



S T . M A T T H E W

Living God's Love

Agenda & Reports Congregational Council Meeting

January 16, 2024 at 5:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/2219534065?pwd=ZjdyVlFtR21lZFBrSW9uS1BFRRFJvQT09>

Meeting ID: 221 953 4065

Password: stmattgl

Telephone (audio only) option:

Dial 1(646) 558-8656

Enter Meeting ID: 221 953 4065# (when prompted)

Enter password: 736222# (when prompted)

“Living God’s Love”

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church

400 North Broadway Street † Medina Ohio 44256

330-725-8885 †office@stmatthewmedina.org †www.stmatthewmedina.org

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church
Congregational Council Meeting Agenda
January 16, 2024, 5:00pm

- Call to Order, Roll Call
- Opening Prayer
- Approval of the Prior Meeting Minutes
- Monthly Updates and Reports:
 - a. Pastor's Report
 - b. Deacon's Report/Director of Youth and Family Ministries Report
 - c. President
 - d. Vice President
 - e. Secretary Report
 - f. Treasurer Report
 - g. At Large Members/Liaisons
- Old Business:
 - Synod Systems Team update – email sent to Team (see email responses) Awaiting response with possible dates for meeting – communication to congregation?
 - 2024 Committee Structure/Liaison assignment
 - Update on Constitution – meeting 2/25 @10:30am – confirm one service?
- New Business:
 - Incoming New Members – Richard and Barbara Dasch
 - Outgoing Members
- Closing Prayer

Next Meeting - Tuesday, February 20, 2024 @ 5:00 pm – Fellowship Hall

**St. Matthew Lutheran
Church Congregation Council with SST via Zoom
December 12, 2023**

President	Jen Knaggs	P
President-Elect		
Secretary	Mary Dunham	X
Treasurer	Teri Uttech	P
Personnel Director	Barb Woodard	P
Finance Director	Bruce Reed	P
Property Director	Troy Gerspacher	P
Deacon	Lindsay Stertzbach	P
Pastor	Steve Mahaffey	P

Krisitine Neate and Delores Ivan were in attendance.

Members from the Synod Systems Team were Deacon Mary Ann Schwabe, Pastor Jimmy Madsen, Bob Cheney and Fran Dieter.

Jen thanked the team for meeting with us. Pastor Steve opened with a word of prayer.

Mary Ann asked for an overall snapshot of where we are. Jen shared that she felt we are starting to have a shift in a positive direction. We had a change in our organist. Several families have left. Jen feels we are slipping a little backwards as to how we can shift the culture. Still silo conversations. We would like to focus on culture change. For years the culture has been that the rostered staff were hired employees and not trustworthy. Cultures are not easy to change. MaryAnn said we are on a pathway for a cultural change.

How can we have these conversations with members and what can we share and not share. Would like to have a tell it to Pete forum so members would have a chance to ask questions.

Troy unclear as to how and why it happened the way it did. Teri shared that the organist part was first and then dealing with John as a member per our constitution John was given the process for discipline and ultimately, he chose to not sign the censor and asked to have his membership terminated. Pastor Steve explained that the censure was an opportunity for forgiveness. The synod systems team report brought this into light and members that were "identified" as having unhealthy behavior have chosen to leave. The narrative now is that our rostered staff are unforgiving which is not true. The biggest issue was John's membership not as organist.

Mary Ann shared that the bishop is very pleased with what we are doing. Everyone is still hurting. Deacon Lindsay shared how there are different kinds of hurt, and different levels.

What does an evening look like with a “tell it to PETE?” Mary Ann explained it is a highly structured evening. Two-minute time limit per member. If the process is violated the meeting will be called to a halt. There is no opportunity for questions. It is an opportunity to be heard and listened to without feedback and rebuttal. The comments are directed to the SST leaders .

Pastor Cheyney reminded us that it takes a long time to turn a ship, and it will be a lonely time for leaders. Remember it is for the good of the gospel.

Need to have a plan for communicating with the congregation about the Tell it to Pete and what the evening would look like, what we hope to accomplish and what the goals are. Sometimes the best way to heal is to go into the uncomfortable rather than avoid it.

This is not a closed meeting and the “**rules need to be followed.**”

There needs to be a follow up communication to the congregation after the meeting.

A letter will be sent to the SST for ideas/suggestions regarding the tell it to Pete opportunity for our congregation.

Pastor Steve shared we are all still grieving. Mary Ann shared that the leadership is doing a great job and affirmed it is difficult but we are doing what is best for our congregation.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Dunham

**St. Matthew Lutheran
Church Congregation Council
December 19, 2023**

President	Jen Knaggs	P
President-Elect		
Secretary	Mary Dunham	P
Treasurer	Teri Uttech	P
Personnel Director	Barb Woodard	P
Finance Director	Bruce Reed	P
Property Director	Troy Gerspacher	P
Deacon	Lindsay Stertzbach	P
Pastor	Steve Mahaffey	P

Five Star Ministry Team Leaders

Communication /Evangelism	Beth Johnson	P
	Jill Heck	X

Comprehensive Youth	Jen Hogan	X
	Julie Shrader	X

Congregational Life	Melody Costello	P zoom
Small Groups	Heather Haycook	X
	Corey Neururer	X

Social Concerns

Sandy Andrews, Jim Woodward, Delores Ivan and Kristine Neate were in attendance.

President Jen Knaggs called the meeting to order and roll was taken.

Jen opened the meeting with a prayer.

- I. Barb moved to approve the minutes from the November 21 meeting. Teri seconded. Minutes approved.
- II. Five Star Ministry Reports
 - A. Communication/Evangelism: see written report. Beth has been pleased by the number of members that have contributed to the “getting to know you”.
 - Bobby Forsythe, Rick Sullivan and Scott Johnson have joined the audio video team as video techs.
- III. Officers Updates and Reports
 - A. Pastor Steve: see written report Pastor Steve shared that this is the hardest month of ministry he’s ever had. Not because of professional ones, but

personal ones with the passing of his father. He also shared that he felt more support and cared for than ever before.

- B. Deacon Lindsay: see written report. As of Dec. 19, we had 26 youth and 5 adults signed up for the youth gathering in New Orleans. Deacon Lindsay and Pastor Steve will be out of the "office" Jan 17-25 attending the ELCA Youth Network Extravaganza in NO and the Ohio Rostered Ministers gathering in Sandusky.

Deacon Lindsay will be on vacation Feb 12-20.

- C. Treasures Report: (see printed statement of activity) Teri will set up a monthly meeting for the finance team.

IV. Directors Report

- A. Finance Director: see written report. We were blessed to have several members give generously during the month of November. We are continuing to encourage online giving.
- B. Property director- Joyce was working on pricing key fobs.
- C. Personnel director - there will be no one left on the personnel team as the members terms are up.

