

St. John's Lutheran Church

Quarterly Meeting

April 24-25, 2021

1. Opening prayer
2. Call Meeting to order
3. Financial report
4. Senior Pastor's Report
 - Technology update
 - Organist Search update
5. Associate Pastor's Report
6. Handicapped Accessibility Team
7. Other reports (Projects completed in 2020; youth)
8. Other items
9. Adjournment with Lord's Prayer

St. John's Lutheran Church

Monthly Financial Statement
Prepared 4/8/2021

March 2021

Monthly/Year to Date Major Funds		
Month of:	March	Year to Date
Income		
Current	\$54,168.70	\$150,301.34
Benevolence	\$5,839.70	\$15,340.22
Building & Maint.	\$13,504.26	\$31,377.92
Total Operating Income	\$73,512.66	\$197,019.48
Expenses		
Current	\$45,762.14	\$138,801.61
Benevolence	\$8,647.39	\$9,925.39
Building & Maint.	\$13,837.44	\$35,870.11
Total Operating Expense	\$68,246.97	\$184,597.11
Fund Differences		
Current	\$8,406.56	\$ 11,499.73
Benevolence	(\$2,807.69)	\$ 5,414.83
Building & Maint.	(\$333.18)	\$ (4,492.19)
Totals	\$5,265.69	\$ 12,422.37

Approved Non-Budgeted Expenditures	
Account	Year to Date
Current	\$0.00
Benevolence (Previous Year/Designated)	\$300.39
Building & Maintenance	\$0.00
Total Income	\$300.39

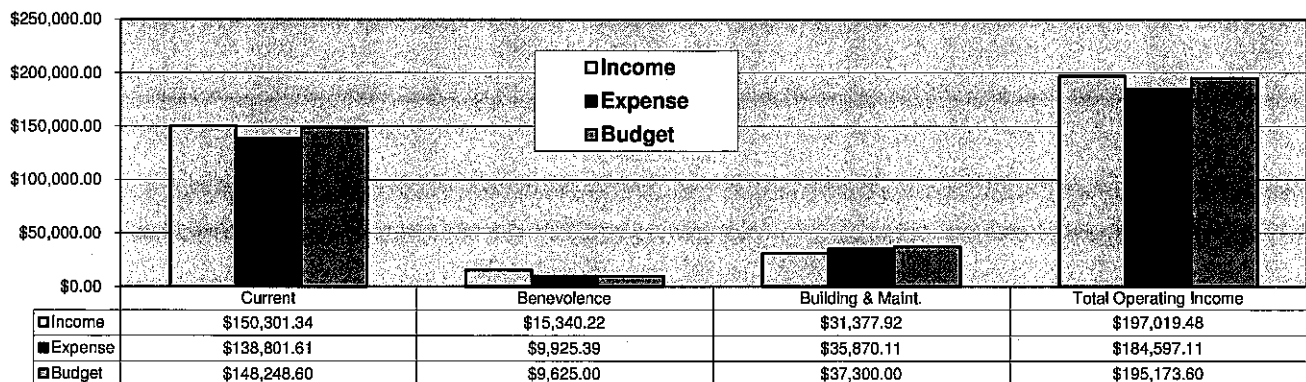
Budget Comparison - Year to Date		
Budget vs. Actual thru March 2021		
Account	Budget	Actual
Current - Budgeted	\$148,248.60	\$138,801.61
Benevolence - Budgeted	\$9,625.00	\$9,925.39
Bldg & Maint - Budgeted	\$37,300.00	\$35,870.11
Totals	\$195,173.60	\$184,597.11

Budgeted expenditures listed above do not include spending approved from the three (3) operating accounts separate from the budget. These expenditures were approved by either the Council or congregation. They include items such as "pass-through" designated benevolence, benevolence funds received at the end of last year but spent this year, and particular maintenance or capital improvement items.

Open Loan (Principle Reduction)		
Month of:	March 2021	Since Inception
Current	\$0.00	

The charts below show total income and expense, rather than budgeted items only.

