# St. Matthew

# **Evangelical Lutheran Church**



# Annual Report 2021



















### A Message from

### ELCA Presiding Bishop, Elizabeth Eaton

Dear friends in Christ.

The last year has been one of adapting and learning. In many places we have seen vibrant and vital ministry spring forth from changes made due to the pandemic. Digital worship opportunities have introduced to our congregations people who may never have walked into one of our buildings. Many congregations have found new ways to invite people to share their generosity through online giving. And many ministries have found just how vital they are as they continue to serve alongside people in their communities.



The first chapter of James, verse 17, reminds us that "Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change." Yes, this has been a season of change, but Scripture also reminds us that we serve a generous, steadfast God.

While we stay rooted in God's enduring, unchanging promise, God also gives us the gifts of creativity and learning. Across all three expressions of the church we have used those gifts to serve God, love our neighbor and share the good news of Jesus Christ. In this time of change, we have opened our arms wider to meet people where they are, living into the reality that we are not defined or confined by the four walls of our buildings.

Through all this, I am so grateful for your generous sharing of creativity, time, talents and resources. All good gifts do come from God, and we are called to share and use those gifts. We have and will continue to answer that call. There is still much change and learning to come, but God's steadfast love energizes us for the work God is still doing in the world through this church.

Elzaluon la Eate

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton Presiding Bishop Evangelical Lutheran Church in America "Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change."

# **2021 Annual Report**

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### **Director of LGL Ministries**

"I am about to do 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)

When I think about the last two years, the biblical parallel that comes to mind is the Israelites wandering in the wilderness. Like the Israelites, we have spent many of our days over the last two years wondering when we might reach a destination that resembles what we once understood to be "normal." And I'm not just referring to the pandemic world that you and I have been living in, but also the pastoral transition that we, as a congregation, have been in (in one way or another) since September 2019.

In scripture, the wilderness is a place that is associated with being tested. For decades, the Israelites' faith was put to the test as they wandered in a desolate place, hoping and praying that they would reach the Promised Land. The wilderness was also the place where Jesus was tested and tempted by the devil, making him no stranger to the struggles humans face.

The wilderness is also a place of learning and self-reflection. It's a place where we are strengthened and prepared for the greater good that God has planned for us. *God works in and through the wilderness*.

These last two years have certainly tested each of us in different ways. Our norms, our relationships, our health, our routines, and our faith have all been tested and stretched in ways that have felt less than comfortable. In this last year, we have begun the journey of what it means to be a people who have wandered through the wilderness. And while the pandemic is not yet behind us, we are closer than we have ever been to being delivered and reaching a longed-for destination. Covid cases are on a downward trend, we have a means of protecting ourselves and our neighbors through vaccines, and we are finding ways to safely return to the activities that bring us joy and fulfillment. For all of these things, and more, we can say - thanks be to God!

As for our community of faith, the call process has been moving full steam ahead and we are the closest we've been to calling a new pastor to serve and help lead the people of St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church. Again, I say, thanks be to God!

No wilderness lasts forever. God's deliverance is not a hope, but a promise. As we anticipate the good that is yet to come and life beyond the wilderness, the words of the prophet Isaiah ring especially true:

"I am about to do 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" (43:19).

God is doing wonderful things, friends. Do you perceive them? More importantly, are you ready to receive them?

I pray in this time of new and good, that we hold fast to the gifts that God has given to us and remember our wilderness journey. Together, we have the opportunity to use what we have learned to care for one another and to guide us in this new chapter of living God's love.

Peace be with you,

Deacon Lindsay Bailey Director of LGL Ministries

### **Executive Council President**

Greetings! With Covid still a big factor in how St Matthew functions and worships, it's accurate to characterize 2021 as a "roller-coaster year". The pandemic peaked just as the year began, but looked like it was dying out by mid-July. Then in September, along came a second wave, more severe than the first, which now, in late January, seems to be waning.

And so, we pray that this disruption in the life of our church will end. And we put our trust in our Creator God, knowing that this pandemic was not something he desired, but that he is helping us to get through it.

Therefore, we can look forward to 2022 with great optimism. This year should bring a new Pastor to St. Matthew, and it should see a return to "normal", whatever that turns out to be.

Our COVID Team met throughout the year to advise EC on pandemic protocols and safety during worship. As you know, in-person worship was suspended in late 2020, until Easter 2021, after which "hybrid" worship was the norm. In late March, we installed special anti-virus air cleaning equipment on the Sanctuary furnace to help protect those who chose to worship in-person.

In late January, our Call Committee was installed and began their work to become a cohesive team, and then to craft our Ministry Site Profile. Those efforts resulted in submitting the MSP to the Synod in early October, which then posted it nationwide a few weeks later. The MSP becomes the basis for connecting candidates with St. Matthew, and the Call Committee is presently in the process of interviewing candidates.

Another significant achievement in 2021, brought about by the necessity to stream our services, and encouraged by an ex-member of the congregation who offered matching money, was the upgrading of our Video and Audio equipment, most of which was close to 30 years old. In February, an appeal was made to our congregation to fund this \$11,500 project, and by mid-May, we had contributions that reached our goal, which allowed installation to start. This project was completed in September.

In March, we launched a brand new web-site with much improved content and eye appeal, thanks to the tireless efforts of our Communication – Evangelism Team and especially Beth Johnson. Thankyou all!

Because Beth donated her web-site work to St. Matthew, money set aside for that was then used for the "First Annual" St. Matthew Block Party, which was held in late August and was a rousing success.

Our NEOS Assembly was held in mid-June with Bill Heck and John Burke representing us. That event also saw the retirement of Bishop Abraham Allende, and the election of our new Bishop, The Rev. Dr. Laura Barbins.

In July, our new Care Team Ministry was launched with the help of Deacon Lindsay. Under the auspices of 5-Star Congregational Life, this ministry aims to keep in touch with all of our members through periodic mailings and phone calls.

July also saw a transition in Finance Directors, from Dean Hauptman to Thad Neururer. Our thanks to both gentlemen for making this handoff go smoothly.

### **Executive Council President** continued

During the summer, EC discussed the need for an interior "spruce up" to make our facility more appealing and user friendly. At our August meeting, we approved a proposal by the Interior Design Studio to study our building and to draft a refurbishing plan. That process is currently underway.

Certainly, one of the biggest blessings our congregation experienced in 2021, was the presence of our Interim Pastor, William Diehm. When he retired in September, our Deacon Lindsay, with the assistance of Office Administrator, Deb Musil, then sustained our Sunday worship experience by providing a steady stream of supply pastors, which incidentally is no easy task. I offer my deepest gratitude to these individuals for their successful efforts.

On October 31<sup>st</sup>, we confirmed one of our largest Confirmation Classes in recent memory. A reception between services allowed us to meet these impressive young people up close and personal, which was a real joy.

As the year wound down, we found ourselves more comfortable financially, and EC voted to increase our ELCA benevolence to get it back to where it used to be some years ago. That increase was then approved by our December 19, Congregational Meeting.

Throughout this year, EC, Social Concerns, and the Transitional Housing Team have been discussing the future of Promise Place, our six-unit apartment building. That part of our Transitional Housing ministry has been problematic for some time, and decisions need to be made about its future. Based on a recommendation of the parties involved, EC was asked to approve the next steps in that direction, which they did at their December meeting. A task force was appointed to start that process, which will ultimately be decided by a special congregational meeting this spring.

So, you can see that in spite of the challenges of Covid in 2021, much has happened over the past year. I have been blessed to be surrounded by fellow leaders of St. Matthew that have prayed and worked hard to make the best of things. We have a first-rate staff and a wonderful congregation! Thanks be to God!

Submitted by

Rex Rickly, 2021 Executive Council President

Congregational Meeting December 19, 2021

Call to order at 9:45 by President Rex Rickly.

Opening Devotions by Deacon Lindsay Bailey.

Over 70 members in attendance so we had enough for quorum (10% of voting membership) as determined by our constitution. (The constitution states that voting members are defined as those members who are confirmed, communed, and made a contribution within the past year.) We have around 220 members that meet the criteria.

President Elect, Tom Kotick, shared that the nominating committee has worked very hard, yet still needs to fill several positions. Tom encouraged the congregation to prayerfully consider serving. Tom said, "Your best is good enough."

The slate is as follows:

#### **Executive Council**

President: Tom Kotick President Elect: Bill Heck Secretary: Mary Dunham Treasurer: Tim Brown

Finance:

Personnel Director:

Property Director: Troy Gerspacher

#### **5-Star Ministries**

Communication Evangelism: Melody Costello & Bobby Forsythe

Comprehensive Youth: Christy Gabler & Julie Shrader

Congregational Life: Social Concerns:

Small Groups: Heather Haycook and Corey Neururer

Howard moved to accept the slate and Melody Costello seconded. Ballots were handed out. The result of the vote was 67 yes and 2 no. Slate approved.

John Burke motioned to approve the minutes and asked that the December 2020 EC minutes be attached. Bill Heck seconded. Minutes were approved and attachment will be added to those minutes.

Deacon Lindsay shared highlights on behalf of the time Pastor Bill served, and her time as a rostered leader. The first quarter of the year plus, was virtual worship, and in person resumed Easter Sunday. Coming out of virtual worship there were many questions. How do we return to worship? What will our programming look like? How do we continue to be a community of faith after spending a significant time apart? What does it mean that our children have gone through something so traumatic and gotten out of routines, and will they return? It is an entire community of faith coming back together. After Pastor Bill's retirement, Deacon Lindsay has taken on additional responsibilities. One of those responsibilities has been securing supply pastors months ahead of time. Deacon Lindsay gave a shout out to Deb, our office administrator, helping her in securing supply pastors. Deacon Lindsay expressed gratitude to EC, the call committee, and all the leadership groups in

Congregational Meeting December 19, 2021 continued

supporting the office staff and herself during this time of transition. On a personal note, her boyfriend, Austin, proposed and she is officially engaged. Rex thanked Deacon Lindsay and Deb for everything they have done.

Approval of Mission Plan. Thaddeus shared the mission plan and the assumptions that were made. For 2022 the revenues will not keep up with the high rate of inflation. We could end up with an \$11,000.00 deficit. Thad forecasted that our Pastor would start April 1, and that included medical benefits for family and spouse. Those numbers could be lower/higher should the spouse be employed and have benefits through his/her employer, and/or if the Pastor starts at an earlier or later date. Music budget has increased hoping to bring back some of the musicians we had planned for pre-covid.

Carol Mulbach moved to approve the mission plan. Sandy Andrews seconded. No questions. Ballots were handed out. The result of the vote was 67 yes and 6 no. Mission plan approved.

Transitional Housing Update: Bob Maas shared that in November there were 4 cottage meetings to discuss the future of the transitional housing ministry. Thank you to John Baker, Bruce Reed, Warren Benditz, and Carla Mass for leading those discussions. As a result of those meetings, social concerns gave six recommendations to EC regarding the future of transitional housing. Currently, EC is in the process of reviewing those recommendations and after a decision is made, an update will be presented to the congregation. We truly are in a time of transition.

Call Committee: Jill thanked the congregation for the prayers and support for the committee and thanked the call committee members, Jill Heck, John Burke, Todd Costello, Troy Gerspacher, Kate IIg, Christy Gabler, Aaron Reising, and Jen Knaggs. Synod provided the committee with a manual on the call process. A ministry site profile was then completed. Pastor Mitch from the synod and a meeting with Deacon Lindsay has been helpful. Two candidates have been interviewed on zoom, and a second interview with one candidate will be scheduled the first of the year. They also asked the synod to provide us with additional candidates. Jill encouraged the congregation to get involved and serve the Lord.

Rex thanked those who have served. Mary thanked Rex for his leadership.

Tim, as treasurer, asked for someone to consider serving as treasurer in 2023. It is extremely helpful to begin learning the details of this job prior to assuming the Treasurer position. Tim welcomes and invites anyone that is considering serving to shadow him in 2022.

Troy thanked Rex for his leadership, the seamless video streaming, and fixing our heating.

Melody gave a shout out to Joyce Davis for all her work in keeping the church clean, and appreciated all the set up and clean up after the events in the church.

