



BETHEL

LUTHERAN CHURCH



2023 ANNUAL REPORT

MISSION STATEMENT

We, the Bethel Congregation, called by God, commit ourselves to proclaim the Gospel, to prepare our members for outreach and service, and to minister to human needs.

VISION STATEMENT

Bethel Lutheran Church will stand as a Lutheran and Christian leader in this community by being: a vibrant place of worship; a caring institution utilizing its many resources of people, facilities, and finances to serve members, the community, and interdependent expressions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; a place to nurture and educate; and an interpreter and supporter of global mission.

CORE VALUES

- Jesus is Lord of all; Christ is at the center of all Bethel's ministry and proclamation.
- Corporate worship is Bethel's highest commitment and will be expressed by sharing the faith with others throughout the week.
- God's people of Bethel are called to serve family, church, community, and world through continuous outreach and mission.
- Bethel will model a godly way of life for our members and society, including, but not limited to: a life of integrity, honesty, commitment, and loyalty.
- Bethel will be good stewards of our time, talent, and resources in serving members and the community.
- Bethel will nurture the entire congregation through education and building up of the family unit.
- Bethel will be a source of comfort to those who suffer, mourn, or are in distress.

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BETHEL STAFF

PASTORS

- Rev. Anjanette Bandel, Lead Pastor
- Rev. Lisa Hawe, Associate Pastor - Generational Ministry
- Rev. Linda Helberg, Pastor of Visitation
- Rev. Byron Meline, Interim Associate Pastor – Visitation, Mission and Teaching Ministry

STAFF

- Julie Allhiser, Lead Director of Youth Ministry
- Melissa Almer, Sign Language Interpreter
- Jim Bahler, Principal Organist
- Cindy Bahler, Wedding Coordinator
- Alyssa Barker, Business Administrator
- Brock Besse, Minister of Worship & Music
- Cheri Brinson, Receptionist
- Lori Finstad, Custodian
- Rachel Hasley, Director of Communications
- Janet Hoffmann, Administrative Secretary
- Kevin Holz, Custodian
- Sheri Kallembach, Member Coordinator
- Susan Larson, Director of Children's Ministry
- Wendy Lewis, Weekend Receptionist
- Nicholas Marquardt, Properties Supervisor
- Michele Nyman, Leader for the Gate of Life Worship
- Connie Post, Membership Secretary
- Michele Pretzer, Weekend Receptionist
- Deidra Richards, Communications Coordinator
- Merle Savage, Associate Music Director
- Kari Tollefson, Children's Ministry Assistant
- Jeanne Townsend, RN, Parish Nurse
- Tony Wright, Custodial Supervisor
- Becky Wulff, Sign Language Interpreter

BETHEL COUNCIL MEMBERS

- Greg Heetland, President
- Robin Kroening, Vice President
- Jered Longtin, Treasurer
- Brett Boese, Secretary
- Mitch Anderson, Resource Board
- Michele Ratelle, Christian Education Board
- Dave Brandt, Congregational Growth and Outreach Board
- Kelly Jones, Worship and Music Board

STATISTICAL SUMMARY





24 Baptisms
4,134 Baptized Members



4 Marriages



- 583 Avg. Worship Attendance
- 276 Avg. Weekly Livestream/Online worship



36 Funerals



61 Students in Confirmation Program, over 15 volunteers



80 Kids at VBS, over 45 volunteers



243 Children & Youth Registered for Sunday Morning Education



\$78,426 Raised to support local, national, & international missions

IN MEMORIAM

During 2023, the following Bethel members were transferred to the Church Triumphant. As a congregation, we extend our deep sympathy to those who have experienced the loss of:

- | | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Richard Berg | Roger Dick | Paul Dallman | Darlene Moody |
| Cole Graham | Jane Ruble | Donald Olson | Steven Martin |
| Harvard Jendersee | Sharon Mills | Judy Bader | Larry Oefstedahl |
| Ronald Meline | Donna Anderson | Dorothy Lundquist | Davin Tukua |
| Roland Staub | Helen Moe | LeRoy Rud | Jerri Prochazka |
| Beverly Larson | Jerry Kruse | Sharon Kueker | Eric Benson |
| Clarice Berg | Janet Schleusner | Robert Wilcox | Marlys Nelson |
| Linda Rud | Irene Berg | Robert Anderson | Peggy Youngstrom |
| Dale Mundahl | Jayden Hyde | Maynard Pankow | David Williams |

ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA



Sunday, January 28th, 2024

Welcome

Call to Order

Opening Devotions

Approval of Minutes from Annual Meeting, February 5, 2023

Elections

Reports

1. Lead Pastor
2. President/Church Council
3. Treasurer

Approval of 2024 Budget

Unfinished Business

New Business

Adjournment

Closing Prayer

MINUTES FROM THE 2023 ANNUAL MEETING

Council President Greg Heetland opened the meeting.

Pastor Lisa led the devotions.

MINUTES from the 2022 Annual meeting were approved as written.

ELECTIONS:

Council nominations were presented. Greg Heetland for President, Jered Longtin for Treasurer, Kelly Jones for Worship and Music Board Representative, and Michele Ratelle for Christian Education Board Representative. Nominations were announced for the Nominating Team, Personnel Team, Endowment Team, and the Columbarium Board. Nominations for the Synod Assembly Voting Members were announced. A motion to accept the ballot as presented for all the above nominations passed.

REPORTS

> **PRESIDENT'S REPORT - GREG HEETLAND**

2022 was a year of getting back to normal. Removing masks, more in-person meetings, Christmas concerts and other markers along the way as we transition to a new normal. Transitioned our endowment fund from Wells Fargo to Associated Bank, with a focus on sustainable funds.

Pastor Jason Burggraff transitioned out after 10 years of service, leaving about the same time Pastor Lisa Howe joined in December. Call committee had trouble during the search process in part because of the 2010 Resolutions, which deal with sexual preferences. Sub-committee has been created to examine that language to determine if they still represent the will of the current congregation. Pastor Byron Meline has agreed to stay on with an open-ended timeline while we search for a third full-time pastor.

> **LEAD PASTOR'S REPORT - REV. ANJANETTE BANDEL**

Change is a constant and something that needs to be navigated. Worship continues to be the main focus for us and where we spend the most resources with four distinct services. One new feature that's proved popular is the weekly Super Server video feature.

Bethel suffered a great loss in the sudden and unexpected death of Mike Schad in November. He would have soon turned 60. One of his major contributions was completing the stucco improvement project on the exterior of the building.

Augsburg has rented less of Bethel's physical space since the pandemic of 2020, which has significantly altered Bethel's finances. Exploring rental revenue will be a priority in 2023.

