

2024 NOMINATING COMMITTEE BALLOT

Vote for ONE unless noted otherwise.

MUST BE PRESENT AT THE ANNUAL MEETING ON FEBRUARY 4, 2024 TO VOTE.  
THIS IS A SAMPLE BALLOT. ACTUAL BALLOTS WILL BE HANDED OUT AT THE MEETING.

<div>President</div> <div><div>◇</div><div>◇</div><div>◇</div><div>Bruce Brenden</div><div></div><div></div></div>	<div>Stewardship</div> <div><div>◇</div><div>◇</div><div>◇</div><div>Gayla Western</div><div></div><div></div></div>	<div>Service Group Coordinators</div> <div><div>◇</div><div>◇</div><div>◇</div><div>Lorin Hansen</div><div></div><div></div></div>
<div>Vice President</div> <div><div>◇</div><div>◇</div><div>◇</div><div>Brandon Langfeld</div><div></div><div></div></div>	<div>Worship &amp; Music</div> <div><div>◇</div><div>◇</div><div>◇</div><div>Jessica Nelson</div><div></div><div></div></div>	<div>Nominating Committee</div> <div>(Vote for 6)</div>
<div>Secretary</div> <div><div>◇</div><div>◇</div><div>◇</div><div>Kristin Torgerson</div><div></div><div></div></div>	<div>Youth</div> <div>(Vote for 2)</div>	<div><div>◇</div><div>◇</div><div>◇</div><div>Marlowe Rasmusson</div><div>◇</div><div>◇</div><div>Kevin Brenden</div><div>◇</div><div>◇</div><div>Brandon Langfeld</div><div>◇</div><div>◇</div><div>Bruce Brenden</div><div>◇</div><div>◇</div><div>Jessica Nelson</div><div>◇</div><div>◇</div><div>Jessi Colby</div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
<div>Council Members</div> <div>Worship &amp; Music</div>	<div>NLLC Foundation Board</div> <div><div>◇</div><div>◇</div><div>◇</div><div>Brad Schmidt</div><div></div><div></div></div>	
<div><div>◇</div><div>◇</div><div>◇</div><div>Jennifer Honer</div><div></div><div></div></div>	<div>NLLC Cemetery Board</div> <div>(Vote for 2)</div>	<div>Audit Committee</div>
<div>Youth</div>	<div><div>◇</div><div>◇</div><div>◇</div><div>Stacy Honer</div><div>◇</div><div>◇</div><div>Mike Heidecker</div><div></div><div></div></div>	<div><div>◇</div><div>◇</div><div>◇</div><div>Chris Watterud</div><div></div><div></div></div>
<div>Committee Members</div> <div>Christian Education</div>		<div>Synod Assembly Delegates</div> <div>May 17th &amp; 18th, 2024</div> <div>(Vote for 2)</div>
<div><div>◇</div><div>◇</div><div>◇</div><div>Nancy Aaberg</div><div></div><div></div></div>		<div><div>◇</div><div>◇</div><div>◇</div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
<div>Church Property</div> <div>(Vote for 2)</div>		
<div><div>◇</div><div>◇</div><div>◇</div><div>John Reber</div><div>◇</div><div>◇</div><div>Nathan Ziegler</div><div></div><div></div></div>		



ANNUAL REPORT

February 4, 2024

Disciples of Jesus  
Growing Disciples of Jesus

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2024 PROPOSED BUDGET CONTINUED

	2023 Actual	2023 Budget	Over/ -under budget	2024 Budget	2024 Little Bethany
<b>Expenses-Continued</b>					
<b>Worship</b>					
Supplies	\$245.44	\$350.00	-\$104.56	\$300.00	
Baptism & Confirmation	\$233.50	\$175.00	\$58.50	\$175.00	
<b>Total Worship</b>	\$478.94	\$525.00	-\$46.06	\$475.00	
<b>Education</b>					
Sunday School	\$590.70	\$600.00	-\$9.30	\$650.00	
Camp Fees	\$0.00	\$250.00	-\$250.00	\$250.00	
Youth Group	\$0.00	\$250.00	-\$250.00	\$250.00	
<b>Total Education</b>	\$590.70	\$1,100.00	-\$509.30	\$1,150.00	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	\$199,363.54	\$204,555.73	-\$5,192.19	\$205,906.00	\$13,793.11
<b>Net Income (Loss)</b>	-\$1,557.48	-\$4,517.02	\$2,959.54	-\$297.89	\$0.00

**NLLC Constitution  
Proposed Changes  
February 4, 2024**

Proposed constitutional changes of the Evangelism, Mission, Family Life and Social concerns to change their name to the Community Care Committee. This change also includes the removal of a WELCA representative since WELCA has disbanded.

**Chapter 12. Congregation Council**  
**C12.01.01** Congregation Council Committees and Responsibilities  
**C. ~~Evangelism, Mission, Family Life and Social Concerns.~~ Community Care Committee.**  
This committee shall consist of four (4) members, ~~along with representatives of WELCA.~~ It shall establish programs to strengthen the spiritual and social fellowship life among our “congregation family” members. New members and their orientation shall be of special concern to this committee. It shall also seek to involve underprivileged members of our congregation and community. It shall plan and execute programs to bring the Gospel to the people in our community who are not currently participating in a congregation and invite them to become involved in the life of our congregation. This committee shall also develop programs that encourage a deepening of faith and activity of new and inactive members of this congregation. It shall also promote awareness of mission needs beyond our congregation and community to include regional, national and global missions.

