



A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDING BISHOP ELIZABETH EATON



Dear friends in Christ,

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

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

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

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

In Christ,

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton

Presiding Bishop

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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66 Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God 99 (Hebrews 13:16).

St. Jacobs Lutheran Church 2022 Annual Meeting January 22, 2023

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St. Jacobs Lutheran Church Council and Boards 2023 Ballot

Position / Person	Year's position held	Term expires end of	
PRESIDENT			
Dan Foster	2022 & 2023	2023	
VICE PRESIDENT			
Leon Busser	2022 & 2023	2023	
TREAS/FIN SEC			
Lisa Busser			
SECRETARY			
Susan Bunjer			
BOARD OF MINISTRY-TI	HREE YEAR TERM (MAY HOLD	TWO TERMS)	
Susan Bunjer	2021-2022-2023	2023	
Nancy Fods	2022-2023-2024	2024	
Kathryn Foster	2023-2024-2025	2025	
	HREE YEAR TERM (MAY HOLD	<u>, </u>	
Shane Fods	2021-2022-2023	2023	
Pat Schut	2022-2023-2024	2024	
Robert Smith	2022-2023-2024	2024	
Jeff Ordal	2023-2024-2025	2025	
Tyler Busser	2023-2024-2025	2025	Tyler Busser
	-THREE YEAR TERM (MAY HO	•	
Sarah Medina	2021-2022-2023	2023	
Madison Busser	2022-2023-2024	2024	
Tammy Fods	2023-2024-2025	2025	Tammy Fods
AATAAODIAI COMMANTET	E TUDEE VEAD TEDAA (AAAV III	OLD TIMO TERMS	
	E-THREE YEAR TERM (MAY HO		
Nancy Fods	2021-2022-2023	2023	
Aggie Fods	2022-2023-2024	2024	
Pam Schut	2023-2024-2025	2025	
SVNOD CONVENTION C	DNE MALE AND ONE FEMALE		
STROD CORVERTION-C	THE IVIALL AND ONE PEIVIALE		
BETHEL DELEGATE (ONE	YEAR TERM)	<u> </u>	
	ECTORS-THREE YEAR TERM (M		
Dawn Barber	2023-2024-2025	2025	
NOMINATING COMMUT	TEE-nomination comes from	floor at annual mosting	
NOWINATING COMMIN	TEE-nomination comes from	noor at annual meeting	
		1	

2022 St. Jacobs Lutheran Church Secretary Report

1-16-22 - 2021 Annual Meeting

President Steve Sershen called the meeting to order.

Nancy Sershen led with a prayer.

Secretary report was reviewed and approved by Dale Schut, seconded by Dan Foster.

President's report was reviewed. We were able to meet our financial obligations. Pastor Wayne's retirement and call committee searching for new Pastor.

Pastor's report was reviewed.

Financial Secretary report was reviewed. Expenses were down. Motion to approve the financial report was made by Dale Schut and seconded by Nancy Sershen.

Proposed budget was reviewed. Increased the amounts for secretary and figured an amount for new minister salary. We may or may not have an intern, if giving continues as it has been the Church is doing well. Motion to approve the proposed budget was made by Dale Schut and seconded by Dan Foster.

Nominating committee presented 2022 Nominees:

President: Dan Foster

Vice President: Leon Busser Financial Secretary: Lisa Busser

Secretary: Susan Bunjer

Board of Ministry: Kathryn Foster and Nancy Fods

Board of Trustees: Robert Smith

Board of Education: Sarah Medina and Madison Busser

Synod Board:

Memorial Committee: Nancy Fods and Aggie Fods

Bethel Delegate: Leon Busser

Nominating Committee: Pam and Dale Schut

Lisa Busser made a motion to accept nominations and Dale Schut seconded.

New Business: Call Committee talked about meeting with Pastor Herb. Pastor Susan has agreed to stay until a new minister has been found. Vote was taken to extend a call to Pastor Herb, it passed to extend a call.

Motion to adjourn was made by Dale Schut, seconded by Lisa Busser.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

St. Jacobs Lutheran Church 2022 President Report

A great year in St. Jacobs 140 year history!

The call committee had a big job to do in finding a pastor for our parish that would fit all of our needs and wants. Wow, did they do an amazing job! Pastor Herb is an outstanding pastor that is and will be a huge asset to our church community.

We had quite a year of projects to be completed in and around the church. Rhonda DeJong did a marvelous job refreshing the woodwork in the sanctuary. This spring she removed much of the old paint from the window trim and gave it a fresh look with a new coat. She also painted the arch to the altar and the letters on our sign in front of the church. She spent many hours completing this task.

Not many years have the weather made this report, but with all of the wind we had in mid-May, I feel like I need to include it here. Especially, because it is the reason we replaced all of the spruce trees that bordered the church. It was the worst wall of wind in 100 years to hit. The structure weathered it well, but the old trees were another story. We replaced the nine Norway Spruce with 11, 9-foot tall, Colorado Blue Spruce.

The landscaping around the church was in need of updating. Tyler Busser was able to pour the curbing around the church with his concrete edging machine, which set the border for the new landscaping. The new landscaping consists of native perennial flowers and prairie grasses and an assortment of fieldstone boulders that came from not very far away, thanks to Wayne Busser.

I want to thank everyone for all the help they gave during this last year while all of these projects were getting completed, from preparing meals to digging with a shovel, thank you! Last, but not least, a very big thank you for all the donations you gave to make these projects a possibility. I feel very fortunate to belong to such a great church family!

Sincerely, Dan Foster, President

Colton Lutheran Parish 2022 Pastor Report

A new fiscal year begins for us as a congregation. It is the time to wrestle with the possibilities and potential that we have as a congregation. Throughout Scripture, God calls His people into mission wherever they may reside and into a fuller participation in His kingdom.

We are all called to mission in some way or another. Jesus called his first disciples in the Gospel of Matthew to come and fish for people. He uses what they know how to do, to reach out in love to those they encounter. Christ calls us all to follow him. And as we do so, he uses our gifts for ministry as well. But this sometimes requires doing something new on our part.

It causes us to step beyond ourselves into Christ's kingdom, and that can sometimes be a terrifying experience. But it is part of our faith journey, it is where Christ calls us to action. Christ makes all things new, and we have to be willing to be made new creates, and have new experiences so we can grow in the faith, but also so we can reach out with Christ to our neighbors.