Call committee will be a focus in 2023 to fill out the full-time pastoral staff. A sub-committee has been formed to help explore the continuing resolutions, which were problematic during the most recent pastoral search.

Three main steps:

1. Sub-committee has been formed to hold informational sessions and a vote will be held in March 2023 at a date yet to be determined.
2. Call committee will be formed after that vote is held to either hold or dissolve the resolution related to sexual preferences of pastors and/or perform homosexual marriages.
3. Start the search process for a new pastor

March 21 — Call committee will be determined by the church council

April — Committee formed and details submitted to the Synod.

May — Interviews shall begin with interested and qualified candidates

Pastor Anjanette will hit 15 years at Bethel later this year — and she continues to love this church.

> TREASURER'S REPORT - ERIK LUNDQUIST

Erik Lundquist presented the Treasurer's report. Both total income and total expenses were down compared to the 2022 budget. 2022 ended with a surplus of \$54,021.

PRESENTATION OF THE 2023 BUDGET

The 2023 budget was presented by Erik Lundquist. Thanks to the efforts of all involved in developing the budget. Rental income is budgeted to be less in 2023 than previous years. The budget with a negative \$54,325 was brought forth. A motion to accept the budget as submitted was made, seconded and approved.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS - None

Greg thanked everyone in the meeting for attending.

There was a motion, seconded, and passed to adjourn the meeting.

Pastor Lisa concluded the meeting with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Brett Boese, Bethel Church Council Secretary

PASTORS' REPORT

¹⁶From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known." *John 1:16-17*

In 2023, the abundant grace of God continued to sustain the ministry of our congregation. With a new pastoral opening at the start of the year, Bethel was fortunate to retain Rev. Byron Meline to serve a second time as our Interim Pastor. Along with preaching and worship leadership, he has provided consistent pastoral care alongside the pastoral team, worked with our Social Missions and Neighborhood Outreach Team, and led multiple Bible studies throughout the year. During Pastor Anjanette Bandel's three-month sabbatical from July to September, he was able to provide full-time ministry support. Sabbatical time after seven years of service at Bethel continues to be a great gift to pastors who serve at Bethel. It is an important commitment to keep our pastoral leadership healthy and strong. Pastor Anjanette completed her fifteenth year of serving the congregation in 2023. A key to long pastorates at Bethel is the commitment to providing support and space for sabbatical rest.

During 2023, post-COVID reengagement continued as there was slow, but measurable growth to worship attendance and volunteer participation. Easter weekend brought attendance that made for a hope-filled trajectory and an innovative summer worship schedule increased attendance among all ages. An additional summer monthly contemporary service led by Bethel's Minister of Music and Worship, Brock Besse, several outdoor worship services, picnics and family activities, outdoor music concerts, Gate of Life, Night to Unite, the Rochester Mission Trip, and a strong Saturday night and Sunday traditional worship schedule all year long made for multiple options for Bethel members to return to in-person worship and fellowship. Bethel's livestream worship service continues to draw a healthy participation by members and non-members alike. Bethel is continuing to find its "new normal" but with a committed and faithful staff, the ministry of our congregation remains vibrant.

In early December, Pastor Lisa Hawe completed her first year on the pastoral staff at Bethel. Along with Pastors Anjanette and Byron, she is involved in a wide range of pastoral responsibilities. As Pastor of Generational Ministry, Pastor Lisa, coming with years of experience in Youth and Family Ministry, works closely with our CYF staff and has enriched our ministry with children, youth, and their families.

While staff changes were significant in 2023, new staff members have arrived in the last three months of the year who have already proven to be great additions to the team. We welcomed Alyssa Barker, Business Administrator; and Nick Marquardt, Property Manager. In December. Deidra Richards, Communication Coordinator, joined the staff in November. A large congregation like Bethel benefits greatly from a skilled and energetic team. We are hopeful for a full-time Youth Director to complete the CYF staff in the coming year.

A fantastic Call Committee was assembled in early April after a congregational vote on March 12th. The congregational meeting was called to review two continuing resolutions, 2010-02 and 2010-03, that had proved problematic to the previous Bethel call process in 2022. Since the continuing resolutions had not been discussed for more than a decade, Bethel leadership and the Lead Pastor provided numerous informational meetings to invite the congregation to learn more about the resolutions in preparation for a vote to either keep or dissolve them. While nearly 400 people were in attendance, 357 votes were cast with 136 voting to keep the resolutions and 226 voting to dissolve them. The Call Committee was able to complete the Congregational Ministry Site Profile by June, a requirement of our SE MN Synod of the ELCA and began interviewing in July. Excellent candidates have been interviewed in the past six months and the Call Committee is using great care to discern the best person to serve as the next Associate Pastor for the congregation. We are hopeful for a new pastoral colleague in 2024.

Pastor Linda Helberg celebrated her 24th year of ministry at Bethel this fall, ten of those as our Visitation Pastor. We continue to be blessed by her engaging visitation ministry to approximately 80 homebound Bethel members where her primary focus is to bring the sacrament of Holy Communion. She also provides monthly communion services at the communities of Homestead, The Waters, and Shorewood and most recently resumed a service at Rochester East. Add to this the congregation's partnership in delivering Easter Lilies and Poinsettia Plants to more than 75 homebound at Easter and Christmas.

The breadth of Bethel's ministry to all ages and seasons of life continues to be centered in the transformative power of Christ's death and resurrection. It is our greatest joy serving as your pastors of Word and Sacrament ministry to proclaim God's forgiveness, life, and salvation through Jesus Christ. This takes place in weekly in worship services, among the grieving at funerals, in moments of holy ground that come in daily life's shared joys and challenges, and as the water and the Word name and claim the newly baptized children of God. Thank you, Bethel members, for your support of your pastoral team and your partnership in ministry. We will continue to serve to the best of our abilities, trusting in the Holy Spirit to guide our ministry among you.

Rev. Anjanette Bandel, Lead Pastor
Rev. Lisa Hawe, Associate Pastor of Generational Ministry
Rev. Byron Meline, Interim Pastor of Education Ministry
Rev. Linda Helberg, Visitation Pastor

PRESIDENT OF THE CONGREGATION REPORT

Bethel has continued to be blessed in 2023 with the many diverse opportunities there are for Bethel members to engage. Bethel, like the rest of the world, is trying to re-engage previous activities that had stopped during the covid years, while also implementing new activities for its members. There is still uncertainty as people start to understand this post-covid world. As we start 2023, let's take a brief look at 2022 at Bethel.