**2024 PROPOSED BUDGET CONTINUED**

	2023 Actual	2023 Budget	Over/ -under budget	2024 Budget	2024 Little Bethany
<b>Expenses-Continued</b>					
<b>Office</b>					
Office Supplies	\$753.38	\$600.00	\$153.38	\$800.00	\$72.00
Offering Envelopes	\$1,162.14	\$660.00	\$502.14	\$1,000.00	
Office Equipment	\$0.00	\$800.00	-\$800.00	\$800.00	\$72.00
Office Equipment Repairs	\$512.99	\$650.00	-\$137.01	\$650.00	\$58.50
Office Equipment Lease	\$3,134.09	\$3,100.00	\$34.09	\$3,100.00	\$279.00
Postage	\$972.35	\$1,000.00	-\$27.65	\$700.00	\$63.00
<b>Total Office</b>	\$6,534.95	\$6,810.00	-\$275.05	\$7,050.00	\$544.50
<b>Utilities</b>					
Water/Garbage/Sewer	\$1,989.50	\$2,100.00	-\$110.50	\$2,200.00	
Propane	\$490.16	\$700.00	-\$209.84	\$500.00	
Electricity	\$8,777.62	\$8,000.00	\$777.62	\$9,000.00	
Telephone	\$1,770.77	\$1,850.00	-\$79.23	\$1,800.00	\$162.00
<b>Total Utilities</b>	\$13,028.05	\$12,650.00	\$378.05	\$13,500.00	\$162.00
<b>Repairs and Maintenance</b>	\$3,324.57	\$4,000.00	-\$675.43	\$3,000.00	
<b>Travel and Meetings</b>					
Mileage Reimburse-Pastor	\$5,491.24	\$4,562.50	\$928.74	\$6,000.00	\$540.00
Continuing Ed-clergy	\$0.00	\$500.00	-\$500.00	\$500.00	\$45.00
Retreats/Workshops	\$570.00	\$350.00	\$220.00	\$600.00	
<b>Total Travel and Meetings</b>	\$6,061.24	\$5,412.50	\$648.74	\$7,100.00	\$585.00
<b>Other</b>					
Insurance-Building	\$4,654.91	\$4,000.00	\$654.91	\$6,322.00	
Property Taxes	\$33.00	\$35.00	-\$2.00	\$33.00	
Council Committees	\$0.00	\$50.00	-\$50.00	\$50.00	
Dues and Subscriptions	\$1,722.50	\$2,000.00	-\$277.50	\$1,700.00	\$153.00
Sharefaith Dues	\$1,008.00	\$1,008.00		\$1,008.00	
Otter Tail Conference Dues	\$383.75	\$425.00	-\$41.25	\$400.00	
Luther Crest Dues	\$885.00	\$1,000.00	-\$115.00	\$900.00	
Miscellaneous	\$411.62	\$300.00	\$111.62	\$500.00	
Meal Fundraiser Expense	\$1,333.77	\$1,500.00	-\$166.23	\$1,400.00	
Sharefaith serv charges	\$988.31	\$950.00	\$38.31	\$1,000.00	
<b>Total Other</b>	\$11,420.86	\$11,268.00	\$152.86	\$13,313.00	\$153.00
<b>Benevolence</b>					
Northwest MN Synod	\$4,732.24	\$4,500.00	\$232.24	\$4,500.00	
Redirected Benevolence	\$388.50	\$350.00	\$38.50	\$350.00	
<b>Total Benevolence</b>	\$5,120.74	\$4,850.00	\$270.74	\$4,850.00	

**NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA  
February 4, 2024**

- 1.0 Call to Order
- 2.0 Presentation of Agenda
- 3.0 Secretary's Report (2023 Annual Meeting Minutes)
- 4.0 Treasurer's Report
- 5.0 President's Comments
- 6.0 Pastor's Report
- 7.0 Organizational Reports
  - 7.1 Education/Sunday School
  - 7.2 Family Life/Social Concerns and Evangelism/Mission (Community Care)
  - 7.3 Property
  - 7.4 Women of the ELCA
  - 7.5 Youth
  - 7.6 Stewardship
  - 7.7 NLLC Foundation
  - 7.8 Cemeteries
  - 7.9 Worship & Music
  - 7.10 Audit report
- 8.0 Activities by groups & events
  - 8.1 "Young" Women's fellowship
  - 8.2 Quilting Group
  - 8.3 Meatball Supper
  - 8.4 Round-up Breakfast
  - 8.5 Pop-up Suppers
  - 8.6 Sunday Funday Carnival
- 9.0 Old Business
  - 9.1 Combining of cemetery accounts
- 10.0 New Business
  - 10.1 2024 Budget
  - 10.2 Changing of Family Life/Social concerns and Evangelism/Mission name
- 11.0 Election
- 12.0 Comments and Concerns
- 13.0 Closing Prayer
- 14.0 Adjournment

**New Life Lutheran Church  
Annual Meeting January 29, 2023  
Unapproved Minutes**

- 1.0 Call to Order:** President Jessi Colby called the meeting to order at 11:10 am.
- 2.0 Presentation of Agenda:** Bruce Brenden made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Diane Kunze. Motion carried.
- 3.0 Secretary's Report (2022 Annual Meeting Minutes):** Motion made to approve the secretary's report by Bruce Brenden, seconded by Jessica Nelson. Motion carried.
- 4.0 Treasurer's Report:** Kevin Brenden made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report, seconded by Steph Olson. Motion carried.
- 5.0 President's Comments:** Jessi Colby - Our biggest challenge has been balancing the budget. We continue to look at ways to increase attendance. Thank you for the opportunity to serve our congregation as Council President.
- 6.0 Pastor's Report:** See Pastor's report. Attendance continues to be down since Covid. Our online viewing numbers are up.
- 7.0 Organizational Reports:**
- 7.1 Worship & Music:** See report.
- 7.2 Education:** See Report.
- 7.3 Family Life/Social Concerns and Evangelism/Mission:** This committee name will be changed to "Community Care." They will update the bylaws to reflect the change.
- 7.4 Property:** See Report. The pew cushions are so nice to sit on and they improve the sound in church. Thank you again to the families for their generous donation.
- 7.5 Women of the ELCA:** See Report.
- 7.6 Youth:** See report. Thank you for allowing me to serve. I can't believe it's been 10 years!
- 7.7 NLLC Cemeteries:** See report.
- 7.8 Stewardship:** See report.
- 7.9 NLLC Foundation:** Discussion on CD's and investing to get a better interest rate. This is being discussed with the bank.
- 7.10 Audit report:** The books looked correct. No errors found.
- 8.0 Old Business**
- 8.1 Combination of Cemetery accounts:** Discussion at next Cemetery meeting.
- 9.0 New Business**
- 9.1 2023 Budget:** We have cut costs by stopping bulk mailings starting in April 2023, Garbage pickup changed to every other week, Custodial staff will be paid an hourly wage. Funds were raised by serving breakfast for the Rothsay Round Up, Rally Sunday Carnival, and the Meatball suppers. We will look for ways to increase participation and giving.
- 10.0 Election:** The following have been added to the ballot. Foundation board: Julie Brenden. Service Group Coordinators: Julie Brenden. Nominating Committee: Jessica Nelson, Doris Moen, John Reber, Kristin Torgerson. John Reber made a motion for nomination to cease and the ballot be approved as is. Motion was seconded by Steph Olson. Motion carried.
- 11.0 Comments and Concerns:** Bruce Brenden thanked Jessi and all others who served. Thank you to all those coming on committees. Talk with your family and friends and encourage them to come back to church.
- 12.0 Closing Prayer:** Pastor Randy led us in the Lord's Prayer.
- 13.0 Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 11:40.