In the call of the disciples in the Gospel of Matthew, the four people that Christ calls are engaged in something new. But they don't lose their identity of their tradition or forget about where they came from. Christ uses where they came from to bring people to faith. We have been called by Christ to make things new. This year, I look forward to seeing that happen in this place.

Sing to the Lord a new song.

Pastor Herb Wounded Head III

Colton Lutheran Parish 2022 Pastoral Acts

BAPTISMS (5)

Waverly Mae Ordal – 1/9/22 Bill Alan Holdren – 4/3/22 Fletcher Zachary Busser – 7/31/22 Clara Locksley Brown – 9/18/22 Collins Micah Roemen – 10/23/22

FIRST COMMUNION (8) 4/14/22

Kaytee Wold Payton Wold Dolce Willard Porter Amundson Bentley McMillen Megan Pitts Addysen Fods

TRANSFERRED IN (12)

Herb and Lorna Wounded Head
Meghan Wounded Head
Joanne Van Osdel
Scott and Riley Amundson and Axton
and Harlan
Tyler and Heather Crosby and Gavin
and Thea

THIRD GRADE BIBLES (5) (10/2/22)

Hutton Amundson Marshall Pitts Anthony Caspers Ainsley Hansen Kaleb Husman

CONFIRMATION (9) (10/30/22)

Dustin Carman
Jacob Foster
Myles DeWitt
Marea Johnson
Jaidyn McMillen
Lily Van Hal
Landon Jensen
Ty Oyen
Hailey Sorenson

FUNERALS (10)

Roger Fods – 1/6/22 Cleo Marjarie Sundal – 4/4/22 Noel H. Egan – 5/3/22 Ila Marie Mathieu – 5/7/22 Kent Darin Swier – 5/8/22 Robert Leon Walker – 7/9/22 David Allen Wickre – 9/17/22 George "Terry" Aartun – 10/19/22 Frank Jarrod Hayne – 11/22/22 Edward Dean Ordal – 12/13/22

St. Jacobs Lutheran Church 2022 Board of Ministry Report

Members of the St. Jacobs Board of Ministry for 2022 are Kathryn Foster, Nancy Fods, and Susan Bunjer. The Board of Ministry is responsible for finding people for altar care (flowers, paraments, and communion preparation) and to lector for all Sunday services and Special services as required. The Board of Ministry is also available to help the Pastor in any other way needed.

We organized Pastor Herb's welcome brunch. We had one Bible Study Book of John. We collected canned goods for the Food Bank in Dell Rapids.

St. Jacobs adopted two families for Sharing Christmas.

Thank you to everyone who donates their time and talents to serve our congregation, through being a lector, communion preparation and serving, altar care, altar flowers, and special music.

Submitted by Susan Bunjer

St. Jacobs Lutheran Church Women's Financial Report 2022

		January	December		
	Checking Balance	\$ 8,121.14	\$	970.17	
	Savings Balance	\$ 3,170.51	\$	3,170.81	
Interest \$0.30					

	Income	Expense
Bank Fees		\$ 162.81
Buffalo Township	\$ 200.00	
St Jacobs (Transfer to General Fund)		\$ 7,000.00
Golden West Telephone		\$ 272.20
Bible		\$ 15.96
Funeral	\$ 100.00	
Totals	\$ 300.00	\$ 7,450.97

Submitted by Nancy Fods

St. Jacobs Lutheran Church 2022 Financial Secretary Statement

Checking Account Balance 01-01-2022	\$ 37,097.34
Receipts for 2022	
Congregational Offering	\$ 42,704.00
Thrivent	\$ 132.00
Dividends	\$ 205.10
Church rent	\$ 150.00
Checking Account Interest	\$ 2.16
Lenten supper-Confirmation Kids	\$ 737.00
Insurance claim payment (Derecho)	\$ 5,719.44
Chruch Improvement donations	\$ 7,430.00
Subtotal	\$ 57,079.70
<u>Donations</u>	
Sharing Christmas	\$ 297.00
Beaver Creek Chruch donation	\$ 100.00
Glen Grocott Family	\$ 10,000.00
Subtotal	\$ 10,397.00
Total Receipts for 2022	\$ 67,476.70
Total Amt. Available for 2022	\$ 104,574.04
Total Expenses for 2022	\$ 54,425.12
Checking Account Balance 12-31-2022	\$ 50,148.92

St. Jacobs Lutheran Church 2022 Savings Account Statement

Building Fund Balance 01-01-2022	\$ 25,098.72
RECEIPTS for 2022	
Donation from Women's fund	\$ 7,000.000
interest Income	\$ 45.78
Donations	\$ -
Subtotal	\$ 7,045.78
Withdrawls/transfers	\$ -
Building Fund Balance 12-31-2022	\$ 32,144.50

Memorial Fund Balance 01-01-2022	\$ 5,278.49
RECEIPTS for 2022	
Interest Income	\$ 0.23
Donations	\$ 50.00
Subtotal	\$ 50.23
Paper Statement fee	\$ 2.00
Withdrawls/transfers	\$ -
Memorial Fund Balance 12-31-2022	\$ 5,326.72

Olive Bohlen En. Fund bal. 01-01-2022	\$ 2,921.62
RECEIPTS for 2022	
Interest Income	\$ 0.12
Donations	\$ =
Subtotal	\$ 0.12
Paper Statement Fee	\$ 2.00
Withdrawls/transfers	\$ -
Olive Bohlen En. Fund Bal. 12-31-2022	\$ 2,919.74

