunday School for the children every two weeks. In the past year, no volunteers from our congregation came forward to fill the other two weeks. So the Committee is exploring two other possibilities:

- have two or three CLBI students lead the other half of SS, as an internship for course credit;
- combine our Sunday School program with that of St. Andrew's Anglican Church down the street.

Nora Gilbertson has continued the Friendship Club for people with disabilities; their contribution to the Sunday School Christmas presentation was memorable! Nora is looking for someone else to lead this small class.

The church library has functioned (somewhat) without a librarian this year, but it needs one. This is among the least labour-intensive roles at Messiah, for which many of our members would be suitable.

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Rogers, Chair

Learning Committee - Men's Saturday Bible Study

Commencing on September 10, 2022, and meeting each Saturday morning from 9:00 a.m. to 10:15, via ZOOM, from 3 to 9 men gathered to ponder the Scripture lessons which were to form the basis of worship the next day. Five of the men took turns leading the studies. The lessons themselves were forwarded by the Church Office to each participant on the Monday prior to the Saturday gatherings so that participants could prepare ahead of time, and in particular the leader could be prepared to lead. The average attendance was between 7 and 8 men.

As part of these gatherings, a time of personal sharing was encouraged, and an opportunity for prayer was provided near the end of planned time.

Not only did the studies prepare the men for a better appreciation of the sermon the next day, but also was a source of encouragement, through the work of the Holy Spirit, for our own lives as men who want to be about the Lord's business from day to day.

"Your Word is lamp to my feet and a light to my path." Psalm 119:105

Would other men also be welcome to participate? Definitely. Just contact the Church Office, or the Convenor.

To God be the Glory

Respectfully submitted,
Ray Blacklock, Convenor



Service Committee

Members of the 2022-23 Service Committee: Sharon Gilbertson, Ben and Bev Thomas, and Don Rebus Chair and Pastor Bev is our pastoral representative and Carolyn Andersen is our Council Representative.

Sub-Groups of the Service Committee:

Meals on Wheels – This is a Camrose District Support Society (CDSS) program. Messiah supply volunteers for the delivery of meals on a rotation bases shared with other organizations. The purpose of "Meals on Wheels" is to provide one hot meal and five frozen meals. Messiah volunteers are on approximately a 13-week rotation. There are currently eight churches and four community organizations who supply drivers for the delivery of meals. The "Brookside" kitchen continues to prepare the meals. Messiah provides four delivery vehicles on Tuesday and two on Thursday from a pool of fifteen volunteer drivers, four are new this year. 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 is a Neighbor Aid program. Messiah hosts the noon meal every Tuesday.

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:

Jan. – Darlene & David Dahle	July & August – Judy Sturek
Feb. – Joanne & Don Myrehaug	Sept. - Shirley & Donny Loewen
Mar. – Doris Skippen & Marilyn Hoveland	Oct. - Carolyn Andersen & Loretta Foshaug
Apr. - Carole & Ivar Saugen	Nov. - Gail & Dave Stolee
May - Gail & Dave Stolee	Dec. - Sharon & Milt Gilbertson
June – Shirley & Donny Loewen	Jan. - Darlene & David Dahle

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

Neighbor Aid – Neighbor Aid is open Tuesday to Thursday 9 am to 4 pm, Monday and Friday 9 am to 12 noon. The Food Bank is open Tuesday to Thursday 9 to 11:30. There are 21-member Christian churches, 6 provide representatives to the Board. The pastor

from the Camrose Community Church is the chaplain. Kathy Rickard is chair, Odell Olson is Treasurer. There is a full-time Executive Director and a part-time Assistant. Neighbor Aid has several Programs: Food Bank, Martha's Table, Breakfast Club, Emergency Financial Aid, Drives to Specialty Medical Appointments (outside Camrose City), Food Reclamation, Supper and Sports Evening for Youth and Free Lockers. Thank you to Odell Olson for being Messiah's liaison member for Neighbor Aid. We will all miss you after your replacement is found.

Canadian Lutheran World Relief (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. *Currently we are looking for a coordinator for this ministry.*

Lunch Fest was hosted by the Service Committee on March 19th, however the month of **Education Classes** coordinated by the Service Committee and **"EATING TOGETHER"** have not resumed yet. Hopefully over the coming year we will be able to bring these back as well.

Volunteer Appreciation

Volunteer appreciation recognition was held April 23rd. 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 early in 2021 and has grown in help requests and number of helping volunteers. This year we had around 30 requests that involved a group of 23 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... Bev Thomas was Coordinator from May 1 to Oct 14, 2022 then Elaine Taylor took over as Coordinator.

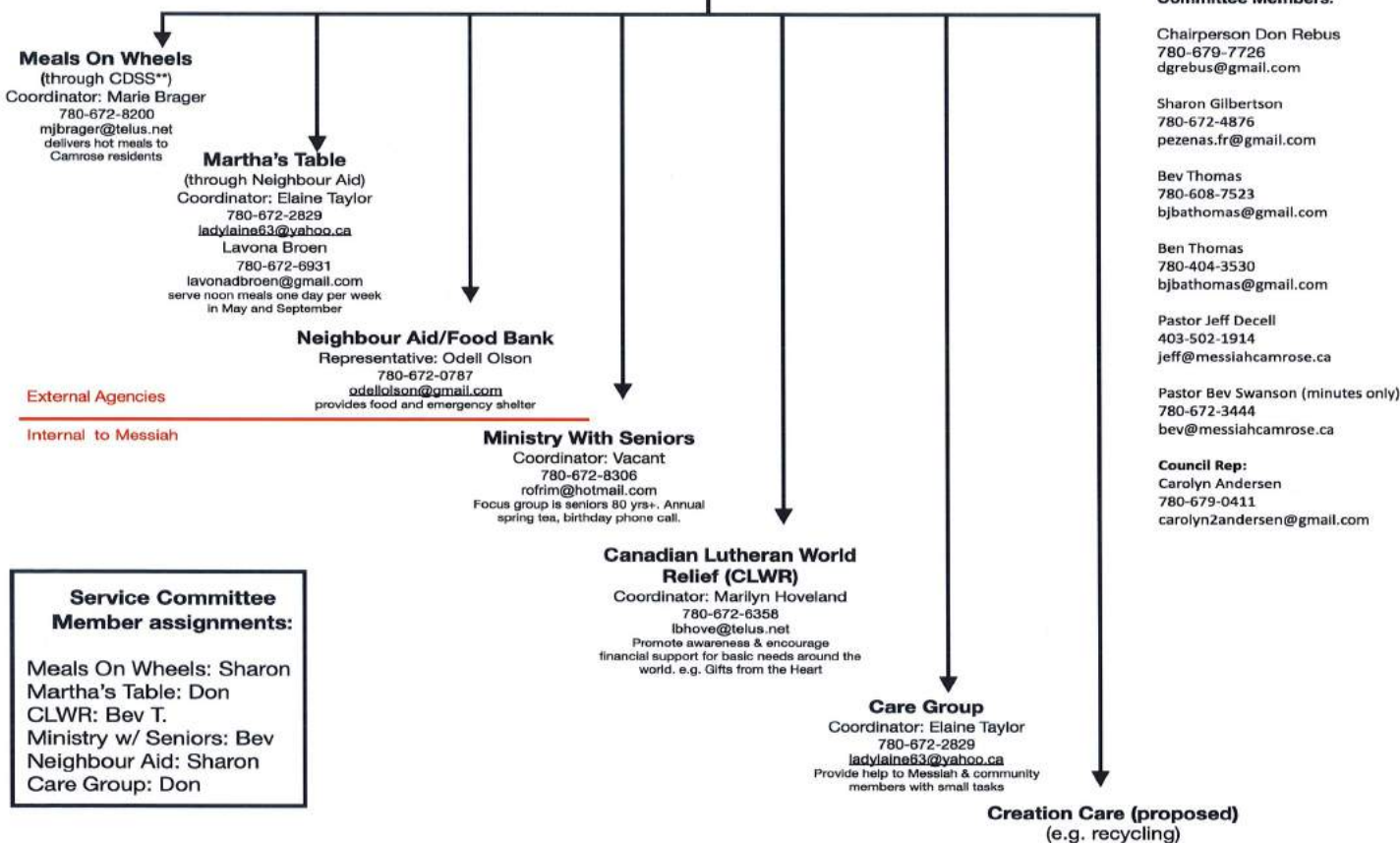
Thank you Bev Thomas and Elaine Taylor for coordinating this activity of need in our community.

