



# 2022

## Peace Lutheran Church

# ANNUAL REPORT



Annual Meeting  
January 29, 2023  
Following Worship



**SHARING GOD'S LOVE BY SERVING OUR COMMUNITY AND OUR WORLD!**

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Peace youth went on their **second mission trip to Harrisburg, PA**. Youth had the opportunity to work on **local service projects**, learn about the community and their faith.

# DID YOU KNOW?

More than **50** volunteers hosted over **300** visitors at our annual **Welcome Neighbor Corn Feed**. This event brought the community together for an evening of **entertainment, kids' activities** and food.

In 2022 we added several **microphones** in the sanctuary to **improve our worship experience** for everyone both in-person or online.



In 2022 volunteers headed to Feed My Starving Children six times to **pack nutritious MannaPack meals** designed to assist in reversing and preventing undernutrition.



2022's **Bazaar and Cookie Walk** hosted **20** vendors and sold about **300 dozen cookies and other baked goods**. Proceeds help support hospitality activities and the Youth Mission Trip.



From the praise team, to JAM to scripture readers and so much more, **volunteers donate over 30 hours each week** to our Sunday morning worship.

Volunteers welcomed **65** students to this year's **VBS Destination Dig!** A yearly favorite for everyone. These students also raised \$625 and collected 2,160 items for the Watertown-Mayer Royals Room.



Youth from local churches went door-to-door for the 1<sup>st</sup> annual **Trick or Treat for the Food Shelf**. They collected 3,774 lbs of food & \$620. **Thank you Mark** for coordinating this community event.



Your gifts **helped support over 13 local & global missions**, including **110 boxes** packed for Operation Christmas Child, **1,336 pounds of food** and **\$1,993** donated to Friends for Life, **96 layettes** assembled for Orphan Grain Train, **numerous quilts** sewed for Carver County Veterans services & PLC graduates, **39 blessing bags** assembled & given out to the homeless, and so much more. Check out the missions report to see other ways Peace members served this year.



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## 2022 Annual Meeting Agenda January 29, 2023

- Welcome/Introductions
- Call to Order
- Opening Prayer
- Open Forum
- Adopt Annual Meeting Agenda
- Approve Meeting Minutes
- Ballot Presentation
- Reports
- Recognition of Ministry Teams
- Remembering Our Departed Members
  - ◆ Doris Swenson
  - ◆ Marty Malmin
- 2022 and 2023 Finance Review
- New Business
- Nominating Committee - Election Results
- Thank You
- Adjournment
- Closing Prayer



As I reflect on 2022, I give gratitude to God for blessing me with great health and the opportunity to be the President of our congregation. It was a remarkable year in many ways but mostly for the simple fact of being able to praise and share God's word together and overcoming the hurdles of the recent Pandemic.

I will be forever thankful and appreciative for all the Ministry Board Members; Pastor David Hanson; our Director of Youth & Family Ministry, Mark Nissen; and our Office Administrator, Sandy Fleischman for all their cooperation and collaboration throughout the year. I also want to extend my gratitude to so many volunteers who made 2022 a successful year.

I want to also express my gratitude to our departing Ministry Board Members: Jeremy Baumann, Timothy Heun and Mary Fritz-Barfnecht, who for the last 3 years have served on the Ministry Board and provided great leadership and guidance not only for myself but during many tasks that we have come across. They will all be greatly missed.

Our church had another successful mission trip to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania which was attended by 24 teenagers and four adult leaders. Many memories and testimonies have been shared up to now, and many of those who attended are already looking forward to the 2023 mission trip to Columbia, South Carolina.

In the Spring of 2022, Pastor David Hanson brought up the idea of "Dreaming and Dessert" which at

the time sounded like a vacation with tons of sweets. However, it was the beginning of conversations with the Ministry Board and then with the rest of the Congregation, regarding the growth of our church and planning towards the future. Discussions included possible expansion, church needs, bridging strategies and basically how to move forward with a feasible, adequate, and yet reachable goal and plan.

After several Dreaming & Dessert meetings (Pastor loves this quote) it was proposed that a Task Force be created to explore the possibility of finding a firm that could help us with our main issue at hand – GROWTH. The Task Force did a phenomenal job and completed their task as we had asked. I am grateful to all of them for their hard work. After many discussions and conversations, fast forward to the end of the year, we have proposed to the Congregation to approve spending on a Feasibility Study and the Creation of Master Plan. We believe, as a Ministry Board, that this is the way to go. I continue to believe that our church needs to expand and truly believe that God will lead us in the right path and in due time our labor as a Congregation will bear its fruits.

Thank you everyone for your support this past year. It has been an honor and my pleasure to serve as your President the last two years.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Perez  
Congregation President





## A MESSAGE FROM Pastor David Hanson

### Just A Moment...

Sometimes it is just a moment, a pause in life, when God quiets our hearts and the Holy Spirit opens our eyes to see more clearly what God is doing in our life and, in this case, the life of our church.

In this year's Children's Christmas program, I got to play an old man (again!). I'm sitting in a rocking chair and all around me are children, smiling, giggling, wiggling, rambunctious children. They are all dressed up as angels, sheep, donkeys, shepherds and more. Some of them have lines to share, more sing and others are just cute.

You see this isn't my world. These munchkins are unfamiliar to me. Yet, in this moment, some of them talked with me as if we were old friends, others a bit more cautious, took a moment or two to warm up to the old man in the rocker. I have to say, it warmed my heart. I had thoughts of Scrooge or the Grinch as I watched in that moment the ancient Christmas story told by the Innocents, my heart became larger.

God gave me a moment, a pause, as the Holy Spirit opened my eyes to see the vision of God's good work at Peace. Forty-four children and 19 youth and adults made up this animated pageant. Just a moment to see the blessings and what the future will look like for our church and its ministry.

My view from the rocking chair was not just of the children. God paused me to look up and see all of you, out in the congregation. The Holy Spirit pointed out the great variety of people gathered to hear the children's good news. Moms and dads, grandpas and grandmas, families of every sort, infants

to seniors, single folks and couples. **I thought, "here is how God's good work will be accomplished."** Together, God has provided all that is necessary for the faithful to fulfill what our Lord has set before us to do in this next year.

I invite you to take ... Just A Moment ... next time you are in worship and let God pause you and quiet your heart, so that the Holy Spirit might open your eyes to see how you might be a part of God's good work at Peace. Let the Spirit guide you to find what fits your time and talents, so that you may serve with joy. God will bless you in whatever you are led to do.

I am so very grateful to God for each of you. Stephanie and I have been blessed immeasurably by our ministry with you. We are thankful for your prayers and for your love and care over these past years.

I want to thank God for Sandy and Mark, without whose partnership in ministry we could not have accomplished so much this past year. They bring a joy to each day.

We have a wonderful Ministry Board and fabulous Ministry Teams. God told me this past week to remember that every one of them is a volunteer and they give of their time so generously, for which I am deeply thankful. It has been an incredible year. I look to 2023 with excitement to see what God will do amongst us.

God's Peace!

David W. Hanson



2022 Chili Cook Off Winners — Stephanie Hanson, Jan Carlson and Karl Knutson



2022 Christmas Program



Spark Studios VBS





## A MESSAGE FROM MARK NISSEN

*Director of Youth & Family Ministry*

What an excellent year of ministry it has been at Peace! Our youth are an exceptional group, and it has been so great to see the many things they have done this year. It has been a year that has been full of fun, new relationships and growth in our faith.

In June we had our second mission trip. This year we went to serve in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. For this trip we brought four adult leaders (including myself) and 24 students. Of those 24 students, it was the first mission trip experience for half of them, which is amazing! These trips do a great job of exposing our youth to new communities and teaching them to serve God throughout their lives. This upcoming summer we will be serving in Columbia, South Carolina with an organization called Next Step Ministries. It will be similar to what we have done but will allow us to spend more of our time serving the community!

Youth group is still the main focus of our ministry. In the last year we have spent time talking about topics like dating and relationships and working through whole books of the Bible. Our goal of youth group is to have a group of believers where we can grow meaningful friendships that in turn help us to grow deeper in our faith. In the new year we will be working to add more times of worship to our weekly gatherings, as well as adding some options for extra Bible studies. With youth group, we invite students from our church and the community who are interested in growing their faith.

We have continued having monthly fun events for our students, but we are now trying to work into a schedule where we will do a fun event one month then a service opportunity

the next month. The goal of fun activities is always to grow in our relationships with each other. A huge part of our Christian faith is being united in friendship and brotherhood with our fellow believers. We hope to grow that unity among our youth. In our service to others we hope to show youth that they can serve throughout their whole lives in a variety of ways.



One huge success this year was doing our first-ever Trick or Treat for the Food Shelf. We worked with Trinity, Watertown E-Free, and Immaculate Conception. It was a fantastic event where we were able to make it to just about every house in Watertown to ask for donations for our food shelf. At the end of the night, we had raised 3,774 lbs of food and \$620 for the food shelf. This event was a huge success and a wonderful thing that our churches were able to do together! We will certainly do it again in the future. It's also part of a goal to do more events with other churches in town to increase unity among youth.

It really has been a fantastic year and I look forward to all that we will accomplish in 2023. I pray that God can lead and use our youth ministry to serve our youth and the youth of Watertown well. Hopefully many more kids will come to know the love that God has for them! One last pic, it's been a good personal year too! Thanks for loving and supporting our youth!

Spread Joy,

Mark





# 2023 PLC Ministry Board Candidates

3-Year Term - Vote for up to three (3)

## Bill Helfritz

My name is Bill Helfritz. My wife, Charlotte, and I have been members of Peace Lutheran since 2021. I have served on Church Councils in two other churches for a total of 9 years, serving as the president twice. I currently am a member of the cleaning crew and sing in the choir. I am a retired accountant.

