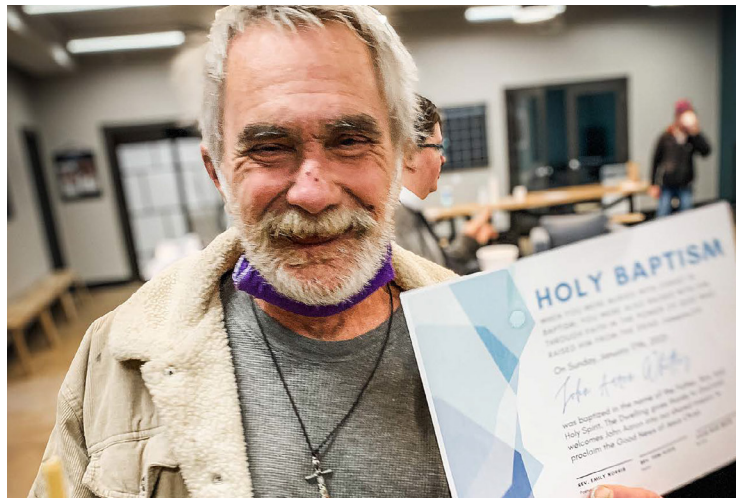


# ANNUAL REPORT

2021



St. Peter's Lutheran Church  
Northfield, Minnesota

*Creating Community, Belonging  
to Christ, Serving the World*



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

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## January 30, 2022 Annual Meeting Agenda

Call to Order  
Approval of agenda  
Devotions  
Message from the Pastor  
Message from the President  
Team/Board Reports  
Elections  
Financial Report-2022 Budget  
Old Business  
Adjourn

## Zoom Meeting Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88645632115>

## 2021 Staff

David Weeks, Pastor  
Julie Klock, Family & Faith Formation  
Mary Kay Bougie, Music Coordinator & Director  
Terra Wierson, Director of Communications  
Terrence Hassanally, Financial Administrator

Thank you to everyone who submitted reports, articles, photos and other items for the past year!

To get your photos included, post them to facebook, either tag St. Peter's Lutheran or post right on the St. Peter's page. Or, of course, just send them to the church office, [terrawierson@northfieldstp.org](mailto:terrawierson@northfieldstp.org) or [pastordavidweeks@northfieldstp.org](mailto:pastordavidweeks@northfieldstp.org).

## 2021 Council

Steve Hill, President  
Patrick Bougie, Vice President  
Tom Picha, Treasurer  
Jolene Manzey, Secretary  
Mary Bleckwehl  
Sheryl Kleppe  
Bette Lee  
Naomi Ziegler





## 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 CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

## OPENING LITURGY



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

Text: Georgia Harkness, alt.; © 1955, ren. 1983 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Reprinted under license #RP090721-1.

Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, in the public domain.

For further use of this hymn, including podcasting/streaming, please request permission from the copyright holder or report usage under a valid license.

**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://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 —

# A Message From Pastor David



Dear Friends in Christ:

*O (year) full of grace that now we see  
appearing on earth's horizon,  
Bring light from our God that we may be  
abundant in joy this season.  
God, shine for us now in this dark place;  
your name on our hearts emblazon.  
ELW #627 O Day Full of Grace*

The past two years have been grace overflowing as we have experienced fear, concern, joy, relief, and hope. In Romans 8, Paul proclaims that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Though distanced and disrupted, God's love and grace has kept us connected with each other.

We were one of the earlier churches in Northfield to open our doors and return to offering limited in-person worship. On February 17–Ash Wednesday—we welcomed people to worship in person. Worshipers needed to pre register and not sit near people outside of their households. In May, we were able to remove our masks and sing.

Though the Delta and Omicron variants have given us a bit of a setback, it was a joy to see all our ministry groups return to in person gatherings.

Our Circles, the Church Council, BeFriends, Breakfast Club, Quilters, BGs, Confirmation, Sunday School,



Worship Choir, Jubilee Bells, etc., all returned to meeting in person. It has been a delight to see activity and hear other voices in the building.

It has been a year full of grace. I am extremely grateful for the staff with whom I work. Julie, Terra, Mary Kay, and Terrence have all adjusted and adapted to our unpredictable world. As a team, we have great appreciation and respect for each other's talents and we have fun imagining and planning ministry.

I choose to be hopeful for 2022 and I cling to Paul's words that "hope does not disappoint us." Paul's words in Romans certainly resonate for the past two years. We've suffered, endured, and we've grown and discovered a few new skills along the way.

While it has been a year of uncertainty, it has also been a year of certainty. We have leaned heavily on the promise that Jesus abides with us, loves us, and has sent us into the world with God's love.



Habitat for Humanity is building a four-plex and a single-family unit in Northfield. We have been very involved in providing meals for the volunteer workers. We joined forces with our fellow ELCA congregations on September 19 for "God's Work Our Hands", an ELCA initiative encouraging congregations to serve their communities. A few of us went to work installing insulation at the four-plex.

In addition to our God's Work Our Hands involvement with Habitat for Humanity, it was also Rally Day and we had fun raising money to help purchase a school bus for a Lutheran school in Senegal. We thought we set an ambitious goal of \$1000, but we ended up raising more than double our goal. This was an outstanding ministry endeavor in so many ways—we helped people with a real need, we had fun together, and we experienced generosity. People willingly and eagerly paid \$100.00 to insure they got what they wanted, and we had much more to bid on than expected because people voluntarily brought pies and cookies because they wanted to be part of this ministry.



We're still learning and we're still adjusting. One blessing of the past two years is that we have more freedom to fail. It's a new and different world, and we are a new and different church. We need to be attentive to the presence of God in a changing world and changing church.

In September, we returned to offering meals and a short worship service before Confirmation and SPY. We have been using a new service from a new hymnal supplement—All Creation Sings. It has been a joy to see not only our youth and their parents, but many others join us to hear and reflect upon God's Word and promises.



