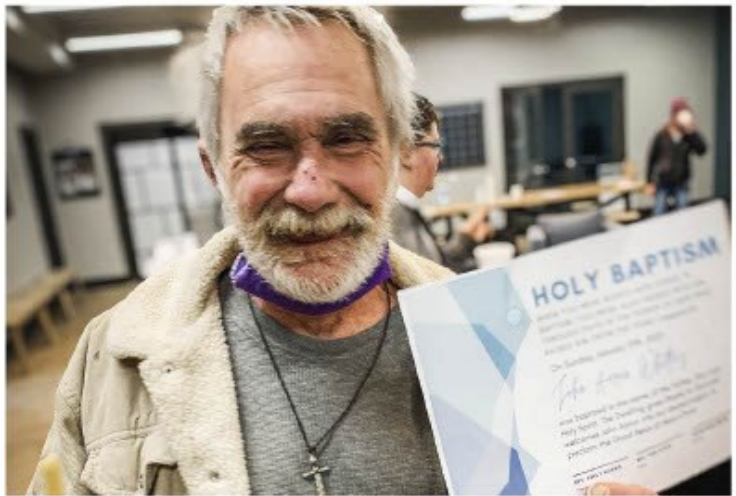


# ANNUAL REPORT

2021





## A MESSAGE FROM ELCA PRESIDING BISHOP

*Elizabeth  
Eaton*

Dear friends in Christ,

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

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

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

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

*Elizabeth A. Eaton*

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton  
Presiding Bishop  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

“Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.”

# ANNUAL REPORT—2021

*“Called and united through the Gospel of Jesus Christ, our mission is to proclaim and respond to God’s presence among us.”*

## ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

January 26, 2021 at 6:30 pm

1. CALL TO ORDER.....President, Amy Greenwaldt
2. OPENING DEVOTIONS .....Pastor Megan Clapp
3. OFFICER’S REPORTS
  - 2020 Annual Meeting Minutes .....pg. 3
  - President .....pg. 6
  - Treasurer: Balance Sheet.....pg. 21
  - Financial Review for 2021.....pg. 24
4. ROSTERED STAFF REPORTS
  - Pastor Nate Loer, Lead Pastor.....pg. 7
  - Pastor Megan Clapp, Associate Pastor.....pg. 8
  - 2021 Parochial Report.....pg. 5
  - Milestone Report.....pg. 19
5. COMMITTEE REPORTS
  - Worship & Music.....pg. 9
  - Finance.....pg. 9
  - Congregational Life.....pg. 10
  - Property Management.....pg. 10
  - Outreach/Evangelism.....pg. 11
  - Youth.....pg. 12
  - Parish Education.....pg. 13
6. OTHER REPORTS
  - Immanuel Church Women.....pg. 14
  - Women’s Financials.....pg. 15
  - Lutheran Men’s Ministry .....pg. 13
  - Memorials.....pg. 18
  - Mission Endowment.....pg. 20
7. SYNOD REPORT
  - Letter from Bishop Tesch..... pg. 16
8. OLD BUSINESS
9. NEW BUSINESS
  - Presentation and Adoption of 2022 Budget.....pg. 22
  - Nominating Committee Report: Election & Appointments..... pg. 23
10. NEW PRESIDENT TAKES OFFICE .....Robby Grendahl
  - Other Business
  - Adjournment
11. CLOSING PRAYER.....Pastor Nate Loer

Please bring this report with you to the Annual Meeting on Wednesday, January 26.



President.....Amy Greenwaldt  
 Vice President.....Robby Grendahl  
*(Becomes President in 2022)*  
 Secretary.....Stacey Callahan  
 Treasurer.....Tracy Church  
 Financial Secretary.....Betty White  
 Financial Vice-Secretary.....Jane Bagstad  
*(Becomes Financial Secretary in 2022)*

Committee Chairpersons:

Congregational Life.....Stephanie Drange  
 Finance.....Kent Schmidt  
 Outreach/Evangelism.....Sara Stone  
 Parish Education.....Margie Anderson  
 Property Management.....Cody Yglesias  
 Worship & Music.....Tom Kolden  
 Youth.....Mandy Gallant



President.....Diane Teigland  
 Secretary.....Deb Andrews  
 Treasurer.....Jil Fiemeyer  
 Mission Growth.....Jane Bagstad  
 Mission Action.....Carol Aldeen  
 Mission Community.....Gail Klunenber



Grace Singers.....Jan Hillesland & Mary Snorek  
 Sanctuary Choir.....Deb Haraldson  
 Sanctuary Choir Accompanist.....Suzanne Moe  
 Church Organists.....Allen Moe & Mary Snorek  
 Church Pianists.....Allen Moe, Suzanne Moe,  
 Anne Oldakowski, Mary Snorek,  
 Matthew Greenwaldt, Deb Haraldson



**Immanuel Lutheran Church, ELCA  
2020 Annual Meeting Minutes**

President Joe Kreklau called the 2020 Annual Meeting to order at 6:30p.m. Pastor Nate Loer welcomed everyone and gave an overview of how the virtual Zoom meeting would proceed. The 2019 Annual Meeting minutes were accepted as written.

**Rostered Staff Reports:** Pastor Nate thanked Joe Kreklau for his leadership during the past year, as well as the outgoing council members. The Immanuel staff members were thanked for all their hard work during the pandemic. He asked that we all continue to be patient. The Rostered Staff Reports were accepted as written.

**Committee Reports:** The 2019 Youth Leadership Team Report was corrected to include Anna Church as a Youth Leadership Ministry Team member.

The Endowment Fund Report had two corrections; The Beginning Balance date is (01/01/19) not (12/31/18) and the Ending Balance date is (12/31/20) not (12/31/19).

Pastor Nate shared that the Endowment Committee did great work during the past year. He encouraged the congregation to donate to the Northwestern Minnesota Synod on "Giving Hearts Day" The Endowment Committee will match \$3000.00 of the donations received by the Synod.

Pr. Nate asked members to considered giving a donation to the Endowment Fund in 2021.

There was no other discussion and the reports were accepted as written or amended.

**Other Reports:** A correction was made on the Milestone Report to reflect the Deaths From Immanuel to be 2020 not 2019.

Reports accepted as written or amended.

**Synod Report:** There were no questions regarding the Synod Report.

**Old Business:** There was no old business.

**New Business:**

Presentation and Adoption of 2021 budget.

Greg Johnson presented the proposal. Motion made to accept the 2021 budget by Luther Nervig and seconded by Shaneen Schmidt. Motion carried.

**Nomination Committee:** Election & Appointments – There were no nominations from the floor. Len Lamberty made a motion to accept the nominations as presented. Warner Luoma seconded. Motion carried.

Joe Kreklau thanked Pastor Nate and Pastor Megan for all the work they did during 2020. Amy Greenwaldt, the new President, took office and thanked Joe for his leadership during the past year.

