



# ANNUAL REPORT 2023



Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
in America

# A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDING BISHOP ELIZABETH EATON



Dear friends in Christ,

Over the past year we have continued to experience changes in the world around us. Even as our church finds ways to adapt to this changing world, we find hope in the unchanging and always present promise of God's love through Jesus Christ. We change and adapt not to conform to the world but because we believe that the gift of God's Son is for the world, and that our congregations and worshiping communities are places to gather and be sent into the world, where we will tell the story of God's love in word and deed.

The ministries of our congregations, our synods and the churchwide organization provide ways for the church to move beyond the boundaries of structures and geography and to share God's love with people in our neighborhoods, our cities, our country and beyond. We engage in this ministry knowing that our church walks by faith, trusting in God's promise in the gospel, and that we exist by and for the proclamation of this gospel word. In John 15:5, Jesus reminds us, "I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing." We are connected by the promise that we do all through Christ and can do nothing apart from him.

God gives the Holy Spirit, who uses gospel proclamation — in preaching and sacraments, in forgiveness and in healing conversations — to create and sustain this faith. Just as we rely on God to sustain our faith, we rely on each other to sustain the ministries that offer God's love to the world. Through your generosity to each expression

of this church — your congregation, your synod and your churchwide organization — you add to our collective voice proclaiming God's love for all.

I am grateful for your generosity over this last year. My gratitude spreads far beyond your generous financial gifts. You've shared your gifts of time through countless hours of volunteering, serving and accompanying. You've shared the gifts of your voices as we've tried to discover and learn how God is calling us to be the church now and into the future. And, finally, dear church, you have shared the gift of the realness of God's love with the world around you. Be well, dear church, and stand steadfast in the promise of God's love and grace as you take that promise with you into the world.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elizabeth A. Eaton".

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

“I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.” —John 15:5

**Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**Annual Meeting of the Congregation**  
**Agenda - January 28, 2024**

*We are a Christin Fellowship reaching out to all people, so that they might experience God's  
Love for them.*

1. Call to order.....President Su Erickson
2. Opening liturgy.....Pastor Jeff Gallen
3. Appointment of Tellers and Parliamentarian: .....President Su Erickson
4. Approval of Minutes: January 29,2023 Annual Congregational Meeting and December 10, 2023 Special Congregational Meeting
5. Review of 2023 Staff and Council reports and 2023 Audit report
6. Presentation of 2024 Mission Spending Plan ..... John Brown and Ann Bruce
  - a. EOY 2023 and Cash on Hand Statement
  - b. 2024 Operating Budget and Mission Spending Plan
  - c. Consolidation of designated funds
7. Declaration of quorum
8. Nominating Committee report – Gayle Denny, Cher Johnson, Magan Ratafsky, Darrel Bjornson
  - a. Council Candidate Nominations from the Floor
    - 1) Education – 2-year Term – Magan Ratafsky
    - 2) Fellowship – 2-year Term - Gene Myers
    - 3) Outreach – 2-year Term – Su Erickson
    - 4) Worship – 2-year Term – Carol Moonan
    - 5) Youth – 1-year Term – No Candidate
  - b. 2025 Audit Committee  
Janell Jenson, Keith LeFevre, and Ron Nawrocki
  - c. Appointment of Secretary – Jo-Ann Wordell
  - d. Appointment of Treasurer/Administrator – John Brown
9. Ratification of constitutional amendments C12.01 and C13.02 approved in 2023
10. Casting of written ballot
11. Update on transition process (Pastor Jeff's retirement)
12. Update on sewer and solar projects
13. Recognition of out-going Council members and other ministry staff/volunteers
  - a. Cher Johnson - Fellowship
  - b. Jim Harmon - Secretary/Vice President
  - c. Ann Bruce – Treasurer
  - d. Audit Committee – Tom Reynolds, Darrel Bjornson, Janell Jenson
  - e. Nominating Committee – Gayle Denny, Cher Johnson, Magan Ratafsky, Darrel Bjornson

14. Results of elections
15. Closing comments and prayer
16. Adjournment

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

Annual Meeting Minutes

29 January 2023

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 10:20 a.m. by President Su Erickson.

**2. Opening Liturgy/Prayer**

Pastor Jeffrey Gallen led the meeting attendees in prayer. The Annual Congregation Meeting Liturgy was read responsively.

**3. Appointment of Tellers and Parliamentarian**

President Erickson announced the tellers: David Bruce, Tony Fabrello, David Gregor and Dave Moonan. Mr. Fabrello and Mr. Moonan were both ill and couldn't attend the meeting. Fred Wordell and Ken Olson were appointed as tellers. Ann Bruce was appointed Parliamentarian and Renata Spanton-Jones took notes in the absence of Secretary Jim Harmon.

**4. Approval of Minutes from 2022 Annual Congregation Meeting and 2022 Special Meeting**

**Motion:** Jim Capelli moved to approve the minutes of the 2022 Annual meeting and the 2022 Special meeting held January 30, 2022. Peggy Bjornson seconded. President Erickson asked for additions or corrections. The minutes were approved with no additions or corrections.

**5. Review of 2022 Staff and Council Reports and 2022 Audit report.**

2022 Staff and Council reports and the 2022 Audit report (2021 financial records) were posted in advance of the meeting. President asked if there were any comments or questions. Hearing none, the reports will be filed.

**6. Review of the 2023 Mission Spending Plan**

John Brown, CELC Administrator reviewed the 2022 financials and thanked the financial team for their service: Ann Bruce, Treasurer, Sharoll Blodgett, Bookkeeper, and the weekly counters,

John Brown presented the 2023 Mission Spending Plan in which he is projecting \$415,452 in income and \$429,566 in expenses which leads to a projected loss of \$14,114. Our main expense is salaries, and we gave all employees a 5% raise for 2023. We have also raised the rent for our 3 churches by \$200 a month and raised rent for AA also. We are hoping for a \$21,000 gain income and will try to keep expenses in line with 2022.

In comparing 2022 budget with 2022 actual numbers our expenses were \$36,400 less than income because giving was down and expenses were up by \$12,900 over 2021. Our actual loss for the year was \$14,000 from the general fund. We refinanced our mortgage in Feb. of 2022

and have stopped making extra principal payments on the mortgage. This allowed us to establish and pay a communication manager's salary of approximately \$12,000/year. We will have ongoing expenses for the backflow valve and sewer project into 2023 of about \$22,000. These are currently being paid from Designated Funds.

We had a gain of \$34,000 in equity in 2022 and have a continuing mortgage liability of \$827,000.

## 7. Declaration of a quorum

President Erickson confirmed with the tellers that a quorum was present.

## 8. Nominating Committee Report

President Erickson presented the nominations for Council positions. She then asked for nominations for each position from the floor. Hearing none, nominations closed.

### a. Council positions

1. Evangelism – 2-year term – Judy Turnen
2. Facility and Maintenance – 2-year term - Randy Heibel
3. Health – 2- year term - Kathy Williams
4. Stewardship – 2-year term - Judy Turpen
5. Outreach – 1-year term - Su Erickson
6. Worship – 1-year term - Joanne Mueske
7. Youth – 2-year term - no nomination

### b. Audit Committee for 2024

Darrel Bjornson, Janell Jenson, Keith LeFevre

## 9. Constitution and Bylaws

The Council brought the motion to update the CELC constitution and bylaws.

- Approve to amend the CELC Constitution to conform to the 2022 ELCA Model Constitution for Congregations
- Approve C12.01: Remove the requirement of youth and young adult. The voting membership of the Congregation Council shall consist of the pastor(s), the officers of congregation and not less than six (6) or more than eighteen (18) members of the congregation, ~~at least one of which shall be a youth and at least one of whom shall be a young adult.~~
- Approve C13.02: Change number of people on nominating committee from six to five and appoint by Congregation Council rather than elect at annual meeting.

- A Nominating Committee of ~~six~~ five voting members of this congregation, two of whom shall be outgoing members of the council, shall be ~~elected at the annual meeting~~ appointed by the Congregation Council for a term of one year.
- Approve the CELC Bylaws as presented

#### 10. Solar Project

Motion presented from Council to pursue the lease option with SCP Solar to install and provide solar to CELC. There was a brief discussion with a question about adding a battery back up for the facilities.