Melody moved to adjourn the meeting. Tim Brown seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Dunham

December 22, 2020 Executive Council Minutes

President	John Burke	P
President-Elect	Rex Rickly	P
Secretary	Mary Dunham	P
Treasurer	Tim Brown	P
Personnel Director	Bill Heck	P
Finance Director	Dean Hauptman	P
Property Director	Troy Gerspacher	X
Deacon	Lindsay Bailey	P
Pastor	William Diehm	P

#### Five Star Ministry Team Leaders

Communication Evangelism	Lisa Burke	P
Comprehensive Youth	Helen Graf	P
Congregational Life	Cindy Rickly	P
Small Groups	Heather Haycook	X
Small Groups	Corey Neururer	P
Social Concerns	Bob and Carla Maas	P

- I. Call to order John called the meeting to order via in person and zoom at 7:04 PM.
- II. John Burke led our devotions and asked if anyone wanted to share 3 good things from this past year. There was a lot of sharing and positive things noted from this past year for our congregation and personal reflections.
- II. Mary had sent the minutes out with a few corrections. Tim moved to approve the minutes. Rex seconded. Minutes approves.
- IV. Old business: None
- V. Finance: Tim moved to accept the financial statements. Mary seconded. Dean reported that we are ending the year in the black. Tim reported all benevolences are PAID!!!! Bill asked about restricted funds and asked if someone wanted to gift more money into a fund they had contributed to in the past, how could the contributor find out if more finds were needed? Tim shared that all contributions that are restricted or designated are only for those purposes.
- VI. Pastor Bill report: (see written report.)
  - 1. Pastor Bill is beginning to take social security.
  - 2. There will be some loss Christmas Eve since we won't be in our home congregation and we unable to experience the usual. But we do get to experience a wider experience through our Cleveland west conference collaboration.
  - 3. Our new bishop has begun serving however her installation will be delayed until June.
  - 4. We will be moving forward with the process of calling a new pastor.
  - 5. Pastor Bill would like to be an active part of our winter retreat and the content. He would like to look at mutual ministry and how personnel interface can enhance our growth.

December 22, 2020 Executive Council Minutes continued

#### VII. Deacon Lindsay (see written report)

- 1. Buy your Luther League ornaments.
- 2. Pen pal ornament exchange was a fun way for our youth to connect with one another.
- 3. Beginning plans for Luther Ladies bible study.
- 4. Next infusion is January 7.

#### VIII. New Business

- 1. The ballot was sent out by email and the instructions were to print your ballot, fill it out, tri fold and tape the ballot closed, print out the email and circle your name so we know the member was registered. The ballot goes in a secure box. Either mail or drop off at the church. Only one member did not have email and a ballot was dropped off.
- 2. Congregational meeting went well. Thanks to Cindy and Lisa for monitoring and Rex for setting it up. Rex also appreciated Deacon Lindsay help. Job well done.
- 3. Annual reports should be into Debbie by January 10,2021. We may want to consider emailing the annual report.

#### IX. Pastor Bill Year in Review Opportunities:

- 1. In regard to technology, we are ahead of the curve. We're prepared for the future and need to continue to look at how we can raise the bar. We have been blessed with volunteers and Deacon Lindsay who has a good handle on technology, but we may not be able to sustain this in the years to come. The call committee should look at technology as a possible focus for a candidate. It could be to our benefit that our new pastor is more digital than analog? How we staff may need to include technology.
- 2. Greatest asset is our youth. Turning loose youth ministry program and let it run. Our deacon has the skills, gifts and confidence to organize and make it happen.
- 3. We do worship well. Need to continue to encourage others to help in leading worship. We have very talented worship leaders.
- 4. How can we continue to grow and care for each other?

  Pastor Bill thanked Helen for all the years she worked with the youth. She will be

supportive of the youth and hopes to get a young adult group started in 2021. She told Cindy she would like to be a part of the care team ministry.

Pastor Bill thanked John Burke for keeping us moving forward in a challenging year. John thanked all the EC members and the ministry team leaders for their dedication and hard work.

5. Written reports from president, John Burke, worship, small groups, congregational life and social concerns.

At 8:29 Mary Dunham motioned to adjourn the meeting Bill Heck seconded.

Pastor Bill closed with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Dunham

2020 President's Report - Congregational Meeting December 20, 2020

Two years ago, when I was approached by leadership to be president elect no one told me that in my year as president there would be COVID-19. I have to admit I miss gathering together to worship. I miss meeting with members and friends, I miss seeing fellow members, shaking hands and sharing the peace.

It has been a year of missing. None of us anticipated this pandemic, or the effects it would have on our church family, community and country.

But at the same time, hasn't it been a season of growing and learning? We have been forced to look at new ways of doing things. And we have been fortunate enough to work together for safety and care of others.

In a year of division, it's been nice to have opportunities to reach out to those in need, unite, grow and learn together and draw closer as a church family.

When I first started to think of making a report to the congregation, I contemplated all the things that we haven't been able to do because of COVID-19. But then I started to remember the blessings of the many things that we have been able to accomplish here at St. Matthew even with the ongoing pandemic.

Going back a year, we completed an ELCA vitality survey. Many of you participated in it and helped to identify strengths and weaknesses in our spirituality as individuals, with each other as a congregation, and in our community and world. Using this as a guide we started to develop a strategic plan to enhance our spiritual vitality at St. Matthew, grow our faith and encourage others to be part of our Christian family.

In February we had a leadership retreat which is open to the whole congregation. We brainstormed on how we could nurture and deepen our faith and relationship with each other, deepen our knowledge of the Bible, and connect and share our faith with others. These became our main goals.

Our Constitution bylaws require us to update our continuing resolutions for each of the five-star ministries within the first quarter of each year. It also makes it executive Council's responsibility to come up with a strategic plan to accomplish the mission of St. Matthew.

Working together as a team we were able to update the responsibilities of each of the 5-star ministries and come up with specific strategies and tasks to accomplish our goals of increasing the vitality of our church. We wrote these things down and had a lot of things planned when COVID-19 hit. For example, remember the attractive postcards we printed and distributed in March? One side of the card had dates of special worship services the other side fellowship opportunities. Our communication/evangelism ministry, together with Small Group and the Worship team came up with that postcard in hopes of encouraging our members to live God's love by inviting friends and family to participate in the worship and fellowship life of St. Matthew.

We were not able to do those things at that time, but it laid out programs that we will be able to do in the future. They've just been postponed.

We were well prepared in many ways to handle this pandemic. Brenda, our valuable Parish Nurse, is a huge asset to all of our members, but especially our seniors and those who are homebound. Our audio video team seamlessly went from producing DVDs of our worship services to going live with

2020 President's Report - Congregational Meeting December 20, 2020 continued

virtual worship so that we could stay connected and enjoy worshiping from home. We upgraded our audiovisual equipment and developed the ability to connect by Zoom as we are doing today. I want to thank those people involved in this successful effort including Rex, Brian, Larry and Owen.

This year, with the support of many members, the communication/evangelism team completed the installation of a new electronic messaging center, also known as a digital sign. This is another strategic way that we can invite others to be a part of St. Matthew while keeping our own members informed.

Congregational life, under the leadership of Cindy Rickly and Jan Sullivan reinvigorated the shepherding team. The team reviewed our membership list and made many personal contacts. Together with pastor Bill they connected with many members by phone and are actively helping to revitalize our membership. A strategy is to keep track of these connections with each other so that during the year we can check and make sure that we stay in spiritual contact with everyone.

There were other exciting new initiatives under the Shepherding umbrella and with the creativity and enthusiasm of Mary Dunham, such as the personal delivery of popcorn and cookies. These heartfelt deliveries help our members feel the love of St. Matthew.

Sue Schwab volunteered to coordinate our sunshine meal ministry and many members who were homebound due to illness or other life events benefited from a homecooked meal.

Dotti and Esther have taken up corresponding with letters and cards to members. This has all led to another new initiate that is underway: the formation of a new Congregation-wide care ministry. Deacon Lindsay is helping to lead this shepherding effort, and everyone will be hearing more about this in the coming year.

Many of you updated and filled out a spiritual gifts inventory. This is another strategy to obtain information about our members and their spiritual gifts so that we can have them share those gifts with others. This information will be shared with five-star ministry leaders and rostered staff so that our members are able to use their spiritual gifts and talents to serve God through St. Matthew.

Our property manager, Troy, is in the process of reviewing our physical plant with several other members to put a plan together to improve our facility and make it more inviting.

The social concerns ministry continues to do good work in our congregation and the community. In February they celebrated diversity with black history month and with the worship team and Pastor Bill, hosted the Martin Luther King community service. It was the first time we had hosted this event and it featured many local community speakers and our own Aaron Reising playing a wonderful trumpet arrangement of Amazing Grace.

Social concerns also tied us into many learning experiences such as Bishop Allende's discussion about immigration. Besides continuing oversight of operation homes and transitional housing, they collected noisy offerings to benefit specific groups and individuals in need.

Our Youth ministry has adapted easily to the use of electronic communications. Helen and Deacon Lindsay have enhanced our worship services by including our youth as readers, musicians, in children's sermons, and personal videos. While many of their planned activities have been delayed, the youth of our church continue to be a blessing and give us great hope for the future.

2020 President's Report - Congregational Meeting December 20, 2020 continued

Small groups ministry has also adapted to zoom functions to encourage fellowship. Two well attended initiatives planned by Small Group were a women's bible study and a women's devotional. Both were attended in person and via Zoom. These studies allowed women of all ages to share their challenges in dealing with life during this pandemic and provided needed support and encouragement. The Small group team continues to meet and plan activities and fellowship opportunities that will occur via zoom and eventually face to face.

Last March we formed a COVID-19 reentry team to guide us in returning to in person worship. They not only kept abreast of the pandemic locally but helped set guidelines for us to follow and safely return to in-person worship at church. I would like to thank that team of Rex Rickly, Bill Heck, Brenda Disbrow, Joyce Davis, Judy McLaughlin, Troy Gerspacher, Pastor Bill and Deacon Lindsay. Although we are not conducting in person worship currently this month, we will be in the future. And so, this team continues to serve faithfully, evaluating the current conditions in our county and making recommendations to the executive Council.

One of our most important goals of course is the calling of a new pastor. To this end we have been highly blessed with the help of our interim pastor Bill, who has been with us now since last October, about 14 months. During that time, he has helped us begin the call process, first with the creation of the transition team made up of Jan Sullivan, Larry Mohler, Jen Knaggs, Dan and Jennifer Hogan, Brad and Laura Gierhart, Pastor Bill Deacon Lindsay and myself. Thank you to this group of dedicated individuals!

They conducted a survey and small group meetings to obtain opinions and feedback from members regarding St. Matthew and what we should look for in a new pastor. Results were tabulated and shared with the congregation and will be used by the call committee to write our profile which is shared with the ELCA Synod and used as a basis to attract and call our new pastor.

Last week the executive committee selected a nine-member call committee which will be presented later in this meeting for approval by the congregation. I would like to thank all of those people who offered names and volunteered to be a part of the call committee. This group will be putting in many hours in the future to seek God's will in selecting the best candidate for the position of pastor in our church.

The last thing I would like to do is thank all of you for your support of the mission and ministry of St. Matthew. It is through your faithful and generous contributions of your time, talents and treasures that we are able to sustain our ministry even through this devastating pandemic. Many members have submitted a pledge of financial support for 2021. If you haven't had an opportunity to do so, you may still send a pledge to the office in care of Mary Dunham, our recording secretary. Your participation in the life of St. Matthew enriches our entire community of faith.

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve as Council President this past year and to work with the members of Executive Council and 5-star ministry leaders. Thank you for your continued support and encouragement. In many ways it has been a challenging year but we have persevered and grown in our love for one another, and we have much to look forward to in the future of St. Matthew. Continued blessings to you and your families during these trying times.

LGL John Burke

### **Property**

Church Renovation Project-Approved consulting plan with Katie Heinz & Interior Design to begin surveying congregation on what they want in the church. Project was delayed to first quarter 2022 because of the busy holiday and not having a full-time pastor.

Obtain estimates to trim trees in the spring around the house & church.

Developed a correct plan to fix the new signage in the front. Coordinated with Stone Manufacture, mason and designer, to come up with a new look, and approved the project to move forward as soon as the weather permits. St. Matthew Evangelical Church in sandstone above the digital sign should clear up the ability to see the name, which is difficult currently with the black lettering on the existing brick.

Obtained the final pine for the new landscaping in the front, cleaned up all the edging around the front flower beds.

Hal Gerspacher scraped and painted all the windows on the east side of the church. Need to discuss the technique he is using, may have sealed the windows shut while painting.

Organized all of the files on the Property Director position into a portable filing system for the next chair.

Worked with Covid task force monthly on deciding and implementing masking and cleaning of the church.

New air purifiers that kill germs as well were put on the furnaces

The elevator needed repaired. I'm pretty sure we had the 5 year inspection too. This is the more detailed inspection with replacing of certain parts and maintenance.

Inspections all passed.

Fire inspector was in often. All emergency lights have had new batteries installed.

New air handler was installed for the office areas.

New air conditioner unit outside was replaced.

Start of some furnace/heat issues. All is good now.

Trees trimmed More trimming is needed!

Larry and Tom have been finishing up all the LED bulbs. Still in progress.

Luther League's classroom (old library) was painted.

Grace House had to have a light fixed or replaced in the back. I don't remember which. Tom had to relight the hot water tank. Minor stuff.

Faith House and Promise Place falls under Social Concerns.

