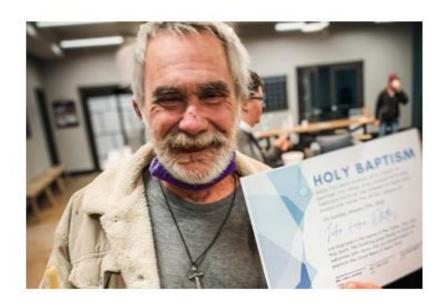
ANNUAL REPORT













A MESSAGE FROM ELCA PRESIDING BISHOP

Elizabeth Eaton

Dear friends in Christ,

The last year has been one of adapting and learning. In many places we have seen vibrant and vital ministry spring forth from changes made due to the pandemic. Digital worship opportunities have introduced to our congregations people who may never have walked into one of our buildings. Many congregations have found new ways to invite people to share their generosity through online giving. And many ministries have found just how vital they are as they continue to serve alongside people in their communities.

The first chapter of James, verse 17, reminds us that "Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change." Yes, this has been a season of change, but Scripture also reminds us that we serve a generous, steadfast God.

While we stay rooted in God's enduring, unchanging promise, God also gives us the gifts of creativity and learning. Across all three expressions of the church we have used those gifts to serve God, love our neighbor and share the good news of Jesus Christ. In this time of change, we have opened our arms wider to meet people where they are, living into the reality that we are not defined or confined by the four walls of our buildings.

Through all this, I am so grateful for your generous sharing of creativity, time, talents and resources. All good gifts do come from God, and we are called to share and use those gifts. We have and will continue to answer that call. There is still much change and learning to come, but God's steadfast love energizes us for the work God is still doing in the world through this church.

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton

Presiding Bishop

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Elyaluon la Eater

"Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change."

REPORTS FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING

OSSEO EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH for the Year 2021

Presented at the Annual Congregational Meeting – January 30, 2022

- 1. Call to Order
 - a. Declaration of quorum (30)
 - b. Secretary in place
- 2. Opening Devotions
- 3. Approval of January 24, 2021, Annual meeting Minutes* (pages 5-6)
- 4. Report of Pastor(s)
 - a. Pastor Terry Lorenz (page 9)

*Motion Required

- b. Pastor David Hoadley (page 10)
- 5. Presentation of Reports
 - a. Motion to receive reports as printed* (pages 11-18)
- 6. Report of the Parish Administrator (Financial)* (pages 20-31)
 - a. Report of Auditors (page 19)
- 7. Old Business
- 8. New Business
 - a. Delegates to the Synod Assembly, ZOOM OR at Trinity Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI, April 30, 2022* (need 3)
 - i. Delegates slated:
 - ii. Nominations from the floor
 - b. Presentation and Election of members:
 - I. Church Council* (need 3)
 - i. Council Slate (three-year terms): Donna Fonner, Deb Gregory, and _____

Returning Members: Dennis Barka, Tony Bohlinger, Sheila Nelson, Emily Wilkinson, Jill Welke, Ryan Olson, Don Erickson, Shannon Hasz

- ii. Youth Council Representative (1 year term): ______
- iii. Nominations from the floor
- II. Nominating Committee for January 2022 meeting* (need 5)
 - i. Nominating Committee slate (1 year term): Dennis Barka, Sheila Nelson, Emily Wilkinson, Tony Bohlinger (Council Members)
 - ii. Nominations from the floor (need 1 non-council member)
- III. Endowment Fund Committee* (need 2)
 - i. Endowment Fund Slate (three-year term): Sharon Steinke & Maria Paulus

Returning Members: Deb Gregory, Dan Halverson & Allyson Barka ii. Nominations from the floor

- 9. Presentation of the Proposed 2022 Budget* (pages 26-28)
- 10. Motion for Adjournment & Lord's Prayer





Member congregation of The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America located in the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin

Congregational Statistics for 2021

Baptisms 8

Confirmations 13

Weddings 5

Funerals 24 (*12 members)

Confirmed Members 660

Baptized Members 906

Average worship attendance per Sunday 64

		1		
	2018	2019	2020	2021
Year Total	11,988	10,322	3,716	5,801
Average of all	115	104	60	64
Avg. 8:15	143	123	117	110
Avg. 10:45	66	66	55	27
Avg. 9:00	137	132	42	76
Avg. Lent	128	103	*2@123	123
Avg. Advent	55	54	0	42
Ash Wednesday	192	184	170	67
Maundy Thursday	104	85	0	46
Good Friday	129	144	0	42
Easter Total	425	390	0	240
Thanksgiving	77	-	-	-
Christmas Eve	571	472	135	239
Christmas Day	60	65	15	53
Rally Sunday	247	258	55	168
			*Covid	*Covid

Live Stream Statistics

We live stream our worship services with Boxcast. Before we used this service, livestreaming was very cumbersome. Based on research, this service is the easiest on the market. Before Boxcast, we used YouTube, but then had to use our own encoder, laptop, online software program, and figure out how to make that all work together. Again, with Boxcast, all we need to do is schedule a broadcast (anytime, anywhere), plug it in, turn on the camera and let it do its thing.

Boxcast also has very easy to understand analytics. YouTube & Facebook try to show way too many statistics, while Boxcast is very streamlined, as you will see below.

With Boxcast, we can decide where it will broadcast: YouTube, OELC website, Facebook, Roku TV, and a Boxcast channel. The following are our livestreaming destinations & where viewing happens the most:

Facebook - 37.6% OELC.org - 11.2% YouTube - 9.2%

Boxcast 2021

Total 2021 Views: 2,485

Broadcasts: 53 55% watch live

45% watch recording

Viewers come from 3 countries: U.S., Canada (Alberta-46; Ontario-1) & Australia (Victoria-1)

& 28 states: WI-1,783; IL-294; MN-115; FL-55; CA-27; TX & AZ-26 just to show a few...