#### 11. Casting of Written Congregational ballot

Ballots were distributed to attendees and votes were cast for Council members, the 2023 Mission Spending Plan, Constitution and Bylaws and Solar project.

#### 12. Appointment of the 2023 Nominating committee

No volunteers for committee. The Council will appoint a nominating committee.

#### 13. Recognition of out-going council members and other ministry volunteers

President Erickson and Pastor Gallen thanked outgoing council members for serving and presented them with a gift. Connie Sornsins – Stewardship/Vice President, Elizabeth Richardson – Youth, Jeri Nowatka – Outreach, and Olga Blanchard – Health/Parish Nurse. Marian See was also recognized for her years of service as Altar Guild Coordinator and was presented with a special gift made by the CELC quilters.

#### 14. Report from Tellers

President Erickson called for election results. 61 ballots were cast. All ballot items were approved : election of council members, constitution and bylaws, solar project, 2023 Mission Spending Plan.

#### 15. Closing Comments and Prayer

President Erickson called for closing comments. Someone suggested painting the Building B sanctuary. President Erickson took note and referred the item to the Facilities and Maintenance committee. There was a thank you to Miloy for leading praise and worship, as well as Pastor Jeff for his continued service and inspiration. Pastor Gallen led closing prayer.

#### 16. Adjournment

Connie Sornsins moved to adjourn the meeting. Wes Yost seconded. The meeting adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

**Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**Special Congregational Meeting**  
**December 10, 2023**

**1. Call to Order**

President Su Erickson called the meeting to order at 10:14 a.m.  
A quorum was present to conduct business.

**2. Purpose of meeting**

Our constitution requires the council to get congregational approval to incur obligations of more than \$25,000 in excess of anticipated receipts. The purpose of this meeting was to authorize the CELC Council to spend up to \$75,000 for the sewer project.

**3. Motion**

Ann Bruce, treasurer, presented a brief background of the sewer project and information on how the project would be funded. Su Erickson asked for a motion to authorize the council to spend up to \$75,000 for the sewer project. So moved by Jim Capelli and seconded by Karen Olson. No questions or comments. Motion approved unanimously. (81 votes)

**4. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Jim Harmon. Seconded by Dave Bruce. The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

*Respectfully submitted by Su Erickson, President and Ann Bruce, Treasurer*



**OUR LIFE TOGETHER**  
**2023**  
**ADVENT**

*“Within you is the light of a thousand suns.”*

*The Echo of Silence*

*In the echo of silence,  
The whispers of the divine are heard,  
A melody sung by the universe,  
A song without a single word.*

*Listen to the echo, my dear,  
And let your soul be stirred,  
In the silence, you'll find,  
The divine sacred word.*

There comes a time in a person's life when one passes the baton to a new generation of leadership. This coming October I will retire from service to Christ Evangelical Lutheran church of Goodyear and pass that baton. This report is more a reflection of the past twenty six years. Please read the reports from the leadership team to look back over 2023.

There is a Japanese concept, 'ikigai' which translates to 'a reason for being,' a reason to get up in the morning, to enjoy the meaning of life-passion, purpose, something one lives for. This has been my journey for over forty plus years. While I end my pastorate at CELC my journey continues. I am required to separate myself (not Renae) from worshiping with you for a year as you seek new leadership.

My ikigai is, was, and will always be, serving Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. I truly haven't worked a day in my life. It is who I am. This doesn't mean I didn't make mistakes, I did.

Hopefully I learned the lessons God was and is teaching me along the way and passed them on to the communities I served. Thank you for allowing me the privilege of serving you these past years. Here are some truths I wish to leave you with as I bid farewell.

First, in your spiritual life it is much more important to know how to listen than to know how to talk. I have come to see that I can't provide answers for others. All I can do is accompany another and help them listen to themselves. People want to be understood. So continue working on your listening skills. You will be blessed you did. Just remember, in the face of struggle, suffering and death, your listening presence, not your words, mean everything.

Secondly, come to see and understand that there is no past or future. Now is where love breathes. Be in this moment, now is all there is. Oh the wasted time I have spent living in the past and the future while missing the beauty of the now. Jesus tells us that the kingdom of God is now. Embrace your now, breathe it in, celebrate this precious gift of life, now. We never know when it will be our last in this world. There is poem by Mary Oliver that speaks of now, "It doesn't have to be the blue iris, it could be weeds in a vacant lot, or a few small stones; just pay attention, then patch a few words together and don't try to make them elaborate, this isn't a contest but the doorway into thanks, and a silence in which another voice may speak."

Third, the late Rabbi Abraham Herschel said, "Life without wonder is not worth living." I have known people, while stationed overseas, who never ventured off base to experience the beauty of God's glorious creation in a different country. You are invited to be surprised by God's mystery. It is what connects us to the world when feeling alone. Be amazed, astonished, awed. Take the time to watch a sunrise or sunset, hold a newborn baby, sit in silence, tell your beloved that you love them. When was the last time you wondered about God's love for you and His assurance of salvation? No time like the present.

Fourth, our life is a call to service. When Jesus said, "Love your neighbor as yourself," there wasn't any fine print about who is not included. Pay attention to your walk of faith rather than your talk. There is no greater evidence of your faith than how you treat all people. Following Jesus means following a leader who remained humble, never got rich, eschewed violence, supported the vulnerable, and never exploited power for personal gain. Show compassion, be kind, let your love light shine, be the light.

Finally, the question and the answer is and will be forever and always, love. Our Lutheran theology would say, "ALL IS GRACE." God has got this. There is no entrance exam, we don't earn salvation, we simply receive. There is a Rumi poem titled "Out Beyond Ideas" that captures this amazing love. Out beyond ideas of wrongdoing and rightdoing, there is a field. I'll meet you there. When the soul lies down in that grass, the world is too full to talk about. Ideas, language, even the phrase 'each other' doesn't make any sense. The greatest gift of life is a faith active in love.

To God be the glory!  
Your servant of Christ  
Pastor Jeff

## Message from the Council President

The time has come for me to sit down and put words to paper so that all of the ministry reports can be compiled into our 2023 Annual Report. Last year I wrote about “liminal space”, the in-between. Liminal space is all about transition, a time of waiting and unable to see the future. Richard Rohr describes this space as “*where we are betwixt and between the familiar and the completely unknown.*”

We entered into a formal time of transition this year, with Pastor Jeff announcing to the church council that he planned to retire in October 2024. The council began talks at their spring retreat with Gayle Denny leading the council in a review of the visioning survey notes from three years ago and then an exercise to get us to think about the future possibilities for CELC. I reviewed transition documents on the Grand Canyon Synod website and contacted the Synod transition team soon after. Once Pastor Jeff announced to the congregation this fall, the questions began. I want to assure everyone that there is a very formal process that we will take part in this year to figure out the next steps to call a new pastor to CELC. Communication and transparency are key throughout this process.

This year I look forward to a year of “radical resilience” as is the theme of Richard Rohr’s daily meditations. He wrote that “*...resilience is the secular word for faith — the ability to trust and let go.*” We may not know what the future holds, but I believe God is working with and in us to continue the ministries that we support. This will be an opportunity for CELC to explore where we came from, who we are, and who do we want to be in the future. We may have to let go of things in order to find a new path forward, but this is an exciting time, and the possibilities are limitless. The Council and transition teams will be looking for your input as we embark on this new journey.

I want to thank everyone who has supported me throughout my term as president; the CELC church council, Pastor Jeff, Renata, Jonathan, Miloy, Ruben, Jim and the members who offered kind words of support and hours of action in and around the CELC community. We truly are a community of faith in action.

