

**“EVERY INCH IS CLAIMED BY CHRIST”**



**CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
REDEEM | RECONCILE | REPAIR

# ANNUAL REPORT

**2023**  
EDITION





# Annual Meeting Agenda

**March 10, 2024 11:45am**

**Agenda as prescribed by the Constitution:**

- 1) Call to order by President John Korsmo
- 2) Opening Devotion and Prayer by Pastor Ralf
- 3) Appointment of Parliamentarian and Tellers
- 4) Approval of minutes of February 26, 2023 Annual Meeting
- 5) Approval of Special Congregational Meeting minutes on November 19, 2023
- 6) Reports
  - a. Pastor, Council President, Treasurer (including Audit/Financial Review)
- 7) Elections: Nominating Committee presents candidates
  - a. Council
    - i. President Elect (3 years) – Thomas Thompson
    - ii. Treasurer (2 years) – Carol-Wray Sturgill
    - iii. Secretary (3 years) – Sharon Webb
    - iv. Outreach Ministry Director (3 years) – Linda Shehan
  - b. Endowment – 1 position (3 years)
    - i. Dave Betz
- 8) Nominating Committee for 2024 (4 members)
- 9) Voting delegates to the SWWA Synod Assembly (None this year)
- 10) Unfinished Business
- 11) New Business
  - Constitution Amendments
  - Lay Pastor Position
- 12) Closing Prayer by Pastor Ralf

# Annual Meeting Minutes

**Feb 26, 2023 11:45am**

~~Approval of the minutes of the 2022 Annual Meeting~~

Meeting was called to order by President Mike Marsh.

Opening Devotion and Prayer was led by Pastor Ralf Kalms.

President Mike Marsh appointed Scott Buser as Parliamentarian and Karen Claussen and Jerry Dunlap as tellers.

Approval of minutes of February 27, 2022 Annual Meeting MSP

Approval of Special Congregational Meeting minutes on November 20, 2022 MSP

Reports

Pastor Ralf Kalms gave his report

Council President Mike Marsh gave his report

Treasurer Jeff Hansen gave his year-end report including Audit/Financial Review

Elections: Nominating Committee presented candidates

a. Council

i. President Elect (3 years) – John Korsmo

ii. Operations Ministry Director (3 years) – Lindsay Johnston

iii. Youth Ministry Director (3 years) – Meagan Jensen Pascoe

iv. Education Ministry Director (2 years) – Lisa Korsmo

MSP to elect the above nominations.

b. Endowment – 2 position (3 years)

i. Ken Brown

ii. Trish Lewis

MSP to elect the above nominations.

Nominating Committee for 2024 (4 members)

Names submitted from the floor: Tracy Perry, Mikel Ann Robinson, Mike Courts, Linda Evanson.

MSP to elect the above names for Nominating Committee.

Voting delegates to the SWWA Synod Assembly, Saturday, May 6, 2023 at Messiah Lutheran in Auburn

Names submitted from the floor: Theresa Luedtke, Robbie Courts, Thelma Kalms.

MSP to elect the above names for Voting Delegates to Synod Assembly.

No Unfinished Business

New Business

Mike Courts made a motion that the Council begins a process to amend our Constitution to allow for absentee electronic ballots, and proxy ballots as well as livestreaming the meeting to allow for remote participation by members. (two-year process)

Meeting was Adjourned by President Mike Marsh.

Closing Prayer by Pastor Ralf.

# Special Congregational Meeting Minutes

November 19, 2023

## Call to Order by President

Special Congregational Meeting was called to order by President John Korsmo.  
Single agenda item is approving the 2023 Mission and Ministry Spending Plan.  
Parliamentarian is Scott Buser.  
Tellers are Karen Claussen and Sandy Reed.  
Tellers confirmed we had a quorum present.

## Opening Prayer and Devotion – Pastor Ralf

Prayer and a Devotion by Pastor Ralf.

## Presentation of the 2024 Proposed Spending Plan – Jeff Hansen

Jeff Hansen, Congregational Treasurer, presented our 2024 Proposed Spending Plan.

## Call for Motion to Accept the 2024 Proposed Spending Plan

President John Korsmo announced that our church council has approved the 2024 proposed Spending Plan and they are presenting it to the congregation today. President John Korsmo called for a motion to approve the 2024 proposed Spending Plan.

It was moved and seconded. The floor was open to discussion and questions. There were no questions or discussion.

There was a call to vote and President John Korsmo asked everyone to use their ballots to vote.

Tellers collected ballots.

While tellers counted ballots, President John Korsmo shared a little about Council's Mission/Vision for 2024.

President John Korsmo announced that the 2024 Spending Plan was approved unanimously.