Respectfully submitted, *Doris Moen, Secretary*

**NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH 2024 PROPOSED BUDGET**

	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Budget</b>	<b>Over/ -under budget</b>	<b>2024 Budget</b>	<b>2024 Little Bethany 9%</b>
<b>Income</b>					
Offerings	\$171,928.37	\$173,500.00	-\$1,571.63	\$180,000.00	
Sunday Coffee	\$1,166.24	\$1,200.00	-\$33.76	\$1,200.00	
Congregation Potluck	\$0.00	\$200.00	-\$200.00	\$100.00	
Pop-Up Suppers	\$129.00	\$0.00	\$129.00	\$0.00	
Amazon Smiles	\$97.47	\$200.00	-\$102.53	\$0.00	
Dues-Little Bethany	\$13,678.68	\$13,678.71	-\$0.03	\$13,793.11	\$13,793.11
Interest Income	\$11.20	\$40.00	-\$28.80	\$15.00	
Meal Fundraiser Income	\$7,279.10	\$10,000.00	-\$2,720.90	\$9,000.00	
Building Maintenance Income	\$330.00	\$520.00	-\$190.00	\$0.00	
Gift-WELCA	\$507.00	\$0.00	\$507.00	\$0.00	
Miscellaneous Income	\$2,679.00	\$700.00	\$1,979.00	\$1,500.00	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$197,806.06</b>	<b>\$200,038.71</b>	<b>-\$2,232.65</b>	<b>\$205,608.11</b>	<b>\$13,793.11</b>
<b>Expenses</b>					
<b>Salaries and Wages</b>					
Pastor Salary	\$47,100.96	\$47,101.00	-\$0.04	\$47,101.00	\$4,239.09
Office Manager Wages	\$16,974.48	\$16,974.40	\$0.08	\$16,974.40	\$1,527.70
Youth Coordinator Salary	\$12,240.00	\$12,240.00	\$0.00	\$12,240.00	
Treasurer Salary	\$5,459.04	\$5,459.00	\$0.04	\$5,459.00	\$491.31
Custodian Salary	\$2,937.00	\$6,240.00	-\$3,303.00	\$3,050.00	
<b>Total Salaries and Wages</b>	<b>\$84,711.48</b>	<b>\$88,014.40</b>	<b>-\$3,302.92</b>	<b>\$84,824.40</b>	<b>\$6,258.10</b>
<b>Payroll Taxes and Benefits</b>					
Pastor's Housing	\$24,999.84	\$25,000.00	-\$0.16	\$25,000.00	\$2,250.00
Pastor's Health Ins. & Retirement	\$29,601.00	\$29,602.00	-\$1.00	\$29,885.76	\$2,689.72
Pastor's Social Sec. Match	\$5,514.96	\$5,515.00	-\$0.04	\$5,515.00	\$496.35
Social Security Expense	\$2,331.85	\$2,536.60	-\$204.75	\$2,338.85	\$125.18
Medicare Expense	\$545.36	\$593.23	-\$47.87	\$546.99	\$29.27
Insurance-Workers' Comp	\$1,381.00	\$1,373.00	\$8.00	\$1,397.00	
<b>Total Payroll Taxes &amp; Benefits</b>	<b>\$64,374.01</b>	<b>\$64,619.83</b>	<b>-\$245.82</b>	<b>\$64,683.60</b>	<b>\$5,590.52</b>
<b>Contract Labor</b>					
Organists	\$2,665.00	\$3,120.00	-\$455.00	\$3,168.00	
Mowing/Snow Removal	\$660.00	\$400.00	\$260.00	\$1,000.00	
Supply Pastors	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	-\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$500.00
Contemporary Worship Coord.	\$393.00	\$786.00	-\$393.00	\$792.00	
<b>Total Contract Labor</b>	<b>\$3,718.00</b>	<b>\$5,306.00</b>	<b>-\$1,588.00</b>	<b>\$5,960.00</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>

**Rothsay Round-up Breakfast 2023**

The Rothsay Round-up breakfast was held for the 2nd year, mostly put together by council volunteers, with a few extra. This year we served a free will donation traditional hot breakfast at the church along with pre-ordered traditional breakfast at the rodeo grounds. If there was any to-go orders, they were also served the traditional breakfast. A few people sold breakfast sandwiches at the rodeo grounds for the cost of \$3 per sandwich or 2 sandwiches for \$5.

The Round-up breakfasts total income was \$1,415.10, expenses were \$639.58, bringing the total profit of \$775.52 for the event to go towards the ministry and mission of NLLC. We served 145 full breakfasts and 60 breakfast sandwiches.

We plan to continue serving a breakfast during the city’s event in 2024 as outreach to those in the community. There is discussion on serving only breakfast sandwiches at a set cost and discontinuing the traditional breakfast.

A huge thank you to everyone that helped put this event together, your efforts and support doesn’t go unnoticed.

**NLLC WEDNESDAY NIGHT POP-UP SUPPER 2023**

The NLLC Wednesday Night Pop-up Supper was started as an excuse to get people back into the church. Fellowship was the goal. The supper was originally planned to coincide with as many church activities as possible (e.g. church council, confirmation, WOW).

To create interest, the details (including menus) for all pop-up suppers were advertised in the church bulletin and newsletter, as well as on social media. RSVPs were requested in advance to help with planning and keep expenses as low as possible. The cost was \$5 per person with all proceeds going to help cover expenses for preparing the meal. Any overage went to the church. There is no fund associated with the supper.

Suppers were organized, prepared, and served by the Brenden and Honer families and held on November 8 and December 6 in 2023. Another supper was held on January 10, 2024 with future meals tentatively planned for after Easter. Response from the congregation has been good with attendance ranging from 35 to 50 people.

**Sunday Funday Carnival 2023**

September 10<sup>th</sup> 2023

This event was spearheaded by Patrice Ziegler and Jessica Nelson in an effort to celebrate the beginning of a new educational year in the church as well as bring in people from the community. Included in this years event was a bouncy house, table top carnival games, bean bags, Big J’s food truck, and a dunk tank. These things were funded through donations, the NLLC foundation, and a Thrivent Financial grant. We were able to borrow tables from the Rothsay TC club for food as well as bean bags from The Rothsay Prairie Chix. Thank you to these groups for allowing us to use their equipment and Thank you to Jordan & Kellie Barry, John Reber, Eric Nelson, and Nathan Ziegler for helping set these things up.

Families were able to purchase lunch from the food truck to enjoy with their family before playing bean bags to carnival games together. The real draw for many was bounce house and the dunk tank for a chance to see Nathan, Jessica, or Randy go down in the icy water!

This event was able to bring in \$530 through the purchase of dunk tank tickets and carnival game/bouncy house bracelets. The dunk tank balls were sold for \$2/each or \$5/3 balls and wristbands were sold for \$5 each with a family cap of \$20. Expenses were \$425, bringing the total profit for this event was \$105.

This event was made possible by the generous donation of time of youth and members of the education/youth committees, we can’t thank them enough!

**NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH 2023 FINANCIAL REPORT**

**Income**

Offerings	\$171,928.37
Sunday Coffee	\$1,166.24
Amazon Smiles	\$97.47
Building Maintenance Income	\$330.00
Dues-Little Bethany	\$13,678.68
Gift-WELCA	\$507.00
Miscellaneous Income	\$2,679.00
Pop-Up Suppers	\$129.00
Interest Income	\$11.20
Meal Fundraiser Income	\$7,279.10
In/Out monies-net	\$1,343.75
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$199,149.81</b>

**Expenses**

<b>Salaries</b>	
Pastor salary	\$47,100.96
Office manager salary	\$16,974.48
Youth Coordinator salary	\$12,240.00
Treasurer salary	\$5,459.04
Custodian salary	\$2,937.00
<b>Total Salaries</b>	<b>\$84,711.48</b>
<b>Payroll Taxes and Benefits</b>	
Social Security expense	\$2,331.85
Medicare expense	\$545.36
Social Security reimbursement	\$5,514.96
Pastor's housing	\$24,999.84
Pastor's health ins. & retirement	\$29,601.00
Worker's comp insurance	\$1,381.00
<b>Total Payroll Taxes &amp; Benefits</b>	<b>\$64,374.01</b>
<b>Contract Labor</b>	
Organist	\$2,665.00
Mowing/Snow removal	\$660.00
Contemporary worship coordinator	\$393.00
<b>Total Contract Labor</b>	<b>\$3,718.00</b>
<b>Office</b>	
Office supplies	\$753.38
Offering envelopes	\$1,162.14
Office equipment repairs	\$512.99
Office equipment lease	\$3,134.09
Postage	\$972.35
<b>Total Office</b>	<b>\$6,534.95</b>

**Travel and Meetings**

Mileage reimb-pstr	\$5,491.24
Continuing Education-pstr	\$0.00
Retreats/Workshops	\$570.00
<b>Total Travel &amp; Mtgs</b>	<b>\$6,061.24</b>

**Utilities**

Water/Sewer/Garbage	\$1,989.50
Propane	\$490.16
Electricity	\$8,777.62
Telephone	\$1,770.77
<b>Total Utilities</b>	<b>\$13,028.05</b>

**Repairs & Maintenance**

	\$3,324.57
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**Other**

Building insurance	\$4,654.91
Meal Fundraiser Expense	\$1,333.77
Property tax	\$33.00
Dues & subscriptions	\$1,722.50
Sharefaith Dues	\$1,008.00
Otter Tail Conference Dues	\$383.75
Luther Crest Dues	\$885.00
Miscellaneous	\$411.62
Sharefaith service charges	\$988.31
<b>Total Other</b>	<b>\$11,420.86</b>

**Benevolence**

NWMN Synod	\$4,732.24
Redirected benev.	\$388.50
<b>Total Benevolence</b>	<b>\$5,120.74</b>

**Worship**

Supplies	\$245.44
Baptism & Confirmation	\$233.50
<b>Total Worship</b>	<b>\$478.94</b>

**Education**

Sunday School	\$590.70
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$199,363.54</b>

**Income/Loss**

	-\$213.73
<b>Less in &amp; out monies</b>	<b>-\$1,343.75</b>
<b>Net Income/Loss</b>	<b>-\$1,557.48</b>

## NLLC 2023 FINANCIAL REPORT CONTINUED

Checking and Savings	1/1/2023	12/31/2023
Farmers State Bank-Checking	\$11,590.02	\$15,684.58
Farmers St Bank-Supply acct.	\$232.17	\$188.63
Mission Investment Savings	\$4,773.63	\$284.83
<b>Total Checking &amp; Savings</b>	<b>\$16,595.82</b>	<b>\$16,158.04</b>

### 2023 Offerings, pledges, memorials, etc.

Regular offerings	\$163,548.39
Loose offerings	\$2,886.98
Easter offerings	\$3,327.00
Christmas offerings	\$845.00
Thrivent Choice	\$1,321.00
Amazon Smiles	\$97.47

#### In/Out Monies-Received

Lenten offerings	\$708.00
Foundation-undesignated	\$2,868.00
WELCA	\$150.00
Food Shelves	\$45.00
Foundation-building fund-Handicap	\$570.00
Foundation-technology	\$1,000.00
Foundation-Special Music	\$50.00
Youth	\$1,000.00
Sunday School-VBS	\$75.00
Cemeteries	\$1,520.00
Missionaries	\$1,649.00
World Hunger	\$1,060.00
Flowers	\$1,091.00
Other	\$1,094.49
Lutheran World Relief	\$50.00
Luther Crest Camp	\$2,000.00

**Total In/Out Monies** **\$14,930.49**

**Total 2023 Offerings** **\$186,956.33**

#### In/Out Monies-Paid out

Lenten offerings	\$708.00
Foundation-undesignated	\$2,818.00
WELCA	\$150.00
Food Shelves	\$45.00
Foundation-building fund-Handicap	\$570.00
Foundation-technology	\$1,050.00
Milestone ministry	\$50.00
Youth	\$1,000.00
Sunday School-VBS	\$75.00
Cemeteries	\$1,220.00
Missionaries	\$590.00
World Hunger	\$1,060.00
Flowers	\$1,056.25
Other	\$1,094.49
Lutheran World Relief	\$100.00
Luther Crest Camp	\$2,000.00

**Total In/Out Monies** **\$13,586.74**

**Net In/Out Monies** **\$1,343.75**

## WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2023

- Worship and Music met monthly this past year.
- We continue to provide scripture readers for Sundays as well as special services. We also change banners and paraments according to the church calendar.
- We continue to look for volunteers to do special music for services.
- The organists make sure all the pianos are tuned when needed.
- We have 6 people running sound on a regular basis. We are always looking to add more - training would be provided for anyone interested in helping. We have put in a new streaming system, which has been great so far.
- We decorated the church for Easter & Christmas. We did an "Easter Garden" and ordered Poinsettias for Christmas and both had several plants ordered.
- We organized and planned the summer worship service in the park in July.
- We helped plan for special services such as baccalaureate, seeds of hope, harvest festival, etc. throughout the year.
- We are currently looking for a new Contemporary Worship coordinator. The duties include finding music, scheduling song leaders if needed, setting up the worship PowerPoint, etc. and will assist in running sound/Powerpoints on contemporary Sunday's. Contemporary services will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month.

Submitted by Heather Reber, Secretary 2023

### "Young" Women's Fellowship 2023

Led by the Spirit, a new group was formed this fall. It was begun for all young women of the New Life Lutheran Church community to get together to pray, share stories and learn from our shared faith. Currently, we are reading the book, "You Matter More Than You Think" by Dr. Leslie Parrott. We are meeting monthly at church. There is no homework to do in order to attend. New members are always welcome!

### Quilting Group 2023

The Quilting Group is meeting monthly to complete tops and tie quilts. Six layettes have been put together. Did an inventory of materials and items needed for Lutheran World Relief projects. We have a business meeting in the afternoon. Making plans for quilt raffle this spring.

- Mary Brandt

### Meatball Supper 2023

The 2023 Meatball Supper was held Saturday, March 25, 2023 from 5-8 pm. A few of the volunteer committees/tasks included: grocery shopping, meatball crew, potato crew/spud studs, kitchen crew, service staff and the clean up crew. In entirety, about 45 volunteers donated an estimated 180 hours. The Meatball supper's total income was \$5,864.00, expenses were \$598.19 - bringing the total profit of \$5,265.81 for the event. We would like to thank the Rothsay Truck Stop for their support as well as members of the congregation who donated supplies to this event. New Life Lutheran Church couldn't continue to hold the Meatball Supper without all of you!