A motion to adjourn was made by Betty White at 7:10 p.m. Margie Anderson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Pastor Megan closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peggy Larson, Secretary

## 2020 ANNUAL MEETING ATTENDEES

Aldeen, Carol	Patti Hillesland
Aldeen, Dave	Johnson, Greg
Anderson, Margie	Johnson, Rick
Bagstad, Jane	Johnson, Sue
Bendix, David	Kolden, Tom
Bendix, Marie	Kreklau, Joe
Brandt Loer, Audrey	Kreklau, Susan
Breid, Marlys	Lageson, Roger
Breitling, Diane	Lamberty, Ellie
Breitling, Les	Lamberty, Len
Carlstrom, Doug	Larson, Peggy
Church, Tracy	Loer, Nate
Clapp, Megan	Luoma, Warner
Donarski, Gail	Lynk, Joanne
Donarski, Jana	Nelson, Pam
Doyle, Ben	Noon, Gretchen
Doyle, Holly	Noon, Ron
Drange, Steph	Oldakowski, Anne
Erckenbrack, Jane	Oldakowski, Greg
Fiemeyer, Jil	Olson, Chris
Fiskum, Iona	Osberg, Erik
Gallant, Mandy	Pate, Ann
Ganske, Mitchell	Pate, John
Greenwaldt, Amy	Pederson, Cindy
Greenwaldt, Bryan	Pederson, Jeff
Grendahl, Bob	Seibert, Elana
Grendahl, Donna	Seibert, Roger
Haase, Jerry	Squier, Sharon
Haase, Twyla	Stone, Mark
Hamre, Shirley	Stone, Sara
Haraldson, Lyle	Teigland, Diane
Hartjen, Arnie	White, Betty
Hartjen, Shirley	Winkelman, Karen
Heston, Diana	Winkelman, Myron
Hillesland, Brian	Wood, Iona
Hillesland, Jan	Yglesias, Cody

- 2021 PAROCHIAL REPORT -

	<u>Baptized</u>	<u>Confirmed</u>
<b>Membership – December 31, 2020</b>	798	535
<u>Additions:</u>		
By Baptism (Child):	7	0
By Baptism (Adult):	1	1
By Affirmation of Faith:	0	0
By Transfer from ELCA Congregation:	2	2
By Transfer from Other Lutheran Congregation:	1	1
By Transfer from Non-Lutheran Congregation:	1	1
Statistical Adjustment:	0	0
<hr/> Total Members Received	<hr/> 12	<hr/> 5
Baptized Members Confirmed:		17
<hr/> <b>TOTAL WITH ADDITIONS:</b>	<hr/> 810	<hr/> 557

Removals:

By Death:	11	11
By Transfer to Other ELCA:	0	0
By Transfer to Other Lutheran Congregation:	2	2
By Transfer to Other Non-Lutheran Congregations:	0	0
Statistical Adjustment	0	0
<b>TOTAL MEMBERS REMOVED:</b>	<u>13</u>	<u>13</u>

**MEMBERSHIP – DECEMBER 31, 2021**      797      544

**Average Worship Sunday Attendance 2012–2021**

<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u> <sup>1</sup>	<u>2021</u>
234	225	218	214	200	188	181	204	n/a	87

**Average Weekly Worship Attendance 2012–2021**

<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u> <sup>1</sup>	<u>2021</u> <sup>2</sup>
262	258	250	246	224	222	201	208	n/a	108

<sup>1</sup> Calculating worship attendance in 2020 is nearly impossible and not terribly relevant to compare with other years.

<sup>2</sup> Resumed taking worship attendance June of 2021

- 2021 ONLINE VIEWERSHIP -

2021 YouTube views: 1448

2021 Facebook views: Total views – 17,758

Sunday views – 10,404

Average Sunday views – 200

Average Weekly views – 342

## REPORT OF THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Friends of Immanuel~

Even though it felt pretty awesome to be voted council president by honking car horns while sitting in an office by myself, I pray that we are beyond the need for those drastic measures. I am incredibly proud of Immanuel for pushing through the pandemic and providing unique worship experiences that are accessible for everyone regardless of their comfort level. Starting in February, with just a handful of attendees to a packed sanctuary on Christmas Eve, we have continued to serve the members of Immanuel. The Facebook livestream is an excellent addition to our weekly worship and is highly beneficial for special services, with up to 1500 views in some cases. The radio broadcast has been sponsored 100% of the time and allowed us to seamlessly share God's good news while we continued to determine the best way to resume in-person worship.

It seems we have found our new normal. Nearly all of our "usual" activities have resumed, many with modifications and some with less attendance. The Grace of God leads us through all conversations and difficult decisions that have been made during this challenging time. If you haven't thanked the staff of Immanuel lately, please make sure to put that on the top of your priority list. Pastors Nate and Megan, Elana, Jil, Ellen and Doug, and the musicians have worked tirelessly above and beyond their regular duties to ensure the safety of our members and the cleanliness of our space. Also, thank you to those who volunteer your time, talents, and treasures to support the many ministries of Immanuel.

Looking forward, I am excited to see how Immanuel grows from the pandemic experiences and how we learn to work with the new normal. I am excited to see where God will take our congregation and ministries. I pray that we continue to flourish as a family of faith, filling our hearts with the promise of God's love and Grace.

I am thankful for the support of the congregation, staff, and council members for the past two years. It has been an honor and pleasure to be the President of Immanuel.



Amy Greenwaldt  
Immanuel Lutheran Church Council President





## REPORT OF THE LEAD PASTOR

To the saints of Immanuel: Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Last year, I remarked that 2020 was a year like no other. I will say the same about 2021. In fact, in some ways, 2021 was filled with even more challenges than the year before. But, with steady leadership from your staff, council, committees, and other leaders, Immanuel has done great ministry in 2021.

2021 was another great year of innovation and faithfulness in worship and relationship building. There have been plenty of speedbumps along the way, but we have a weekly live stream, radio broadcast, and in-person gathering filled with music, scripture, prayer, and the building up of the body of Christ.

2021 was also another year of tremendous generosity. Buoyed by our tremendously successful 2020, the core faithful of Immanuel have continued in generosity. Every single radio broadcast in 2020 was fully sponsored. We had a very successful "Giving Blitz" as we were challenged by our Finance Committee to make 2<sup>nd</sup> mile gifts to ministry partners like ELCA Disaster Response, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, the Hilltop Regional Kitchen, Someplace Safe, and our Giving Tree and Community Dinner Funds. Our Giving Tree Project had an AMAZING response. And our fiscal year ended up several thousand dollars in the black.

2021 was a great year for feeding ministries. We've had a great turnout for volunteers to help with the Community Dinner and the Backpacks program. And every month, thousands of meals are shared out of Immanuel's parking lot through a partnership with Catholic Charities.

In other great news from 2021, Immanuel's quilting ministry is vibrant and generous. And we assembled hundreds of kits for Lutheran World Relief, too.

It hasn't all been great, of course. Even though our online and radio attendance is vibrant, Sunday and Wednesday attendance in person wasn't great in 2021. And while some ministries have had plenty of volunteers and involvement, other ministries have been struggling to find consistent involvement and your pastors and staff are often called upon to carry much of the load with volunteer recruitment – or just doing the work ourselves. Many have told me that they aren't yet ready for crowds because of the continued pandemic. Other families are feeling so burned out from their jobs and other obligations that they don't have the energy for anything else. I always tell them to keep connecting online or on the radio and we'll see them in the building when they're ready. I hear of others who are leaving Immanuel. And while that makes me sad, I hope they find a new place to invest their time and energy into experiencing God's love and helping build God's Kingdom. But hundreds and hundreds of Immanuelites remain faithful to our mission and ministry. And I am so grateful for the many who invest themselves into our mutual work on behalf of God.

In the year ahead, we will need to catch sight of a new vision for Immanuel. What's next? What are our strengths? Where are the opportunities for ministry? What do we aspire to do and be? May God guide us and bless us as we seek to be his people in 2022.