I am amazed at the numerous teams and activities that Bethel members can partake. Some activities in 2023 included: Rochester Mission Trip, Gigantic Rummage Sales (Spring and Fall), The Christmas Tea, the Thanksgiving dinner, the Christmas Concert, stellar Vacation Bible School, Bible studies, Leap of Faith, Young in Spirit, family lefse making, ushering, communion serving, service Saturdays for the youth, CYF Ministry, Bethel book club, Elevate, spring quilt sale, numerous musical vocal groups, Bethel Brass, mentors, Bethel orchestra, Bell ringers, Confirmation class, adult education forums, Forum 56, Night to Unite, Food for Kidz, quilters, Lawnchair learning, anti-racism team, flu shots, blood pressure checks, Neighborhood Outreach Team (NOT), Sunday school Christmas program, devotional ministry team, Where Your Heart Is stewardship campaign, and the many small groups and teams that make Bethel function. My guess is that members have collectively contributed thousands of volunteer hours for these various activities/teams in 2023 alone.

It was two years ago at the annual meeting that the congregation voted 125-3 to refinance the 2005 mortgage which was used to build this new sanctuary. The refinance has helped the budget last year, this year, and will again in the upcoming years as well. The re-finance included \$200,000 additional funds to help with the stucco project that was completed in 2022. The original mortgage in 2005 of \$5.7 million went below \$1 million in 2022 for the 1st time, and now even with the \$200,000 additional funds in the 2022 re-finance for the stucco project, the mortgage balance is \$694,774 at the end of 2023. Bethel members should begin dreaming of ways to continue helping/supporting the Bethel, Rochester, and worldwide communities when the mortgage is paid off.

In March 2023, a special congregational meeting was held to determine if Continuing Resolutions 2010-02 and 2010-03 should be kept or dissolved in the Continuing Resolutions. The congregation voted to dissolve both resolutions. Those two resolutions have been removed from the Bethel governing documents.

In April 2023, a new Call Committee was formed to fill the 3rd full-time pastor position, Associate Pastor Visitation Mission and Teaching. The Call Committee has met numerous times and held interviews with numerous candidates, but the work of the Call Committee is still ongoing.

The policy of pastors taking a 3 month sabbatical after every 7 years of service is a policy that Bethel has fully supported. It allows the pastors a time for recharging, and it allows Bethel time to challenge its members and staff during the absence of that pastor. Lead Pastor Anjanette took her sabbatical during the summer of 2023 after 15 years of service at Bethel. This allowed the staff additional responsibilities and opportunities, and the same can be said for the various teams/committees that functioned during this sabbatical. Bethel is blessed to have the size, staff, and resources to offer this sabbatical to its pastors and the growth opportunities it provides for the staff/members during the sabbatical.

Bethel has also undergone several staff changes in 2023. Pastor Lisa Hawe has completed her first full year as a pastor at Bethel. She had joined Bethel in December 2022. Interim Pastor Byron Meline who was hired in late summer 2022 to fill the 3rd pastoral position has agreed to an extension of his service until the 3rd full-time pastoral position is filled. Bethel is blessed to have Pastor Byron step in during this transition time of pastoral staff. In addition to the pastoral opening, several staff positions have opened up/newly hired/ or are still open. Some of those positions included: Business Administrator, Director of Youth Ministry, Parish Nurse, Communications Coordinator, Weekend Receptionist, and Properties Manager. One outcome of covid is that people can do more work, more educating, more visiting, and more communicating in their homes than pre-covid. This has affected Bethel in rental income. Augsburg University does more online educating and thus needs less physical space. Augsburg has decreased its footprint in Bethel in 2023 and will no longer rent space from Bethel in early 2024. Bethel is looking at other non-profit organizations that can rent the space vacated by Augsburg without impacting Bethel's mission.

As we continue to meet in person more, the need for volunteers at the worship services increases as does the need for volunteers for the various teams/groups that support Bethel and its work. Please consider volunteering. There are so many jobs and teams to choose from. I have met many wonderful people at Bethel the past 3 years that I otherwise would not have met had I not volunteered. How true it is that a person will get more out of life the more they put into it. I truly believe volunteering is something that not only helps the receiver of the volunteer work, but in many times the volunteer gets more out of the exchange.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve. God Bless!

Greg Heetland

Council President

STATEMENT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

We, the appointed Audit Committee of Bethel Lutheran Church, have audited the financial records of the following accounts, as of December 31, 2023:

- Annual Fund
- Endowment
- Mortgage Payment
- Pastor's Discretionary Fund
- Petty Cash
- Special Account

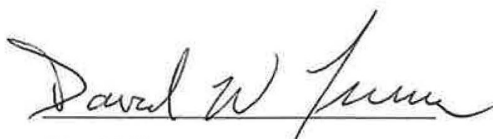
The audit consisted of various tests of the receipts, disbursements, payroll, cash management, and handling of contributions and other sources of income as managed by the Business Administrator. The Audit Committee is satisfied with the presentation of the Balance Sheet & Income Statement and found nothing requiring adjustments to these reports.



David Biren



Alan Anderson



David Turner



Steve Berland

SOCIAL MISSIONS TEAM REPORT

RECIPIENT	AMOUNT
ELCA/LWR	\$33,223.36
Bread for the World	\$2,000.00
Channel One / MN FoodShare	\$2,972.00
Community Food Response	\$256.05
Catholic Charities Resettlement Program	\$1,000.00
ELCA Good Gifts	\$4,138.81
ELCA World Hunger	\$983.00
Family Promise/Interfaith Hospitality Network	\$8,753.14
Food for Kidz (Fill totaling 150,000 meals)	\$12,923.36
Good Earth Village	\$ 4,000.00
Global Health Ministries	\$4,000.00
Global Missions SE MN.Synod	\$4,000.00
Lutheran World Relief	\$3,253.14
Lutheran Disaster Response	\$6,650.00
Lutheran World Relief School Kits	\$200.00
Lutheran Social Services Youth Center	\$5,000.00
Meals on Wheels	\$983.00
Missionary Support	\$2,000.00
Neighborhood Outreach	\$3,000.00
Puerto Rico/Cristo Rey Church	\$3,000.00
Next Chapter Ministries Children's Prog.	\$319.31
Riverside School Pantry	\$140.80
Salvation Army Day Food Program	\$3,253.14
Samaritan Bethany Partners	\$1,500.00
TOTAL	\$107,549.11

ADULT EDUCATION TEAM REPORT

The goal of the Adult Education team is to facilitate within the Bethel congregation a deeper and broader understanding of Christian faith and life. To meet this goal, the team plans and coordinates an education program for Bethel adults in the areas of: The Bible, Christian Ethics, Our Faith in Action, Spiritual Growth, Our Faith in Context, Social Issues, and Health & Wellness. The team also supports other educational activities as opportunities arise. The Sunday Morning Adult Forum is the primary means of meeting these objectives. We try to include speakers and study material within the seven areas of concentration noted above. These speakers include college professors, local speakers with certain expertise, as well as Bethel pastors and members. A brochure describing each forum session is prepared and ready to distribute on Rally Sunday each year.