### OUR SAVIORS CEMETERY FUND 2023

Checkbook Balance 12/31/2022 \$18,290.15

#### Receipts

Bell Bank checking interest	\$55.03
Bell bank investments dividends	\$4,380.60
Grave marking	\$50.00
Donations	\$580.00

Total Receipts \$5,065.63

Total \$23,355.78

#### Disbursements

Travis Shirley (lawn care 2022)	\$1,230.00
Rothsay Truckstop	\$146.43
Eric Larson (Tree trim)	\$50.00
Rothsay chain (grass seed)	\$21.25
Travis Shirley (lawn care 2023)	\$825.00
NLLC (Insurance)	\$93.94
Total Disbursements	\$2,366.62

Checkbook Balance 12/31/2023 \$20,989.16

#### Investments

Investments 95,025.17

Total Worth \$116,014.33

### HAMAR CEMETERY FUND 2023

Checkbook Balance 12/31/2022 \$1,712.65

#### Receipts

Edward Jones/stewardship Invest.	\$3,000.00
Donations/markings/memorials	\$770.00

Total Receipts \$3,770.00

Total \$5,482.65

#### Disbursements

Caretakers	\$2,790.00
Lundeens - platbook/directory	\$45.90
Tree removal/stump grinding	\$175.00
Gas/supplies	\$829.90
REA	\$300.00
NLLC (Insurance)	\$82.52
Mower repair	\$488.74

Total Disbursements \$4,712.06

Checkbook Balance 12/31/2023 \$770.59

#### Investments

Charles Schwab eff. 11/1/2023 \$109,563.11

Account Value \$110,333.70



Northwestern Minnesota Synod  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

### BISHOP'S ANNUAL REPORT 2023

"Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God  
You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus." Luke 2:30-31

Dear Beloved in Christ of the Northwestern Minnesota Synod,

This message is written in the season of Advent, a season I have loved since I was old enough to know that there were seasons. There is something about this season's mix of melancholy and hope, darkness and light, that resonates with me. Children are central to the stories of Advent and Christmas — both in their preciousness and in their vulnerability. Every parent knows the agonizing mix of hope and fear that we carry for our children. As I write this, there is a devastating war happening in the land where the stories of our faith unfolded. And tragically, this war's devastating cost is landing mostly on children. "A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children... '1 (Matt 2:16). Join me in praying every day for a just peace in the lands of Israel and Palestine and for protection of the children.

As a parent and now grandparent, I know that the most desperate prayers we pray are for our children. When I visit congregation members and leaders across the synod, one deep question is always lurking: "What will our children's and grandchildren's experience of church be?" What I have learned is that making it about our kids means making it about faith in Jesus, plain and simple. We must give up needing our kids' experience of church to be like ours was, and instead pray for and work toward a church where children simply have a deep faith in Jesus Christ and a community of faith that loves them. It's back to basics! Back to basics often involves letting go of cherished traditions, buildings and ways of doing things that may have worked for us, but now only hinder us from focusing on growing our and our children's faith.

So, much of our work this last year has and will continue to focus on how to become a church where a child's faith can grow. This does not mean throwing programs and events at our kids, hoping something sticks. IT MEANS MAKING OUR LIFE TOGETHER ABOUT OUR FAITH IN JESUS and then generously, freely and often, sharing our faith with our children. Jesus-loving adults are the force that shapes the faith of children. This means freeing up communities to expend less energy on "keeping this thing going," and much more on hearing the gospel, praying, dwelling in God's word, serving the neighbor and seeking Jesus in our everyday life.

Hence, this year has been filled with hard and focused work of continuing to build out a robust network of support and accountability for lay ministers who serve in Word and Sacrament ministry under the mentorship of a seminary-trained, ordained pastor. Our process for vitality of smaller member congregations, "Rural Revival," has drawn us deeply into finding right-sized ways of providing word and sacrament ministry tailored to the unique needs of each community. While neither of these efforts look like "youth ministry," they really are because they free people to be more focused on the basics, more focused on following Jesus. ANY church that is focused on following Jesus is a church that is for the children.

So that is my simple appeal to you as you gather for your annual meetings this year. Let's make it all about being Jesus-followers sharing our faith with everyone, starting with our children.

Your Partner in Christ's Mission,

Bishop Bill Tesch

Pastor’s Annual Report 2023

For the New Life Lutheran Church Annual Meeting, 4 February 2024

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

If you have read our Synod Bishop’s Annual Report, which I hope you have, you will quickly infer that our congregation is not unique among the churches of our area and synod concerning financial stresses, fewer bodies in worship, and insecurity about the Church’s place in the world. The fact is the world has changed, and it will continue to change. As the world changes, so does the Church’s influence in the world. Sometimes we, the Church (and our individual yet always interdependent congregations), will be at the center of influence. At other times, we will be at the periphery. It seems like we are currently in an age where we are closer to the periphery than we are to the center of influence. While some might think it is a losing battle and are ready to throw in the towel, God’s Spirit has a very different strategy. It’s a strategy that is time tested through many dozens of generations over the last 2,000 years. The Spirit is saying, “Hang in there; God is not yet done with you or your generation. Trust him, tell the story of his love in your life, and truly invest in his coming kingdom.”

How can we invest in his coming kingdom? We can open our hearts and minds. We can entertain one another’s hopes and dreams. We can focus on his Word and pray steadfastly. We can share our insights, our talents and abilities, and our resources. We can focus on mission rather than maintenance. In deep gratitude for all that God has done in our lives, we can make good use of all the resources he has placed in our hands. By making this a priority rather than an afterthought, we can change the world—not through coercion, but by loving action, not by seeking control, but by giving license and trusting in the Holy Spirit.

This past year we have made baby steps in that direction. We came very close to balancing our budget for the first time in a while. However, that budget was more about maintenance than it was about mission. Until we make that leap of faith, that commitment as a community, our steps will remain but baby steps. This is our challenge for the future, and for our risen Lord (who died to set us free, who blesses us mightily and calls us his beloved).

At our annual meeting I am hoping to have a handout available that contains some relevant demographic information about the Rothsay community and our New Life faith community that may help us address some of the challenges and some of the opportunities that lay before us.