In Christ's humble service,

Pastor Nate

Nate Loer, Lead Pastor

## REPORT OF THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR

As we moved into 2021 it seemed like perhaps there was a light at the end of the tunnel for our ministry and our adjustments made during the pandemic. We made a joyful return to worshiping together in the building during Lent and Easter. We continued to pause many of our other programs in anticipation of a fresh start in the fall. As the summer arrived, it was a gift to have a full month off to rest and be renewed for the fall. This fall we took on some holy experiments as we faced the continuation of the pandemic and the variety of ways people were engaging with us and our ministries. Facebook Live and the radio broadcast continue to be an important way to connect with members and non-members who want to worship with us but aren't able to be here in person for a variety of reasons.

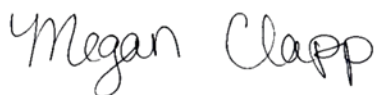
This year also brought the difficulty of many funerals. It seems that each year, funerals get more and more difficult for me. I am so grateful to have been in relationship with so many of our folks who have died this year. It is a gift that I do not take lightly.

As we move forward into 2022, continue to navigate the pandemic, and work to be church together in new and exciting ways, I want to offer you a few ways that you can best help our congregation.

1. Show up on a regular basis. If you feel comfortable, join us in the building as much as you can. We love to see you at worship, Soup Tuesdays, Wednesday evenings, Choir practice, and special events. If you watch our Facebook Live, leave a comment sharing the peace or a response to special music or the sermon.
2. Talk to us. Pastor Nate and I really appreciate timely feedback. We like to know your thoughts on the sermon (even if you disagree with us)! We want to know what is making you proud to be an Immanuelite and what we could work on to improve our ministry together. We want to connect with you as you wrestle with life stuff, big and small. You are important to us and without you there would be no Immanuel!
3. Volunteer. Many of the tasks that we're looking for help with can be easily picked up with a short conversation or email. Setting up communion or ushering on Sunday or cooking or serving a meal for Wednesday night helps us far more than you could imagine. You could even team up with another household or two to share the work. Your time and energy help us to build strong programs and experiences for our congregation.

In 2022 I will celebrate 7 years of ministry at Immanuel. I am honored and humbled to be one of your pastors. As we continue to run the race of faith together, I pray that God would continue in us the good work that has been started in us.

God's peace and love,



Pastor Megan Clapp

## REPORT OF THE WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE

Members of the committee this year were: Deb Haraldson, Anne Oldakowski, Amy Greenwaldt, Mitchell Ganske, Megan Clapp, Nate Loer, Allen and Suzanne Moe, and Tom Kolden – chair. The name could also be, “Bug the Pastors” Committee because the ideas brought forward by the committee often involved extra work for the pastors and the need for much thinking and planning to make these ideas work.

For example, the committee expressed the desire to have Holy Communion celebrated every Sunday. The pastors then had to decide now to make this work, which I think is going well. Also the committee proposed a worship schedule of 8:30 a.m. worship and 10:00 worship. On a sad and serious note, the committee recommended disuse of the hymns and worship materials composed by David Hass, under accusation for sexual misconduct.

The committee gave advisement as to in-person versus virtual worship as well as times for special worship services.

Some of the committee picked lectors, selected hymns, and recruited people for special music.

I thank all who served on this committee.

Respectfully,

*Tom Kolden*

Tom Kolden, Chair

## REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

The finance committee is committed to make sound financial decisions for the congregation and to help meet the needs of others. Last October the finance committee organized a Giving Blitz. It was very successful and supplied a financial boost to several worthy causes. Half of the money raised was given to 4 local charitable causes and the other half went to ELCA causes. The Stewardship campaign was kicked off in November and was well received and supported. Our church relies on the donations of our members and we are very appreciative of our very generous and giving congregation. In December, the finance committee met to put together a responsible, yet reasonable, budget for the year of 2022. Because of our church members generosity we are able to bring a respectful, but conservative budget to the congregation for approval. It is conservative because we are still in an uncertain time and having a surplus should allow the church to meet any unforeseen financial difficulties that may arise.

Thank you to all members in our congregation. Your generosity is what allows us to do the things that need to be done for the teaching and spreading of God's word.

Kent Schmidt, Finance Committee Chair

*Kent Schmidt*

Committee Members: Tracy Church, Jil Fiemeyer, Bryan Greenwaldt, Greg Johnson, Dean Krogstad, Liz Miller, Betty White and Pastor Nate Loer

## REPORT OF THE CONGREGATIONAL LIFE COMMITTEE

Congregational Life Committee has worked hard over the past year to welcome everyone back into the building! We missed you! If you are reading this and haven't come back to in-person worship, please consider joining us on Sunday or Wednesday each week. The fellowship of being back in church and singing, yes singing- you read that correctly- has been wonderful.

Since the pandemic, many things have changed for us all. The Congregational Life Committee has attempted to pivot with the changes. The committee has worked to arrange times for families to come together. Fellowship happened at our fall picnic, the Halloween trunk-or-treat event and again with the December wrapping event and weeks spent putting together the Giving Tree project.

In the new year, we look forward to Lenten soup suppers since we can now serve food again. Please attend an event at church or weekly worship and join us as we venture into the next chapter together! The pandemic may have changed us all in so many ways, but God will always be with us on this journey.

*Stephanie Drange*

Stephanie Drange  
Congregational Life Chair

Committee Members: Steph Drange, Diana Heston, Diane Breitling, Jane Bagstad, Margie Anderson, Sure Johnson, Peggy Larson, and Pastor Megan Clapp (staff liaison)



## REPORT OF THE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

2021 was a relatively quiet year for property concerns. In addition to small repairs and upkeep, we had to repair a number of items in the kitchen. After a prolonged time of not being used, the stove, dishwasher, and large coffee maker all needed repair. But all is functioning well now. We hope 2022 is similarly quiet in terms of property repair and upkeep. Maybe we can finally finish the window project!

*Cody Yglesias*

Cody Yglesias Committee Chair



## REPORT OF THE OUTREACH COMMITTEE

The Outreach Committee started the year with the same challenges of many amidst the pandemic. One partnership that showed continued success is the Backpacks for Kids program, which is a partnership with the United Way. With successful fundraising, the program was able to expand into the middle school and add several more weekly food allotments for students in need. This year the committee did not collect funds monthly for Mission of the Month. The committee has had recent discussions about the Young Adults in Global Mission and the Lutheran Immigration Refugee Services a potential outreach for these programs. The committee feels that overall efforts may need to be made to redefine the group and prioritize the goals for outreach moving forward.

*Sara Stone*

Sara Stone, Chair

Committee Members: Pastor Megan, Jane Erckenbrack, Sara Stone, Warner Luoma



### BEYOND THE BUILDING

Even though our “Mission of the Month” program was suspended in 2021, Immanuel was still a congregation very focused on mission and ministry “Beyond the Building.” Here are some of the highlights

A continued strong involvement in the Backpacks program. The “Shot in the Dark” United Way golf event generated a nearly \$10,000 gift to this program – so we’ve been able to bless over 90 families each week with weekend nutrition.

We partnered with several area congregations to sponsor a “Cooking Matters” class with the University of Minnesota Extension office. These classes teach participants to cook nutritious meals on a budget. Our support helped provide groceries so participants could make these meals again at home.