Fund Balances:	
End of Month Balanced	
Account Name	Amount
OPERATING:	
Operating -- Current + B&M	\$135,539.50
Benevolence	\$23,088.49
Organ & Renovations Debt Reduction Fund	\$1,958.97
DESIGNATED:	
Genesis Fund	\$3,181.88
Youth Designated Fund	\$38,255.27
MOPS Designated Fund	\$3,760.26
Sarah Circle & Elizabeth Circle	\$111.60
Beacons	\$58.00
Bed Brigade Ministry	\$18,564.04
Bereavement Dinner Ministry	\$1,675.83
Designated Funds Interest	\$187.32
MEMORIAL:	
Memorial Fund Unrestricted Savings	\$51,867.83
Memorial Restricted (M/R) Library	\$311.74
M/R Handbell	\$4,571.82
M/R Kitchen	\$5,223.83
M/R Music	\$3,502.47
M/R Youth Camp Memorials	\$849.93
M/R Youth	\$3,639.18
M/R OWLs	\$607.80
M/R Special One-Time Account	\$30,295.44
M/R Van Fund	\$0.00
M/R Puppet Ministry	\$1,350.81
M/R Mission Trip Gen	\$26,600.77
M/R Mission Trip Alaska	\$11,704.36
M/R Mission Trip Mexico	\$13,115.80
M/R Columbarium Fund	\$13,980.00
M/R Bell Tower Carrillon	\$2,000.00
ENDOWMENT-PRINCIPAL:	
Endowment/Gen/Restricted/Principal	\$406,039.25
Endowment/Prop/Restricted/Principal	\$234,404.64
Endowment/Youth/Restricted/Principal	\$32,395.25
Cemetery Endowment Principal	\$45,000.00
Unrealized Appr/(Depr)	\$145,943.77
ENDOWMENT-AVAILABLE INCOME:	
Endowment/Gen/Available Income	\$20,346.95
Endowment/Prop/Available Income	\$7,805.39
Endowment/Youth/Available Income	\$3,505.57
Cemetery Available-HNB Premium MM	\$4,716.96
COLLEGE GRANTS/SUMWALT LOANS:	
College Fund Savings - HNB	\$5,511.15
Sumwalt Savings Account - HNB	\$4,087.97
Loans Payable	
Organ & Renovations Loan	\$0.00



Pastor Seth Jersild
Notes for Quarterly Meeting Report
St. John's Lutheran Church
April 24-25, 2021

- Church attendance at all services is rising. I was inspired and uplifted by St. John's worship and praise on Easter. I'm so thankful to God for the vaccines!
- We are prepared to see attendance fluctuate depending on what people are hearing and reading in the news regarding new waves of Covid-19. We'll continue with our current worship schedule, communion practices and face-covering routines for the time being, staying aware of governmental guidelines and community trends. Church council is setting the policies for distancing guidelines, and possible church closures.
- I want to thank the congregation once again for your beautiful generosity and support for St. John's ministry through these challenging times. Your prayers and encouragement have meant so much to all of the church staff!
- In mid-May, I'll start offering a 9:30 a.m. Sunday school class (between services) in the basement Fellowship Hall for anyone who would like to attend. Discussion will be casual; we'll focus on a particular book of the Bible.
- In late May, I'll start a Sunday-night Bible Study (6:30-8:00 p.m.) in the Family Life Center, on the book of 1st Corinthians.
- A new "Going Deeper" packet on Worship and Praise (based on selected Psalms) will be distributed on the weekend of May 23rd.
- Plans are in the works for some events at church this summer and fall (depending on virus conditions) to help people reconnect with our ministry and fellowship at church after what has been a long period of physical separation for many.
- We're putting together an attractive invitation and mini-brochure for St. John's that we can distribute (by mail and neighborhood walk-through) to new families in Grove City. This will become one of my regular emphases in the coming years. Helpers in this effort will be much appreciated.
- Our youth education programs (Sunday school, confirmation, high school) continue to be conducted almost exclusively online right now, with good participation.
- Our Sunday School adult volunteers are actively monitoring the community virus situation and are in regular communication with each other, regarding the possibility of returning to in-person classes in the fall.
- We are sad that Dr. John Schuder, our organist and choir director, will be leaving us at the end of June. What a gift from God John has been to our congregation! Though we

will miss him dearly, we are very excited for him as he looks forward to life in Maine. Stay tuned for a special farewell event early this summer.