Pastoral Acts Performed 2023

Baptisms (4):

Oliver Kacey Watterud (1/14/23)  
Ryder Russell Motz (2/26/23)  
Lee Arthur Westerberg (7/16/23)  
Willow Grace Saewert (10/15/23)

2023 Weddings (4):

Ryan Olson & Jaclyn Revere (4/22/2023)  
Samuel Whitehead & Lillie Meduna (9/8/2023)  
Xavier Kadrmas & Sarah Peterson (9/30/2023)  
Kole Lee & Madison Honer (10/21/2023)

Transfers in:

Karol & Dianna Brusven  
Brad, Becky, Sophie, Liliah, Henrik,  
Mabel, & Hans Schmidt  
Brian, Kristin, and Rylee Torgerson

Transfers out:

Hailey Brenden  
Noah Brenden  
Paul, Emilie, Jake, & Drew Ihland  
Jeremy, Natacha, Loren, Lillian & Luna Evans

Confirmed on April 16, 2023 (4):

Destiny Eckley  
Tripp Meyer  
Lydia Umlauf  
Jeremiah Ziegler

2023 Funerals:

Thelma Wigdahl, 1/19/2023  
Jon Otto Reber, 3/5/2023  
William Louis Nitz, 6/12/2023  
Selvin Clayton Brenden, 7/31/2023  
Lyle E. Hovland, August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
Ruth Ann Hansen, September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023.  
(Pastor Jason Ritz)  
Orrin Burnett Sorum, September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

FOUNDATION ACCOUNTS AND FUNDS 12/31/2023 (CONTINUED)

Undesignated Interest	\$199.50	May be used for any appropriate purpose	
	\$84.29	\$0.00	
Balance		\$283.79	
Arne Brenden Christian Scholarship Fund	\$56,723.44	\$50,000.00	Principal
Accumulated Interest		\$6,723.44	Christian school scholarships
2023 interest		\$1,498.50	
Balance		\$58,221.94	
Foundation Accounts and Funds	Acct. Bal-	ance Fund Balance	Deposits
Thor Sorum Seminary Scholarship Fund		\$3,466.38	\$2,430.00
			Principal
Accumulated Interest		\$1,036.38	Seminary scholarships
2023 interest		\$75.15	
Balance		\$3,541.53	
Hamar-Haas Scholarship Fund	\$58,061.02	\$50,000.00	Principal
Accumulated Interest		\$8,061.02	\$400 one-time post-secondary scholarships
2023 interest		\$1,498.50	(any school)
Balance		\$59,559.52	
Hamar-Haas Endowment Fund	\$46,606.43	\$42,861.01	10% principal and all interest available
			per year for requested spending
Accumulated Interest		\$3,745.42	
2023 interest		\$1,348.21	
Balance		\$47,954.64	
Totals	\$190,035.23	\$185,269.95	\$190,035.23



FOUNDATION ACCOUNTS AND FUNDS 12/31/2023

Foundation Accounts and Funds	Acct. Balance	Fund Balance	Deposits	Checks	Comments
Farmers State Bank Money Market Checking	\$6,496.34				Farmers State Bank Checking
MIF 30000255909 - Demand Account	\$12,094.74				Mission Investment Fund Checking
FSB CD 10034 3.45% Matures 2025-3-3	\$55,732.42				Farmers State Bank CD with \$50,000 principal
FSB CD 9110 2.25% Matures 2024-02-26	\$59,650.75				Farmers State Bank CD with \$52,430 principal
FSB CD 9590 3.06% Matures 2025-03-06	\$56,060.98				Farmers State Bank CD with \$50,000 principal
Memorial Fund		\$5,583.42			Gifts given in memory
Undesignated Memorials			\$2,818.00	-\$3,197.57	
Balance				\$5,203.85	
Heritage fund		\$1,123.90	\$0.00		Maintain historical documents & artifacts
Balance				\$1,123.90	
Worship & Music Fund		\$2,434.20			Banners, music, etc.
Balance			\$0.00	\$0.00	
				\$2,434.20	
Sunday School & Bible School Fund		\$2,333.04			
Balance					
Ruth Brenden Sunday School Fund				\$1,745.83	
Vacation Bible School				\$587.21	
New Generation Ministry Fund		\$4,043.64			Any "new generation" ministry initiatives
Balance			\$50.00	-\$729.80	
				\$3,363.84	
Building Fund		\$4,694.98			
Balance					
Technology Fund		\$579.01	\$1,050.00	-\$300.00	
Undesignated Building		\$3,558.97	\$470.00		
Heritage Room furniture		\$57.00	\$100.00		
Handicap		\$500.00	\$0.00		
Balance				\$6,014.98	

2023 Pastors Report Continued

A great deal happens, often behind the scenes, because members give so generously of their time, talents, and resources. Thank you to our staff Patty Ziegler and Jess Nelson for their great efforts. They may be paid by our congregation, but not nearly enough. I know they put in more time and effort than most of us are aware of. Thank you to our Council, Committee, and Task Force members for their efforts—often above and beyond the call of duty. Thank you to Nathan Ziegler and John Reber for the many, many hours they have spent upgrading our audio, visual, and streaming capabilities—as well as training others to run those systems. Thank you to those Audio/Visual/Streaming volunteers (Jennifer Honer, Heather Reber, Steph Curtis, Jess Nelson, John Reber, and Nathan Ziegler)—for learning this new technology and providing these services each Sunday and for funerals—a huge thumbs up! Thank you to Joyce Peterson, our organist, and Kristi Friederichs (at Little Bethany), and to Linda Haarstad and Kathy Bilden who have filled in for them occasionally. These musicians, that we so often take for granted, put in so much work, so much of themselves, to enhance our worship services—and are so committed—we cannot thank them enough! So please, make the effort to thank them at every opportunity. Thank you to our Contemporary Music Coordinators and those who have volunteered to lead the singing during those services. One of my great weaknesses is that I am not musical. As much as I would like to be, I am not. In this I am at a loss. So, thank you music leaders! Perhaps there are others of you who would like to lead our singing? What a blessing it would be to have song leaders every Sunday whether the services are contemporary or traditional! Thank you to Chris Watterud who comes in with his equipment to clean our parking lot of snow in the winter. Thank you to Tripp Meyer who clears the sidewalks of snow in the winter—and others who have jumped in as needed. Thank you to the Nathan and Kristen Hanson family for being our custodians and doing such a wonderful job! Thank you to Lorin Hansen and Marlowe Rasmusson for all the repairs they do around the church. Thank you to all our service group coordinators and members who provide refreshments for the coffee hour each Sunday and for funerals and other special events. What an incredible blessing the ministry you provide is! Thank you to our Women’s Group leaders who have helped the women ministries through some very transitional times. Thank you to our Sunday School and Vacation Bible School Leaders, Teachers, and Helpers. I know you are all stretched very thin, and are in need of so much more support from our congregation, but you continue to serve some of our most vital needs. Again, thank you. Thank you to all who have led the efforts or volunteered in any way for special events like the Church Dinner each Spring (Steph Olson is coordinating this year’s dinner—please call her and ask her what you can do to help out this year. Your calling her makes it so much easier than her having to seek out so many), the Breakfast during Rodeo Days/Prairie Days, and this past year’s Rally Day Event. Thank you to our various quilting groups who literally sew stitches of love into each quilt. A great big thank you to Julie Brenden and Jennifer Honer for the wonderful Pop-Up Suppers they have been providing this Fall and Winter. If you haven’t been to one yet, you have truly been missing out! A huge thank you to Renae Froslic, our Church Treasurer. Managing church financial resources, especially when they are slow or wanting, is quite stressful. And most small town and rural churches experience such fluctuations on a yearly basis. She does so much that we do not see! A special thank you to Tom and Mary Jensen, Bruce and Kim Brenden. They are kind of the people on the spot, who see something is needed and jump right in to do it. Another special thank you to four young ladies referred to as “The Moen Girls” (Jennifer Honer, Heather Reber, Steph Curtis, and Kristen Heidecker) along with their mother, Doris Moen. They are often our church decorators for Christmas and other functions and events. They do so many things behind the scenes to keep our worship and various events rolling. They have a great knack drafting their husbands and children to help them--making these tasks truly family events. A thank you to my wife, Mary Jo Gaugler for starting the Young Women’s Fellowship Group, and even more for putting up with my crabbiness on Saturdays and my just wanting to take a nap on Sunday afternoons!