V. Old Business:

Synod Systems Team update. Planning meeting is Jan. 3, 2024 at 6:00 in the library.

VI. New Business:

- A. 2024 Committee Structure - The new structure starts Jan. 1. Teri asked about the difference between an elected and an appointed member of the audit committee. Elected is by the congregation whereas an appointed member would be appointed by council.
Ministries are still there just in a different structure. There will be a narrative to communicate with the congregation regarding the "new structure."
- B. Plan to have a Spiritual gifts inventory in 2024.
- C. Leadership handbooks need to be made.
- D. Once Jen checks with Amanda, she will confirm the 5:00 PM meeting time.
- E. Jen thanked Mary, Troy and Barb for their service and gave them a Terry Pluto faith book. (side note the book is awesome.)

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Dunham

Report to Congregation Council January 16, 2024

January reports have always been sort of strange to write in my opinion. My guess as to why I feel this way most likely comes from the fact that the report forces me to look back not just to the last month (which is normal), but to the last year, which includes the weeks leading up to Christmas and New Years. When the calendar flips, and most of our attentions also flip to the next year (with goals and resolutions and hopes for what the year might bring), Christmas and New Years and what happened in the past month feels ... well, it feels "so last year!"

And yet, what just happened this past month of this past year is "choked full" of events and experiences that are truly worthy of reporting. So, here goes: We finished up our Wednesday mid-week Advent services on the 20th. Once again, we used Holden Evening Prayer as our Liturgy and shared a devotion each evening that tied into the selected lessons for that night. Many reported back to me that the devotions "spoke" to them deeply as they prepared for Christmas.

As a staff, most of us were able to gather on the 21st for lunch and laughter at Los Cantaritos Mexican Grille. We shared gifts and visited for a few hours! We are blessed to have a group of people that enjoy not only serving and working with one another, but who genuinely enjoy one another's company!

On the 24th we had the unusual (albeit repetitive) experience of gathering for Advent 4 worship that morning, and later gathering for Christmas Eve services. The weather was MUCH more kind to us this year than last ... and both Christmas Eve services were well attended. We continue to gauge whether there's a need to add a 3rd Christmas Eve service. We haven't reached that point yet, as we didn't need to set up any of the folding chairs. However, we're getting close! Additionally, Deacon Lindsay and I discussed (and have since shared with the Music Team) that we might want to consider having one of the two services early in the day (say 2 or 3pm) in order to allow families with young children and adults that don't drive at night an opportunity to worship on Christmas Eve, since many people who fit that description aren't coming to worship based on the times we have been offering. It's being discussed.

On the 31st we had one worship service (lessons and carols) and incorporated a healing service into it, rather than hold a separate worship service later that day. Again, many commented that they "liked" having that service during the day vs later that night because it gave them the opportunity to participate.

Various committees didn't waste any time getting together when the New Year kicked in, coming together to continue their work and ministries. Some of the committee meetings I attended were the Worship Team, the Evangelism/Communication committee, and the LGL Samaritan committee. The Congregation Council also came together to continue their consultations with the Systems Team and how we might move forward together towards health and wholeness as a congregation. Look for a letter soon from the Council that will hopefully answer some of your questions. Bible & Brews also kicked back up after a couple of weeks off for the holidays.

The busyness of the holidays also impact my visitation with those of whom I regularly visit. With the change of the year, and the "extras" decreasing, I've been able to start to get

back to my visits. It's wonderful to get out again with the members and is one of the best parts of doing ministry!

I had the joy of baptizing Elijah McDaniels this past Sunday, the 14th. As one of the middle school youths picked up on and commented to her mom, baptisms make me happy!! In preparation for working with Elijah's parents, both have expressed an intent to join us as members in the upcoming future. With that said, I am once again working on assembling a "new members" list and class, and once I reach a number conducive to having a class, I will hold one. Praise God the Holy Spirit continues to blow on and through us!

Lastly, Deacon Lindsay and I will both be away for continuing education January 17-21 in New Orleans. Then, from January 23-25 we will both be attending the all-Ohio Rostered Ministers Gathering in Sandusky. Pastor Jim Watson (Zion Lutheran) will serve as the emergency contact from the 17-21. If there is an emergency situation, please contact Heike (Zion's office administrator) at (330)483-3873 first. Pastor Jim's number is (330)591-1422 if the emergency is after their office is closed. Pastor David Connor will be returning to serve as Pulpit Supply Pastor on Sunday the 21st.

In Christ, with Christ, for Christ!

Pastor Steve Mahaffey

Deacon Lindsay Stertzbach, *Director of Youth and Family Ministries*

Congregation Council Report - January 16, 2024

Youth Gathering Update

It is officially Gathering Year! It is hard to believe that it has not been an official Gathering year since the 2018 Gathering in Houston, Texas, since Covid resulted in the cancellation of the 2022 Gathering in Minneapolis, Minnesota. This reality means that my ministry over the next 6 months is going to be heavily focused on planning, preparing, and getting our youth and adult leaders ready for this experience. I have completed the Gathering Prep schedule and have sent it to the Luther League adult advisors for their review before I send it along to the 26 youth who will be attending. Our monthly meetings will include a meal, a lesson from the Getting Ready materials produced by the Gathering, and addressing logistics and other pre-Gathering questions/ideas. These meetings will take place at Faith House, which is the space our Luther League is now utilizing on Sunday mornings during the education hour since they have outgrown their previous space (the old library).

We also received our housing assignment this week. We will be staying at the Sheraton Hotel in New Orleans, which just so happens to be where the ELCA Extravaganza is being held later this week (the conference Pastor Steve and I are attending).

Youth Events

The mentoring kick-off was held on Sunday, January 7 for 5 youth, their parents, and mentors. I gave an overview of the mentoring program and how it relates to our confirmation ministry, provided a mentoring schedule and list of churches for off-site visits, passed out mentoring books, and answered any questions (there weren't many) that were directed my way. From now until September, mentors and youth are "on their own" but are always welcome to be in touch with me should they have and questions or concerns.

Unfortunately, the Luther Middles tobogganing outing, which was originally scheduled for Sunday, January 14 was postponed due to extreme temperatures. As bummed as I was to postpone it, it was the right call. The safety of our youth (and adult chaperones) is my top priority whenever we gather and the weather was not conducive to being outdoors for extended periods of time. I have been looking at other dates in February for this outing and will communicate with families once a date has been selected. Living in Northeast Ohio means even this new date won't be a "guarantee" but hopefully it will work out in our favor this time around.

I have also been working on scheduling the next round of first communion instruction, which will take place in the spring, after Easter. A letter will go out to families in February inviting them to consider their child's readiness for receiving the sacrament and let me know of their child's intent to participate.