Included is an 'Oversight Chart' that lists sub-committees and co-ordinators.

Respectfully submitted,
Don Rebus, Chair



Messiah Service Committee Oversight



****Note:**
CDSS = Camrose & District Support Services

Revised May 3 2023

Support Committee

Gordon Myrehaug, Chair; Lois Larson, Secretary; Mary Broen, Council Liaison
Members: Milt Gilbertson, John Harder, Carl Hoybak, Don Myrehaug, 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:

- Aug/22 Money Counters schedule completed
- Aug/22 Continued lawn cutting
- Aug/22 Toilet checked in nursery
- Aug/22 Weeds sprayed
- Aug/22 Overhead door serviced
- Sept/22 Link wood door handles refinished
- Sept/22 Noticed extension cord back link door has been stolen - need to replace
- Sept/22 Contacted Otis re work to be done on Elevator
- Sept 6/22 Spoke to police about Warren camping out on our front lawn
21:00 - Had police come again to talk Warren
- Sept 7/22 13:00 - Called police to have Warren removed
14:00 - Warren removed
- Sept/22 Goodman Roofing came and inspected the canopy roof to prepare a quote
- Sept/22 Rose City plumbing called to unplug fellowship center sinks
- Sept 8/22 1900 - Warren returned - Police called and we issued a Trespass Notice
- Sept/22 Trimmed bushes and trees
- Sept/22 Cut grass at cemetery
- Sept/22 Repaired lights in elevator - planned by Lloyd
- Sept/22 Sent Otis repair estimate to Church Council for approval - Approved
- Sept/22 Sent signed estimate to Otis

Sept/22 Repaired west entrance eavestrough
 Sept/22 Replaced extension cord back link door
 Sept/22 Painted lettering on church signage (north east corner)
 Oct/22 Signed work order for D2 Electric for smoke detector change out -Jan/23
 Oct/22 Public Health inspection completed on both kitchens
 Oct/22 North stairs carpet bleached
 Oct/22 Tried to turn on Fellowship hall boiler - would not work
 Oct/22 Pump replaced on fellowship hall building heating system
 Oct/22 D2 Electric advised increase in cost of \$750 - Approved
 Oct/22 Otis completed work on elevator
 Oct/22 Otis confirmed that they will advise AEDARSA that work is completed
 Nov/22 Goodman Roofing completed repair on canopy roof
 Nov/22 Fall clean up of yard completed
 Nov/22 Snow shoveling schedule completed
 Nov/22 Heat control valve in staff lunch room replaced
 Nov/22 Fan in nursery washroom repaired
 Nov/22 Usher's room cleaned out
 Nov/22 Outside sign repaired
 Nov/22 Lock on refugee office door replaced
 Nov/22 Sunday morning security watch ongoing
 Nov/22 Power turned on to outside sign
 Dec/22 Repaired toilets in women's washroom
 Dec/22 Set up manger scene outside church
 Dec/22 Provided security watch on Sunday mornings
 Dec/22 Snaked out washroom sewer line
 Dec/22 Plumber called to auger out sewage line from nursery
 Dec/22 New computer purchased for audio/visual room
 Jan/23 Fixed lock on basement door
 Jan/23 Performed trouble shooting on PA system - Dale and Lowell
 Feb/23 Continued to provide security watch on Sunday mornings
 Feb/23 Light bulb replaced in nursery washroom
 Feb/23 Worked on phone lines - Dale
 Mar/23 changed out banner
 Mar/23 Continued to provide security watch on Sunday mornings
 Mar/23 Completed 2023/24 budget
 Mar/23 Continued to provide security watch on Tuesday, Martha's Table
 Mar/23 Sanded portable kitchen table
 Mar/23 Computer wire installed in Pastor Jeff's office
 Mar/23 Shelf installed in Pastor Jeff's office
 Mar/23 Pews reattached to floor
 Apr/23 Sausages made for Easter Breakfast
 Apr/23 Computer plugs repaired in Pastor Jeff's office
 Apr/23 Roof over youth room repaired (we hope it works)
 Apr/23 Ongoing support for Audio/visual group Thanks Dale!!!
 Apr/23 Spring yard cleanup completed
 Apr/23 Church kitchen rental procedures clarified



The Committee wishes to thank all those who have helped us accomplish our mandate. Thanks to the snow shovelers; the lawn mowers; the helpers; offering counters; Pastors Bev and Jeff, and the MLC office staff; 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), Max Lindstrand (Council Rep), Erhard Pinno, Sharon Ofrim, Cecelia Watts, and Pastor Bev Swanson

"Thank You" to all of our dedicated members who have met regularly, the second Thursday each month, by Zoom. We also want to acknowledge and say "Thank You" to our technical and office staff for their time and talents providing Zoom links to our meetings, and for the Wednesday morning virtual coffee time. We acknowledge two groups we work in partnership with, the World Mission Prayer 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 Missions in El Salvador, Kenya, New Guinea, and Tanzania.

Hospitality is a major part of witnessing. We have had an incredible year in serving our Lord and congregation through many events this past year. With Covid restrictions subsiding somewhat, it was like opening the floodwater gates to be able to have fellowship and share bread together. The committee organized these events, but our congregation eagerly volunteered with many helpful hands. **"Thank You Everyone!"** It was you that made each event so successful. We implemented AHS recommended procedures in the serving of food with disposable cups, plates, and wrapped plastic utensils. This has certainly increased the costs to our budget, however we hope the donation basket will in the end cover the costs.

The highlights of this past year were:

- ◇ Coffee on the lawn on Wednesdays (10:00am) during July and August. The huge boulevard trees give us shade and last summer the weather was in our favor. On the average we have about 15-20 coffee and tea lovers. Please join us if you can. The more the merrier, and we solve most of the world problems!
- ◇ Church Picnic in the park on August 28th;
- ◇ LunchFest (soup & sandwiches), and Potlucks started again in September, alternating each month, usually the 2nd or 3rd Sunday of the month. All of Messiah's committees take turns hosting these activities.
- ◇ Coffee fellowship following church service is huge for our congregation and getting to know each other is such an integral part of being a church family. Again "Thank You" to all of the roster people who make the coffee and delightful treats each Sunday.
- ◇ Christmas Day coffee and snacks;
- ◇ Welcoming Pastor Jeff and family with lunch and supper meals while they were unpacking boxes in March;
- ◇ Installation Service Luncheon on March 25th;
- ◇ Last Lenten Service Lunch on March 29th; and
- ◇ Easter Breakfast on April 9th.