I know I’ve missed some of you who have given much. I apologize for that—but thank you for all you do—even when I don’t see or hear of it.

Respectfully submitted,  
Randy Whitehead, Pastor, New Life Lutheran Church

SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2023

January 1<sup>st</sup> 2023-December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023

The New Life Lutheran Sunday School program serves approximately 10-20 children each week during the school year. Classes run from 9:00-9:55 a.m. and follow the Rothsay Public School Calendar from September to May. If there is no school on a Friday or Monday of the school week, there is no Sunday school that week either. At this time classes consist of : Pre-school- 5th grade. When enough teachers are available kids are split into individual classes, otherwise Pre-, K-1st, 2nd/3rd, 4th/ 5th are grouped together. The 6<sup>th</sup> graders have continued to participate in the Youth Group Sunday School.

Stephanie Olson, Patrice Ziegler, Hillary Langfeld, Kellie Barry, and Missy Amundson hold the Sunday school responsibilities this year. We have a few people who volunteer as substitutes for Sunday school classes including Nancy Aaberg, Hannah Anderson, Jodi Rurup, Isabelle Larson. Amy Meyer continues to coordinate music and plays a significant role in planning for the Christmas program.

Besides Sunday School classes, NLLC Sunday School also hosts Vacation Bible School every June. We served about 50-60 students a day and had several volunteers. This year for Vacation Bible School the older children participated in a service project and made 2 raised flower beds for the church. We asked for donations from the congregation for snacks/food this year again which helped keep costs quite low. We also have the children sing in church one Sunday a month. The Sunday school children also participated in other events including Palm Sunday and our annual Christmas program.

We have continued to use Sparkhouse Digital online curriculum and occasionally supplement these with the related leaflets which can be purchased, this is primarily determined by teacher preference. This lectionary curriculum follows the church calendar teaching the same scripture as used in the worship services. It also has simple lesson plans, videos, and activities that are quickly prepped and accessible online.

Respectfully,  
Hillary Langfeld, Education Committee Member

Sunday School 2023 Financial Report							
Total Deposits:		\$802.45	Checking Account Balance on <b>1/1/2023</b> : \$1,871.59				
Total Disbursements:		\$881.29	Checking Account Balance on <b>12/31/2023</b> : \$1,792.75				
Month	Balance	(+)	(-)	Month	Balance	(+)	(-)
January	\$1,871.59			July	\$1,788.37		
		23.4					
SS-Leaflets			500.51	VBS-supplies			209.96
	\$1,394.48				\$1,578.41		
February	\$1,394.48			August	\$1,578.41		
March	\$1,394.48			September	\$1,578.41		
		221				81	
	\$1,615.48				\$1,659.41		
April	\$1,615.48			October	\$1,659.41		
		\$27.21				\$59.09	
Palm Sunday leaves			\$20.00		\$1,718.50		
	\$1,622.69			November	\$1,718.50		
May	\$1,622.69					47	
		\$9.00			\$1,765.50		
	\$1,631.69			December	\$1,765.50		
June	\$1,631.69					27.25	
		\$307.50			\$1,792.75		
VBS-supplies			\$7.86 ** Need to print				
VBS-supplies			\$142.96 ** receipts				
	\$1,788.37						

NLLC FOUNDATION FINANCIAL SUMMARY REPORT 2023

1/1/23 ACCOUNT BALANCES

Farmers State Bank Money Market Checking	\$6,211.61
FSB CD 9108 0.40% Matures 2022-02-26	\$54,318.69
FSB CD 9110 2.25% Matures 2024-02-26	\$58,327.26
FSB CD 9590 3.06% Matures 2026-03-05	\$54,377.84
MIF 30000255909 - Demand Account	\$12,034.55
Balance on Hand 1/1/23	\$185,269.95

INCOME

Memorials & Gifts	\$4,488.00
Interest Earned	\$4,504.65
Total Income	\$8,992.65

EXPENSES

Senior Quilts	-\$304.80
Technology equip purchased	-\$2,912.88
TV, cables and mount	-\$584.69
Rally Sunday band	-\$200.00
Sunday Funday	-\$225.00

Total Expenses	-\$4,227.37
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12/31/23 ACCOUNT BALANCES

Farmers State Bank Money Market Checking	\$6,496.34
FSB CD 10034 3.45% Matures 2025-3-3	\$55,732.42
FSB CD 9110 2.25% Matures 2024-02-26	\$59,650.75
FSB CD 9590 3.06% Matures 2025-03-06	\$56,060.98
MIF 30000255909 - Demand Account	\$12,094.74
Balance on Hand 12/31/23	\$190,035.23

## **2023 STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT**

The Stewardship Committee took time this year to evaluate the state of New Life Lutheran Church as we have seen our attendance decline over the years, and along with that have been unable to meet budgetary requirements month over month. As the savings account depleted, the Stewardship Committee was instrumental in educating the congregation, showing full transparency of the financial state of the Church and how declining attendance has affected our ability to meet the minimum financial obligations.

A letter was sent to all member of the congregation explaining the financial status to help everyone understand the importance of giving, attending, and sharing their talents. The Stewardship Committee created a Steering Committee with additional Council Members to help lead the efforts and to share information as well as to help guide decisions, make changes, and identify the barriers keeping people from attending regularly.

A survey was conducted in September and open to all members. Approximately 40 surveys were completed. The NLLC Council will take this information into consideration as planning begins for 2024.

Collaborative efforts to increase attendance and involvement included bringing back song leaders for contemporary worship, organizing a Christmas Choir, Pop-up Suppers, and having our youth perform the Shadow Theatre.

As we enter 2024, the Stewardship Committee has decided to become more intentional, and ask our members to do the same. We have drafted a “Commitment Letter” for 2024, asking our congregation to re-commit to New Life Lutheran Church. While we ended 2023 better financially than expected, we know our diligence must continue. We want to see our members back in church, involved, and growing in Christ together.

Kevin, Bruce, Gayla, and Stephanie

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## **NLLC Foundation Annual Report 2023**

**Foundation Board:** Eric Nelson—president, Julie Brenden—secretary, Kevin Brenden—treasurer, Nick Aaberg, Nate Ziegler.

**In 2023, the Foundation was able to provide funding for the following:**

### **Technology Fund and Undesignated Memorial Fund:**

Television, cables, and mount for back of sanctuary

Cameras and audio upgrade for streaming church services

### **New Generation Ministry Fund:**

Quilting supplies for high school senior quilts

Rally Sunday music and pulpit supply

Sunday Fun Day bounce house and dunk tank

### ***2023 Hamar Haas Scholarship***

Emma Anderson-Buckingham, Wylie Brenden, and Katie Reber were awarded the Hamar Haas Scholarship. Following proof of 2<sup>nd</sup> semester enrollment, the scholarship money was dispersed in January 2024.