New Year, Same Goal, New Intention

For the last few years, I have gone into the new year with one or two words in mind that I wish to be intentional about as I live and carry myself for that year. In 2023, I chose the word “joy.” Knowing it was the year that I would get married and begin a new chapter in my life, I felt that it was an appropriate and timely word. While that day and portion of the year was joyous, a lot of the year wasn’t. There was still joy throughout the year, but it was often overshadowed by challenges and other stressors. For 2024, I chose three words: peace, balance, and healing. Peace and healing are pretty self-explanatory. “Balance” refers specifically to the need and desire for work-life balance.

Since 2021, establishing a work-life balance has been a goal that I have listed in my ministry review goals and/or council reports. It seems as though each year, I set out to do this, and each year, I find myself justifying reasons (or being given reasons) to let this fall on the backburner. This will not be in the case in 2024. For too many reasons that I don’t need to bore you with in a council report, or that are personal in nature, this is necessary – especially after all that has taken place over the last several months. I hope that the Congregation Council, and the congregation as a whole, will support my quest to achieve this in 2024.

Reminders

I will be away for a time of **continuing education** (along with Pastor Steve) January 17-25. I will be attending the ELCA Youth Network’s Extravaganza in New Orleans, Louisiana from January 18-21, and will then be attending the all-Ohio Rostered Ministers Gathering in Sandusky from January 23-25. Pastor David Connor will be at St. Matthew on Sunday, January 21 as pulpit supply.

I will be on **vacation** February 12-20, 2024. **Note:** I will be out of the country and unable to tend to any texts, calls, emails or emergencies. Austin and I will be traveling to Italy on the evening of Sunday, February 11 to explore the cities of Milan, Como, Lugano (Switzerland), Venice, Florence, Tuscany/Pisa, Rome, and the Vatican City.

Peace be with you,

Deacon Lindsay

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church

Statement of Activity by Month

December 2023

	TOTAL	
	DEC 2023	JAN - DEC 2023 (YTD)
Revenue		
44000 Offerings	35,820.91	380,496.24
44100 Special Collection Offerings		196.49
44200 Temp Restricted Offerings	6,649.87	94,217.37
Total Revenue	\$42,470.78	\$474,910.10
GROSS PROFIT		
	\$42,470.78	\$474,910.10
Expenditures		
51000 Benevolence	207.61	1,242.75
51010 ELCA - Mission Support	1,864.00	20,008.00
51015 ELCA - World Hunger		10.00
51020 ELCA - Lutheran Agency Org. in		900.00
51080 ELCA - LOMO		500.00
51090 ELCA - Fund for Leaders		500.00
51100 Hope Memorial Cemetery		500.00
51110 Operation Homes	250.00	1,140.00
51120 Love INC	500.00	2,000.00
51130 Upcam		1,000.00
Total 51000 Benevolence	2,821.61	27,800.75
52150 Pastor Steve Mahaffey		
52151 Compensation		
52152 Salary	5,783.34	69,400.08
52153 Housing Allowance	1,333.34	16,000.08
52156 Social Security	544.42	6,533.04
Total 52151 Compensation	7,661.10	91,933.20
52155 Benefits		
52157 Retirement & Medical	3,111.57	37,338.84
52158 Continuing Education	889.95	1,847.47
52160 Car/Business Expense	359.81	4,257.60
Total 52155 Benefits	4,361.33	43,443.91
Total 52150 Pastor Steve Mahaffey	12,022.43	135,377.11
52200 Deacon		
52210 Compensation		
52211 Salary	6,116.66	73,399.92
Total 52210 Compensation	6,116.66	73,399.92
52220 Benefits		
52212 Car/Business Expenses	1,400.76	3,154.73
52221 Retirement and Medical	1,474.98	17,699.76
52223 Continuing Education	144.95	569.95
Total 52220 Benefits	3,020.69	21,424.44
Total 52200 Deacon	9,137.35	94,824.36

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church

Statement of Activity by Month

December 2023

	TOTAL	
	DEC 2023	JAN - DEC 2023 (YTD)
52350 Pastor Substitute		1,537.25
52400 Pastoral Admin. Assistant		
52410 Compensation		
52411 Salary	3,090.00	31,725.98
Total 52410 Compensation	3,090.00	31,725.98
Total 52400 Pastoral Admin. Assistant	3,090.00	31,725.98
52500 Music Personnel		
52510 Organist	1,425.00	19,425.00
52511 Worship Musicians	250.00	2,570.00
52520 Luther Choir Director	357.03	3,264.08
52530 Kids of the Kingdom Director	74.25	264.00
Total 52500 Music Personnel	2,106.28	25,523.08
52600 Parish Nurse		
52610 Salary		8,028.09
Total 52600 Parish Nurse		8,028.09
52700 Nursery Staff	163.00	1,880.40
52800 Custodian	1,269.00	16,309.00
52810 Bookkeeper	72.51	2,269.12
52900 FICA for Non-pastors	939.75	10,308.05
53000 Administration		135.16
53010 Telephone	227.22	3,651.76
53014 Office Supplies	9.99	2,481.45
53015 ACS Technologies	163.33	1,839.33
53020 Internet	59.95	847.42
53040 Postage		1,985.65
53050 Conference Expense	350.00	1,471.40
53080 Office Equipment	38.43	38.43
53090 Office Eq. Maintenance Agmt.	205.05	2,282.61
53111 Personnel Expenses		86.72
Total 53000 Administration	1,053.97	14,819.93
53016 Bank charges		363.90
53060 Workers Compensation		1,022.18
53120 Finance		30.00
53122 Stewardship Supplies		808.75
53123 Service Cost/Fees - Intuit/Vanc	258.97	3,521.73
Total 53120 Finance	258.97	4,360.48