## Close Meeting

President John Korsmo adjourned the meeting.

Pastor Ralf closed in Prayer.

# Christ Lutheran Church

## Statement of Activities - Summary

2023 Financial Report January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023

### Income Summary

1	<b>Regular Giving</b>		
2	Pledged Giving / Loose Offerings	679,676.06	
3	Special Holiday Offerings	6,890.00	
4		<u>686,566.06</u>	
5			
6	<b>Other Income</b>		
7	Facility Use - Rentals/Latchkey/PS	34,293.52	
8	Bequests and Misc Gifts	100.00	
9	Parish Life	1,521.00	
	Family Ministry	348.00	
10	Worship	0.00	
11	Education	7,782.88	
12	Youth Activities	134.83	
13	Administration & Ded Transfers	2772.34	
14	C Campaign - Sustaining Fund Support	88,454.63	
15	Benevolence & Dedicated Giving	41,294.19	
16		<u>176,701.39</u>	
17			
18	Income Total	863,267.45	
19	2023 Funds Available		863,267.45

### Liability and Expense Summary

20	Benevolences	107,672.74	
21	Parish Life	12,074.51	
22	Family Ministry	4,432.23	
23	Facility Maintenance	130,101.87	
24	Personnel	505,373.85	
25	Administration & Finance	53,379.08	
26	Worship	12,139.94	
27	Parish Education	12,321.76	
28	On-line Ministry	6,033.01	
29	Technology	13,187.38	
30	Youth	3,088.01	
31	Publicity	3,463.07	
32		<u></u>	
33	Expense Total	<u>863,267.45</u>	
34			
35	<b>Dece 31, 2023 Ending Balance - General Checking</b>		<b>0</b>
	<b>Dec 31, 2023 Ending Balance - Dedicated Accts Balance</b>		<b>252,496.85</b>
	<b>Cash in CLC Accounts</b>		<b><u>252,496.85</u></b>

# Dedicated Accounts

With Date Range 1/1/23 to 12/31/23

Fiscal Year 2023 - January 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023

Account Shortcut and Description	Beginning Balance	Credits	Debits	Ending Balance
<b>Church Operations</b>				
<b>Parish Life</b>				
<b>Golden Anniversary Celebrations</b>				
9088 Golden Anniversary Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Faith Out Loud</b>				
9042 Advent Festival	499.97	583.00	319.78	763.19
9045 Family Ministries	1,270.14	700.00	51.63	1,918.51
9051 Reformation 500	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9046 Hospitality Fund	2,516.74	0.00	0.00	2,516.74
9055 Quilters Fund	3,479.17	2,435.00	983.40	4,930.77
9047 Altar Guild	1,788.81	3,552.93	3,780.69	1,561.05
9084 Women's Ministry	466.92	0.00	0.00	466.92
9053 Parish Nurse Fund	544.23	0.00	0.00	544.23
9151 CLCW	2,318.51	1,275.77	1,440.71	2,153.57
Faith Out Loud Totals:	12,884.49	8,546.70	6,576.21	14,854.98
<b>Adult</b>				
9094 Parish Trips-Events	0.00	4,995.00	900.00	4,095.00
<b>Other Temporarily Restricted Funds</b>				
9097 Concert Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Parish Life Totals:	12,884.49	13,541.70	7,476.21	18,949.98
<b>Operations</b>				
<b>Property Maintenance</b>				
9076 Van Repair/Replacement	40.06	2,500.00	0.00	2,540.06
9162 PreSchool Playground	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Property Maintenance Totals:	40.06	2,500.00	0.00	2,540.06
Operations Totals:	40.06	2,500.00	0.00	2,540.06
<b>Scholarships Awarded</b>				
<b>Regular Giving</b>				
5824 Due From CLC	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scholarships Awarded Totals:	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Personnel</b>				
<b>Parish Activities Misc</b>				
9109 Lead Pastor Continuing Ed	451.74	800.00	771.42	480.32
9107 Family Ministry -Continued Ed	(0.23)	0.23	0.00	0.00
9108 Parish Admin Continuing Ed	1,546.32	800.00	867.63	1,478.69
9101 Youth Director Cont. Ed	(0.04)	0.00	0.00	(0.04)
9106 Family Ministry -Continued Ed	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9152 Custodian Health Acct	(0.44)	0.00	0.00	(0.44)
9073 Staff Cont Ed, Train, Confer.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Parish Activities Misc Totals:	1,997.35	1,600.23	1,639.05	1,958.53
<b>Youth Director</b>				
9110 Youth Dir Cont Ed	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Personnel Totals:	1,997.35	1,600.23	1,639.05	1,958.53
<b>Administration</b>				
<b>Supplies &amp; Services</b>				

