

**St. John's Lutheran Church
Quarterly Congregational Meeting**

April 27th, 2024

Following the 4:00pm Traditional Service

1. Opening Prayer
2. Call Meeting to Order
3. Approve Annual Meeting 2024 Minutes
4. Financial Report
5. Senior Pastors Report
6. Associate Pastors Report
7. Intern Report
8. Adjournment of Meeting

St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church
Annual Meeting-Family Life Center
January 28, 2024

Members were provided with copies of the Annual Congregational Report for the Year 2023 which included: the Meeting Agenda, Minutes of the Quarterly Meeting on October 22, 2023, Monthly Financial Statement for December 2023, Proposed 2024 Budget Summary, Senior Pastor's report, Associate Pastor's report, Youth Staff Annual report, Lay Ministry Director report, Business Manager's report, Altar Guild Annual report, Bereavement Annual report, Membership Statistical Report, and the Sunday School Annual report.

President Aaron Clark began with prayer and called the meeting to order at 12:18 P.M.

Approval of Quarterly Meeting Minutes from October 22, 2023-Paul Wittenberg made a motion to approve the minutes for this meeting. Karen Grossman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Financial Report-Treasurer Kathy Myers submitted a written report for December 2023. She reported that our financial situation at St. John's was truly blessed in 2023! Thanks be to God! There were no questions about the Financial report. Pam Wittenberg made a motion to approve the Financial report. Nate Wanner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

2024 Proposed Budget-Treasurer Kathy Myers then presented the Proposed 2024 Budget Summary. Staff will receive 3% increases in salary next year. She noted that the 2023 budget included \$50,000 to pay on an anticipated bank loan for the Accessibility Project addition. That will not be needed in 2024 and was removed from the budget. Phil Pennington made a motion to approve the Proposed 2024 Budget Summary as presented. Wilma Phillips seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Senior Pastor's Report-Pastor Seth Jersild asked members to read his written report in the meeting packet. He reported that 2023 was a year of changes and transitions. He thanked the congregation for their flexibility throughout the year and Dan Yeater for his devotion to seeing this project through from start to finish. On March 3, we will have a combined worship service at 11:00. We will then move to the new addition for a dedication. Following the dedication, we will move to the Family Life Center for a meal to celebrate the completion of this project and in thanksgiving for the 175 years that St. John's has ministered here in the Grove City community.

Pastor Seth acknowledged Elaine Bennett's retirement from the Lay Director of Ministry position, Mike Esposito's retirement from the Business Manager's position, and informed the congregation that Jan Miller, Recorder will be retiring in May. He thanked all three of them for their many years of faithful service.

The Youth Minister Search Team is actively interviewing candidates for a full time position. Laurie Pecuch and Diana Imbrock continue to serve our youth and have decreased the number of hours they are working each week.

As mentioned above, St. John's will be celebrating our 175th Anniversary in 2024. A team is working on planning a variety of events to commemorate this milestone. "As we remember the

past with thanksgiving, we will also be looking with confidence to what God will do with us and through us in the future.”

Accessibility Project Update-Dan Yeater thanked members for their patience and generosity during this project. He gave an update on the final steps to be completed in the next couple of weeks. The doors into the sanctuary were damaged by water when the plaster was damaged. New replacement doors have been ordered and will be installed soon. The stained glass window that was uncovered in the Altar Guild room was blocked by a major structural support post. There was no way to feasibly and economically move that post. So sadly, that window had to be covered up again. We will receive a temporary occupancy permit when construction is finished. The final occupancy permit will be issued when the weather warms up and the landscaping around the area is completed.

Associate Pastor’s Report-Pastor Patti Morlock asked members to read her written report in the meeting packet. Our intern, Dale Stanley and his family arrived in Grove City yesterday and are settling into their rental home. Thanks to Sherry Nighbert for designing crosses, then mounting and framing them for each member of the family. They were very touched by these unique pieces of art. Next Sunday, during the Sunday School hour, we will have a reception to meet Dale and his family. Please come and introduce yourself to them.