We have been blessed with the ministry of Julie Klock for the past six and a half years. Her

passion and love for children and families is infectious. She is a constant generator of ideas and she is always willing to try something new. Though I am happy for Julie as she will retire this coming June, her presence will be dearly missed at St. Peter's.



With Julie retiring, we will provide opportunities to brainstorm about who we are, where God is calling us, and how we can best serve our children, youth and families.

Our Church Council has provided steady and thoughtful leadership throughout the years. I am grateful for all of them, but I especially thank Steve Hill, Patrick Bougie, Sheryl Kleppe, and Bette Lee, who have faithfully served for four years.

Thank you, St. Peter's Lutheran, for being people of grace in this trying time. It is a privilege and honor to serve as your pastor. Thank you for your faithfulness, your generosity, your love for each other, and your grace.

Peace,  
David





# 2021 Pastoral Records

## ***New Members***

Sonja Link

## ***Confirmands***

Keith Harner	Axel Randall
Kennedy Larson	Devon Seeley
Logan Miller	Rowan Seeley
Logan Prescott	Seth Thompson

## ***Baptisms***

May 30 . . . . . Callie Grace Strand	December 8 . . . . Nicholas Paul Martin
June 20. . . . . Roy James Ruzicka	December 19 Maxwell Avery Mansfield
November 7. . . Wren Carolyn Peterson	December 19 . . Mason Elijah Mansfield

## ***Funerals***

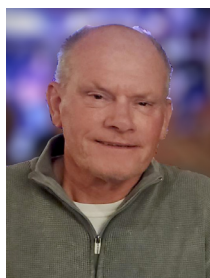
Janet L. Gutzmann . . . . . January 21, 1933 - March 26, 2020  
Leslie V. Lundell . . . . . December 27, 1933 - November 29, 2020  
Arliss L. Boyum . . . . . January 17, 1931 - January 1, 2021  
Audrey Dahl Fennie . . . . . December 23, 1929 - March 27th 2021  
Frank W. Lundberg. . . . . August 28, 1943 - April 17, 2021  
John A. Hallcock. . . . . March 22, 1979 - June 5, 2021  
Merlin R. Bauer. . . . . June 2, 1932 - June 26, 2021  
Janie A. Anderson . . . . . June 1, 1929 - July 5, 2021  
Anton Robert "Bob" Rasmussen . . . . . July 8, 1932 - July 12, 2021  
Scott A. Bergemann. . . . . March 7, 1956 - August 9, 2021  
Ann M. Loken . . . . . April 10, 1941 - September 19, 2021  
Eleanor A. Salisbury . . . . . September 9, 1934 - November 27, 2021

## ***Deaths with Future Funerals***

Evelyn R. Gates. . . . . January 29, 1930 - May 2, 2021  
Richard A. Rasmussen . . . . . August 30, 1927 - October 29, 2021  
Karlo D. Fischer . . . . . April 2, 1939 - November 14, 2021

# A Message from the President of the Congregation

by Steve Hill, Council President



A year ago, we all thought this pandemic would be behind us. Surely, by 2022 it would be over and things would be back to normal.

But now, the virus has changed. We have changed. St. Peter's has changed and the whole world has changed.

It's hard to imagine that things will ever get back to what we considered normal.

If this is true, if we must change the way we do things at St. Peter's to meet the needs of the new world around us, let's make sure we change for the better. I'm reminded of the sage advice of every baseball coach that ever lived "keep your eye on the ball." In creating new ways for us to worship and do God's work we need to remember that God has a plan for us as stated in our mission: Believe, Belong, Become.

Our Bishop, Regina Hassanally in a letter to members of the SE Synod reminds us to remember who we are. "You are the people of God. You are followers of the way and life of Jesus. You are ambassadors of Christ."

At this point, despite all we've been through, I find myself grateful for all the things we have been able to do during this pandemic. When we were unable to meet in-person, worship services continued on-line, many of our church groups, including church council and ministry teams continued their work meeting virtually. Sarah's House became a reality and is helping people get back on their feet, and so much more. I am grateful that Pastor David and this great staff have guided us through these difficult times. I am grateful that our congregation has continued to support this wonderful church spiritually and financially.

***Our cup runs over!***

*Steve Hill*

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## Community Outreach

by Doris Welke

The umbrella of the Outreach Committee is very large. Any activity by members of St. Peter's, in our community, is a form of outreach and under our umbrella. Even with these years of Covid we are still visible in Northfield. Activities include: Red Cross Blood drive run by Charlene Hamblin, meals to the builders at the Habitat for Humanity build sites lead by Diane Boyum and Daryl Knudson, Breakfast Club organized by Sheryl Kleppe and Doris Welke, Sarah's House which is taken care of by Bette Lee, and the New Neighbors Dinners hosted by Sheryl, Diane and myself and a few other members we invite to round out the group. There are many other groups and activities that are part of this committee.

The New Neighbors Dinners give newcomers to Northfield an opportunity to come together for dinner and conversation. A time to share their story and ask a few questions about their new community. There is also the chance that new friendships will form. We

would like to have a dinner every three months, but covid restrictions have delayed our first 2022 dinner. When it is safer we will continue. We've found that we have as much fun as the neighbors we invite.

You are all members of the Outreach Committee and we'd love to share ideas with you and have you join us. Please talk to any of us for information.

Thank you, Doris Welke

Outreach Committee: Sheryl Kleppe, Diane Boyum, Richard DeBeau and Doris Welke



*New neighbor dinner in July*

# Rally Day Bake Sale

by Naomi Ziegler

St. Peter's Rally Day bake sale raised \$3,400 for the purchase of a Toyota minibus used to transport children to and from school near Dakar. The Lutheran Society for Development in Senegal, a Senegalese faith-based development organization supporting education, healthcare, and agriculture, gathered the funds for the bus.



St. Peter's Youth challenged Adult bakers to a fundraising bake-off. Both groups responded with enthusiasm, and provided over 40 items for sale. In the end, over \$2K was raised and Team Youth won by about \$25. An anonymous donor contributed another \$1000. The event was fun and engaging and deeply appreciated by the recipients of the funds.