Before retirement I was employed by Freeborn County (Albert Lea, MN) as their Finance Manager for over 20 years. I enjoy fishing, playing cards, and being a part of my grandchildren's lives. Charlotte and I feel blessed to have become part of the "Family of Peace." And if God wills it, I will do my best to serve Him and you as a member of the Ministry Board. God's Peace be with you.



## Andy Johnsrud

My name is Andy Johnsrud. My family and I have been members of Peace since 2013. We have been an active part of the growth of this church for the last several years. I have served on the Ministry Board and the building committee for the addition. I'm currently serving on the Property and Finance committees. I also volunteer in the community. I enjoy family time, hunting, fishing and the outdoors as much as I can. Our family has thoroughly enjoyed Peace since we started coming here. The church has always offered us family friendships and continued growth in our spiritual walk. With the upcoming decisions Peace has to make due to our continued growth, I feel my 25+ year background in building and land development will be a gift I can share with this congregation. We have said many times, Peace is truly a special place, and until you experience it for yourself, it's hard to explain unless you're a part of it.



## Cathy Rieckenberg

My name is Cathy Rieckenberg. My husband, Bob, and I joined Peace in 2015 and felt we came "home." The Core Values and Ministry Mission of Peace are very core to our beliefs. Bob and I have three daughters and one son. We lost our second daughter, Stacey, three and a half years ago to cancer. We are blessed with five grandchildren, one grandson-in-law, and one great grandson. As a former business owner, which a fellow RN and I started and ran for over 32 years, I worked with financials and business and expansion plans. I am honored to be nominated and feel my experiences will help me to be an active board member. There are many future challenges that will be critical to our Peace family in the not-so-distant future and I'm willing to work with you to make the right choices for our growth. Currently at Peace I am active on the Altar Care, Care Ministry and Outreach teams. Thank you for considering me for the Ministry Board.



## Tory Schmidt

My name is Tory Schmidt. Joining Peace was a surprise. We were just visiting... checking it out. We started online and when we came into the sanctuary the church spoke to us. Lindsay, Tanner, Amelia, and Sawyer, one at a time, made it clear to me that this was the church family we should belong to. The true church came through God's people participating in this place. In our short time here we have thrived worshiping, missioning, growing, mourning, and celebrating with the body at Peace. I wish to serve the congregation further on the ministry board to preserve and expand an experience like we have had for many more joining the family at Peace Lutheran Church. We make our home in Watertown Township on our family farm. Outside of Peace, I work in the automation/electrical industry. I also coach youth sports in Waconia with the intent on creating a challenging space to grow better people. I have previously led church community groups and Christian education, youth and adult.



## Beth Seefeldt

I'm one of the charter members of Peace. My husband, Tim, our four children, and their families are also charter members. Giving of my time at Peace is important to me. Serving on the Ministry Board was a real joy, an opportunity that I hope has met your expectations. If you feel I would do a good job serving another three years, it would be my pleasure. Meeting you and chatting or answering your questions is something I look forward to.



### 2022 Ministry Board

(top left to right) Jeremy Baumann, Mike Rupp, Tim Heun  
(bottom left to right) Joseph Perez, Karen Dressel, Mary Fritz-Barfnecht, Jaime Carlson and Pastor David Hanson

## Thank You!

We have much to be grateful for this year. We give thanks to God for those who have led our congregation. We are a better church because of their insight, dedication, discernment, and faithfulness. For those who are leaving the Ministry Board (Tim Heun, Mary Fritz-Barfnecht and Jeremy Baumann) we thank you and pray that God will bless you in whatever area of ministry you will serve next. Thank you!

# 2023 PLC Nominating Committee Candidates

2-Year Term - Vote for up to three (3)

## Mary Fritz-Barfnecht

My name is Mary Fritz-Barfnecht. My husband, Don, and I married in 2008. Between us we have three children and seven granddaughters. We joined Peace in 2016 after visiting several Sundays. We recognized that Peace is a warm, friendly, uplifting and active church! In 2017, I retired after 32 years as a registered nurse. Don and I are both greeters, ushers and pineapple express deliverers. I have served on the Nominating Committee, Love INC gap ministry, and assisted with VBS. I am currently involved with Outreach, Care and just about to complete my term on the Ministry Board, on which I have been blessed to represent you. I would be honored to represent you on the Nominating Committee. Together we will strive to bring forth candidates that will devote their time and talents for the Ministry Board and the Nominating Committee. Thank you so much for your consideration.



## Harlan Sundblad

I am Harlan Sundblad. Carole and I became charter members when Peace Lutheran started. We were formerly members of Trinity Lutheran Watertown for 27 years. We lived west of Watertown and farmed. Our oldest son purchased the farm place in 2017 and we moved to a townhouse at Winsted on the Lake. I was on the nominating committee some years back. I am on the finance committee now. Carole and I love camping in the summer and the last eight years we have traveled to Florida and Texas for two months in the winter. I still help with farm work during the spring, summer and fall. I would be happy to serve on the nominating committee again.



## Jessica Feltmann

Hi. My name is Jessica Feltmann. Jamie, Peyton and I live in Mayer. I am an independent hair stylist in Eden Prairie. I have been in the hair industry for 22 years. Our family enjoys going up north, fishing, watching football and hanging out with our new dog, Odie.



## Greg Tesch

Hi, I'm Greg Tesch, I live outside of Mayer with my wife, April. We have three grown boys that all went thru First Communion and Confirmation at Peace. I've enjoyed watching the church grow from the beginning, we were part of the original membership. In my free time I enjoy watching sports and playing games on family game nights.



## Andrea Plahn

My name is Andrea Plahn, and my family and I have been members of Peace for about 2 years. My husband Brad and I live in Watertown with our 4 kids, Abby, Sam, Jack and Natalie. I have been a Physical Therapist for over 15 years and currently work in Home Health services with Ridgeview Medical Center. Brad owns a shipping and mailing company in Richfield. Our family moved to Watertown in the summer of 2020, and when we found Peace Lutheran Church, we truly felt like we had found our home! We have been overwhelmed with the amazing friends and members of this church that truly feel more like family to us! I have had the privilege of serving on the Youth Activities and Stewardship committees as well as helping with Sunday School! When our family is not busy with work or school activities and sports, we like to get up to the cabin and enjoy lake time! I am excited to see how God continues to bless Peace Lutheran as we grow, and I look forward to continuing to serve in this amazing church community.



## Meghan Weaver

My family and I have been members here at Peace for roughly ten years. I live in Watertown with my beautifully blended family. As a member of Peace, I have enjoyed serving with the praise team, teaching Sunday School, helping with VBS and Christmas programs, serving on the nominating committee, and staying active with youth activities. I am currently a full-time student, and my husband works for LifeTime in Chanhassen. In our free time, we enjoy football and spending time with family. I truly love being a part of Peace and I feel so blessed to be considered.



2022 Confirmation Students



# Altar Care

Submitted By: Wendy Ely, co-chair

## Who We Are

Jackie Cramb, Brian Ely, Wendy Ely, Karen Dressel, Sherry Essig, Charlotte Helfritz, Laurie Langner, Karen Lotito, Audrey Nickleby, Sharon Pew, Cathy Rieckenberg, Doreen Seal, Tina Sinnott, Deb Wasser, and Sharon Weinzierl

Any member of Peace Lutheran Church is welcome and encouraged to join the Altar Care Ministry Team. We are devoted and feel very privileged to serve our Lord and hope you may also be ready to experience this joy!

## What We Do

We are the caretakers of the altar, lectern, and baptismal font along with their presentation based on the Biblical church calendar and events. As we prepare for worship, our duties consist of setting up and maintaining supplies for Holy Communion, baptisms, and the various festivals and seasons of the church year, as well as to care for the acolyte robes. Our responsibility is also to assist with seasonal decorations in our worship sanctuary.

## Highlights of 2022

Special Events: Pentecost, Confirmation Sunday, Pregnancy & Infant Loss Awareness Month, All Saints' Day, Veterans Day, Holiday Hopes & Healing worship, Advent, Christmas, Ash Wednesday, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter, etc.

This year's Easter Garden that so beautifully adorned our sanctuary consisted of 68 flowers.

We had 16 baptisms, ten students receive first communion and seven students completing confirmation this past year.

This year we purchased one additional banner which was on display during the Spring/Summer celebrations in the church calendar.

Available to all congregation members is the opportunity to sign up to share flowers to be displayed on the altar during worship. This opportunity will be available again this year. Thank you to all members who have so graciously provided us with beautiful flower arrangements over this past year.

Several women in the church continue to make beautiful blankets to be shared at baptisms. These quilts are a true treasure to the families.

We have welcomed four additional members to the Altar Care Ministry Team over this past year: Charlotte Helfritz, Laurie Langner, Sharon Pew, and Deb Wasser

Through Memorial funding, the top surface of the baptismal font has recently been refinished with a quartzite slab.

Due to limited space in the sacristy, there has been additional shelving, rods, etc. added to this area. Thank you, Norm Bauer, for your expertise in this area!

### Contact Information:

Jackie Cramb: 763-258-9798 / 65jackie@charter.net

Wendy Ely: 763-221-5328 / wendyjohansonmn@hotmail.com

Sharon Weinzierl: 952-955-2400 / jsweinzierl@gmail.com

# Care

Submitted by Mary Fritz-Barfnecht, chair

## Who We Are

Thank you to our team members for their ideas and dedication. Sue Beulke, Jan Carlson, Marla Erickson, Stephanie Hanson, Cathy Rieckenberg, Doreen Seal, Karen Lotito and Mary Fritz-Barfnecht.

## What We Do

Our mission statement reflects our goals. We believe that we can change the world through prayer and acts of kindness to others by demonstrating Christ's love. We provide a window to the life-altering power of a relationship with Jesus.

At Peace we strive to show compassion to members of our church by supporting each other as we experience life journeys together.