9089 Directory Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Administration Totals:	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Worship</b>				
<b>Worship</b>				
9070 Organ Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9044 Handbell Fund	713.30	0.00	0.00	713.30
9075 Altar/Worship Supplies Fund	314.09	0.00	0.00	314.09
9071 Music Fund	1,480.91	0.00	0.00	1,480.91
9165 Drama Productions	2,682.94	3,961.78	5,483.44	1,161.28
9167 Music Productions	697.98	484.00	0.00	1,181.98
Worship Totals:	5,889.22	4,445.78	5,483.44	4,851.56
Worship Totals:	5,889.22	4,445.78	5,483.44	4,851.56
<b>Education</b>				
<b>Equipment</b>				
9056 Parish Ed-AV and Computers	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Parish Education</b>				
9041 Vacation Bible School	999.67	0.00	0.00	999.67
9043 Parish Ed Memorization Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9054 Nesse Library Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9093 Sunday School Offerings	750.00	0.00	0.00	750.00
9098 Bible Fund	162.38	378.00	0.00	540.38
9023 SS Offering for Social Project	28.15	0.00	0.00	28.15
Parish Education Totals:	1,940.20	378.00	0.00	2,318.20
<b>ECCE</b>				
9052 Nursery Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>General</b>				
9069 Elementary School Programs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Education Totals:	1,940.20	378.00	0.00	2,318.20
<b>Youth</b>				
<b>General</b>				
9039 Youth Fundraisers	1,085.33	500.00	0.00	1,585.33
9121 MS Youth Programs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9161 Youth Dome Fundraising	8,056.07	950.00	2,390.70	6,615.37
9103 International Mission Trip	0.01	120.00	120.00	0.01
General Totals:	9,141.41	1,570.00	2,510.70	8,200.71
<b>Youth Activities</b>				
9122 Road Rules/MS Summer	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9123 Expedition 56	(0.40)	0.40	0.00	0.00
9124 Beyond Malibu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9006 6th Grade Rocks Projects	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9102 HS Activity Donations	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Youth Activities Totals:	(0.40)	0.40	0.00	0.00
<b>Curriculum &amp; Activities</b>				
9068 Middle Sch. & Sr. High Program	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Misson Trips</b>				
9163 HS Mission Trips	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Youth Totals:	9,141.01	1,570.40	2,510.70	8,200.71
<b>Finance</b>				
<b>Regular Giving</b>				
9160 Lyndi Reed-Sabbatical Fund	(0.19)	0.19	0.00	0.00
9166 Ralf Kalms - Sabbatical Fun	0.00	25.00	0.00	25.00
Regular Giving Totals:	(0.19)	25.19	0.00	25.00
<b>General</b>				
9032 Gathering Place Furnishings	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

<b>Other Temporarily Restricted Funds</b>				
9033 Art Glass Fund	1,770.00	0.00	0.00	1,770.00
9035 Columbarium Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9036 Tree Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9038 Scholarship Fund	0.00	500.00	0.00	500.00
9062 Memorial Fund	1,338.07	2,034.93	410.00	2,963.00
9092 LCC Sound System	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9105 Messiah Fund	500.93	6,305.00	5,517.99	1,287.94
9074 Seminarian Scholarship Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9061 Endowment Fund - Cash	0.00	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
Other Temporarily Restricted Funds Totals:	3,609.00	10,839.93	5,927.99	8,520.94
Finance Totals:	3,608.81	10,865.12	5,927.99	8,545.94
<b>Benevolences</b>				
<b>Benevolences - Other Lutheran</b>				
9019 ELCA - World Hunger	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Benevolence - Other</b>				
9158 Pastor's Member Support	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9013 Joy Stohr Estate Gift	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Benevolence - Other Totals:	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Dedicated Benevolence Giving</b>				
9078 Lenten Dinners Fund	0.00	879.00	870.00	9.00
9004 Cribbage Player Donations	0.00	407.00	352.00	55.00
9003 Family Renewal Shelter	0.00	30.00	30.00	0.00
9015 Tillicum Comm Ctr Food Bank	(0.35)	535.35	460.00	75.00
9104 Operation Christmas Child	68.48	418.00	120.88	365.60
9018 ELCA - SW Wash Synod	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9095 Compassion Sunday	49.61	161.00	360.49	(149.88)
9016 Mueller - Local Outreach	5,250.56	12,832.11	7,182.11	10,900.56
9030 CLC Missions	0.00	36,423.42	32,862.94	3,560.48
9086 LWR - Ukraine	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9096 Angel Tree	0.00	70.00	0.00	70.00
9014 Paul & Margie Ecker - Outreach	8,146.51	2,000.00	2,000.00	8,146.51
Dedicated Benevolence Giving Totals:	13,514.81	53,755.88	44,238.42	23,032.27
Benevolences Totals:	13,514.81	53,755.88	44,238.42	23,032.27
<b>Outreach</b>				
<b>Restricted Funds - Local</b>				
9077 Nativity House Meal Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Outreach Totals:	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Temporarily Restricted Funds</b>				
<b>Restricted Funds - Local</b>				
9005 Lakewood Area Shelter Assn	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9007 Nativity House - DG	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Restricted Funds - Local Totals:	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Restricted Funds - Synod</b>				
9017 ELCA - National Disaster	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9024 Seminarian Support	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Restricted Funds - Synod Totals:	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Restricted Funds - National</b>				
9027 Habitat for Humanity	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Restricted Funds - World</b>				
9031 Lutheran World Relief	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Restricted Funds - Local</b>				
9001 CLC Sustaining -Maintenance	32,173.66	13,832.73	2,500.00	43,506.39
9002 CLC Sustaining -Mission	53,549.25	13,582.73	0.00	67,131.98
9008 Loop System Replacement	8 (0.18)	3,070.00	3,069.82	0.00