Easter 2021 had the most views at 118

Facebook 2021

64 video followers 52.5% watch live 47.5% watch recording

YouTube 2021

134 Subscribers with 36 subscribing in 2021 6,100 views by ages 65+ year old



to stream

Thank you to the Endowment Committee for helping fund Boxcast©

OELC Annual Congregational Meeting Sunday, 01-24-2021

Call to Order:

The Annual Meeting of the Osseo Evangelical Lutheran Church was called to order by President Eric Rogness at 10:00 a.m. on January 24, 2021. A quorum was met. Secretary Emily Wilkinson was in place. Opening devotions were led by Pastor Terry Lorenz.

Secretary's Report:

- Minutes from January 26, 2020, Annual Meeting were presented and reviewed
- Motion to approve was made by Patty Hoffman; Seconded by Maggie Luallen
- · All in favor. Motion carried.

New Business:

Presentation & Election of Council Members

Thanks to outgoing Council Members: Frans Carlstrom, Dennis Lindell, Maggie Luallen, Eric Rogness

2021 Nominees: Don Erickson, Shannon Hasz, Ryan Olson, Jill Welke

- Youth Council Rep: Amara Wilkinson
- Vote to approve all nominees.
 - *All in favor. Motion carried.
- 2021 Council:

Dennis Barka (year 2)

Tony Bohlinger (year 2)

Don Erickson (year 1)

Shannon Hasz (year 1)

Linda Heiman (year 3)

Patty Hoffman (year 3)

Brent McCune (year 3)

Sheila Nelson (year 2)

Ryan Olson (year 1)

Amara Wilkinson - Youth Rep (year 1)

Emily Wilkinson (year 2)

Jill Welke (year 1)

Nominating Committee for 2021: 2 more members needed-

Shannon Hasz and Vern Larson

Other members: Brent McCune, Linda Heiman, Patty Hoffman *All in favor. Motion carried.

• Endowment Committee: 2 members needed -

Dan Halverson and Allyson Barka

Returning members: Deb Gregory, Jody Groell, Stuart Dodge

*All in favor. Motion carried.

Presentation of Proposed 2021 Budget (pages 36-39):

- Presented by Dennis Lindell
 - Discussion regarding meeting the budget, expenses have been down due to Covid-19 pandemic, Payment Protection Program Loan was received to help with payroll and utilities, budget is based on faith.
 - Motion to approve was made by Dale Amundson and seconded by Sheila Nelson. Motion carried.

Reports of Pastor and Staff:

- Pastor Terry has courage and faith in maintenance projects completed
- We invested in the future of the church with the Call Committee continuing the call process
- Thank you to church council members whose terms are up: Frans, Denny L., Maggie, Eric, Rose

Presentation of Reports (pages 16-27):

 Motion was made by Kathy Sieg and seconded by Mary Jo Halverson. Motion carried.

Report of Parish Administrator:

- Molly was thankful the church received the PPP loan.
- Selling the second parsonage will help the church go into the new year in a better position.
- Changed software
- Condensed checkbooks
- Financials and Report of Auditors (pages 28-35)

*Motion was made by Dan Newman and seconded by Linda Heiman to approve the parish administrator (financial) report. Motion carried.

Continuation of New Business:

- Delegates to Synod Assembly
 - Jamie Lindell, Shannon Hasz, Cindy Hong
 - *All in favor. Motion carried.

Sale of 2nd Parsonage:

The property committee acknowledges the Hong Family (Cindy, Lisa, Angie) for all their hard work with painting, carpeting, staging, and cleaning. An offer to purchase was received within 1 day!

Cindy Hong was the realtor and donated her commission back for additional repairs to the property. The church presented her and the family with \$2,500 for all their work.

A motion was made by Rose Bohlinger to adjourn without any objection at 10:46 a.m.

Annual Report and Thank You! From Bishop Laurie Skow-Anderson January 2022



Thank you, for joining us in the work of sharing the gospel! Randy Olson, Laura Ramlow, Laurie Skow-Anderson, Greg Kaufmann, Liz Bartsch, Erin Nelson

Dear Pastors, Deacons, SAMs, and Lay Leaders of the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin,

Are you ready for your annual congregational meeting? As a parish pastor I did everything I could to make our annual meeting a **celebration of ministry**. It was a time to thank everyone for their part of the good work we were doing together in Jesus' name. We had door prizes, church appropriate joke contests, and one year we had a fashion show featuring clothes from our church's thrift store. I created a PowerPoint with photos highlighting every

aspect of our congregation's ministry and a narrative budget that explained how we supported all these ministries financially. We had party themed meals, decorations, childcare and music. We laughed and had fun. There was even time for a business meeting to approve the budget, elect officers and talk about the new ministries we hoped to do in the future. I hope you can celebrate at least a little at your annual meetings. This year, more than ever, we need to find some way to celebrate that:

- 1. We are still here! COVID didn't win. A pandemic and social unrest didn't stop us from proclaiming the God's good news of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.
- 2. **The church never closed**, it found new ways to connect with the community and share the transforming love of Jesus.
- 3. **We learned** how to live with this virus, looking for new ways move forward in God's mission.
- 4. We are all listening, praying and planning to take **our next most faithful step** as disciples following in the way of Jesus.
- 5. We've become clearer about **our purpose as a church**. We exist so that the next generation will come to know and love Jesus and all generations will experience God's grace and forgiveness.

I am grateful for your prayerful and financial support of the work that we do together as a public church.

This is all amazing and worthy of a party. So throw a party during your annual meeting this year!

However, you and I both know that everything is not totally amazing and awesome. Yes, we can certainly give thanks and

celebrate. We can celebrate surviving, but we can't ignore the suffering, loss and the grief of the past two years. So we can celebrate this year at our annual meeting knowing that lament precedes joy. This joy is grounded on God's presence that was with us in our suffering and pain. Luther said "God can be found only in suffering and the cross," and that we can never be sure of God's presence unless we are looking at suffering. It is in the suffering that God is bringing hope and redemption. This is the basis of the Theology of the Cross and is what gives birth to a Theology of Joy. It is from this place of deep joy, joy that remembers suffering, that we consider our next most faithful step. What is your next most faithful step as a congregation?

¹ Martin Luther Helps Us See Divine Love in Pandemi... | Christianity Today

¹ Dr. Anna Madsen, presentation to Region 5 bishops and staff, November 2021.