St. Jacobs 2023 Proposed Budget

Pastoral Ministry	20	22 Proposed	2022 Actuals	20	23 Proposed
Salary	\$	12,200.00	\$ 15,013.45	\$	13,429.00
Pension/ support/life insurance	\$	1,710.00	\$ 1,874.97	\$	1,930.00
Insurance/\$250 medical reimbursment	\$	2,000.00	\$ -	\$	750.00
Disability	\$	270.00	\$ -	\$	408.00
Utilities	\$	650.00	\$ -	\$	-
Mileage	\$	1,000.00	\$ 332.28	\$	150.00
Housing Benefit	\$	375.00	\$ -	\$	4,500.00
Social Security	\$	935.00	\$ -	\$	1,372.00
Meeting Expense	\$	100.00	\$ -	\$	100.00
Continuing Education	\$	100.00	\$ 187.29	\$	100.00
Pulpit Supply	\$	1,500.00	\$ 3,022.93	\$	-
Subtot	al \$	20,840.00	\$ 20,430.92	\$	22,739.00
Intern Expenses					
Salary	\$	-	\$ -	\$	-
Rent/Housing Allow.	\$	-	\$ -	\$	-
Utilities	\$	-	\$ -	\$	-
Insurance	\$	-	\$ -	\$	-
Social Security	\$	-	\$ -	\$	-
Mileage	\$	-	\$ -	\$	-
Meetings	\$	-	\$ -	\$	-
Intern Fee	\$	-	\$ -	\$	-
Subtot	al \$	-	\$ -	\$	-
Other Shared Expenses					
Office Secretary/ SS	\$	3,450.00	\$ 2,415.21	\$	3,450.00
Worship/Service	\$	300.00	\$ 486.42	\$	400.00
Office Supplies/Postage	\$	775.00	\$ 618.01	\$	750.00
Confirmation	\$	50.00	\$ 79.37	\$	100.00
Office Telephone	\$	400.00	\$ 448.77	\$	500.00
Copier Lease	\$	750.00	\$ 728.16	\$	750.00
Miscellaneous (Banquet)	\$	250.00	\$ -	\$	250.00
Adult Education Supplies	\$	25.00	\$ -	\$	25.00
Subtot	al \$	6,000.00	\$ 4,775.94	\$	6,225.00
Total Shared Expenses	\$	26,840.00	\$ 25,206.86	\$	28,964.00
Rents					
Office Equipment	\$	-	\$ -	\$	-
Parsonage Rent	\$	1,500.00	\$ 1,375.00	\$	-
Subtot	al \$	1,500.00	\$ 1,375.00	\$	-
Grand Total of 1/4 Statement	\$	28,340.00	\$ 26,581.86	\$	28,964.00

St. Jacobs 2023 Proposed Budget

Our World Mission	20	22 Proposed	2	2022 Actuals	20	23 Proposed
ELCA	\$	1,000.00	\$	1,000.00	\$	1,000.00
SD Synod Registration	\$	260.00	\$	-	\$	260.00
Bethel Home	\$	1,000.00	\$	1,000.00	\$	1,000.00
Subtota	ıl \$	2,260.00	\$	2,000.00	\$	2,260.00
Our Church Home						
Organist	\$	1,500.00	\$	1,330.00	\$	1,500.00
Treasurer	\$	300.00	\$	300.00	\$	300.00
Worship/Service	\$	325.00	\$	394.40	\$	400.00
Grounds Mainten.	\$	500.00	\$	500.00	\$	500.00
Sunday/Bible School	\$	400.00	\$	121.24	\$	400.00
Repairs/Maint.	\$	500.00	\$	5,889.05	\$	2,000.00
Custodian	\$	1,500.00	\$	1,500.00	\$	1,500.00
Electricity	\$	4,000.00	\$	4,468.96	\$	5,000.00
Water	\$	375.00	\$	516.00	\$	600.00
Insurance	\$	3,650.00	\$	3,042.00	\$	3,100.00
Building Fund	\$	500.00	\$	-	\$	500.00
Miscellaneous	\$	200.00	\$	70.00	\$	100.00
Telephone	\$	-	\$	105.61	\$	200.00
Subtota		13,750.00	\$	18,237.26	\$	16,100.00
		·		·		·
Miscellaneous Expense						
The Lutheran	\$	200.00	\$	56.12	\$	200.00
Outdoor Improvements	\$	-	\$	5,676.48	\$	-
World hunger	\$	-			\$	-
Mission trip	\$	-	\$	737.00	\$	-
Disaster Relief	\$	-	\$	600.00	\$	-
Special Offerings, Souper bowl	\$	-	\$	536.40	\$	-
ELCA Table of Grace	\$	-			\$	-
Trans. to Building fund	\$	-			\$	-
Pastor Appreciation Gifts	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Subtota		200.00	\$	7,606.00	\$	200.00
				·		
St. Jacobs Expense Total	\$	16,210.00	\$	27,843.26	\$	18,560.00
Total Previous Page	\$	28,340.00	\$	26,581.86	\$	28,964.00
	1			,		,
Grand Totals	\$	44,550.00	\$	54,425.12	\$	47,524.00
Inside property: \$164,000 with replacement costs						
made property. 9107,000 with replacent	ent co	osts				
Building: \$1,000,000 with replacement c		osts				

South Dakota Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Dear South Dakota Synod,

Grace and peace to you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit! On behalf of the 200 partner congregations and worshipping communities in South Dakota, your two companion synods, Cameroon and Nicaragua, and your 64 synod partners across the ELCA, I would like to thank you for your partnership. Together we have faithfully shared the Gospel of Jesus Christ with "all nations" (Matthew 28:19).



Please know that your local ministry has touched people's lives and hearts. Every item you donated to your local food ministry, every Sunday school lesson you prepared and taught, every quilt you assembled, every cup of coffee you poured at a funeral luncheon, and every other way you served your neighbor in Christ's name has touched someone else in Christ's name. You may not think much of it, but be assured that every kind gesture, every caring act, and every kind word is a faithful response to the faith God's Holy Spirit ignites in you. Thank you, for living out your faith in these various ways in your local context.

Together with the 200 partner congregations and worshipping communities in the South Dakota Synod, we also continue to be able to reach even farther than anyone's own local context, and, together, make a positive impact in Christ's name in all parts of our Synod. Please take a look at the "Ministry Celebration" insert that was included in our annual year end mailing. It will give you a numerical snapshot of the many things we have accomplished together as the South Dakota Synod. Thank you for being a partner in this journey.

Personally, I am grateful for your support of my rural ministry emphasis. Because of your generosity and your synod council's courage, I was able extend a call to Pastor Alan Blankenfeld to serve as the first "South Dakota Synod Rural Liaison". This position is not funded through the synod's mission plan but instead through your generosity and in part through "Listen God's Calling" capital campaign resources. Because of your generosity, Pastor Alan has impacted and continues to impact rural communities in big ways. You may want to be careful if he asks you out for coffee, though, because he is known for planting and cultivating the seed of answering the call to ordained ministry.

We are also able to look back on a successful inaugural "Farm to Table Dinner," at which we raised over \$100,000.00 for Rural Ministry support. Through these gifts, and your synod council's support of Pastor Greg Johnson in his sabbatical project, we are now also able to offer you a free five-part study called "A Life of Faith," which can be used in a variety of ways. You can check out the series on the synod's webpage www.sdsynod.org. And finally, I am delighted to announce to you that, because of a generous donor, the South Dakota Synod was able to establish the first "Rural Ministry Sustainability Endowment." As it grows, it will assure that the Gospel of new life in Christ can be shared for generations to come.