## Highlights of 2022

- Visited homebound members Glenn Johnson, Renata Dahl and Mary Ann Hoesel.
- Mailed cards for Valentines, First Communion, Confirmation, Veterans day, Thanksgiving, milestone birthdays & anniversaries, sympathy, get well, and thinking of you.
- Delivered May baskets.
- Provided send-off prayer card for safety and a little spending money for our youth going to Ingham Okoboji Lutheran Bible camp and our youth going on the mission trip to Harrisburg, PA.
- Provided flowers in recognition of Pregnancy and Infant Loss month in October.
- Recognized veterans during worship Sunday following Veterans Day and provided dessert for Watertown Legion Veterans Day dinner.
- Hosted second community grief class called Surviving the Holidays through Grief Share.
- Started planning for our first 13-week grief series called from "Mourning to Joy" that will begin January 5, 2023.

The Facebook Prayer group is also open and active. If you haven't joined, look for our group and ask to join! We lift up prayer requests throughout the year.

As we reflect on 2022, it's amazing what we have done this year. We pray our Lord continues help us identify ways to love our congregants and our community.



Ash Wednesday worship.



Eleanor Nissen's baptism



# Christian Education

Submitted by: Nicole Johnsrud, Chair

## Who We Are

Our team includes Nicole Johnsrud, Joseph Perez, Colette Thorson, Mark Nissen, Michelle Baird, Tricia Rupp and the many volunteers who help with Sunday School, adult Bible Studies, Confirmation, the Children's Christmas Program and VBS.

## What We Do

Christian Education provides opportunities for our church family and the community to grow in spirit and faith.

## Highlights of 2022—Sunday School

Sunday school continues to see significant growth. We started our second year of a wonderful Lutheran curriculum called *Enduring Faith*. They offer this curriculum through adult. We are currently only using the preschool-through-sixth-grade portions of the curriculum. The kids seem to enjoy the full-color lessons. Learning with a Lutheran base was something important we wanted to work towards. It has been exciting to see this come together.

We had over 70 kids register (51 PreK-6<sup>th</sup> grade and 19 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade). To put these numbers into perspective; there were only 30 kids registered in 2021 in our PreK-6<sup>th</sup> grade program. We have seen an almost 40% growth in that group of our church.

In addition, our wonderful Sunday School teachers include:

- PreK: Jessica Bogema-Baumann & Laura Wendland
- K-1<sup>st</sup>: DeAnn Lommel & Andrea Plahn
- 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>: Shawn Perez & Elizabeth Schulze
- 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>: Nicole Johnsrud & Rachel Lotito
- 6<sup>th</sup>: Meghan Weaver, Malorie Thorson & Emily Hanson
- 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>: Gladys Nissen
- High school and college: Mark Nissen

We are very excited as a committee to

be offering something on Sundays for students of all ages.

Many have probably noticed that we no longer all fit in the large classroom and have had to expand to the sanctuary for two of our classes (4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> graders). We have also continued to put our music portion at the end of our Sunday School time instead of at the beginning. We believe as a committee that there is very little as important as having our youth strong in their faith. That comes with a solid curriculum, as well as a wonderful group of dedicated teachers. We are always open to ideas and encourage anyone who is interested in teaching or subbing to please reach out. We would love to put you into the rotation of this very rewarding program.

## VBS

The 2022 VBS theme was called *Spark Studios*. This is where imagination kicked creativity into high gear. Kids learned that God's creativity didn't stop in Genesis. The Master Artist is working to redeem, reclaim, and transform us - His creation - to the design He planned for us. The Bible Verse that was the centerpiece of the week was Ephesians 2:10 "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." This was a great week with lots of games, fun snacks and learning. We had many adult and youth volunteers and we were blessed with 65 kids in attendance. Next year's theme is called "Twists and Turns" with a message of how following Jesus changes the game. Stay tuned, it's sure to be an exciting week at Peace.

## Noisy Offering

Noisy offering is collected during worship after JAM on the second Sunday of the month. These funds are used to assist congregations, families or areas impacted by disasters or tragedies. The beginning of this year we chose to direct funds to help refugees of the Ukraine war, and this fall we collected donations to help Hurricane Ian victims in the Ft. Myers, FL area. We are always open to ideas on where to donate funds. Talk to a Christian Ed member with your idea. We want kids to learn the value of being generous and helping others in need.

## Confirmation

The confirmation program is stronger than it has ever been. Every year we are amazed at the growth and remind ourselves of the early classes of Peace's confirmation class sizes. It's truly amazing to see how the numbers have grown. We currently have 30 students (up from 22 in 2021) in the confirmation program (seven 9<sup>th</sup> graders, ten 8<sup>th</sup> graders, and thirteen 7<sup>th</sup> graders). Our confirmation students meet at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday evenings. This enables them to participate in youth group that evening as well.

Pastor David and Mark have done an amazing job with the confirmation program and have successfully created Peace's very own confirmation curriculum. The program is designed to present the core of the Christian and Lutheran faith through the study of scriptures and Luther's Small Catechism. We use these texts as the context for exploring current issues in the confirmands' lives. Pastor and Mark work to put material into students' hands, and to create something that can be reused for years to come. This year's focus is Luther's Small Catechism and why it's an important piece in a Lutheran's faith walk.

Teachers this year include; Colette Thorson, Jon Peterson, Mark Nissen, Pastor Hanson, and Nicole Johnsrud.

## Adult Education

There were some wonderful opportunities for adults to partake in education throughout the year at Peace. During Lent, 41 people attended a Max Lucado study of Esther called *Made for this Moment*. This was a great study on a journey through the book of Esther. Lucado reminded us that God need not be loud to be strong, he need not cast a shadow to be present...and he is active even when he appears distant. This was a great message as we were all just coming out of the year of the Pandemic.

The first Saturday of November, the IF: Gathering was brought for a third time to Peace Lutheran. This women's gathering had 55 registrants and centered around the message *The Darkness does not win, God Does*. Stay tuned for details on next year's IF:Gathering.

## Hospitality

*Marty & Diane Malmin, co-chairs 1<sup>st</sup> half of 2022*  
*Dani Hahn, chair 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2022*

### Who We Are

The Hospitality Ministry Team for 2022 consisted of the following members: Marla Erickson, Dani Hahn, Laurie Langner, Rachel Lotito, Karen and Robert Lotito, Diane and Marty Malmin, Shawn Perez, Lindsay Schmidt, RaKel Schroeder, Beth Seefeldt and John Weinzierl.

### What We Do

The Hospitality Ministry Team's primary responsibility is to provide a welcoming atmosphere where members of the Peace family can enjoy time together around our favorite things: Jesus, coffee, and snacks. We enjoy facilitating events to bring members of the congregation together for fellowship and fun.

### Highlights of 2022

We had a busy year in 2022 with our events: the Corn Feed, pie auction, chili feed, cribbage tournaments, fish fry and Cookie Walk/Christmas Bazaar. These events are growing and becoming more fun with each passing year. Peace Cafe is as busy as ever with coffee, pies, and other treats. We are grateful for those who help serve after worship on Sundays.

On an ongoing basis, we coordinate the greeters, provide support for funeral receptions and other luncheons, organize Easter breakfast, and maintain and order all the various supplies for the Peace Café.

We have put special focus this year on organizing storage spaces and supplies within Peace Cafe.

If Hospitality is something you are interested in joining or you would like to help out for specific events, please let us know—we would be so happy to have more members join the committee!

## Finance

*Submitted by: Jeremy Baumann, chair*

### Who We Are

The members of the Finance Ministry Team for 2022 were Dan & Sue Beulke, Judy Jacobson, Andy Johnsrud, Jeremy Baumann, Harlan Sundblad, Brad & Andrea Plahn, Bill Holmquist, Nathan Wendland, and Karen Dressel (MB liaison).

### What We Do

The Finance team oversees the financial matters of the church, proposes budgets, and keeps the congregation informed of its finances. Their goal is to be good stewards of the congregation's gifts to God and to encourage stewardship in all areas of ministry and mission.

### Highlights of 2022

As the year draws to a close, it's a privilege to provide you with an update on the financial status of Peace. Because of your generosity, trust in the mission, and faithful giving, we are pleased to report that, despite having entered 2022 with a budget that called for the use of \$21,253 from the General Fund to meet our expenses, we have not needed to utilize any of those funds. Furthermore, we will end the year

with revenues exceeding our expenses by about \$10,000. This is a significant accomplishment, and it provides a strong financial foundation for us as we move into the new year.

We also wanted to take a moment to express our heartfelt gratitude to Judy Jacobson, Sue Beulke, and RaKel Schroeder for their tireless efforts in ensuring that our financial reporting is accurate. These individuals have generously given their time and energy as volunteers, dedicating countless hours to meeting our financial reporting needs on a weekly, monthly, and annual basis. Without their dedication, it would not be possible for us to maintain the financial health of Peace. The financial review by an outside accounting firm showed everything to be in good order; meaning, everything followed generally accepted accounting principles.

As we look ahead, our preliminary budget for 2023 shows that we will not be facing a deficit. However, we understand that the needs of our church and its members are constantly evolving and we ask for your prayerful consideration in giving above and beyond your faith promise as the ministry works to provide the programs and services that are so important to our church and its members. Your support is crucial in helping us to continue to grow in our faith and make positive impacts in our church community.

## Missions

*Submitted by Ruth Clark, chair*

### Who We Are

The Missions Team at PLC continues to be comprised of people who are passionate about helping others. Our quarterly meetings are open to all, and we would love to have you join us. Whether you choose to join us at meetings or not, we ask that you please continue to support us, via prayer, donations and/or event participation.