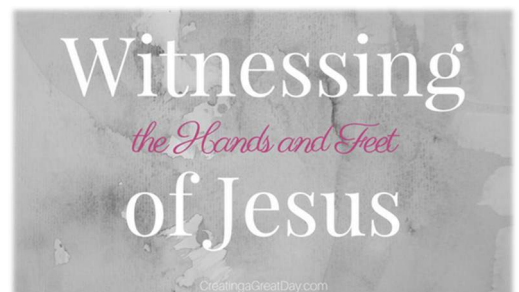
We continue to Welcome new members into our Congregation to hear the Word and worship with us, and be disciples to share the Word with others.

Other responsibilities of the Witnessing Committee are:

- ◇ Participating in the Samaritan's Purse Christmas Shoebox ministry.

May God continue to lead and guide us sharing Jesus Christ with all people.

Respectfully submitted,
Shirley Loewen, Chair



Witnessing Committee - World Mission Group; World Mission Prayer Group

Sharing Jesus Christ, *Cross Culturally*, with all People as per Matthew 28:18-20

The last public event which the World Mission Group sponsored was held in the Fellowship Hall on Thursday, June 16, 2022 at which time Ryan and Shiv Cole, representing "Mission Aviation Fellowship", shared their story of God's work through aviation in Papua New Guinea. Eighteen people benefitted from this excellent presentation which drew attention to the work of MAF in the western area of Papua New Guinea. The Coles expressed their appreciation for the prayer and financial support which *Messiah* has extended to them. Ryan hails from Brownfield, Alberta, whereas his wife's birth home is in England.

In its regular meeting (via ZOOM) on September 5, 2022, the Group prayerfully and regretfully concluded that that it would no longer be sponsoring and organizing the Annual World Mission Month, in January, as it has done for several years. We further decided to rename the Group, the World Mission Prayer Group.

As such, we have continued to meet, via ZOOM, on the first Monday of each month to pray for Rev. Brian Rude (continuing his ministry, even in retirement, in El Salvador), George and Susan Watts, (serving under the umbrella of "Serge") and family now in Kenya where they are house parents for children of missionaries in that area of Africa, the Coles (mentioned above), contacts through Connie Landstrom in Tanzania, the people who have come to Camrose from Ukraine, and people who have come from middle eastern countries as refugees.

Our praying of course has included concerns and hopes for our congregation, and for individuals in it.

Another consequence of this narrowing of our focus is that the bulletin board on the south wall of the Messiah link has been given up as a display area for World Mission concerns, and has been taken over and put to good purpose for the benefit of all by Signe Harder.

One of the faithful members of our Group, Rev. Vincent Eriksson, attended, with Mary Ellen, the MAF event on June 16. His subsequent passing was a source of sadness for all, but with thankfulness for a full life of ministry and service, including in and through the World Mission Group. Blessed be his memory.

Continuing with the WMPG in active support in prayer are Nora Gilbertson, Connie Landstrom, Cece Watts, Erhard Pinno, and the convenor. Pastor Bev Swanson, and now Pastor Jeff Decelle, give encouragement and support.

Respectfully submitted,
Ray Blacklock, Convenor



To God be the Glory !!

Witnessing Committee - Refugee Support Group

This year our congregation has been privileged to sponsor Mengestab Gebremariam and the Fikiru Assefa family, each of them having their sponsorship periods end during the current fiscal year.

Mengetab arrived on November 7th, 2021 and had a slower start to his settlement process because of COVID restrictions. He has diligently participated in English training five days a week through the LINC program since his arrival together with working at EDO Japan, Camrose Pizza and Wendy's. Mengestab's long term goal is to open a restaurant or take-out establishment in Canada as he had done in Israel. He appreciates the experience in different restaurant settings here in order to learn about Canadian practices and standards. Mengestab has learned to drive since he arrived and passed the drivers' license test. He now owns a car and appreciates the freedom that driving affords him. We applied for a travel document for Mengestab last May and with the processing times for documents being so slow, he has still not received the permit. Once he has received his travel document he plans to travel to Ethiopia to meet with family members who he hasn't seen for fourteen years as well as other friends with whom he is anxious to reconnect.



The Fikiru Agelgile Family arrived March 17th 2022. They hit the ground running with the girls immediately registering for classes and Hellen commencing work at Burger King within a few days of their arrival. She now works in housekeeping at the Ramada and loves her job there. Fikiru obtained employment at Tim Hortons and Superstore and the girls also have worked part time along with keeping up with their schooling. The girls have gym and swimming memberships at the pool which they enjoy. Yeamlak has worked at both Burger King and Tim Hortons and Eden at Tim Hortons and is now starting a position at Winners. Fikiru worked as a commercial trucker in Ethiopia and is hoping to take his Class 1 license exam in order to work in that field in the future. The family is anxious to give back and do volunteer work at Messiah as well as for the Camrose Refugee Centre. The family is excited and proud to be attending Yeamlak's Grade 12 graduation on May 26th. Yeamlak has been accepted for studies at Grant MacEwan in the fall.

We have received a request from a family member of the Fikiru family to sponsor three more family units. These would consist of a mother and her adopted daughter, and two men individually. The men would come and get established and then apply to bring their own families here independently of Messiah.

If approved by the Witnessing Committee, Council and the Congregation, the applications would be sent to Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR). CLWR reviews applications and approves them based on their assessment of which applicants are in most danger. We believe they would assess the mother and adopted daughter as one unit and the other two gentlemen separately. Once CLWR approved an application we would need to prove to CLWR that we have the financial resources and settlement plan in place that is adequate to support the application or applications they have approved. If they are satisfied with our application they would then send the application to the Canadian Government for approval. In the case of our previous two sponsorships it was about three years from the time we applied to actually having the families arrive in Canada.

The Committee decided that we should gauge the support of the Messiah Lutheran Church congregation whether to begin the application process with CLWR, with the understanding that we would not be able to accept a sponsorship unless we had sufficient human and financial resources to meet the sponsorship requirements. The entire process can take between two and three years.

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. We ask that you continue to pray for these folks and to consider reaching out to them from time to time. They appreciate every opportunity to become more connected with people in the community and especially the Church community.

Respectfully submitted,
Yvonne Myrehaug

Witnessing Committee - Camrose Refugee Centre

The Camrose Refugee Centre was intensely busy this past year with the Ukrainian evacuees who have come to our community. We have been working with approximately twenty-two families (approximately sixty individuals) over the course of this past year. In addition to arranging flights or flight reimbursements, finding accommodation and assisting with rental applications, assessing needs for additional financial assistance for basic living costs, child care and medical fees, there was ongoing collection of furniture and household goods, preparing resumes, making connections with employers and facilitating interviews. There are unexpected needs on a regular basis including emergency dental needs, emergency hospital visits both in Camrose and Edmonton as well. Almost all of the twenty-two families relied on our furniture and household collection to furnish and equip their apartments. Many of the young couples go back to the storage locations regularly looking for new items or trading in items they originally selected for pieces more suitable in size or colour. Most weeks there are several families wishing to go back to the storage locations to take another look. In terms of finances, at March 31 we had raised approximately \$128,000. Rounded to the nearest \$1,000 we have spent \$45,000 on airfares, \$38,000 on accommodation costs, \$9,000 on food allowances, \$2,000 on medicals (which are government mandated for the Ukrainians), \$1,000 on childcare and \$4,000 on miscellaneous other costs. At the end of March, we had \$29,404.26 remaining in the Ukraine fund. We are currently seeking employment for two recently arrived men who have solid work history but limited English. This winter was difficult as several of the Ukrainians experienced cut backs in hours and several were laid off. Those that were laid off in the winter months have since found new employment and hours have picked up for most of those who experienced cut backs in December and January.