In 2023 the team has been trying to increase interest and attendance at the Sunday morning forums. The team has tried to better publicize the educational forums. During the past year presentation topics have included “Race and Christianity”, “What Can We Learn from our Sister Church in Tanzania?”, “Women of the Reformation”, and “Where Faith and Government Intersect”. The major part of the Adult Education team’s budget is for speaker honoraria. The remainder of the budget is used for educational materials such as DVDs, as well as coffee and refreshments for attendees. The team also has the use of funds from the Adult Education Endowment Fund to support various educational opportunities. This past year the funds have been used to support Bethel’s Anti-Racism Team by funding two speakers as well as a planned 2024 trip to the Minnesota Science Museum’s exhibit on racism. The funds have also been used to purchase books for a planned 2024 bible study class and to purchase a new HDMI switch for the Room 115 A/V setup.

If anyone has a suggestion for a presenter or a topic, or if you are interested in joining the Adult Education Team, please contact Jim Deuschle at 507-206-4963 or at jim_deuschle@outlook.com.

We invite interested Bethel members to attend the Sunday Forum, which is held at 10:30 am in Room 115. You can also view the sessions on-line at bethellutheran.com under the Education and then the Adult Education Video tabs. Previous video recordings are sorted by topic and presenter. The Adult Education brochure with the schedule and presenters for the year is also available on that page.

Jim Deuschle

ENDOWMENT REPORT

Thanks to the generosity of past and present Bethel members, the Endowment Fund has become a dependable resource used to further the mission of our church. Approximately \$158,000 has been disbursed from the fund earnings over the past four years of which \$73,000 was approved for 2023. These disbursements have allowed Bethel to fund things “above and beyond” what the constraints of the annual budget are not able to cover. Your donations and support are truly making a difference!

In 2022 the Endowment Team made the change for Bethel’s Fiduciary/Investment Manager from Wells Fargo to Associated Bank Private Wealth. After one year of experience, the team is pleased with results of this change. The current fund balance is just over \$2M and is structured in accordance with Endowment Fund Investment Policy.

On behalf of the Endowment Committee members, I thank you for the opportunity to serve. The Endowment Committee pledges to do our best to be caring stewards of the Endowment Fund so that Bethel can be even more benevolent in the future.

Bruce Remme
Endowment Committee Chair

Thanks to Endowment funds allocated throughout 2023 Bethel was able to grow in faith, expand our reach into the community, and better serve our God. Here are some highlights:

- Support for the youth to provide catered Lenten meals for the Christikon fundraiser
- Support youth camp Christikon travel costs
- CYF summer fun events
- AED maintenance
- College scholarships for students attending ELCA colleges
- Support for Franklin & Riverside schools Christmas mission
- Support for House Dinner program at Ronald McDonald House
- Support for the Easter breakfast
- Several Adult Education programs
- Support for outdoor worship
- Support for several building projects and upgrades
- Luther Seminarian support for a Bethel Member
- Support for Music Ministry Hand Bell maintenance
- Technology support for upgrading the sanctuary sound system

2023 Endowment Committee Members:

Mitch Anderson	Council Liaison
Pastor Anjanette Bandel	Lead Pastor
Linda Bonow	Donor Relations
AJ Bouquet	Secretary
Janet Hoffmann	Administrative Secretary
Bruce Remme	Chairperson
Dave Turner	Operations
Jeff Vomhof	Treasurer
Russ Wiesner	Publicity



ENDOWMENT ACCOUNTS TOTALS

	PRINCIPLE	ADDITIONAL PRINCIPLE	2023 INTEREST/DIVIDENDS	2023 MARKET VALUE CHANGE/FEES	ACCUMULATED USABLE MONIES	DISBURSED	DISBURSE PENDING	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
Adult Education	56,205.40	0	1,645.96	10,129.65	8,133.96	-1,127.57	-100	74,987.40	3.23%
Children's Ministries	155,622.20	25	4,265.61	26,251.66	7,659.05	-3,577.40	0	190,246.12	8.20%
Hirman Fellowship Endowment	36,285.99	0	1,025.49	6,311.14	3,009.26	0	0	46,631.88	2.01%
Mundahl Music Endowment	49,629.77	250	1,362.66	8,386.14	5,068.87	0	0	64,697.43	2.79%
Onkka Seminary Endowment	188,534.30	2,000.00	5,217.75	32,111.34	32,923.24	-2,000.00	-3,600.00	258,786.62	11.15%
Scholarship Endowment	237,984.99	500	6,424.17	39,535.94	8,019.62	-3,000.00	0	289,464.72	12.47%
Social & Global Missions	145,841.04	0	3,581.61	22,042.14	14,726.97	0	-9,505.50	186,191.76	8.02%
Spiritual Emphasis Fund	50,699.94	0	1,394.40	8,581.50	4,412.84	0	0	65,088.69	2.80%
Structural Improvement	234,107.27	0	6,428.32	39,561.50	10,849.21	-10,774.00	0	280,172.30	12.07%
Youth Activities	82,967.78	0	2,259.62	13,906.26	2,997.65	-2,997.65	0	99,133.65	4.27%
Undesignated Accounts	608,239.53	34,847.11	15,317.33	94,266.70	35,900.56	-23,358.07	-12,542.49	765,213.16	32.97%
BETHEL ENDOWMENT TOTAL:	1,846,118.21	37,622.11	48,922.92	301,083.96	133,701.23	-46,834.69	-25,747.99	2,320,613.74	100.00%

FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND BUDGET 12/31/2023

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS	2023	2022
General Checking	-	54,021
Special Checking	19,486	206,259
Special Account - Invesements	575,892	568,615
Endowment Balance	2,320,614	1,979,819
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	4,040	2,900
Petty Cash Balance	504	514
Total Current Assets	2,920,536	2,946,516

FIXED ASSETS	2023	2022
Property (Insured Value)	20,698,498	20,698,498
Contents (Insured Value)	1,121,804	1,121,804
Total Fixed Assets	21,820,302	21,820,302

TOTAL ASSETS	24,740,838	24,766,818
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LIABILITIES & EQUITY

LONG TERM LIABILITIES		
Mortgage	694,774	973,986
Total Liabilities	694,774	973,986

EQUITY		
Bethel Equity	24,046,064	23,658,444
Total Equity	24,046,064	23,658,444

TOTAL LIABILITIES + TOTAL EQUITY	24,740,838	24,632,430
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ANNUAL FUND BUDGET