LSDS Director, Philippe Badji wrote, "Again, on behalf of the CSN and SLDS's staff, I would like to thank all who made it possible for us to get this



second minibus. Because of your support, the Complexe Scolaire Nanondiral (CSN) whose current enrollment has reached a total of 578 students, is now able to provide a decent transportation service to its students even though we are still far away from being able to fulfill that need as it shows in the picture with students sitting by 6 or 7 in a seat.



I particularly appreciate the creative ways that some of you have used to raise funds for this project."

Our donation accounted for about 10% of the purchase price. We hope this can be a model for future community engagement and benevolence efforts by the congregation. Thank you to all who participated.

## Sarah's House in 2021

by Sheryl Kleppe

Sarah's House officially opened in the Fall of 2020. Since that time, sixteen women have called the residence home. According to city ordinances, Sarah's House can house up to five women at a time. For much of the past year, it has been at capacity. Currently, there are three women living there and there is a small wait list with more women coming in as they complete their inpatient treatment programs. Thrivent Financial recently purchased bikes for the ladies to use as transportation. Suzanne Fox, the director, says, "We are thrilled to be able to serve so many women in need and grateful for the partnership with St. Peter's. Sarah's House remains a safe, sober, and comfortable refuge for those recovering from substance use disorder."

As needs arise at the house, we will indicate how the congregation can assist through newsletter articles or through the website. We thank you for all that you have done and continue to do to make this a viable ministry of outreach at St. Peter's. If you have further questions they may be directed to the church staff, Bette Lee, or Sheryl Kleppe.



WORLD & LOCAL  
INVOLVEMENT



# Music at St. Peter's in 2021

by Mary Kay Bougie, Music Coordinator & Director

Making music cannot be stopped! We had our challenges once again as the pandemic continued in 2021, but that did not keep St. Peter's from having music at worship. Thankfully, by September, full choir and bells returned to "normal" with practice at Wednesday rehearsals and enhancing our Sunday worship services. Making music together feels really good!

I would like to thank the following musicians who have shared their talents in 2021: Jim Anderson, Bob Baker, Bill Bleckwehl, Mary Bleckwehl, Sandy Bremer, Bernice Christianson, Richard Collman, Julia Daly, Kira DeMaris, Megan DeMaris, Alaia Douah, Madeleine Douah, Marilyn Finneseth, Claire Hill, Steve Hill, Kris Johnson, Annalissa Lane, Jake Larson, Kennedy Larson, Sonja Link, Josie Lynn, Phil Olson, Ginny Paulson, Pete Pedersen, Mark Shaw, Ella Sommers, Hannah Varley, Skip Wagner, David Weeks, and Michon Weeks.



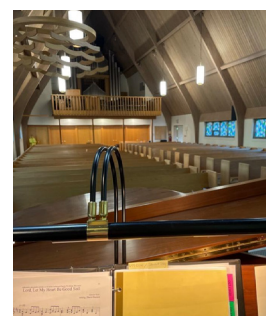
Jubilee Bell ringers: Kris, Claire, Ginny, Mary, Megan, Marilyn, Skip and Bernice



Claire leads Easter hymns



Duet with Megan/Mary Kay & view from piano



Thanksgiving Eve combined choir with Bethel Lutheran, Pete Schleif is conducting.



St. Peter's Worship Choir sing, "For the Autumn Sky" for Thanksgiving



Richard leads Advent Comfort and Hope service



Megan DeMaris and Madeleine & Alaia Douah sharing their talents for Christmas



Christmas Eve Candlelight service



# Faith Formation Staff & Team Report:

by Julie Klock,  
Director of Childrens and Family Faith Formation

The past year was an epic journey of hope, experimentation, discovery, modest successes and a few genuine wins. Here are some of the significant events and decisions:

We launched the year with another **Confirmation** Collaboration with Bethel, St. John's and First UCC. Our speakers were very good, and attendance was also quite good.

We held online **Sunday School** with limited engagement during the spring semester.

We offered our first Walk Through **Holy Week** family activity on Palm Sunday. Attendance was very small, but appreciative and encouraging for a repeat.

**Confirmation** and **SPY** went back to in-person during Lent. Everyone was happy to get back together.

I went on **Sabbatical** in June and July. Intern Annalisa kept youth events going through the summer.

We again collaborated with St. John's and Bethel for **Vacation Bible School**. This year we did family style on three consecutive Wednesdays in August. Attendance was small but enthusiastic.

September brought an all outdoor **Rally Day** celebration and a big fundraiser (see related article).

We gave online Sunday School a quick try in the fall with no response from families. We hoped for increased Sunday School attendance after vaccines became available to **elementary kids** in October but there was no significant improvement.

The weekly parent newsletter was streamlined

so we could announce **quick changes** as needed, and improve reader engagement.

We did not hold a scheduled "No School" day camp in the fall because we had no students register. This is probably a casualty of the pandemic - as employers have grown accustomed to allowing parents to work from home, there is **less need for this service**. We will not be scheduling any more camps in the coming school year.

We offered a visit with **St. Nicholas** in early December. Families did not turn out for this event but the coffee hour attendance was large and appreciative.

The annual **Christmas program** was "opt-in" this year. Twelve K-5 students and four middle school students provided an excellent program. **Kudos** to: **Intern Josie** who taught and directed the elementary music, **Intern Alissa** who costumed and coached the actors and handled the broadcast, and **Naomi and Mary Kay** who prepped the middle school band.