Submitted by

Troy Gerspacher, Property Director

### Statement of Activity by Month - January through December 2021

	Jan 2021	Feb 2021	Mar 2021	Apr 2021	May 2021	Juli 202 i	JUI 2021	Aug 2021	Sep 2021	Oct 2021	Nov 2021	Dec 2021	Total
Revenue													
44000 Offerings	24,239.43	23,211.31	26,784.02	31,326.98	22,231.73	20,340.17	26,838.82	25,574.79	30,583.96	25,456.82	20,183.79	54,978.00	331,749.82
44100 Special Collection Offerings	100.00	00:09		20.00	20.00	100.00							330.00
44200 Temp Restricted Offerings	2,061.97	5,822.12	5,429.96	7,538.72	5,207.00	1,832.00	13,836.60	2,865.00	8,790.00	3,040.00	5,368.67	2,822.00	64,614.04
44400 One-time Gifts								4,707.99					4,707.99
Total Revenue	\$ 26,401.40	\$ 26,401.40 \$ 29,093.43	\$ 32,213.98	\$ 38,885.70	\$ 27,488.73 \$	22,272.17	\$ 40,675.42	\$ 33,147.78	\$ 39,373.96	\$ 39,373.96 \$ 28,496.82 \$ 25,552.46		\$ 57,800.00	\$ 401,401.85
Gross Profit	\$ 26,401.40 \$29,093.43	\$ 29,093.43	\$ 32,213.98	\$ 38,885.70	\$ 27,488.73 \$	22,272.17	\$ 40,675.42	\$ 33,147.78	\$ 39,373.96	\$ 28,496.82	\$ 25,552.46	\$ 57,800.00	\$ 401,401.85
Expenditures													
51000 Benevolence	546.97	214.18	200.00	150.00		800.00	150.73		624.22		395.00	301.48	3,382.58
51010 ELCA - Mission Support	788.00	732.00	864.00	1,002.00	00.669	704.00	866.00	926.00	1,178.00	881.00	00.999	3,672.00	12,978.00
51015 ELCA - World Hunger		00.09			30.00								90.00
51020 ELCA - Lutheran Agency Org. in									900.00				900.00
51050 United Methodist Food Pantry												200.00	200.00
51060 Rise Against Hunger								693.00					693.00
51080 ELCA - LOMO			200.00										500.00
51090 ELCA - Leaders in Mission									200.00				500.00
51100 Hope Memorial Cemetery							500.00						500.00
51110 Operation Homes			250.00			250.00			250.00			250.00	1,000.00
51120 Love INC			200.00			200.00			500.00			500.00	2,000.00
Total 51000 Benevolence	\$ 1,334.97	\$ 1,006.18	\$ 2,314.00	\$ 1,152.00	\$ 729.00 \$	2,254.00	\$ 1,516.73	\$ 1,619.00	\$ 3,952.22	\$ 881.00	\$ 1,061.00	\$ 4,923.48	\$ 22,743.58
52200 Deacon													0.00
52210 Compensation													0.00
52211 Salary	3,706.70	3,706.70	3,706.70	3,706.70	3,706.70	3,706.70	3,706.70	3,706.70	3,706.70	3,706.70	1,853.35	3,706.70	42,627.05
52213 Housing	1,041.66	1,041.66	1,041.66	1,041.66	1,041.66	1,041.66	1,041.66	1,041.66	1,041.66	1,041.66	520.83	1,041.66	11,979.09
Total 52210 Compensation	\$ 4,748.36	\$ 4,748.36	\$ 4,748.36	\$ 4,748.36	\$ 4,748.36 \$	4,748.36	\$ 4,748.36	\$ 4,748.36	\$ 4,748.36	\$ 4,748.36	\$ 2,374.18	\$ 4,748.36 \$	54,606.14
52220 Benefits													0.00
52212 Car/Business Expenses	433.09		446.53		167.30	431.09			217.92			805.91	2,501.84
52221 Retirement and Medical	1,106.37		2,212.74	1,106.37	1,106.37	1,106.37	1,106.37	1,106.37	1,106.37	1,106.37	1,106.37	1,106.37	13,276.44
52223 Continuing Education			167.01		153.89								320.90
Total 52220 Benefits	\$ 1,539.46	\$ 0.00	\$ 2,826.28	\$ 1,106.37	\$ 1,427.56 \$	1,537.46	\$ 1,106.37	\$ 1,106.37	\$ 1,324.29	\$ 1,106.37	\$ 1,106.37	\$ 1,912.28 \$	16,099.18
Total 52200 Deacon	\$ 6,287.82	6,287.82 \$ 4,748.36	\$ 7,574.64	\$ 5,854.73	\$ 6,175.92 \$	6,285.82	\$ 5,854.73	\$ 5,854.73	\$ 6,072.65	\$ 5,854.73	\$ 3,480.55	\$ 6,660.64 \$	70,705.32
52290 Pastor Bill Diehm													0.00
52291 Compensation													0.00
52292 Salary	3,713.34	3,713.34	3,713.34	3,713.34	3,713.34	3,713.34	3,713.34	3,713.34	1,856.67				31,563.39
52294 Housing Allowance	1,666.66	1,666.66	1,666.66	1,666.66	1,666.66	1,666.66	1,666.66	1,666.66	833.33				14,166.61
52299 Social Security	411.58	411.58	411.58	411.58	411.58	411.58	411.58	411.58	205.79				3,498.43

### Statement of Activity by Month - January through December 2021 continued

	52295 Benefits															0.00
	52293 Car/Business Expense									653.43		275.60				929.03
St.	52296 Retirement and Medical		1,673.57		3,347.14		1,673.57	1,673.57	1,673.57	1,673.57	1,673.57	1,673.57				15,062.13
Ma	52298 Continuing Education									55.25						55.25
itth	Total 52295 Benefits	σ	1,673.57	\$ 0.00	00 \$ 3,347.14	↔	1,673.57 \$	\$ 1,673.57 \$	1,673.57 \$	2,382.25 \$	1,673.57	\$ 1,949.17	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00 \$	16,046.41
iew	Total 52290 Pastor Bill Diehm	s	7,465.15	\$ 5,791.5	8 \$ 9,138.72		\$ 7,465.15 \$	\$ 7,465.15 \$	7,465.15 \$	8,173.83	\$ 7,465.15	\$ 4,844.96	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00 \$	65,274.84
<i>i</i> 20	52350 Pastor Substitute											489.60	1,157.58	944.00	1,130.26	3,721.44
021	52400 Pastoral Admin. Assistant															00:00
1 A	52410 Compensation															0.00
ททเ	52411 Salary		2,191.04	2,186.97	1,971.53		2,516.24	2,162.58	2,231.69	2,012.18	1,674.78	2,349.57	2,199.17	1,056.90	1,898.36	24,451.01
ual	Total 52410 Compensation	φ	2,191.04	2,191.04 \$ 2,186.97	7 \$ 1,971.53	₩.	2,516.24 \$	2,162.58 \$	2,231.69 \$	2,012.18 \$	1,674.78	\$ 2,349.57	\$ 2,199.17	\$ 1,056.90	\$ 1,898.36 \$	24,451.01
Re	Total 52400 Pastoral Admin. Assistant	s	2,191.04	\$ 2,186.9	_	↔	2,516.24 \$	, 2,162.58 \$	2,231.69 \$	2,012.18	1,674.78	\$ 2,349.57	\$ 2,199.17	\$ 1,056.90	\$ 1,898.36 \$	24,451.01
poi	52500 Music Personnel															0.00
rt	52510 Organist		1,736.40	1,736.40	1,736.40		1,736.40	1,736.40	1,736.40	1,736.40	1,736.40	1,736.40	1,736.40	1,736.40	1,736.40	20,836.80
	52511 Worship Musicians		225.00	175.00		125.00		75.00	100.00	125.00	250.00	225.00	100.00	150.00	250.00	1,800.00
	Total 52500 Music Personnel	s	1,961.40	\$ 1,911.40	10 \$ 1,861.40	↔	1,736.40 \$	1,811.40 \$	1,836.40 \$	1,861.40 \$	1,986.40	\$ 1,961.40 \$	\$ 1,836.40	\$ 1,886.40	\$ 1,986.40 \$	22,636.80
	52600 Parish Nurse															0.00
	52610 Salary		664.10	664.10		664.10	664.10	664.10	664.10	664.10	664.10	664.10	664.10			6,641.00
	Total 52600 Parish Nurse	<b>∽</b>	664.10	\$ 664.10	s	664.10 \$	664.10 \$	664.10 \$	664.10 \$	664.10 \$	664.10	\$ 664.10 \$	\$ 664.10	\$ 0.00	\$ 00.0 \$	6,641.00
	52800 Custodian		172.37	344.74		235.05	407.42	517.11	407.42	579.79	611.13	564.12	658.14	626.80	595.46	5,719.55
	52810 Bookkeeper			157.50		210.00		200.00	115.50		115.50	63.00	210.00	136.50		1,208.00
	52900 FICA for Non-pastors		589.76	602.63		577.76	632.61	613.96	610.85	607.26	583.84	631.87	615.55	582.13	548.94	7,197.16
	53000 Administration															00:00
	53010 Telephone			204.26		211.34		645.54		212.10	422.50	211.50		420.04		2,327.28
	53014 Office Supplies			6.6	6	135.94	470.43	78.27	112.91	182.40	61.02	81.00	113.94	423.44	59.86	1,729.20
	53015 REALM expenses			134.0	00		417.00	139.00	139.00	139.00	139.00	139.00		139.00	278.00	1,663.00
	53020 Internet		119.90		ũ	59.95		384.92	59.95	59.95	59.95	59.95	59.95	56.65	59.95	984.42
	53040 Postage		92.41				472.37	55.00	225.00	282.56	73.12	289.41		149.00	285.36	1,924.23
	53050 Conference Expense						0.18	14.07					300.00			314.25
	53070 Pastoral Resources		71.87													71.87
	53080 Office Equipment									436.05			298.90			734.95
	53090 Office Eq. Maintenance Agmt.		72.46	64.3	5	67.91	146.94	120.34	133.08	121.78	220.38	273.32	00:09	103.67	238.84	1,623.07
	Total 53000 Administration	s	356.64	\$ 412.6	s	475.14 \$ 1	1,506.92 \$	1,437.14 \$	\$ 469.94	1,433.84 \$	975.97	\$ 1,054.18 \$	\$ 832.79	\$ 1,295.10	\$ 922.01 \$	11,372.27
					2		8 6		9		P	9		9		200.000
	55 LZU FINANCE						791.00									00.182
	53122 Stewardship Supplies					86.56			110.86				106.53		107.53	411.48
	53123 Service Cost/Fees - Intuit Nanc		386.26	232.65		203.41	281.24	204.53	264.53	211.35	209.00	208.48	201.95	234.71	215.20	2,853.31
	Total 53120 Finance	s	386.26	\$ 232.65	\$	289.97 \$	572.24 \$	204.53 \$	375.39 \$	211.35 \$	209.00	\$ 208.48 \$	308.48	\$ 234.71	\$ 322.73 \$	3,555.79
Pa	53130 Property Management															0.00
ge	53131 Supplies							77.34				128.39	56.48	189.58	86.75	538.54
16	53132 Utilities		1,105.40	1,244.7	ω.	800.33	1,178.57	444.84	611.37	1,171.33	697.02	797.30	853.00	561.80	1,086.89	10,552.63
	53133 Insurance		8,888.00													8,888.00
	53134 Repairs and Maintenance		405.50	178.25		180.00 3	3,732.43	2,285.00	8,471.17	2,216.66	2,880.00	3,303.95		2,730.22	499.00	26,882.18