	2023 BUDGET	2023 ACTUAL	2024 BUDGET
INCOME			
Congregational Contributions	1,263,735	1,226,381	1,373,474
Loose Offering	20,000	15,294	20,000
Rental Fees	60,000	64,519	74,000
Thrivent Choice Donations	12,000	9,395	12,000
Thrivent Choice Funds Transfer	16,000	-	14,500
TOTAL INCOME	1,371,735	1,315,589	1,493,974
EXPENDITURES			
Missions			
ELCA/LWR	37,912	36,791	34,337
Other Benevolences	5,000	3,500	5,000
Total Missions	42,912	40,291	39,337
Teams			
Adult Education	2,950	3,946	2,698
Children's Ministry	5,000	5,000	10,620
Christian Caring	500	500	-
Communication	12,347	9,019	12,542
Fellowship	600	1,269	-
Life & Growth	2,800	2,881	-
Social Missions	1,750	2,457	-
Stewardship	3,700	4,294	3,700
Worship & Music	7,500	7,565	-
Youth	7,200	5,733	-
Contingency/Miscellaneous	2,000	5,098	2,000
Total Teams	46,347	47,762	31,560

	2023 BUDGET	2023 ACTUAL	2024 BUDGET
Salaries & Staff Expenses			
Staff Salaries & Benefits	1,064,524	993,673	1,158,969
FICA Allowance	13,640	11,376	16,690
Lay Staff Social Security	59,481	48,860	63,996
Mileage Reimbursements	7,000	4,766	7,000
Personnel Expenses	2,400	10,559	2,400
Continuing Education	6,000	3,970	6,000
Staff Turnover/Vacancy Rate			(50,202)
Total Staff Expenses	1,153,045	1,073,204	1,204,853
Office Operating Expenses			
Banking/Accounting Services	14,000	15,175	14,000
Computer Equipment & Expenses	16,000	28,364	20,000
Copy Machine	3,000	6,414	3,000
Office Supplies	5,000	5,055	5,000
Postage	7,000	4,880	7,000
Total Office Operating Expenses	45,000	59,888	49,000
Building Operating Expenses			
Electricity & Water	50,000	57,512	48,024
Natural Gas	41,352	29,075	30,000
Telephone Expense	2,500	2,925	2,500
Waste Removal	6,000	7,359	6,000
Building Maintenance	10,000	15,304	10,000
Building Supplies	5,000	2,294	5,000
Custodial Supplies	5,000	6,032	5,000
Groundskeeping	17,000	13,723	17,000
Bus (Lease & Maintenance)	8,000	6,279	8,000
Total Building Operating Expenses	144,852	140,503	131,524

	2023 BUDGET	2023 ACTUAL	2024 BUDGET
Insurance			
Church Umbrella Insurance	35,767	26,419	30,000
Worker's Comp	8,137	8,765	7,700
Total Insurance	43,904	35,184	37,700
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,426,060	1,315,589	1,493,974
Prior Year Operations Surplus/ Equity Fund to cover shortfall	50,000	81,244	
EXCESS INCOME OVER EXPENSES	(54,325)	-	-

2023 SPECIAL ACCOUNTS

Special Accounts	Begin	Receipts	Disburse	Balance
	1,802.48			1,802.48
Beautification Fund	9.49	2,006.05	1,785.69	229.85
Bethel Fine Arts Series Fund	21,053.77	8,525.00	8,826.36	20,752.41
Building Expenses	37,317.69	82,913.09	114,625.80	5,604.98
Camp Scholarships	4,830.89	5,823.00	2,412.00	8,241.89
Capital Improvements	141,372.81		72,828.58	68,544.23
Christian Caring	1,774.92	200.00	50.00	1,924.92
Continuing Ed	3,158.55		199.00	2,959.55
Equipment Repair	2,906.25	120.00		3,026.25
Equity Fund	176,303.02		108,466.50	67,836.52
Fellowship	252.35	2,818.00	1,133.95	1,936.40
FPU Scholarships	1,346.00			1,346.00
Interest	3,258.78	7,325.28		10,584.06
Library	1,651.72	1,418.00	428.21	2,641.51
Life and Growth	5,818.42	914.93		6,733.35
Men's Ministry	3,852.96	3,000.00	4,000.00	2,852.96
Neighborhood Outreach	3,814.66	3,547.05	5,122.25	2,239.46
Office Equipment	908.06	6,649.96	2,096.61	5,461.41
Organ	46,009.72	256,349.00	206,822.60	95,536.12
Parish Nurse	1,980.50	145.00		2,125.50
Prepaid Pledges	230,086.70	65,715.12	89,720.28	206,081.54
Thrivent Choice	16,322.73	3,145.53	4,956.53	14,511.73
Worship	21,456.63	11,795.45	15,130.39	18,121.69
Youth	10,716.52	300.00	135.09	10,881.43
TOTAL SPECIAL PURPOSE	738,005.62	462,710.46	638,739.84	561,976.24

Pass Through	Begin	Receipts	Disburse	Balance
Puerto Rico	1,671.72	100.00		1,771.72
Food for Kidz	3,634.60	11,418.25	13,107.89	1,944.96
Misc Pass Through	5,628.90	38,350.11	40,994.76	2,984.25
Mission Work Trips	4,759.72			4,759.72
Seasonal Offerings	11,375.10	26,607.53	27,643.21	10,339.42
Social Missions	5,998.12	4,335.00	2,000.00	8,333.12
Special Missions Offering	3,800.14	31,942.74	32,473.72	3,269.16
TOTAL PASS-THROUGH	36,868.30	112,753.63	116,219.58	33,402.35

TOTAL FUNDS	774,873.92	575,464.09	754,959.42	595,378.59
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2023 Special Account Assets	Begin	Receipts	Disburse	Balance
Home Federal CDs	27,341.52	101,183.19		128,524.71
Home Federal Investment Funds	83,492.62	1,749.28		85,241.90
Home Federal Savings	25,893.23	216.81		26,110.04
Mission Investment Fund	72,381.79	1,896.92		74,278.71
Special Account Checking	206,258.62	446,550.11	633,322.31	19,486.42
Wells Fargo Investment Funds	232,607.46	174.08		232,781.54
Wells Fargo Savings	126,898.68	23,693.70	121,637.11	28,955.27
TOTALS	774,873.92	575,464.09	754,959.42	595,378.59