I will be retiring at the end of this school year - my last day will be June 15th. **Working at St. Peter's and living among you has been a tremendous gift and joy for me**. God has blessed me with the opportunity to work with all of you, and with the amazing staff you have assembled. It has been an honor to serve as your Director of Family Faith Formation and it is not easy to give up that role. I plan to remain in the area, but I recognize that things will change. Thank you for your warm welcome, your support of my crazy ideas, your willingness to try out some new things, and most of all, your faithfulness. *May God continue to bless St. Peter's and the people who ARE St. Peter's.*

Respectfully submitted,  
Julie Klock

## 2021 Photo Gallery



Hyland Ski



Spring Ditch Clean up

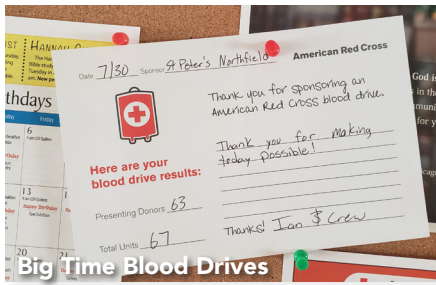


Landscaping



Blessing of the Bikes





Big Time Blood Drives



Council President Participates



Richard and David's Dueling Pianos



Re-roofing



Sacristy: Before



Sacristy: After



Feed My Starving Children



Feed My Starving Children



Newsletter Assembly Crew



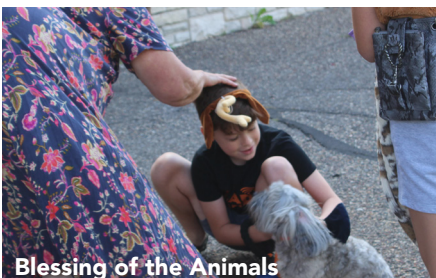
Setup at DJJD Entertainment Tent



Rally Outdoor Worship



Rally Day



Blessing of the Animals



Trunk or Treat



Affirmation of Baptism



St. Nicholas Day



Children's Christmas Program



Christmas Eve



## Hannah Circle (normally meets on the second Tuesday at 9:30 a.m.)

by Diane Boyum, Treasurer

**Opening Balance . . . . . \$135.47**

### **Income**

Offerings and income . . . . . \$1,247.22

**Total. . . . . \$1,382.69**

### **Expenses**

Memorials. . . . . \$320.00

Layette Fabric . . . . . \$60.00

Layette Shipping . . . . . \$125.00

Community Action Center . . . . . \$475.00

ELCA. . . . . \$150.00

The Key. . . . . \$200.00

Miscellaneous . . . . . \$20.00

**Total. . . . . \$1,135.00**

**2021 Ending balance . . . . . \$32.69**



The Hannah Circle was able to assemble and *donate 26 baby care kits* in 2021. Thank you to all who helped!

## LUV Quilters (normally meets Fridays at 9:00 a.m.)

by Celena Witt, Treasurer

147 quilts were distributed in 2021 by the LUV Quilters:

Lutheran World Relief (LWR) - 83;

and Northfield's Operation Joy - 64.

The Quilters assembled 113 school kits for LWR.



**Opening Balance. . . . . \$1,661.57**

### **Income**

Donations. . . . . \$125.00

Martinson Memorial . . . . . \$150.00

**Total. . . . . \$1,936.57**

### **Expenses**

Quilting Supplies. . . . . \$745.28

School Kit Supplies . . . . . \$50.00

**Total. . . . . \$795.28**

**2021 Ending Balance . . . . . \$1,141.29**



# Rachel Circle (normally meets on the second Tuesday at 1:00 p.m.)

by Evonne Clay, Treasurer

Thrivent provided \$250.00 for us to purchase 50 Personal Care Kits. We thank member Joyce and husband Borris Mokoff for delivering the kits to Lutheran World Relief Warehouse.

<b>Opening Balance</b>	<b>\$7.02</b>
<b>Income</b>	
Monthly Offerings	\$969.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$976.02</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Capital Projects/St. Peter's	\$200.03
CAC/Food Shelf	\$175.00
Christian Women United	\$30.00
Rice Co. Habitat for Humanity	\$100.00
Outreach Comm. New Neighbor	\$50.00
Sarah's House	\$100.00
St. Jude Children's Hosp.	\$75.00
Special Needs Gift's	\$125.00
St. Peter's/Amazon Kits	\$23.99
St. Peter's Coffee Fund	\$50.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$929.02</b>
<b>2021 Ending balance</b>	<b>\$47.00</b>



# New Spirit Circle (Accounts closed in 2020)

Bible study leaders: Hazel Peterson & Phyllis Swanson

## "New Spirit Circle Resumes After 14-Month Recess"

Hazel, Phyllis, JoAnn, Roberta and Deb were happy to "resurrect" their circle together time in September of 2021! They warmly welcome other women to join them for a visit. New Spirit will always meet on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 2pm in the Fireside Lounge at St. Peter's. Check the beautiful St. Peter's Parish Visitor for details.

In 2021 the NSC reconnected as loving sisters in Christ, shared prayer requests, signed get well cards, did the "Gather" Bible study with some of the accompanying articles, shared updates on our LBT missionaries, Josh & Ruthie Wagner, and truly enjoyed our Koinonia-Christian community.

What is "Gather?" It is the official magazine for our ELCA women! The monthly Bible studies with interesting articles are included. Contact [gathermagazine.org](http://gathermagazine.org) or toll free 844-409-0576 with questions. Phyllis comments that she enjoys reading the articles that connect, in every-day language, with many of the Bible studies points. Come visit often!

## Eve Circle

(normally meets on the second Monday at The Vault, 9:30am; Jan.-May & Sept.-Dec.)

Chairperson: Linda Rowan; 507-581-6665



Eve Circle alternates yearly studies between contemporary Christian books and Bible studies offered in the ELCA **Gather** magazine. We have nine members in our group and new members are always welcome!

Our service focus has always been to contribute to families in need of assistance within our community. With our yearly budget of \$500 in contributions

from our circle members, we have again accomplished this project in the Christmas season by giving to Christmas Joy within our community. We have also volunteered with lunches for Habitat to Humanity. Due to Covid-19, we have had a blend of meeting on Zoom and meeting in person.