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church

Statement of Activity by Month

December 2023

	TOTAL	
	DEC 2023	JAN - DEC 2023 (YTD)
53130 Property Management		
53131 Supplies	17.59	1,099.15
53132 Utilities	1,302.46	13,534.67
53133 Insurance		12,862.00
53134 Repairs and Maintenance	245.00	16,173.92
53135 Lawn Care/Snow Removal		3,078.23
53138 Capital Impr/Depreciation Expen		17,366.87
53140 Grace House	66.50	2,665.54
53160 Faith House	13.03	13.03
Total 53130 Property Management	1,644.58	66,793.41
53210 Specially Approved Supplies & M		1,425.00
54000 Congregational Life Ministry		
54020 Worship Supplies/Bulletins	46.50	1,619.45
54040 Altar Guild	238.85	1,244.72
54060 Flowers (Altar & Memorial)	305.98	3,062.48
54061 Flowers (Special Occasion - Christmas, Easter)		262.00
54080 Organ Main.		790.00
54110 Care Connection Ministry		27.74
54120 Health & Wellness		109.32
54130 New Member Receptions		92.55
Total 54000 Congregational Life Ministry	591.33	7,208.26
55000 Comprehensive Youth Ministry		102.63
55010 Luther Middles (6-8 Youth group		342.70
55020 Luther League		578.28
55060 Luther Littles (PK-5 youth grou		102.69
55070 Sunday School (Pre K-5th)		199.00
55071 Lesson Materials		608.36
55072 Supplies and Misc.		319.69
Total 55070 Sunday School (Pre K-5th)		1,127.05
55080 Sunday School (6th - 12th)		
55081 Lesson Materials	32.01	381.56
55082 Supplies & Misc.	19.72	471.02
Total 55080 Sunday School (6th - 12th)	51.73	852.58
55090 Confirmation Ministry/Retreat		1,001.86
55100 Vacation Bible School		342.20
55110 Summer Camp Scholarships		300.00
55140 First Communion Ministry/Retrea		329.52
55160 College Care Packages	51.30	679.14
Total 55000 Comprehensive Youth Ministry	103.03	5,758.65

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church

Statement of Activity by Month

December 2023

	TOTAL	
	DEC 2023	JAN - DEC 2023 (YTD)
56000 Communication Evang. Ministry		
56020 The Lutheran		101.92
56030 Ads, Spiritual Messages	47.70	1,546.00
56040 Video Spiritual Production	69.50	462.34
56050 Newsletter Production		30.00
56060 Evangelism Outreach	85.36	2,291.60
56065 Website		47.70
Total 56000 Communication Evang. Ministry	202.56	4,479.56
57000 Social Concerns Ministry		113.30
51060 God's Work Our Hands		880.00
53150 Trailer License LDR - St. Matthew Disaster Res		118.00
Total 57000 Social Concerns Ministry		1,111.30
58000 Small Group Ministry		
58010 Senior Happy Hour		56.93
58030 Socials & Promotional Items		251.06
Total 58000 Small Group Ministry		307.99
65600 Payroll Expenses	0.00	0.00
67000 Interest Expense	148.11	1,961.61
Unapplied Cash Bill Payment Expense		1,484.00
Total Expenditures	\$35,624.48	\$466,679.46
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$6,846.30	\$8,230.64
Other Revenue		
70100 Interest Income	1,520.22	15,237.00
90000 Released from restrictions	1,031.38	24,896.84
91000 Designated funds carried over	-4,993.76	-67,579.64
92000 Same Year restricted fund usage		-60.00
Total Other Revenue	\$ -2,442.16	\$ -27,505.80
NET OTHER REVENUE	\$ -2,442.16	\$ -27,505.80
NET REVENUE	\$4,404.14	\$ -19,275.16

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church
Budget vs. Actuals: Approved 2023 Budget - FY23 P&L
 January - December 2023

	Dec 2023				Total			
	Actual	Budget	over Budget	% of Budget	Actual	Budget	over Budget	% of Budget
Revenue								
44000 Offerings	35,820.91	33,333.33	2,487.58	107.46%	380,496.24	399,999.96	-19,503.72	95.12%
44100 Special Collection Offerings			0.00		196.49	0.00	196.49	
44200 Temp Restricted Offerings	6,649.87		6,649.87		94,217.37	0.00	94,217.37	
Total Revenue	\$ 42,470.78	\$ 33,333.33	\$ 9,137.45	127.41%	\$ 474,910.10	\$ 399,999.96	\$ 74,910.14	118.73%
Gross Profit	\$ 42,470.78	\$ 33,333.33	\$ 9,137.45	127.41%	\$ 474,910.10	\$ 399,999.96	\$ 74,910.14	118.73%
Expenditures								
51000 Benevolence	207.61		207.61		1,242.75	0.00	1,242.75	
51010 ELCA - Mission Support	1,864.00	1,666.67	197.33	111.84%	20,008.00	20,000.00	8.00	100.04%
51015 ELCA - World Hunger			0.00		10.00	0.00	10.00	
51020 ELCA - Lutheran Agency Org. in		75.00	-75.00	0.00%	900.00	900.00	0.00	100.00%
51080 ELCA - LOMO		41.66	-41.66	0.00%	500.00	500.00	0.00	100.00%
51090 ELCA - Fund for Leaders		41.67	-41.67	0.00%	500.00	500.00	0.00	100.00%
51100 Hope Memorial Cemetery		41.66	-41.66	0.00%	500.00	500.00	0.00	100.00%
51110 Operation Homes	250.00	83.34	166.66	299.98%	1,140.00	1,000.00	140.00	114.00%
51120 Love INC	500.00	166.66	333.34	300.01%	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00	100.00%
51130 Upcam		83.33	-83.33	0.00%	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	100.00%
Total 51000 Benevolence	\$ 2,821.61	\$ 2,199.99	\$ 621.62	128.26%	\$ 27,800.75	\$ 26,400.00	\$ 1,400.75	105.31%
52150 Pastor Steve Mahaffey			0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	
52151 Compensation			0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	
52152 Salary	5,783.34	5,783.34	0.00	100.00%	69,400.08	69,400.00	0.08	100.00%
52153 Housing Allowance	1,333.34	1,333.33	0.01	100.00%	16,000.08	16,000.00	0.08	100.00%
52156 Social Security	544.42	544.42	0.00	100.00%	6,533.04	6,533.00	0.04	100.00%
Total 52151 Compensation	\$ 7,661.10	\$ 7,661.09	\$ 0.01	100.00%	\$ 91,933.20	\$ 91,933.00	\$ 0.20	100.00%
52155 Benefits			0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	
52157 Retirement & Medical	3,111.57	3,111.59	-0.02	100.00%	37,338.84	37,339.00	-0.16	100.00%
52158 Continuing Education	889.95	83.33	806.62	1067.98%	1,847.47	1,000.00	847.47	184.75%
52160 Car/Business Expense	359.81	291.67	68.14	123.36%	4,257.60	3,500.00	757.60	121.65%
Total 52155 Benefits	\$ 4,361.33	\$ 3,486.59	\$ 874.74	125.09%	\$ 43,443.91	\$ 41,839.00	\$ 1,604.91	103.84%
Total 52150 Pastor Steve Mahaffey	\$ 12,022.43	\$ 11,147.68	\$ 874.75	107.85%	\$ 135,377.11	\$ 133,772.00	\$ 1,605.11	101.20%
52200 Deacon			0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	
52210 Compensation			0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	
52211 Salary	6,116.66	6,116.67	-0.01	100.00%	73,399.92	73,400.00	-0.08	100.00%
Total 52210 Compensation	\$ 6,116.66	\$ 6,116.67	-\$ 0.01	100.00%	\$ 73,399.92	\$ 73,400.00	-\$ 0.08	100.00%
52220 Benefits			0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	
52212 Car/Business Expenses	1,400.76	291.66	1,109.10	480.27%	3,154.73	3,500.00	-345.27	90.14%
52221 Retirement and Medical	1,474.98	1,479.17	-4.19	99.72%	17,699.76	17,750.00	-50.24	99.72%
52223 Continuing Education	144.95	83.33	61.62	173.95%	569.95	1,000.00	-430.05	57.00%
Total 52220 Benefits	\$ 3,020.69	\$ 1,854.16	\$ 1,166.53	162.91%	\$ 21,424.44	\$ 22,250.00	-\$ 825.56	96.29%
Total 52200 Deacon	\$ 9,137.35	\$ 7,970.83	\$ 1,166.52	114.63%	\$ 94,824.36	\$ 95,650.00	-\$ 825.64	99.14%
52350 Pastor Substitute		125.00	-125.00	0.00%	1,537.25	1,500.00	37.25	102.48%
52400 Pastoral Admin. Assistant			0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	
52410 Compensation			0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	
52411 Salary	3,090.00	2,731.67	358.33	113.12%	31,725.98	32,780.00	-1,054.02	96.78%
Total 52410 Compensation	\$ 3,090.00	\$ 2,731.67	\$ 358.33	113.12%	\$ 31,725.98	\$ 32,780.00	-\$ 1,054.02	96.78%
Total 52400 Pastoral Admin. Assistant	\$ 3,090.00	\$ 2,731.67	\$ 358.33	113.12%	\$ 31,725.98	\$ 32,780.00	-\$ 1,054.02	96.78%
52500 Music Personnel			0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	
52510 Organist	1,425.00	2,000.00	-575.00	71.25%	19,425.00	24,000.00	-4,575.00	80.94%