We sent over \$1000 from an Easter Appeal to help our partner synod in India with COVID relief

We served the Community Dinner 2-3 times in 2021

We gathered over \$15,000 in a fall “Giving Blitz,” so that we could make a gift of \$1960 to eight worthy causes: Lutheran Disaster Response (Wildfire Victims, Hurricane Victims, Haiti Earthquake Victims); Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service; Hilltop Regional Kitchen, Someplace Safe; and Immanuel’s Giving Tree & Community Dinner Funds

We blessed over 120 local families with Christmas gifts through the 28<sup>th</sup> annual Giving Tree project. The investment from Immanuelites is well over \$5,000 for this project!

We sent \$1985 to the Synod for the “Leadership Next” campaign to develop up and coming church leaders and provide grants to congregations trying something new in mission.

And much, much more!

## REPORT OF THE YOUTH LEADERSHIP TEAM

The past year proved to be challenging in its own way, but we continue to be proud of our youth and the leadership they provide. Our Youth Leadership Team continued to work hard planning or modifying events in the midst of the pandemic. They showed flexibility and grace in light of the circumstances.

This committee consists of representatives from grades 9-12 along with two adults. They plan activities for senior high youth (9-12 grade), middle school youth (5-8 grade) and elementary students (PreK-4 grade).

**Youth Leadership Ministry Team Members serving in 2021:** Anna Church, Johanna Brunsberg, Madelyn Gallant, Eshetu Loer, Peyton Church, Simon Kreklau, KatieRae Fiemeyer, and Kelanie Oldakowski

**Youth Leadership Ministry Team Members elected in 2021 (to start serving in 2022):** Philip Ross, Amsale Loer, Leah Osberg and Danica Peterson

Although this year continued to provide challenges of its own and in person gatherings were limited in the beginning, our youth still found opportunities to be involved in the church. In February some Immanuel church members participated in the ELCA's Youth Ministry Network Extravaganza - "Holding Loosely" - which was a virtual event this year. That month our youth also helped with the Community Dinner at St. Ann's. In March many of our youth participated in the Youth Led Service by performing music, leading the prayers, or reading scripture. We also held a Palm Sunday Drive-Through Meal similar to last year's Thank You Thanksgiving Meal, which turned out to be a huge success! In the spring we spent some time as a committee goal setting in the areas of mission and service, while we envisioned what we'd like to see for our youth in the future. In the summer Luther Crest Bible Camp was held in person and we had several youth participate.

In the fall as things started opening up we had more opportunities for youth to be involved. There were, and continue to be, Wednesday night services in which our youth help lead the music. In October we hosted a Family Fun Day where we invited families to join us for a meal, games and crafts. Some of our youth also participated in the Congregational Life Committee's first ever Trunk-or-Treat event. Thank You Thanksgiving cards were made and sent in place of a meal this year, and in December a Youth Led Bible Study for confirmed youth in grades 10-12 began on Wednesday nights.

As we look towards this summer we have several youth that will be participating in the ELCA National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis, MN, from July 24-28. This year's theme is "Boundless". Please watch for fundraisers and ways to support them as they prepare for this life-changing event.

Finally, the youth would like to take this opportunity to thank all the parents and members of Immanuel for their continued support, involvement and encouragement through these challenging times. The support shown to Immanuel's Youth as they continue to grow in their faith is greatly appreciated!

Respectfully submitted,

*Mandy Gallant*

Mandy Gallant

Youth Account Activities	MCF	MIF	Total
Beginning Balance (1/1/21)	12969.86	31191.75	44161.61
Add: Contributions/Interest/ Activities	\$18,527.17	\$176.95	\$18,704.12
Transfer to Mission Investment	\$0.00		\$0.00
Minus: Youth Expenditures	\$12,043.53	\$4,044.00	\$16,087.53
Ending Balance (12/31/21)	\$19,453.50	\$27,324.70	\$46,778.20

## REPORT OF THE PARISH EDUCATION COMMITTEE

After a year off due to Covid, in September we restarted our Wednesday evening service. We served a healthy snack and we also tried something new in a familiar format to help people get comfortable being back in the building. We tried intergenerational Bible Studies alternating with various service projects. We “leveled up” our offerings in January 2022 to include age group graded classes.

Margie Anderson, Chair

*Margie Anderson*

Committee members: Roger Seibert, Anne Oldakowski, Margie Anderson, Stephanie Drange, Mitchell Ganske, Jessica Miller and Pastor Megan Clapp.



## REPORT OF THE IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH MEN IN MISSION

Our balance to start 2021 was \$1010. We paid Gordy Macklem \$180 for supplies to build faith chests for baptisms. We received a \$40 donation. We ended the year with a balance of \$870. We did not meet this year.

*Douglas Carlstrom*

Doug Carlstrom

**LUTHERAN**  
**MEN <sup>IN</sup> MISSION®**  
Building men for Christ

## REPORT OF THE IMMANUEL CHURCH WOMEN

Due to continuing unusual circumstances, the ICW had another abbreviated schedule this year. We met for Circle meetings and Bible study each month. The NW Synod of the Women of the ELCA did not hold spring or fall gatherings or the yearly convention. What did happen was that blocks were cut and quilts were assembled and shipped to Lutheran Wold Relief. Three quilts were donated to the Empty Stocking Fund. Also assembled and shipped to LWR were baby care kits, school kits, and personal care kits.

We resumed serving lunches for funerals. In May, gifts were delivered to high school graduates from Immanuel. In the fall gift bags and flowers were delivered to members who are age 85 and older. The youth helped by making cards to include in the bags.

President: Diane Teigland

Secretary: Deb Andrews

Treasurer: Jil Fiemeyer

Mission Growth: Jane Bagstad

Mission Action: Carol Aldeen

Mission Community: Gail Klunenberg

Thank you to all of the volunteers who played a part in what was accomplished.

*Diane Teigland*

*Diane Teigland, President*





# ICW FINANCIALS

<b>REVENUE</b>				
Circles	\$63.00		<b>LOCAL</b>	
Coffee Sold	\$1,046.00		Christmas Flowers - Shut In's	\$0.00
Funeral Income	\$1,298.56		Christmas Gifts - Staff	\$250.00
ICW Offering	\$0.00		Cluster 9 & Synodical Offering	\$0.00
Misc. Income	\$1,071.25		NW Synod Expenses	\$0.00
ThankOffering	\$0.00		Immanuel Radio Broadcast	\$0.00
Quilting Donation	\$715.00		Postage	\$0.00
Wadena Rotary	\$0.00		Sales Tax	\$311.59
Conf. 6 Mtg. Reimburse	\$0.00		Sunshine and Sympathy	\$33.31
LWR Kits Donation	\$0.00		<b>TOTAL LOCAL CHURCH</b>	<b>\$594.90</b>
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$4,193.81</b>			
			<b>WORLD WIDE</b>	
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			LutherCrest Bible Camp	\$0.00
<b>COMMUNITY</b>			Lutheran Campus Ministry	\$0.00
Community Outreach	\$0.00		Lutheran Social Services	\$0.00
Empty Stocking Fund	\$0.00		Children's Grief Connection	\$0.00
Friendly Rider Passes	\$0.00		Quilting	\$170.32
Wadena Food Shelf	\$0.00		Quilt Shipping	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL COMMUNITY</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>		WELCA Offering 10% Gross	\$0.00
			WELCA World Hunger 5% of Gross	\$0.00
<b>KITCHEN</b>			WELCA ThankOffering	\$0.00
Equal Exchange Coffee	\$391.80		<b>TOTAL WORLD WIDE</b>	<b>\$170.32</b>
Garbage Bill	\$0.00			
Gas Bill	\$0.00		<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$1,582.68</b>
Groceries - Funeral	\$316.62			
Groceries - Rotary	\$0.00			
Groceries - Pantry	\$35.40		<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$4,193.81</b>
Misc. Expenses	\$73.64		<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$1,582.68</b>
<b>TOTAL KITCHEN</b>	<b>\$817.46</b>		<b>NET CASH RECEIVED</b>	<b>\$2,611.13</b>
<b>LOCAL</b>				
85 & Over Party	\$0.00			
Sunday Fellowship	\$0.00			
LWR Kits	\$0.00		<b>Beginning Balance (1/1/21)</b>	<b>\$2,456.61</b>
Luther Crest Camperships	\$0.00		Revenue (1/1/21-12/31/21)	\$4,193.81
Immanuel Lutheran Youth	\$0.00		Expenses (1/1/21-12/31/21)	\$1,582.68
Senior Honor Banquet	\$0.00		<b>Ending Balance (12/31/21)</b>	<b>\$5,067.74</b>
ICW Supplies	\$0.00			
<b>TOTAL LOCAL</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>			