During the current year the Centre assisted in completing a Group of Five Application another family. The single woman and two families of three that were completed last year have progressed to the next level with IRCC. We have received notification from IRCC that sponsorships have been approved and now the applicants are in the review process for eligibility for permanent residence status. It is not clear how long the process will take before the families get travel confirmation. 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 continues to prioritize the support of youth in arts and sports activities. Last year we continued to support financially six children in soccer programs, two in gymnastics, one in hockey, one in football.

The work of filling out forms is ongoing. This past year needs have been for EI applications, travel document applications, resumes and job applications, medical forms

for non-Ukrainian individuals.

A refugee family which arrived in Camrose this year was one that applied for refugee status once they landed in Canada. They were accepted but under these circumstances have no sponsors so have relied on Action for Healthy Communities and the Camrose Refugee Centre for support. They have now received permanent resident status and can begin looking for employment so their reliance on us for financial subsidies is expected to end shortly.

This year we did gift packages for nineteen Ukrainian and eleven other families in the Camrose area for Christmas. The thirty families received Walmart gift cards in the amount of \$50 each. Twenty-seven children over the age of six received gift cards of \$30 and thirteen children under the age of six received wrapped gifts. A team of volunteers got together to create decorative gift packages for each family that included gift boxes with the gift cards, a Christmas ornament and the wrapped gifts for the young children.

We continue to be amazed at the amount of support in our community for the Ukrainian newcomers, in particular, and hope to continue to meet their needs without compromising our ability to support newcomers from other parts of the world.

Respectfully submitted,
Yvonne Myrehaug



Worship Committee

The Worship Committee members have included Darlene Dahle (Chair), Deanna Didriksen, Rosanna Hohm, Ioan Jobber, Lue Lindseth, and Leny Vanderjagt. Ioan recorded most of the Minutes; Rosanna and Darlene recorded others. Dena Grue, the Council Liaison member, attended all our meetings as did Pastor Bev and now, Pastor Jeff.

There are many volunteers to thank! These include our greeters, ushers, communion prep people and those who assist Pastors Jeff and Bev in serving Holy Communion. During the months of May, June, and July there are 63 volunteers scheduled for these tasks, six every Sunday, with an additional 5 or 6 volunteers on communion Sundays. How fortunate we are to have such willing volunteers!

Loretta Foshaug scheduled the volunteers from June through to January. Darlene scheduled the ones from February through to April and Dan Jensen prepared the last volunteer schedule which covers the months of May, June, and July. Thanks to Loretta for previously preparing the volunteer schedules and to Dan Jensen who has taken on this task. Thanks also to the volunteers who, when unable to cover their assigned Sunday, take on the responsibility of trading or finding a substitute and letting the church know.

During the Fall of 2022 Darlene contacted current and potential volunteers to update their contact information and areas they are interested in serving. In preparation for Dan to prepare the August, September and October schedule, a Worship Committee member will be contacting you to update your situation. If you are a new member or have not volunteered before but would like to, please contact Darlene Dahle at 780-672-8488 or the church office, 780-672-3444.

We are also thankful for our audio and visual technicians and for Rosanna Hohm who

has been recruiting and scheduling them. Although 16 individuals have currently been trained, more volunteers are needed because 3 or 4 are required to assist every Sunday or at an event that is live-streamed, such as a Good Friday service. If you want information on what the video and sound technicians do, talk to Rosanna or Lowell Dahlman, our Audio Visual Ministry Coordinator. Thanks Lowell, for coming in early on Sunday mornings to set up the live-streaming of our services. Others who know what to do when Lowell is unavailable are Chris and Rosanna Hohm and Dale Swanson so we are thankful for their expertise as well!



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

Tova Olson, along with our pastors, discuss the music for our worship services. We are thankful for Tova's gift of music and her extensive knowledge of selections that support the Biblical texts. Under her leadership we are also thankful for the Choristers, the Handbell choir, and the regular volunteer vocalists Lael Olson, Kiva Olson, and Lloyd Olson. We also acknowledge the musical contributions to our service of the Hawkins family, Juanita Hohm, Carolyn Olson, Maria Skriver, Jane Kristenson, and Charlene Brown. Sheila Becker has been a substitute pianist and organist so thank you, Sheila!

One of our recommendations to Council involved the purchase of music. We recommended that the money in our budget be used for purchasing music from a publisher or from any individual. This is because published music cannot be used online without permission but Tova, our Music Ministry Coordinator, can arrange or compose music for the Choristers and Handbell Choir that can be live-streamed.

An agenda item at each of our 10 monthly meetings was the review of the protocols we had in place during the pandemic. These included the collection of offering, serving communion, and sharing of the peace. Except for the continued availability of hand sanitizer and masks and the collection of our offering, everything seems back to normal. On the advice of some of our ushers, we decided to leave the offering plates at the back. It was a pattern people had become accustomed to and for guests, there is an announcement in the worship folder and an opportunity to give at the end of the service. Also, many are now contributing their offering by way of an E-transfer.

During the year small changes were made to the Greeter and Communion Preparation and Clean-up Guidelines. These were approved by Church Council and can be found on our website under *Governance Manual, Section F, Worship*.

In January Pastor Bev, Dena, Rosanna, Ioan and Darlene recruited 27 talented authors, 13 of whom were new recruits, to write a devotion for our 2023 Lenten Devotional Booklet. Thanks to all who wrote those devotions and to Dena, for assembling the devotions into a booklet. Thanks also to the office staff for sending them out, on a weekly basis, via email.

Based on the ideas collected from the Discernment Meeting held on September 11, Dena, our Council Liaison, pointed out the worship related ideas so they became our goals.

Firstly, we were to further develop the online community and advocate for a better sound system. In October we established an Ad Hoc Group to research the possibility of offering Holy Communion to those who worship with us online. Members of this group were Bishop Kristenson, Leny Vanderjagt, and Jonathan Hawkins. Although we

received their recommendation in December, we have not sent a recommendation to Council because we felt it was important for our new pastor to have input. Discussions continue as to how we can relate to those who worship online. With regards to the sound system, in January Rosanna reported that the Audio Visual Group had sent a quote to the Support Committee asking for an update of their equipment.

Secondly, establishing choirs for children was added to our responsibilities. This was tabled because plans for a children's choir needs to be initiated in the Spring so that it can be publicized in late summer and early fall. This will be on our agenda in June. Are you interested in assisting with a children's choir?

Thirdly, we were encouraged to involve more members in our services, especially in music. In September, Darlene contacted 74 households and updated the list of volunteers that assist with our services. Tova began rehearsals with the Choristers and the Handbell Choir, which had not met since 2020. In November we sent a note of thanks to those who prepare the elements for communion, participate in the Worship Team and are audio video technicians.

Lastly, we were encouraged to collaborate with St Andrews. On October 16th Bethel, Messiah, and St. Andrew's Anglican Church celebrated the 20th anniversary of Full Communion. This event was held at Messiah. During Lent, we worshipped with members of St. Andrew's, along with members of other PLURA congregations. In January, Darlene Dahle and Donny Loewen began researching and preparing for changes in the sign that is on our lawn. This was completed by March 25th, in preparation for the installation of Pastor Jeff Decelle as the Senior Pastor at Messiah and of Pastor Bev Swanson, in her new role as pastor at Messiah, Bethesda in New Norway and the Bashaw Parish. Thanks, Donny, for sharing Darlene's vision of a change on the sign!

The Worship Committee looks forward to learning more about the Narrative Lectionary which Pastor Jeff will be introducing to us.

There are many other topics that the Worship Committee discussed during their monthly meeting. These have included our budget, planning for festival and other special services, and the responsibilities of the Chancel Care Group and the recruitment of individual(s) to help with the tasks listed there.