### Statement of Activity by Month - January through December 2021 continued

	53135 Lawn Care/Snow Removal		1,119.00	755.00		934.00	1,988.75							I				445.00	5,24	5,241.75
	53138 Capital Impr/Depreciation Expen						478.00						9,	3,000.00				2,180.00	5,65	5,658.00
St	53140 Grace House			1,036.25	25				1,0	1,036.25									2,07	2,072.50
Ma	Total 53130 Property Management	\$	\$ 11,517.90	\$ 3,214.28		\$ 1,914.33 \$	\$ 7,377.75	\$ 2,807.18	\$ 10,118.79	<b>\$</b>	3,387.99	\$ 3,577.02		\$ 7,229.64 \$	909.48	\$ 3,481.60	\$	4,297.64	\$ 59,833.60	33.60
tth	54000 Congregational Life Ministry																			0.00
ew	54020Worship Supplies/Bulletins		479.00	479.45		377.00		103.25	10		59.17	57.00	0	81.28		Ω	27.00		1,69	1,693.15
, 20	54040 Altar Guild		54.41	196.10	10			1,036.38	~		53.87	19.80	0	32.77		22	224.86	92.09	1,67	1,673.25
າ21	54060 Flowers						439.98		1,12	1,125.00	225.00	81.00		241.98	243.00	709	604.49	623.50	3,58	3,583.95
Α	54080 Organ Main.						367.50												36	367.50
nnı	Total 54000 Congregational Life Ministry	ક	533.41	\$ 675.55	\$	377.00 \$	807.48	\$ 1,139.63	s	1,125.00 \$	338.04	\$ 157.80	s	356.03 \$	243.00	\$ 88	\$ 986.35	678.56	\$ 7,31	7,317.85
ıal	55000 Comprehensive Youth Ministry									66.6				175.00					18	184.99
Re	55010 Luther Middles (6-8 Youth group															×	80.70		ω	80.70
no	55020 Luther League															22	25.00		7	25.00
rt	55070 Sunday School (Pre K-5th)																			0.00
	55071 Lesson Materials					40.31								37.50		Ø	64.00		4	141.81
	Total 55070 Sunday School (Pre K-5th)	s	0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 00	40.31 \$	0.00	\$ 0.00	s	\$ 00.0	0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0	37.50 \$	0.00	s o	64.00 \$	0.00	\$ 14	141.81
	55080 Sunday School (6th - 12th)								15	185.28	2.00								19	190.28
	55081 Lesson Materials											179.99	6						17	179.99
	Total 55080 Sunday School (6th - 12th)	s	0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 00	0.00	0.00	\$ 0.00	s	185.28 \$	2.00	\$ 179.99	\$ 6	\$ 00.0	0.00	s	\$ 00.0	0.00	\$ 37	370.27
	55090 Confirmation Ministry/Retreat				Ψ,	1,145.00								24.70		4	413.79		1,58	1,583.49
	55100 Vacation Bible School								. 4	20.16	14.37								m	34.53
	55130 Partners in Education													200.00					20	500.00
	Total 55000 Comprehensive Youth Ministry	ક	0.00	\$ 0.00		\$ 1,185.31 \$	0.00	\$ 0.00	s	215.43 \$	19.37	\$ 179.99	s	737.20 \$	0.00	\$ 283	583.49 \$	0.00	\$ 2,92	2,920.79
	56000 Communication Evang. Ministry																			0.00
	56020 The Lutheran							78.40						78.40					15	156.80
	56030 Newspaper Advertising		16.52	20.65	65	16.52	276.16	14.16		17.70	14.16	17.70	0	14.16	14.16	Χi	29.50	23.60	47	474.99
	56060 Evangelism Outreach										257.16	2,738.14	4						2,98	2,995.30
	56065 Website					249.79													24	249.79
	Total 56000 Communication Evang. Ministry	\$	16.52	\$ 20.65	\$	266.31 \$	276.16	\$ 92.56	\$	17.70 \$	271.32	\$ 2,755.84	\$	92.56 \$	14.16	\$ 29	29.50 \$	23.60	\$ 3,87	3,876.88
	57000 Social Concerns Ministry																			0.00
	53150 LDR - St. Matthew Disaster Res0									59.50									Ω	59.50
	57100 Transitional Housing Transfer O		425.00	425.00		425.00	450.00	450.00		425.00	455.00	390.00		380.00	320.00	44	440.00	345.00	4,93	4,930.00
	Total 57000 Social Concerns Ministry	s	425.00	\$ 425.00	s	425.00 \$	450.00	\$ 450.00	s	484.50 \$	455.00	\$ 390.00	s	380.00 \$	320.00	\$ 44	440.00 \$	345.00	\$ 4,98	4,989.50
	58000 Small Group Ministry																			0.00
	58010 Senior Happy Hour						456.67								223.86				89	680.53
	58020 Books and Video Series					209.70		68.28		64.05									怒	342.03
	58030 Socials & Promotional Items					57.45			21	216.79	117.18			36.00		47(	476.42	110.68	1,01	1,014.52
	58040 Miscellaneous						320.27												32	320.27
Pa	Total 58000 Small Group Ministry	s	0.00	\$ 0.00	\$	267.15 \$	776.94	\$ 68.28	s	280.84 \$	117.18	\$ 0.00	\$ 0	\$ 00.96	223.86	\$ 47	476.42 \$	110.68	\$ 2,35	2,357.35
ge	65600 Payroll Expenses		0.00	0.00	00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	2,774.03	4.03	0.00	2,77	2,774.03
17	67000 Interest Expense		247.59	245.74		225.74	247.70	237.64		240.51	230.32	230.80		230.22	220.80	22.	222.38	213.34	2,79	2,792.78
	Unapplied Cash Bill Payment Expense		0.00	0.00	00	0.00		0.00				0.00	0		0.00			0.00		00.00
	Total Expenditures	က် မာ	\$ 34,149.93	\$ 22,670.76		\$ 29,973.15 \$	\$ 32,474.69	\$ 26,776.18	\$ 35,434.51		\$ 27,734.43	\$ 29,191.53		\$ 31,953.28 \$	\$ 17,149.24	\$ 20,233.34		\$ 24,657.10	\$ 332,398.14	18.14

Statement of Activity by Month - January through December 2021 continued

69,192.11	\$ 00.49	\$ 33,1	5,333.90	\$	-\$ 7,726.38 \$ 6,444.82 \$ 2,255.60 \$ 6,411.01 \$ 742.10 -\$ 13,147.56 \$12,955.77 \$ 3,971.03 \$ 7,435.46 \$11,362.36 \$ 5,333.90 \$ 33,154.00 \$ 69,192.11	7,435.46	49	3,971.03	\$	12,955.77	53	13,147.56	٠	742.10	s	6,411.01	-	2,255.60	*	6,444.82	 7,726.38	4
188.40	11.10 \$	\$	14.78	\$	22.15 \$ 22.15 \$ 14.77 \$ 0.00 \$ 29.55 \$ 14.78 \$ 14.78 \$ 14.78 \$ 14.78 \$ 14.78 \$ 14.78 \$ 11.10 \$ 188.40	14.78	\$	14.78	\$	14.78	8	14.78	\$	29.55	\$	0.00	\$	14.77	\$	22.15	22.15	s
188.40	11.10 \$	s	14.78	S	14.78 \$ 14.78 \$ 14.78 \$ 14.78 \$ 14.78 \$ 14.78 \$ 11.10 \$ 188.40	14.78	s	14.78	S	14.78	<u>چ</u>	14.78	s	29.55	s	22.15 \$ 22.15 \$ 14.77 \$ 0.00 \$ 29.55 \$		14.77	S	22.15	 22.15	s
188.40	11.10		14.78		14.78 14.78	14.78		14.78		14.78		14.78		29.55				14.77		22.15	 22.15	
69,003.71	42.90 \$	\$ 33,1	5,319.12	\$	-\$ 7,748.53 \$ 6,422.67 \$ 2,240.83 \$ 6,411.01 \$ 712.55 -\$ 13,162.34 \$ 12,940.39 \$ 3,956.25 \$ 7,420.68 \$11,347.58 \$ 5,319.12 \$33,142.90 \$ 69,003.71	7,420.68	\$	3,956.25	\$	12,940.99	\$	13,162.34	sې	712.55	s,	6,411.01	\$	2,240.83	\$	6,422.67	 7,748.53	<b>%</b>

Monday, Jan 17, 2022 06:33:07 PM GMT-8 - Cash Basis

Other Revenue
70100 Interest Income
Total Other Revenue
Net Other Revenue

### Budget vs. Actuals - Approved 2021 Mission Plan

				Dec	20	21					1	ota	ıl	
	A	Actual	В	udget	ove	er Budget	% of Budget		Actual		Budget	ov	er Budget	% of Budget
Revenue														
44000 Offerings		54,978.00	2	28,750.00		26,228.00	191.23%		331,749.82		345,000.00		-13,250.18	96.16%
44100 Special Collection Offerings						0.00			330.00		0.00		330.00	
44200 Temp Restricted Offerings		2,822.00				2,822.00			64,614.04		0.00		64,614.04	
44400 One-time Gifts						0.00			4,707.99		0.00		4,707.99	
Total Revenue	\$ :	57,800.00	\$ 2	28,750.00	\$	29,050.00	201.04%	\$	401,401.85	\$	345,000.00	\$	56,401.85	116.35%
Gross Profit	\$ :	57,800.00	\$ 2	28,750.00	\$	29,050.00	201.04%	\$	401,401.85	\$	345,000.00	\$	56,401.85	116.35%
Expenditures														
51000 Benevolence		301.48				301.48			3,382.58		0.00		3,382.58	
51010 ELCA - Mission Support		3,672.00		862.50		2,809.50	425.74%		12,978.00		10,350.00		2,628.00	125.39%
51015 ELCA - World Hunger						0.00			90.00		0.00		90.00	
51020 ELCA - Lutheran Agency Org. in				75.00		-75.00	0.00%		900.00		900.00		0.00	100.00%
51050 United Methodist Food Pantry		200.00				200.00			200.00		0.00		200.00	
51060 Rise Against Hunger				58.34		-58.34	0.00%		693.00		700.00		-7.00	99.00%
51080 ELCA - LOMO				41.66		-41.66	0.00%		500.00		500.00		0.00	100.00%
51090 ELCA - Leaders in Mission				41.66		-41.66	0.00%		500.00		500.00		0.00	100.00%
51100 Hope Memorial Cemetery				41.67		-41.67	0.00%		500.00		500.00		0.00	100.00%
51110 Operation Homes		250.00		83.34		166.66	299.98%		1,000.00		1,000.00		0.00	100.00%
51120 Love INC		500.00		166.66		333.34	300.01%		2,000.00		2,000.00		0.00	100.00%
Total 51000 Benevolence	<u> </u>	4,923.48	\$	1,370.83	\$	3,552.65	359.16%	\$	22,743.58	\$	16,450.00	\$	6,293.58	138.26%
52200 Deacon	,	,	·	,	·	0.00		·	0.00	·	0.00	·	0.00	
52210 Compensation						0.00			0.00		0.00		0.00	
52211 Salary		3,706.70		3,706.70		0.00	100.00%		42,627.05		44,480.48		-1,853.43	95.83%
52213 Housing		1,041.66		1,041.66		0.00			11,979.09		12,500.00		-520.91	95.83%
Total 52210 Compensation	<u> </u>	4,748.36	\$	4,748.36	\$	0.00	100.00%	\$		\$	-	-\$	2,374.34	95.83%
52220 Benefits	,	.,	Ť	.,	•	0.00		•	0.00	•	0.00	,	0.00	
52212 Car/Business Expenses		805.91		258.34		547.57	311.96%		2,501.84		3,100.00		-598.16	80.70%
52221 Retirement and Medical		1,106.37		1,106.37		0.00	100.00%		13,276.44		13,276.44		0.00	100.00%
52223 Continuing Education		.,		83.34		-83.34	0.00%		320.90		1,000.00		-679.10	32.09%
Total 52220 Benefits	<u> </u>	1,912.28	\$	1,448.05	\$	464.23	132.06%	\$		\$		-\$		92.65%
Total 52200 Deacon	- \$	6,660.64		6,196.41	_	464.23		\$		\$				95.09%
52290 Pastor Bill Diehm	•	0,000.04	•	0,100.41	۲	0.00	107.4070	۳	0.00	٠	0.00	•	0.00	00.0070
52291 Compensation						0.00			0.00		0.00		0.00	
52292 Salary				3,713.33		-3,713.33			31,563.39		44,560.00		-12,996.61	70.83%
52294 Housing Allowance				1,666.67		-1,666.67	0.00%		14,166.61		20,000.00		-5,833.39	70.83%
52299 Social Security				411.58		-411.58	0.00%		3,498.43		4,938.96		-1,440.53	70.83%
Total 52291 Compensation	\$	0.00	¢	5,791.58	¢			¢		¢		-\$		
52295 Benefits	ð	0.00	Ą	J, 1 J 1.30	-ф	<b>5,791.58</b> 0.00		φ	<b>49,228.43</b> 0.00	\$	<b>69,498.96</b> 0.00	-ф	0.00	70.83%
52293 Car/Business Expense				258.34		-258.34			929.03		3,100.00		-2,170.97	29.97%
52296 Retirement and Medical				1,673.57		-1,673.57			15,062.13		20,082.84		-5,020.71	75.00%
52298 Continuing Education				83.34		-83.34			55.25		1,000.00		-944.75	5.53%
-		0.00						÷		•				
Total 52295 Benefits	\$	0.00		2,015.25					16,046.41		24,182.84			66.35%
Total 52290 Pastor Bill Diehm	\$	0.00	Þ	7,806.83	-\$	,		\$	•	\$	93,681.80	-\$	•	69.68% 744.20%
52350 Pastors Admin Assistant		1,130.26		41.67		1,088.59			3,721.44		500.00		3,221.44	744.29%
52400 Pastoral Admin. Assistant						0.00			0.00		0.00		0.00	
52410 Compensation						0.00			0.00		0.00		0.00	0.0001
52322 Mileage Reimbursement				4.17		-4.17			0.00		50.00		-50.00	0.00%
52411 Salary		1,898.36		2,113.80		-215.44	89.81%		24,451.01		25,365.60		-914.59	96.39