Please consider the NLLC Foundation for your memorials and donations in 2024.

## **COMMUNITY CARE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2023**

(Formerly Evangelism, Family Life, & Social Concerns Committee)

We want to say a big thank you to the congregation for the great support for our committee. We had another busy year, started out by doing birthday bags and care bags. We deliver these birthday bags to Barnesville and Pelican Rapids food shelves. We were able to give out a couple care bags and some prayer shawls to accompany them.

- In March, we served a Lenten supper and raised \$128.00 for supplies on our bags.

- In the end April we hosted coffee time during senior recognition Sunday for the graduating seniors from our congregation.

- In August a couple of us worked at the food shelf one evening.

Our Christmas project was to deliver goodie bags to congregational members who are homebound and those in the nursing home, and those over 80 years old. We were able to deliver 40 plus bags.

We continue to work with Sunday school students to support the education of a girl in Haiti with the noisy offering done every 2nd Sunday of the month. With your amazing generosity and support with this noisy offering, our goal next year is to take on a second child.

Last but not least, I want to give a big thank-you to our hard working committee members; Faith Waldoch, Peggy Zimmerman, Linda Haarstad, Tracy Buchholz, and Mary Jo Gaugler.

Submitted by,  
Joyce Peterson, Chair.

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## **PROPERTY COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2023**

I would like to Thank all the members of the property committee in 2023. Thank You to Renae Froslic and Joyce Peterson for flower bed maintenance, and to Arnie Moen for helping us clean up the flower beds last fall.

February: Step stools were purchased for the bathrooms, so kids have easier access to sinks.

In March and April the property committee was dealing with an Ice dam over the kitchen entryway. This roof area is now being roof raked and kept under observation.

April: A Furnace Filter quote, given to council by Brian Torgerson was approved. Brian is now monitoring them for replacement as necessary.

In November the Water heater for the family bathroom and Heritage Room was leaking and had to be replaced.

Submitted, Marlowe Rasmusson

WELCA ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2023

- We started year out meeting in Feb. and made Scandinavian felt heart baskets, they were given to homebound members and others for Valentines Day.
- During the March meeting we had stations set-up for learning the different steps of quilting.
- In April we helped with the bake sale for the meatball supper and also had a quilt raffle at the supper. We also had a couple of “Love Days”
- May we hosted Lena was excellent program with large crowd. Everyone who came had a good time. The ladies continued to make quilts and gave away as needed. Also, LWR quilts and kits were sent out in the spring and again in the fall.
- Sept. meeting we discussed current attendance and the lack of interest to be involved in WELCA. At this point there had been no extra people coming to regular events and no increased involvement by others then already original small group.
- Oct. we had a discussion of future of WELCA. The officers' terms were up and there was no interested in taking over the officer positions; other than one person willing to be President but no one else volunteered for other positions. With no one to fill officer seats it was decided if a group of women wanted to continue quilting, they were to create own group. A vote was taken to disband WELCA and majority voted to solidify the disbandment of New Life WELCA. There was a vote taken of what should happen with the remaining WELCA account monies, it was decided to give out gifts as we had done last year(2022), and donate the remaining monies to NLLC. All quilts and quilting supplies would go to the group of ladies in the quilting group to be donated as needed. Also voted to order a roll of batting for them finish quilts.
- This year we packed 46 health kits, 34 layette kits, 44 school kits, and 27 big quilts for LWR. There were various quilts given out to other communities and organization making it a total of 63 big quilts and 17 small quilts donated this year.
- Thank you to all the dedicated ladies over the years. Secretary book is filed in the steel cabinet, with rest of church records.

Secretary: Joyce Peterson

WELCA 2023 Financial Report

Beginning Balance		\$730.50	
Deposits		Expenses:	
Quilt Raffles & Sales	\$1,060.00	NLLC Bake Sales	\$500.00
Funerals & Memorials	\$370.00	Quilt & Kit Supplies	\$850.59
Offerings	\$81.50	Postage	\$98.59
Donations	\$221.00	NLLC Shelving	\$300.00
		Jo Bowman (Lena)	\$200.00
Meat Raffle	\$315.00	Kitchen Supplies	\$56.82
Bake Sale	\$638.00	Reimbursements (Gas & labor LWR)	\$150.00
Lenten Supper	\$158.00	Gifts to NLLC Staff	\$250.00
Lena Program	\$329.00	ELCA: WELCA offering	\$240.00
Total Deposits	\$3,172.50	End Year Donations	\$750.00
		Total Expenses	\$3,396.00
Beginning Balance 2023	\$730.50		
Deposits	\$3,172.50		
Expenses	\$ (3,396.00)		
Ending Balance 2023	\$507.00		

YOUTH COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2023

Grace and Peace to you in this new year 2024!

I am so thankful to still hold the position of Youth Director at New Life Lutheran Church. You all have walked alongside me through so many different seasons of life and for that both my family and I are so thankful. Just as my family has changed over these last 12 years so have the ways in which the youth group operates. This year has been a year of changes as well and I look forward to all the things we will do together in 2024.

In 2023 the youth met up to do a variety of different things, throughout the summer we met for bonfires and smores, we helped out in the community doing a cemetery clean up and collecting canned goods for the food shelf, we worshiped together on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings, we grew our faith together in both Sunday school and confirmation, and there was laughter laced throughout it all.

As I have been thoughtfully praying and planning for 2024, I am so excited to continue to partner with both families and the greater congregation in providing even more faith and relationship growing opportunities for the youth of New Life. Things like a trip to Luther Crest Bible Camp in June, a devotional series that includes thoughts from adults and students alike, more students involved in worship, continuing to serve in the church and community as well as having even more fun and laughs together than ever before.

Again, I want to say thank you to the congregation of New Life for their endless support of both our youth and me. I am humbled to be a part of this community and blessed to know each of you.

Yours in Christ,  
Jessica Nelson, Youth Director

2023 NEW LIFE YOUTH FINANCIAL SUMMARY

\$4824.32	Balance on 1/1/23
Income	
\$3,000.00	Camp Luther Crest Allocated Funds
\$792.00	Easter Breakfast
\$150.00	Cemetery Clean-Up
\$306.00	Save the Cook Offering
\$140.00	Super Bowl Subs
\$245.00	Youth Group Events
\$151.00	Lenten Meal Offering
\$4,784.00	Total Income for 2023
Expense	
\$38.70	Save the Cook Dinner
\$593.87	Youth Group
\$48.73	Confirmation
\$194.89	Youth Worship Dinner
\$18.22	Lenten Supper
\$66.70	Easter Breakfast
\$961.11	Total Expense for 2023
\$8647.21	Balance on 1/2/24

Submitted by Jessica Nelson, Youth Director