52511 Worship Musicians	250.00	320.83	-70.83	77.92%	2,570.00	3,850.00	-1,280.00	66.75%
52520 Luther Choir Director	357.03	275.00	82.03	129.83%	3,264.08	2,400.00	864.08	136.00%
52530 Kids of the Kingdom Director	74.25	166.66	-92.41	44.55%	264.00	1,500.00	-1,236.00	17.60%
Total 52500 Music Personnel	\$ 2,106.28	\$ 2,762.49	-\$ 656.21	76.25%	\$ 25,523.08	\$ 31,750.00	-\$ 6,226.92	80.39%
52600 Parish Nurse			0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	
52610 Salary		764.59	-764.59	0.00%	8,028.09	9,175.00	-1,146.91	87.50%
Total 52600 Parish Nurse	\$ 0.00	\$ 764.59	-\$ 764.59	0.00%	\$ 8,028.09	\$ 9,175.00	-\$ 1,146.91	87.50%
52700 Nursery Staff	163.00	181.11	-18.11	90.00%	1,880.40	1,630.00	250.40	115.36%
52800 Custodian	1,269.00	1,276.83	-7.83	99.39%	16,309.00	15,322.00	987.00	106.44%
52810 Bookkeeper	72.51	200.00	-127.49	36.26%	2,269.12	2,400.00	-130.88	94.55%
52900 FICA for Non-pastors	939.75	708.33	231.42	132.67%	10,308.05	8,500.00	1,808.05	121.27%
53000 Administration			0.00		135.16	0.00	135.16	
53010 Telephone	227.22	250.00	-22.78	90.89%	3,651.76	3,000.00	651.76	121.73%
53014 Office Supplies	9.99	208.34	-198.35	4.80%	2,481.45	2,500.00	-18.55	99.26%
53015 ACS Technologies	163.33	150.00	13.33	108.89%	1,839.33	1,800.00	39.33	102.19%
53020 Internet	59.95	83.33	-23.38	71.94%	847.42	1,000.00	-152.58	84.74%
53040 Postage		208.33	-208.33	0.00%	1,985.65	2,500.00	-514.35	79.43%
53050 Conference Expense	350.00	45.83	304.17	763.69%	1,471.40	550.00	921.40	267.53%
53070 Pastoral Resources		8.33	-8.33	0.00%	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.00%
53080 Office Equipment	38.43	333.33	-294.90	11.53%	38.43	4,000.00	-3,961.57	0.96%
53090 Office Eq. Maintenance Agmt.	205.05	166.66	38.39	123.03%	2,282.61	2,000.00	282.61	114.13%
53110 Miscellaneous		16.67	-16.67	0.00%	0.00	200.00	-200.00	0.00%
53111 Personnel Expenses			0.00		86.72	0.00	86.72	
Total 53000 Administration	\$ 1,053.97	\$ 1,470.82	-\$ 416.85	71.66%	\$ 14,819.93	\$ 17,650.00	-\$ 2,830.07	83.97%
53016 Bank charges		16.67	-16.67	0.00%	363.90	200.00	163.90	181.95%
53060 Workers Compensation		66.66	-66.66	0.00%	1,022.18	800.00	222.18	127.77%
53120 Finance			0.00		30.00	0.00	30.00	
53121 Financial Audit		33.34	-33.34	0.00%	0.00	400.00	-400.00	0.00%
53122 Stewardship Supplies		83.33	-83.33	0.00%	808.75	1,000.00	-191.25	80.88%
53123 Service Cost/Fees - Intuit/Vanc	258.97	291.67	-32.70	88.79%	3,521.73	3,500.00	21.73	100.62%
Total 53120 Finance	\$ 258.97	\$ 408.34	-\$ 149.37	63.42%	\$ 4,360.48	\$ 4,900.00	-\$ 539.52	88.99%
53130 Property Management			0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	
53131 Supplies	17.59	150.00	-132.41	11.73%	1,099.15	1,800.00	-700.85	61.06%
53132 Utilities	1,302.46	1,000.00	302.46	130.25%	13,534.67	12,000.00	1,534.67	112.79%
53133 Insurance		666.66	-666.66	0.00%	12,862.00	8,000.00	4,862.00	160.78%
53134 Repairs and Maintenance	245.00	1,666.67	-1,421.67	14.70%	16,173.92	20,000.00	-3,826.08	80.87%
53135 Lawn Care/Snow Removal		333.33	-333.33	0.00%	3,078.23	4,000.00	-921.77	76.96%
53137 Misc. Equipment		83.34	-83.34	0.00%	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00	0.00%
53138 Capital Impr/Depreciation Expen			0.00		17,366.87	0.00	17,366.87	
53140 Grace House	66.50	291.66	-225.16	22.80%	2,665.54	3,500.00	-834.46	76.16%
53160 Faith House	13.03		13.03		13.03	0.00	13.03	
Total 53130 Property Management	\$ 1,644.58	\$ 4,191.66	-\$ 2,547.08	39.23%	\$ 66,793.41	\$ 50,300.00	\$ 16,493.41	132.79%
53210 Specially Approved Supplies & M			0.00		1,425.00	0.00	1,425.00	
54000 Congregational Life Ministry			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%
54013 Praise Team/Music		4.16	-4.16	0.00%	0.00	50.00	-50.00	0.00%
54020 Worship Supplies/Bulletins	46.50	208.34	-161.84	22.32%	1,619.45	2,500.00	-880.55	64.78%
54040 Altar Guild	238.85	183.33	55.52	130.28%	1,244.72	2,200.00	-955.28	56.58%
54060 Flowers (Altar & Memorial)	305.98	183.34	122.64	166.89%	3,062.48	2,200.00	862.48	139.20%
Easter)			0.00		262.00	0.00	262.00	
54080 Organ Main.		83.33	-83.33	0.00%	790.00	1,000.00	-210.00	79.00%
54110 Care Connection Ministry		8.34	-8.34	0.00%	27.74	100.00	-72.26	27.74%
54120 Health & Wellness			0.00		109.32	0.00	109.32	
54130 New Member Receptions			0.00		92.55	0.00	92.55	