At the time of writing of this report the Worship Committee was preparing to serve salads at the May 21st Lunchfest.

We are thankful for Pastors Darryl and Rita Roste for assisting with the pastoral duties last fall and winter. It was beneficial to have that consistency.

We thank Lue Lindseth for her many years of dedicated service on the Worship Committee. She will continue to serve by monitoring our communion supplies. Thank you, Lue.

We also thank Deanna Didriksen for her willingness to serve on the Worship Committee but due to her current work schedule and family responsibilities, is unable to continue.

Respectfully submitted,
Darlene Dahle, Chair



Statistics

January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2022

Members Received	Baptized	Confirmed
By Child Baptism	3	
By Adult Baptism	0	0
By Affirmation of faith, transfer, or from non-Lutheran by other	3 <u>2</u>	3 <u>3</u>
Total New Members Received	8	6

Baptized Members Confirmed 0

Members Removed	Baptized	Confirmed
By Death	11	11
By Transfer	4	2
By Request and to Responsibility List	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>
Total Members Removed	20	17

	Baptized	Confirmed
Membership Dec. 31, 2021	519	423
Membership Dec. 31, 2022	507	412
Active Members	258	
Adherent list (active but not members)	43	
Responsibility List	606	

Households 276

Services

Total number of Sunday Worship Services (am & pm)....	52
Total number of Weekday Worship Services	10
Total number of Services with Holy Communion	27
Average Sunday worship attendance	84
Average YouTube views.....	140



2023 Report of the Nominating Group

Church Council	Continuing to Serve until June 2024	Nominated to Serve a One-Year Term 2023-2024	Nominated to Serve a Two-Year Term 2023-2025
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 2024	Nominated to Serve a One-Year Term 2023-2024	Nominated to Serve a Two-Year Term 2023-2025
Council Liaison: LeRoy Johnson	Karen Hansen		Kelly Moseson
	Cathie Bartlett		
	Maureen Engen		
	Donny Loewen		
	Glenys Smith		

Service Committee	Continuing to Serve until June 2024	Nominated to Serve a One-Year Term 2023 -2024	Nominated to Serve a Two-Year Term 2023-2025
Council Liaison: Carolyn Andersen	Sharon Gilbertson		
	Ben Thomas		
	Bev Thomas		

Support Committee	Continuing to Serve until June 2024	Nominated to Serve a One-Year Term 2023-2024	Nominated to Serve a Two-Year Term 2023-2025
Council Liaison: Mary Broen	Milt Gilbertson	Don Saltvold	Lois Larson
	Carl Hoybak	Don Myrehaug	Dave Rogers
	Dale Swanson	Gord Myrehaug	
	John Harder		

Witnessing Committee	Continuing to Serve until June 2024	Nominated to Serve a One-Year Term 2023-2024	Nominated to Serve a Two-Year Term 2023-2025
Council Liaison: Max Lindstrand	Erhard Pinno	Leann Reinhart	Evelyn Dixon
		Shirley Loewen	
		Cece Watts	

Worship Committee	Continuing to Serve until June 2024	Nominated to Serve a One-Year Term 2023-2024	Nominated to Serve a Two-Year Term 2023-2025
Council Liaison: Dena Grue	Leny Vanderjagt	Jill Jellett	Joy Berg
	Darlene Dahle		Ioan Jober
	Rosanna Hohm		

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!

Respectfully submitted by Nominating Committee: Agnes Hoveland, Dena Grue, and Leann Reinhart.

Audit Group Report – Financial Year Ending April 30, 2023

The Audit Committee conducted the following audit activities:



1. Reviewed salary grids
2. Examined payroll information for all employees
3. Reviewed 2022 T4 and T4A slips
4. Confirmed net pay using bank statements on a sample basis
5. Compared sample bank statements to general ledger for payroll for a selected month
6. Reviewed bank reconciliations for a selected month
7. Reviewed bank statements for the period May 1 to January 31
8. Reconciled a sample of invoices to cancelled cheques and the general ledger for a selected month
9. Compared bank deposits of monthly offerings with general ledger entries for a selected month
10. Discussed the process for tracking offerings
11. Reviewed the list of Reserve Accounts including balances
12. Reviewed the list of online banking payments
13. Reviewed cash receipts for a selected month 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, 2022.
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: Yvonne Myrehaug, Ivar Saugen and Leann Reinhart

Treasurer's Report

We thank God again this year for the faithful members of Messiah who continue to support our ministry of sharing Jesus Christ with all people.

It has been encouraging to see congregational activity and participation increase again after the end of the Covid time, and we look forward to growing engagement as we move toward Messiah's 125th anniversary.

We completed the past year with an unplanned surplus. One of the reasons was a bequest of \$20,000 from Neta Specht's estate that was designated for the general fund, and another was a one-time donation of \$10,000. Another significant factor leading to the surplus was that the budget included funding for an added half-time pastor for half the year. As it turned out Pastor Jeff came with only six weeks left in the year.

Although it does not impact Messiah's operating budget we are responsible for finances of the Camrose Refugee Centre. It has been encouraging to see support for the Centre's work from Messiah members and the Camrose community. \$117,687 was received for the Refugee Centre during the year, primarily for assistance to refugees from the Ukraine.

The recommended budget in this report for 2023-2024 includes a deficit of about the same amount as the surplus of last year. In many ways this will be a another year of transition as Pastor Bev serves half time with the congregations at New Norway and Bashaw, and as Pastor Jeff becomes acquainted with Messiah. While we expect offerings will continue to increase they are unlikely to cover the increasing expenditures. Carrying last year's surplus forward and using it to assist us through this year of transition allows us to continue services and programs at their present levels without major change. It will be important for us to plan carefully towards a balanced budget in years to come.

We also need to be prepared for major roofing repairs. The flat roof over the youth room has begun to leak, and it isn't yet clear whether this can be patched or if replacement of the roofing will be required. The shingles on the sanctuary will also need to be replaced in the next few years. We are fortunate that funds from the Norma Branes estate are being held to assist with these costs, but the possibility of a special fundraising appeal is also likely.

It is over a year since the Ministry Endowment Fund was invested with ELFEC (Evangelical Lutheran Foundation of Eastern Canada). We were happy to receive \$1,690 of income for 2021, but in 2022 their investments lost value and there will be no income distributed this year. We knew that with the volatility of world markets there would be years of gains and losses, but our timing was unfortunate. I am confident that over time it will prove to have been a good decision.

I wish to express my appreciation again this year 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





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Compilation Engagement Report

To the Management of
 Messiah Lutheran Church

On the basis of information provided by Management, we have compiled the statement of financial position of Messiah Lutheran Church as at April 30, 2022, the statements of operations and changes in net assets for the year then ended, and Note 1, which describes the basis of accounting applied in the preparation of the compiled financial information ("compiled financial information").

Management is responsible for the accompanying financial information, including the accuracy and completeness of the underlying information used to compile it and the selection of the basis of accounting.

We performed this engagement in accordance with Canadian Standard on Related Services (CSRS) 4200, *Compilation Engagements*, which requires us to comply with relevant ethical requirements. Our responsibility is to assist management in the preparation of the financial information.

We did not perform an audit engagement or a review engagement, nor were we required to perform procedures to verify the accuracy or completeness of the information provided by management. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or a review conclusion, or provide any form of assurance on the financial information.

Readers are cautioned that the financial information may not be appropriate for their purposes.