9009 CLC Sustaining Gifts	15,035.61	125,603.54	109,732.29	30,906.86
9155 PPP Loan	17,289.09	500.00	500.00	17,289.09
9155-01 PPP - First Fruits	19,245.10	0.00	680.00	18,565.10
Restricted Funds - Local Totals:	<u>137,292.53</u>	<u>156,589.00</u>	<u>116,482.11</u>	<u>177,399.42</u>
<b>Other Temporarily Restricted Funds</b>				
9065 Visiting Theologian	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Temporarily Restricted Funds Totals:	<u>137,292.53</u>	<u>156,589.00</u>	<u>116,482.11</u>	<u>177,399.42</u>
Church Operations Totals:	<u>186,308.48</u>	<u>245,246.11</u>	<u>183,757.92</u>	<u>247,796.67</u>
<b>Residence</b>				
<b>Operations</b>				
<b>Property Maintenance</b>				
9079 Reserve - Residence	3,000.18	1,700.00	0.00	4,700.18
Operations Totals:	<u>3,000.18</u>	<u>1,700.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>4,700.18</u>
Residence Totals:	<u>3,000.18</u>	<u>1,700.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>4,700.18</u>
<b>Total for selected dedicated accounts:</b>	<u>189,308.66</u>	<u>246,946.11</u>	<u>183,757.92</u>	<u>252,496.85</u>

Printed: 2/15/2024 1:23 PM

By: Sandra Lindstrom

Dedicated Accounts - With Date Range



Christ Lutheran Church  
Statement of Activities  
2023 Annual Report - CLC Preschool and CLC Latchkey  
Summary Page - Financial Report January 1, 2023 to December 31,2023

	CLC Latchkey Program		
5001	Beginning Balance		52,962.00
5002	Tuition and Fees	151,129.71	
5003	PPP Grant	-	
5004	Stabilization - 1	5,272.00	
5005	Miscellaneous Income	50	
5006	Interest	0.42	
5007	Summer School Program	11,165.98	
5008	Total Income	167,618.11	
5009	Expenses		
5010	Personnel and Employer Tax	121,910.40	
5011	Education / Art / Exploration	2,404.45	
5012	Operation Expenses & Staff Reimbursements	15,244.72	
5013	Administration Fees & CLC Reimbursements	12,896.09	
5014	Licensing / Banking / Other Fees	-	
5015	Room and Playground Remodel	-	
5016	Technology & Equipment	155.3	
5017	Summer School Program	36,448.47	
5018	Stabilization Grant 1	-	
5019	Stabilization Grant 2	-	
5020	Total Expensens	189,059.43	
5021			
5022	CLC LK Ending Balance on 12/31/23		31,520.68
	CLC Preschool Program		
6001	Beginning Balance - Building Fund		11,264.00
6002	Tuition and Fees	41,841.50	
6003	PPP Grant	6,048.00	
6004	Fundraiser - 2023 Remodel	9,862.61	
6005	Interest Income	13.87	
6006	Total Income	57,765.98	
6007	Expenses		
6008	Personnel and Employer Tax	39,336.82	
6009	Operational Expenses / CLC Staff	11,769.86	
6010	Administration Fees	3,187.49	
6011	Educational Supplies	1,876.17	
6012	Playground and Equipment	-	
6013	Total Expenses	56,170.34	
6014			
6015			
6016	CLC Preschool Ending Balance on 12/31/23		12,859.64

To: Christ Lutheran Church Council  
8211- 112TH ST. SW  
Lakewood, WA 98498

From: Sylvia Allen, Ken Brown, Lia Knight

Re: Review of Christ Lutheran Church Financial statements and documentation for  
Fiscal Year Jan. 1, 2023 – Dec. 31, 2023

On February 22, 2024, we met with Jeff Hansen, CLC Treasurer, for a review of financial transactions in the year 2023. This evaluation is not an official audit but constitutes an outside review of the annual finances of Christ Lutheran Church.