In closing, let me share with you my deep sense of gratitude for the opportunity to serve the synod as your Bishop with a deep passion for rural ministry in times such as these. I am grateful for the call, your partnership in ministry and the grace of God, which sustains us in our daily life. Thanks be to God!

Journeying with you,

C. Haguaier

Bishop Constanze Hagmaier

South Dakota Synod, ELCA Adopted Mission Plan 02/01/2023 - 01/31/2024

	Adopted 2023
Revenue	
Mission Support	
Undesignated Mission Support	1,870,465
SD Synod Mission Support	25,000
Total Mission Support-Congregations	1,895,465
Program Ministry Income	
Pine Ridge Reconciliation Center Income	45,000
Total Program Ministry Income	
Other Income	
DEM Support Staff Income	10,000
Interest Income	10,000
SDS Travel LLC Income	5,000
Misc Income	1,000
Total Other Income	26,000
Total Revenue	1,966,465
Expenses	
Churchwide Ministries	43%
Churchwide Support	804,300
Region III	
Region III Support	7,260
South Dakota Ministries	
South Dakota Partnership Ministries	
SD Ministries Support	10,750
Luther Seminary	74,492
Church Colleges (ELCA Pool)	6,445
Lutheran Social Services	74,492
Campus Ministry	131,356
Lutheran Outdoors	37,151
South Dakota Supported Ministries	
Heartland Ephphatha	6,445
Youth Ministry	3,600
Campus Ministry Capital	1,030
Good Samaritan Society	1
Chapel in the Hills	1
Woyatan Lutheran/Wambli Ska	19,000
Lutheran Planned Generosity	58,300
Total Shared Ministries	423,063

South Dakota Synod, ELCA Adopted Mission Plan 02/01/2023 - 01/31/2024

	Proposed 2023
Executive Leadership	
Bishop	96,675
Assoc/Director of Ev Mission	6,375
Assoc-Mobility/Candidacy	79,909
Executive Staff Benefits	106,192
Exec Travel/Continuing Ed	34,800
Program Ministries	
Pine Ridge Reconciliation Center-Director	98,872
Youth Gathering Synod Coordinator	6,959
Companion Synod Coordinator	15,839
Support Staff and Office	
Support Staff Salaries/Benefit	167,359
Synod Office Expenses	69,264
Augustana University Occupancy Fee	27,876
Synod Committees	
Synod Council	3,000
Support to Ministries Committee	2,100
Candidacy Committee	2,250
Multi-Cultural Ministry Committee	1,550
Companion Synods Ministry Committee	200
Evangelical Outreach Committee	1,500
Mission & Outreach	
Mission Congregation Start-up	4,000
Mission Strategy Table	2,000
Contingency	5,122
Total South Dakota Ministries	731,842
Total Expenses	1,966,465
Net Total	0

2022 MINISTRY CELEBRATION



Our Synod's vision of Journeying Together in Christ has continued to focus our work. We invite you to take a few moments to review the list below which celebrates some of the ministry we shared together in 2022. **Journeying together in Christ as the South Dakota Synod, in 2022 we:**

- Walked with a new start congregation, **Spirit of Hope, in Scotland, SD,** called their mission developer and found a site to worship, as they had outgrown their house.
- Continued to partner with the **McLaughlin Community Alliance Group**, a non-profit utilizing the building of Redeemer Lutheran Church for the empowerment of the community.
- Began exploration for two new potential church plants, with **Box Elder** and **Shepherd's Table in Sioux Falls**.
- Walked with the **30** people in various stages of **Candidacy** and have 3 new entrance interviews scheduled in January 2023!
- Received **9 new first call candidates.**
- Completed 28 Ministry Site Studies and extended 41 calls!
- Ensured that nearly every congregation has a called pastor, interim pastor, Synod Authorized Minister, or lay leader to care for God's people (thank you to all of you who are helping out with area congregations and filling in!)
- Distributed \$60,201 through the Seminary Debt Reduction Program.
- Granted \$124,290 in scholarship funds to seminary students plus \$20,000 in internship site assistance.
- Received **\$102,000** in grants from ELCA Christian Community & Leadership.
- Distributed **37 disaster recovery micro-grants for \$18,800** to congregations in need of repairs or community relief after natural disasters. In addition, Beaver Valley Lutheran Church received **\$22,000** from Lutheran Disaster Response and **\$10,000** from Synod Storm Recovery funds for tornado recovery.
- Held a **Synod Assembly**, where we gathered again as a community to conduct the business of the synod.
- Hosted **Spring** and **Fall Theological Conferences**, where we continued to support the continuing education of our Rostered Ministers either online or in-person.
- Continued to invest in **FaithX**, a community mapping tool for congregations to see hard data about their neighborhoods and learn more about their neighbors.
- Supported the congregations and ministries of the synod through visits by synod staff, both digitally and in-person.
- Created **new synod staff** positions including a **Rural Ministry Liaison** to journey with our rural ministry sites. In the past year, the Rural Ministry Liaison has worked directly with **10 communities** and **19 congregations**.
- Held an inaugural **Farm to Table Dinner and Auction** which resulted in gifts and pledges of almost **\$100,000** to support rural ministry in South Dakota.

Thank you for all the ways you have supported the ministry of the South Dakota this past year! God has called us to be the body of Christ together, and this is an active and healthy body. We look forward to continuing our journey with you in 2023 and beyond!

In 2019, we listened to you and learned from you in order for us to care for you as the body of Christ in South Dakota. As we live into the realities of the COVID-19 pandemic, many things that were said in 2019 are ever more present.

Here's what we found out:

What gives you joy?

- Music
- Multi-generational ministry opportunities
- Purposeful gatherings
- Purposeful volunteering
- The Gospel

What keeps you up at night?

- Economic hardships
- Polarization in our society
- Mental Health
- Fear for the future of "the Church"

How do you envision your relationship with the synod staff?

- ResourcesRelationships
- Programs
- Programs
- Communication

Faith Formation



Why even be "synod?"

• We are synod, because we are called to journey together in Christ. – Luke 24:13-35

How will we journey together in Christ?

- Relating with intentionality
- Networking across the church
- Equipping leaders for ministry
- Sharing Leadership

With confidence in Christ's Love for All.