54140 Special Events, Advent Dinners, etc.	16.66	-16.66	0.00%	0.00	200.00	-200.00	0.00%
55150 Library	4.16	-4.16	0.00%	0.00	50.00	-50.00	0.00%
Total 54000 Congregational Life Ministry	\$ 591.33	\$ 720.83	-\$ 129.50	82.03%	\$ 7,208.26	\$ 8,650.00	-\$ 1,441.74 83.33%
55000 Comprehensive Youth Ministry			0.00	102.63	0.00	102.63	
55010 Luther Middles (6-8 Youth group)	20.84	-20.84	0.00%	342.70	250.00	92.70	137.08%
55020 Luther League			0.00	578.28	0.00	578.28	
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%	102.69	150.00	-47.31	68.46%
55070 Sunday School (Pre K-5th)			0.00	199.00	0.00	199.00	
55071 Lesson Materials	83.34	-83.34	0.00%	608.36	1,000.00	-391.64	60.84%
55072 Supplies and Misc.	16.66	-16.66	0.00%	319.69	200.00	119.69	159.85%
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%	\$ 1,127.05	\$ 1,210.00	-\$ 82.95 93.14%
55080 Sunday School (6th - 12th)			0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
55081 Lesson Materials	32.01	41.67	-9.66	76.82%	381.56	500.00	-118.44 76.31%
55082 Supplies & Misc.	19.72	8.33	11.39	236.73%	471.02	100.00	371.02 471.02%
Total 55080 Sunday School (6th - 12th)	\$ 51.73	\$ 50.00	\$ 1.73	103.46%	\$ 852.58	\$ 600.00	\$ 252.58 142.10%
55090 Confirmation Ministry/Retreat			0.00	1,001.86	0.00	1,001.86	
55100 Vacation Bible School	41.67	-41.67	0.00%	342.20	500.00	-157.80	68.44%
55110 Summer Camp Scholarships	16.66	-16.66	0.00%	300.00	200.00	100.00	150.00%
college)	83.34	-83.34	0.00%	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00	0.00%
55140 First Communion Ministry/Retrea			0.00	329.52	0.00	329.52	
55160 College Care Packages	51.30	51.30		679.14	0.00	679.14	
Total 55000 Comprehensive Youth Ministry	\$ 103.03	\$ 376.67	-\$ 273.64	27.35%	\$ 5,758.65	\$ 4,410.00	\$ 1,348.65 130.58%
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%	101.92	200.00	-98.08	50.96%
56030 Ads, Spiritual Messages	47.70	125.00	-77.30	38.16%	1,546.00	1,500.00	46.00 103.07%
56040 Video Spiritual Production	69.50	29.17	40.33	238.26%	462.34	350.00	112.34 132.10%
56050 Newsletter Production			0.00	30.00	0.00	30.00	
56060 Evangelism Outreach	85.36	175.00	-89.64	48.78%	2,291.60	2,100.00	191.60 109.12%
56065 Website	41.66	-41.66	0.00%	47.70	500.00	-452.30	9.54%
Total 56000 Communication Evang. Ministry	\$ 202.56	\$ 399.99	-\$ 197.43	50.64%	\$ 4,479.56	\$ 4,800.00	-\$ 320.44 93.32%
57000 Social Concerns Ministry	33.34	-33.34	0.00%	113.30	400.00	-286.70	28.33%
51060 God's Work Our Hands	58.34	-58.34	0.00%	880.00	700.00	180.00	125.71%
Disaster Res			0.00	118.00	0.00	118.00	
Total 57000 Social Concerns Ministry	\$ 0.00	\$ 91.68	-\$ 91.68	0.00%	\$ 1,111.30	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 11.30 101.03%
58000 Small Group Ministry	16.66	-16.66	0.00%	0.00	200.00	-200.00	0.00%
58010 Senior Happy Hour	41.67	-41.67	0.00%	56.93	500.00	-443.07	11.39%
58020 Books and Video Series	41.66	-41.66	0.00%	0.00	500.00	-500.00	0.00%
58030 Socials & Promotional Items	41.67	-41.67	0.00%	251.06	500.00	-248.94	50.21%
Total 58000 Small Group Ministry	\$ 0.00	\$ 141.66	-\$ 141.66	0.00%	\$ 307.99	\$ 1,700.00	-\$ 1,392.01 18.12%
65600 Payroll Expenses	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	
67000 Interest Expense	148.11	148.11		1,961.61	0.00	1,961.61	
Unapplied Cash Bill Payment Expense			0.00	1,484.00	0.00	1,484.00	
Total Expenditures	\$ 35,624.48	\$ 37,953.50	-\$ 2,329.02	93.86%	\$ 466,679.46	\$ 453,389.00	\$ 13,290.46 102.93%
Net Operating Revenue	\$ 6,846.30	-\$ 4,620.17	\$ 11,466.47	-148.18%	\$ 8,230.64	-\$ 53,389.04	\$ 61,619.68 -15.42%
Other Revenue							
70100 Interest Income	1,520.22	1,520.22		15,237.00	0.00	15,237.00	
90000 Released from restrictions	1,031.38	1,031.38		24,896.84	0.00	24,896.84	
91000 Designated funds carried over	-4,993.76	-4,993.76		-67,579.64	0.00	-67,579.64	
92000 Same Year restricted fund usage		0.00		-60.00	0.00	-60.00	
Total Other Revenue	-\$ 2,442.16	\$ 0.00	-\$ 2,442.16		-\$ 27,505.80	\$ 0.00	-\$ 27,505.80
Net Other Revenue	-\$ 2,442.16	\$ 0.00	-\$ 2,442.16		-\$ 27,505.80	\$ 0.00	-\$ 27,505.80
Net Revenue	\$ 4,404.14	-\$ 4,620.17	\$ 9,024.31	-95.32%	-\$ 19,275.16	-\$ 53,389.04	\$ 34,113.88 36.10%