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## BGs (normally meets on the first Thursday at 8:00 am)

The BGs (Bucket Gals) meet in the kitchen at 8:00 on the first Thursday of the month for around an hour. The group works to get items in their proper place, wipes down the counters and stainless steel, checks and cleans the refrigerator, cleans the coffee pots, checks on the oven, wipes down the tables and chairs, and checks areas for dusting. Occasionally, the group cleans the pews. This group is made up of Joan Paulson, Evonne Clay, Mickey Brodin, Judy Closson, Janet Gilbertson, Polly Hendee, and JoAnne Olson. Anyone who would like to join this group are welcome on any first Thursday.





## SOLOS

(normally meets on the third Thursday at 12:30 for lunch.)

by Phyllis Swanson

St. Peter's SOLOs support group gathered seven times in 2021. After our group enjoyed a very fun connecting time June 24 at the Ole Cafe, we decided to always meet on the third Thursday of each month at 12:30pm. Check details in the Parish visitor.

What do Solos do together? We enjoy a delicious meal, share prayer requests and catch up on what's new in our lives. We might bring a special item or memory to share. We celebrated birthdays by singing and writing cards, or cards for others to get well. We shared theme Bible verses and just visited!



Where did we meet... July 15: Perkin's, August 19: Hazel's lake home, September 30: Boonie's Outdoor Gardens in Millersburg, October 21: Cannon Falls Golf Club, November 18: Perkin's, December 16: St. Peter's Fellowship Hall with a bag lunch and Christmas carol sing along.

All Solos are welcome to come visit us - women and men. Marilyn, Roberta, Karen, Evonne, JoAnn, MaryAnn, Dolly, Hazel, Deb and Phyllis all say, "Hope to see you soon!"

Our theme verse: "May the God of Hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with Hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." -Romans 15:13

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## BeFrienders

(normally meets on the third Thursday at 9:15 am.)

by Julie Klock

St. Peter's BeFrienders continued their work of accompanying and listening to people where they were needed. Much of the listening in 2021 took place on the telephone or Zoom, but many people felt less isolated and cared for because of their efforts. In addition, the BeFrienders met monthly, in person or on Zoom, to build skills, care for one another, explore the Scriptural suggestions for loving our neighbors, and sort out relationship complexities if they arose. The BeFrienders hope to train additional members in 2022. St. Peter's contact person: Julie Klock, 507-645-8252 x204.

For more information about  
befriender ministry visit  
<https://befrienderministry.org>



# Treasurer Report

submitted by Tom Picha, Treasurer

## Income Statement:

Being able to sustain the offering that we had in 2021, considering that COVID was still raging for a second year, shows we have a very loyal and generous membership. For 2021 the church ended the year with a \$23.8K deficit vs. a plan of a 12.1K deficit. The main contributing factor for not hitting the plan was actual Income-offerings of \$356K being down \$19K from the planned income of \$375K. Income was also down \$8K from what we received in 2020. The cash in-flow from member offerings was very consistent month-to-month this year. The standard deviation, or variability month-to-month in income, was only \$3.4K per month. In prior years we usually see very "skinny" giving in the summer months, then a large surge of income the last two months of the year (a standard deviation month-to month of \$6.9K per month). Actual expenses for 2021 of \$380K were \$7.4K less than the plan of \$387.2K. With in-person worship and other normal activities being scaled back due to COVID, we were able to reduce facility and other costs even further than we had in our budget for 2021. Our challenge going forward will be reinventing and adjusting our ministry as we become a new creation/congregation, ministering to people in a changed and changing world. We will also be asking members to step out further in faith and increase their offerings in 2022.

## Balance Sheet:

As of the end of 2022 the church still has a strong balance sheet and financial position with cash reserves between checking and savings accounts of \$218.9K. This was an increase of about \$100K from the end of 2020. The main inflow was due to a very generous one time memorial gift of \$96K given by a member at the end of 2021. Presently, we have this gift "parked" in a dedicated account (Non-budgeted gifts) on the balance sheet. In 2022 church council will be developing a plan on how this gift will be used going forward to best support the ministries and needs of the church in future years. The largest outflow of cash, other than from normal ongoing operation of the church, was a \$20K down payment on the flat roof replacement over the middle school room area of the church. The total cost of the flat roof replacement in this area is \$64K. The balance of the flat roof cost of \$44K will be paid for with \$30K coming out of the dedicated account of the church and \$14K from the capital appreciation fund of the Mission Endowment Fund. The flat roof was completed in December 2021. Final payment will be made to contractors in 2022.

The PPP loan/grant we received of \$53400 in 2020 was forgiven by the SBA of the US government during 2021. The short term liability that was on our books was removed in the 3rd quarter of 2021. The income from this grant was recognized by the church in 2020. The church also has low long term debt, with the mortgage balance on the church ending the year at \$78.7K. We have 39 months remaining on the note payable to the Mission Investment Fund of the ELCA.

## Capital and Facility Expenses:

Below are the major highlights as it relates to expenses for capital projects and facility upgrades to the church buildings in 2021 and going forward into 2022:

- Storm damage on church buildings roofs (August 2020): This project was completed in November of 2021. The main shingled roofs of the church and the parsonage were replaced. The contractor is working with the insurance company to validate the work was done to specification so the final payment can be made from the insurance company. We still have \$19K that we received from the initial payment from the insurance company that will need to be paid out to the roofing contractor once all the work is approved.
- Flat Roof Replacement: see comments in above section.
- Remodeling in the church narthex and church middle school room: This project is in the early planning stages by the Capital Project and Narthex teams. The Church has a target cost of \$20K for these areas. At the end of 2021, \$10.7K has been received from members for these projects.
- A "facelift" of the sacristy area was completed in 2021. Thanks to Phil Olson (project leader) and others who helped work on this project and provided funds for materials.
- In Q4 we had a major leak from the dishwasher in the kitchen area. This caused a buckling under the floor tiles in the fellowship hall. We are in the process of receiving cost estimates to fix this issue.