# BISHOPS REPORT



## Northwestern Minnesota Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

*"Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads  
because your redemption is drawing near." - Luke 21:28*

December 14, 2021

Dear Partners in God's Mission,

I am writing this message for your congregation's annual report just as a new year is dawning in our church's liturgical calendar — it's the week of Thanksgiving, and this Sunday will be the first Sunday of Advent. It's been another hard year with COVID-19 infections still surging, continued political unrest and persistent economic uncertainty. Our natural inclination in such times is to hunker down, but Jesus taught otherwise. To his followers facing disturbing times, Jesus' counsel is, "Stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." (Luke 21:28). If Jesus' words were intended only for the end of all things, then they would have been of little use to his followers when he first spoke them, or to anyone over the last 2000 years. So, let's hear them in the way Jesus intends them - to meet us right here in the middle of our turmoil.

I hear in these words the promise that Christ our Lord will be present in the messiness of troubling times. I also hear an admonition to stand up and take notice of what Jesus is up to around here! I believe that when you lift your heads to see what Jesus is up to in your community, you will see a lot. Here's what I can see:

- Jesus is showing up where he always has, and he is teaching us that this is enough. We do not have the solution to our political divisions or our public health emergencies. We only have the saving good news of God's love for every person through Jesus Christ, and Christ's presence with us in the word and the sacraments. One motto we could take away from this era of diminished programming is "Less effort. More Jesus." Jesus is freeing us to set aside all that does not pertain to sharing the Gospel, celebrating the sacraments and loving our neighbors.
- Jesus is not letting us off the hook - he is continually turning our eyes toward his suffering beloved: from the parent of a black child who is terrified for their safety each time they go out in public, to the farmer at her kitchen table despairing over yet another failed crop. In former times we might have averted our gaze, but now we cannot look away. When we finally see the neighbor as our neighbor, then our collective redemption really is drawing near.
- Jesus is gathering people in ways we may not have imagined before. Many congregations across our Synod are engaging new people through their online worship and ministries. New people will not walk into your church unless they have an invitation directly from you. Church buildings are no longer seen as public, but as private spaces only for the invited. The new public space is online: no invitation necessary - drop in anytime. The Gospel can be heard just as clearly from Facebook as it can from inside our buildings. Our challenge as the church of the 21st century will be to bring together our in-person and our online people to build communities with living connections of friendship and support.

## BISHOPS REPORT

And I am grateful for you because I see Jesus at work in you: in your continued faithfulness to him and in your continued generosity that fuels the ministry of the Gospel both in your own congregation and, through your mission support, across our Synod and around the world. Thanks to you, we are making good progress on the four strategic initiatives (see attached) that you affirmed in our strategic plan at the 2021 Synod Assembly. During the week of November 18, you gave over \$60,000 to our GiveMN Give to the Max campaign, which launched “Leadership Next” for recruiting and forming adaptive leaders who are servants of Jesus Christ. As of this writing, Mission Support from congregations is running 4.2% ahead of last year. If that trend continues, we will meet the ambitions plan that you approved for this fiscal year.

In the midst of the extraordinary challenges of these times, we have a great good Lord who does not hover safely above it all, but who is down in the mess with us - loving all people and calling them to believe the Gospel. Join me in lifting your head to see Christ at work in your community and in our world.



Pastor Bill Tesch  
Bishop of the Northwestern Minnesota Synod, ELCA

## ANNUAL REPORT OF MEMORIALS RECEIVED IN 2021

Gifts were made to various funds in 2021 in memory of the following individuals:

- ◇ Arlene Anderson
- ◇ Oscar Andrews
- ◇ Lowell Bagstad
- ◇ Wally & Dan Bergeson
- ◇ Lynnette Chase
- ◇ Marcy Chase
- ◇ Marylee Coats
- ◇ Dean Erkenbrack
- ◇ LaVern Erkenbrack
- ◇ Jane Fiemeyer
- ◇ Sanfield Forseth
- ◇ Sigvald, Lillie & Norma Forseth
- ◇ Geraldine Greenwaldt
- ◇ Norine Halaas
- ◇ Byron Hamre
- ◇ Luanne Hanson
- ◇ Herb Hennagir
- ◇ George Hendrickson
- ◇ Bill & Evie Johnson
- ◇ Merle Johnson
- ◇ LeRoy Kresien
- ◇ Doris Lageson
- ◇ Aaron Larson
- ◇ Darlene Leinen
- ◇ Rita Lund
- ◇ Fred Miller
- ◇ Paul & Shirley Montan
- ◇ Casper & Nora Nervig
- ◇ Jerry Ohman
- ◇ Diana Olson
- ◇ Joanne Olson
- ◇ Peter & Martha Paulson
- ◇ Dennis Peterson
- ◇ Jean Peterson
- ◇ Erma Quincer
- ◇ Duane Steffens
- ◇ Darold A Stuewer
- ◇ Dennis Tiede
- ◇ Dorothy Teal
- ◇ Joe & Gladys Thompson
- ◇ Bunny Wambach



## MILESTONE REPORT

### BAPTIZED AT IMMANUEL IN 2021

Harper Christine Anderson.....*January 30, 2021*  
Zackery Shawn Waln.....*May 23, 2021*  
Ayven Everett Bratton.....*May 29, 2021*  
Callen Daniel Bratton.....*May 29, 2021*  
Lincoln Thomas Bratton .....*May 29, 2021*  
Thea Juliette Flagg .....*June 20, 2021*  
Jaxon Andrew Chouinard .....*August 1, 2021*  
Jaya Lynn Petermeier.....*December 19, 2021*

### DEATHS FROM IMMANUEL IN 2021

Erma Yvonne Quincer.....*March 1, 2021*  
Joanne Sophie Olson.....*March 5, 2021*  
Dennis Kieth Tiede.....*March 14, 2021*  
Diana Marie Olson .....*May 27, 2021*  
Dennis Roy Peterson.....*June 9, 2021*  
Norine Mae Halaas.....*June 19, 2021*  
LaVern Elvin Erkenbrack.....*August 10, 2021*  
Rita Nadine Lund.....*September 7, 2021*  
Dorothy Jean Teal.....*September 12, 2021*  
Sheri Lyn Kimber.....*September 13, 2021*  
Aaron Edward Larson.....*December 1, 2021*