### Budget vs. Actuals - Approved 2021 Mission Plan continued

Total 52410 Compensation	\$	1,898.36	\$	2,117.97	-\$	219.61	89.63%	\$	24,451.01	\$	25,415.60	-\$	964.59	96.20%
Total 52400 Pastoral Admin. Assistant	\$	1,898.36	\$	2,117.97	-\$	219.61	89.63%	\$	24,451.01	\$	25,415.60	-\$	964.59	96.20%
52500 Music Personnel						0.00			0.00		0.00		0.00	
52510 Organist		1,736.40		1,736.40		0.00	100.00%		20,836.80		20,836.74		0.06	100.00%
52511 Worship Musicians		250.00		166.66		83.34	150.01%		1,800.00		2,000.00		-200.00	90.00%
52520 Luther Choir Director				275.43		-275.43	0.00%		0.00		1,377.13		-1,377.13	0.00%
52530 Kids of the Kingdom Director				191.96		-191.96	0.00%		0.00		959.77		-959.77	0.00%
Total 52500 Music Personnel	\$	1,986.40	\$	2,370.45	-\$	384.05	83.80%	\$	22,636.80	\$	25,173.64	-\$	2,536.84	89.92%
52600 Parish Nurse						0.00			0.00		0.00		0.00	
52610 Salary				664.10		-664.10	0.00%		6,641.00		7,969.14		-1,328.14	83.33%
Total 52600 Parish Nurse	\$	0.00	\$	664.10	-\$	664.10	0.00%	\$	6,641.00	\$	7,969.14	-\$	1,328.14	83.33%
52700 Nursery Staff				200.00		-200.00	0.00%		0.00		1,000.00		-1,000.00	0.00%
52800 Custodian		595.46		875.00		-279.54	68.05%		5,719.55		10,500.00		-4,780.45	54.47%
52810 Bookkeeper						0.00			1,208.00		0.00		1,208.00	
52900 FICA for Non-pastors		548.94		590.05		-41.11	93.03%		7,197.16		7,080.60		116.56	101.65%
53000 Administration						0.00			0.00		0.00		0.00	
53010 Telephone				233.34		-233.34	0.00%		2,327.28		2,800.00		-472.72	83.12%
53014 Office Supplies		59.86		179.16		-119.30	33.41%		1,729.20		2,150.00		-420.80	80.43%
53015 REALM expenses		278.00		134.00		144.00	207.46%		1,663.00		1,608.00		55.00	103.42%
53020 Internet		59.95		75.00		-15.05	79.93%		984.42		900.00		84.42	109.38%
53040 Postage		285.36		175.00		110.36	163.06%		1,924.23		2,100.00		-175.77	91.63%
53050 Conference Expense				41.66		-41.66	0.00%		314.25		500.00		-185.75	62.85%
53070 Pastoral Resources				25.00		-25.00	0.00%		71.87		300.00		-228.13	23.96%
53080 Office Equipment				125.00		-125.00	0.00%		734.95		1,500.00		-765.05	49.00%
53090 Office Eq. Maintenance Agmt.		238.84		100.00		138.84	238.84%		1,623.07		1,200.00		423.07	135.26%
53110 Miscellaneous				8.34		-8.34	0.00%		0.00		100.00		-100.00	0.00%
53111 Personnel Expenses				433.34		-433.34	0.00%		0.00		5,200.00		-5,200.00	0.00%
Total 53000 Administration	\$	922.01	\$	1,529.84	-\$	607.83	60.27%	\$	11,372.27	\$	18,358.00	-\$	6,985.73	61.95%
53016 Bank charges				16.67		-16.67	0.00%		0.00		200.00		-200.00	0.00%
53060 Workers Compensation				50.00		-50.00	0.00%		308.60		600.00		-291.40	51.43%
53120 Finance						0.00			291.00		0.00		291.00	
53121 Financial Audit				25.00		-25.00	0.00%		0.00		300.00		-300.00	0.00%
53122 Stewardship Supplies		107.53		125.00		-17.47	86.02%		411.48		1,500.00		-1,088.52	27.43%
53123 Service Cost/Fees - Intuit/Vanc		215.20		460.00		-244.80	46.78%		2,853.31		5,520.00		-2,666.69	51.69%
Total 53120 Finance		322.73	\$	610.00	-\$	287.27	52.91%	\$	3,555.79	\$	7,320.00	-\$	3,764.21	48.58%
53130 Property Management						0.00			0.00		0.00		0.00	
53131 Supplies		86.75		125.00		-38.25	69.40%		538.54		1,500.00		-961.46	35.90%
53132 Utilities		1,086.89		1,125.00		-38.11	96.61%		10,552.63		13,500.00		-2,947.37	78.17%
53133 Insurance				683.34		-683.34	0.00%		8,888.00		8,200.00		688.00	108.39%
53134 Repairs and Maintenance		499.00		666.66		-167.66	74.85%		26,882.18		8,000.00		18,882.18	336.03%
53135 Lawn Care/Snow Removal		445.00		291.66		153.34	152.57%		5,241.75		3,500.00		1,741.75	149.76%
53137 Misc. Equipment				41.66		-41.66	0.00%		0.00		500.00		-500.00	0.00%
53138 Capital Impr/Depreciation Expen		2,180.00				2,180.00			5,658.00		0.00		5,658.00	
53140 Grace House				200.00		-200.00	0.00%		2,072.50		2,400.00		-327.50	86.35%
Total 53130 Property Management	\$	4,297.64	\$		\$	1,164.32	137.16%	\$	59.833.60	\$	37,600.00	\$	22,233.60	159.13%
54000 Congregational Life Ministry	Ť	.,	•	-,	•	0.00		•	0.00	•	0.00	•	0.00	
54010 Adult Choir Music & Supplies				25.00		-25.00	0.00%		0.00		300.00		-300.00	0.00%
54011 Kids' Choir/Music				4.17		-4.17	0.00%		0.00		50.00		-50.00	0.00%
54012 Drama Ministry				4.16		-4.16	0.00%		0.00		50.00		-50.00	0.00%
54013 Praise Team/Music				4.17		-4.17	0.00%		0.00		50.00		-50.00	0.00%
54020 Worship Supplies/Bulletins				175.00		-175.00	0.00%		1,693.15		2,100.00		-406.85	80.63%
54040 Altar Guild		55.06		100.00		-44.94	55.06%		1,673.25		1,200.00		473.25	139.44%
				100.00		-7.57	55.0070							
		673 50		83 34		540 16	748 14%		3 583 05		1 በበበ በቦ		2 583 05	358 /11%
54060 Flowers 54080 Organ Main.		623.50		83.34 20.84		540.16 -20.84	748.14% 0.00%		3,583.95 367.50		1,000.00 250.00		2,583.95 117.50	358.40% 147.00%

### Budget vs. Actuals - Approved 2021 Mission Plan continued

54120 Health & Wellness				16.66		-16.66	0.00%	0.00		200.00		-200.00	0.00%
54130 New Member Receptions				8.34		-8.34	0.00%	0.00		100.00		-100.00	0.00%
54140 Special Events, Advent Dinners, etc.				41.66		-41.66	0.00%	0.00		500.00		-500.00	0.00%
54160 Adult Sunday School / Bible stu				8.34		-8.34	0.00%	0.00		100.00		-100.00	0.00%
Total 54000 Congregational Life Ministry	\$	678.56	\$	575.02	\$	103.54	118.01%	\$ 7,317.85	\$	6,900.00	\$	417.85	106.06%
55000 Comprehensive Youth Ministry						0.00		184.99		0.00		184.99	
55010 Luther Middles (6-8 Youth group				20.84		-20.84	0.00%	80.70		250.00		-169.30	32.28%
55020 Luther League						0.00		25.00		0.00		25.00	
55030 Conv, Retreats, Workshops, Adul				41.66		-41.66	0.00%	0.00		500.00		-500.00	0.00%
55060 Luther Littles (PK-5 youth grou				12.50		-12.50	0.00%	0.00		150.00		-150.00	0.00%
55070 Sunday School (Pre K-5th)						0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	
55071 Lesson Materials				83.34		-83.34	0.00%	141.81		1,000.00		-858.19	14.18%
55072 Supplies and Misc.				16.66		-16.66	0.00%	0.00		200.00		-200.00	0.00%
55073 Christmas Expense				10.00		-10.00	0.00%	0.00		10.00		-10.00	0.00%
Total 55070 Sunday School (Pre K-5th)	\$	0.00	\$	110.00	-\$	110.00	0.00%	\$ 141.81	\$	1,210.00	-\$	1,068.19	11.72%
55080 Sunday School (6th - 12th)						0.00		190.28		0.00		190.28	
55081 Lesson Materials				29.16		-29.16	0.00%	179.99		350.00		-170.01	51.43%
55082 Supplies & Misc.				8.34		-8.34	0.00%	0.00		100.00		-100.00	0.00%
Total 55080 Sunday School (6th - 12th)	\$	0.00	\$	37.50	-\$	37.50	0.00%	\$ 370.27	\$	450.00	-\$	79.73	82.28%
55090 Confirmation Ministry/Retreat						0.00		1,583.49		0.00		1,583.49	
55100 Vacation Bible School				41.66		-41.66	0.00%	34.53		500.00		-465.47	6.91%
55110 Summer Camp Scholarships				16.66		-16.66	0.00%	0.00		200.00		-200.00	0.00%
55130 Partners in Education				83.34		-83.34	0.00%	500.00		1,000.00		-500.00	50.00%
55150 Library				4.16		-4.16	0.00%	0.00		50.00		-50.00	0.00%
Total 55000 Comprehensive Youth Ministry	\$	0.00	\$	368.32	-\$	368.32	0.00%	\$ 2,920.79	\$	4,310.00	-\$	1,389.21	67.77%
56000 Communication Evang. Ministry						0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	
56010 Materials and Supplies				12.50		-12.50	0.00%	0.00		150.00		-150.00	0.00%
56020 The Lutheran				16.66		-16.66	0.00%	156.80		200.00		-43.20	78.40%
56030 Newspaper Advertising		23.60		20.84		2.76	113.24%	474.99		250.00		224.99	190.00%
56040 Video Spiritual Production				29.16		-29.16	0.00%	0.00		350.00		-350.00	0.00%
56060 Evangelism Outreach				4.16		-4.16	0.00%	2,995.30		50.00		2,945.30	5990.60%
56065 Website				408.33		-408.33	0.00%	249.79		4,900.00		-4,650.21	5.10%
Total 56000 Communication Evang. Ministry	\$	23.60	\$	491.65	-\$	468.05	4.80%	\$ 3,876.88	\$	5,900.00	-\$	2,023.12	65.71%
57000 Social Concerns Ministry				33.34		-33.34	0.00%	0.00		400.00		-400.00	0.00%
53150 LDR - St. Matthew Disaster Res0						0.00		59.50		0.00		59.50	
57100 Transitional Housing Transfer O		345.00				345.00		4,930.00		0.00		4,930.00	
Total 57000 Social Concerns Ministry	\$	345.00	\$	33.34	\$	311.66	1034.79%	\$ 4,989.50	\$	400.00	\$	4,589.50	1247.38%
58000 Small Group Ministry				16.66		-16.66	0.00%	0.00		200.00		-200.00	0.00%
58010 Senior Happy Hour				33.33		-33.33	0.00%	680.53		400.00		280.53	170.13%
58020 Books and Video Series				16.66		-16.66	0.00%	342.03		200.00		142.03	171.02%
58030 Socials & Promotional Items		110.68		41.67		69.01	265.61%	1,014.52		500.00		514.52	202.90%
58040 Miscellaneous						0.00		320.27		0.00		320.27	
Total 58000 Small Group Ministry	\$	110.68	\$	108.32	\$	2.36	102.18%	\$ 2,357.35	\$	1,300.00	\$	1,057.35	181.33%
65600 Payroll Expenses		0.00				0.00		2,774.03		0.00		2,774.03	
67000 Interest Expense		213.34				213.34		2,792.78		0.00		2,792.78	
Unapplied Cash Bill Payment Expense		0.00				0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	
Total Expenditures	\$ 2	4,657.10	\$ 2	9,149.79	-\$	4,492.69	84.59%	\$ 332,398.14	\$	345,015.70	-\$	12,617.56	96.34%
Net Operating Revenue	\$ 33	3,142.90	-\$	399.79	\$	33,542.69	-8290.08%	\$ 69,003.71	-\$	15.70	\$	69,019.41	-439514.08%
Other Revenue													
70100 Interest Income		11.10				11.10		188.40		0.00		188.40	
Total Other Revenue	\$	11.10	\$	0.00	\$	11.10		\$ 188.40	\$	0.00	\$	188.40	
Net Other Revenue	\$	11.10	\$	0.00	\$	11.10		\$ 188.40	\$	0.00	\$	188.40	
Net Revenue	\$ 33	3,154.00	-\$	399.79	\$	33,553.79	-8292.85%	\$ 69,192.11	-\$	15.70	\$	69,207.81	-440714.08%