- A search team has been formed and is now actively searching for candidates to fill a Director of Music Ministry position at St. John's. We are working to find temporary organists to fill in the weeks after Dr. John departs at the end of June.
- We have welcomed a wonderful new Administrative Assistant to our church staff: Kathryn Mullins. Kathryn will have regular hours (8:00-4:00) on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Welcome, Kathryn! Jan Miller will continue to serve as our Church Recorder, and will be in the church office regularly on Tuesdays and Fridays. We are so thankful for Jan's loving guidance through this time of transition, and for her continuing service to St. John's!
- A tech team is being formed to assess "big-picture" audio-visual needs and possibilities for St. John's in the future. If you would like to participate in this team, let me know!
- A three-day in-person Vacation Bible School is being planned for early July.
- The Chapel Sunday morning class is again available for adults, in-person, at 9:30 each week. They're meeting in 103-4. We are thankful to Pastor Don for leading the group right now in a discussion of the book of Revelation. Other in-person Sunday morning classes will get started as their teachers become available.
- Hospitals and nursing homes continue to change their visitation policies almost weekly right now, and this often affects our ability to make predictable in-person pastoral calls at these institutions. We're doing everything we can to reach out to our members who are having surgeries and who are hospitalized. We always appreciate it when people notify us that members have been hospitalized or are dealing with health issues.
- My quest to visit all the member households of St. John's was stymied by the quarantine, but is now resuming as a greater number of people are feeling less tentative about having visitors in their homes. This is a long-term goal and I'm confident about completing it.
- Staff and administrative duties are proceeding well.
- As always, I am available for conversation and/or pastoral care, any time (217.255.2118)

Thank you so much, everyone, for your faithfulness to Christ and your support of His Church!

Peace,
Pastor Seth Jersild

Associate Pastor's Quarterly Report
April, 2021

*"Upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hell will not overpower it." Matthew
16:18*

Dear Disciples of Jesus,

There is an interesting conversation in Matthew 16. You find Jesus asking His disciples who people say that He is. It's a simple enough question, straight and to the point. And it's a question that isn't asked frequently. He doesn't ask what people are saying about Him, if He's a nice guy or a great speaker. No, His question is different. "**WHO** do people say that the Son of Man is?" (v13) And then the disciples proceed to answer. And then Jesus asks them the same question. Who do **YOU** say that I am? And Peter, of course speaks for the entire group and Jesus loves his response and calls Peter blessed and builds such a church upon Peter that even the gates of hell itself will not be able to hold back that church. Imagine!

Jesus has unleashed a movement so powerful and so intense that it will be unstoppable. This, my brothers and sisters IS the church. It's not an institution, or a beautiful building, or wonderful, carefully crafted programs. This movement is people. How we have discovered that over this past year, right? Alive and growing, started by Jesus, and as scriptures says, the gates of hell will not be able to contain it.

So, this is the good news. Even hell itself cannot contain the gospel and all its power. Imagine that! Yes, you have had one hell of a year, with a pandemic to deal with and finding new ways to STILL be church and stay connected. And I know, the questions begin, and the worry sets in, and perhaps the good news didn't seem so good for a bit. But then I look at ALL the ways we have reached those who needed us most, and I remember... hell doesn't get to have the final word here. Jesus does.

For the sake of those who will be baptized this past year, Jesus has the final word.

For the great cloud of witnesses who have gone before us these past few months, Karl Moe, Barbara Winkler, Helen Buck, Mable Frazier, John Rawson, Christina Hunt, Richard McKeever and Linda Curnutte, their hope lies in the good news of life eternal life in Jesus.

So, when people ask about St. John's, and yes, even you, will they see that the Word is alive and active and growing, and that nothing can contain it? It's what I see more and more as we continue to grow in Christ. It's what I get excited about as we look ahead to whatever God has in store.

This, my friends IS church, pure and simple. Let Jesus take you there.

Looking forward in faith,

Pastor Patti

Accessibility

DanYeater

Our church facility presents many challenges and barriers for those who have mobility issues. It is difficult to get into the sanctuary because of steps at both entrances and if you want to go up the ramp, you must go outside in the weather; rest room facilities are not readily available if stairs are a problem for a person in the sanctuary; it is difficult to move between the FLC and sanctuary, etc.