### CONFIRMED AT IMMANUEL IN 2021

Nolan Matthew Elbert	Teshome Gabriel Loer
Jaxson Allen Brown	Preston Michael Miller
Peyton Robert Church	Kelanie Grace Oldakowski
Hannah Clare Dosedall	Gunner Michael Olson
KatieRae Louise Fiemeyer	Ryann Shaneen Schmidt
Samuel Benjamin Hegarty	Bailey Ruth Sundby
Isabelle Victoria Johnson	Allison Nicole Westrum
Kayla Faith Kircher	Brianna Jo Yglesias
Simon Clement Kreklau	

## REPORT OF THE ENDOWMENT FUND

The Mission Endowment Fund was established in 1996 as a depository for memorials, honorariums, planned gifts, 70 1/2 IRA withdrawals, and as a beneficiary of an estate. The purpose of the Fund is to enhance and extend the mission of Immanuel Lutheran Church apart from the general operation of the congregation. Gifts to the Endowment Fund are invested, not spent. Only the interest is used to further the church's mission. From our income a minimum of 51% will be used for outreach, such as a grant to mission work, ELCA seminaries or colleges or new congregational development. A maximum of 20% will be used for Immanuel's capital improvements, debt reduction or building program. A maximum of 29% may be used for emergency needs such as building repair or replacement of essential equipment.

This year, we were able to make some great gifts from the fund. We helped the Synod raise nearly \$40,000 on Giving Hearts Day (a HUGE regional fundraiser for many non-profits) in February by providing a generous \$3,000 matching challenge. We also used \$1000 to match gifts from the congregation for a Thanksgiving offering to the synod for leadership development and congregational innovation grants. Grants to the Empty Stocking Fund, Campus Ministry in Bemidji and Moorhead, and WDC for their Santa's Workshop program rounded out the year. We look forward to all the fund can do in 2022!

You can be part of this exciting ministry by making a gift of any size to the Endowment Fund in 2022. The congregation is also encouraged to provide ideas, suggestions, and requests for ministry grants.

### BEGINNING BALANCE (1/1/21)

Wadena State Bank .....	\$ 4906.90
Mission Investment Funds: .....	\$ 156550.46
Total: .....	\$ 161457.36

### INCOME:

Interest: .....	\$ 3292.23
Donations: .....	\$ 11595.00
Total: .....	\$ 14887.23

### DISBURSEMENTS:

Northwestern Minnesota Synod Giving Hearts Day Challenge Match.....	\$ 3000.00
Empty Stocking Fund.....	\$ 500.00
WDC – Reach Program (Santa's Workshop Program).....	\$ 250.00
Lutheran Campus Ministry Bemidji State.....	\$ 500.00
Lutheran Campus Ministry Moorhead State.....	\$ 500.00
Northwestern Minnesota Synod Leadership Next Match .....	\$ 1000.00
PURCHASE – Check for Wadena State Bank Account.....	\$ 31.30
Total: .....	\$ 5781.30

### ENDING BALANCE (12/31/21)

Wadena State Bank: .....	\$ 13720.60
Mission Investment Funds:.....	\$ 156842.59
Total: .....	\$ 170563.19

ENDOWED PRINCIPAL: .....	\$ 156750.35
FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR DISTRIBUTION: .....	\$ 13812.84

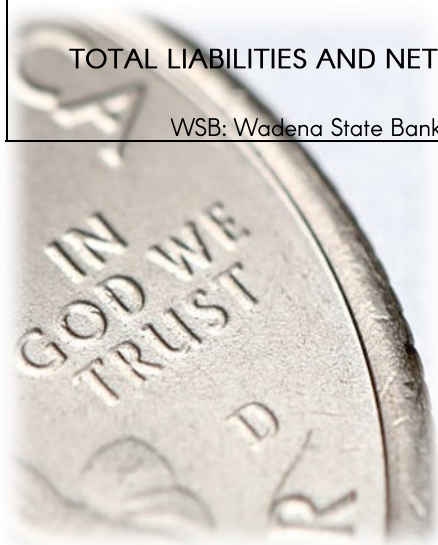
2021 Endowment Committee members: Deb Andrews, Laurie Damm, Holly Doyle, Luther Nervig, Jeff Pederson

Ex Officio: Pastor Nate Loer and Robby Grendahl

**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET  
DECEMBER 31, 2021**

ASSETS	As of Dec 31, 2019	As of Dec 31, 2020	As of Dec 31, 2021
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
General Funds – Checking (WSB)	\$ 20,370	\$ 92,831	\$64,847
Restricted/Designated Funds – (WSB)	\$ 40,638	\$ 42,032	\$49,741
Building Fund (WSB)	\$ 12,667	\$ 21,031	\$30,516
Memorial Funds (MIF/MCF)	\$ 23,763	\$ 24,561	\$27,688
Youth Account (MIF/MCF)	<u>\$ 36,048</u>	<u>\$ 44,161</u>	
Total Current Assets	\$ 133,486	\$ 224,616	<u>\$46,778</u> \$219,570
<b>OTHER ASSETS</b>			
Mission Endowment Fund	<u>\$ 158,094</u>	<u>\$ 161,457</u>	
Total Other Assets	\$ 158,094	\$ 161,457	<u>\$170,563</u> \$170,563
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Church Building (Insured Value; Assessed = \$890,600)	\$ 3,415,000	\$ 3,415,000	\$3,415,000
Land (Assessed Value)	\$ 33,500	\$ 33,500	\$33,500
Furnishings/Equipment (Insured Value)	\$ 513,000	\$ 513,000	\$513,000
Total Fixed Assets	<u>\$ 3,961,500</u>	<u>\$ 3,961,500</u>	<u>\$3,961,500</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 4,253,080</b>	<b>\$ 4,347,573</b>	<b>\$4,351,633</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Payroll Liabilities	\$ 1,071	\$ 1,113	\$ 1,378
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$ 1,071</b>	<b>\$ 1,113</b>	<b>\$ 1,378</b>
<b>NET WORTH</b>	<b>\$ 4,252,008</b>	<b>\$ 4,346,460</b>	<b>\$ 4,320,255</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET WORTH</b>	<b>\$ 4,253,080</b>	<b>\$ 4,347,573</b>	<b>\$ 4,351,633</b>

WSB: Wadena State Bank, MCF: Mid Central Federal Savings Bank, MIF: Mission Investment Fund – ELCA



# IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH 2022 BUDGET

	2020 Budget	2020 Actual	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2022 Budget	Budget % Change from 2021	2021 Actual % of Total	2022 Budget Cash Inflows
<b>CASH INFLOWS</b>								
General Contributions	\$375,000	\$447,738	\$385,000	\$358,440	\$390,000	1.3%		
Other Contributions	\$20,000	\$13,803	\$20,000	\$16,593	\$20,000	0.0% *a		
Bldg. Fund Contributions	\$10,933	\$8,331	\$10,000	\$9,543	\$10,000	0.0%		
Interest-General Funds	\$100	\$99	\$100	\$80	\$100	0.0%		
<b>Total Cash Inflows</b>	<b>\$406,033</b>	<b>\$469,971</b>	<b>\$415,100</b>	<b>\$384,656</b>	<b>\$420,100</b>	1.2%		
Mission Contributions	\$13,500	\$32,427	\$15,000	\$35,544	\$15,000	0.0% *b		
Good Samaritan Contributions	\$1,000	\$1,919	\$1,000	\$2,350	\$1,000	0.0%		
<b>Total Restricted In</b>	<b>\$14,500</b>	<b>\$34,346</b>	<b>\$16,000</b>	<b>\$37,894</b>	<b>\$16,000</b>	0.0%		
<b>BENEVOLENCE</b>								
NW Minn. Synod	\$25,000	\$30,000	\$26,000	\$26,985	\$27,000	3.8%	6.38%	6.26%
Lutheran Social Services	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,100	3.3%		
Radio/TV Ministry	\$5,500	\$5,434	\$5,500	\$5,659	\$5,500	0.0%		
Luther Crest	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,200	\$5,200	\$5,500	5.8%		
<b>Total Benevolence</b>	<b>\$37,500</b>	<b>\$42,434</b>	<b>\$39,700</b>	<b>\$40,844</b>	<b>\$41,100</b>	3.5%	9.03%	9.56%
Mission Causes	\$13,500	\$35,712	\$15,000	\$27,178	\$15,000	0.0%		
Good Samaritan Causes	\$1,000	\$3,686	\$1,000	\$1,688	\$1,000	0.0%		
<b>Total Restricted Out</b>	<b>\$14,500</b>	<b>\$39,398</b>	<b>\$16,000</b>	<b>\$28,866</b>	<b>\$16,000</b>	0.0%		
<b>PROGRAMS</b>								
Congregational Life	\$3,500	\$868	\$1,500	\$551	\$1,500	0.0%		
Finance	\$1,200	\$1,271	\$1,200	\$1,048	\$1,200	0.0%		
Outreach	\$5,300	\$2,498	\$3,000	\$2,770	\$3,000	0.0%		
Parish Education	\$7,000	\$1,874	\$5,000	\$3,273	\$3,000	-40.0%		
Worship & Music	\$3,700	\$2,101	\$2,000	\$3,281	\$3,000	50.0%		
Youth	\$7,000	\$7,020	\$7,000	\$7,020	\$7,000	0.0%		
<b>Total Programs</b>	<b>\$27,700</b>	<b>\$15,632</b>	<b>\$19,700</b>	<b>\$17,944</b>	<b>\$18,700</b>	-5.1%	3.33%	4.75%
<b>STAFF</b>								
Senior Pastor Compensation	\$61,286	\$61,271	\$63,125	\$63,754	\$65,018	3.0% *c		
Senior Pastor Pension	\$7,780	\$7,780	\$8,013	\$8,013	\$8,253	3.0%		
Senior Pastor Medical/Disability	\$30,470	\$30,243	\$33,293	\$33,293	\$35,593	6.9%		
Senior Pastor Social Security	\$3,544	\$3,543	\$3,650	\$3,650	\$3,760	3.0%		
Associate Pastor Compensation	\$55,248	\$55,262	\$56,905	\$57,475	\$58,613	3.0% *c		
Associate Pastor Pension	\$5,844	\$5,844	\$6,020	\$6,020	\$6,200	3.0%		
Associate Pastor Medical/Disability	\$12,214	\$12,010	\$13,032	\$13,033	\$14,291	9.7%		
Associate Pastor Social Security	\$3,195	\$3,196	\$3,291	\$3,291	\$3,389	3.0%		
Administrative Secretary	\$29,604	\$29,604	\$30,492	\$30,856	\$31,407	3.0% *c		
Custodian	\$18,778	\$18,778	\$19,341	\$19,552	\$19,922	3.0% *c		
Bookkeeper	\$6,180	\$6,310	\$6,180	\$6,250	\$6,365	3.0% *c		
Worship Accompanist	\$9,421	\$5,174	\$8,000	\$8,943	\$8,240	3.0%		
Choir Accompanist	\$1,658	\$1,658	\$1,708	\$1,708	\$1,759	3.0%		
Choir Director	\$3,869	\$3,869	\$3,985	\$3,985	\$4,105	3.0%		
Youth & Family Coordinator	\$16,582	\$16,582	\$17,079	\$12,052	\$6,500	-61.9% *d		
Lay Staff Pension	\$2,960	\$2,960	\$3,049	\$3,049	\$3,141	3.0%		
Lay Staff Social Security	\$6,586	\$6,271	\$6,784	\$6,376	\$6,000	-11.6%		
Lay Staff Medical/Disability	\$7,086	\$6,983	\$7,079	\$7,587	\$7,231	2.1%		
Lay Staff Workers Comp	\$2,188	\$3,108	\$2,254	\$2,723	\$2,300	2.1%		
Honorariums	\$200	\$0	\$200	\$0	\$200	0.0%		
<b>Total Staff</b>	<b>\$284,693</b>	<b>\$280,446</b>	<b>\$293,479</b>	<b>\$291,608</b>	<b>\$292,286</b>	-0.4%	59.67%	70.70%
<b>MISC. OPERATIONS</b>								
Office/Admin Expense	\$11,000	\$10,026	\$8,500	\$10,753	\$9,000	5.9%		
Equipment	\$2,000	\$2,387	\$4,000	\$3,908	\$2,500	-37.5%		
Professional Exp.	\$5,000	\$3,675	\$3,000	\$2,044	\$3,000	0.0%		
Staff Continuing Education	\$1,000	\$579	\$1,000	\$820	\$1,000	0.0%		
Training/Develop/Conferences	\$2,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$995	\$2,000	100.0%		
<b>Total Misc. Operations</b>	<b>\$21,000</b>	<b>\$16,667</b>	<b>\$17,500</b>	<b>\$18,520</b>	<b>\$17,500</b>	0.0%	3.55%	4.22%
<b>BUILDING EXPENSES</b>								
Property Mgmt.	\$8,000	\$3,000	\$8,000	\$8,725	\$8,000	0.0%		
Capital Improvements	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	0.0%		
Utilities	\$14,000	\$11,035	\$15,000	\$11,040	\$15,000	0.0%		
Heat	\$7,000	\$4,599	\$7,000	\$5,534	\$7,000	0.0%		
Insurance	\$6,000	\$5,930	\$6,000	\$6,152	\$6,000	0.0%		
<b>Total Bldg. Expenses</b>	<b>\$45,000</b>	<b>\$24,564</b>	<b>\$46,000</b>	<b>\$31,451</b>	<b>\$46,000</b>	0.0%	5.23%	11.08%
<b>TO: BUILDING FUND</b>	<b>\$933</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>			
<b>Total Cash Outflows</b>	<b>\$416,826</b>	<b>\$364,111</b>	<b>\$396,679</b>	<b>\$382,424</b>	<b>\$396,886</b>	0.1%		
<b>Net change for the year</b>	<b>(\$10,793)</b>	<b>\$105,860</b>	<b>\$18,421</b>	<b>\$2,232</b>	<b>\$23,214</b>	26.0%		

\*a Other Contributions include: Radio fund, Thrivent choice, Joyful Sound, Holiday worship offering.

\*b Please see breakdown of 2021 Mission Activities in the Outreach Committee Report.

\*c The total reflects a 1% Covid stipend approved by council at the end of 2021.

\*dThe total reflects an amount lower than budgeted because of resignation with limited hours through the National Youth Gathering in summer of 2022

Additional income/expenditures are directed by activities of the ICW, Youth, Bldg. Fund, Mission Endowment, and certain Memorial/Designated Giving.