Once all costs are identified, we will be submitting a claim to our insurance company for repairing the area of the floor that has been damaged. The leak under the dishwasher has been resolved.

- Hand Rail – Office area entry way: we are in the process of getting quotes from the contractor. Project will be completed in spring time frame. We have received \$1K from members for this project.

## 2021 Budget:

For 2021, the council is recommending a budget with a deficit of \$19.6K. The budgeted income of \$372K assumes an increase in offerings of 4% over that what we received in 2021, or about a \$16K increase. Last year we budgeted \$375K for income. Council is taking a step in faith that the congregation will step up to make this happen! Please prayerfully consider what you can do. On the expense side, the budget assumption is that we will have the church open more than we did in 2021. This will add another \$12K to our costs. If COVID lingers significantly into 2022 we will have to look at adjustments.

I would like to thank Pastor, Staff, and Church Council, for their help and guidance provided this past year. - Tom

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# St. Peter's 2022 Missional Budget

submitted by Pastor David Weeks

## Worship & Music

Worship--confessing our sins and receiving forgiveness, singing, hearing God's Word in scripture, sermons, prayers, and offering ourselves in service is central to our Christian faith. Throughout the majority of 2021, we have offered both online and in person worship. We returned to in-person worship on Ash Wednesday. We worship with a variety of styles and formats--organ, piano, keyboard, percussion, bells, and vocalists feed our souls. We are both an inviting and welcoming community, and using digital media, we are sharing the Gospel and connecting with others throughout Minnesota and our country. **\$170,000**

## Faith Formation (Education)

We continue to adapt and respond to our changing world. Our Sunday School returned to in-person in the fall. Though the number of children participating was limited due to the pandemic, our Christmas program was outstanding. St. Olaf intern, Josie, works with the music portion of Sunday School. Our Confirmation ministry included both Zoom and in-person this year. We began 2021 again offering a "J-term" with St. John's and Bethel. St. Olaf intern, Annalissa, meets with our high school students online and in-person. Throughout the summer of 2020, Annalissa offered weekly gatherings for our youth. Pastor David and some of our youth went to Feed My Starving Children. Our women's circles, which provide opportunities to grow in faith as well as support for one another. We are grateful for our many opportunities to grow in our faith. **\$110,000**

## Christian Service & Witness

The Church does not exist to focus on itself, but to serve the world. We deliver Meals on Wheels twice a year for 2-week blocks each time. We hope to return to serve at Sharing & Caring Hands in Minneapolis. Twice a year we clean a two-mile section of Highway 246 and we support the Community Action Center's food shelf and Operation Joy. Our quilters send quilts and we send backpacks and health kits to Lutheran World Relief. In 2021, we partnered with Habitat for Humanity, providing workers and meals. With a fun bake sale, raised over \$2000.00 to help buy a bus for a school in Senegal. Our Outreach Team is providing a meal and hosting a gathering of people new to Northfield. **\$60,000**

## Christian Care & Fellowship

We presently have 7 BeFriender ministers. It is our practice to offer a BeFriender to all in our congregation after a death in the family. BeFrienders are listening ears to people in many circumstances. The pandemic



inspired us to create a phone tree of a dozen people calling our shut-ins and older members. The phone tree is now in its second year. Though not organized by any ministry team, many of us make phone calls and run errands for one another as we live our calling to serve our neighbor. Our funeral teams provide vital Christian care as families gather for a meal to mourn and remember their beloved. The Christian faith is lived in community. We are the body of Christ, called to love and be loved by one another. \$50,000

## 2021 Financial Summary

### Income Statement (Statement of Financial Activities) :

	2020 Actual	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	Proposed 2022 Budget
<b>Income :</b>	\$ 363,820	\$ 375,103	\$ 355,978	\$ 372,083
<b>Expenses :</b>				
Worship	\$ 9,059	\$ 8,150	\$ 10,046	\$ 10,230
Education	\$ 2,577	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,655	\$ 2,485
Benevolence/Missions	\$ 13,775	\$ 11,500	\$ 11,000	\$ 11,000
Administration	\$ 18,985	\$ 17,870	\$ 17,619	\$ 17,830
Witness	\$ 1,502	\$ 500	\$ 704	\$ 1,300
Stewardship	\$ 799	\$ 800	\$ 800	\$ 800
Congregational Life	\$ 1,129	\$ 950	\$ 1,055	\$ 900
Salaries/Benefits	\$ 224,392	\$ 277,928	\$ 268,759	\$ 269,985
Building/Grounds/Maint..	\$ 26,488	\$ 24,718	\$ 22,174	\$ 29,570
Utilities	\$ 13,586	\$ 16,457	\$ 17,660	\$ 20,529
Interest & Mortgage	\$ 25,972	\$ 25,849	\$ 27,343	\$ 27,064
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 338,264</b>	<b>\$ 387,222</b>	<b>\$ 379,815</b>	<b>\$ 391,693</b>
<b>Net Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>\$ 25,556</b>	<b>\$ (12,119)</b>	<b>\$ (23,837)</b>	<b>\$ (19,610)</b>

**Special Note :** The surplus and lower expenses in 2020 was due to the PPP Grant of \$53400 received as part of of the COVID Relief Act from the US government.