"Fitting who we are into pews made for who we were."

Participant from 2019 Listen, Learn and Care Event."

What we plan to do:

- Intentionality in our presence (site visits, accompaniment, West River presence, Disaster response through grants and presence)
- Community building opportunities (peer ministry, coaching, zoom groups, task forces, Synod Day)
- Resources (Red River Leadership partnership, Canvas platform faith formation curriculum, network of intentional interim pastors, Justice Table, worship resources, task forces, synod staff sermons, constitutional resources)
- Educational Opportunities (Region 3 Lay School, Psychological First Aid, Mental Health First Aid, Facebook Live Dwelling in the Word, Boundary workshops)

We are no longer the people we were when we left our buildings in March 2020, nor is the world around us – and it won't ever be. New life and possibilities have emerged. Let's embrace our current situation and reimagine it as a classroom. How would that reshape our experience today?

Come on the road with us. The journey awaits. Let's journey together in Christ. journeywithfaith.org



Bethel Lutheran Home, Inc. - 2022 Congregation Report

Since Bethel Lutheran Home opened its doors on March 25, 1962, we have had the amazing opportunity to serve thousands of residents as an extension of your Church. You continue to bless us with good people, both by electing excellent delegates and by referring friends and family who need our services. We are so grateful for all that you do for Bethel Community!

Our 61st annual corporation meeting is scheduled to be held on January 24, 2023, to review the fiscal year end 2022 audited financial statement for Bethel Lutheran Home, Inc. This is the first year that we have held the Annual Meeting in the month of January due to nationwide staffing challenges impacting all facets of life. Typically, yearly audits are reviewed at the annual corporation meetings held in October.

I want to take a few moments to thank everyone for their renewed service to Bethel and our mission in Lake County. Your generous gifts, both monetary and valuable time, have made a dramatic improvement in the lives of the Residents, staff, and our "Community". Every one of you has profoundly impacted our lives and I truly want to say "Thank You" from the Bethel Community.

COVID-19 Impact at Bethel

Currently 53 of 54 Residents that reside at Bethel are vaccinated and approximately 96% of our staff are vaccinated. Bethel experienced it's third outbreak in December that caused 7 residents and 3 staff members to test positive for COVID-19. None of the vaccinated residents or vaccinated staff became very ill as a result which is a testament to the effectiveness of the new Bi-Valent vaccination.

COVID-19 remains factor that causing the most profound impact on staffing. Locating, hiring, and maintaining normal staffing numbers remains one of our largest challenges ending 2022 and entering 2023. We have had 5-6 open CNA positions since March 2021. CMS requires nursing facilities to maintain specific staffing levels. If the facility misses this benchmark, CMS can impose monetary penalties. To combat this, we utilize Agency staffing to fill open positions to maintain a census and provide quality care. The problem this presents is we must pay temp staffing companies approximately 50% more than we are able to pay our full-time and part-time staff. In fiscal year end 2022 we spent approximately \$430,000.

Decreased staffing numbers also affects the number of residents that we can effectively provide care for. Currently our census is on average 53 residents or 90% occupancy. It is important that the quality of care shouldn't be compromised to keep Bethel full. We will increase census as staffing allows. Bethel is among the top 10% of Long -Term Care facilities in South Dakota based on census, most facilities at this time average a 75%-85% occupancy.

CMS also establishes reimbursement rates for the services provided to our residents. Currently there is a \$63 dollar per day difference in the cost to deliver care versus the Medicaid reimbursement rate.

Operational Updates

Bethel's revenue has increased to \$6,632,460 compared to \$6,147,364 in 2021. Our Profitability, Activity and Efficiency (Return on Capital Employed) ratios have all decreased mainly due to our Agency staffing as well as current inflation rates. Working capital or the time to collect payments was 11.48 days in 2021 currently we are at 13.63 days in 2022. Our cash flow is positive currently at \$588,210 with our marginal cash flow at 100.69%. Currently our Debt level has decreased and currently sits at \$2,048,392. Bethel had an operating loss that can be related to contract labor (temp CNA staff).

Capital Improvements

The Derecho in May caused damage throughout the Bethel Community. We have repaired roofing damage on the Chapel, Assisted Living, Apartments, and the Patio Homes as well as removed numerous trees on the campus. The roof over the Bethel Home needs to be replaced as was stated in the 2021 report with a cost of approximately \$300K. Bethel applied for a grant to replace the existing HVAC system with an upgraded filtration system that will be compliant with new air quality standards and was awarded \$251,912. The contract was awarded to Barger Electric with the project beginning September 2022. So far, all new roof top HVAC units have been placed, the remaining work will be when the weather cooperates.

Technology Improvements

- In 2022 we did not improve any technology assets as Bethel was in a good position. In 2023 we will be dramatically improving our Cyber Security posture. Thanks to a grant through DSU we will be implementing a new VPN, Multi-Factor Authentication software among many other safeguards to ensure our resident information is secure. This grant will allow for our system to be actively scanned and defended by local vendors in Madison as well as the State of South Dakota. These services will be paid for in the year 2023 and potentially going forward depending on continued Federal Grant Funding.
- We will be installing a new PA system to allow for facility wide communication as our old system is no longer functioning and not able to be repaired.
- We are updating our Camera Security system by purchasing a new server as well as a new camera by the employee entrance. This system is over 10 years old and not able to be upgraded due to age.

Additional Updates for FY 2022:

- Bethel Lutheran Home did file an RPA, Request for Public Assistance, with FEMA after the Derecho in May. Currently we have requested the cost of the debris removal to be reimbursed which is approximately \$33,000. When approved we should be reimbursed approximately 85% of the total costs.
- There is currently a very strong push in this legislative session for a 21% increase and rebase for Nursing Home Medicaid reimbursement. If/when this passes, I feel this will help alleviate some of the financial burden while potentially helping with recruitment and infrastructure needs. There have been an unprecedented number of Long-Term care closures since 2019 (16 total) with 7 in 2022 alone.

Census

- Total Admissions in the past 12 months = 29
- Total Discharges in the past 12 months = 23
- Occupancy rate for the past 12 months = 95%
- BLH 49% Private Pay, 41% Medicaid, 9% Medicare A, 1% Other
- BLH had an 1.0% increase in the number of Medicaid patient days
- BLH had a 10% increase in the number of Medicare patient days
- BLH had a 21% decrease in the number of Private Pay patient days
- Bethel Suites occupancy rate for the past 12 months = 98.8%
- Bethel Suites 57% Private Pay, 43% Medicaid

Rate Changes

BLH Private Pay Rate: \$270/dayBLH Medicaid Rate: \$223.66/day.