April 30, 2022 Synod AssemblyOUR NEXT MOST FAITHFUL STEP:

Taking it to the Streets-Being a Public Church Proverbs 1:20 Wisdom cries out in the street; in the public places Wisdom raises her voice.

That is the question we are asking at our annual synod learning events **Walking Together and EPIC** (Church Council Training) both on March 26 in person at UW EC Davies Center, and our **Synod Assembly** April at Trinity in Eau Claire.

Dear Partners in the Gospel, the theologian Douglas John Hall writes that "the good news is good because it challenges and displaces bad news ... It is good news because it engages, takes on and does battle with the bad news, offering another alternative, another vision of what could be, another way into the future."

The church is called is to proclaim good news that challenges bad news. We are called to join God in this work in the public arena. There is a gap between what is currently happening in our community and God's will for all people to flourish and experience abundant life. The bad news is that gap. We see the gap as hunger, poverty, homelessness, sickness, violence, greed, and injustice. The church is called to do God's work with our hands and feet and voice to bridge the gap between what is and what God intends. We gather in worship and are sent out into the streets to serve the Lord as we affirmed in baptism to proclaim Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following in the ways of Jesus, working for justice and peace in all the earth.¹

We are called out of our church buildings and into the streets, into the public arena to be public witnesses to the way of Jesus, the life that God intended for all people. We are pulled out of of our church buildings and into the streets to be church for the sake of the world.

This year's Bright Spots awards at the synod assembly will lift up congregations and organizations within this synod that are taking their ministry to the street, doing ministry out in public, engaged in the public arena.

Please let me know how your congregation is engaged as a Public Church. How is your church engaged in the public arena and taking its ministry to the streets? How are the members of your congregation being equipped/trained to be church in your community? I am truly grateful for your partnership in the gospel.

Bishop Laurie

2022 Synod Calendar Dates

January 17 Winter Theological Event-Guest Speaker-Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton-Luther Park

January 22-26 Civil Rights Pilgrimage-Atlanta, Georgia and Montgomery, Alabama

March 15 Deadline for resolutions to be submitted for synod assembly

March 19 Synod Council Meeting

March 26 Walking Together and EPIC Eau Clarie Davies Center: Your Next Most Faithful Step

April 21, 24, 25 Zoom Pre-Assembly Forums



¹ Public Church Scholars - Religion and Philosophy - | (augsburg.edu)

¹ ELW 237

April 30 Synod Assembly-Taking it to the Streets: The Public Church July 18-24 ELCA Youth Gathering in Minneapolis and MYLE-Multicultural Youth Leadership Event August 9-12 ELCA Churchwide Assembly in Columbus, Ohio

1 Thessalonians 1:2-3 We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remember before our God your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Osseo Evangelical Lutheran Church Sr. Pastor's Report for the Year 2021

Thank you for taking the time to read this and the many other reports that have been compiled and offered for the sake of preparing and planning for another year of service in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Your involvement in the life of your church is a faithful response to Jesus' call to continue to feed and tend to his sheep.

The biggest development in 2021 was easily the calling of a fulltime Associate Pastor. In August, Pastor David & Cathy Hoadley moved to Osseo after having accepted a call to come and serve among us here at OELC. Pastor Hoadley quickly began sharing duties with me while developing plans for his focus areas at the same time.

As we move forward, as partners in ministry leadership here at OELC, Pastor Hoadley and I will each honor our letter of call by tending to the ministries listed there: preach and teach the Word of God in accordance with the holy scriptures and Lutheran Confessions, administer Holy Baptism and Holy Communion, lead worship, proclaim forgiveness of sins, provide pastoral care, speak for justice on behalf of the poor and oppressed, encourage and equip others for ministry, build healthy relationships with the larger church, guide others in making God's love known through word and deed.

Pastor Hoadley and I also

of us. While his areas of focus will be developing youth ministries and building relationships with our young members and their families mine will be focused on administrative matters and future planning.

I thank the people of OELC for calling a second pastor to help lead our congregation in the future work that God calls us to.

A Return to In Person Events in 2021

Thankfully, 2021 saw the return to more in person events at OELC. This included worship services, Sunday School, Confirmation, fellowship events, quilting, bible studies, etc. While we are certainly not out of the woods yet and end of the year infections are rising at an alarming rate, hopefully with the help of vaccines, boosters &

thoughtful precautions we are able to continue to meet in person.

Buildings and Grounds Work in 2021

If you were anywhere near the church throughout the summer months of 2021 you likely felt the earth shake and the building vibrate. For the better part of 2021 we were surrounded by road construction which, in the end, blessed us with new streets, utilities, and sidewalks to the south, west and north of the church.

Within the buildings at OELC we were able to complete the upgrading of digital online controls for a large portion of our heating & cooling systems. In the sanctuary, we replaced six aging, failing, and already failed air conditioning units that provide comfort for the summer months.

God's Peace & Joy to all in 2022.

Pastoral Stats for the Year 2021

Baptisms: Allison Steiner, Elliette Blattner, Grace Lorenz, Kaylyn Hallum, Leo Denney, Liam Servais, Piper Rue, Vivianne Hart Funerals: Alice Myers, Barb Dunham, Ben Jeziorski, Cordell Swanson, Dan Ness, David Ihle, David Steen, Edith Amundson, Ethel Swanson, Gary Johnson, Joanne Forcier, Joyce Nysven, Kim Flock, LaVonne Larson, Lorraine Debel, Lucile Andrus, Mary Peterson, Maxine Steen, Melvin Krienke, Robert Gunderson, Robert Verkler, Sandra Melby, Sonia Hageness, William Knudtson

<u>Confirmed</u>: Brandan Ames, Lincoln Bertrang, Kasey Bothe, Briley Durst, Lucas Halvorson, Adelyn Helland, Elizabeth Jacobson, Tryggve Korger, Brady Loesel, Nolan Olson, Jillian Scheffer, Kara Skoyen, Jack Steinke

<u>Weddings</u>: Abbigail Clouse & Zachary Decker, Ali Lorenz & Alex Glodowski, Jeannine Putz & Lee Barton, Marissa Rogness & Jacob

Annual Report Dave Hoadley, Associate Pastor

Time passes quickly when one starts a new adventure. Almost five months have passed since I began at OELC on September 1. I want to say again how grateful my wife Cathy and I are for the welcome we've received and the many ways the people of OELC have helped us transition and settle into Osseo and the church. Thank you for your partnership in the ministry of OELC, and I am hoping we can find new and exciting ways to spread God's love and the gospel message close to home and in the world.