### Balance Sheet (Statement of Financial Position - Key Accounts):

Account Type	At 12/31/20	At 12/31/21
<b>Checking Accounts</b>	\$ 75,372	\$ 175,709
<b>Savings Account</b>	\$ 43,167	\$ 43,174
<b>Total Cash Accounts</b>	<b>\$ 118,539</b>	<b>\$ 218,883</b>
<b>Dedicated Accounts</b>	<b>\$ 79,656</b>	<b>\$ 164,035</b>
<b>Mortgage Balance</b>	<b>\$ 101,393</b>	<b>\$ 78,669</b>

# Mission Endowment Fund 2021 Report

Balances as of 12/31/2021

## 12/31/21 TREASURERS REPORT ST. PETER'S MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND

### STATEMENT OF FUND ACTIVITY FOR PERIOD 01/01/21 - 12/31/21

<b>Beginning Fund Balance 01/01/21</b>		<b>\$316,716.29</b>
<b>Plus:</b>		
<b>Cash Contributions</b>		<b>7,480.00</b>
<b>Market Value Change - ELCA Endowment Fund</b>		<b>24,907.86</b>
<b>Income:</b>		
Interest Income - ELCA Mission Plus Account	192.15	
Dividends - ELCA Endowment Fund	10,712.72	
		<u>10,904.87</u>
<b>Less Cash Distributions:</b>		
LUV Quilters	(1,500.00)	
ELCA Disaster Fund for Texas	(1,000.00)	
Lutheran Bible Translators	(1,000.00)	
Capital Improvement Fund	(2,000.00)	
		<u>(5,500.00)</u>
<b>Ending Fund Balance 12/31/21</b>		<b><u>\$354,509.02</u></b>

### FUND BALANCES BY INVESTMENT

		12/31/2020 Balance	12/31/2021 Balance
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Cash And Bank Accounts</b>			
ELCA Mission Plus		30,202.58	45,087.45
<b>TOTAL Cash And Bank Accounts</b>		<u>30,202.58</u>	<u>45,087.45</u>
<b>Invesments</b>			
ELCA Endowment Fund		300,147.71	325,055.57
<b>TOTAL Investments</b>		<u>300,147.71</u>	<u>325,055.57</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<u>330,350.29</u>	<u>370,143.02</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Capital Improvement Fund		13,634.00	15,634.00
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<u>13,634.00</u>	<u>15,634.00</u>
<b>NET</b>		<u>316,716.29</u>	<u>354,509.02</u>



## Southeastern Minnesota Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



I am often asked what my vision for the synod is, and my reply is always the same: that we would be a people walking together for the sake of the proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ. I know that how we live into that proclamation in our particular communities and congregations will change with the resources we have and the context in which we serve. How we proclaim is nuanced, but what we proclaim (the gospel!) is unified and unchanged.

It seems fitting to pause, reflect upon, and give thanks for all the ways the Spirit has invited us into this holy vocation of proclamation in 2021.

For the first time ever, the Southeastern Minnesota Synod hosted a one-day digital Synod Assembly. We learned some things along the way. Overall, the Assembly was a success: we accomplished necessary business, heard from ministry partners, celebrated some milestones, and cast our sight toward the coming year. It is our hope and plan to meet in person for Synod Assembly in 2022. We will, of course, make adjustments as necessary.

As COVID ebbs and flows, so too has our ability to gather in person. We have continued to take full advantage of all digital and hybrid options, and, as we have been able, we've had in-person gatherings, too. 2021 allowed us to host gatherings for pastors and deacons new to the synod, retired rostered ministers and spouses, and candidates for ordained ministry.

Pastors, deacons, and church professionals were able to gather for a few days this fall to explore together the theme of Embracing Sabbath. The learnings that happened during that retreat are already being shared in congregations across the synod.

While our ability to physically visit our global partners has been hindered, our connections with them remain strong. We have continued regular conversation and partnership with our siblings in Colombia, South Sudan, Tanzania, and ministries at our southern border.

The greatest joy of 2021 has been being present with congregations again. The Office of the Bishop staff and I have delighted in worshipping with you on Sunday mornings, enjoying outdoor fellowship and festivities over the summer months, and sitting around meeting room tables as we discern the work of God together.

It is my fervent hope that in 2022 our ability to gather together will only increase and that we will continue on the road of gospel proclamation together.

In Christ,

*Rev. Regina Hassanally*

Bishop Regina Hassanally

**Southeastern Minnesota Synod ELCA | [www.semnsynod.org](http://www.semnsynod.org)**



As you gather, the following questions are frequently asked about giving and the work of the church. These may be helpful as your congregation engages in conversation about how to grow and thrive in the future.

### **What is missional giving?**

One way individuals and congregations participate in missional giving is when their financial contributions, often called offerings or tithes, to and through their congregation, or other charitable organizations, are intended to do God's work in the world. We believe this work can be done faithfully through ELCA ministries.

### **Why give?**

For some the answer is God first gave to us, thus through our life we have an opportunity to share God's generosity with others. This understanding demonstrates giving is a spiritual issue, not a financial one. For other Lutherans, the answer is also an identity issue. We are faithful Lutherans and this is what we do – share with others. This is not an individual experience only, for we are church together, and through our unified giving we do God's work.

### **Who gives?**

All are invited to give as God has blessed them and as the Spirit moves them.

### **What to give?**

As the apostle Paul wrote of the Christians in Macedonia, "They first gave themselves to the Lord." Through baptism, confirmation and our confessional statements, each person first gives of themselves to God. Within each person's faith walk, they are asked to give of their time, talents and resources. This can take many forms.

### **How much to give?**

We teach to grow toward a tithe (10 percent of household income), to a tithe and beyond a tithe as God has blessed you. This may also apply to one's time.

### **When to give?**

Individuals and congregations are encouraged to give regularly. The practice of "first fruits" giving, sharing a portion of God's blessings when they are received, is encouraged. This may be weekly, monthly or quarterly. There are also times for special giving. This is often in response to specific needs or opportunities. There are also times for planned gifts. This is often for major projects or at the end of life. All these forms of giving are encouraged.

### **Where to give?**

Most supporters of the ELCA do the majority of their giving to and through their congregation. When growing toward and beyond a tithe, giving to all charitable organizations is considered.

### **How to give?**

All regular giving received by ELCA congregations is considered undesignated. This means the dollars received can be used as determined by a missional budget or expense plan approved by a quorum of the membership and as managed by elected leaders. An increasing percentage of total giving to congregations is being designated for specific purposes. While we appreciate and celebrate all giving and respect the wishes of the donor, we also trust members and elected leaders to make financial decisions that support God's work in and beyond the local community, both in the present and for the future.