MONTHLY MORTGAGE PAYMENT TRACKING

	Contributions Received	Mortgage Payment	Over/(under)	Add'l principal payment
Jan	27,110.19	21,289.00	5,821.19	5,821.19
Feb	31,379.70	21,289.00	10,090.70	10,090.70
Mar	29,232.53	21,289.00	7,943.53	7,943.53
Apr	31,624.94	21,289.00	10,335.94	10,335.94
May	25,466.53	21,289.00	4,177.53	4,177.53
Jun	22,335.53	21,289.00	1,046.53	1,046.53
Jul	23,707.44	21,289.00	2,418.44	2,418.44
Aug	20,896.04	21,289.00	(392.96)	-
Sep	21,517.04	21,289.00	228.04	228.04
Oct	27,426.89	21,289.00	6,137.89	5,744.93
Nov	27,862.04	21,289.00	6,573.04	6,573.04
Dec	31,847.63	21,289.00	10,558.63	10,558.63
Total	320,406.50	255,468.00	64,938.50	64,938.50

BETHEL WOMEN: TREASURER'S REPORT

ANNUAL REPORT JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 2023

CHECKING ACCOUNT

Balance per books on December 31, 2022	\$8,022.23
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INCOME

Cards	\$428.00
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Funeral donations	\$3,575.00
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Sunday morning coffee	\$2,309.43
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Mission of the Month	\$8,109.96
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General offering	\$1,081.05
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No Craft No Bake sale	\$3,694.38
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Spring Coffee ticket sales	\$433.00
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Spring Rummage Sale	\$6,860.75
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Fall Rummage sale	\$6,539.33
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TOTAL INCOME	\$33,030.90
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EXPENSES	
Lutheran Disaster Response (Hawaii – Maui fire)	\$500.00
SE MN Women of ELCA – Zumbro River Conf. offering	\$300.00
Convention Expenses	\$10.00
SE MN Synod Regular Offering	\$300.00
Kitchen (Kathy Tri)	\$852.75
Lutheran Social Services (Zumbro Lutheran Youth Shelter)	\$1,000.00
Rochester Restaurant Supply	\$187.72
LWR Backpacks	\$157.78
LWR Personal Care Kits	\$196.52
LWR Baby Care Kits	\$1,063.21
LWR School Kits	\$915.58
The Landing	\$791.92
Hope Lodge	\$453.90
Women's Shelter	\$980.18
Dorothy Day House	\$664.20
"Gather" Magazine subscription	\$19.95
Bethel Lutheran Church (National Night Out)	\$200.00
Bethel Tea Team (Nov. Mission of the Month)	\$280.00
LWR Quilt/Shipping (Nov. Mission of the Month)	\$280.00
V.J. Anderson (Postage for stamps to Germany)	\$71.63
Greeting Cards	\$120.88
Johnson Printing (No Craft No Bake postcards)	\$222.00
Bethel Lutheran Church (No Craft No Bake postage)	\$195.62
Card Member Services (Women's Yearbook)	\$165.14
Jeremiah Program	\$675.54
Terry Wiltsie (Rummage Sale purchases)	\$21.34
Habitat for Humanity (Lydia Circle – Spring Coffee)	\$633.00
Uline (Boxes)	\$110.61

Channel One (Mission of the Month)	\$526.00
Bethel Lutheran Church (Food for Kidz)	\$527.00
Tiffany Olson (flowers)	\$25.00
Custodians (Rummage Sale support – 4 at \$50)	\$200.00
Brock Besse (Rummage Sale caramel rolls)	\$107.82
Neighborhood Outreach	\$398.94
Bethel Families in Need	\$1,000.00
Crisis Nursery	\$500.00
Cy's Place	\$500.00
Dorothy Day House	\$500.00
ELCA Lutheran Disaster Response	\$1,000.00
Elder Network	\$500.00
Family Promise	\$1,000.00
Lutheran World Relief/Quilt and Shipping	\$1,500.00
Luther Social Services LINK	\$1,000.00
Rochester Adult & Teen Challenge – Women	\$1,000.00
Salvation Army – Rochester, MN	\$2,000.00
NALC Disaster Response – Men's Ministry (Larry VomHof)	\$1,500.00
Women's Shelter – Rochester, MN	\$1,000.00

TOTAL EXPENSES	\$26,154.23
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Balance per books on December 31, 2023	\$14,898.90
Savings Account - December 31, 2023	\$8,078.81

Respectfully submitted, December 28, 2023

Kathy Gustafson, Treasurer of Bethel Women

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY: TREASURER'S REPORT

Sharon Deutschle, Treasurer

ANNUAL REPORT JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 2023

Balance on hand, January 1, 2023	\$4,214.06
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RECEIPTS

Sunday School Registration	\$1,349.00
Sunday School Offering	\$6,936.03
VBS Offerings/Registration	\$2,669.33
Endowment	\$3,577.40
Miscellaneous	\$999.00
Church Budget	\$5,000.00
Donations / Memorials	\$880.00
Good Earth Village	\$1,300.00
Wed. night pizza	\$4,415.25
Snow tubing	\$586.17
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$27,712.18

DISBURSEMENTS

Sunday School

Curriculum	\$3,025.19
Supplies	\$1,057.38
Background checks	\$803.00
Teacher Appreciation/Workshops	\$717.41
Bibles/Baptismal Books	\$438.21
Miscellaneous	\$633.82
Total	\$6,675.01

Vacation Bible School

Curriculum and Supplies	\$3,670.29
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Good Earth Village | \$2,552.12

Missions

Mission Projects	\$420.46
Total	\$420.85

Special Costs

Holiday Events	\$545.05
Age-Level Events	\$1,160.43
Fellowship	\$3,444.14
Worship Kits	\$183.53
Endowment	\$3,319.41
Wed. night pizza	\$5,060.99
Total	\$13,713.55

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS \$27,031.43

Balance on Hand, December 31, 2022 \$4,894.81

PARISH NURSE / HEALTH CABINET 2023 REPORT

Blood Pressure Screening

Blood Pressure screenings are offered on the fourth Sunday of the month. Participation has varied between 1-10 individuals.

Parish Nurse Visits

In-person visits continue to be offered. Precautions will be in place for the visitor and those who desire to have visitation.

Grief Discussion/Support Groups

Three support sessions were offered this year in collaboration with Bethel member, Katrina Duraanceau, LSW from ProMedica. Again, participation varied from a few to 15 individuals. These groups are open to Bethel members, families, and families associated with ProMedica Hospice program. The support groups will continue into 2024, please feel free to contact me if you have interest.

AEDS

The three AEDs are all supplied with new pads and a second set in the bag with the AED. Each package of pads is labeled with a notice to only open if to be used on someone who is pulseless. Once the package of pads is opened, even if the pads aren't used, they'll have to be replaced as its not know how long they'll be effective. AEDs is located by Sanctuary door (this unit has a package of PEDs pads in the bag also), one is by the Fellowship Hall, and a third downstairs. An orientation was offered twice to the Ushers this summer on use of the AEDs.