Grant Thornton LLP

Camrose, Canada
 November 4, 2022

Chartered Professional Accountants

Compiled Financial Information

Messiah Lutheran Church

April 30, 2022

Messiah Lutheran Church Statement of Operations

Year ended April 30	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2021 Actual
Revenue			
Envelopes	\$ 339,700	\$ 313,356	\$ 343,765
Christmas	12,000	12,135	12,115
Thanksgiving	10,000	9,711	10,363
Easter	6,200	7,982	10,589
Facility use and fees for service	6,000	7,600	5,469
MLC General	5,300	6,226	5,885
Interest	4,200	2,869	3,776
Other Contributions	-	2,800	2,144
Plate	-	301	434
Government COVID Support	-	-	5,000
Restricted donations	-	50	50
Local designation offerings	-	4,844	-
	<u>383,400</u>	<u>367,874</u>	<u>399,590</u>
Designated	-	83,910	62,320
	<u>383,400</u>	<u>451,784</u>	<u>461,910</u>
Expenditures			
Salaries and Benefits (Schedule 1)	305,243	258,183	290,009
Support (Schedule 2)	75,750	89,047	69,385
Benevolences (Schedule 3)	38,195	38,195	38,563
Worship (Schedule 4)	5,150	3,912	3,507
Learning (Schedule 5)	3,900	1,486	1,053
Service (Schedule 6)	700	-	23
Witness (Schedule 7)	200	-	-
	<u>429,138</u>	<u>390,823</u>	<u>402,540</u>
Designated (Note 1)	-	60,911	44,524
(Deficiency) excess of revenue over expenditures	\$ (45,738)	\$ 50	\$ 14,846

Messiah Lutheran Church
Statement of Changes in Net Assets

Year ended April 30

	Unrestricted	Invested in Capital Asset	Endowments	Total 2022	Total 2021
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 51,430	\$ 676,744	\$ 120,917	\$ 849,091	\$ 834,245
Excess of revenue over expenditures	-	-	50	50	14,846
Balance, end of year	<u>\$ 51,430</u>	<u>\$ 676,744</u>	<u>\$ 120,967</u>	<u>\$ 849,141</u>	<u>\$ 849,091</u>

Messiah Lutheran Church
Statement of Financial Position

April 30

	2022	2021
Assets		
Current		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 259,060	\$ 132,778
Prepaid expenses	2,919	2,645
GST receivable	<u>1,059</u>	<u>1,062</u>
	263,038	136,485
Endowment investments	120,967	120,917
Fellowship Center	<u>676,743</u>	<u>676,743</u>
	<u>\$ 1,060,748</u>	<u>\$ 934,145</u>
Liabilities		
Current		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 19,456	\$ 22,701
Deferred contributions for designated expenditures (Note 3)	<u>192,151</u>	<u>62,353</u>
	<u>211,607</u>	<u>85,054</u>
Net assets		
Unrestricted	51,430	51,430
Net assets invested in Fellowship Center	676,744	676,744
Net assets restricted for endowments (Note 2)	<u>120,967</u>	<u>120,917</u>
	<u>849,141</u>	<u>849,091</u>
	<u>\$ 1,060,748</u>	<u>\$ 934,145</u>

On behalf of the council





Messiah Lutheran Church Notes to the Compiled Financial Information

April 30, 2022

1. Basis of accounting

The preparation of the statement of financial position of Messiah Lutheran Church as at April 30, 2022, the statements of operations and changes in net assets for the year then ended is on the cash basis of accounting with the addition of the following:

- (a) investments are recorded at cost
- (b) prepaid expenses are accrued as at the reporting date
- (c) fellowship centre is recorded at historical cost and is amortized on the same basis as for income tax
- (d) accounts payable and accrued liabilities are accrued as at the reporting date

2. Net assets restricted for endowments

	2022	2021
Panoptic endowment	\$ -	\$ 57,710
Mission endowment	-	63,207
Ministry endowment	<u>120,967</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>\$ 120,967</u>	<u>\$ 120,917</u>

Messiah Lutheran Church Notes to the Compiled Financial Information

April 30, 2022

3. Deferred contributions for designated expenditures

	Balance beginning of year	Receipts	Expenses	Internal Transfer	Balance end of year
New Missions of Messiah Endowment	\$ 3,482	\$ 632	\$ -	\$ (4,114)	\$ -
Interest Ministry Fund	-	1,836	115	4,114	5,834
Endowment fund panoptic - interest	1,093	-	1,093	-	-
Building access fund	518	-	-	(518)	-
Capital projects	1,801	3,350	500	25,057	29,708
Coffee/Lunch fund	494	391	472	-	413
CP roof fund	-	12,429	-	(12,429)	-
Family camp	1,969	-	-	-	1,969
Professional development	518	500	-	-	1,018
Music (Organ)	1,558	700	1,762	-	495
Music co-ordinator	44	150	10	(185)	-
Other	1,362	4,920	4,920	-	1,362
Refugee fund	16,991	750	8,649	-	9,093
Samaritan fund	1,782	1,400	934	-	2,248
Senior pastor initiatives	1,612	-	-	-	1,612
TV ministry / sound system	2,135	525	839	-	1,821
Youth fundraising	10,713	-	-	-	10,713
Other (proj) - columbia	-	6,300	6,300	-	-
Worship (Music)	4,292	-	-	185	4,476
Education	1,260	-	59	-	1,202
IMW El Salvador Camrose Reguee Centre	10,727	28,645	10,559	-	28,813
Bequests (until they are assigned)	<u>-</u>	<u>127,000</u>	<u>22,999</u>	<u>(12,628)</u>	<u>91,373</u>
Total	<u>\$ 62,351</u>	<u>\$ 191,228</u>	<u>\$ 60,911</u>	<u>\$ (518)</u>	<u>\$ 192,150</u>

Messiah Lutheran Church
Schedules to the Compiled Financial Information
Year ended April 30

	Schedule 1		
	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2021 Actual
Salaries	\$ 305,243	\$ 149,036	\$ 159,273
Contract workers	-	33,654	37,563
Housing	-	28,900	39,235
AHC and benefits	-	17,927	24,091
Pension and ACCEPT	-	16,593	16,292
CPP and EI	-	10,441	11,343
Supplementary staff	-	1,024	720
Travel allowance	-	608	1,492
	<u>\$ 305,243</u>	<u>\$ 258,183</u>	<u>\$ 290,009</u>

	Schedule 2		
	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2021 Actual
Insurance	\$ 25,000	\$ 26,518	\$ 23,607
Heating fuel	14,000	18,722	15,747
Electricity	10,500	8,056	7,411
Office equipment lease	-	5,288	-
Telephone/communications	5,000	5,062	4,922
Inspections/maintenance	-	4,698	-
Professional fees	4,300	4,305	4,305
Repairs and maintenance	-	3,825	-
Office supplies	5,000	2,529	2,948
Counselling supervision	900	1,645	600
Water, sewer, local improvements	2,000	1,593	1,875
Audio/video equipment	-	1,322	-
Miscellaneous	1,000	743	345
Postage	1,400	727	1,650
Software agreements	700	667	656
Offering envelopes	300	580	296
Advertising	400	527	547
Synodinal conference	1,000	451	2,187
Conference dues	500	451	-
Bank charges	150	346	195
Conference/pastor study	1,600	310	70
Custodial supplies	1,200	268	1,657
Website	200	195	195
Staff retreats	300	190	172
Office library	100	29	-
Volunteer screening	200	-	-
	<u>\$ 75,750</u>	<u>\$ 89,047</u>	<u>\$ 69,385</u>

Messiah Lutheran Church
Schedules to the Compiled Financial Information
Year ended April 30