Items which we reviewed or discussed for 2023 were:

- Annual report documents for the Mission and Ministry Fund (i.e., the Statement of Activities)
- Summary statement for Dedicated Funds
- Summary statements for the Latch Key and Preschool programs
- Miscellaneous practices and procedures

We posed several questions and observations based on our review, that Jeff subsequently addressed with staff. We have the following notes/recommendations stemming from those questions/observations:

1. When Council prepares the draft spending plan for 2025, consider increasing the budget for custodial costs (account 5067) to sufficiently cover anticipated increases in those costs. It appears the 2024 spending plan is approximately \$4,000 less than actual costs in this account for 2023. This should be closely looked at for subsequent years.
2. The list of benevolences in the spending plan is quite long. While we appreciate that this reflects generous support by our church to many worthwhile entities, we encourage Council to review this list and consider potentially shortening it to a smaller group of organizations to whom we could make more impactful contributions.

Overall, our review of the above items indicated that all reports were consistent. Financial information was well documented with all necessary attachments.

### **Conclusion**

Based on the review performed, we found no material errors and feel that the financial statements and summaries present a true and accurate assessment of the information.

Thank you,

Sylvia Allen, Reviewer

Lia Knight, Reviewer

Ken Brown, Reviewer

# Nominations

## 1 Candidate for President Elect:

**Name:** Thomas Thompson

**Member of CLC for** 10 **years**

**Occupation:** Retired Air Force, Retired Teacher

**Family / other affiliations / interests / hobbies:**

Born and raised in Greenville, Alabama. Married to Louise, who died in 2014 from Multiple Sclerosis. Has 1 son, who lives in Lakewood with his wife and 2 children. Hobbies include fishing, sports, and working with kids. Currently Vice President of LASA, and member of Clover Park Kiwanis.



**Areas served / involved at CLC:** Baptized at CLC in 2014. Enjoys serving in worship as a reader, usher, Communion Assistant. Also enjoys working with kids as a VBS Leader, Confirmation Leader, and helping at events like Trunk or Treat, Narnia and Resurrection Trail. Previously served on Council as the Education Ministry Director. Helps with delivering Thanksgiving food baskets, mailing the quilts, and driving for Senior Trips.

## 1 Candidate for Secretary:

**Name:** Sharon Webb

**Member of CLC for** 5 **years**

**Occupation:** 25 years with Haggen's

**Family / other affiliations / interests / hobbies:**

Lives in University Place. She has 2 sons and 5 grandchildren. Enjoys reading, cooking, long walks, music, and traveling. She enjoys working in customer service and loves learning new things.



**Areas served / involved at CLC:** Enjoys serving on Sunday mornings as a Greeter, Usher, Communion Assistant, and at other special events.

# Nominations

## 1 Candidate for Treasurer:

**Name:** Carol-Wray Sturgill

**Member of CLC for** 35 **years**

**Occupation:** Retired Teacher

**Family / other affiliations / interests / hobbies:**

Born and raised in the Pacific Northwest. Family moved to Lakewood in 1988 from Bellingham and found Christ Lutheran Church. Her son, Adam, lives in CA and daughter Sarah lives in Grays Harbor. She has 4 adult grandchildren and 2 precious great-grands. She married Ralph Kendall (also a long time CLC member) and had 9 wonderful years together before he died in 2020. Hobbies are knitting, Zentangle, collage creations, and reading.

**Areas served / involved at CLC:** Previously served on Worship Committee, as Council Secretary, on 2 pastoral call committee's, Vacation Bible School, knitting prayer shawls, and serving on Sundays as a Communion Assistant and Usher. Feels honored to be asked to serve again on Church Council.



## 1 Candidate for Outreach Ministry Director:

**Name:** Linda Shehan

**Member of CLC for** 8 **years**

**Occupation:** Retired from Tacoma Public Library

**Family / other affiliations / interests / hobbies:**

Moved to WA 31 years ago, finishing a career in the US Navy. Her daughters and their families live in Spokane. She enjoys gardening, reading, walking, yoga, aerobics, playing cards, traveling, and attending live theatre, concerts, and sporting events.