Saturday, Jan 06, 2024 08:55:28 AM GMT-8 - Cash Basis

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church

Statement of Financial Position

As of December 31, 2023

	TOTAL
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
11100 General Checking - Huntington 1	120,051.67
11400 Endowment - Hunt 07664529755	20,078.55
11500 CD 07664481217 - PPP Fund	103,412.88
11700 CD 07664481220 - PPP Fund	103,412.88
11800 Restricted Savings - Huntington	307,717.70
Total Bank Accounts	\$654,673.68
Total Current Assets	\$654,673.68
Fixed Assets	
14100 400 N. Broadway	887,790.00
14200 Grace House 229 Pearl	142,097.65
14400 432 N Broadway Street	101,980.00
Total Fixed Assets	\$1,131,867.65
TOTAL ASSETS	\$1,786,541.33
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	\$37,308.95
Equity	
30001 Unrestricted Net Assets	638,442.34
32000 Retained Earnings	597,065.54
33000 Restricted Savings Account	0.00
33001 Noisy Offering holding acct	45.04
33040 Promise Place Proceed Fund - PPP Fund	407,815.85
33100 Property Management Maintenance	0.00
33080 Church Landscaping	0.00
33503 Naming Trees Memorial	81.93
33605 Art Reidel	496.15
Total 33080 Church Landscaping	578.08
33090 Capital Improvement	18,580.47
33091 Interior Remodel Fund	67,167.63
Total 33090 Capital Improvement	85,748.10
Total 33100 Property Management Maintenance	86,326.18
33200 Congregational Life	0.00
33131 Acolyte Robes	636.55
33132 Flowers	33.55
33203 Drama & Music Account	2,779.79
33204 Stephen Ministry Fund	2,175.16
33211 Women of the Church	4,127.11
33525 Harry Klein - Library	167.44

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church

Statement of Financial Position

As of December 31, 2023

	TOTAL
Total 33200 Congregational Life	9,919.60
33300 Comprehensive Youth	0.00
32114 Youth Gathering	100.00
33070 College Care Packages	131.18
Total 33300 Comprehensive Youth	231.18
33400 Communication Evangelism	
33440 Pictorial Directory	40.00
33450 Audio / Video Technology	1,712.90
Total 33400 Communication Evangelism	1,752.90
33500 Memorial	3,650.15
33800 Social Concerns Ministry	3,475.17
33030 LDR - St. Matthew Disaster Resp	1,327.39
Total 33800 Social Concerns Ministry	4,802.56
Total 33000 Restricted Savings Account	514,543.46
34000 Endowment	20,078.55
Opening Bal Equity	-1,622.35
Net Revenue	-19,275.16
Total Equity	\$1,749,232.38
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$1,786,541.33

St. Matthew Committees

(as of January 2024)

Committees required by Constitution Bylaws

- Personnel Committee
- Mutual Ministry Committees
- Audit Committee
- Nominating Committee

Additional Committees/Groups

- Care Connection
- LGL Samaritan
- Prayer Group
- Endowment
- Care Package
- Worship Team
- Social Concerns
- Fellowship
- Property
- Finance
- Stewardship
- Evangelism/Communication
- Comprehensive Youth

Evangelism and Communication Report to Council

January 15, 2024

Attendance at the January 8 E&C Meeting: Owen Blakslee (Z), Melody Costello, Carol Elkins, Bobby Forsythe, Brian Harris (Z), Stephanie Hess, Beth Johnson, Dale Weygandt (Z), Barb and Jim Woodard, Pastor Steve

1. Opening Devotion based on Corinthians 12:4-11, Spiritual Gifts
2. Our committee will no longer be considered a “Five Star Ministry” but will continue as before... spreading the Gospel through evangelistic efforts and communication within and outside of the congregation. Notice the change in the title: “Evangelism and Communication”.
3. Our approved 2024 E&C Budget was discussed; and our 2024 “Mission, Goals and Plans” were reviewed. (See page 2.)
4. Committee members accepted specific areas of committee responsibility.
 - a. Brian Harris, Owen Blakslee, Bobby Forsythe, Melody Costello – Video Technology
 - b. Bobby Forsythe – Website back-up, YouTube, Blogs
 - c. Carol Elkins – Penny Project and Monthly Inspirational Messages, *Medina Weekly*
 - d. Melody Costello – Facebook, Instagram
 - e. Barb Woodard, Melody, Carol – Articles in Spring *Celebrate* newsletter.
5. New Opportunities for Evangelistic Outreach:
 - a. **“Loads of Love”** - Saturday, February 17, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM
North Court Laundry, 739 W Liberty St.
 - i. Pastor – Has made arrangements with laundromat.
 - ii. Beth, Melody – Advertise on website & Facebook in January
 - iii. Beth – Article in local papers, Website, Shoutout, “Sign-up Genius”
 - iv. Melody – *Good News Moment* & “Noisy Offering” – Sunday, February 11
 - v. Pastor – Will write a Thrivent Grant
 - b. **“Drop-Off Food Drive”** -Saturday, March 9, 10:00 AM-Noon
Church parking lot
 - i. Beth, Melody – Advertise on website & Facebook in January
 - ii. Beth – Article in local papers, Shoutout, Bulletins
 - iii. Melody will contact *Feeding Medina County* to find out their biggest needs.
 - iv. Start small. If successful, have 2-4 food drives during the year
 - v. Volunteers and details will be made at next E&C meeting
 - c. **Penny Project: “Jesus is the One Sent (Cent)”** – Date TBD
 - i. Carol explained the program to the committee.
 - ii. Melody asked Liz Linden if she would write a Thrivent grant. Answer: YES
 - iii. Bobby – found 1,000 for \$72 on Etsy
 - iv. Carol will give a *Good News Moment*

6. Feature Articles for the April *St. Matthew Celebrates*. Due April 15, Publish April 26
 - a. – Youth Gathering – Kristin Weight
 - b. – Spiritual Gifts – Pastor Steve & Melody
 - c. – Operation Homes – Carol, Rick Sullivan, Jordan Johnston
 - d. – LGL Samaritan Fund – Barb
 - e. – Blood Drive/ Am. Red Cross – Melody
 - f. – Thrivent – Mickey Urbanic (Beth will ask)

7. Holy Week Ad was edited and approved (below)

Palm/Passion Sunday	Maundy Thursday	Good Friday
March 24	March 28	March 29
8:30 AM & 11:00 AM	7:00 PM	7:00 PM

Resurrection of our Lord
EASTER DAY
Sunday, March 31
8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

*Easter Breakfast
provided by Luther League
between services*

St. Matthew
Evangelical Lutheran Church
400 N. Broadway
Medina, Ohio 44256
330-725-8885

8:30 a.m. service is Livestreamed
Online Via Facebook and YouTube
See www.stmatthewmedina.org

All are invited!