Activities

We'll continue with activities including summer walking, hiking, biking that have been held and may initiate some new with your feedback.

- Bethel Blood Donations -The mobile Donor Collection Unit will be at Bethel on 2/13/24. Sign up information will be available and please don't hesitate to donate if you are eligible.
- Flu Shot Clinic - Bethel's annual flu shot clinic resumed this year. A great turnout, over 60 received their immunization that Sunday. Thank you to HyVee for providing this service.

Health Fair

The Health Cabinet is planning to hold a Health Fair in 2024. Discussion is beginning among Cabinet members. Please submit suggestions of what you'd like to see.

In closing, until Influenza, RSV, COVID-19 and all the other viruses are brought under control, we will continue to do all we can to protect the health and wellness of Bethel. Thank you for continuing to welcome me into this role as your Parish Nurse. I'm always open to your suggestions for ways to offer support to our congregation.

Submitted by Jeanne Townsend RN
Bethel Parish Nurse

MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR REPORT

Welcome to Bethel Lutheran Church! Many new members over the years have reported they join Bethel due to the welcoming atmosphere of Bethel. One of the greatest joys when meeting with new members is learning more about how these individuals and families connected with Bethel on their own faith journey. The membership at Bethel involves attending one of our monthly New Member 101 classes, attending the Membership 201 Session – What Does it Mean to be Lutheran? (if they have not been confirmed in the Lutheran faith) along with participating in the Reception Weekend which is when we celebrate our new family members of Bethel.

As one becomes a member of Bethel for a significant amount of time, they are recognized as having a milestone (10, 20, 30, etc.) anniversary. During quarterly worship services, names and photographs are shown for all those people who are celebrating a milestone anniversary within the congregation. It is heartwarming to witness this recognition of our members.

Bethel continues to highlight volunteers in the many team and ministries at Bethel. January – June we continued with the monthly Best of Bethel events. The Volunteer Guidebook was presented during these events allowing members an opportunity to learn about other ways to volunteer.

In October, we had a Poster Weekend, where all the teams and ministries were asked to make a poster representing the team or ministry and carry it in during each of the weekend services. It was a great opportunity to see this representation in front of the congregation. Our Volunteer Guidebook was handed out to each family attending our weekend services. The booklet is compiled with the various teams and ministries at Bethel along with a detailed contact information for who to reach out to if you should choose to volunteer your time and talents. Inside the booklet is a form to complete if you would like more information about a team or ministry or to indicate your interest in joining one. Please consider completing the form to volunteer for something new or reengaging with a previous volunteer opportunity. Forms can be dropped off in the church office.

No matter if you are someone that has been a member of Bethel for a while or a new member, think about all the ways to volunteer. Volunteering is a great way to meet others and to use your gifts and talents.

Sheri Kallembach, Member Coordinator

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY (CYF) MINISTRY REPORT

Our CYF staff, Children's Ministry Team and Youth Ministry Team do an excellent job of providing opportunities to grow in faith through relationships, learning, worship, leadership, nature and serving. It has been a joy for me, Pastor Lisa Hawe, to work with Julie Allhiser, Susan Larson, Kelsie Watkins, Kari Tollefson, and Sheri Kallembach. One new thing this year was the 4th Sunday of the month fun family events in June, July and August. Our team organized inflatables, refreshments, a magician, a naturalist, petting zoo and more to highlight our Leap of Faith summer worship theme. Here's more!

LEARNING - DISCIPLESHIP: Confirmation Program for 7-10th graders

- 7TH -8th graders had classes taught by pastors, small groups with adult guides, service projects, & worship reflection notes. They also spent a week at Good Earth Village Bible Camp for confirmation camp led by counselors and Bethel staff.
 - 9th graders chose mentors to meet with throughout the year for sharing faith together.
 - 10th grade students did faith projects and had one on one meetings with Julie Allhiser or one of the pastors to talk about their faith, prepare for the affirmation of baptism service and think about how they plan to continue their faith journey after being confirmed.
- Sunday Morning Youth Education for birth to 12th graders with some special events.
- Rally Weekend with an open house, carnival, scavenger hunt, food & bounce houses.
 - Birth – 3 Sunday School was offered periodically for children and families with a goal of connecting parents & supporting them in passing on faith in the home.
 - Kindergarten youth brought someone special to class, celebrating relationships.
 - 1st Grade Bible BINGO event was a fun way to recall some favorite Bible stories.
 - 2nd Grade Stewardship Event taught the value of generosity with time, talents and treasures.
 - 4th Grade Easter Event helped youth understand Holy Week & the resurrection.
 - 3rd Graders received Adventure Bibles and our Pre-K 4 children received Spark Story Bibles.

EVANGELISM - SHARING THE GOOD NEWS:

- The Sunday School Christmas Program gives our Forum 56 and Sunday School students a chance to tell the story of Jesus' birth.
- VBS – Stellar VBS – 80 kids and 49 volunteers had a great week learning about God's love. We had fun building relationships with our church family!

WORSHIP:

- Blessing of the Backpacks was held in the fall.
- We had fun throughout the year with the Sunday School kids singing in worship each quarter. The 23/24 school year has been fun because kids are starting in worship with their parents and staying through the Children's Word. It's wonderful to have lots of families worshipping together!
- Prayer Walk – Bethel students and families set up prayer stations to depict the Holy week story. Students also hosted each station on Palm Sunday weekend during all worship services for the congregation.
- 1st Communion instruction with Bible study, bread baking, & stole decorating along with acolyte training was offered twice for our 5th graders.

- On May 14th graduating students were recognized, blessed, and celebrated in worship and fellowship time.
- 10th grade students participated in the Affirmation of Baptism service in the afternoon on October 29th with youth sharing their gifts of music, reading, & faith projects.

LOVING OUR NEIGHBORS THROUGH LEADERSHIP & SERVICE:

- Youth 5th – 12th grade supported the Vacation Bible School as volunteer leaders.
- Youth worked at the Leap of Faith special Sundays leading activities and serving food.
- Julie Allhiser started a new high school leadership team for 9th – 12 grade students to help develop leadership skills, encourage youth serving at Bethel and in their communities, and to provide friendship and support.
- 5th – 12th grade students made over 90 cards that went with donated cookies, a homemade ornament, and a poinsettia to our home bound Bethel members.
- 6th – 8th grade students volunteered as ushers, greeters, narrators, artists, cookie bakers and dessert table workers at the Bethel Christmas Concert.
- Family Mission Day provided snacks to our Riverside and Franklin Elementary neighbors.
- Day Campers visited a nursing home and sang camp songs for the residents. Our mission project was art kits for Lutheran Social Service's Camp Noah.