One area that I'm working to strengthen is reaching out to the middle school and senior high youth. It's honestly been a joy getting to know the confirmation students and the older teens through monthly events and school activities. You should be proud of these important members of the church. There's much more we can look to do as time goes on, and I appreciate those youth who are taking the lead in helping grow the program. Youth don't have to be members to attend events at OELC, so I encourage kids to keep inviting others along! I'd also love to hear from adults who have any creative ideas for fellowship or service events we might plan!

We have 10 youth who have expressed interest in a mission trip with Appalachia Service Project in July. Please keep your eyes open for fundraising opportunities and help as you can. This is a great faith experience, one that years ago started me on the road to being a pastor. If other senior high youth are interested, I need to know ASAP to try to add them in. I'll also be looking for four or five adult crew leaders, so contact me if you'd be willing to go.

I look forward to getting to know more of you and sharing being a part of the ministries of OELC for 2022 such as Sunday and/or Wednesday night worship services (even if it's via live stream right now), confirmation class, or one of the many other times and places we come together at church or in the community. Thank you for being a part of Christ's church, and blessings in this upcoming year!

Pastor Dave Hoadley

Report of the Church Council President

Happy New Year to everyone even if nearly a month into it! I pray that God will bless you all with good health, prosperity, and happiness in 2022!

Life has been crazy the last couple of years to say the least. What a dramatic wake-up call to our vulnerability, as a people and nation, to such an unsuspected and immediate health and life threat that popped up in our lives. How can the impact of such a crisis not affect us? Our lives changed in an instant and the "norm" was no longer normal. We have all had to adapt and change in some manner.

Many things changed at our church as well, but now after two years we cautiously start our rebound. The safety measures and practices we put in place to help protect our congregation served us well, and in part continue to do so. As appropriate, we start once again opening up more. Things like the passing of offering plates at some services, choirs again sharing their talents with us, coffee/fellowship hour being back between Sunday services, etc. Although the pandemic lingers on, it is refreshing to see movement back toward normal and more and more people participating in person at our church services, activities, and gatherings! We know there is strength in numbers.

OELC is such an ideal place to surround ourselves with so many good people of strong faith. People that are always so willing to help and support the church and the community with any activity or project that comes along. I am proud to be a member of OELC and excited to continue serving as much as I can going forward into this New Year!

Looking back over 2021, below is a list of some of the accomplishments that took place at Osseo Evangelical Lutheran Church.

- We conducted our last annual congregational meeting last January with a live streaming addition to those not attending in person. We successfully carried out the meeting with all participants having an opportunity to make motions, vote and contribute to discussions if they wished.
- New pneumatic heating system controls purchased and installed are giving us better control and consistent heating, at the same time helping to reduce our heating costs.

- Lenten Services offered a drive-up imposition of ashes on Ash Wednesday for those not feeling comfortable attending the service in person.
- The three streets adjacent to the church received new curb and gutters, replaced utilities and beautiful new pavement. Our share in the cost of this project to the city will be approximately \$22,575.
- We purchased used sound equipment for a little over \$2,400 for the Chapel after borrowing it for about a year.
- Improved lighting installed in the sanctuary provides more dependable and energy efficient lighting while reducing energy costs. This project was approximately \$4800.
- New air conditioning units replaced old, noisy, failing ones in the sanctuary. The new ones are quieter and more efficient. This was approximately \$37,000 in total cost.
- Some minor maintenance and safety issues were addressed at the parsonage i.e., dead tree removed, concrete redone, exterior garage door and deck steps replaced, larger rain gutters installed, etc.
- We finally found and installed our new Associate Pastor David Hoadley, on Sunday, September 26! A challenging 2.5-year process for our call committee. Well done!
- OELC applied for and met all the criteria to receive an approved Paycheck Protection Program check of \$37,600 to apply to our payroll obligations. This was a forgiven loan to us thru the Small Business Admin., under the CARES Act.
- And last, but certainly not the least, we had another banner and successful Harvest Supper on October 27th that involved a multitude of hard working and fun-loving people! When all was said and done a Net profit of \$8,168 was generated by serving 986 awesome dinners in a drive-thru format in approximately 1.5 hours! This was an incredible team effort! Thanks to all those who participated and/or purchased meals!

Although the above list is not a full comprehensive list of accomplishments, it is obvious that nothing has stopped OELC from taking care of business and moving forward! I would like to thank every member of our Church Staff, Council, Committee members and volunteers for helping make 2021 a success! Your ongoing efforts are appreciated. Thank you very much. God bless you all.

Dennis Barka, Osseo Evangelical Lutheran Church, Council President

Prayer Shawl Ministry - 2021 Report

The Knitters Prayer

"May this shawl be for you a sign of God's loving and healing presence. May it warm you when you are weary. May it surround you with encouragement when you are discouraged. May it assure you of God's care and comfort when you and your loved ones are troubled. And may it remind you that you are always safe in the arms of Jesus, and that you are surrounded by the prayers of others."

This is one of the many prayers that our group of ladies in our Prayer Shawl Ministry pray as we gather together monthly. Our group of 9 individuals bring a love of their craft to this ministry and we as a congregation are blessed to have them in our midst. As we adjusted to a new normal in 2021, our monthly gatherings took to the outdoors, when possible, to meet at the Osseo Nickel who graciously accommodated our gatherings. We offer our thanks to Curt Nelson and his family for this outdoor gathering space for us to meet.

Under this new normal of ours, and while we are still under pandemic protocols, we were limited with our visits and the ability to always physically be present to wrap our recipients in their shawls, but we again are grateful for Pastor Terry and now Pastor Dave, who represented our ministry to fulfill this service on our behalf. During 2021, 12 shawls and 8 Baptismal shawls were presented to individuals recovering from illness or accidents as well as those joyful moments of Baptism.