**Areas served / involved at CLC:** Member of CLCW Faith Circle and Outreach Committee. She has served as a Vacation Bible School volunteer and co-chaired the Samaritans Purse Operation Christmas Child Shoebox donations.



# Staff and Leadership

## Staff

Pastor	Ralf Kalms
Administrator	Lyndi Reed
Youth & Young Adults Director	Matthew Fulcher /
Children & Family Director	
Secretary	Aubrie Fulcher
Parish Accountant	Lark Moore / Sandra Lindstrom
Custodian	Francine Sumrell & Tyler Reed
Music/Worship Leaders	Evin Lambert, Tracy Perry
Latchkey Director	Hannah Elliott
Preschool Director/Lead Teacher	Michele Green, Rose Kim
Property Caretaker	Fred Moore

## Church Council

### Executive Council Members

President—Michele Green/John Korsmo

Past President—Mike Marsh

President Elect—John Korsmo

Secretary—Julianne Fagerstrom

Treasurer—Jeff Hansen

### Council Ministry Directors

Worship—Francine Sumrell

Spiritual Formation —Lisa Korsmo

Children & Youth— Meagan Jensen

Operations—Lindsay Johnston

Outreach—Kyle Hagman

## Endowment Committee

Bob Mattson

Heinz Haskins

Trish Lewis

Ken Brown

Scott Buser

Financial Secretary—Dick Ferrell

Parish Nurse—Barb Olson





# Vital Statistics

## **New Members**

Wanda Andrews  
Tristynn Beach  
Elleya Beach-McCrossen  
Chris Bozarth  
Chad Burrington  
Lia Burrington  
Olivia Burrington  
Julie Chavez  
Sean Chavez-DeGruy  
Emma Chavez-Spellman  
Ben Clark  
Kimberly Clark  
Kamryn DeGruy  
Jeramie Hill  
Shelby Hill  
Bethany Hill  
George Kettler  
Gloria Kettler  
Jym Kinney  
Jennifer Kinney  
Debbie Lacefield  
Chanelle McCune  
Keith McCune  
Adeline McCune  
Lisa McNamara  
Quinn McNamara  
Rhys McNamara  
Aleesha Otton  
Audrey Pospisil  
Robin Roy  
Sean Roy  
Joyce Shuck  
Zachary Spellman

## **Confirmands**

Emma Jensen  
Mason Pink  
Khloe Siess

## **Memorials/Deaths**

Anne Czelder  
Tom Gilmer  
Cindy Johnson  
Jean McLaine  
Karen Van Horn  
Luise Wireman

## **Baptisms**

Sky Anthony  
Olivia Burrington  
Abby Gonzalez  
Henry Hagman  
Aria Humbert  
Nora Humbert  
Ho'olana Lambert  
Adeline McCune  
Quinn McNamara  
Rhys McNamara  
Liam Peterson  
Danielle Rozul  
Gabriella Rozul



## **Marriages**

Brianna Karpowich & Erik Peterson

# PASTORS REPORT

*"How wonderful, how beautiful, when  
brothers and sisters get along . . ."  
Psalm 133:1*



*Among my reflections on the year past is the basic sense that things are good, not perfect, but good here at Christ Lutheran. And best about that is the sense that we are a healthy community.*

*I have been here long enough (16 years now) that I can remember times when we struggled in community. There were contentious issues, both theological and personal. People who we loved, left. There were very challenging staff issues. I wondered myself sometimes if we were going to make it and if I was going to make it as a pastor here.*


*But the community that is Christ Lutheran made it. And then we made it through Covid, which wasn't only a health challenge but one that came with its own contentious and divisive issues. We are a different church after Covid (smaller for sure) but still a church with a sense of purpose and mission. A good number of churches wonder whether they can continue to exist, that isn't our question.*

*A healthy community is a wonderful gift. In his reflection on Christian community, Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote, "The physical presence of other Christians is a source of incomparable joy and strength to the believer" (Life Together). I believe that because I experience it every day when I am here, and certainly every Thursday and Sunday when we worship together. "It is grace, nothing but grace, that we are allowed to live in community with Christian brothers and sisters." I couldn't agree more!*

*But I also know that the point finally isn't simply to be a healthy community. Community isn't an end but a means. When Jesus told his disciples that they were to love one another he added: "By this all people will know that you are my disciples" (John 13:35). The goodness of community exists as a form of witness – it tells a world with broken communities that community is possible. It's possible finally not because we agree about everything and see everything the same way, but because we have a common center – the person and work of Jesus Christ!*