A small team, focused on accessibility, has been sanctioned by council to look at the barriers our facility presents for those with mobility issues. The team has been meeting for a couple of months. The team has developed a prioritized list of issues to be considered for improvement. In the next couple of weeks we will be meeting with architects in an effort to choose an expert with experience in accessibility solutions and expertise in historical buildings. The next several months will be spent working with the chosen architect who will develop a feasibility study for our issues. When the feasibility study is complete, we should have some options from which to choose, estimated cost, phases of implementation and sketches of what will be proposed. The intent is to present to the congregation, at the annual meetings, a recommendation strategy for implementation.

Over the course of the next 9 months I am sure that expectations and solutions will be ever evolving. We will do our best to update the congregation at the quarterly congregational meetings.

Questions please contact Dan Yeater (614.309.7070 or DLYEATER53@aol.com)

**YOUTH STAFF QUARTERLY REPORT
APRIL 2021**

Our summer brochure was given to families in their requested materials for April/May. The brochure was distributed through mail, email, and can be picked up at the entrances of the church. Deadline to reserve at-home requested summer materials and to sign up for in-person summer faith adventures is May 3, 2021. Need more information? Contact Laurie at lpecuch@stjohnsgc.org.

One hundred and six different individuals (fifty-eight families) received requested youth ministry materials this past school year. Materials included Family Faith Boxes, Sunday School materials *and* virtual meeting materials for all of the following: Adventure Club, Faith Trek, Explorers, Energizers, Confirmation, and high school Sunday School & bible study. We are ever-thankful to parents and grandparents for all the faith nurturing they have been doing at home with their children and grandchildren during the pandemic. We also appreciate the help of the following adults who helped us package the materials this past year: Debbie Abbitt, Don Allman, Glenda Allman, Christina Allman, Tim Allman, Karen Grossman, Barb Hill, Susan Koehler and Sue Sutton. Thank you to Barb and Debbie also for making home deliveries! And a special thanks to the adults who met with us and students weekly this past year on Zoom and GoToMeetings: Debbie Abbitt, Jill Althoff, Christina Allman, Pam Castle, Susan Koehler, Paul Morris, Cheri Turner, Gini and Brandon Rogers, Rita Straub, Rosemary Turnbull, Nate Wanner, and Cory and Donna Westerfeld. Christina also did a beautiful job each week leading the lesson with the children at Adventure Club. *Thank you everyone!*

We are moving forward with plans with DWA Recreation/GameTime to put in swings to the left of the smaller playground. Special thanks to Jennifer Uhrin, Nate Wanner, Butch Myers, and Mike Esposito for your assistance on this project. We anticipate the project to cost around \$17,000. The youth designated budget currently has \$12,600 specifically earmarked for the playground. Plus, a generous memorial of \$4,000 will make this project possible. By mid-summer, we hope to have two bays of swings -- one bay will have two swings for youth; the other bay will have two swings for toddlers. We are also putting a new park bench next to the swing set.

Because He lives,

Laurie and Gary Pecuch
Diana Imbrock

**Business Manager Report
April 2021**

- The new ceiling lights for the 2nd of the Education Building are all in place and donations to pay for them are over half way.
- Donations are coming in for the purchase of new chairs for the Family Life Center. I am looking at the same style chair with the exception that the seat is in plywood, not compressed board. You cannot get the compressed board wet when trying to clean the current chairs. They fall apart. The seat cover will be vinyl rather than cloth. But none of this is to be settled on until the Contemporary Service leaders and our members see the options and pick what they want. The current chairs have been used since the FLC was completed. 25-26 years.
- The process of getting quotes for gutter guard for the FLC gutters has been started. This includes the Link and the gutters on both sides of the FLC classrooms. We are considering putting heat strips above or in the gutters during the winter to keep the gutters from freezing over.
- I am working with Wayne Beavers regarding what can be done to make the church balcony railing safer.
- I have been in contact with the Landscaping Committee regarding any information they need prior to proceeding with their plans.
- Finally, the shelter-house has been opened up for use for Spring, Summer and Fall. As we are still limiting access to the building by groups who use the shelter house a portable restroom has been rented as last year, to be used by groups using the shelter house.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Thank You,

Michael Esposito