Current Team Members: Jan Carlson, Ruth Clark (coordinator for 8 years, resigning position as of January 29, 2023), Maggie and Jim Grosshuesch, Edie Hanson, Karen Hoernemann, Karen and Robert Lotito, Nikki McClurg, Amy and Jon Peterson, Sharon Weinzierl, Sue and Curt Ziermann, and Mary Fritz-Barfnecht (MB Liaison)

### What We Do

The Missions Team recommended recipients of PLC's 2022 benevolence dollars and utilized our operating and designated funds to financially support those in need via the Good Samaritan Fund, Watertown Chamber of Commerce (ten \$50 Holiday meals), Operation Christmas Child (\$150 postage contribution) and Ronald McDonald House (\$500).

### Highlights of 2022

In addition to monetary gifting decisions, the Missions team organized several opportunities for PLC members to volunteer and to serve those in need. Some of the organizations supported were local, while others were national and/or international (see the table on the next page for Mission specifics).

*continued →*



*Mission Report Continued*

Our more notable activities for the year were as follows:

**February 19 - FMSC Robert Dean Day**

Thirty volunteers packaged food in Robert’s honor. (Robert was a go-to volunteer at FMSC and a devoted member of PLC. He was instrumental in developing the Praise Band and always improving the Sanctuary “sound.” Unfortunately, he suffered a debilitating stroke and now lives in OH near his son.) Photos and a *blessed* lap quilt were sent to Robert.

**February 26 - Missions Service Work Day**

Sewing machines, sergers and 21 workers (19 adults and 2 youth) gifted 97 hours of service. We cut and sewed 29 fleece gaiters (winter blessing bags), assembled and tied two full-size quilts (graduating senior gifts), ripped and

rolled white cotton sheets into 510 medical bandages (GHM), tied three 48x60 fleece blankets (RMH), and tied three baby quilts and serged eight fleece/flannel layette blankets (OGT).

**April 20 - Confirmation Servant Night**

We partnered with 22 Confirmation students for Servant Night. Following a brief presentation of various missions PLC supports, we tied three fleece blankets, ripped and rolled 189 bandages, and assembled 21 summer blessing bags.

**August 6 - Welcome Neighbor Corn Feed “Stuff the Truck” Food Drive**

“Stuff the Truck” yielded 324 pounds of non-perishable food and \$213 monetary donations, which were delivered to the Watertown Friends for Life Food Shelf.

**September - New Mission Display**

To beautify the Missions collection area, Adam Hanson designed, constructed and

delivered a new bulletin board. The bulletin board has a motion-activated digital frame which displays images of missions and mission activities.

**September 25 - Missions Sunday**

Our guest speaker was Jim Holmlund, Executive Director of Love INC – Heartland. He defined situational versus generational poverty and the difficulties that exist with breaking the cycle of the latter. Volunteer activities for the year were also highlighted with a video, bulletin insert, and table displays. We also served as greeters and provided special music.

**November 16 - Confirmation Servant Night**

We partnered with 21 Confirmation students for a Servant Night at PLC. Orphan Grain Train was highlighted first by video and then by the rolling and boxing of 96 infant layettes.

*Supported Missions in 2022*

| Organization   | Coordinator(s)   | PLC’s Active Participation  |
|--|--|---|
| Love In the Name of Christ (Love INC) - Heartland          | Mary Fritz-Barfnecht<br><i>(thru Aug)</i><br><br>Nikki McClurg<br><i>(as of Oct)</i> | Peace partnered with Trinity Lutheran to provide personal care items (PCI) to families participating in the “Fresh Start” program. 36 quarterly deliveries were made in 2022. PCI donations were collected the second Sunday of the month. Mary Fritz-Barfnecht resigned as liaison in August, and Nikki McClurg accepted the position in October. <i>(Mary, thank you for your two years of service)</i> |
| Watertown Friends for Life Food Shelf                      | Maggie & Jim Grosshuesch   | The fourth Sunday of each month, PLC collected cash and non-perishable food. In 2022, PLC contributed 1,336 pounds of food and \$1,993 above PLC’s benevolence gifting. During MN Food Share month, the Mountain of Love food drive was held at PLC, and 363 pounds of food and \$550 were donated.   |
| Nutritional Assistance Program for Seniors (NAPS)          | Nikki McClurg  | PLC continued to coordinate distribution of NAPS boxes the third Tuesday of the month. NAPS provides low-income seniors with a free box of nutritious food provided by Second Harvest. Two seniors are currently using NAPS at the FFL site. If you know of a senior who may benefit from NAPS, contact Nikki.  |
| Orphan Grain Train (OGT)                                   | Curt & Sue Ziermann  | Volunteers helped make simple pillowcase dresses & diapers from used white t-shirts. The diapers were assembled with other natal necessities into layettes. Total donations for 2022 included 96 layettes and 20 pillowcase dresses. A used t-shirt drive was also organized by members of the Delano Honor Society. Over 180 t-shirts were collected.  |
| Carver County Veteran Services                             | Sue Ziermann   | One full-size quilt was donated to CCVS for distribution to veterans.   |
| Feed My Starving Children (FMSC)                           | Ruth Clark   | Several times during the year, Peace members of all ages traveled to Chanhassen to hand-pack Manna meals for malnourished children.   |
| Mittens of Hope  | Sharon Weinzierl   | PLC members purchased 20 Christmas gifts and one grocery gift card for needy students anonymously submitted by the WM school social worker who then distributed the wrapped gifts to the students.  |
| Homeless Blessing Bags & Recycle Your Purse                | Ruth Clark<br><br>Edie Hanson  | Summer (21) and winter (18) blessing bags were assembled. The bags were made available to members to distribute to homeless victims they may encounter. Each bag contained non-perishable food items, seasonal clothing, and a New Testament outreach pocket Bible.   |
| Southern Valley Alliance (SVA)                             | Karen & Robert Lotito  | A hand-turned wood vase, five original welded Lotus flower sculptures, a fishing basket and hand embroidered towels were donated to the 23 <sup>rd</sup> annual SVA Silent Auction and Dinner which was attended by Karen and Robert.   |
| Royals Room (RR)   | Sharon Weinzierl   | Located at the W-M Elementary School, the RR houses nutritious food, school supplies, clothing & winter gear for students who come to school hungry or inadequately dressed. PLC collected non-perishable food and clothing throughout the year. During VBS alone, over 2,000 items were collected.   |
| Ronald McDonald House (RMH) @ Gillette Children’s Hospital | Karen & Robert Lotito  | Because of CoVID-19, RMH continued to keep its kitchen closed to meal preparation by outside groups. The \$500 earmarked for meal preparation and serving was donated to RMH instead.   |
| Operation Christmas Child (OCC)                            | Amy & Jon Peterson   | 100 official red, green and white OCC boxes were purchased this year. The colorful boxes, along with some creative marketing, inspired PLC members to fill 110 boxes, 63 boxes more than in 2021.   |
| Global Health Ministries (GHM)                             | Sue & Curt Ziermann<br>Jim & Maggie Grosshuesch                                      | Two gizmos were built to enable quick rolling of ripped white cotton sheets. Once rolled and rubber-banded, the bandages were delivered to GHM for its distribution around the world. To our best count, 1,503 bandages were rolled by PLC in 2022.   |

## Outreach

Submitted by: Karen Dressel, chair

### Who We Are

Our committee members include Karen Dressel (chair), Brian & Wendy Ely, Cathy Rieckenberg, Joan Nesvold, Mary Fritz-Barfnecht, Tom & Audrey Nickleby, Robert & Karen Lotito, Doreen Seal and Pastor David.

### What We Do

By sharing the love of Jesus in serving our community and the world, we work to share the love of Christ to the community of Watertown and surrounding areas.

### Highlights of 2022

The Pineapple Express is a great activity our team does. We continue to deliver pineapples to households new to the areas of Watertown, Mayer, parts of St. Boni, and south of Delano. Members of our committee and other church members helped to deliver 200+ pineapples this year. Thank you to all of the volunteers and to Cathy Rieckenberg for leading the project.

In March we hosted the Watertown firemen/women Chili Feed. The fire department and EMT's are so appreciative. It's a great way for all of us to get to know our community volunteers, plus it's a fun event to do.

Twice last year we hosted an opportunity for our church and community to purchase plants and flowers during the spring and again before Christmas from Gerten's.

In April we had the Bingo's at church for an afternoon of rocking music. It was a fun time for those who attended.

We also invited residents of Westwood Center to come and enjoy an afternoon of music and a treat. It was a great time for everyone.

In August we helped host the Welcome Neighbor Corn Feed (WNCF). The weather was challenging this year with the rain, but it did not hold back the community from coming and enjoying the afternoon. All committees and a lot of the congregation volunteered their time by helping with setup, concessions, various booths, and cleanup. Every year it gets bigger and better. Thank you all!

In October we hosted a table at the Watertown's Ladies Night Out. We gave out 200 cookies with information for our Christmas programs. A great time for camaraderie and some local shopping.

New members this year were given a swag bag from the Outreach team that contained information about Peace, a Member directory, some homemade jam and a big WELCOME to our church family. We continued to be blessed with people who have heard about PLC from the WNCF, a pineapple delivery, a postcard mailing, social media or by YOU. Thank you to all our new members and for sharing our love of PLC to others.

I want to thank our hard-working team for always being there, helping out, sharing ideas and making Peace a place to call home for everyone. Special thanks to Sandy Fleischman for her help with Outreach posters and handouts.

The Outreach committee meets the second Monday of every month at Peace. We always welcome new people to our committee as we enjoy new ideas, inspiration and energy! Please consider joining.

## Property

Submitted by: John Weinzierl, chair

### Who We Are

The Property Ministry Team is made up of volunteers who offer their time and talents to ensure the facilities are maintained and are in good repair and appearance. Team members are Bill Hoernemann, John Lobitz, Tom Mittelstaedt, Paul Nesvold, Jim Grosshuesch, Kris Hanson, Andy Johnsrud, Tim Dressel, Jason Raser, Leif Pederson, Cory Meyer, John Weinzierl and Mike Rupp (MB liaison).