*I have always found it exciting that when Jesus called that first group of twelve they included a tax-collector, Matthew, and a zealot, Simon. You couldn't be further apart on the 1st century political spectrum than that, and yet they both found themselves called by Jesus. Christ's call to them was so powerful it overcame their deep-seated differences. They discovered that real community isn't based on uniformity but instead*





*on a common allegiance. That allegiance was Jesus Christ and it was so powerful that slowly it spread not only in their Jewish world but the Roman one as well. The church, made up of so many different kinds of people, became a magnet.*

*Christian community is intended to be magnetic!*

*2023 bears witness to some of that magnetism. Lyndi is slowly but surely helping us to build a ministry with young children and their families. Our Latchkey and Preschool do the same.*

*Wednesday evening 'Rooted' is a new ministry which isn't only for young children but adults as well (through the group that Jack Roffler is leading). We have healthy ministry with older folks through things like quilting and Thursday worship and classes. Mike Courts leads a monthly group of men who share a meal and a movie, and multiple women's group gather around God's Word.*

*These are all healthy signs of Christian community at work.*

*What do I dream about going forward? We are thinking about staffing our church in a new way that includes the possibility of Lyndi as a lay pastor. I'm excited for this and believe it could serve as a new model of what ministry will look like not only at Christ Lutheran but in the wider church as well. I also hope that in 2024 we will see a new youth director here – someone with a passion for teenagers and young adults. And in a presidential election year that will for sure be filled with lots of division and unkindness, I dream that Christ Lutheran lives into that Christian community that demonstrates unity in the midst of diversity.*

*It is good to live in Christian community! Thelma and I are so glad that Christ Lutheran is the Christian community that we get to call home!*

*Thank you for the continued blessing it is in my life to serve as your pastor!*

*With love and thanks for the great year past and the exciting year to come-*

*Pastor Ralf*





# PRESIDENTS REPORT

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*Watching God on the move is amazing! Although my time as acting president was cut short due to my cancer diagnosis, I was able to witness so many good things happening here at CLC. We are a thriving congregation that continues to grow in wonderful ways!*

- Our “Kids Club” continues to be a huge success and is still growing in numbers, with new faces and families every Sunday!*
- Our Choir, Joyful Noise Team, and Bells have been actively rehearsing and providing beautiful music on Sunday mornings.*
- Our Thursday worship service continues to grow with an average of 35-40 people worshipping together at noon every Thursday. This group enjoys snacks and fellowship together, as well as a Bible Study.*
- Our Wednesday evening Rooted program is up and running with lots of excitement. Twenty to thirty people share a meal together each week and there are classes for both kids and adults.*
- Pastor Ralf, Lyndi Reed, and I all attended a conference just over one year ago in Phoenix, AZ called Leading Well. We had a great time together and met other church leaders from all over the country. It was no surprise that many of the challenges we are currently facing, are shared by others. This retreat allowed us time to discuss current trends, share ideas, and provided us time to collaborate and dream about the future of CLC. We returned with an idea to host an Epiphany Brunch and uplift the many gifts and talents that are so evidently present in our congregation and connect them to our ministries. Our previous committees became teams and it has been so great to watch them grow into fruition. Many of these teams are now dreaming together about how they can best participate in and support the mission and vision of Christ Lutheran Church.*

*I am grateful to John Korsmo for stepping into the role of acting president 6 months early! My hope is to return as past president this spring.*

*Blessings,  
Michele Green*



# PRESIDENTS REPORT

*I so much have enjoyed my time back on council and I am looking forward to continue to serve as President in this calendar year. It was a blessing to serve along side those that have been on council for awhile and to rely on their experiences, history and knowledge. It is also so encouraging to witness the trust and support of our congregation as our council leads our church throughout the year. As Michele stated, it was with out a doubt that I step in to support her as she concentrated on her health and battle with her diagnosis. And, so pleased to hear of her recent results and her commitment to hopefully come back to serve in her role as past president. We need her leadership.*

*I am enjoying serving and being back on council because of the activity I see and hear about in our church. The past year, as is being reported in our individual council reports, has been filled with growth and fulfilling ministry creating a very vibrant and healthy church and congregation. Why wouldn't we enjoy this? We have come out of the pandemic healthy and strong. We have so much to be thankful for here at Christ Lutheran and there is so much to take part in. With that in mind, I encourage you to be an active part of our church, to worship, to make yourself available in supporting worship, volunteering in weekly ministry where needed, and to include our church in your weekly/monthly lives.*

*This past year in our council meetings we have spent our time working on potential ideas and solutions for our staff and staffing shortages. We are down two significant staffing positions. It has become very noticeable. We have had several suggestions and considerations come to us. Many of our successes over the past year in our church calendar have come at the expense of relying on our current staffing level to do the majority of the work. This is not sustainable and we are hopeful we can support our growth, activity, and momentum with a new position this year.*