In Christ,

Su Erickson, President

## BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Prepared on 12/15/2023

By Randy Heibel

**Sewer Project.** We obtained a permit from the City of Goodyear after drawing plans through an engineering firm to reroute our sewer line and pump system. The firm proposed a new line leading from the pump area northward to our parking lot. The Council approved a proposal by Cactus Plumbing and Air. Their proposal included replacing the three sewer outlet's lines where they exit Building A and connecting them to the north parking lot. At a special meeting on 12/10/23 the congregation voted to approve the project. The project is currently underway and may finish in as little as a week. A grant was submitted to West Valley Lutheran Thrift Store, and we received \$6,000 toward our sewer project. An insurance claim was submitted to The Hanover Group, our property insurance company for possible reimbursement of damages.

**Solar Project.** The proposal for a three-canopy project was approved at our 2022 Annual Meeting. We signed a 20-year lease and made a down payment to Solar Covered Parking (SCP). We reviewed the engineering plans for the project. SCP submitted the project plans to the City of Goodyear, which led them to hire GEOTEK, a geotechnical company. GEOTEK removed and analyzed soil samples that were 25 feet deep. After some delays GEOTEK submitted their report, and SCP forwarded it to the city. We await the city's approval and permitting to proceed with the construction and installation. The solar project should begin in early 2024.

**Backflow Valves.** Metro Fire removed the old and installed a new backflow valve in the southwest corner of our property. They also repaired the leaky backflow valve on the northeast corner. Upon inspection the leaky backflow valve directly east of Building A was repaired, after which all backflow valves passed the required inspection.

**Structure.** Two red benches were installed and bolted to the concrete walkway at the front (west side) of Building B. They have received welcome and increasing use especially on Outreach days.

**Building A.** We replaced the commode in the bathroom next to the sanctuary entrance, after the sewer line was reconnected. The sanctuary light fixtures were cleaned, and burned-out bulbs were replaced with LED's. A dome-and-barrel shaped awning was installed by The House of Canvas to cover the entrance to the sanctuary and protect the large all-wood doors from weathering. Following the installation, the doors were refinished and, in the future, should require less maintenance. The canopy project received grant money from the West Valley Lutheran Thrift Store in the amount of \$2,500. Weathering plywood was removed from two openings on the exterior west gable area and each opening was covered by sheet metal with a vent, then painted. The attic received some maintenance. Two non-functioning air conditioning units were removed. Fiberglass insulation was checked and reworked where needed. Soffit vents were checked for ventilation and opened if needed. The wrought iron gate hinge on the southwest corner was repaired. The office received new lights with fans. The office bathroom

received new paint, new sink fixtures, a new mirror, and a new light fixture. Both rooms were also rearranged and redecorated. A water leak in the office bathroom required HVAC repairs. The chancel carpet was cleaned. A broken window was replaced on the northeast corner. The sanctuary's motorized projector screen fell to the floor twice and was rehung both times.

**Roof, Building B.** Diversified Roofing resealed select areas during the summer. Water-stained ceiling tiles were replaced. A leak in the choir area required an HVAC repair.

**Kitchen, Building B.** Metro Fire inspected the ventilating hood and found that the fan does not run when the fire alarm is activated. An electrician is working this issue with an inspector. A similar issue occurred last year. Estrella Plumbing replaced a leaky faucet in the large triple sink. The sink drains receive Simple Green monthly and the outdoor grease collection tanks are drained every six months. These measures prevent the pipes from clogging and preserve the tanks. The water-cooling portion of the exhaust hood was reactivated.

**Building B.** A commode in the women's restroom was replaced. Johnson Controls completed testing and inspection of our fire alarm system. The insulation around the perimeter and above the suspended ceilings was checked and tucked in where needed. The Chancel carpet was cleaned. Southwest Gas replaced our gas meter. It had fallen off the gas line. Johnson Controls installed the new fire alarm system based on a cell phone alert. Cox phone lines are to be vacated.

**HVAC Units.** Our fourteen new digital thermostats with wireless capability have worked flawlessly in maintaining temperatures in both buildings. Each HVAC unit continues to receive filter changes and required maintenance through Masters and Sons. This year a few of our units required new fan belts. One required new electronic parts.

**Security.** ADT upgraded our system control panel in the telecommunications closet in the storage room of Building B. The touch panel on the east door next to the choir area now allows that door to be exited after setting the security alarm. ADT also replaced two defective window breakage detectors and the siren, which was not compatible with the new control panel. The sound of the siren is not as loud, nor as startling as the previous siren.

**Deep Cleaning Day.** A hardy group of church members power washed Building B kitchen carts, mobile shelves, tables, and chairs. Building A chairs were included. Afterwards lunch was served.

**Landscaping.** RV Landscaping repaired two-line leaks and replaced two defective valves which corrected our increased water usage. Pocket gophers remain an issue. A few of our large trees were trimmed. An overgrown plant was removed.

**Signage.** The Litchfield Road sign's plexiglass was cleaned and displays Sunday Worship at 9 AM. The north side displays our URL: [www.christgoodyear.org](http://www.christgoodyear.org).

**NFL Green.** A crew of volunteers moved 14,000 square feet of donated outdoor green turf from State Farm Stadium to unit in StorAmerica's facility near our church. The plan includes placing

the turf on the eastern frontage area of our campus. This should improve our esthetics and prevent gopher surfacing.

**Parking Lot.** We replaced two pole lights with LED bulbs. Several areas should be replaced with new asphalt, cracks should be filled, the surface should be resealed, and new pavement markings painted. This will be considered following the completion of the sewer and the solar projects.

**Maintenance Man, Jonathan Gonzales.** I wish to pay a complement to our maintenance man. We are fortunate to have him. He continues to keep our facilities sparkling both inside and out. His religious and public relations skills and grasp of both English and Spanish serve our community expertly. And he is willing to lend a hand to anyone on any project, often before we know we need him.

**THANK YOU!** It is a true pleasure to report that many church members have volunteered time, energy, and/or advice to plan and execute the projects that keep our church buildings operational and our grounds well-groomed and attractive. With a grateful heart, I thank each and every one who helped in some way.

## **Evangelism & Membership Annual Report 2023**

### Evangelism

1. There are seven new members this year, down from 14 in 2022.
2. All members have been given name tags but about half the congregation don't wear them and don't see the importance of name tags as "visitor aides" or as representative of CELC hospitality. Discussion of how to improve tag use is ongoing.
3. Visitor cards are still given to new visitors, but with a simplified format of only 4 questions broadly spread on the back of the card and directions to answer more questions on the front of the card IF they want to. Thanks to an ad hoc member of the team, each visitor card is attached to a small clip board and pen for greater stability. Legibility has improved.

### Membership

1. Phone calls (voice mail messages), email, and note cards are still a staple of behind-the-scenes to members in distress or in celebration of a special event.
2. 200+ Advent cards were sent to all CELC members and church leaders of churches in our buildings. Cards were sent to all 2023 visitors as well by the 12 team members.
3. A Book Exchange for all church members and their families took place three times this year, set up before and after Sunday church services, displayed on the new red benches outside the main doors of Bldg. B. The like-new books are popular and those leftover each Sunday are taken to the Veterans Administration by David Gregor.
4. "Members in Touch" continues as a column in The Weekly Church Announcements with a wide range of concerns and activities, ending with "Watch This Space." The Members In Touch" table close to the entry doors will continue in 2024.

5. Prayer shawls and “God’s Hugs” made by Ellory Christianson and distributed by the E/M team are happy points of interest. Ellory has donated dozens of each.

#### Goals for 2024

1. Better use of name tags for hospitality and ID.
2. Provide paper directories for those not on-line and those using both paper and computer.
3. Improve prayer list in the weekly announcements to facilitate the list as a resource for contact.
4. Help assemble a list of CELC accomplishments to post and give out to visitors and members.
5. Designate member sponsors for prospective members, to attend the new members meeting with them and help them for a few months.
6. Build awareness of small but significant points of vulnerability for members: extreme heat of summer, hardship isolation, arrival and exit of snowbirds, etc.
7. Get more details on people involved in baptisms, graduations, and other special events.
8. Creation of a more permanent group of team members to divide duties.

*Respectively submitted by Judy Turnen*

## **Fellowship**

Looking back on Fellowship 2023 - it is clear to see that we gathered for several fun events.