All Other Reports in the Annual Congregational Report Packet-President Aaron Clark asked members to take the time to read over each report.

Election of Council Officers, Nominating Team Members, and NALC Delegates-President Aaron Clark reported that members of Council whose terms were expiring had all agreed to serve another term. There were a couple corrections to the ballot. Steve Johnston’s name should be on the list for the Nominating Team. Lisa Stallard’s name should appear after David Stallard’s name as a Delegate. President Aaron asked if there were any nominations from the floor for any of the positions listed on the ballot. Hearing none, he presented the slate of Council members, Nominating Team members, and NALC Delegates. Beth Katterhenrich made a motion to approve the slate of candidates. Shirley Blake seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote. Beth made a motion to elect these members by unanimous consent. The voice vote with unanimous.

Church Council:

President: Aaron Clark

Treasurer: Kathy Myers

Council At Large: Paul Wittenberg, David Clark, Gary Smith

Nominating Team: Holly Starr, Joanne Keller, Amy Wanner, Mistie Clark, Steve Johnston

NALC Delegates: Brady & Heather Stewart, Mel & Carol Penrod, Dave & Lisa Stallard

Dave Dye made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Pam Wittenberg seconded the motion. The meeting ended at 12:37 P.M. following members praying the Lord’s Prayer together.

Karen Bentley, Secretary

St. John's Lutheran Church

Monthly Financial Statement
Prepared 4/19/2024

March 2024

| Monthly/Year to Date Major Funds | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Month of: | March | Year to Date |
| Income | | |
| Operating - Current+B&M | \$72,665.34 | \$177,821.97 |
| Benevolence | \$5,266.11 | \$18,781.61 |
| Total Operating Income | \$77,931.45 | \$196,603.58 |
| Expenses | | |
| Operating - Current+B&M | \$58,439.86 | \$164,144.83 |
| Benevolence | \$1,523.38 | \$9,423.38 |
| Total Operating Expense | \$59,963.24 | \$173,568.21 |
| Fund Differences | | |
| Operating - Current+B&M | \$14,225.48 | \$ 13,677.14 |
| Benevolence | \$3,742.73 | \$ 9,358.23 |
| Totals | \$17,968.21 | \$ 23,035.37 |

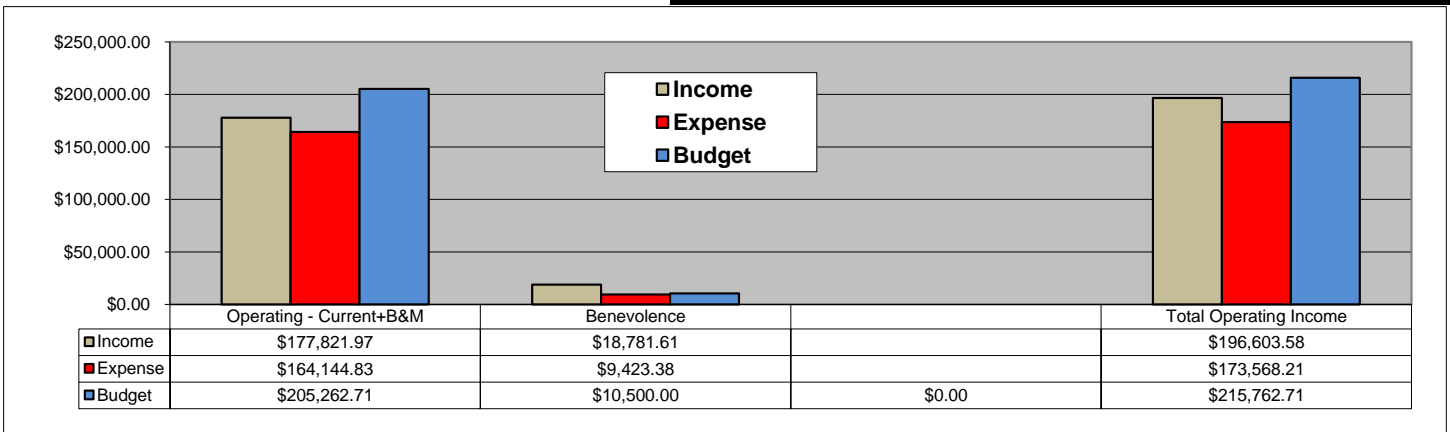
| Approved Non-Budgeted Expenditures | |
|--|--------------------|
| Account | Year to Date |
| Current | \$0.00 |
| Benevolence (Previous Year/Designated) | -\$1,076.62 |
| Building & Maintenance | \$0.00 |
| Total Income | -\$1,076.62 |