### Year-End Statement of Financial Position

		Total
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Bank Accounts		
11100 General Checking - Huntington 1		142,951.71
11400 Endowment - Third Federal 0774		19,855.51
11500 Unrestricted Savings - Third Fe		26,615.55
11800 Restricted Savings - Third Fede		43,524.86
Total Bank Accounts	\$	232,947.63
Total Current Assets	\$	232,947.63
Fixed Assets		
14100 400 N. Broadway		2,635,000.00
14200 Grace House 229 Pearl		93,390.11
14210 Grace Roof Improvements		7,540.00
14211 Accu Depreciation Grace Roof		-15.75
Total 14210 Grace Roof Improvements	\$	7,524.25
Total 14200 Grace House 229 Pearl	\$	100,914.36
14400 432 N Broadway Street		182,000.00
14500 721 N Jefferson Apartment Unit		787,000.00
Total Fixed Assets	\$	3,704,914.36
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	3,937,861.99
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Other Current Liabilities		
23000 Payroll Liabilities		0.00
23010 Federal 941 Deposit		-641.63
23020 Ohio Income Tax		-218.08
23030 Medina Income Tax		-36.39
Total 23000 Payroll Liabilities	-\$	896.10
23200 Payroll Clearing		-550.92
23210 Payroll Tax Payable		-1,018.96
Total Other Current Liabilities	-\$	2,465.98
Total Current Liabilities	-\$	2,465.98
Long-Term Liabilities		
24200 Mission Investment Fund		52,481.31
Total Long-Term Liabilities	\$	52,481.31
Total Liabilities	\$	50,015.33
Equity		
30001 Unrestricted Net Assets		3,595,325.15
32000 Retained Earnings		133,349.23
33000 Restricted Savings Account		44.24
33030 LDR - St. Matthew Disaster Resp		1,506.39

### Year-End Statement of Financial Position continued

33100 Property Management Maintenance	0.00
33080 Church Landscaping	0.00
33503 Naming Trees Memorial	81.93
33605 Art Reidel	854.38
Total 33080 Church Landscaping	\$ 936.31
33090 Capital Improvement	30,121.47
Total 33100 Property Management Maintenance	\$ 31,057.78
33200 Congregational Life	0.00
33130 Altar Guild	257.74
33131 Acolyte Robes	650.00
Total 33130 Altar Guild	\$ 907.74
33203 Drama & Music Account	2,621.70
33204 Stephen Ministry Fund	2,175.16
Total 33200 Congregational Life	\$ 5,704.60
33300 Comprehensive Youth	0.00
33525 Harry Klein - Library	189.85
Total 33300 Comprehensive Youth	\$ 189.85
33400 Communication Evangelism	
33450 Audio / Video Technology	4,687.00
Total 33400 Communication Evangelism	\$ 4,687.00
33460 Stewardship	335.00
Total 33000 Restricted Savings Account	\$ 43,524.86
33010 Unrestricted Savings	26,615.55
34000 Endowment	19,855.51
Opening Bal Equity	-15.75
Net Revenue	69,192.11
Total Equity	\$ 3,887,846.66
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$ 3,937,861.99

Monday, Jan 17, 2022 06:36:10 PM GMT-8 - Cash Basis

### **Statistical Summary**

#### **First Communion**

8-29-21 Eli Cooper Zachary Faust Evan Hogan Devin Shrader

12-12-21 DeeAnne Minek John Minek Daniel Minek Alixandria Brlan Gayle Vacha

#### **Confirmation -** 10-31-21

Anna Holthouse
Tyler Faust
Gavin Gerspacher
Landon Haycook
Evan Kotick
Thomas Malloy
Garrett Shook
William Stuchal
Kaitlyn Taraschke
Charlotte Ziogas

#### **Joined**

DeeAnne & John Minek 12-12-21

#### Marriage

Ross Cirincione & Loren Warner 10-23-21

Submitted by

Deb Musil, Office Administrator

#### **Baptisms**

Kaiden Richard Capeles 8-15-21 Jagger Brian Haught 9-5-21 Alixandria Marie Brlan 12-12-21 Amelia Jae Brlan 12-12-21 Sophia Anna Brlan 12-12-21 Frankie Marie Brlan 12-12-21 Daniel Frank Minek 12-12-21 Gayle Marie Vacha 12-12-21

#### **Deaths**

Richard Trenty 1-25-21 Ross Beachy 2-4-21 John Deputy 2-25-21 LeRoy Schnettler 2-26-21 Lloyd Madis 8-6-21 Ron Svoboda 8-22-21 Richard Uttech 9-15-21

# **Attendance Summary**

<u>Date</u>	Online	Only	FB*	<u>Notes</u>
Sunday, January 3, 2021			54	Facebook Only
Sunday, January 10, 2021			67	
Sunday, January 17, 2021			48	
Sunday, January 24, 2021			67	
Sunday, January 31, 2021			66	
Sunday, February 7, 2021			83	
Sunday, February 14, 2021			53	
Sunday, February 21, 2021			69	
Sunday, February 28, 2021			87	
Sunday, March 7, 2021			60	
Sunday, March 14, 2021			65	
Sunday, March 21, 2021			69	
Sunday, March 28, 2021			75	
		In-Person	FB*	One service - 9 AM
Sunday, April 4, 2021		125	36	
Sunday, April 11, 2021		44	35	
Sunday, April 18, 2021		39	39	
Sunday, April 25, 2021		33	39	
Sunday, May 2, 2021		36	37	
Sunday, May 9, 2021		53	33	
Sunday, May 16, 2021		36	36	
Sunday, May 23, 2021		52	32	
Sunday, May 30, 2021		44	21	
Sunday, June 6, 2021		48	19	
Sunday, June 13, 2021		55	28	
Sunday, June 20, 2021		50	11	
Sunday, June 27, 2021		62	13	
Sunday, July 4, 2021		49	15	
Sunday, July 11, 2021		51	15	
Sunday, July 18, 2021		54	19	
Sunday, July 25, 2021	37	15	52	Barn Svc=37 Holden EP=15
Sunday, August 1, 2021		58	17	
Sunday, August 8, 2021	41	18	59	Outdoor=41 PM Prayer=18
Sunday, August 15, 2021		63	26	
Sunday, August 22, 2021		37	22	
Totals this page	78	1,021	1,467	2,566

# Attendance Summary continued

<u>Date</u> - (Resume 8:30 & 11:00)	8:30	11:00	FB*	YT**	Notes
Sunday, August 29, 2021	No Data	No Data	10		
Sunday, September 5, 2021	No Data	No Data	10		
Sunday, September 12, 2021	39	34	10		
Sunday, September 19, 2021	37	33	2	13	
Sunday, September 26, 2021	36	36	2	12	
Sunday, October 3, 2021	26	55	12	10	
Sunday, October 10, 2021	38	40	15	8	
Sunday, October 17, 2021	32	55	11	6	
Sunday, October 24, 2021	29	56			FB/YT - No Data
Sunday, October 31, 2021	39	106	13	13	Confirmation
Sunday, November 7, 2021	29	72	10	16	
Sunday, November 14, 2021	39	49	9	3	
Sunday, November 21, 2021	33	66	14	13	
Sunday, November 28, 2021	39	55	12	13	
Sunday, December 5, 2021	50	72	11	12	
Sunday, December 12, 2021	61	57	10	18	
Sunday, December 19, 2021	28	111	10	5	Youth-Led Worship
Sunday, December 26, 2021		No Data	10		One Service - 10 AM
	Early	Late			
Ash Wednesday February 17, 2021			37		FB Only - 7 PM
Christmas Eve December 24, 2021	72	69	37	29	7 & 9 PM
New Year's Eve December 31, 2021	26		12	6	One service - 5 PM
Totals this page	653	966	257	177	2,053

Facebook and YouTube numbers represent live viewing units, not a representation of the total number of people viewing each video.

<sup>\*</sup>FB = Facebook

<sup>\*\*</sup>YT = YouTube

### Attendance Summary continued

Average Facebook units for the 13 weeks between January 3 - March 28, 2021 was **66**. At this time services were only offered via Facebook.

Average in-person attendance between April 4, 2021 - August 22, 2021, with one service offered at 9:00 a.m., was **52**. (This number includes two services offered on July 25, Barn Worship = 37 and Holden Evening Prayer = 15, and two services offered on August 8, Outdoor Worship = 41 and Evening Prayer = 18.)

Average Facebook units after in-person worship began dropped to **26**, between April 4 - August 22, 2021.

On August 29, 2021 we began offering two Sunday morning services at 8:30 and 11:00

Average in-person attendance for the 8:30 a.m. service between September 12 - December 26, 2021 was **37**.

Average in-person attendance for the 11:00 a.m. service between September 12 - December 26, 2021 was **60**.

With two in-person worship services being offered, average Facebook units dropped to 10.

YouTube streaming became available September 19, 2021. Average YouTube units between September 19 - December 26, 2021 was **11**.

Average overall attendance (both services combined) for Sunday morning worship during 2021 was 83.

Overall average attendance for 2021, including Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve, was 86.

Submitted by

Deb Musil, Office Administrator

In March 2021, under the direction of Deacon Lindsay, the Care Team ministry became a reality. Members of the congregation were excited and willing to become Care Team leaders.

In April, Deacon Lindsay divided the congregation into groups of 8-10 member/families for each team leader.

A training session was held in May.

In July, a letter went out to all the members of St. Matthew explaining the Care Team Ministry.

Care team leaders were given their list of members to contact and they started making their phone calls.

In July, Deacon Lindsay sent out a survey to all the team leaders. This survey was used to discern the future steps and adjustments of this ministry.

The survey reflected the need to make some changes in the Care Team Leaders and Teams.

Beth Johnson and Jill Heck have volunteered to co-chair the Care Team Ministry and make the needed changes to keep this ministry active.

In March, Mary Dunham and Deacon Lindsay organized a Lenten "Take Five" delivery to all members of our congregation. This packet was delivered by members of St, Matthew and was a reminder for everyone to take time to reflect on how God is showing up in their lives.

This act of kindness was very much appreciated by everyone.

As part of the Friendly Visitor Ministry, Jan Sullivan and Cindy Rickly have continued to assist Brenda Disbrow, Parish Nurse, in contacting and visiting members of the congregation who are homebound and/or have medical issues.

Brenda has updated the Friendly Visitor list. Anyone interested in visiting members in their homes or in a rehab/care facility is encouraged to notify the church office.

We have had several new families visiting our church. These members have been contacted and given information packets.

Submitted by

Cindy Rickly, Congregational Life

Altar Guild

The Altar Guild prepares the Altar, Chancel, and at times, parts of the Sanctuary, as part of this behind the scenes ministry. A sincere **"thank you"** to all who helped the Altar Guild in any way in 2021; by simply ordering flowers for Christmas or Easter, you helped us. Without your help we could not function. The Altar Guild arranges all the special flowers that are given to beautify our sanctuary and everyone has an opportunity to share in the beautiful sight of the special times during the year.

St. Matthew celebrated three weeks of Harvest Home on October 3, 10, & 17 and appreciated all who donated items or came to help display them. We all enjoyed the harvest which included mum plants, grasses, and canned produce.

Our Sanctuary was decorated for Advent and Christmas with the finished product including 31 poinsettias on Christmas Eve. Our sanctuary was beautiful!

We especially thank those who helped by hanging the roping and the Advent candle wreath. Other St. Matthew members hung the large sanctuary wreaths and prepared the Christmas trees for decorating. Several Altar Guild members hung the evergreen crosses for the church building doors and the mini bunches for the covered entrance.

After the new year, several people came in on a Friday to take down the Christmas roping. The next day, Saturday, more came to undecorate the windowsills and trees and boxed them until next Advent. **Thank You!** 

We can **always** use more help and you can join us at any time during the year. Contact any Altar Guild member for more information.

Under the continuing theme of "many hands make light work", the St Matthew Altar Guild will continue Living God's Love.

Submitted by

Sandy Andrews, Chair

Worship Team

During my second year serving as chairperson of the Worship Team (WT), I was blessed to be joined by the following committee members who served faithfully during 2021: Sandy Andrews, Deacon Lindsay Bailey, Owen Blakslee, Gail Burke, John Burke, Interim Pastor Bill Diehm (until 09/05/2021), Brian Harris, Sandi Harris, Larry Mohler, Heather Rohde, and Kristin Weight.

#### **Worship Team Activity**

Worship Team meetings were held via Zoom every two weeks beginning 6 January 2021, with additional meetings scheduled when necessary. We returned to in-person WT meetings in the SMLC Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, 18 August and held our last meeting on Wednesday, 29 December 2021. With the guidance and assistance of Pastor Bill and Deacon Lindsay, our regular agenda was the planning of upcoming virtual and in-person worship services, which included providing "drive by" Communion when there were no in-person worship services and "Extending the Table" after in-person worship. Specific COVID protocols were followed when returning to in-person worship services.

Important contributions were made by all WT members and especially the following: John Burke, organist, who coordinated musicians, song leaders, and guest accompanists; Nancy McNeal, Luther Choir director; Owen Blakslee, Brian Harris, Larry Mohler and the Audio/Visual Team who regularly did the professional work of livestreaming, recording Readers and adding other prerecorded video contributions; Sandy Andrews who scheduled Readers, Ushers and Communion Assistants; and Melody Costello who posted worship service information on our Facebook page. Though not members of the Worship Team, we had the ongoing assistance, when needed, of Joyce Davis, custodian; Beth Johnson; Deb Musil, Office Administrator; and Rex and Cindy Rickly.