We started out in February with goodies everyone brought in to munch on along with music from the awesome No Namer's Band. For an admittance fee - we asked everyone to bring something for our veterans. We had a nice turn out and were able to send lots of items to the Veteran's Home and Veteran's Hospital.

Easter breakfast was delicious as always. We had a potluck and there were so many yummy dishes to choose from! As we do every year, we had several themed Easter baskets that were raffled off. Winners were announced at our breakfast.

In October we had Dave Young - the one-man band play for us at a Chili Contest. Eleven entries competed to get the prize of a \$100 Amazon card. Both music and food were excellent.

Advent Dinner is always special. We enjoyed wonderful food catered by La Bona Pasta. The tables were all so beautiful and festive. We played a song game after dinner which was huge fun. Jim Erickson was our EMCEE for the evening, and he did a truly red-carpet job!

I have enjoyed being your Fellowship Coordinator for 2023. Hoping everyone has a Blessed 2024!

*Cher Johnson*

## **Health**

Parish Health Consultant: Kathy Williams

Provided Blood Pressure monitoring the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month with an average of 6-8 participants.

AED/CPR Training provided by the Goodyear Fire Department on Saturday 4/22/23 with 14 participants. Training included CPR with card certification offered. AED training and orientation to our new AED machines located in the main sanctuary and fellowship hall.

Flu shot clinic not provided this year due to increased cost for the church to provide an onsite clinic.

Monthly newsletter items on health-related issues to all congregation members through the website and newsletter.

Health office reorganization

Disbursement of disposable adult garments, notions and information material as requested.

Participation in the annual staff retreat

## **IT/Technology**

We continue to look at ways to use technology to support our ministry at CELC and to do it in a cost effective manner. Here are some highlights for 2023.

**Alarms/Door access systems** – Looking at the state of these systems was a priority in 2023 with some actions taken. Two systems were updated which allowed us to save about \$2000 annually by eliminating phone landlines that were no longer required and cancelling no longer needed contracts.

**Door Alarm Systems** – The door alarm system in Building B was updated. ADT replaced our existing system which gave us some additional capabilities and also allowed us to eliminate a phone line we were paying for in Building B. It was also discovered that CELC was still paying ADT for a contract on an unused alarm system in Building A which has now been cancelled.



**Fire Alarm Monitoring system** – Johnson Controls updated our fire monitoring system that calls the Fire department if there is ever a fire event. A new system with Cellular Call out in the event of a fire allowed us to remove two landline phone lines in Building B.

**Door Access system** – Proposals for updating our existing Door Access system were evaluated but could not be justified economically. We will continue to look at this in 2024.

**Voice Phone Systems** – It was determined that a second voice line coming into the office was no longer justified and it was removed. This along with the changes to the alarm systems described above has allowed CELC to significantly reduce payments to our voice line provider.

**Audio/Video** – There were a number of changes to our Audio/Video systems. A big thank you to the Sound/Tech Booth support team – Ruben Salgado, Stacy Anderson, Jan & Wes Yost and Magan Ratalasky who work with me to staff the Sound Booth every Sunday on a rotating basis

**New Choir area microphones** – Equipment was purchased (using music dedicated funds) and installed that allowed the Choir area to put a number of new microphones in place allowing for better coverage of the choir when they are singing.

**Streaming** – CELC continues to stream our services with an average of 19.3 livestream views during the service each week, and an average of an additional 26.0 views of the replay during the week. A method to enhance the viewer's feeling of being a part of the service was put in place at the end of the year.

**Sanctuary A** – Major issues with the projector screen in the Building A Sanctuary were resolved. Many thanks to the help of Randy Heibel and Paul Sanchez (from Casa Del Rey) for spending some uncomfortable time up in the attic above the Building A sanctuary. Also, the sewer project required that the Sound Room in Building A Sanctuary be emptied. In 2024, we will work with our rental partners to decide how best to put it back together.

**Computers/Networks** - Not many changes to our computer or data communication setup in 2023. We continue to support 7 Windows desktop machines and 3 laptops. We established guest WiFi networks in both Building A and Building B.

*Respectfully submitted – Jim Erickson CELC IT/Tech Coordinator*

## Outreach

*For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, Matthew 25:35*

2023 was a year of learning, crying, teaching, hosting, partnering, and reaching out. My goal this year was to learn as much as I could about CELC Outreach ministries and share information with the congregation. When the term “OUTREACH” is used at CELC, most people associate it with the Tuesday morning food pantry. It is our largest program and has been in existence since 2004, however, CELC also reaches out through other programs and agencies.

- CELC supports the ministries of Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest (LSS-SW), Pan De Vida, Spirit in the Desert and the Grand Canyon Synod through our benevolence giving. The Council also voted this year to support the Cactus Conference Youth and Young Adult program. CELC provides overnight lodging to participants in the LSS-SW I-HELP (Interfaith Homeless Emergency Lodging Program) twice a week. Members and community members provide a hot meal and clothing is offered through the generous donations we receive.
- Whenever there is a call for special needs (monetary or items), CELC members contribute to meet those needs. In October, Patsy Blankenship collected donations for Manna Bags and put together over 95 bags for CELC members to distribute to the homeless. October was also *Socktober* month, focusing on collecting socks and underwear. In December, we collected gift cards for Bosom Buddies and a member of their group purchased personal gifts for the women in the program.
- CELC provides regular meeting space for support groups: AA, Bosom Buddies, Alzheimer’s Support group (zoom meetings mostly), and Duet Caregivers and Grandparent’s. groups.

The **CELC Outreach Food Pantry** is affiliated with St. Mary’s Food Bank which is also a part of the Feeding America program. I met with our St. Mary’s Food Bank liaison in February and attended their annual conference in March. I studied and received the Serv-Safe Food Protection Manager Certification in March. The CELC food pantry is fully licensed by Maricopa County, and we continue to receive an “A” rating on our twice-yearly kitchen/pantry inspections. St. Mary’s also inspects our kitchen and pantry annually.

The CELC Outreach Ministry through its Tuesday food distribution program provided over **3,381 food boxes** (avg 68 per week) and provided food for over **15,815 individuals** during this past year. These boxes provided food for an average of 282 families per month plus emergency boxes for members in our community. In 2023, CELC experienced a 25% increase in the number of households served and a 26% increase in the number of individuals served over 2022.

Outreach income for the year was **\$29,392** and expenses were **\$23,563**. Food was purchased weekly from St. Mary’s Food Bank, to supplement the donations received. We distributed over **177,318.48 lbs. of food** from St. Mary’s, Basha’s, Panera, Pizza Hut, Wildflower, and members of our congregation. The 2023 Souper Bowl event raised \$1177 and 131 cans of soup and

Cheerios was declared the winner (2 years in a row) in the March Madness Cereal Bowl which added 83 boxes of cereal and \$227 to our outreach efforts.

Did you know that there are over **35 volunteers** who set up tables, weigh, sort food and store food, register households, fill boxes, drive to St. Mary's weekly, pick-up food from our grocery rescue partners (Panera and Basha's), direct traffic in the parking lot, and distribute boxes? In June, we hosted 100 youth and parents from the Church of Litchfield Park youth. They spent a Tuesday morning learning about food insecurity and homeless persons and assisted CELC volunteers by prepping and filling food boxes.

In November, we received food donations from three companies: Prime Solutions Group, Inc. (PSG), 212.65 lbs., Lennox Industries, 450 lbs., and West USA Realty, 249.30 lbs. PSG also adopted one of our Outreach families for Christmas and provided them with gifts. We look forward to partnering with these companies in 2024.

**Tuesday Boutique sales** of donated furniture, clothes and household items totaled more than \$4100. Funds were used to purchase supplies and food for the program. A special thanks to Ardyce Durand for sorting, pricing, and selling the donated goods.

The CELC Outreach team remembers Kay Myers, who passed away February 1, 2023. Kay led with a smile and offered words of encouragement for everyone. She dedicated many hours to Outreach each week, including serving on Council as Director of the program.