| Budget Comparison - Year to Date | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Budget vs. Actual thru | March 2024 | |
| Account | Budget | Actual |
| Current - Budgeted | \$205,262.71 | \$164,144.83 |
| Benevolence - Budgeted | \$10,500.00 | \$9,423.38 |
| Bldg & Maint - Budgeted | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| Totals | \$215,762.71 | \$173,568.21 |

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.

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 | \$301,462.60 |
| Benevolence | \$50,641.85 |
| DESIGNATED: | |
| Genesis Fund | \$3,181.88 |
| Youth Designated Fund | \$44,437.02 |
| Sarah Circle & Elizabeth Circle | \$906.20 |
| Beacons | \$503.61 |
| Bereavement Dinner Ministry | \$4,119.11 |
| Designated Funds Interest | \$212.06 |
| MEMORIAL: | |
| Memorial Fund Unrestricted Savings | \$64,656.04 |
| Memorial Restricted (M/R) Library | \$315.24 |
| M/R Handbell | \$5,846.82 |
| M/R Kitchen | \$6,286.51 |
| M/R Music | \$28,997.48 |
| M/R Youth Camp Memorials | \$849.93 |
| M/R Youth | \$11,124.34 |
| M/R OWLs | \$1,196.97 |
| M/R Special One-Time Account | \$32,414.36 |
| M/R Accessibility Project | \$184,585.74 |
| M/R Puppet Ministry | \$1,350.81 |
| M/R Mission Trip Gen | \$26,275.93 |
| M/R Mission Trip Alaska | \$14,371.06 |
| M/R Mission Trip Mexico | \$28,775.22 |
| M/R Columbarium Fund | \$18,390.00 |
| M/R Organ and Renovations | \$50.89 |
| M/R Bell Tower Carillon | \$2,000.00 |
| ENDOWMENT-PRINCIPAL: | |
| Endowment/Gen/Restricted/Principal | \$501,897.56 |
| Endowment/Prop/Restricted/Principal | \$234,404.64 |
| Endowment/Youth/Restricted/Principal | \$32,395.25 |
| Cemetery Endowment Principal | \$46,000.00 |
| Unrealized Appr/(Depr) | \$67,346.25 |
| ENDOWMENT-AVAILABLE INCOME: | |
| Endowment/Gen/Available Income | \$3.37 |
| Endowment/Prop/Available Income | \$1.27 |
| Endowment/Youth/Available Income | \$9,084.63 |
| Cemetery Available-HNB Premium MM | \$2,328.03 |
| COLLEGE GRANTS/SUMWALT LOANS: | |
| College Fund Savings - HNB | \$5,766.25 |
| Sumwalt Savings Account - HNB | \$0.00 |



Pastor Seth Jersild
Notes for Quarterly Meeting Report
St. John's Lutheran Church
April 2024