#### **Changes in Schedule of Worship Services**

In response to increasing COVID-19 spread in our county and state and following the recommendations from the state and local Medina County Health Department, SMLC Executive Council made the decision to suspend in-person worship services indefinitely on 15 November 2020. Thus the new year 2021 began with one 10:00 a.m. virtual worship service, livestreamed. As the year progressed, our worship service schedule changed as follows:

- 2 January 2021 28 March 2021: one 10:00 a.m. virtual worship service only, livestreamed.
- 4 April 2021: return to one 10:00 a.m. in-person worship service with Communion, livestreamed.
- 5 September 2021: return to two in-person worship services with Communion at 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. The decision was made to regularly livestream the 8:30 a.m. service and on special occasions to livestream both services.

#### **Summary of 2021 Worship Services**

Committed to the task of providing creative and spiritually formative worship services, the Worship Team coordinated a variety of worship opportunities in 2021:

- Regular services using ELW with Communion, Rhythm and Blues, and Praise, as well as occasional use of *Holden Evening Prayer* and *Healing of the Nations*.
  - Pre-recorded guest speakers from Second Baptist Church, Medina, were featured on all four Sundays in February in honor of Black History Month.

Worship Team continued

- Virtual midweek Lenten services were held in collaboration with CLV West ELCA churches and posted for viewing on our website.
- Three outdoor services in July and August at Burke Farm and Buckeye Woods.
- Farewell services for Pastor Bill and Sue Diehm held Sunday, 5 September at 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
- Affirmation of Baptism service held on Sunday, 31 October.
- Native American Service on Sunday, 24 November, 11:00 a.m., with guest flutist.
- Midweek in-person Advent suppers with crafts and devotions led by Beth Johnson and volunteers.
- A pre-recorded Thanksgiving Day service was posted on SMLC website at 10:00 a.m., Thursday, 25 November.
- Two services were held Christmas Eve, 24 December, at 7:00 p.m and 9:00 p.m.
- Jazz Lessons & Carols service was held at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, 26 December.
- Holden Evening Prayer service was held at 5:00 p.m. on New Year's Eve.

#### **Worship Services Status as of 31 December 2021**

- Since Interim Pastor Bill Diehm's departure 5 September 2021, our Sunday worship services have been staffed by supply pastors and Deacon Lindsay Bailey.
- A COVID protocol has been revised by the SMLC Executive Council and masks are required at all in-person worship services until further notice.
- Plans are being made for the hiring of a bagpiper for a planned Celtic service in March 2022 and for the return of flutist for Native American service in November 2022; with budget monies available.

#### Worship Team status as of final meeting Wednesday, 29 December 2021

Judy McLaughlin will no longer serve as Chairperson or be a WT member. John Burke has volunteered to record minutes of future meetings but no Chairperson is in place. Heather Rohde will not continue as Youth Choir director. WT members were encouraged to (1) continue updating and revising the 2021 WT Goals and Strategies, (2) complete the work on the website video, and (3) obtain a copy of the new ELCA songbook *All Creation Sings*, an ELCA supplemental worship resource, for review. *Soli Deo gloriaI* 

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Reber McLaughlin
Outgoing Chairperson, Worship Team

Prayer Group

St. Matthew prayer group meets on Thursdays at 2:00 p.m. in the church library, which is currently off the Brown Room on the upper level. Currently we have 7 members. Some cannot meet with us in person every week, but will pray with us from the list that is emailed at least once a month.

We add names to the list from the names in the bulletin, from those forwarded to us by Deacon Lindsay or Deb Musil, and from those that are sent to us by members. It is a confidential ministry, and while we like to have specifics when we pray, those facts remain confidential between our group and God. Please be sure those for whom we are asked to pray know we are praying for them.

Anyone can join us on Thursdays at 2:00pm. You may call at 330-321-2408 or email: <a href="mailto:barbwoodard.bw@gmail.com">barbwoodard.bw@gmail.com</a> to submit a request or to let us know you will be attending the group. Or you can pray from wherever you are.

Submitted by
Barb Woodard
Prayer Group Chair

### **Communication Evangelism**

Active members of the 2021 CE Team include: CE Team Leaders Lisa Burke and Melody Costello; Rex Rickly, Owen Blakslee, Brian Harris, Larry Mohler, Jill Heck, Bill Heck, Beth Johnson, Bobby Forsythe, and staff assistance from Pastor Bill Diehm, Deacon Lindsay Bailey and Deb Musil.

The 2021 goals of the Communication Evangelism team included:

1. Enhance the Spiritual Journey of our members and community through improved communications; and ensure a consistent presence and message is being delivered on all Social Media Platforms (Website, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, etc.). Expand options for Virtual Livestreaming.

Accomplished: With the help of the entire team, with special thanks to Beth Johnson for sharing her website talent and expertise, in 2021, St. Matthew has a brand new website that is modern, attractive, easy to manage, and always current. All this, at no cost to St. Matthew. Special highlights include the new homepage which changes with the liturgical season, scrolling/current updates/announcements, current prayer requests, easy access to all worship services, and for Advent, a new Advent devotions page created by the members of St. Matthew.

If you haven't checked the website recently, do it now! It offers the latest congregational communication.

In addition, St. Matthew's Facebook page and Twitter is kept up to the minute with information on events happening in the life of St. Matthew. Our Instagram page has been re-engaged with current information as well.

Facebook Livestreaming of worship services continued in 2021 and You Tube was added for those who are not Facebook members making livestreaming even more accessible to members and friends of St. Matthew.

2. Plan and conduct an intergenerational, evangelical Community Project for the Christmas Season.

Accomplished: In the spring, the CE team became aware of a special initiative of the ELCA, the Open Doors Grant. With the input of the congregation, it was decided to hold a summer block party: the Block Party on Broadway. A great deal of time and effort went into the planning and execution of this event. Thanks to all those who helped in some way and all those who made it a huge success by attending. We reached out to our neighbors in the Founders Way North. With their help, we had many families from the neighborhood. Over 150 people joined in for the fun.

Even though we were not awarded the ELCA grant, with a \$250.00 grant from Thrivent, we came in \$1000 under our budget for the event. Afterwards, we received a lovely letter from the Synod acknowledging our event and providing a generous and unsolicited \$500.00, which we quickly decided to save for "seed" money for next year's Block Party which is scheduled for 8/27/22 from 4 to 7 pm. So, mark your calendars now and plan to join members, neighbors and friends for an awesome day of fun, fellowship, great food, entertainment, and celebration!!

- 3. Complete the upgrade of the Audio/Video system to enhance Livestreaming and research expanded options for virtual livestreaming. Accomplished: See Rex Rickly's report on the next page.
- 4. Hearing Assist upgrade: we are still in the process of working on this project to help those in the congregation hear the service better through their hearing device. Dale Weygandt is lead on this project.

Submitted by

Lisa Burke and Melody Costello, Co-Team Leaders

### **Communication Evangelism**

Video and Audio Upgrade Projects

When the COVID pandemic started in late 2019, and we were unable to worship in person, we and most churches turned to video streaming as a way to continue our common worship experience. With Deacon Lindsay's expertise, we started with just a laptop computer on a music stand. But we soon realized that we had a unique asset in our existing video system, which had been in service since the late 90's supporting our DVD ministry.

We consequently purchased a streaming device in May, 2020, and installed it alongside our existing equipment, which allowed our 4-camera system to replace the single laptop. This, in itself, gave our congregation a much-improved video worship experience, a step above what most other churches were doing at the time.

We also discovered some of the benefits and perils of streaming. A big benefit was the outreach it offered. We found regular viewers among our snow-birds, home-bounds, and relatives as far away as the west coast. But a related peril was that viewers could now choose a video worship experience from virtually anywhere in the world.

As the pandemic persisted, churches were buying equipment for streaming that was state -of- the-art, while we were confined to vintage 1990's hardware—decidedly low-definition video, accompanied by problems caused by aging audio equipment. Accordingly, we found that the quality of our video ministry was falling behind that of other churches.

Therefore, in February of 2021, our Executive Council approved soliciting contributions from the congregation to fund a complete replacement of our video system, which would put us on a par with other streaming video ministries. By mid-April, we had adequate contributions to allow us to start purchasing and installing equipment. And by mid-May, we were fully funded at \$11,500. By the end of May, we had installed three new cameras, rebuilt the control room, and used the new system for the first time. But unfortunately, it then took until mid-August to receive the 4 additional cameras that had been ordered.

As the funding materialized, some of it was earmarked to upgrade the audio system. That allowed us to replace our old sound mixer, and to acquire 3 new wireless microphones.

In September, we installed a new High Definition editing system that allowed Owen Blakslee to edit our services from the comfort of his Colorado winter home. And while our system is now fully upgraded, with all seven cameras on-line, we still have some ongoing adjustments to make in order to optimize video quality. Suffice it to say, however, that we have made giant strides towards parity in video and audio quality compared to other video ministries.

The Video Team, led by Owen, wants to thank all those whose financial donations and giving of time and talent, have enabled us to get to this point. We now have a state-of-the-art video system that will support our video ministry for years to come, allowing us to serve our congregation well into the future.

Submitted by

Rex Rickly, Project Manager

### **Comprehensive Youth**

Comprehensive Youth had a pretty busy 2021! While it has been difficult navigating through the challenges with Covid, we are pleased to be getting back to a little bit of normal!

- Easter egg hunt at all youth homes, each home of pre-school through high school was "egged" at night so they woke up to a special surprise!
- VBS was held in June. We had a smaller number due to Covid, but enjoyed learning all about Jesus' love, the Lord's Prayer, and Lutherans in different parts of the world.
- High schoolers met at Buckeye Woods for a picnic and walk.
- High schoolers lead the Mother's Day Service.
- A Graduation reception was held, with ice cream treats
- A Sunday School Teacher meeting was held to discuss the new Sunday School year and enjoyed some fellowship doing an Escape Room.
- Rally Day was held in September to kick off Sunday School. This year we are being FBI Agents (Faithful Bible Investigators) learning about different people in the Bible.
- Confirmation reception with cupcake treats!
- Christmas program learning about the birth of Christ from the animals at the manger and followed up with a get together at the theater to watch the movie *The Star*.
- Middles are meeting on Sundays for confirmation.
- 8th graders are meeting with mentors.
- High schoolers had an outing at Maple Side.
- High schoolers served Thanksgiving meal for our members 65+
- High schoolers have been having Sunday School and meeting the first Sunday of the month at Cool Beans.

#### Submitted by

Christy Gabler and Julie Shrader, Co-Chairs

### **Social Concerns Ministry**

The year 2021 was again filled with challenges due to the Covid pandemic, but our ministry was determined to continue to accomplish as many of our goals as possible, even if in new and creative ways.

**Black History Month** was celebrated in February with four Sundays of Good News Moments that were presented by members of Second Baptist Church, Medina. Speakers included Pastor Arthur Ruffin and his wife, Tracey Ruffin, as well as other members who shared their thoughts, dreams experiences and challenges as African Americans.

**Gift cards** continued to be collected for local residents in need of assistance to purchase food items. These food gift cards were distributed by Pastor Bill, Deacon Lindsay, Jim Frame, and Deb, Office Administrator.

**Operation HOMES.** Guests continued to be housed in local motels instead of churches due to the ongoing Covid pandemic. Participating churches provided daily evening meals on a rotating basis to the guests at the motel. St. Matthew volunteers provided meals for one week during the months of April, June, August, October, and December.

**Noisy Offerings** were collected in June to assist Covid 19 relief efforts through Lutheran Disaster Response. The donations were to assist Padhar Hospital in India where the Evangelical Lutheran Church has a ward dedicated to Covid patients. India was ravaged by Covid in mid 2021 and the hospital ward lacked space and oxygen for patients. The money was used to help purchase an oxygen generator for the hospital.

In December, an offering was taken for victims of the devastating Kentucky area tornadoes, also through Lutheran Disaster Response.

**United Way Stuff the Bus** was held in July to collect school supplies for local school children.

**Gods Work Our Hands.** Six members participated with our cluster churches to pack approximately 15,000 meals with Rise Against Hunger at Our Saviour Lutheran Church in Hinckley. Meals are distributed globally to countries experiencing hunger. Each meal consisted of rice, dried vegetables, soy and spice flavoring.

**Transitional Housing.** Currently, the Transitional Housing ministry consists of two buildings: Promise Place a six unit, 2 bedroom apartment located at 721 N Jefferson St, and Faith House a 3 bedroom home adjacent to the north parking lot on Broadway St.

In early 2021, a vision team was formed with the members Jim Frame, John Baker, Bob Maas, Bill Knaggs, Troy Gerspacher, and Keith Graf to discuss the possible future of Transitional Housing after Jim Frame announced his intent to retire as the manager of the ministry. Prior to this team being formed, an announcement had been placed in the weekly Shout-Out and bulletin for several months seeking an interested person or persons to take over for Jim Frame. There were no responses. John Baker also indicated his desire to retire from the financial role with Transitional Housing when Jim Frame retires.