• Bethel Suites Private Pay Rate: \$3600/month

Bethel Suites Medicaid Rate = \$2,684

• Apartment rent: \$1235/12 apts. and \$1340/4 apts

• Twin Home Maintenance Fee: \$515/month

 Patio Home Rent: \$1660/4 and \$1685/2 (Bethel pays the FDN \$4,905/month to pay on the collateral real estate mortgage promissory note)

Star Rating

Bethel Lutheran Home currently has a 3-star facility rating. 5 stars is the highest rating a
facility can achieve. This rating is a snapshot in time of a nursing home's quality measures,
which include infection rates, our ability to take care of our residents' pain levels, and
quarterly staffing levels and annual survey results. In April 2019, CMS changed the criteria of
its rating criteria which resulted in over 70% of nursing homes in the U.S. dropping a star
rating.

Overview of challenges facing Bethel

- Medicaid reimbursement \$63 disparity from cost per day.
- CNA turnover rates and competition with staff agencies. Currently we pay a single Agency CNA at a significantly higher rate than our "organic" staff. This is a non-sustainable model; we are in drastic need for CNAs in Long-Term Care.
- Ability to pay competitive wages due to low Medicaid reimbursement.
- Capital improvements Bethel is getting older, and several updates are needed.
- Open Governing Board Positions in 2023.
 - Linda Meier Our Savior's Lutheran
 - Mildred Moser Trinity Lutheran
 - Governing Board Member Midway Church
 - Vacant Pastor position

Current Board Members

- Jackie Voelker Colman Lutheran President
- Pastor Karl Breddin Pastor St. John's Lutheran Vice President
- Vacant **Secretary**
- Mark Schultz At-large member **Treasurer**
- Nancy Bloker Grace Lutheran
- Maria Feldhaus Bethany Lutheran
- Pastor Herb Wounded Head III St Jacob's Lutheran
- Phil Hoffman First Lutheran
- Connie Wall St John Lutheran, Ramona
- Kathi Eisenbeis St. John's Lutheran-Madison
- Natalie Olson Lake Madison
- Kim Callies At-large member
- Pastor Steve Lindley Trinity Lutheran
- Pastor At-large Vacant
- Pastor Vacant
- Midway Lutheran Vacant
- Our Savior's Lutheran Vacant

I want to thank the outgoing Board members for their dedicated service to Bethel Lutheran Home.

Jeremiah Schneider, Administrator Bethel Lutheran Home



BE A PARTNER IN HEALING OUTREACH



2022 Annual Report to Congregations

LSS Services Focus on Strengthening Families

The challenges of the last three years have changed the landscape of the work that we do at LSS. Not only have local community needs shifted, but funding, staffing and service delivery models have shifted.

Our strategic planning process engaged the Governing Board of Directors, executive and leadership teams, and LSS staff in conversations about how those changing dynamics will impact us over the next four years.

At LSS we're passionate about making a difference in South Dakota communities and addressing emerging community needs. We believe that a focus on services that strengthen families and help keep youth at home and in their community will help attain our vision for South Dakota—that all South Dakotans will be healthy, safe and accepted. We have established a number of internal operational strategies to be achieved for us to reach that goal and are hopeful that after four years we will be able to say that we made a significant impact.



Rebecca Kiesow-Knudsen President/CEO

With Your Support, Together We Make a Meaningful Impact on Families

Your donations enable LSS to transform lives through high standards of quality service and service delivery. LSS monitors and reviews client outcomes as a gauge of programmatic quality. With your congregation's support, we are better able to carry out our vision—bringing clarity, stability, family and support to people of all ages, families of all kinds and communities of all sizes. Thank you!



Functional Family Therapy outcomes are strong. **97%** of youth and **98%** of parents reported improved family functioning. **96%** of youth were in school or working at discharge.





A Glimpse at Our Strategic Plan

Here is a preliminary glimpse of our strategic plan. From these operational strategies, we are developing action plans and a four-year line of site.

ORGANIZATIONAL

Strategy 1: Pursue programmatic opportunities that strengthen families

Strategy 2: Pursue programmatic opportunities that keep children and youth in their homes and communities

OPERATIONAL

Strategy 1: Create a positive culture that helps recruit, retain and support a high quality workforce to meet program goals and objectives

Strategy 2: Ensure long-term f inancial viability for the organization and individual programs

Your continued support will help us accomplish our goals and better serve our South Dakota communities.

"Journeying Together in Christ"

2022 will be remembered as a year of challenges--drought, global conflict, stock market corrections, and hard-hitting inflation. Plenty of reasons for anxiety and pulling back, saving and waiting. But also opportunities for genuine reflection about **generosity**. What does it look like? Is this fruit of the Spirit reflected in my life? How much is ENOUGH (for me)?



As a partner ministry of the South Dakota Synod, ELCA,

Lutheran Planned Generosity of South Dakota (LPGSD)

was created to join you on your journey to create a personal legacy

plan—one that expresses your faith in Christ with gratitude and generosity.

LPGSD also walks alongside congregations hoping to create or revitalize their own legacy through an endowment fund, offering members the opportunity to share in the ministry and outreach of their Christian family. Walking and working together, we can create **greater impact** because of intentional plans and shared visions.

Where will your **generosity journey** will lead in 2023? LPGSD would be honored to serve as your confidential guide with no fees, commissions or obligations as you explore some of these destination options:

- Income for You Now—Gifts to Ministry Later. A charitable gift annuity provides you with fixed payments for life, with the remainder of the gift benefiting the ministries of your choice.
- ◆ **Gifts Beyond the Checkbook.** Grain, Cattle, Stocks, Mutual Funds, Real Estatealmost any appreciated asset can create a tax-efficient gift with greater impact.
- Qualified Charitable Distribution. Use your IRA to make tax-free gifts and reduce your adjusted gross income, even if you no longer itemize charitable contributions. Ask about the new Non-Advised Fund to spread the distribution of a large QCD over several years.
- Give It Twice Trust. A tool to create income for you and/or your family and the
 ministries you care about, oftentimes doubling the impact of your assets
 because of tax savings. A great solution to the IRS's elimination of stretch
 IRAs.
- ◆ **Legacy Gifts.** Name your favorite ministries as beneficiaries on an insurance policy, a bank account or an IRA, your will or trust, or even your home via a life estate or TOD (transfer on death) designation.
- Congregational Endowment and Gift Policies.
 - Newly updated document templates
 - Workshops for individuals, church councils and endowment committees

Ready for the journey?