- Thanks to Mark Meuser and Caroline Hartig for bringing together an amazing group of Ohio State University musicians for a beautiful concert to celebrate St. John's 175th Anniversary on April 7th! The community response was great. And thanks to Wilma Phillips and Megan Grossman for setting up the very nice reception.
- A membership class was well-attended on April 14th. We received a wonderful group of new members into St. John's on April 21. Please keep them in your prayers as they continue their walk of faith with us at St. John's.
- The 175th Anniversary Team has put together a list of special events to mark this milestone 2024 year, including:
 - Musical Concerts
 - Special Worship Services (e.g. Mother's Day)
 - Guest Preachers (including some former pastors of St. John's)
 - Temple talks by St. John's members
 - Video presentations from longtime members of St. John's
 - Honoring the Saints of St. John's who have entered into eternal life
 - Historical pictorial presentation in the new North entrance
 - Re-dedication service and Celebration Lunch on Reformation Sunday, October 27th
- Six of our young people are completing their confirmation instruction this month. They will be participating in the annual Faith Celebration and affirming their Baptisms at the Rite of Confirmation on May 19th.
- Please pray for our Youth Minister Search Team as they search for potential candidates to fill a vitally important leadership position in our congregation.
- Council is working on a new safety/security policy for the congregation.
- Dedication Sunday for the new North Entrance on March 3rd was a joyful, inspiring and well-attended event.
- Promise Keepers, our regular men's Bible discussion group, is meeting every Thursday at 8:00 a.m. Currently we're working through the Gospel of Mark.
- Pastor Patti and I appreciate being notified when church members have been hospitalized or are dealing with health issues.
- Staff and administrative duties are going 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

Quarterly Report – April 2024
Pastor Patti Morlock

So many wonderful things are happening here at St. John's, and we are being abundantly blessed. As I have been working with our intern, Dale Stanley, I am keenly aware that he will soon step into the role of leader in whatever congregation is fortunate enough to call him as their pastor. Some of the things we are working on, besides a lot of the practicality of pastoring, is what it means to be a leader.

I thought these points, taken from my notes on a presentation Bishop Emeritus John Bradosky gave at a convocation years ago would be a good reminder that we are all a part of the process of leadership, whether in an outright position or in a support role.

Your warm welcome and encouragement for Dale is a joy to watch as he tests his skills among us.

Characteristics of Leadership (As found in Joshua 14)

- Be disciple by someone –
Joshua was disciple by Moses, and in turn disciple others down the line
- More leaders are required than just one
Joshua empowered the people in each of the 12 tribes to have leaders and for the leaders to have leaders under them
- Remember the past while discerning the future
In particular, look to the Gospel and those who have sacrificed their lives for it in order that we might receive. Look to your church legacy and those who have gone before you in order that you may bear the fruit of their labors. What will your legacy to the next generations be?
- Leaders cannot lead alone
There must be complete and utter reliance on the Lord, trusting in God's providence, and most importantly, trusting in God's Holy Spirit. It requires a willingness to enter into seasons of prayer and fasting, especially when God seems silent, or when a decision cannot be agreed upon.
- Remember that there are battles still to be fought
Battles come from within and from without – stay "armored up" with God's Word, with prayer, and through worship and the reception of Holy Communion. Failure to be obedient to God's Word is deadly. It is a lack of love within the body that creates chaos and destroys.
- Know the Mission
Our mission as the NALC is and always will be the Great Commission "Go. Baptize. Make Disciples." Needs to be the same in the congregations, above all else. Let your identity be know to the world.

- See yourself as the Lord sees you
- Connected in Christ, living in Christ, sharing the Gospel.

- May all your decisions be a gift for the common good
As congregations, Mission Districts, The NALC, who we are, what we decide, is a gift, from one to the other, and out into the World.

In other news, our Mission Region Convocation will take place here on May 3 and 4. There will be wonderful workshops and opportunities for learning from Pastors around the NALC. Our Keynote, Pastor Brad Hales is a dynamo of a speaker who will work with us on how to use the gifts given to us by the Holy Spirit to make Jesus known and to become powerful witnesses for the sake of the kingdom.

I have been commissioned to make a quilt for the new link area in honor of our 175th anniversary and have incorporated the Luther Seal as the central design in the quilt. I anticipate it being complete and hung in time for our Reformation Sunday Celebration.