Since our ministry began in 2011, the cost of yarn has increased significantly along with changes in the types of yarn that we prefer to use for Prayer Shawls. Our ministry is solely funded by generous monetary donations through memorials, THRIVANT CHOICE dollars and general giving from the heart. As always, we are frugal with our yarn purchases and are always watching for sales and using discounts whenever possible to make the best use of your kind and thoughtful monetary contributions. THANK YOU for your gracious financial and prayerful support this past year. We know it has been another difficult year for many. However, we look forward to what GOD has planned for us in the years to come.

OELC PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Lorna Peterson

2021 Endowment Fund Committee Report

In 2021, the Endowment Fund Committee began by welcoming newly elected three-year term members Allyson Bark and Dan Halverson.

The second order of business was to determine the amount of funds available for distribution, following the guidelines outlined in the Fund's resolution, during the year and seek approval from the Council for the amount. Based on the Fund's performance in 2020, the committee recommended and received approval for the distribution of up to \$98,922.68.

The committee once again reached out to OELC high school seniors who wished to apply for college scholarships in 2021. Six OELC youth were awarded scholarships base on their academic achievements, extracurricular activities, and contributions to OELC. The funds also supported previously awarded college scholarships for OELC youth, air condition units and lighting in the sanctuary, Boxcast Live Streaming Software, and the final installment to the Northwest Synod's Luther Park's Building and Rejoicing Campaign. The HVAC, Organ Restoration and roofing projects were completed in 2021 with funds previously allocated and approved from the Endowment.

The actual fund distribution for 2021 can be found in the Annual Report.

Respectfully Submitted by the Endowment Fund Committee Members,

Stuart Dodge Jody Groell Deb Gregory Dan Halverson Allyson Barka Dennis Barka, Council Liaison

Property & Management Committee

I would like to say thank you to the Church Council, the Endowment Committee, Pastor Terry and Molly for the help and support for the year!

Summary of 2021 to Church

Replacement of air conditioning units in Sanctuary Update failing center lighting in church sanctuary to LED

Summary of 2021 to Parsonage

Replacement to side entrance door of garage Replacement of steps of rear deck Repairs to concrete to front of garage and sidewalk

Insurance claim due storm damage in July
Copper trim to Sunday school wing due to wind
Minor roof damage and rain gutter due to tree damage at parsonage
All claims were covered by insurance

Work to be completed Side lighting upgrade in Sanctuary Adding additional lighting above choir section

Project in consideration for 2022 Blacktop replacement for both parking lots

Tony Bohlinger

Coffee Fellowship

Providing treats, juice and brewing the coffee makes for a very special time of fellowship on Sunday morning between worship services. It serves as a great opportunity to catch up with friends and meet others.

A big THANK YOU to the individuals, groups, and Sunday school classes who have helped serve this year.

Maggie Luallen & Sheila Nelson

Harvest Dinner Committee

THANK YOU...

- -to all who helped on food prep & set-up days;
- -to all OELC members who made monetary donations;
- -to Scott and Terri Swett for donating rutabagas;
- -to Mike and Ann Hallum (Subway) for donating potatoes;
- -Ad-Delite for donating an advertisement;
- -to Kwik Trip for donating \$100 gift card used towards lunches, milk & butter;
- -to the WELCA Bazaar for donating a late arriving Kwik Trip \$100 gift card;
- -to Jerry Bechard (Norske Nook) for donating coleslaw and butter pats;
- -Harlan & Iris Bemis (Edlen Cranberry Farm) for their donation of fresh cranberries;
- -to all the ladies for baking and donating pumpkin bars;
- -to ALL the men and women who peeled potatoes and rutabagas, rolled meatballs, and helped in any other way.

MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK.

This year the committee planned for a few hundred more meals than the 675 meals that were served via drive-thru in 2020. With it being the 2nd year of a pandemic, the committee decided to continue the drive-thru method and was very successful - 986 meals were purchased and the net proceeds from the dinner were \$8,168.73 compared to last year's \$5,458.76.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gloria Anderson, Allyson Barka, Linda Dahl, Mary Gunderson, Nancy Gunderson, Kathy Sieg, Jack Vold, Kay Vold, and Council Reps. Linda Heiman & Sheila Nelson







Quilting Rockstar's!

On October 3rd, 97 quilts of various sizes & colors were displayed on the altar rails at both church services. Pastor Terry gave his blessing on the quilts before they were packed in boxes the following week for distribution.



us provided with the many colorful & beautiful tops in the various sizes. If you know how to thread a needle & tie a square knot,

you can help us quilt.

Our current quilting group is: Carol Skoyen, Shirley Bagley, Mary Solberg, Marcella Mitskogen, Sara Boetcher, Kay Vold, Linda Dahl, Mary Sterry and Donna (Runge) Fonner. If any of you know of someone who is in need of a quilt, please let one of us know.

If any of you are cleaning closets or know of someone who sewed and want their fabric to have a good home, we would love to have it.

Also, in the same shipment to Eau Claire on Oct. 9th, several school kits, health kits & baby layettes were sent overseas. The items in these kits were mostly donated but some items had to be purchased to complete them. The cost for shipping overseas is expensive and that is paid for by our OELC Church Women (WELCA)

Any monetary donations or memorials to help further our ministries would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you!

Your Quilting Ladies in Christ



Forty (40) were taken by Curt & Carol Skoyen to Our Redeemer in Eau Claire on Saturday, Oct. 9th where they were loaded into trucks for their destination to various needy countries around the world.

About 25 were set aside to be taken to Whitehall by Rosemary Twesme for social services distribution in the county. Twelve (12) were baby quilts. Several quilts were set aside here at church for emergency needs in the Osseo area as they arise. I'm sure many of our church members have questions as to where do we get our materials, what do we need for us to make such colorful, beautiful creations, who can join our group of ladies to help, and do I need to know how to sew?



Tri County Food Pantry 2021

Founded in 1994 by Intern Pastor Chris Beamsley and a small group of OELC members, the Food Pantry will be starting the 27th year of continuous operation.

The food pantry is run by a small group of dedicated volunteers. We are most thankful for the service of Sue Coey, Stuart Dodge, Cathy Hoadley, Judy Kolar, Dave Lundberg, Peggy Lundberg, Sheila Nelson, Jen Proctor, Jim Severson, and Betty Ward. There are also several others who offer occasional help. All are needed and appreciated.