### What We Do

This group maintains the heating, plumbing, mechanical, electrical and security systems within the church. Property is responsible for the maintenance of supplies, carpet cleaning, light bulb replacement, HVAC monitoring and the job of custodial services, which includes regular cleaning (once per week and on an as-needed basis.) The exterior maintenance includes regular gardening, weeding, mowing, fertilizing, irrigation system maintenance and snow removal.

### Highlights of 2022

This group works diligently all year to keep Peace looking well maintained. A few highlights of 2022:

- Replaced the playground equipment,
- The interior of the church was painted with thanks to Tom Mittelstadt and his crew, and
- Had all of the carpet cleaned.

A special thanks to all of the helpers who respond as needs arose. Special thanks to the Monday morning cleaning group, Bill Hoernemann, Paul Nesvold, Butch Essig, Jim Lindgren, Bill Helfritz, Bob Carlson, Ted Pew and Jake Jacobson. Thanks to Jerry Berg for providing the lawn care services, Kris Hanson and Tom Mittelstaedt for providing the snowplowing. John Lobitz and Paul Nesvold for taking care of the sidewalk snow removal.

There is always a need for more members. Contact John Weinzierl if interested.



Coffee for residents dropping off for Watertown clean up day.



Yummm — corn on the cob from Welcome Neighbor Corn Feed.



AJ at corn hole at Welcome Neighbor Corn Feed.



## Technology

Submitted by Kevin Schroeder, chair

### What We DO

The Technology Team is responsible for the electronic equipment throughout the church including the office equipment, telephones, PCs, and audio/video equipment, as well as coordinating upgrades and changes to software.

### Highlights of 2022

In 2022 we purchased multiple microphones to enhance the overall sound of our choirs and praise band. The microphones we purchased are mainly to enhance the overall quality of sound that is sent out to our livestream. However, it also adds a little bit to our in-house sound as well. Here is a breakdown of the added microphones:

We added three area microphones to the front of our church. They are mainly for our adult choir and children's choir to be amplified over our livestream. However, we have also used these area microphones to amplify speaking parts and amplify musical instruments at funerals and special worship services.

We added three area microphones to the drum set. The purpose of the drum microphones is to amplify the drums over our livestream.

We added a fourth area microphone up by our praise band area specifically to amplify instruments for special music (i.e., flute, violin, trumpet, etc.).

We were able to upgrade our electronic keyboard. The new keyboard will give us many more options/features to enhance the musical sounds during our worship.

We are also constantly listening to the livestream worship and tweaking the soundboard to make the online viewing the best experience for our listeners/viewers.

## Stewardship

Submitted by: Amy Peterson and Tricia Rupp, co-chairs

### Who We Are

Our team includes Sue Beulke, Adam Hanson, Karen Lotito, Rachel Lotito, Robert Lotito, Amy Peterson, Andrea Plahn, Bob Rieckenberg, Tricia Rupp, Melissa Stuntebeck, Jeremy Baumann (MB liaison), and YOU! It is your time, your talents, and your gifts that allow Peace to spread God's word and do God's work all year long. Fun Fact: did you know there are at least 30 volunteers and over 36 volunteer hours needed for one Sunday morning worship with communion and children's Sunday School, and even more if the Praise Band is playing?

### What We Do

Stewardship 360 is a yearlong effort focusing on time, talents and gifts.

### 2022 Highlights

This summer, our 12-week stewardship theme was "Go Fish." A Sunday family fishing day included a fishing contest on Lake Peace, a kiddo's fishing pond, casting contests, and fly-fishing demonstration. *Dirt Dessert* was served in Peace Café. Members of the congregation provided online devotions about Finding Peace in the Solitude of God's Creation. These devotions were emailed to the congregation each week. The congregation

was also invited to submit photos of their biggest catch fish stories and places of relaxation. The summer theme ended with a Shore Time Breakfast of fish filets, cheesy potatoes, beans, Hawaiian bread and watermelon.

Our fall theme was a 2<sup>nd</sup> *Slice of PIE—Prayer, Invite, Engage*. Prayer is vital in our Christian lives and is a way to connect with God. Inviting others and engaging in Peace is also important in order to spread God's word and do His work. In September, 158 adult packets were picked up at church or mailed. We are very thankful for the 98 pledges that were returned. 91 faith promises were received totaling \$332,906. We celebrated these gifts by serving breakfast pizza pies and fruit pizza pies on Celebration Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup>.

In October, Ministry Teams were recognized and thanked. Interest Inventories were made available to the congregation via paper copies and online. Peace needs YOU! Please pray about how you can become more involved at Peace.

We're looking forward to a *Spiritual Journey to a More Generous Life* in 2023.

**98**  
2022 Faith Promises Received  
**\$332,906**  
2023 Total Pledged  
**25**  
Brand New Pledgers  
**29**  
Households Increased  
2023 Giving



Fishing opener on Beautiful Lake Peace and the fish fry.



## Worship & Music

Submitted by: Edie Hanson, chair

### Who We Are

We are thankful to the many people who contribute to the Worship & Music ministry: to Pastor David, for his wonderful leadership and quick wit. To JoAnn Deveny, for her tireless devotion to our music and scheduling of special guest musicians. To Marla Erickson, for scheduling our special music and directing the choir. To Marla and Ruth Clark who provide accompaniment when JoAnn is on vacation. To our Sunday School children's choir who usually bless us with a song on the second Sunday of each month during the school year and perform a wonderful Christmas Program every December. To all our volunteer musicians and vocalists, for their many gifts. To the members of the Worship & Music Ministry Team, for their support in selecting our music. To the ushers and greeters, sound board operators, recorders and slide presenters. To Mark Nissen, who arrives early to set up the video recording and cameras. To Kevin Schroeder, who ensures the sound system is set up and ready for every worship. There are so many who contribute behind the scenes to make our worship time blessed.

We thank our Lord Jesus Christ, for what He has done in our lives and the people He has guided to our Peace door. We welcome all feedback regarding the music selections, flow of the worship experiences, and worship atmosphere of Peace.

### What We Do

Worship & Music volunteers are a group of people who graciously share their gifts and talents, volunteering as musicians, greeters, ushers, readers, and more. Our members are what makes Peace special.

### Highlights of 2022

The continuing goal for the Worship & Music Ministry Team in 2022 has been to create a worship experience that has something meaningful for everyone who attends Peace Lutheran Church. To that

end, we strive to select music that includes traditional hymns and newer praise music. The intent is to find something that speaks to each worshiper's heart. We believe that a blended worship experience benefits everyone, and we want all to feel blessed and filled with the Holy Spirit.

We are continuing to develop our livestreaming of worship. Every Sunday there are people joining us in live worship online and viewing the worship later on YouTube and Facebook. We continue to be grateful for the groundwork our brother in Christ, Robert Dean, did to make this possible. We are so happy to welcome all the volunteers who manage the livestreaming every worship, especially our Youth who seem to adapt to it so quickly.

During the course of the year, we held monthly meetings to plan for Sunday worship and special worship opportunities, such as Lenten mid-week, summer mid-week, and more. We are happy that the effects of Covid on worship planning are behind us. Now we're excited about the increased number of people coming to worship with us at Peace and focusing on worship timing to ensure our Sunday School has the time they need after worship. We worked with the Technology Team and Ministry

Board to improve the sound quality and screen projection and are happy with the upgrades that have been implemented. If you are interested in volunteering to present slides, record worship, read the scripture, operate the sound board, present a children's message for JAM or be the person who carries the camera and mic around the church during the announcements and "Yay God" moments during worship, please contact the church office and let us know. We're always happy to train new volunteers. We have found that our Middle School and High School members are extremely good with technology and enjoy doing the livestreaming, slide presentation and soundboard operations. We are so grateful for their service!

We received a used Clavinova (electronic keyboard that can provide a variety of instrument sounds) from the City of Watertown Fine Arts group this fall that will add a new musical element to our worship center.



## Adult Choir

Submitted by: Marla Erickson,  
Adult Choir Director & Special Music  
Coordinator

### Who We Are

A group of adults who love to praise the Lord in song.

### What We Do

Peace's Adult Choir has been enjoying increased overall enrollment in 2022. It practices on the first Wednesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. and again at 8:15 a.m. on the Sundays on which we sing for worship at 9:00. Choir usually sings the first and third Sundays a month, with the second Sunday reserved for the Children's Choir and then the older Youth on the last Sunday of the month. This has worked well and allows a larger variety of Peace members - younger, older and in between - to share their musical gifts. Choir *heartily* welcomes new members to join at any time throughout the September-through-May choir year and is in particular need of male voices. We truly would love to have you in our midst!

### Highlights of 2022

Participating in Watertown's Thanksgiving Eve community worship (at EV Free this year) was a wonderful opportunity for choir to both rehearse and sing in a larger, combined choir to give thanks to God as a church community.

Coordinating Special Music is also area for which I am responsible. Peace's congregation has been blessed with vocalists, flutists, trumpet players, guitar players and others, who greatly enhance our worship including special Easter, Reformation Sunday and Christmas Eve worship.

Summertime there is always a need for Special Music. Contact me regarding ideas you'd enjoy sharing. It has been fun to get creative in this regard.

Sol Deo Gloria!



## Youth Activities

Submitted by: Jessica Bogema-Baumann, chair

### Who We Are

Committee Members: Mark & Gladys Nissen, Joseph Perez, Meghan Weaver, Nicole Johnsrud, Andrea Plahn, and Nancy Sandin & Sandin

### What We Do

Our Youth Activities Team strive to strengthen our youth to develop a mature and active relationship with Jesus Christ and to be disciples and leaders for Him in this church and in the community. We seek to demonstrate care and concern for all students. This ministry focuses on youth who have completed their first communion through 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

### Highlights of 2022

The youth activities ministry had a busy 2022! When you look around Peace during a Sunday worship or on a Wednesday night during youth group, you will see a huge blessing, so many kids! The number of kids attending Sunday worship, Wednesday confirmation and youth group just continues to grow each year. If you look around the Sanctuary you will see our youth as readers, special music, JAM, ushers, running the slides and the livestream for online worship!