EVANGELISM and COMMUNICATION 2024 MISSION, GOALS and PLANS

The Evangelism and Communication Team is responsible for Reaching out to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and for communicating church activities, and connecting with one another.

GOAL 1) Communicate

PLANS:

- Audio/Video
 - Slide projection, Sound
 - Livestream Worship
 - Audio Worship Enhancement – Loop
 - Electronic Signage
- Print Media
 - Inspirational Message, *Medina Weekly*
 - Articles in *Gazette, Medina Weekly, Post*
 - MedinaCountyEvents.com – continuous listings of worship, events
 - Seasonal Advertising (Holy Week, Christmas)
 - “*St. Matthew Celebrates*”
 - Bulletins, Shoutout
- Social Media
 - Facebook, YouTube, X, Spotify, Instagram, Podcasts
 - Website
- Timely Agendas/Minutes/Reports to CE, Staff, Council, Congregation

GOAL 2) Connect with One Another

PLANS:

- Help integrate new members into the life of the congregation.
 - “Getting to Know You” in the Shoutout. Photos in the Narthex.
 - Keep the UCD online directory updated. Encourage more pictures.
 - Encourage discovering our “Spiritual Gifts” and instituting a “Mission Fair” to share all areas of activities and promote involvement.
- Regularly interact (person-to-person) with all ages in the congregation to understand their needs and the best way to communicate with them and promote their activities.

GOAL 3) Reaching Out to Share the Good News

PLANS:

- Connect through God’s Word.
 - Continue Advent Devotions in 2024
 - Encourage new Bible Studies (Women’s, Men’s, In-Home, Community)
- Evangelistic Outreach
 - “Loads of Love”
 - Drop-Off Food Drive
 - Penny Project (*Jesus is the One Cent/Sent*)

2 January 2024 Worship Team Meeting Minutes

Present- Kristin, Deacon Lindsay, Pastor Steve, Cindy, Sandy, Nancy, Brian (Zoom)

Opening Prayer

Approval of minutes from November

Conversation over recent services:

There is still talking that is happening during the Prelude and during special music. Not only are visitors talking, but our members are engaging in conversations during the choir, kids of the kingdom and children's messages. It is disrespectful. How do we stop the conversations? Pastor suggested a slide that encourages support of those groups. We also discussed the beginning of the Prelude starting exactly at 8:30/11. Should a note be written in the shoutout/bulletin?

December

- Holden Evening Prayer Midweek services- procession? Standing?
- 17 Children's service
- 24 9:30 AM
- 24 7 PM and 9 PM 134 and 138
 - We are close, but not yet warranted to have 3 services. We are realizing that by having the services at 7 and 9 we are limiting those who can come earlier. Should we have an earlier service? To help those with young children and those who struggle with driving. Would we have a 3? 5? What about an 11 PM? DL in favor of evening services, but shared how afternoon services would be beneficial. Nancy shared that having a 4 PM family service was wonderful. We have time to consider what is needed and timing as we continue to grow.
- 31 Lessons and Carols with Healing went well. Could we possibly incorporate the healing portion in our last Sunday of the year so that those who do not attend a New Years Eve service could experience the healing? Is there a way to add that component into the last Sunday of the year and not hold a separate NYE service? Yes.

Upcoming services:

January

- **Sunday 7** Luther Choir will sing at late.
- **Sunday 14** Jane is the guest organist. Cindy will record the choir at practice on Wednesday and send to Jane. Luther Choir will sing at early.
- **Sunday 21** is a Praise service. no Luther Choir. No Pastor Steve and Deacon Lindsay, as they will be in New Orleans for the Gathering Information weekend. Supply pastor- Pastor David Conner.
- **Sunday 28** Luther Choir will sing at early.

February

- **Sunday 4 NTF** choir late
- **Sunday 11 Setting 4** choir early, Cindy out
- 14 Ash Wednesday 7 PM service Nancy will check with choir
- **Sunday 18 Praise** no choir
- 21 St. Matthew, Brian will set up streaming. DL will check with others about streaming.
- **Sunday 25 9:30 AM Setting 3** choir, congregational meeting will follow the service, No SS.
- 28 St. Paul's Episcopal

March

- **Sunday 3 Setting 3**
- 6 UCC
- **Sunday 10 Setting 3**, Cindy out
- 13 St. Matthew will stream
- **Sunday 17 Praise**
- 20 UCC
- 28 Maundy Thursday 7 PM
- 29 Good Friday Tenebrae 7PM
- **Sunday 24 Palm Sunday Setting 4**
- **Sunday 31 Easter Sunday** Luther League will serve breakfast in between the two services.

April

- **Sunday 7 NTF** Cindy out
- **Sunday 14**
- **Sunday 21**
- **Sunday 28**

Questions for Worship Team:

Concern over talking during Prelude, choir/kids singing. How can we remind the congregation to refrain from conversations during the service?

Hymn selectors- Kristin, Nancy and Sandy-Not all verses need to be sung, indicate verses in hymn selection sheet. Prelude and postlude being added to sheet. December 31 hymns should be added. Kristin will add them.

Announcements after prelude, before sending song? Do they need to be made? They are generally all listed in the bulletin. Can we limit them to only those dire announcements? Yes. Dandelion Project blossoms? Those have not been occurring.

Pastor Steve shared a bulletin that looks like guided notes pages that gives an explanation of “the why and the what” is being done during the service. He spoke with Deb about the format and we will look at another sample and see if it is something that we would like to try. It appears to be very user friendly. It would answer questions for our visitors and would be a good reminder for our congregation.

Is there a time that the high school would like to lead worship? Kristin will talk with the LL advisors and the kids.

Reports/updates from the team:

Brian/Owen/Melody (Video Team)-

Sandy (Altar Guild) no news, still recruiting lay servants, altar guild request from Pastor liquid filled candles, reminder that the acolyte candle is oil filled and need to be filled. Pastor emailed Kristin and Sandy a link to look into purchasing other liquid filled candles. The company CM Almy is having a 15% off sale until February 19, 2024.

What is our Altar guild budget for candles? How often are they replaced?

Full tray and half tray stacked in pairs for the communion lay servants.

Nancy (Choir)-

Cindy (Organist)-

Rachel (Choir)-

Closing prayer

Upcoming Meetings:

February 6 5:30 Goal is to not hold a meeting in March