In August, applications for guests to Promise Place were put on hold due to Jim Frame's decreasing role of manager and uncertainty of the future of Promise Place. There are currently 3 units occupied until June of 2022.

### Social Concerns Ministry continued

In November, the Social Concerns Ministry team invited guest speaker, Sydney Kornegay, from The Refugee Response organization, to talk to us about their services to temporarily house Afghan refugees in the Cleveland area. Her presentation was very informative in answering our questions about the possibility of using our Transitional Housing locations for refugees. We learned that Medina may be considered too far from the resources that the refugees need to access in Cleveland, and our timing may be too late.

Also in November, there were four discussion meetings held regarding the future of Transitional Housing. The goal was to gather input from the congregation. Approximately 35 people attended the meetings. The information gathered from the meetings was summarized for Executive Council. Social Concerns then gave recommendations to Executive Council based on the input from meetings. An update was given at the December annual congregational meeting. A committee will be taking the first steps to examine the possible sale of Promise Place.

**Faith House.** Over the last two months of 2021 and continuing now, Faith House has been receiving much needed updates and renovation. (Please see the following page with details of the work that has been done.) There will need to be continued discernment for the future of Faith House when work is completed.

Respectfully submitted,

Carla and Bob Maas, Co-Chairs

### **Social Concerns**

### Transitional Housing - Faith House

With the support of St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church's numerous volunteers, Faith House is ready to accommodate its first guests within one week conditioned by the details identified herein. Also provided is the current status and efforts completed to transform Faith House to its current state of readiness.

#### **Status and Efforts Completed:**

- The entire first and second floor rooms have all completed painting. This includes; Living Room, Dining Room, 1<sup>st</sup> floor Bedroom, Kitchen, Bathroom, and Hallways that interconnect. The two 2<sup>nd</sup> floor bedrooms have also completed painting, including the hallways and stairways (including ceiling). As the pre-requisite to painting, walls required patching, switch covers and outlet plates were removed and walls washed, as required. Plates were reinstalled and switches tested after painting.
- The two vertical forced air heating ducts (located in the dining room and 1<sup>st</sup> floor bedroom) have been boxed in from floor to ceiling to prevent any future damage. These two installed units over the heating ducts were also primed and painted.
- Backyard trash, basement trash, and garage trash were assimilated and several items required disassembly to be hauled away by Junk King for recycle. Junk King visited Faith House on three different days to complete the removal of trash.
- Kitchen wall missing subway tiles have been replaced and all cabinet doors have been painted and reinstalled with new matching hardware. Cabinet doors under the sink have also been replaced and painted due to damages.
- Kitchen electric range receptacle was upgraded and installed into current four prong configuration to accept electric range. New pull chain light over sink was installed to provide additional kitchen lighting.
- Living room wall missing paneling has been fabricated and installed to blend uniformly into surroundings due to the removal of the steam heat radiator.
- Several (3) horizontal window blinds required replacement due to damages.
- Bathroom shower configuration required complete replacement. Upgraded with single lever faucet and shower head attached with umbilical arrangement.
- Bathroom exhaust fan was refurbished and reinstalled as new.
- Installed new shower curtain and liner.
- First floor bedroom was upgraded with permanent wooden shelf and clothes bar.
- Front door handle and doorbell were installed new due to damages.
- Stair rail was removed and refurbished due to damages.
- Several receptacles have been upgraded to 3-prone outlets for the convenience of our guests.

### **Social Concerns**

Transitional Housing - Faith House continued

#### Status and Minimum Work Efforts Remaining (as a minimum for 1st guest)

- Complete the painting of the basement stairs, hallway, and ceiling.
- Window refurbishment efforts under warranty.
- Procure and install electric range in kitchen and electric dryer in basement.
- Procure and/or request donations from the congregation to furnish Faith House with beds, tables, chairs, kitchen silverware/plastic ware, bathroom essentials, and all the other household items necessary for guest who moves in with nothing.

#### Future Work Efforts Remaining -- (to complete before 1st guest, but NOT MANDATORY)

- Refinish wooden floors throughout due to wear and worn areas due to age.
- Cut-out and install flooring sections where the old steam pipes penetrated the floors. Currently have holes/decayed areas and in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor bedrooms have severed steam pipes sticking above the floor level.
- Clean and repaint the basement walls and floors. Extensive dirt and flaking/missing paint, including potential mold areas. Floor is discolored due to removal of boiler and prior water damages.
- Significant exterior work to clean-up, paint and fix-up the exterior of Faith House. Spring 2022 efforts.

This captures the most salient efforts and provides current/future Faith House Status. Thank-you again to the St. Matthew ELC numerous volunteers.

Submitted by

Bruce Reed

### **Small Groups Ministry**

#### Committee Members:

- Lisa Burke
- Melody Costello
- Christy Gabler
- Heather Gerspacher
- Becky Malloy
- Cindy Rickly
- Janelle Shook

#### **News from SGM**

2021 continued to be a unique year for us. We found new ways to keep in touch, share in special fellowship events and spread God's love through faith, fun, and the internet.

In the spirit of staying green at St. Matthew and helping our beautiful planet, Small Groups Ministry (SGM) has coffee tumblers available to purchase. The mugs have our LGL logo and are only \$10. This will help eliminate costs of cups for the coffee bar and help promote St. Matthew in the community.

Please reach out to SGM, if you are interested in purchasing one...or two.

SGM was also happy to provide the Coffee bar again before and after services. The coffee bar continues to be a success and something our members look forward to.

#### **2021 Events**

Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, all in person events were canceled from January - May of 2021. With great excitement, we were able to resume in person events at the beginning of the summer.

- February 15 SGM members and their families made Valentine's Day cards and Kacey Costello distributed them to residents of the nursing home she worked at. They were well received by the residents.
- May SGM potted and distributed little flower planters to all of the women of the congregation.
- January May SGM hosted virtual Monthly Women's Devotion Nights via zoom.
- June 16 SGM hosted, "Wine in the Woods" at Janelle Shook's residence. We were able to meet safely outside, distanced, and had a lovely evening of food, wine, great conversation, friendship and devotion.
- June 27 and July 4 outside Fourth of July iced coffee bar before Services.
- July 25 St. Matthew's Annual Summer Picnic resumed at the Burke's Residence. The morning started with a glorious Outdoor Church Service in the Burke's barn. Followed by a potluck bar-b-que lunch and fun, outdoor activities, including swimming in the pond.
- August 8 SGM planned the Outdoor Worship Service at Buckeye Woods and provided an iced coffee bar and pastries.

### Small Groups Ministry continued

- September Senior Happy hour returned.
- September 19- Couples beer history/informational making at Planted Flag Brewery.
- September 25 Bike-A-Board in Peninsula
- November 7 SGM hosted St. Matthew Family Day at Foundry Social. Pizza, salad and treats were served. Families enjoyed watching football, duckpin bowling, playing a variety of games, and fellowship.
- December 5 SGM was thrilled to bring back a Congregation favorite, the Annual Cookie Exchange and Soup and Salad Luncheon. We had our biggest turn-out yet. There were more than 22 varieies of homemade cookie/candies to choose from. We're looking forward to next year!!
- December 15 SGM hosted the Advent dinner and craft. We provided a taco bar and did a craft. The crafts were ornaments made of Scrabble tiles.

2021 was a very eventful year for the Small Group Ministry team. This team continued to think outside the box and come up with fun, creative new ways for us to gather and remain connected. We are looking forward to 2022 and cannot wait to share our new ideas and events to continue our mission of Living God's Love and spreading his good news to our members and future members.

Submitted by

Heather Haycook and Corey Neururer, Co-Chairs

### **LGL Samaritan Fund**

**Picture this:** A young, single mother sends an urgent email saying that she is about to be evicted with her child and she has no place to go. Her eviction comes after several months of no rent payments due to losing her job during the pandemic. Or, a young, single mother who is looking for a better life for her and her baby and is going to school to earn a degree while working full time and raising her child. Her income just covers the necessary expenses, and she is short on her tuition. What about the father whose wife lost custody of their children and he is now faced with raising two young children and is not getting enough hours at work to cover his own expenses. You can hear the love for his children in his voice and is happy that the children are out of that unsafe situation. Or, what about the older adults who have worked most of their lives and are feeling financially insecure living off Social Security after having lost their pension plans. Did you know that there are apartments in the area that have been pulled from the Medina Metropolitan Housing Authority and the residents who were under that plan have been asked to leave? There are the women who are moving out of the abused women's shelter with or without children trying to start a new life.

These are the people that you, the members of St. Matthew, are able to assist financially due to the LGL Samaritan Fund, a ministry of our congregation.

This fund was established in 2006 through an investment in Akron Community Foundation/Medina Community Foundation. The stewardship of this fund is held in great respect by a board of 10 members, six of whom are selected (two each year) for three-year terms. They are chosen based on their ability to maintain confidentiality and to ensure the spirit of this fund continues into the future.

Did I hear you say, "What is the spirit of this fund?" When the donor established this fund, he was thinking about our members and those who struggle paying their bills. Any member of St. Matthew may apply for assistance. During the stock market crash in 2008, the board of trustees realized that members were not asking for assistance. The application process was opened to anyone living in Medina County who needs financial assistance to regain financial health. While the applicants can apply monthly and the board tries to help with as much of the need as possible, some applicants are not approved due to the lack of funds. Since January 2007, we have served around 1500 family units with a total of \$620,000. The only administrative costs that are taken from these funds are for checks and postage stamps.

Envelopes, paper, folders, and file cabinet have been donated.

The fund has its own page on the St. Matthew website which includes the guidelines and the application form. It is accessible to anyone in need. It can be submitted online, printed and mailed, or applications can be picked up from the drop box under the doorbell at the southeast entrance to the church, or on the table outside of the office. The board meets the second Thursday of each month at 9:00 a.m. Some months under 10 applications may be received and as high as 35 applications may be received on another month. Many applicants are recurring requesters, but a fair number of new requesters apply each month. Applicants must be a resident of Medina County and provide an application received by the Friday before the monthly board of trustees meeting. Members of St. Matthew, regardless of their residence, are considered priority for assistance. We have had 15-20 members assisted by this fund. Above all, the board takes seriously that all applications are kept confidential and even the board members are unaware of the names of the persons requesting assistance.

### LGL Samaritan Fund continued

The board originally was composed of the donor, the two rostered leaders, the intake specialist, and six trustees. The name of the fund was called "The Benevolent Fund". Due to the pastors' "Flour Barrel Fund", a.k.a. "The Benevolence Fund," the name of the newer fund was changed to "The LGL Samaritan Fund" to avoid confusion between the two funds.

During this year, the board changed format from a coordinator, rostered leaders, a donor representative, and six board members, to an officers/trustees style meeting as follows:

Barb Woodard, Chair; Emily Faust, Intake Specialist; Mike Holthouse, Treasurer in Training; Amanda Kotick, Secretary; Loretta Thornton, Notifications and Devotion Assignments; Bruce Reed, Outside Organizations; Deacon Lindsay, Spiritual Guide; Troy & Heather Gerspacher, Donor Representative; and Deacon Lindsay Bailey and Pastor Bill Diehm, Interim.

The original gift to the church amounted to \$955,000 that was invested in Akron Community Foundation/Medina Community Foundation. The St. Matthew Benevolent Fund received \$12,000 each quarter to use to assist people with rent, utilities, or other life needs. In 2008, the stock market crashed, as did the investments, and the board chose to lower the quarterly grant to \$8,000. This year, the stock market has been kind to us, and the amount of the investment is over \$1,000,000. The board has chosen to request an increase in the quarterly grant to \$10,000 beginning January 1, 2022.

If you are wondering how you can participate in this ministry of St. Matthew, please do this: 1) You may first thank God for the privilege our congregation has to help others in our communities. 2) You may pray for the board of trustees for their wise stewardship, and for the people who are in need. 3) Donations are accepted in any dollar amount. This fund does not pay for any administrative costs except for the purchase of checks and for postage stamps. Checks should be written to St. Matthew Lutheran Church, with "LGL Samaritan Fund" on the memo line. 4) When you hear of someone in need of financial assistance, tell them about this fund and lead them to the applications on our website at <a href="https://www.stmatthewmedina.org">www.stmatthewmedina.org</a> or in the church office or in the drop box outside the rear door Pearl Street side.

Currently, as we begin our 15<sup>th</sup> year of existence, the goal of the board is to review the function and procedures of the fund and make changes necessary to move into the future. With congregational prayers and by "living God's love," this fund has been, and promises to continue to be, a ministry guided by the love of God and his generosity. Its board is composed of people who are compassionate for those who have come to a turn in the road and need help to regain financial independence.

Deuteronomy 15:11 ESV "For there will never cease to be poor in the land. Therefore, I command you. 'You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy, and to the poor in your land.'"

Respectfully submitted,

Barb Woodard, Coordinator



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