Mark continues to lead youth group Wednesdays for students 6-12<sup>th</sup> grade. Youth group is also open to our community and friends of our youth. We continue to see kids who are not members of Peace join us. A typical youth group night or event sees about 25-30+ kids!

The youth committee and Peace's youth planned and partook in multiple service projects this year, including a yardwork day, parents' night out, see you at the pole, and college care packages. They also planned and led the 7:00 am Easter Sunrise Celebration worship.

A new service event this year was Trick or Treat for the food shelf! Our youth and leaders joined forces with neighboring congregations and went door to door collecting almost 4,000 pounds of food and monetary donations for the Watertown Food Shelf! The

youth and committee can also be seen helping our fellow committees with events like; trunk or treat, VBS, Peace fishing opener, and the annual corn feed!

Our committee made sure to have fun events in 2022 as well. Some of the events were; broomball, Urban Air, bowling, Valleyfair, Egg Olympics, color war, nerf war, swimming, high school retreats, a Bible study, and a lock-in.

Yay God, Peace went on a second mission trip! We had 24 youth and four adult leaders head to Harrisburg, PA to spread the good news of our Savior and to volunteer their time helping the community of Harrisburg. They cleaned, painted houses, spent time with children, and helped wherever needed. They spent time every day in worship and prayer, and had some fun as well on the way! Peace has a third mission trip on the books for this upcoming summer. The youth will be heading to Columbia, SC to serve and spread the good news of our amazing Lord!

Our committee is excited for the future. It is hard not to be! One word that continues to come to mind when thinking about the future is GROWTH! We have many families who are excited for their kids to be a part of Peace's youth, and we are having more and more interest from families outside of Peace as well. As a committee we are excited to see the youths' faith grow. We continue to support them with their faith walk and strengthen our relationships. With the continued support from our congregation, this program is only going to gain more and more momentum and be able to reach so many more youth.

We know 2023 is going to be a busy year! We are looking forward to continuing traditions and building and strengthening our current youth group. Nothing is impossible with God! "Lord, I want to give you all the glory for giving us our youth, the events we get to partake in, the work that is being done inside and outside our church. I pray that everything we do is pleasing in your eyes."

I would also like to thank our congregation for supporting Mark's position and our youth. Pastor Hanson for always giving his time and talents. Mark, for being such a great asset to our youth and church, and my fellow committee members for giving their time and talents. Without you, none of this would be possible.

## UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE 2021 ANNUAL MEETING - January 30, 2022

Welcome given by President Joseph Perez.

- I. **Call to Order:** Call to order at 10:36 a.m.
- II. **Opening Prayer:** Opening prayer lead by Pastor David Hanson
- III. **Open Forum:** Jake Jacobson asked for grace for wife, Judy, as she will be giving the financials with little notice due to Jeremy Baumann's illness.

### IV. Adopt Agenda:

*Motion to adopt Annual Meeting Agenda with changes. Bob Rieckenberg/John Weinzierl/No discussion/Carried.*

### V. Approve Congregational Meeting Minutes:

- a. Approve 2020 Congregational Meeting Minutes held on Sunday, January 31, 2021

*Motion to approve the congregational meeting minutes held on January 31, 2021. Marty Malmin/Adam Hanson/No discussion/Carried*

- b. Approve Special Congregation Meeting held on September 19, 2021

*Motion to approve special congregation meeting held on September 19, 2021. Beth Seefelt/Duane Swensen/No discussion/Carried*

### VI. Nominating Committee Ballot Presentation Given by Bob Rieckenberg:

- a. Ministry Board Positions (3-Year Term) Vote for Two: Audrey Nickleby, Joseph Perez, Steve Rome, and Mike Rupp.
- b. Nominating Committee (2-Year Term) Vote for Three: Ruth Clark, Adam Hanson, Kristi, Mittelstaedt, Kelsie Simon, Melissa Stuntebeck and Laura Wendland.
- c. President (After Ministry Board Election Results)

## VII. Reports

- a. Pastor's Report given by Pastor David Hanson: Well summarized in his sermon this morning.
- b. Director of Youth & Family Report given by Mark Nissen: Thanked congregation for personal support and support of the youth ministry.
- c. Ministry Board Report given by Joseph Perez: Recognized volunteers, with those stepping up, serving God despite challenges. Positive team unity at leadership workshop.

## VIII. Recognition of Ministry Teams

- *Altar Care Ministry Team* – Wendy Ely: Highlights of 2021.
- *Care Ministry Team* – Mary Fritz Barfnecht: New team for 2021. Continue momentum into coming year.
- *Christian Education Ministry Team* – Nichole Johnsrud: New curriculum that youth and instructors are both enjoying. VBS will be at end of June.
- *Finance Ministry Team* – Sue Beulke: Remarked about the generosity of our congregation.
- *Hospitality Ministry Team* – Marty Malmin: Mission of team is welcoming and enjoying fellowship over treats and coffee. Special advertised activities throughout the year. February 20<sup>th</sup> will be the Chili cook off.
- *Mission Ministry Team* – Ruth Clark: Eighth year as team coordinator. Thanked those who headed a mission. Involvement in local and global missions. February 26<sup>th</sup> will be annual missions service work day.
- *Nominating Team* – They were counting ballots so Joseph thanked committee. Calling to serve is not easy task. Joan

Nesvold, Anne Holmquist, and Bob Reickenberg are completing 2-year terms.

- *Outreach Ministry Team* –
- *Property Ministry Team* – John Weinzierl: Recognition of the property committee. Special projects include Jerry Berg providing lawn fertilization and mowing which is gifted; Chris Hanson and Tom Mittlestad providing snow plowing, which associated costs are gifted as well; John Lobitz, Jim Grosshuesch, Mark Weinzierl and Paul Nesvold providing sidewalk shoveling and snow blowing; Monday morning coffee crew providing facility cleaning; Stuart Foster donates the use of an ariel lift to change light bulbs in the sanctuary. All of these volunteer services save the church approximately \$20-\$30,000 per year.
- *Stewardship Ministry Team* – Amy Peterson: Thanked team. Change is to look differently at giving, faith promises are important but is the God given talents of each person. Focus on talents and time as well.
- *Technology Ministry Team* – Kevin Schroeder: Projectors and microphones coming soon to enhance in-house and online worship.
- *Worship & Music Ministry Team* – Edie Hanson: Acknowledged team. Worship music is planned on the weekly readings, special events. Goal is to have blended music with traditional and contemporary music. Help is needed on the soundboard, sling and JAM.
- *Youth Activities Ministry Team* – Mark for Jessica Baumann: Monthly events are being planned as well as Wednesday night youth groups. More youth are participating.

- IX. Remembering Our Departed Members:** Hadley Joy Nissen, Charlie Van Pawelk and Sandra M. Schlueter were remembered. Moment of silence, offered prayer

and remembering that grieving is a journey.

## X. 2021 and 2022 Finance Review Presented by Judy Jacobson Financial Administrator.

- Audit Report of 2021 Financial Records – Done by an independent agency, Jeanne Matter CPA, and found our books to be in order. Verified accurate.
- Review of 2021 Finance Report – Judy reviewed income and expenses.
- Proposed 2022 Budget – Judy discussed the 2022 budget.

*Motion to approve 2022 Budget: Glen Hulley/Chuck Venske/No discussion/Carried*

## XI. New Business: None

## XII. Nominating Committee Election Results Presented by Bob Rieckenberg

- Elected Nominating Committee Members for the 2022 year serving a 2-year term are: Adam Hanson, Kelsie Simon and Laura Wendland
- Elected Ministry Board Members for the 2022 year serving a 3-year term are: Joseph Perez and Mike Rupp
- 2022 Ministry Board President: Joseph Perez has agreed and accepted the 2022 Ministry Board President position.

*Motion to destroy ballots: Bill Holmquist/Marty Malmin/No discussion/Carried*

## XIII. Thank You Past Ministry Board Members and Candidates

- XIV. Adjournment:** Closing statement from the president of the congregation, Joseph Perez.

*Motion to adjourn Jon Peterson/Paul Nesvold/No discussion/Carried*

Meeting Adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

- XV. Closing Prayer:** Closing Prayer by Pastor David Hanson.





## Giving Analysis at a Glance

### PROFILE

Fiscal year January 1, 2022 - December 31, 2022

*This represents offertory giving only, including EFT, envelopes and online giving to general fund.*

**176**  
TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS GIVING  
(AS OF 12/31)

**133**  
TOTAL CONTRIBUTING MEMBER  
HOUSEHOLDS

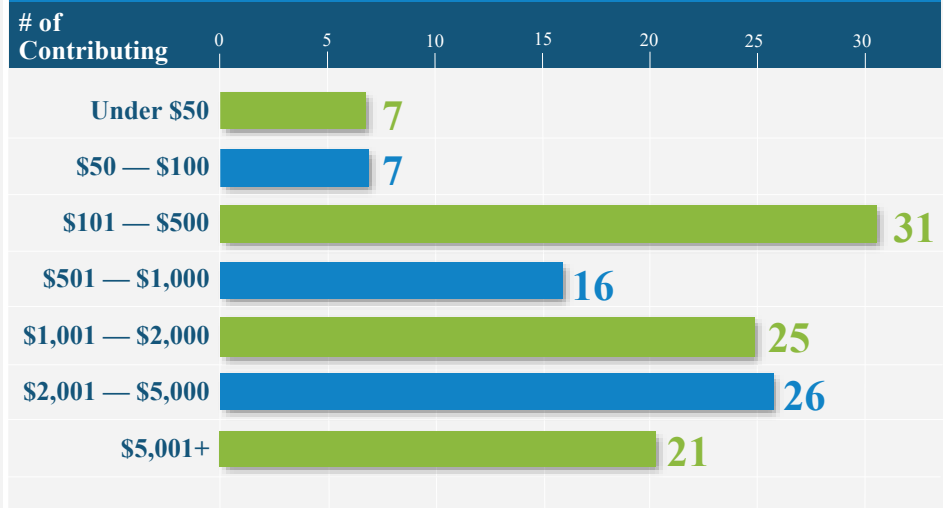
**473**  
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP

**76**  
PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL  
HOUSEHOLDS CONTRIBUTING

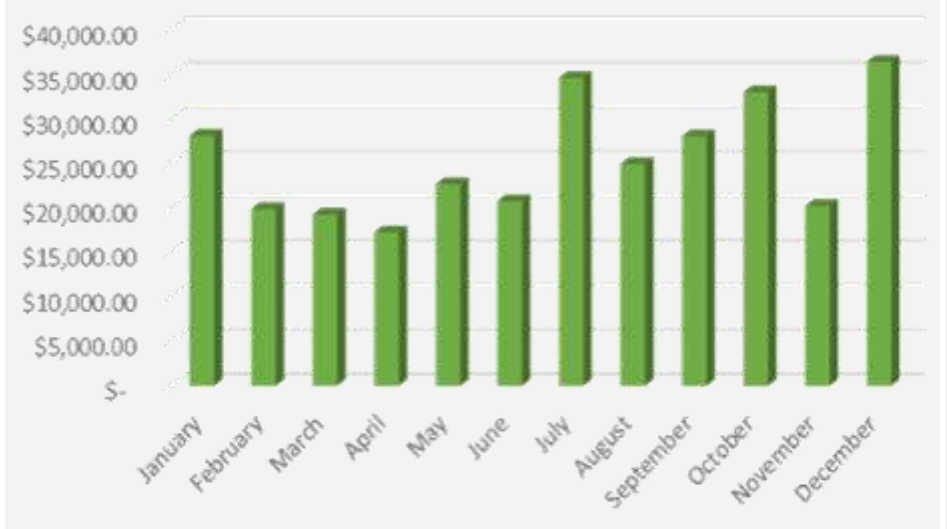
**44**  
AVG. WEEKLY CONTRIBUTION  
PER CONTRIBUTING HOUSEHOLD

**2,290**  
AVG. ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION PER  
CONTRIBUTING HOUSEHOLD

### ANNUAL GIVING



### AVG. GIVING BY MONTH



| INCOME SUMMARY                     | 2022                     | 2021                     | 2020                     |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Faith Promises - General Fund      | \$ 328,853               | \$ 297,248               | \$ 262,579               |
| Keep Faith Growing                 | -                        | 4,515                    | -                        |
| Cash Offerings                     | 5,921                    | 4,430                    | 1,283                    |
| Lenten Offerings                   | 2,731                    | 786                      | 846                      |
| Easter Offerings                   | 5,461                    | 5,855                    | 1,550                    |
| Thanksgiving Offerings             | -                        | 565                      | -                        |
| Christmas Offerings                | 2,716                    | 10,448                   | 1,155                    |
| Interest Income                    | 439                      | 213                      | 421                      |
| Miscellaneous Income               | 500                      | 483                      | 435                      |
| <b>OPERATING INCOME</b>            | <b><u>\$ 346,621</u></b> | <b><u>\$ 324,543</u></b> | <b><u>\$ 268,269</u></b> |
| Building Fund - Debt Retirement \$ | -                        | -                        | \$ 14,809                |
| Brick & Mortar Fund                | -                        | 889                      | 25,822                   |
| PPP Funds                          | -                        | -                        | 31,085                   |
| Insurance Claim Fund               | -                        | -                        | 33,779                   |
| Undesignated Donor Fund            | 67,335                   | 64,000                   | -                        |
| Youth Mission Trip                 | 17,787                   | 16,502                   | -                        |
| Projector Fund                     | -                        | 17,000                   | -                        |
| Various Funds                      | 46,374                   | 18,882                   | 25,445                   |
| Memorials                          | -                        | 650                      | 3,945                    |
| Refunded Transactions              | 3,524                    | 6,368                    | 2,351                    |
| <b>NON-OPERATING INCOME</b>        | <b><u>\$ 135,020</u></b> | <b><u>\$ 124,291</u></b> | <b><u>\$ 137,236</u></b> |
| <b>TOTAL INCOME</b>                | <b><u>\$ 481,641</u></b> | <b><u>\$ 448,835</u></b> | <b><u>\$ 405,505</u></b> |

| EXPENSE SUMMARY                 | 2022                     | 2021                     | 2020                     |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Benevolence                     | \$ 29,710                | \$ 27,100                | \$ 25,900                |
| Property                        | 31,092                   | 23,971                   | 25,187                   |
| Salaries & Benefits             | 232,277                  | 228,646                  | 195,306                  |
| Education                       | 4,969                    | 4,404                    | 2,707                    |
| Activity                        | 4,524                    | 3,811                    | -                        |
| Outreach                        | 6,236                    | 3,837                    | 793                      |
| Missions                        | 2,844                    | 1,774                    | 1,909                    |
| Music                           | 1,262                    | 1,701                    | 1,030                    |
| Stewardship                     | 1,475                    | 1,712                    | 1,328                    |
| Office and Church Supplies      | 15,317                   | 14,216                   | 12,694                   |
| Communications & Technology     | 2,215                    | 2,760                    | 1,168                    |
| Hospitality                     | 3,333                    | 3,336                    | 1,860                    |
| Care                            | 1,338                    | 518                      | -                        |
| <b>OPERATING EXPENSE</b>        | <b><u>\$ 336,592</u></b> | <b><u>\$ 317,787</u></b> | <b><u>\$ 269,882</u></b> |
| Move-in Costs                   | \$ -                     | \$ -                     | \$ 4,092                 |
| Building Fund - Debt Retirement | -                        | -                        | 25,397                   |
| Brick & Mortar Fund             | 3,691                    | 598                      | 638                      |
| Properties Fund                 | 1,554                    | 8,532                    | -                        |
| Rainy Day Fund                  | 6,781                    | -                        | -                        |
| Noisy Offering                  | 1,948                    | -                        | -                        |
| Youth Mission Trip Fund         | 14,646                   | 15,680                   | -                        |
| Projector/Technology Fund       | 25,636                   | -                        | -                        |
| Various Funds                   | 17,570                   | 20,991                   | 16,310                   |
| Insurance Claim                 | -                        | -                        | 117,909                  |
| Memorials                       | 771                      | 662                      | 1,275                    |
| Refunded Transactions           | 2,376                    | 4,908                    | 3,579                    |
| <b>NON OPERATING EXPENSE</b>    | <b><u>\$ 74,973</u></b>  | <b><u>\$ 51,371</u></b>  | <b><u>\$ 169,201</u></b> |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>            | <b><u>\$ 411,565</u></b> | <b><u>\$ 369,157</u></b> | <b><u>\$ 439,083</u></b> |

\*totals rounded to the nearest dollar

## Cash & Fund Balances

Cash in Bank as of 12/31/2022 - \$306,224

Fund Balances as of 12/31/2022

|                            |           |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| General                    | \$ 82,563 |
| Undesignated Donor         | \$ 67,335 |
| Brick & Mortar             | \$ 21,785 |
| Build the Future           | \$ 32,000 |
| Prepaid Faith Promise-2023 | \$ 26,804 |
| Memorials                  |           |
| Undesignated               | \$ 20     |
| Jerry Hendricks            | \$ 222    |
| Rainy Day                  | \$ 3,449  |
| Altar Care                 | \$ 1,471  |
| Christian Education        | \$ -      |
| Noisy Offering             | \$ 830    |
| Care Ministry              | \$ 625    |
| Hospitality                | \$ 15,332 |
| Mission Ministry           | \$ 6,557  |
| Good Samaritan             | \$ 7,735  |
| Thrivent Mission           | \$ 509    |
| Outreach                   | \$ 6,389  |
| Property                   | \$ 1,014  |
| Automatic Door Fund        | \$ 5,000  |
| Worship / Technology       | \$ 26     |
| Music Ministry             | \$ 4,474  |
| Youth Ministry             | \$ 2,082  |
| High School Scholarship    | \$ 10,700 |
| Youth Mission Trip         | \$ 9,302  |

## 2022 Benevolence & Missions

### LOCAL

|                                |        |
|--------------------------------|--------|
| Blessing Bags/Recycled Purses  | \$ 566 |
| Care Package                   | 13     |
| Carver County Veterans Council | 1,100  |
| Friends for Life Food Shelf    | 2,577  |
| Gas Cards                      | 360    |
| Holiday Meal Baskets           | 500    |
| Hope House                     | 1,280  |
| LCMC                           | 1,250  |
| LCMC—Augustana District        | 3,000  |
| Love INC                       | 2,500  |
| MN Asst Council for Veterans   | 1,100  |
| Ronald McDonald House          | 500    |
| Southern Valley Alliance       | 2,603  |

### GLOBAL

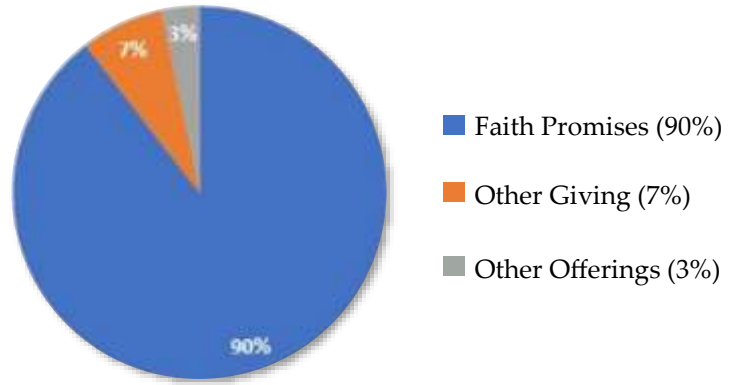
|                           |       |
|---------------------------|-------|
| Feed My Starving Children | 4,000 |
| New Hope Mission Society  | 2,500 |
| Orphan Grain Train        | 6,431 |
| Samaritan's Purse         | 2,156 |