This year started with guests driving through the fire station and prepacked groceries placed in cars. We heard from our guests that many did not like this, the preferred to shop. So as the year went on, Covid lessened and vaccines became available, we returned to personal shopping.

Also due to Covid, there has not been as much food rescue and almost no food drives. We are thankful to receive quite a bit of food each month from what is left over after the distribution at Ruby's Pantry. We also have a grant from the Wisconsin Wildlife Deer Donation Program. Bushy's in Independence processes the deer for us.

Most of the food at the food pantry is now purchased from Feed My People. We can order on-line and get up to two deliveries a month and we can also pick up food when it becomes available. Most of the effort goes towards finding reasonable protein. We also have a TEFAP grant which is used to purchase protein, fruits, and vegetables.

The food pantry spends about \$5000 a year. Almost all that goes for food. We do give the Osseo Rural Fire Department \$500 each year towards utilities for letting us use a corner of their new facility. This year we spent about \$400 on a local electrician to hook up a new air conditioning unit. The air conditioning was a grant from Noel Smith Heating & Air Conditioning in Eau Claire. The value was about \$2000. This was a great gift for the food pantry because it saves so much on the life span of the commercial freezers.

The next big item we are hoping to get is flake-textured seal coating for the floor. Currently the floor is cement and is very difficult to keep clean. A grant has been written to Compeer Financial to help with this expense. We won't hear until the middle of December if we will receive all or part of this.

The money to operate the food pantry is donated from area churches, area clubs, groups, and individuals. Donations have slowed somewhat because churches and groups have not been having as many fund raisers as in the past due to Covid, so they have not had as many funds to donate but have remained loyal in trying to donate some amount.

The statistics for families and individuals served will not be final until distribution at the end of December. The tentative numbers are:

Families served during 2021: 267
Individuals served during 2021: 614

Pounds of food received, shelved, and donated in 2021: 37,770



We, the undersigned, have reviewed and examined all the financial records of Osseo Evangelical Lutheran Church. We find them correct, and in balance with the respective financial institute, for the fiscal year of 2021.

Linda Dahl

Stacy Holden Hacy Holden

Mark Vold





W/ELCA!

Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America Women Who Willingly Work for their church, their community, and their Lord

2021 saw W/ELCA emerge and begin to serve in a limited fashion. Purchasing the food and serving with gloves and masks evolved as the new normal for funeral serving. One highlight of the year was our Christmas buffet with the "Heartstrings" providing music. Another highlight was our annual bazaar chaired by Amy McCune and Samantha Anderson. Again, they created an online raffle and members responded with many, many generous donations resulting in a profit of \$1925. Maggie Luallen organized a thrift sale for the same day and realized a profit of \$967. Money from these events was donated to the many organizations that we support.

Women of t	he ELCA Acco	ount (V	V/ELCA)
Beg	inning Balance 1-1-20	021	\$9,636.96
<u>Income</u>	Funerals Circle Offerings Bazaar Income Thrift Sale Interest 2021 Income	2027.50 319.00 1925.00 967.00 3.28 5,241.78	
<u>Expenses</u>	Altar Flowers Thrift Sale Picnic Bazaar Expenses S.T.O.P. Prom Party	547.50 175.00 66.00 56.41 329.50 50.00 511.57 850.00 59.85	
End	ing Balance 12-31-20	21	\$11,980.37

Endowment Fund

Beginning Balance 1-1-2021

\$ 71,849.96

Checking & Savings Income

Bank Interest 22.46 Transfer from ELCA Fund 45,000.00

2021 Income \$ 45,022.46

Checking & Savings Expenses

Heating & Air Conditioning	58,695.00
Luther Park Bible Camp Building Fund	2,500.00
Roof Repair	4,461.19
Sanctuary Lighting	4,725.00
Organ Restoration	13,630.00
Boxcast – Live Stream service	1,341.00
Scholarships	<u>12,500.00</u>

2021 Expenses \$ 97,852.19

Checking & Savings Balance 12-31-2021 \$ 19,020.23

Checking Account Balance \$ 5,248.74 Savings Account Balance \$ 13,771.49



ELCA Endowment Fund

Value on 11-30-2020\$ 1,247,059.81Gains\$ 175,447.55Losses\$ (14,268.70)Transfers to Checking\$ (45,000.00)Value on 11-30-2021\$ 1,363,238.66

Special Gifts Fund

Funds	Beginning Balance	Income	Expense	Ending Balance
Altar Paraments	\$546.63	\$0.00	\$540.65	\$5.98
Banners	\$330.23	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$330.23
Sanctuary Renovation	\$309.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$309.50
Chancel Choir	\$205.12	\$80.00	\$82.00	\$203.12
Designated-unspecified	\$4,323.80	\$6,995.00	\$6,165.08	\$5,153.72
Decorating/Christmas	\$8.66	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8.66
Harvest Supper	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$202.96	\$297.04
Kitchen	\$4,586.65	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,586.65
Landscaping (\$1000)	\$2,061.15	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,061.15
Library	\$238.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$238.50
Prayer Shawl Ministry	\$400.57	\$486.00	\$228.35	\$658.22
Parking Lot	\$60.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$60.00
Office Ministries (\$12,575)	\$1,783.79	\$25.00	\$1,022.91	\$785.88
Organ Restoration (\$120,000)	\$5,831.92	\$340.00	\$4,570.30	\$1,601.62
Property/Sec. Syst.	\$647.24	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$647.24
Quilting	\$29.67	\$1,092.00	\$156.65	\$965.02
Special Undesignated	\$488.37	\$3,925.00	\$695.00	\$3,718.37
Christian Ed. / VBS	\$145.94	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$145.94
Visiting Partners	\$771.92	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$771.92
Worship Music	\$254.33	\$20.00	\$0.00	\$274.33
Crucifer Stand	\$48.25	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$48.25
Fascia Project	\$3,008.57	\$0.00	\$2,300.00	\$708.57
Roof Repair/Hail Damage	\$4,156.97	\$6,832.97	\$5,725.00	\$5,264.94
Website (Steen Family)	0	\$807.50	\$180.17	\$627.33
Interest	\$851.96	\$0.00	\$386.37	\$465.59
Total Special Gifts	\$31,589.74	\$20,603.47	\$22,255.44	\$29,937.77
Special Gifts CD (Designated)	\$20,614.52	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20,614.52
			CD & Fund Total	\$50,552.29