Contact Kathy McHenry at **605.274.5030** or **kmchenry@sdsynod.org**. Visit our website at **www.lpgsd.org** or find us on Facebook.

Regardless of your personal or financial situation,



CHURCH ON THE STREET ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Dear Church on the Street Ministry Partners,

Your faithful generosity in prayer, kits, visits, quilt making, laundry pods, quarters, transporting donations, fundraising, Thrivent Action Teams, making and serving meals, telling the story, and making sure the good news of Jesus resurrection is known in hugs, tears, words, and clean laundry is remarkable. God's work is being done by a whole community by being Church together. Thank you for all so very much!

It is a joy for me to share what God is up to at Church on the Street, and I love getting to visit organizations and congregations all over the state and even in neighboring states! Frequently, a few lay leaders are able to join me. After a visit this summer, one of them leaned over and said, "I love hearing our story." And, in case you didn't know it, our story includes you! It is a story of God calling together a community that worships, serves, and walks together with those experiencing homelessness and poverty in Sioux Falls.

Here is a snapshot of who we are and what we do as a church:

- We worship monthly (6 months in the park & 6 months in the Multicultural Center)
- Our Laundry with Love ministry provides free laundry for families, a meal, new underwear, and fellowship
- We provide pastoral care at the Bishop Dudley Hospitality House, weekly
- We take countless walks to meet people where they are
- We ensure that folks are fed through our pantry and Fruits of the Freezer
- We collect, and pray over prayer requests are shared and prayed over and send them out to partners like you (email me churchonthestreet.org to join those who pray for our individuals)

Because of you, we can better meet the growing needs in our community. We're relocating our annual Health and Healing event to include more ways for people to experience wellness through screenings and checks - in addition to feeling a bit more dignity through haircuts and new family photos.

We continue to have excellent staff and regular volunteers who work hard and deeply love the Church on the Streeters. When we gather for worship, in the laundry mat, or even on visits, someone is always handing me a little bit of food they got from a food giveaway or some warm clothing they won't be eating or using and tells me to pass it along to someone who needs it. Generosity abounds at Church on the Street!

We say it often because it is true – It's great to be Church together!

Together we do God's work and reach out to one another with hope and love. This hard, holy work is a blessing to so many. Thank you.

God's blessings, Rev. Chris Matson

Pastor & Mission Developer 327 S Dakota Ave Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57103 Chris@churchonthestreetsf.org 605-215-1143



DONATE NOW



Third Cross Quarterly

a publication for friends and supporters a network of ministry for South Dakota inmates

Annual Report 2022

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Grace to you and peace from God, our Father, and from our Lord and Savior, Jesus, who is the Christ. Amen!

Greetings from your brothers and sisters in Christ behind the walls of the South Dakota State Penitentiary system. Thank you all for the outpouring of support and encouragement we have received this year. It has been a big year of transitions, and God is at work in amazing ways in the lives of people inside and outside the walls.

The beginning of this year saw us restricted from even being allowed inside the prison due to lingering Covid restrictions, to again being able to gather for worship in-person. And you stepped up; we have had great groups visit both "The Hill" in Sioux Falls and at Mike Durfee State Prison in Springfield, SD, to worship with us.

In February, we bid Pr. Wayne Gallipo a joyous farewell as he transitioned into retirement. I want to thank Pr. Wayne for his faithful service, hard work, and ministry to St Dysmas. Our staff including our office manager, Susan Zacher, and music directors, Diane Larson and Joran Olson, all worked so hard to endure very challenging times in the history of both the St Dysmas ministry and the world in general.

Emerging from Easter season in the promise that God makes all things new, on May 1, I began serving as the Senior Pastor and Development Director to St Dysmas of South Dakota. Though I am new to leading this ministry, I inherited a strong legacy of God's grace at work in challenging places. I give thanks that each and every day I get to witness God bringing new life from death in the lives of those who society often sees as undeserving. Worship attendance has increased at "The Hill," MDSP, and the Yankton Unit. I am grateful for the work of Pr. David Bentz, who serves at MDSP, and Pr Dani Jo Bierwagen, who serves at the Yankton Unit. They are both faithful shepherds of God's flock.

We are guided by a faithful and hardworking Associate Council that helps guide the strategy of the St Dysmas ministry. Bringing my business management background with me into leading this ministry, I know I have certainly thrown new ways of thinking at them, and they have been greatly supportive.

Mitch Wilson continues to serve as our Re-Entry Coordinator. During Covid, a lot of the momentum of his work took a hit, but he has continued to accompany those transitioning from incarceration back into the "normal world," and he does a great job. We look forward to talking to congregations about welcoming justice-impacted individuals to be part of your faith community. We know that making connections with these individuals leads to the success of their transition.

Above all, I give thanks to God for the many gifts he has entrusted to us. Through the faithful partnerships of many congregations, families, and individuals, we can do the work of proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ to those who need to hear it most; "setting the captives free..."

Grace and peace to you always!

Pastor Jeff Backer

Senior Pastor/Development Director



Donate Now!

LUTHERANS OUTDOORS IN SOUTH DAKOTA







2022 CONGREGATIONAL REPORT

WELCOME, NEW STAFF!

Lutherans Outdoors welcomed some new faces to our staff during 2022.

We welcomed Marti Knudsen as the Camp Director of NeSodak in November, Marti brings many years of experience in Outdoor Ministries at Upper Missouri Ministries in North Dakota. She has three daughters and a husband; Pastor Josh Knudsen serves at Grace Lutheran in Sisseton.

Klaire (Hudson) Decker was welcomed as Program Director at Outlaw Ranch in late spring 2022. She was on summer staff in 2018 and 2019. Klaire and her now husband Noah were married in October.

SUMMER 2022 | SUMMER 2023

Over 1,250 campers experienced God's Boundless Love during the summer of 2022 at NeSoDak. Klein Ranch, and Outlaw Ranch! This was an approximate 15% increase from the Summer of 2021. It is approximately 75% of the number of campers attending the camps in 2019, previous to the Covid-19 pandemic. Unfortunately, the last week of summer camp at Outlaw Ranch needed to be canceled for safety reasons as several staff members tested positive for Covid.