	Schedule 3		
	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2021 Actual
Alberta Synod ELCIC	\$ 35,795	\$ 35,795	\$ 36,163
Camrose Neighbor Aid	2,400	2,400	2,400
	<u>\$ 38,195</u>	<u>\$ 38,195</u>	<u>\$ 38,563</u>

	Schedule 4		
	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2021 Actual
Worship supplies	\$ 2,350	\$ 1,807	\$ 1,637
Copyright licenses	1,200	1,074	1,066
Continuing Education/Carryover	500	500	500
Eternity for Today	350	386	304
Instrument maintenance	-	145	-
New music	400	-	-
Choir program	150	-	-
Chancel Care	200	-	-
	<u>\$ 5,150</u>	<u>\$ 3,912</u>	<u>\$ 3,507</u>

	Schedule 5		
	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2021 Actual
Confirmation ministries	\$ 1,000	\$ 454	\$ (187)
Video licensing	600	435	513
Sunday school	500	292	39
Youth program	500	172	77
Baby ministry	500	133	461
Adult education	500	-	150
Family programs	200	-	-
Library	100	-	-
	<u>\$ 3,900</u>	<u>\$ 1,486</u>	<u>\$ 1,053</u>

Messiah Lutheran Church
Schedules to the Compiled Financial Information
Year ended April 30

	Schedule 6		
	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2021 Actual
Other	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ 23
Ministry with seniors	100	-	-
Volunteer appreciation	100	-	-
Sunday School	200	-	-
Other Ministries	200	-	-
	<u>\$ 700</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 23</u>

	Schedule 7		
	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2021 Actual
World Missions Group	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ -
Ministry to new members	100	-	-
	<u>\$ 200</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

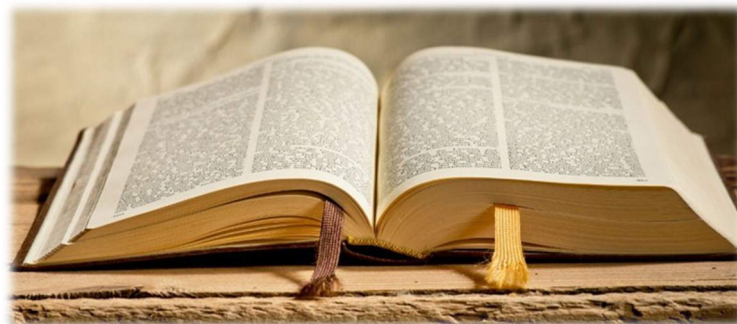


**MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH
2023/24 BUDGET**

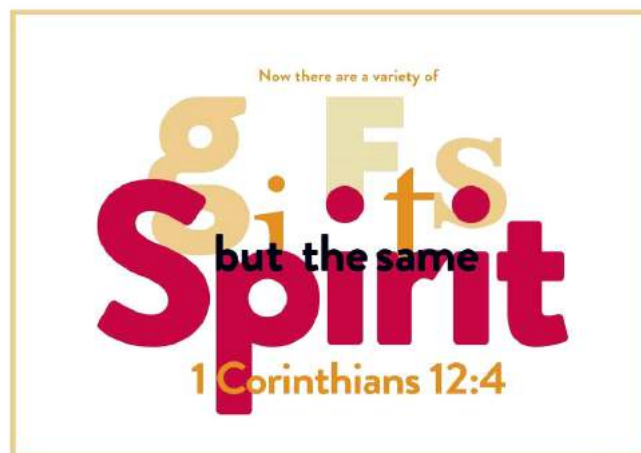
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April 30, 2023			To Apr 30	100%	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Actual	Budget
	2021/22	2022/23	2022/23	%	2023/24
Revenue				of Bud	
Envelopes	297,756	330,300	299,819	91%	315,000
Envelopes NSNO Declared	15,600	15,600	20,270	130%	20,000
Envelope total	313,356	345,900	320,089	93%	335,000
Plate	301	348	880	253%	1,000
MLC general	6,226	6,500	14,822	228%	5,000
Easter	7,417	8,000	9,352	124%	10,000
Lent	565	-	585		-
Thanksgiving	9,711	10,000	7,498	75%	8,500
Christmas	12,135	13,000	10,337	80%	11,000
Music performances		-			-
Facility use and fees# for service	7,600	6,000	6,673	111%	6,000
Coffee or Food		2,500	3,289		3,000
Expense recoveries					
Local Designation Donation	4,844	3,600	24,035		3,750
Bequest transfer/deficit	22,999		-		
Interest & Other recoveries**	5,669	4,200	6,462	154%	3,800
Collaboration Agreement					50,948
Operating Revenue	390,823	400,048	404,021	101%	437,998
*Restricted Donations			135		
Revenue	390,823	400,048	404,156	101%	437,998
Designated	61911.49		135,929		
Total Revenue	452,734		540,085		
**includes common share interest & BRCF from estate designation					
Expenses					
Neighbor Aid	2,400	2,400	2,400	100%	2,400
Synod Benevolence	35,795	35,008	35,008	100%	31,988
*Salaries & benefits	258,183	256,700	223,162	87%	333,766
Program expenses					
Worship - schedule 1	3,912	4,500	5,354	119%	6,200
Learning - schedule 2	1,486	3,350	1,844	55%	3,700
Witness - schedule 3	-	2,600	3,087	119%	3,100
Service - schedule 4	-	700	370	53%	700
Support - schedule 5**	89,047	94,790	92,132	97%	96,850
Capital projects - schedule 5	0	-	-	-	-
Expenses	390,823	400,048	363,358	91%	478,704
Designated	61,911	-	135,929		-
Total expenses	452,734	400,048	499,287		478,704
Excess (deficit) income	(0)	-	40,798		(40,706)
Restricted funds transferred	50		135		
Excess (def) operating income	(50)	-	40,663		(40,706)

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH					
2023/24 BUDGET					
April 30, 2023					
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Actual	Budget
Schedule 1: Worship	2021/22	2021/22	2022/23	% of Bud	2023/24
Program expenses					
Chancel care (old "altar guild")	0	200	43		200
Choirs new music	0	400	216	54%	500
Choirs program expenses	0	150	0		150
Choirs student bursary	0	-	0		-
Continuing education-carry over	500	500	500		500
Copyright license	1,074	1,100	1,124	102%	1,200
Eternity for Today	386	350	494	141%	350
Instrument maintenance	145	-	511		1,000
Organ scholarship	0	-	0		-
Worship (EasyWorship) subscription	268	300	431		425
Worship supplies	1,539	1,500	2,034	136%	1,875
Total program expenses	3,912	4,500	5,354	119%	6,200
Schedule 2: Learning					
Program expenses					
Adult education		500		0%	500
Baby Ministry	133	500	338	68%	500
Confirmation	455	900	109	12%	900
Sunday School	292	400	511	128%	400
Family programs		100	275	275%	100
Library		-			-
Stewardship programming		-			-
Training/miscellaneous		-	33		-
Video license	435	600	442	74%	600
Vacation Bible school supplies		-			-
Youth program expenses/misc	172	350	137	39%	700
Total program expenses	1,486	3,350	1,844	55%	3,700



MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH					
2023/24 BUDGET					
April 30, 2023					
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Actual	Budget
Schedule 3: Witness	Actual	2021/22	2022/23	% of Bud	2023/24
Benevolence	2021/22				
Missionary sponsorship		-	-		-
Program expenses	-				
New members	0	100	0	0%	100
Coffee or Food		2,500	3,087		3,000
Ministry to inactives	0		0		
Outreach	0		0		
Programs	0		0		
World Mission Group	0	-	0		-
Total program expenses	0	2,600	3,087	119%	3,100
Total witness expenses	-	2,600	3,087	119%	3,100
Schedule 4: Service					
Benevolence					
NeighborAid	2,400	2,400	2,400	100%	2,400
Program expenses					
Community programs	0	0	135		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	0	100	73		100
Sunday adult class expenses	0	200	0		200
Volunteer appreciation	0	100	162	162%	100
Total program expenses	0	700	370	53%	700
	2,400	3,100	2,770	89%	3,100



MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH					
2023/24 BUDGET					
April 30, 2023					
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Actual	Budget
Schedule 5: Support	2021/22	2022/23	2022/23	% of Bud	2023/24
Benevolence					
Alberta Synod**	35,795	35,008	35,008	100%	31,988
Seminary student assistance	0	-	0		-
Total benevolence	35,795	35,008	35,008	100%	31,988
Program expenses					
Advertising	527	360	588	163%	400
Audio/visual supplies	1,322	200	153		200
AV capital	0	0	1,035		0
Audit/Accountant	4,305	4,300	4,305	100%	4,300
Bank charges/op loans	346	390	281	72%	390
Capital purchase/contingency	0	-	0		-
Conference dues	451	450	423	94%	450
Conf-other/pastors' study	260	600	849	142%	1,200
Counselling supervision	1,645	1,100	700	64%	1,000
Convention-synod/national	451	1,000	423	42%	1,000
Custodial supplies	268	1,000	897	90%	1,000
Church Council miscellaneous*	743	620	1,579	255%	620
Inspections/Maintenance	4,698	4,000	4,033		4,000
Insurance	26,518	31,000	30,517	98%	35,000
Offering envelopes	580	580	737	127%	650
Office equipment lease	5,288	5,900	5,288		5,300
Office library	29	40	0	0%	40
Office supplies	2,529	2,900	3,455	119%	2,900
Postage & shipping	727	1,100	282	26%	700
Repairs & maintenance	3,648	3,500	4,200		4,000
R & M Computer/telephones	177	250	133		200
Software agreements	667	700	684	98%	700
Staff/lay development	50	100	0	0%	100
Support Comm misc	0	-	0		-
Telephone/Internet	5,062	3,200	3,008	94%	3,200
Utilities-electricity***	8,056	9,100	8,736	96%	9,100
Utilities-heating fuel***	18,722	20,000	17,611	88%	18,000
Utilities-water & sewer	1,593	2,000	1,861	93%	2,000
Volunteer screening	0	-	0		-
Website	195	200	195	97%	200
Staff retreat	190	200	159	80%	200
Total program expenses	89,047	94,790	92,132	97%	96,850
Capital projects (smaller)					
Total capital projects	-	-	-	-	-
Total support expenses	124,842	129,798	127,140	98%	128,838
* advertising for staff, Zoom subscription, installation lunch, pastors retreat					
**10% of 2021/2022 Envelope + Plate + MLC General					
***will still change when invoices come in					

**Analysis of Messiah's Proposed Stewardship of its
Proposed Resources 2023-2024**

			% of Total		
Salaries and Wages for Staff		\$333,766	70%	*Building/Capital	
				AV Capital	0
				Custodial Supplies	1,000
				Inspections/maintenance	4,000
Program				Insurance	35,000
Learning Committee	3,700			R & M reg/comp	4,200
Stewardship Plans	0			Utilities-electricity	9,100
Service Committee	700			Utilities-heating fuel	18,000
Neighbor Aid support	2,400			Utilities-water/sewer	2,000
Witnessing Committee	3,100			Capital purchase/contingency	0
Worship Committee	6,200			Capital Projects	0
Total	16,100	16,100	3%		<u>0</u>
					73,300
In Support of All Ministries - Support Committee					
Synod	31,988		7%	**Office	
				Advertising	400
Building/Capital*	73,300		15%	Audio/Visual supplies	200
				Audit	4,300
Office**	18,980		4%	Bank charges/op loans	390
				Offering envelopes	650
General Ministry Support***	4,570		1%	Office equipment lease	5,300
				Office library	40
Restore Designated gifts	0	0	0%	Office Supplies	2,900
				Postage & shipping	700
Total	\$478,704		100%	Software agreements	700
				Telephone	3,200
Check from Summary Page	478,704			Website	200
					<u>18,980</u>



***General Ministry Support	
Chur Coun Miscellaneous	620
Conference Dues	450
Pastor's Study Conference	1,200
Counselling Supervision	1,000
Conventions	1,000
Staff/lay development	100
Volunteer screening	0
Staff retreat	200
	<u>4,570</u>

Messiah Lutheran Church					
2022-2023 Financial Report(unaudited)					
	At				At
DESIGNATED FUNDS	Apr 30	Received	Disbursed	Internal	Apr 30
	2022			transfer	2023
Bequests until assigned	91,373.42	7,500.00	0.00	-5,000.00	93,873.42
Capital/Major Projects (CP Main)	29,707.87	6,323.97	8,025.75	1,362.34	29,368.43
Coffee/Lunch Fund to GEN	413.22	0.00	413.22		0.00
Education (Learning Comm)	1,201.56	0.00	0.00		1,201.56
Interest Endowmt Fund-Missi	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
Interest Endowmt Fund-panoptic	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
Interest Ministry Endowment	5,834.32	0.00	5,834.32		0.00
Misc/Other	1,362.34	873.46	873.46	-1362.34	-0.00
Music Organ Fund	495.41	1,000.00	1,230.00	5,000.00	5,265.41
Proj Sen Pastor initiatives	1,612.43	0.00	0.00		1,612.43
Refugee Support	9,092.54	3,620.00	5,350.82		7,361.72
Proj Family Camp	1,969.44	0.00	0.00		1,969.44
Samaritan Fund	2,248.10	1,792.85	1,866.66		2,174.29
Staff prof dev (worship)	1,017.69	500.00	0.00		1,517.69
TV Ministry/Sound System	1,820.61	1,000.00	2,820.61		0.00
Worship/Music	4,476.14	0.00	0.00		4,476.14
Youth Fundraising	10,713.11	0.00	1,561.41		9,151.70
Camrose Refugee Centre	7,809.42	5,196.30	7,518.30		5,487.42
CRC other specific(Ukraine)	21,003.24	112,490.87	96,299.85		37,194.26
Current yr reserves Bldg Debt ret	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
Other:					
IELCO Columbia	0.00	2,895.00	2,895.00		0.00
other outside charity (Neighbor Aid)	0.00	879.90	879.90		0.00
CLWR	0.00	360.00	360.00		0.00
Total	192,150.86	144,432.35	135,929.30	0.00	200,653.91

Note: Designated fund reserves less endowment fund, building debt, Camrose Refugee Centre and IMW El Salvador Reserve check

157,972.23

157,972.23

Ministry Endowment Fund(ELFEC)	120,967.39			0.00	120,967.39
Contributed waiting transfer*		135.00			135.00
Total Endowment Funds	120,967.39	135.00			121,102.39

*\$5000 minimum contribution to ELFEC



WORSHIP FOR A CONGREGATIONAL ANNUAL MEETING

CLOSING THE MEETING

LITANY

Leader: God's grace and unconditional love calls us to be a diverse, inclusive community.

All: We celebrate all and uphold life giving relationships.

Leader: Help us to see the river of life and the tree of life.

All: Help us to share the fruit of abundance and the leaves that heal the nations.

Leader: We thank you for this faith community, and how we support each other on our spiritual journeys. Help our relationships with each other to deepen and grow.

All: Let there be greening.

HYMN *I, the Lord of Sea and Sky*
EvLW #574

Leader: Go in peace to love and serve the LORD!

All: Thanks be to God.

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