*Respectfully submitted by Su Erickson*

## **Quilting for Others**

Quilting For Others continues with the focus of making quilts to be donated to families supported by the New Life Center as well as the homeless through Avondale Food Bank. This

past year 20 quilts were distributed to the New Life Center, 16 lap robes for the Veterans Hospital, as well as providing for 4 baptisms and 1 graduation from high school.

Fabric, used cotton sheets, and monetary donations are welcomed. The fall craft fair is to provide for the main expense of batting for the quilts. The group welcomes anyone interested in the goal, regardless of sewing skills. There are tasks for the experienced seamstress to someone who can thread a needle or wield a scissors.

## **Stewardship**

Your CELC Council meets every month throughout the year. During 2023 the income and expenses were monitored and supervised as in past years.

Over \$600 was raised from the recycling of aluminum cans and plastic water bottles. Funds were put into our facility grounds improvements. Members participating in the Fry's Community Rewards program have a portion of their purchases donated to CELC. Fry's donated \$241.88 to CELC.

Stewardship involves more than finances. It also involves time and talents. As you will see in other council member reports, CELC of Goodyear supports numerous outreaches which could not be done without faithful members who take part in or donate to each project. It would be amazing to know the amount of time each of you who serves spends in a year! I add my thanks along with the entire council and Pastor Jeff to our wonderful community of givers and doers. Thank you.

*Judy Turpen*

## **WORSHIP AND MUSIC MINISTRY YEARLY REPORT 2023**

Prepared and submitted by Miloy Canete

*“Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music; make music to the Lord with the harp, with the harp and the sound of singing, with trumpets and the blast of the ram’s horn— shout for joy before the Lord, the King.*

- Psalm 98:4-6

The Worship and Music Ministry has consistently provided avenues for our members to actively participate in the Lord's work. Here, individuals have the unique opportunity to use their spiritual gifts and serve continually.

In reflecting on the noteworthy events within our Music and Worship Ministry in 2023, significant highlights punctuated the year. The Easter Choir Cantata, accompanied by a full orchestra during the Palm Sunday celebration, stands out as a memorable experience for all of us. The Lenten evenings were marked by two distinct concerts, skillfully presenting both classic and contemporary Lenten hymns, complemented by the presence of special guests, enriching the overall worship experience. A debt of gratitude is extended to Jim Erickson for leading the comprehensive upgrade of our choir area, where meticulous rewiring now accommodates a dedicated microphone for each singer, with allocated music funds facilitating this enhancement. The Advent season witnessed a delightful collaboration as the choir joined forces with children and youth for an annual Christmas pageant, infusing a festive and enjoyable spirit. As we reflect on these musical triumphs, we look forward with anticipation to harmonious work that lie ahead.

A heartfelt acknowledgment to the extraordinary individuals in our congregation who have generously dedicated their time and energy to create a warm and worshipful environment. We extend our sincere gratitude to Sharoll Blodgett for consistently securing readers every Sunday throughout the year. Special thanks to Carol Moonan for her leadership in guiding the Altar Guild and its dedicated volunteers. Thank you to Judy Wandler for keeping our church banners up to date every season. Our appreciation also goes to Carol Helland for the flower arrangements that beautifully reflect the changing seasons of the church.

We would like to express our deep gratitude to Jim for assembling a fantastic team of volunteers to manage our Audio/Visual booth. A warm shout-out to our hospitality team for their welcoming smiles that greet both visitors and potential future church members. A special mention is reserved for Bill Michaelis, whose trumpet playing (for many years now) never fails to uplift our spirits. Thank you to each of these remarkable individuals for their contributions to making our worship and worship space truly special.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each one of you for collaborating and contributing in various ways to create a positive and inclusive worship environment at CELC. Please feel free to contribute your thoughts as we strive to create a meaningful and enriching worship experience. As we move forward, I pray for God's abundant blessings on all of us, and I look forward to our continued collective expression of praise through our voices, hands, and hearts for His Glory!

## 2022 Final Audit report

Our team met for the first time on Jan 29th. At this meeting we discussed goals of the team and timeframe for when audit would be completed.

Darrel Bjornson. Feb 14th. Assignment Mar 22, Aug 22 months for audit review  
Janell Jenson. Feb 17th. Assignment Jan 22, Sep 22 months for audit review  
Tom Reynolds. Feb 17th. Assignment APS electric and Goodyear water for  
Audit review.

With instructions and a date of Mar 3rd to complete audit tasks.

On Mar 6th the team met with Ann and John with the following results and questions.

My analysis of APS 2 accounts one for A bldg and one for B bldg showed debits and credits were adjusted by APS based on usage. All payments made in a timely manner and on time.

My analysis of Goodyear water for 7 months January thru July showed an average monthly usage of 25 units or 25000 gallons for both A bldg and B bldg. Usage for Aug thru Dec monthly average jumped to 69 units or 69000 gallons. After further analysis I determined that A bldg was consistent for the entire year. B bldg was the Issue and not due to increase usage but DUE TO LEAK OR LEAKS. My findings were given to Randy and he agrees. JANUARY 2023 Bill shows no improvement over 2022 bills.

RECOMMENDATION: We contact City of Goodyear to help us determine and find Leaks and fix on B bldg water meter.

Darrel and Janell monthly reviews found NO MAJOR ISSUES. All questions were answered by either Ann or John to the satisfaction of the audit team.

RECOMMENDATION: After being on this audit team for 3 years my input would be we should have at least one member with accounting background on the team at all times. This would eliminate repeated questions asked by audit team every year. Also I think this would eliminate the need for an audit by an outside independent auditor.

Report submit to CELC Council by Tom Reynolds team leader.

**CELC Staff**

Senior Pastor: Reverend Dr. Jeff Gallen

Director of Worship & Music: Miloy Canete

Communications Manager: Renata Spanton-Jones

Facility Manage: Jonathan Gonzalez

Administrator: John Brown

It/Tech Support: Jim Erickson

**Audit Committee**

2023: Tom Reynolds, Darrel Bjornson, Janell Jenson

2024: Darrel Bjornson, Janell Jenson, Keith LeFevre

**2023 Synod Delegates**

Gayle Denny & Jim Hill

**Nominating Committee**

Gayle Denny, Cher Johnson, Darrel Bjornson, Magan Ratalasky

**2023 Council Members**

President: Su Erickson

Vice President: Jim Harmon

Secretary: Magan Ratalasky

Treasurer: Ann Bruce

Education: Magan Ratalasky

Evangelism: Judy Turnen

Facilities & Maintenance: Randy Heibel

Fellowship: Cher Johnson

Health: Kathy Williams

Outreach: Su Erickson

Stewardship: Judy Turpen

Worship: Joanne Mueske (thru August)/Vacant

Youth: Vacant

## 2023 Demographics

### Deaths

Kay Myers February 1

Marchelle Hood April 14

Alice Hullihen May 4

Karen Pedersen

Mabe Foster

Evelin Foster

### Transfer Out

Kathy Castillo 1/5/2023

### New Members

Bonnie & Bing Debar May 6

Jim Hill May 6

Rita & Scott Block July 8

### Transfer In

Alan & Debby Lentfer May 6

### Baptisms

Alfredo Joseph Ralph Molina February 12

Waylon Boyd Ratalisky April 9

Aidan Mattis Byra May 14

Zachary Adam Scott November 12



## YEAR 2023 WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

DATE	1ST SERVICE	2ND SERVICE	TOTAL
1-Jan	82	no service	82
8-Jan	130	no service	130
15-Jan	123	no service	123
22-Jan	141	no service	141
29-Jan	139	no service	139
<b>MONTHLY AVERAGE</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>123</b>
6-Feb	117	no service	117
12-Feb	143	no service	143
19-Feb	127	no service	127
22-Feb	90	Ash Wednesday	90
26-Feb	156	no service	156
<b>MONTHLY AVERAGE</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>136</b>
5-Mar	167	no service	167
8-Mar	80	Lent concert	80
12-Mar	119	no service	119
19-Mar	143	no service	143
22-Mar	61	Lent concert	61
26-Mar	170	no service	170
28-Mar	28	Lent	28
<b>MONTHLY AVERAGE</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>150</b>
2-Apr	181	no service	181
6-7 Apr	80	Maunday Thursday and Good Friday	80
9-Apr	234	2 Services	234
16-Apr	152	no service	152
23-Apr	127	no service	127
30-Apr	131	no service	131
<b>MONTHLY AVERAGE</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>165</b>
7-May	116	no service	116
14-May	113	no service	113
21-May	120	no service	120
29-May	90	no service	90
<b>MONTHLY AVERAGE</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>110</b>
4-Jun	101	no service	101
11-Jun	76	no service	76
18-Jun	80	no service	80
25-Jun	96	no service	96
<b>MONTHLY AVERAGE</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>88</b>
2-Jul	82	no service	82
9-Jul	88	no service	88
16-Jul	80	no service	80
23-Jul	80	no service	80
30-Jul	73	no service	73
<b>MONTHLY AVERAGE</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>81</b>