Balance on hand 1-1-2021

\$31,589.74

2021 Income \$20,603.47 2021 Expenses \$22,255.44

Balance on hand 12-31-2021

\$29,937.77

Mission Fund

Income, Expenses & 2022 Proposed Budget

Beginning Balance 1-1-2021

\$3,837.83

<u>Income</u>

Mission Weekly Envelopes 6,449.00
Thanksgiving 200.00
Disaster Relief 20.00
Noisy Offering 1,201.75
2021 Income \$7,870.75

<u>Expenses</u>	2021 Actual	2021 Budget	2022 Proposed
NWSofWI	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
Lutheran S.S.	750.00	750.00	750.00
Luth. Park	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Dairyland Conf.	0.00	300.00	300.00
Local Missions	0.00	500.00	500.00
Osseo Cemetery	500.00	500.00	500.00
Malawi	500.00	500.00	500.00
Disaster Relief	45.00	-	-
Noisy designation	0.00		
2021 Expenses	\$9,795.00	\$10,300.00	\$10,300.00

Ending Balance 12-31-2021 \$1,913.58

Mission Fund CD / CCF Bank Emma Veum CD Restricted \$45,500.00

Debt Fund

Income, Expenses & 2022 Proposed Budget

Beginning Balance 1-1-2021

\$5,874.85

<u>Income</u>

Debt Weekly Envelopes

5,826.00

2021 Income \$5,826.00

<u>Expenses</u> **2021 Actual** 2021 Budget 2022 Proposed Demand Note Interest 150.00 150.00 150.00

2021 Expenses \$150.00 \$150.00 \$150.00

> Ending Balance 12-31-2021 \$11,550.85

*Last year & this year extra money will go to Endowment

Demand Note 12-31-2021 Balance Owed \$3,000.00

Youth & Family Fund

Income, Expenses & 2022 Proposed Budget

Balance on hand 1-1-2021				\$17,245.49
<u>Income</u> C-YA (H.S.)		Donations Total C-YA		511.00 \$511.00
TGIF (M.S.)	Donation LPBC Kwik Trip Gift Cards Total TGIF		2,500.00 2,701.69 \$5,201.69	
			2021 Income	\$5,712.69
Expenses Kwik Trip Cards C-YA	2021 Actu 2,142.00	<u>ıal</u>	2021 Budget 0.00 18,000.00	2022 Proposed 0.00 15,000.00
Registration Refunds	8,857.40			
TGIF Activities Mission Trip Luther Park Bible Camp Palm Sunday Brkfst. Spaghetti Fundraiser	0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00		200.00 100.00 1,600.00 100.00	200.00 100.00 1,600.00 100.00
Other Youth & Family College Box Postage Fun Family/Youth Events	227.50 48.62		200.00 250.00	200.00 250.00
2021 Expenses	\$11,275.5	52	\$20,550	\$17,550
Balance on han	d 12-31-20 C-YA	021	\$8612.10	\$11,682.66

TGIF for LPBC

\$3070.56

2022 OELC Missional Budget

The tradition of providing an alternative to the line-item budget for OELC members continues for 2022 with our sixth (6^{th}) iteration of the Missional Budget. This form of budget was introduced to offer members an opportunity to see where their gifts were utilized. With the focus once again centered on OELC's mission statement, we have prepared examples of some of the highlights from 2021 in the mission and ministry areas that represent OELC.

We have followed these accomplishment examples with those areas that will be emphasized or focused on by your church leadership in the coming year. Without your financial contributions giving back to God, as well as the countless time and talents shared by you, none of this past year's accomplishments, nor those in the coming year, were or are possible.

Our Plan of Ministry

A) We share our faith and bring people to Jesus Christ:

To say that 2020 has been an unusual year in the life of OELC would be a dramatic understatement due to the corona virus and the ensuing state and local government shutdowns. BUT in 2021, the church began the process of returning to many in-person events.

Total worship service attendance went up and we were able to have services for Lent, Easter and Advent.

8 baptisms were performed at the church, but most were not during worship services.

Sunday School and Confirmation are back to in-person and not virtual.

The Chancel Choir began providing special music again.

Your church leadership wishes to continue emphasizing these same areas along with **Evangelism** and **Gracious Stewardship** in 2022.

Budget Total - \$155,064.47

(This includes a percentage of the Pastor's salaries; parsonage utilities, expenses, and insurance; the Parish Administrator, Choir Director, organist, and custodians' salaries; janitorial supplies; telephone; copier; insurance, maintenance, and utilities.)

B) We love our neighbors as ourselves:

Wednesday night meals have begun again in conjunction with Wednesday night worship.

Programs throughout the community continued with members providing their time Ruby's Pantry & Sleep in Heavenly Peace.

Our congregation is responsible for overseeing and running Tri County Food Pantry each month.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry provided shawls to individuals in times of comfort & celebration.

It is our plan to continue emphasizing these same areas in 2022, along with some programs that have been unable to be active due to Covid. It is the hope that the Social Concerns committee and Visiting Partner Ministry will become more active too.

Budget Total - \$168,164.47

(This includes a percentage of the Pastor's salaries; parsonage utilities, parsonage maintenance needs, expenses, and insurance; the Parish Administrator, Choir Director, organist, and custodians' salaries, and telephone, copier, insurance, maintenance, and utilities.)

C) We minister to the needs of ALL people

In 2021 OELC continued its commitment to Osseo and the surrounding area with involvement in, or the sponsoring of, Tri County Food Pantry and Ruby's Pantry. Through the generosity of OELC members, we contributed to the Sunday school's sponsorship of **God's Global Barnyard** again, providing needed funds for livestock to ELCA sponsored countries. The Noisy Offering also contributed to Osseo-Fairchild School District's weekend backpack meals program.