This year, instead of a women's retreat, we will be having a Mother/Daughter/Ladies tea with the theme of "Fill my cup Lord". Our guest speakers will be Cindy Dye and Karen Jersild. Save the date now of Saturday, September 7th to dress in your finest, and enjoy a time of faith, friendship and fellowship with your sisters in Christ.

Quarterly Report – April 2024

Getting to Know the Congregation:

One of the first things a new member of a congregation does is simply to get to know the people and the parish. I am grateful that this aspect of my internship (and being a part of St. John's) has been easy. So many people have expressed generosity in introducing themselves and talking about Grove City. Many people have joyfully talked with me about St. John's. I have had the pleasure of eating with the OWLs twice. I have also been able to observe the fantastic programs for the youngest members of St. John's.

I am grateful to be able to attend Church Council meetings. I have learned about the practical aspects of overseeing the health and growth of a congregation. Additionally, I have been able to have important conversations with Pastor Patti and Pastor Seth. Hearing about how they approach ministering to the people of St. John's and Grove City has been an education in itself. I have also been introduced to the various ministries at St. John's through conversations with staff members and volunteers. These talks have been wonderful in getting to know the often-overlooked side of serving a congregation.

I have also had the opportunity to talk with other pastors in our Mission District, both active and retired (sometimes both!). Hearing about the past and present work of St. John's, and other Lutheran churches, has expanded my knowledge and understanding of the Columbus area and the Lutheran Church in this part of the country.

Participating in the Life of the Congregation

One of the best ways to get to know a congregation is to see how they worship the Lord. I have had the opportunity to worship alongside the members of St. John's in each of the four services—and will continue to do so throughout the year. The opportunities for worship that St. John's offers to members ensures that as many people as possible can gather to hear, praise, and receive God in Word and sacrament. The multiple opportunities also allow each member to experience a variety of ways in which God is praised. This experience is instructive for a future pastor.

Worshipping alongside everyone during Wednesdays in Lent, the Three Holy Days, and Easter have been eye-opening and delightful! I have also had the privilege of attending several funerals at St. John's. Being with people who mourn the loss of loved ones is heart-breaking. Sharing these times of both loss and celebration with St. John's has been an honor.

In addition to worshipping with you on Sundays (and some Saturdays), I have been able to study the Bible with the Sunday School class in the downstairs fellowship

hall. Reading and discussing God's Word has been a delight and yielded many valuable insights—into both Scripture and this wonderful group.

Ministry with (and to) the Congregation

Not only have I had the opportunity to live with the people of St. John's, I have also had the privilege of serving you as well. Since beginning my internship in February, I have been able to accompany Pastor Patti on visits to members—in their homes and in hospitals. I have also had the opportunity to visit some of you by myself. Getting to know you has been a blessing.

Not only have I had opportunities to minister to the people of St. John's, but they have ministered to me, as well. This congregation has shown my family and me a lot of grace in providing for us and friendship in hospitality. The Internship Committee with which I meet each month has provided me with wonderful insights into ministry in general and ministry at St. John's.

Grief Share began in early April. I am honored to be a part of this group. Joanne Keller, Wilma Phillips, and I are facilitating this grief support group. We have only begun this group, but it is already something I look forward to each week.

Experiencing Different Congregations and Pastors

My internship year includes experiencing and learning ministry in other congregations, as well. I have spent two weeks in Westerville with Pastor David Wendel and the wonderful folks at Grace Lutheran there. It was a joy—and very interesting—to see how ministry is adapted to a different congregation. I am scheduled to visit four other congregations in the coming months – to preach and to worship with these sister congregations throughout this area.

Overall, I have been blessed to be at St. John's for my internship year. It is clear that this congregation is serious about serving others, raising up young Christians, and loving Christ. I look forward to the next months of ministry, fellowship, and worship with you all.

In Christ,
Dale Stanley
Pastoral Intern (Vicar)