Easter-57/early, 177/main

6-Aug	70	no service	70
13-Aug	87	no service	87
20-Aug	88	no service	88
27-Aug	87	no service	87
<b>MONTHLY AVERAGE</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>83</b>

3-Sep	85	no service	85
10-Sep	93	no service	93
17-Sep	96	no service	96
24-Sep	75	no service	75
<b>MONTHLY AVERAGE</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>87</b>

1-Oct	86	no service	86
8-Oct	102	no service	102
15-Oct	105	no service	105
22-Oct	105	no service	105
29-Oct	105	no service	105
<b>MONTHLY AVERAGE</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>101</b>

5-Nov	123	no service	123
12-Nov	149	no service	149
19-Nov	125	no service	125
26-Nov	118	no service	118
<b>MONTHLY AVERAGE</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>129</b>

3-Dec	143	no service	143
10-Dec	162	no service	162
17-Dec	136	no service	136
24-Dec	84	no service	84
24-Dec	175	Christmas Eve	175
31-Dec	116	no service	116
<b>MONTHLY AVERAGE</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>136</b>

<b>DATE</b>	<b>1ST SERVICE</b>	<b>2ND SERVICE</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Jan	123	0	123
feb	136	0	136
Mar	150	0	150
Apr	165	0	165
May	110	0	110
June	88	0	88
July	81	0	81
Aug	83	0	83
Sep	87	0	87
Oct	101	0	101
Nov	129	0	129
Dec	136	0	136
Totals	1389	0	1389
Avg per Sunday	116	0	116

**2023 CELC YouTube Analytics for Live Streamed Services**

Service Date	End Monitoring Date	Service	Video Length (mins)	# Live Views	Average Live Duration (mins)	# on demand Views	Average OnDemand Duration (mins)	# Total Views
1/1/2023	1/7/2023	1st Sunday in Christmas	68.5	18	41.1	32	15.0	50
1/8/2023	1/14/2023	Baptism of our Lord	69.5	20	39.0	27	5.1	47
1/15/2023	1/21/2023	2nd Sunday after Epiphany	76.0	30	34.1	19	12.9	49
1/22/2023	1/28/2023	3rd Sunday after Epiphany	113.6	27	38.8	19	11.4	46
1/29/2023	2/4/2023	4th Sunday after Epiphany	137.4	38	46.6	16	15.7	54
2/5/2023	2/11/2023	5th Sunday after Epiphany	76.4	15	42.5	22	13.6	37
2/12/2023	2/18/2023	6th Sunday after Epiphany	76.0	25	33.4	27	8.9	52
2/19/2023	2/25/2023	Transfiguration Sunday	68.6	34	21.7	17	12.6	51
2/22/2023	2/28/2023	Ash Wednesday	65.5	12	30.3	27	9.6	39
2/26/2023	3/4/2023	1st Sunday in Lent	78.1	13	44.3	26	8.0	39
3/1/2023	3/7/2023	MidWeek Lenten Service	30.4	3	15.6	14	12.7	17
3/5/2023	3/11/2023	2nd Sunday in Lent	83.9	32	30.3	24	9.0	56
3/12/2023	3/18/2023	3rd Sunday in Lent	77.7	15	30.9	26	14.7	41
3/15/2023	3/21/2023	MidWeek Lenten Service	30.5	4	16.3	16	8.7	20
3/19/2023	3/25/2023	4th Sunday in Lent	77.3	19	49.9	42	8.0	61
3/26/2023	4/1/2023	5th Sunday in Lent	80.2	22	33.6	35	13.6	57
3/29/2023	4/4/2023	MidWeek Lenten Service	35.9	4	14.9	19	6.5	23
4/2/2023	4/8/2023	Palm Sunday	81.1	23	28.2	98	11.3	121
4/6/2023	4/12/2023	Maundy Thursday	60.8	7	22.4	44	12.6	51
4/7/2023	4/13/2023	Good Friday	69.4	18	18.3	50	7.9	68
4/9/2023	4/15/2023	Easter Sunday Praise 7:00am	61.7	18	20.1	47	10.7	65
4/9/2023	4/15/2023	Easter Sunday Festival 10:00am	79.2	22	13.2	25	7.7	47
4/16/2023	4/22/2023	2nd Sunday of Easter	67.3	16	36.9	16	17.3	32
4/23/2023	4/29/2023	3rd Sunday of Easter	77.8	18	32.4	22	15.2	40
4/30/2023	5/6/2023	4th Sunday of Easter	67.2	12	45.1	33	11.1	45
5/7/2023	5/13/2023	5th Sunday of Easter	73.8	24	24.9	21	12.3	45
5/14/2023	5/20/2023	6th Sunday of Easter	68.9	13	41.8	25	17.9	38
5/21/2023	5/27/2023	7th Sunday of Easter	86.4	20	36.4	38	15.7	58
5/28/2023	6/3/2023	Pentecost Sunday	72.8	26	27.7	30	10.4	56
6/4/2023	6/10/2023	Trinity Sunday	81.3	23	31.5	18	12.8	41
6/11/2023	6/17/2023	2nd Sunday after Pentecost	72.4	10	43.1	25	18.1	35
6/18/2023	6/24/2023	3rd Sunday after Pentecost	69.7	16	40.7	18	9.9	34
6/25/2023	7/1/2023	4th Sunday after Pentecost	73.8	13	45.1	17	15.6	30
7/2/2023	7/8/2023	5th Sunday after Pentecost	76.5	20	37.3	30	12.8	50
7/9/2023	7/15/2023	6th Sunday after Pentecost	66.3	7	37.7	16	9.9	23
7/16/2023	7/22/2023	7th Sunday after Pentecost	64.4	12	46.6	19	8.8	31
7/23/2023	7/29/2023	8th Sunday after Pentecost	73.2	20	37.2	30	16.7	50
7/30/2023	8/5/2023	9th Sunday after Pentecost	75.9	16	54.6	24	17.3	40
8/6/2023	8/12/2023	10th Sunday after Pentecost	63.1	19	29.7	30	7.0	49
8/13/2023	8/19/2023	11th Sunday after Pentecost	76.9	23	37.4	16	17.0	39
8/20/2023	8/26/2023	12th Sunday after Pentecost	61.0	21	35.4	22	7.7	43
8/27/2023	9/2/2023	13th Sunday after Pentecost	63.6	37	32.1	7	15.4	44
9/3/2023	9/9/2023	14th Sunday after Pentecost	82.5	24	40.1	22	13.0	46
9/10/2023	9/16/2023	15th Sunday after Pentecost	70.0	17	42.5	23	14.0	40
9/17/2023	9/23/2023	16th Sunday after Pentecost	83.8	19	51.6	27	11.3	46
9/24/2023	9/30/2023	17th Sunday after Pentecost	61.8	22	21.6	11	3.8	33
10/1/2023	10/7/2023	18th Sunday after Pentecost	70.8	23	34.2	29	6.3	52
10/8/2023	10/14/2023	19th Sunday after Pentecost	75.8	22	48.2	27	11.5	49
10/15/2023	10/21/2023	20th Sunday after Pentecost	71.2	22	38.3	14	9.2	36
10/22/2023	10/28/2023	21st Sunday after Pentecost	70.1	26	34.2	34	5.8	60
10/29/2023	11/4/2023	Reformation Sunday	89.6	16	54.5	30	7.9	46
11/5/2023	11/11/2023	All Saints Sunday	74.1	20	46.3	26	9.7	46
11/12/2023	11/18/2023	24th Sunday after Pentecost	88.9	20	46.1	16	19.2	36
11/19/2023	11/25/2023	25th Sunday after Pentecost	85.0	21	44.4	14	6.8	35
11/26/2023	12/2/2023	Christ the King Sunday	81.8	22	39.1	17	17.2	39
12/3/2023	12/9/2023	1st Sunday in Advent	72.6	16	50.1	16	11.7	32
12/10/2023	12/16/2023	2nd Sunday in Advent	91.1	37	27.1	25	9.9	62
12/17/2023	12/23/2023	3rd Sunday in Advent	79.0	16	39.0	42	12.4	58
12/24/2023	12/30/2023	4th Sunday in Advent	77.2	14	42.8	29	18.0	43
12/24/2023	12/30/2023	Christmas Eve 4pm Service	69.8	11	38.8	30	22.4	41
12/31/2023	1/2/2024	1st Sunday after Christmas	76.7	22	34.8	22	22.3	44
<b>Totals</b>		<b>61</b>	<b>4501.5</b>	<b>1175</b>	<b>2191.9</b>	<b>1583.0</b>	<b>737.2</b>	<b>2758.0</b>
		<b>Averages</b>	<b>73.8</b>	<b>19.3</b>	<b>35.9</b>	<b>26.0</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>45.2</b>

**Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual**  
January through December 2023

	Jan - Dec 23	Budget	\$ Over Budget
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>			
<b>Income</b>			
50100 · General Fund	332,666	330,000	2,666
50300 · Outreach	29,392	24,000	5,392
50400 · Rent	60,729	61,200	-471
50600 · Interest income	2		
50605 · MIF Reserve Interest	147	240	-93
50606 · MIF Facility Interest	13	12	1
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>422,948</u>	<u>415,452</u>	<u>7,496</u>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	422,948	415,452	7,496
<b>Expense</b>			
60100 · Salaries	179,989	182,184	-2,195
60200 · Payroll Taxes	5,716	5,400	316
60300 · Pastor's Fund	2,394	1,100	1,294
60400 · Benevolence	13,658	13,530	128
60500 · Mortgages	70,539	70,539	0
60600 · Utilities	55,417	60,380	-4,963
60700 · Property Maintenance	55,447	43,678	11,769
60800 · Office	18,704	19,100	-396
60900 · Music & Worship	3,039	4,270	-1,231
61000 · Altar Guild	1,460	1,800	-340
61100 · Evangelism	127	420	-293
61200 · Education	492	300	192
61300 · Fellowship/Quilting	1,538	1,240	298
61400 · Stewardship	239	300	-61
61500 · Council	979	725	254
61600 · Health Ministry	0	480	-480
61700 · Youth Ministry	0	120	-120
61800 · Outreach Ministry	23,563	24,000	-437
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>433,301</u>	<u>429,566</u>	<u>3,735</u>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	-10,353	-14,114	3,761
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>			
<b>Other Income</b>			
70100 · Designated Receipts	56,372		
<b>Total Other Income</b>	56,372		
<b>Other Expense</b>			
70200 · Designated Expenditures	128,786		
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	128,786		
<b>Net Other Income</b>	-72,414		
<b>Net Income</b>	<u><u>-82,767</u></u>	<u><u>-14,114</u></u>	<u><u>-68,653</u></u>

## Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

## Balance Sheet

As of December 31, 2023

01/09/24

Cash Basis

	<u>Dec 31, 23</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
<b>Checking/Savings</b>	
10100 · Chase Operating	27,427.09
10200 · Chase Reserve	10,050.00
10300 · Chase Designated	118,028.88
10400 · MIF Reserve	118.75
10405 · MIF Facilities	346.10
10505 · Vanguard Brokerage Account	7,275.11
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<u>163,245.93</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	163,245.93
<b>Fixed Assets</b>	
150100 · Property & Contents	2,900,000.00
150200 · Vehicle	6,000.00
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<u>2,906,000.00</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u><b>3,069,245.93</b></u>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>	
<b>Long Term Liabilities</b>	
29500 · MIF Loan #1	787,911.14
<b>Total Long Term Liabilities</b>	<u>787,911.14</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	787,911.14
<b>Equity</b>	
30000 · Opening Balance Equity	1,611,135.39
30100 · Designated Fund Balances	118,147.63
32000 · Unrestricted Net Assets	45,098.30
330000 · Mortgage reductions	589,719.98
Net Income	-82,766.51
<b>Total Equity</b>	<u>2,281,334.79</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<u><b>3,069,245.93</b></u>

# CELC CASH ON HAND STATEMENT

December 31, 2023

	<u>BALANCE</u>
Chase Designated	\$118,028.88
Chase Designated CD	\$0.00
Chase Operating	\$27,427.09
Chase Reserve	\$10,050.00
MIF Reserve	\$118.75
MIF Facilities	\$346.10
Vanguard Brokerage Account	\$7,275.11
<b><u>TOTAL CASH ON HAND</u></b>	<b>\$163,245.93</b>

## **DESIGNATED**

Kitchen Fund / Lefsa	\$4,552.26
Outreach Fund/Quilting	\$14,806.84
Music Fund	\$3,986.31
Youth Fund	\$3,175.68
Facility Ground Improvement	\$0.00
Women Activities	\$165.00
Fellowship Fund	\$7,453.77
Memorial Fund	\$5,092.78
Solar Fund	\$15,616.18
Legacy Fund	\$62,477.66
Cursillo Fund	\$544.50
Loose Change Fund	\$157.90
<b><u>TOTAL DESIGNATED FUNDS</u></b>	<b>\$118,028.88</b>

**2024 MISSION SPENDING PLAN**

**INCOME**

GL CODE CATEGORY	2022 ACTUAL	2023 BUDGET	2023 ACTUAL	2024 BUDGET
50100 General Fund	\$ 316,862	\$ 330,000	\$ 332,666	\$ 339,000
50300 Outreach	22,845	24,000	29,392	24,000
50400 Rent	54,509	61,200	60,729	63,600
50600 Interest Income	-	-	-	-
50605 MIF Reserve Interest	211	240	147	120
50606 MIF Facility Interest	10	12	15	12
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 394,437</b>	<b>\$ 415,452</b>	<b>\$ 422,948</b>	<b>\$ 426,732</b>

**EXPENSES**

GL CODE CATEGORY	2022 ACTUAL	2023 BUDGET	2023 ACTUAL	2024 BUDGET
60100 Salaries	\$ 169,245	\$ 182,184	\$ 179,989	\$ 184,644
60200 Payroll Taxes	4,892	5,400	5,716	5,880
60300 Pastor's Fund	11,036	1,100	2,394	1,500
60400 Benevolence	13,530	13,530	13,658	15,030
60500 Mortgages	88,112	70,539	70,539	70,539
60600 Utilities	50,955	60,380	55,417	55,720
60700 Property Maintenance	43,948	43,678	55,447	50,000
60800 Office	17,813	19,100	18,704	19,712
60900 Music & Worship	3,872	4,270	3,039	3,675
61000 Altar Guild	2,041	1,800	1,460	1,320
61100 Evangelism	385	420	127	300
61200 Education	304	300	492	450
61300 Fellowship/Quilting	1,121	1,240	1,538	1,500
61400 Stewardship	-	300	239	240
61500 Council	622	725	979	1,000
61600 Health Ministry	-	480	-	360
61700 Youth Ministry	77	120	-	120
61800 Outreach Ministry	22,838	24,000	23,563	24,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>430,789</b>	<b>429,566</b>	<b>433,301</b>	<b>435,990</b>
<b>TOTAL GAIN / (LOSS)</b>	<b>\$ (36,352)</b>	<b>\$ (14,114)</b>	<b>\$ (10,353)</b>	<b>\$ (9,258)</b>