Once again, the gifted hands of OELC quilters led to quilts being given to Lutheran World Relief, Trempealeau County Health Care Center, homeless families, fire victims, and OELC members in Assisted Living/Nursing care facilities in the Osseo and surrounding area. We continued our support to the Ministerial Alliance, but the following programs were only able to be conducted on a limited basis early in the year: worship services at Dove Health Care and Pigeon Falls Health Care Center, Chaplin services for Northern Trempealeau County, school supplies to local area schools and hospital visits to Mayo Health Care/Osseo on an as needed basis to serve the whole community when called upon.

The year 2022 will continue these ministries and address the increased need to once again grow our partnership with our Malawi sister congregation and the Northwest Synod Mission areas.

Budget Total - \$97,325.91

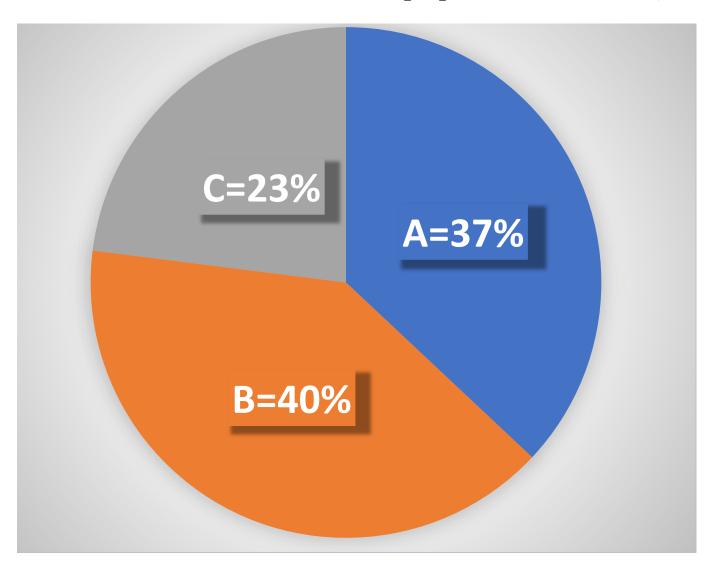
(This includes a percentage of the Pastor's salaries; parsonage utilities, parsonage maintenance needs, expenses, and insurance; the Parish Administrator, Choir Director, organist, and janitors' salaries; telephone; copier; insurance, World Missions, maintenance, and utilities.)

2022 PROPOSED MISSIONAL BUDGET

A - We share our faith and bring people to Jesus Christ: \$155,064.47

B - We love our neighbors as ourselves: \$ 168,164.47

C - We minister to the needs of ALL people: \$97,325.91



ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING OPENING LITURGY

Litary

Today our congregation gathers in prayer and hope to begin another year of ministry. We bring with us the memory of a year like no other, even as we move into a future that we cannot yet imagine. Yet even now, as in every age, God is our refuge and strength. In times of plenty and want, in times of conflict and peace, in times of growing and pruning, we remember:

God has called us for such a time as this.

We remember the past year with lament and gratitude. We have lost so much, and so much still feels uncertain. We have also witnessed God's hand at work in new and unexpected ways. We delight at hidden seeds bearing surprising and wonderful fruit. When our own resources fail, when we cannot predict the future, when we must rely on God alone, we remember:

God has called us for such a time as this.

We celebrate this moment and the many ways God has held us together as a community. We give thanks for the gift of our church building and the welcome it provides, even as we bless God for the marvel of technology and the new bonds of connection it makes possible. When our bodies need sanctuary, when our minds need expanding, when your grace must transcend our limitations, we remember:

God has called us for such a time as this.

We look ahead to the road we will travel together this year. We anticipate and receive with joy the new gifts God's love has planned. We pray for the grace to let go of what has served its holy purpose. When we are trailblazers or followers, when we are seekers or visionaries, when we must walk by faith and not by sight, we remember:

God has called us for such a time as this.

And so we pray: Grace our meeting, O God, with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the Spirit who has guided the church from the beginning, the Spirit of our risen Lord Jesus, the Spirit who sends us as healers and restorers of your beloved world. You are the source of our life together. You are the rock and cornerstone.

You have called us for such a time as this.



All Creation Sings #1063

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O God,

you have called your servants
to ventures of which we cannot see the ending,
by paths as yet untrodden,
through perils unknown.
Give us faith to go out with good courage,
not knowing where we go,
but only that your hand is leading us
and your love supporting us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen. (ELW, p. 317)

Change and the need for creativity have become constants over the last year and a half in many aspects of life, including the church. This was the case for Living Christ Lutheran Church in Flagstaff, Ariz., even before a global pandemic caused many of us to rethink what it means to be church. Generosity from all three expressions of the ELCA (the churchwide organization, the Grand Canyon Synod and members of Living Christ) helped turn a congregation "on the road out of town, near the mall" into an online presence reaching over 500 people a week from Phoenix to the Philippines. (Read more about Living Christ in the current issue of "Stories of Faith in Action" at ELCA.org/SOFIA.)

Many other congregations have found new ways to connect both when inperson worship was impossible and when congregations began to return to their sanctuaries. Generosity, especially through Mission Support, helped us find and support these new ways of being connected. Early in the pandemic, ELCA Worship launched the "Worship in the Home" webpage, with Scripture, hymn links, prayers and reflections for each Sunday. These resources were and continue to be used in congregations across the ELCA—even at **Sitka Lutheran Church** in Alaska, whose members printed and hand-delivered "Worship in the Home" resources to fellow members without internet access.

Change and creativity have taught us many things. As Pastor Sandra Rudd of Sitka Lutheran Church noted, "The pandemic was a stark illustration of the fact that the church is not a building. A lot of people say that, but we didn't fully know it until we didn't have a building to use. We learned that there are many ways to be connected as the church." Throughout the pandemic, the ELCA has changed and adapted, doing ministry in new and creative ways, because of the generosity of its members. Even now, you may be gathering in a new way for your annual meeting, to discern how you will steward the gifts shared generously with your congregation to do ministry in your community and beyond. As you have these important conversations, remember that your gifts of time, talent and resources have helped create new spaces beyond our walls and buildings where we continue to worship, serve and love God and each other.