WONDER Summer 2023

During the summer of 2023, campers will explore the wonders of creation, the gift of grace through Jesus, and how we steward these gifts. Campers will look down, look up, look around, look in, and look out to examine the precious gifts of community and creation.

> Registration is currently open so reserve your spots today at losd.org. We will see you at CAMP in 2023!

REIMAGINING LUTHERANS OUTDOORS

Staff and Board members of Lutherans Outdoors, along with many of you that are interested in the future of Lutherans Outdoors, will begin a REIMACINING of the ministry during 2023. New Core Values will be announced early in the year.

Deep dive audits will begin looking at Program, Governance, Marketing, Finance and Budgeting, Staffing, Facilities, and Financial Development. This REIMAGINING will create what Lutherans Outdoors will look like for the next 30, 40, or even 50 years and will be presented at the 2023 Annual Meeting taking place in June 2024. Please contact the Lutherans Outdoors office if you are interested in helping with this REIMAGINING!

Lutherans Outdoors in South Dakota welcomes all to explore and experience Christ's love in community and creation.



Shetek Lutheran Ministries
14 Keeley Island Dr.
Slayton, MN 56172
(507)-763-3567
camp@shetek.org
www.shetek.org
Executive Director - Marv Nysetvold
Program Director - Lexie Blaschko

Greetings from your camp – Shetek Lutheran Ministries!

Over the past three summers, Shetek has adapted and sought out new ways to carry out our mission. In 2020 we offered a shortened season with many restrictions and served 265 campers. Last year, 2021, we offered a full season of summer programming but limited our numbers and served 618 campers. This year we offered our full season with somewhat limited numbers and served 621 campers. This year, our limited camper numbers had more to do with the difficulty finding summer staff than the pandemic. One of our greatest challenges is finding young adults who are willing to serve for the summer. We were blessed with 4 international counselors this past summer and Shetek will be doing more with international counselors in 2023.

Our summer ministry team of 20 young adults served faithfully this summer. Elementary, middle school, senior high, family camp, grandparent/grandchild camp and SOS camp (for folks with disabilities) all came this summer! For reference, 621 campers is about 75% of the campers we served in 2019. Safety was again a top priority and again, as in 2020 and 2021, we had no known cases of COVID. Campers were again thankful for camp.

Our "Building on the Foundation" capital campaign was on hold for most of 2020 and 2021. This year we restarted the congregational phase of the campaign. Several congregations have run successful campaigns in their congregations so far this year. We will be contacted all our 101 member congregations to give them the opportunity to participate. We continue to visit with prospective major donors, those who give or pledge \$5,000 or more for the campaign. Our total so far in cash and pledges is about \$1,475,000 towards our goal of \$1,500,000 with a challenge goal of \$2,000,000. With our member congregations and new donors, we hope to reach our challenge goal of \$2,000,000 in 2023. The new lodge is close to being open for guests. Our beach/waterfront was updated and landscaped before our summer program started this year and is a beautiful improvement. Our new water treatment system was up and running for the summer also.

Shetek continues to receive estate gifts periodically, which we are very thankful for. Over the years, these thoughtful gifts have really benefitted the ministry at Shetek. If you're interested in finding out more about how to support Shetek in this way, please let us know. We have access to a gift planner at no cost to our donors.

Some improvements in 2022 – the new landscaped beach area along with a new dock for the swimming area and the new water treatment center. We did some grading and tiling on the south end of the property to improve drainage. Several smaller propane tanks around camp were removed and consolidated to larger ones. A new water line was installed from the new lodge to the activity center and the old pump house is no longer in service. Plans for future expansion were included with the new water line.

I am thankful for our year round staff and their hospitality to our guests and campers. Shetek welcomed Val Kastner in Feb. to our Housekeeping team, Lexie Blaschko joined us in May as our Program Director and Jana Sturges began in June in our Food Service.

2022 looks better than 2021, but compared to the average from 2015-2019, we will still be about \$30,000 lower in program income and about \$12,000 lower in retreat/rental income. However, in the face of all the uncertainty over the last couple of year, our donors and congregations have continued to respond with incredible generosity. I am amazed and grateful and can't say "THANK YOU" enough for your support and prayers!!

Marv Nysetvold, Executive Director

Shetek's Board of Directors in 2022 – Ashley Benson, Lindsey Cartwright, Logan Gooch, Lora Hopp-Hansen, Sarah Kirchner, Pastor Jeanette McCormick, Leon Mortland, Pastor Eric Ohrtman, Pastor Elizabeth Pagnotta, Pastor Juanita Parker, Pastor Laura Phillips, Pastor Michael Stangeland.

Shetek's staff in Dec. 2022 – Lexie Blaschko, Sandy Carlson, Tom Carlson, Katie Chapman, Nora Dahlhoff, Michelle Flanigan, Sharon Haugen, Val Kastner, Jean Larson, Marv Nysetvold, Joe Stefanick, Jana Sturges, Jessica Van Dam, Jane Wahl.

AUTHORIZATION FORM:

The **Simply Giving® Program** endorsed by

Name of the organization: St. Jacobs Lutheran Church, Colton, SD



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ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING OPENING LITURGY

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart

Recognizing that our faith is a living, busy, active and mighty thing, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with each of you.

And also with you.

Teach us to love you with all our heart, soul, mind and strength.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Descend on our hearts, that we may love others in the ways Jesus loves us.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Empower us to be enthusiastic in pursuing your vision for our congregation.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Move us to engage issues in our community in Christlike ways, and to pursue deep and authentic relationships with those with whom we serve and partner.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Strengthen us to face the barriers we encounter in doing your work, learning to work with others amid disagreement.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Give us the ability to adapt to the cultural, economic and social changes that occur in the neighborhoods we serve.

Receive our prayer, O God.

Guide us to be a healthy congregation that learns from its failures as well as its successes and offers wisdom to others.

Receive our prayer, O God.

As we strive to become the church that we proclaim to be, raise up leaders who focus on the gospel of freedom, forgiveness and reconciliation as given to us through God's indescribable act of love in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Renew us daily in our baptism, that we may discover vitality in our relationships with you, each other and those we serve in the world.

Amen.



Text: George Croly, 1780-1860

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

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Through your generosity, God is at work across the ELCA. A portion of your offering, called Mission Support, advances the ministry of our church, helping the ELCA nurture Christian community, raise up leaders, serve our neighbors and strive for justice. Read stories and learn more at ELCA.org/SOFIA.