**TOTAL** **\$ 32,436**



## 2023 Estimated Income

|                        |                   |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Faith Promises (98/91) | \$ 332,906        |
| Other Giving           | \$ 26,500         |
| Other Offerings        | \$ 12,500         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>           | <b>\$ 371,906</b> |



## 2023 Budget - Ministry Team Summary

|                             | 2023 BUDGET       | 2022 BUDGET       |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Finance                     | \$ 305,336        | \$ 287,545        |
| Property                    | \$ 25,485         | \$ 17,041         |
| Education Ministry          | \$ 8,860          | \$ 7,350          |
| Activity Ministry           | \$ 6,400          | \$ 6,000          |
| Missions Ministry           | \$ 2,065          | \$ 2,360          |
| Stewardship Ministry        | \$ 3,000          | \$ 3,000          |
| Care Ministry               | \$ 1,800          | \$ 1,425          |
| Outreach                    | \$ 7,140          | \$ 7,481          |
| Hospitality                 | \$ 4,360          | \$ 4,000          |
| Music                       | \$ 2,980          | \$ 1,935          |
| Altar Care                  | \$ 1,980          | \$ 0              |
| Communications & Technology | \$ 2,500          | \$ 2,500          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                | <b>\$ 371,906</b> | <b>\$ 340,637</b> |

## 2023 Benevolence Budget

### LOCAL

|                              |          |
|------------------------------|----------|
| Carver Cty Veteran's Council | \$ 2,000 |
| Friends for Life             | \$ 3,000 |
| Hope House                   | \$ 2,000 |
| LCMC                         | \$ 1,500 |
| LCMC – Augustana District    | \$ 3,500 |
| Love INC                     | \$ 3,000 |
| MN Asst Council for Veterans | \$ 2,000 |
| Ronald McDonald House        | \$ 500   |

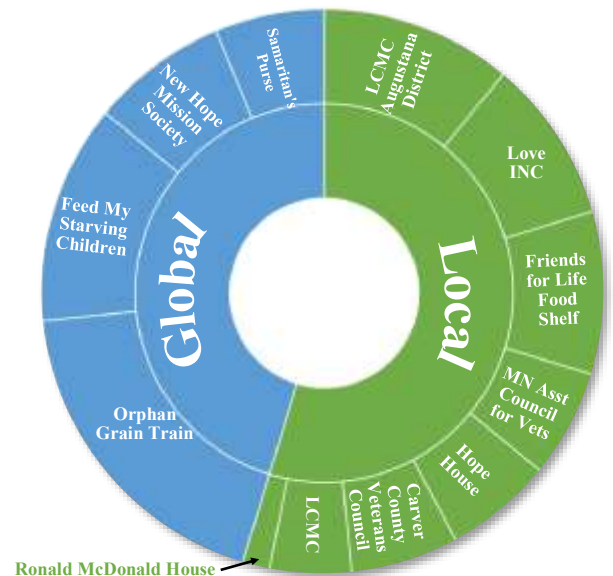
### GLOBAL

|                           |          |
|---------------------------|----------|
| Feed My Starving Children | \$ 4,000 |
| New Hope Mission Society  | \$ 2,500 |
| Orphan Grain Train        | \$ 6,000 |
| Samaritan's Purse         | \$ 2,000 |

**TOTAL** **\$ 32,000**

## 2023 Budget & Income Comparison

|                  |              |
|------------------|--------------|
| Budget           | \$ (371,906) |
| Estimated Income | \$ 332,906   |
| Other Giving     | \$ 26,500    |
| Other Offerings  | \$ 12,500    |
| <b>TOTAL</b>     | <b>\$ 0</b>  |



# Membership & Worship Stats

|                                      | 2021 | 2022 |
|--------------------------------------|------|------|
| ◆ Baptized Membership                | 412  | 473  |
| ◆ Confirmed Membership               | 303  | 332  |
| ◆ Number of Member Households        | 145  | 162  |
| ◆ Members Removed                    | 8    | 15   |
| ◆ Average Sunday Worship Attendance  | 131  | 166  |
| ◆ Average Midweek Worship Attendance |      |      |
| • Ash Wednesday                      | 102  | 158  |
| • Lent                               | 64   | 78   |
| • Maundy Thursday                    | 101  | 168  |
| • Good Friday                        | 94   | 127  |
| • Summer Series                      | 39   | N/A  |
| ◆ Christmas Eve Worship Attendance   |      |      |
| • 3:00 pm                            | 174  | 156  |
| • 5:00 pm                            | 187  | 126  |
| • 9:00 pm                            | 75   | 94   |
| ◆ Easter Worship Attendance          |      |      |
| • 6:30 am                            | 101  | 103  |
| • 9:00 am                            | 105  | 280  |
| • 11:00 am                           | 85   | 83   |

## Bible Presentation Sunday September 18, 2022

| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade     | 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| ✠ Darren Daubenspeck      | ✠ Kylar Cox           |
| ✠ Lexi DiBenedetto        | ✠ Landon Johnsrud     |
| ✠ Lana Hanson             | ✠ Chloe Knutson       |
| ✠ Henry Hokenson          | ✠ Colton Lange        |
| ✠ Grady May               | ✠ Riley McGowan       |
| ✠ Maci McClurg            | ✠ Hayden Meuleners    |
| ✠ Sloan Miller            | ✠ Vienna Miller       |
| ✠ Liam Raser              | ✠ Olivia Pederson     |
| ✠ Alex Seefeldt           | ✠ Sam Plahn           |
| ✠ Heidi Seefeldt          | ✠ Barrett Rupp        |
|                           | ✠ Aaron Seefeldt      |
| <u>Other Bibles Given</u> | ✠ Victoria Sprenger   |
| ✠ Elly Allen              | ✠ Casey Stuntebeck    |
| ✠ Alyson Kamps            | ✠ Addison Weaver      |
| ✠ Kailey Paschke          |                       |

## Congratulations! 2022 Graduates

Graduate Recognition Sunday, May 22, 2022

**High School**—Maris Heun\* & Dayvin Schroeder  
**College**—Cooper Anderson, Nicklaus Junczewski & Wyatt Tesch

\*High school students who received  
PLC Graduate Scholarships

## 2022 Pastoral Acts

### BAPTIZED

2021 — 7                      2022 — 16

- Brooks Michael Hahn  
*Sunday, February 20, 2022*
- Jack David Holmquist  
*Sunday, February 13, 2022*
- Harper Anne Fritz  
*Sunday, February 13, 2022*
- Paisley Rae Sandquist  
*Sunday, March 27, 2022*
- Tripp Alan Danielson  
*Sunday, April 17, 2022*
- Creed Christopher Thaemert  
*Sunday, April 24, 2022*
- Annie May Dressel  
*Sunday, May 8, 2022*
- Lily Lee Petree  
*Sunday, June 12, 2022*
- Eleanor Marie Ladner  
*July 10, 2022*
- Henry Walter Bohler  
*July 31, 2022*
- Sadie Elizabeth Grotbo  
*August 14, 2022*
- Eleanor Joy Nissen  
*August 28, 2022*
- Khariel Ashley Ann Tillman  
*October 2, 2022*
- Elizabeth Harper Walz  
*October 16, 2022*
- Cashton Richard Stuewe  
*December 4, 2022*
- Colton Douglas Hulke  
*December 25, 2022*

### FIRST COMMUNION

Thursday, April 1, 2022

- Tanner Baumann
- Kylar Cox
- Nolan DiBenedetto
- Blake Laughlin
- Cade Lommel
- Levi Meyer
- Zachary Potter
- Westin Raser
- Michelle Schoening
- Grady Sommer

### CONFIRMED

Sunday, May 15, 2022

- James Jaeger Baird
- Sophia Rae Baumann
- Brody M. Butler
- Wyatt Joseph Gabrelcik
- Audrey Jo McClurg
- Marcus Richard Rupp
- Aidan Lee Williams

### MARRIED

- Diana Johnson & Britton Chomeau  
*August 20, 2022*
- Nancy Lange & Troy Sandin  
*October 1, 2022*

### FUNERALS

- Doris Mae Swenson  
*Monday, October 17, 2022*
- Marty Malmin  
*Saturday, November 12, 2022*



|                  | 2021 | 2022 |
|------------------|------|------|
| Baptized members | 41   | 62   |
| Households       | 12   | 20   |

### Sunday, March 27, 2022

9 people / 3 households

- Matt & Deb Butler  
*Brody; Benjamin; Oliver*
- Al Pettis
- Mark & Emily Sandquist  
*Paisley*

### Sunday, June 19, 2022

21 people / 6 households

- Dana & Michelle Cox  
*Kylar; Callan*
- Joe & Teri DiBenedetto  
*Nolan; Lexi*
- Andy & Tanya Gosha  
*Hanna; Nora*
- Eric & Haley Ladner  
*Eleanor*

- Roger & Dorothy Larson

- Terry & Tiffany Molitor  
*Lena; Owen*

### Sunday, August 14, 2022

12 people / 4 households

- Joseph & Stephany Allen  
*Elly*
- David & Sandra Nielsen
- Brian & Joan Quaas
- James & Lindsey Walz  
*Kaden Stier; Alexander; Elizabeth*

### Sunday, October 9, 2022

7 people / 3 households

- Jake Bohler & Amy Prok  
*Henry*
- Jeffrey & Tammy Dammen
- Logan & Megan Hunter

### Sunday, December 11, 2022

13 people / 4 households

- Jeff & Brenna Demeules  
*Elizabeth; Finley; Sloan; Iza*
- Michael & Alyssa Paschke  
*Kailey; Addison; Jackson*
- Troy Sandin
- Deb Wasser