FELLOWSHIP:

- CYF Families and friends went snow tubing at Ironwood Springs and enjoyed a potluck.
- Spring Fling – 5th – 8th grade youth came for games & painting with high school youth volunteering as leaders.
- High school youth had a winter lock-in at the church.
- Elevate Wrap Up – HS students celebrated the year with a fun event at Bowlocity.
- Love of Lefse – CYF team hosted this fun family lefse making event!
- 5th – 8th grade Christmas Bash – HS leaders and adult volunteers led Bethel students through a busy, crazy night of painting, a selfie station, games, food, and ending with youth led worship time.
- We held a Family 50's Themed Sock Hop with a costume contest, DJ, dinner, and bars for dessert.

SUMMER TRIPS – EXPERIENCING GOD OUTDOORS:

- Fundraisers – Lenten meals, Easter Breakfast, Youth Wall of Giving, Greeting Card Sales, & Easter Basket Silent Auction were held to raise money for youth to participate.
- 15 high school youth and 4 adult volunteers attended camp Christikon in Montana for a backpacking and Bible Camp experience in nature.
- Good Earth Village Day Camp – 25 kids came to Bethel for Day Camp. One day we took vans to GEV to experience camp firsthand.
- Confirmation youth and others also attended GEV, experiencing God in nature and one another.

Respectfully submitted by Rev. Lisa Hawe, Associate Pastor Generational Ministry, Julie Allhiser, Lead Director of Youth Ministry, and Susan Larson, Director of Children's Ministry.

WORSHIP & MUSIC REPORT

Bethel Lutheran Church continues with a strong tradition of sharing the Word of the Lord through song each week through many different ensembles and a plethora of volunteers who bring their time, dedication, faith and talent together to enhance each and every worship service. These faithful volunteers share in rehearsals and musical offerings through: Chancel Choir, Blessings, Sing for Joy, Cantori, Cherubs, Choristers, Bethel Ensemble, Bethel Ringers, Chapel Ringers, Gate of Life Worship Leaders/Band and Bethel Brass.

Each ensemble works hard each week to rehearse and hone each musical work so that it can be presented as a musical offering at upcoming worship services. Bethel Brass, Choristers, Blessings, Sing for Joy, Bethel Ringers, Chapel Ringers and Bethel Ensemble strive to present one musical offering a month, while Chancel Choir provides weekly musical offerings. Cantori and Cherubs rehearse each week and present musical offerings when a selection is ready.

A Spring Concert titled “All Creation Sings” was put together and presented to congregants and guests on Wednesday, May 23, 2023 and each ensemble/choir presented at least one new selection that had not been previously presented as a musical offering at a church service. Again, on Wednesday, December 13, all of the Bethel Music ensembles presented a concert titled “Mary, Did You Know?” to a very large crowd of eager listeners. Both of these concerts continue to hold a special place in the hearts of our music department and include invaluable help and artwork/narrations from our Youth team with guidance from Julie Allhiser.

Gary Thorn continues to provide stellar leadership through his role as director of the Chapel Ringers and Bethel Ringers! Terri Wehrman continues excellence through music as she skillfully leads the Choristers in weekly rehearsals and musical offerings once a month. Our newest addition, Ann Okins, has been a HUGE blessing to the Cherub choir, and works masterfully helping our youngest artists develop their vocal skills. Merle Savage leads our Bethel Brass each week and has done a brilliant job at having this ensemble play some of the most awe-inspiring selections ever presented as musical offerings.

Our Easter 2023 and Christmas 2023 services were masterfully tailored by our skilled Pastoral staff and the music department filled the sanctuary with inspiring and scripture-rich messages as congregants rejoiced in the Lord’s Resurrection and birth. All of our services are further enhanced by the leadership of our head organist, Jim Bahler. Our Chancel Choir also participated in the annual ‘Family Promise Concert’ which was held in November at Christ United Methodist Church.

The summer of 2023 not only saw the record attendance at our July “Concert in the Courtyard” with amazing after-concert treats provided by the Stewardship Team but also the completion of the new antiphonal division platform in the southwest corner of the sanctuary. An incredible donor has stepped forward to make the completion of a long-sought-after antiphonal division being added to the existing organ a reality. The work is being completed by the original organ-builder, Wick’s Organ Company. Projections for completion of the pipe-work and console is late 2024 to early 2025.

It is an honor and a delight to work with each and every individual throughout the music program and on the staff at Bethel Lutheran Church. I hope to continue to enhance not only the worship services, but the lives of those involved in the music program as we work hard each week to bring scripture to life through song.

In Christian Love,

Brock A. Besse, Minister of Music & Worship

YOUNG IN SPIRIT TREASURER'S REPORT

Carol Lamberg, Treasurer

Beginning Balance, January 1, 2023	\$3,522.77
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Income

Meals sold	\$8,235.00
Lenten Meals	\$340.00
Church budget	\$500.00
Memorials	\$355.00
Interest on Account	\$1.76
TOTAL INCOME	\$9,431.76

Disbursements

Gleason Catering	\$8,372.67
Honorariums	\$620.00
Reimbursements	\$228.74
Total Disbursements	\$9,221.41

Balance in Checking Account, December 31, 2023	\$3,733.12
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ANNUAL MEETING NOMINATIONS

OPEN COUNCIL POSITIONS:

VICE-PRESIDENT (2 yr term, 2026)

- Robin Kroening (2nd term)

SECRETARY (2 yr term, 2026)

- Brett Boese (2nd term)

RESOURCE BOARD

REPRESENTATIVE (3 yr term, 2027)

- Terra O'Brien

OPEN POSITIONS FOR ELECTED TEAMS:

NOMINATING TEAM (2 yr term, 2026)

- Tony Narr
- Kari Anderson

PERSONNEL TEAM (3 yr term, 2027)

- Patty Whalen
- Karen Hartman (2nd term)

ENDOWMENT TEAM (3 yr term—2027)

- David Turner (2nd term)
- Russ Wiesner (2nd term)

COLUMBARIUM BOARD (3 yr term, 2027)

- Paul Velsor (2nd term)
- Rick Rathbun (2nd term)

SYNOD ASSEMBLY VOTING MEMBERS

(1 Day Event- May 11, 2024, Mankato, MN)

Male

- Paul Christian
- Darwin Garcia
- Jim Preston
- David Linbo

Female

- Sue Christian
- Julie Garcia
- Kathy Ferguson
- Linda Linbo

Youth

- Benjamin Wallace
- Kristen Halvorson

Alternates

- Nancy Brovold
- Ron Jensen
- Lynette Traxel
- Bill Traxel

SAMPLE



BETHEL

LUTHERAN CHURCH



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