### **What is Mission Support?**

This is the portion of your congregation's regular financial offering that is shared with your synod. The synod then shares a percentage for God's work that we do together through our ELCA churchwide organizations, both domestically and globally.

**St. Peter's Lutheran Church 2020 Annual Meeting Minutes**  
**January 31, 2021**

**St. Peter's Mission Statement: Believe, Belong, Become**

*To express God's love and grace in building a community where people **believe** in God, **belong** to Christ, and **become** disciples who serve in day to day living.*

**Meeting called to order** by President Steve Hill at 10:03am

**Agenda** – additions to today's agenda: update to bylaws to allow virtual meetings and Peter Scheffert to give report about the Northfield Retirement Center; motion to approve the agenda made by Ginny Paulson, seconded by Sheryl Kleppe, motion carried.

**Devotion** was led by Pastor David Weeks. The devotion opened with a parable from Matthews 7. All meeting participants read the litany on page 4 of the 2020 annual report.

**Minutes** – motion to approve the 2020 minutes made by Pete Pedersen, seconded by Dennis Hahn, motion carried.

**Message by President Steve Hill**

- Thank you to Claire Hill and Amy Sillanpa for their work on their council. Their terms are ending.
- Thank you to the St. Peters staff (Pastor David Weeks, Julie Klock, Mary Kay Bougie, Terra Wierson, & Dennis McClinock) for all their dedication and work this year. 2020 was different than any other year with the pandemic and they have all gone above and beyond this year. The St. Peter's staff have done a great job and we truly appreciate them all.
- Thank you to everyone involved in the transformation of the parsonage to Sarah's House. Thank you to Bette Lee and Sheryl Kleppe for taking the lead with coordinating. Thank you to Tom Picha, Phil Olson, and many more for the work they did on the building.
- Thank you to the congregation for keeping St. Peter's in your hearts during this difficult time of the pandemic.

**Message by Pastor David Weeks**

- Pastor David shared gratitude for the St. Peter's staff and council. They helped keep things going while he was on sabbatical. Thank you to Claire Hill and Amy Sillanpa for their time on their council.
- While reading the annual report, in light of a challenging year, Pastor David reflected on the many things we continue to do at St. Peter's. Even though we've been shut down in the physical sense, we never closed and have continued our ministry. We continue to give to the greater community and serve many people.
- Thank you for the opportunity to go on sabbatical. Many great memories and a meaningful trip.
- We will work on a transition back to in-person worship using safety protocols. Starting February 17, Ash Wednesday, we will start offering in-person worship with a limited number, sign-up in advance, limit to 30, mask wearing, and won't sing as a congregation, etc.

## Ministry Team/Board Reports

- Peter Scheffert gave an update about the Northfield Retirement Community (NRC) – Scheffert serves on that board, representing St. Peter’s Church. Thank you to St. Peter’s for being a great supporter of NRC over the years. Given the pandemic, they are doing okay. A small outbreak in one living area and a handful of staff have gotten COVID. Everyone is tested twice a week and other ongoing protocol to keep people safe. As the year finished, occupancy is down a bit due to the difficulties of bringing in new people during the pandemic. Vaccinations are happening in the assisted living. Financially they are doing okay – but a little stressed due to occupancy being down. Government financial support has helped. Kyle Nordine, President/CEO of NRC, has announced his retirement for July 1, 2021. They are in the process of hiring a new CEO to start July 1. Peter’s term is up this year as representative from St. Peter’s; if a St. Peter’s member is interested in joining their board, let Peter Scheffert and Steve Hill know.
- No other team/board reports

## Elections

- The terms of Claire Hill, Member at Large, and Amy Sillanpa, Secretary, have ended.
- On the ballot:
  - Church Council positions
    - 1 Member at Large position (2 year term) - Mary Bleckwehl; no other nominations
    - Secretary (2 year term) – Jolene Manzey; no other nominations
  - Congregational Life Committee: Bryn Bridley
- Motion made to pass a unanimous ballot by Claire Hill, seconded by Ginny Paulson, motion carried.

## Financial Report – 2020 Budget – by Tom Picha, Treasurer

- Treasurer report is on page 18 of the 2020 annual report.
- 2020 financial summary on page 20 of the 2020 annual report.
- For 2020 the church ended the year with a \$25.6K surplus. We received a Payroll Protection Plan grant/loan due to the pandemic. Without the PPP loan we would have had a 27.8K deficit.
- Expenses were reduced with less people utilizing the church due to the pandemic.
- Page 20 of the annual report has the proposed budget for 2021. Picha made a motion to approve the proposed 2021 budget level of expense of \$387,221. Combined with a planned income of \$375,102, this will result in a planned deficit of \$12119. Ginny Paulson seconded; motion carried.

## Old Business

- No old business

## New Business

- **Addition to the bylaws:** language proposed to add to Chapter 10 of our bylaws



- o SE MN Synod is recommending that congregations having virtual annual meetings update their bylaws for that purpose. The council passed a continuing resolution at the December council meeting, which allowed us to have our virtual annual meeting. They suggest the following motion:
  - To adopt the following continuing resolution, C10.08.A20 “This congregation may hold meetings by remote communication, including electronically and by telephone conference, as long as there is an opportunity for simultaneous aural communication. To the extent permitted by state law, notice of all meetings may be provided electronically to this congregation’s by-laws.”
- o Motion to approve the resolution was made by Brad Anderson and seconded by Pete Pedersen; motion carried.
- **Support of Habitat for Humanity:** Donna Rae Scheffert thanked St. Peter’s for all their support of Habitat for Humanity and announced two new builds in Northfield starting soon.
- Pastor David thanked everyone for attending the annual meeting.

**Motion made to adjourn** by Janie Anderson, seconded Ginny Paulson; motion carried and the Annual Meeting adjourned at 10:57am.

Minutes by Amy Sillanpa, Church Council Secretary

## 2021 Annual Meeting Notes:

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St. Peter's Lutheran Church  
Northfield, Minnesota

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***Creating Community, Belonging to Christ, Serving the World***