2023 ACT vs 2023 BDGT	2023 ACT vs 2022 ACT	2024 BDGT vs 2023 ACT
\$ 2,666	\$ 15,804	\$ 6,334
5,392 (471)	6,547 6,220	(5,392) 2,871
- (93)	- (64)	- (27)
3	5	(3)
<b>\$ 7,496</b>	<b>\$ 28,511</b>	<b>\$ 3,784</b>
2022 ACT vs 2022 BDGT	2022 ACT vs 2021 ACT	2023 BDGT vs 2022 ACT
\$ (2,195)	\$ 10,745	\$ 4,655
316 1,294	824 (8,642)	164 (894)
128 0	128 (17,572)	1,372 (0)
(4,963) 11,769	4,462 11,499	303 (5,447)
(396) (1,231)	891 (833)	1,008 636
(340) (293)	(581) (258)	(140) 173
192 298	188 417	(42) (38)
(61) 254	239 357	1 21
(480) (120)	- (77)	360 120
(437)	725	437
<b>3,735</b>	<b>2,512</b>	<b>2,689</b>
2023 ACT vs 2023 BDGT	2023 ACT vs 2022 ACT	2024 BDGT vs 2023 ACT
\$ 3,761	\$ 25,999	\$ 1,095





**CELC 2024 OPERATING BUDGET**

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan - Dec 24
Total 60700 - Property Maintenance	\$ 5,050	\$ 3,525	\$ 3,525	\$ 5,200	\$ 3,725	\$ 4,325	\$ 5,050	\$ 3,525	\$ 3,875	\$ 5,150	\$ 3,525	\$ 3,525	\$ 50,000
60810 - Supplies	\$ 75	\$ 75	\$ 75	\$ 75	\$ 75	\$ 75	\$ 75	\$ 75	\$ 75	\$ 75	\$ 75	\$ 75	\$ 900
60820 - Bank Charges	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 1,200
60842 - Postage	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 120
60851 - Paragon (copy machine)	\$ 216	\$ 216	\$ 216	\$ 216	\$ 216	\$ 216	\$ 216	\$ 216	\$ 216	\$ 216	\$ 216	\$ 216	\$ 2,592
60860 - Computers	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 1,200
60880 - Licenses/Legal	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200
60891 - Property & Casualty	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 12,000
60892 - Workers Compensation	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,501	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500
Total 60800 - Office	\$ 1,501	\$ 1,501	\$ 1,501	\$ 3,201	\$ 1,501	\$ 1,501	\$ 1,501	\$ 1,501	\$ 1,501	\$ 1,501	\$ 1,501	\$ 1,501	\$ 19,712
60910 - Music	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 300
60920 - Copyright Fees	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 325	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 400	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 725
60930 - Planning Material	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 600	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 600
60937 - Audio/Visual Technician	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
60935 - Musicians	\$ 300	\$ 300	\$ 300	\$ 300	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200	\$ 1,750
60940 - Music all other	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 300
Total 60900 - Music & Worship	\$ 350	\$ 350	\$ 675	\$ 350	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 300	\$ 1,150	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 250	\$ 3,675
61010 - Communion Supplies	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 600
61020 - Altar all other	\$ 60	\$ 60	\$ 60	\$ 60	\$ 60	\$ 60	\$ 60	\$ 60	\$ 60	\$ 60	\$ 60	\$ 60	\$ 720
Total 61000 - Altar Guild	\$ 110	\$ 110	\$ 110	\$ 110	\$ 110	\$ 110	\$ 110	\$ 110	\$ 110	\$ 110	\$ 110	\$ 110	\$ 1,320
61110 - Engraving	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 120
61120 - Supplies	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 180
Total 61100 - Evangelism	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 300
61210 - Sunday School/VBS	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
61220 - Bible Studies	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 75	\$ -	\$ 225	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 75	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 450
Total 61200 - Education	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 75	\$ -	\$ 225	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 75	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 450
61310 - Supplies	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 300
61320 - Fellowship all other/Quilting	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 1,200
Total 61300 - Fellowship/Quilting	\$ 125	\$ 125	\$ 125	\$ 125	\$ 125	\$ 125	\$ 125	\$ 125	\$ 125	\$ 125	\$ 125	\$ 125	\$ 1,500
61410 - Supplies	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$ 240
Total 61400 - Stewardship	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$ 20	\$ 240
61510 - Conferences, Etc.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 700	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 700
61520 - Council all other	\$ -	\$ 300	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 300
Total 61500 - Council	\$ -	\$ 300	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 700	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000
61610 - Supplies	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 360
61620 - Health Ministry all other	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total 61600 - Health Ministry	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 360
61710 - General Activity	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 120
Total 61700 - Youth Ministry	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 120
61810 - Food Program	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,800	\$ 21,600
61820 - Transportation	\$ -	\$ 125	\$ -	\$ 125	\$ -	\$ 125	\$ -	\$ 125	\$ -	\$ 125	\$ -	\$ 125	\$ 750
61830 - Outreach all other	\$ 38	\$ 38	\$ 38	\$ 38	\$ 38	\$ 38	\$ 38	\$ 38	\$ 38	\$ 38	\$ 38	\$ 38	\$ 450
61840 - Help	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 1,200
Total 61800 - Outreach Ministry	\$ 1,938	\$ 2,063	\$ 1,938	\$ 2,063	\$ 1,938	\$ 2,063	\$ 1,938	\$ 2,063	\$ 1,938	\$ 2,063	\$ 1,938	\$ 2,063	\$ 24,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$ 37,191</b>	<b>\$ 36,441</b>	<b>\$ 36,041</b>	<b>\$ 38,691</b>	<b>\$ 35,546</b>	<b>\$ 35,886</b>	<b>\$ 37,286</b>	<b>\$ 36,511</b>	<b>\$ 35,736</b>	<b>\$ 36,461</b>	<b>\$ 35,086</b>	<b>\$ 35,111</b>	<b>\$ 435,990</b>
<b>INCOME minus EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$ (1,880)</b>	<b>\$ (1,130)</b>	<b>\$ (730)</b>	<b>\$ 6,620</b>	<b>\$ (235)</b>	<b>\$ (10,575)</b>	<b>\$ (3,975)</b>	<b>\$ (3,200)</b>	<b>\$ (2,425)</b>	<b>\$ 5,850</b>	<b>\$ 1,225</b>	<b>\$ 1,200</b>	<b>\$ (9,256)</b>
<b>ACCUMULATED INCOME minus EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$ (1,880)</b>	<b>\$ (3,011)</b>	<b>\$ (3,741)</b>	<b>\$ 2,879</b>	<b>\$ 2,644</b>	<b>\$ (7,932)</b>	<b>\$ (11,907)</b>	<b>\$ (15,107)</b>	<b>\$ (17,532)</b>	<b>\$ (11,683)</b>	<b>\$ (10,458)</b>	<b>\$ (9,258)</b>	



# ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

## OPENING LITURGY

### Son of God, Eternal Savior

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

**And also with you.**

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

**Receive our prayer, O God.**

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

**Receive our prayer, O God.**

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

**Receive our prayer, O God.**

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

**Receive our prayer, O God.**

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

**Receive our prayer, O God.**

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

**Receive our prayer, O God.**

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

**Receive our prayer, O God.**

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

**Amen.**

1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,  
2 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, so may we for oth - ers live.  
3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and Prince of peace;  
4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,

Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race,  
Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed; free - ly may your ser - vants give.  
hush the storm of strife and pas - sion, bid its cru - el dis - cords cease.  
Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race:

you our head, who, throned in glo - ry, for your own will ev - er plead:  
Yours the gold and yours the sil - ver, yours the wealth of land and sea;  
By your pa - tient years of toil - ing, by your si - lent hours of pain,  
by your pray - ing, by your will - ing that your peo - ple should be one,

fill us with your love and pit - y, heal our wrong, and help our need.  
we but stew - ards of your boun - ty held in sol - emn trust will be.  
quench our fe - vered thirst of plea - sure, stem our self - ish greed of gain.  
grant, oh, grant our hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth your will be done.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship, 655

Text: Somerset C. Lowry

Music: IN BABILONE, Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen, 1710;

arr. Julius Röntgen

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Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
in America