2021 Finance Committee: Kent Schmidt - Chair, Dean Krogstad, Liz Miller, Tracy Church, Betty White, Greg Johnson, Bryan Greenwaldt.

ex officio: Pastor Nate Loer, Jill Fiemeyer

## REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The following underlined names have been nominated as Church Council Officers and Committee Chairpersons and will serve if elected. The names bolded are the continuing Church Council Officers and Chairpersons. Additional nominations may be made from the floor.

### 2021 CHURCH COUNCIL

President (1 Year).....**Robby Grendahl**  
Vice President (1 Year).....Jennifer Brunsberg  
Secretary (1 Year)..... \_\_\_\_\_  
Treasurer (2 Years)..... **Tracy Church**  
Financial Secretary (1 Year)..... **Jane Bagstad**  
Financial Vice Secretary (1 year)..... Gail Klueenberg  
Congregational Life (2 Years).....**Stephanie Drange**  
Education Committee (2 Years)..... \_\_\_\_\_  
Finance Committee (2 Years)..... **Kent Schmidt**  
Outreach Committee (2 Years)..... **Sara Stone**  
Property Committee (2 Years)..... **Sam Sundby**  
Worship and Music (2 Years)..... Pam Nelson  
Youth Leadership (2 Years)..... Sara Ross

Delegates to Synod Assembly:.....Robby Grendahl  
(March 12, 2022 IN Detroit Lakes and Lori Grendahl  
May 21, 2021 via Zoom) Jennifer Brunsberg  
Mike Brunsberg (alternate)

Mission Endowment.....Liz Miller (3 year term)  
Les Breitling (3 year term)  
**Deb Andrews to January 2023**  
**Jeff Pederson to January 2023**  
**Luther Nervig to January 2024**

Financial Review Committee:.....Megan Martin  
Amy Greenwaldt

Nominating Committee:..... \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2021 Nominating Committee Members: .....**Stephanie Drange**  
**Amy Greenwaldt**  
**Liz Miller**

## 2021 FINANCIAL COMPLIANCE REVIEW CERTIFICATION

We hereby certify that the financial records of the congregation have been reviewed, findings submitted to the Church Council, and that a proper accounting of all randomly reviewed activities has been found, and in conformity with religious organization non-profit accounting.

Sincerely,

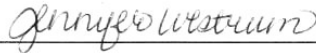
Financial Review Committee

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Wadena, MN

Signed: Kevin Ross



Signed: Jennifer Westrum





**OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday—Friday  
8:30 am—3:30 pm

**CONTACT Us:**

(218) 631-2738 (*office*)  
(218) 631-7289 (*fax*)  
[www.wadenaimmanuel.org](http://www.wadenaimmanuel.org)  
[church@wadenaimmanuel.org](mailto:church@wadenaimmanuel.org)

**STAFF OF IMMANUEL**

- Nate Loer, Lead Pastor..... (218) 640-5913  
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# ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

## OPENING LITURGY

### Litany

Today our congregation gathers in prayer and hope to begin another year of ministry. We bring with us the memory of a year like no other, even as we move into a future that we cannot yet imagine. Yet even now, as in every age, God is our refuge and strength. In times of plenty and want, in times of conflict and peace, in times of growing and pruning, we remember:

**God has called us for such a time as this.**

We remember the past year with lament and gratitude. We have lost so much, and so much still feels uncertain. We have also witnessed God's hand at work in new and unexpected ways. We delight at hidden seeds bearing surprising and wonderful fruit. When our own resources fail, when we cannot predict the future, when we must rely on God alone, we remember:

**God has called us for such a time as this.**

We celebrate this moment and the many ways God has held us together as a community. We give thanks for the gift of our church building and the welcome it provides, even as we bless God for the marvel of technology and the new bonds of connection it makes possible. When our bodies need sanctuary, when our minds need expanding, when your grace must transcend our limitations, we remember:

**God has called us for such a time as this.**

We look ahead to the road we will travel together this year. We anticipate and receive with joy the new gifts God's love has planned. We pray for the grace to let go of what has served its holy purpose. When we are trailblazers or followers, when we are seekers or visionaries, when we must walk by faith and not by sight, we remember:

**God has called us for such a time as this.**

And so we pray: Grace our meeting, O God, with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the Spirit who has guided the church from the beginning, the Spirit of our risen Lord Jesus, the Spirit who sends us as healers and restorers of your beloved world. You are the source of our life together. You are the rock and cornerstone.

**You have called us for such a time as this.**

### God of the Fertile Fields

1 God of the fer - tile fields, sha - per of  
 2 We would be stew - ards true, hold - ing in  
 3 As grows the hid - den seed to fruit that  
 4 God of the coun - try - side, dear to the

earth that yields our dai - ly bread: forth from your  
 trust from you all that you give; help us in  
 serves our need, so your reign grows. Let all our  
 Christ who died to make us one: we pledge our

boun - teous hand come gifts your love has planned,  
 love to share, teach us like you to care  
 toil be used, no gift of yours a - bused,  
 lives a - new in faith - ful love to you.

that all in ev - 'ry land be clothed and fed.  
 for peo - ple ev - 'ry - where, that all may live.  
 no hum - ble task re - fused your love be - stows.  
 Guide all we say and do. Your will be done.

All Creation Sings #1063

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**O God,  
 you have called your servants  
 to ventures of which we cannot see the ending,  
 by paths as yet untrodden,  
 through perils unknown.  
 Give us faith to go out with good courage,  
 not knowing where we go,  
 but only that your hand is leading us  
 and your love supporting us;  
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
 Amen. (ELW, p. 317)**

Change and the need for creativity have become constants over the last year and a half in many aspects of life, including the church. This was the case for Living Christ Lutheran Church in Flagstaff, Ariz., even before a global pandemic caused many of us to rethink what it means to be church. Generosity from all three expressions of the ELCA (the churchwide organization, the Grand Canyon Synod and members of Living Christ) helped turn a congregation “on the road out of town, near the mall” into an online presence reaching over 500 people a week from Phoenix to the Philippines. (Read more about Living Christ in the current issue of “Stories of Faith in Action” at [ELCA.org/SOFIA](https://www.elca.org/SOFIA).)

Many other congregations have found new ways to connect both when in-person worship was impossible and when congregations began to return to their sanctuaries. Generosity, especially through Mission Support, helped us find and support these new ways of being connected. Early in the pandemic, ELCA Worship launched the “Worship in the Home” webpage, with Scripture, hymn links, prayers and reflections for each

Sunday. These resources were and continue to be used in congregations across the ELCA—even at Sitka Lutheran Church in Alaska, whose members printed and hand-delivered “Worship in the Home” resources to fellow members without internet access.

Change and creativity have taught us many things. As Pastor Sandra Rudd of Sitka Lutheran Church noted, “The pandemic was a stark illustration of the fact that the church is not a building. A lot of people say that, but we didn’t fully know it until we didn’t have a building to use. We learned that there are many ways to be connected as the church.” Throughout the pandemic, the ELCA has changed and adapted, doing ministry in new and creative ways, because of the generosity of its members. Even now, you may be gathering in a new way for your annual meeting, to discern how you will steward the gifts shared generously with your congregation to do ministry in your community and beyond. As you have these important conversations, remember that your gifts of time, talent and resources have helped create new spaces beyond our walls and buildings where we continue to worship, serve and love God and each other.

# ANNUAL REPORT

2021