*In the month of January our ministry teams were stationed in our gathering space after worship services to introduce involvement in our different church ministries. This was one of those ideas to follow up on last year's Epiphany Brunch and help support our current church staff and I encourage you to "lean in" to one or more of these teams. This is great way to get to know each other and to follow up on what is happening throughout the church year at our church.*

*What are you hearing...we want to see more of you! You and your family are invited to all we have to offer at Christ Lutheran.  
Blessings,  
John Korsmo*




# TREASURER REPORT

*Below are key metrics and highlights regarding the financial health of our church as of the end of 2023. Detailed financial reports and records are available to anyone upon request. Just contact myself or Sandra Lindstrom, our Financial Coordinator.*

- *Our 2023 Spending Plan (i.e., the church “budget”) was approximately \$992,000. Through reductions in some expenses and diligent monitoring of resources, our staff and volunteers executed our mission with expenditures coming in at 87% of this Spending Plan, or about \$863,000.*
- *General giving (offerings) had a good final push in December that allowed us to finish the year with the Mission and Ministry Fund (our general fund) balanced.*
- *Sustaining Fund giving held steady, similar to previous years. These dollars are allocated to three separate funds as follows:*
  - a. *Maintenance Fund. 10% of Sustaining Fund dollars go here, to help with major maintenance needs. This fund stands at about \$44,000 at end of year.*
  - b. *Mission Fund. 10% of Sustaining Fund dollars go here, to support major mission plans (some of which are still being discussed by the Outreach Committee and Church Council). This fund stands at about \$67,000 at end of year.*
  - c. *Sustaining Gifts. 80% of Sustaining Fund contributions go into this “savings” fund, to help support the general ministry of the church during times when the Mission and Ministry Fund expenses exceed income. These monies were essential in 2023, with approximately \$88,000 being transferred from this fund to the Mission and Ministry Fund to support our general activities. Because of the extremely strong giving toward the end of the year, this “savings” fund has a positive balance of about \$31,000 entering 2024. Because these monies have been critical to us funding our Mission and Ministry over the past few years, our Stewardship Team continues to highlight the importance of continued giving to this fund during our stewardship campaigns and periodic financial update communications to the congregation, so as to help “sustain” CLC into the future.*



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- *Our congregation continues to respond in a multitude of important ways to the significant needs that so many in our community face. This is most readily seen in our 2023 benevolences totaling approximately \$108,000, reflecting a 43% increase over the annual Spending Plan for these items.*

*On behalf of the staff and Church Council, I want to thank you all for your financial generosity in 2023! It has supported important work within our church family and our broader community. And it sets us up for continued great work to be done in 2024!*

*Yours in Christ,  
Jeff Hansen*

# PRESCHOOL

We finished the 2022-2023 school year strong. Preschool is continuing to thrive in spite of a few hiccups this school year. Rose Kim returned as lead teacher for both classes. Our assistant Stephanie Stone was not able to return as she was beginning her student teaching in January. With my cancer diagnosis in June, it was decided that I would continue as Preschool Director but would not be in the classroom teaching while undergoing chemotherapy. Jessica Petree was hired to work in our Junior Class but had to resign mid-November due to childcare. Rylie Reed has stepped in as assistant until I am able to return hopefully in mid-February. Hannah Elliott was hired for our Pre-K class 2 days a week while Jayda Kim is the assistant on Wednesdays until my return.

So far this year we have enjoyed field trips to the pumpkin patch and an apple orchard. We are looking forward to our fire station field trip in the spring. Chapel time every other week with Pastor Ralf is always a big hit!

Again, we have been blessed with the most amazing teachers, students, and their awesome families! God is good!

Michele Green

Preschool Director





# LATCHKEY

*This past year Latchkey had one of their best years yet! During the summer months we had over 30 children attending and enjoyed going on many field trips including Sunny Side Beach, Fort Steilacoom Park, the zoo, bowling, and a couple trips to the movie theater! We also had water day each Friday where the kids, and staff, got to enjoy an inflatable water slide, slip 'n slides, sprinklers, and squirt guns. We spent lots of time outside growing as a Latchkey family!*

*With school back in session we have an average of 20 kids attending before and after school care! With 7 staff members we are able to provide ample time for homework, reading, crafts, gym, and lots of fellowship. Over Christmas break we enjoyed a trip to the movie theater, and the kids got so excited for weekly field trips again in the summer! I am excited to see what this year has in store for our Latchkey Program!*

Hannah Elliott  
Latchkey Director





# WORSHIP

*Our Worship Arts and Altar Guild Teams have worked together throughout the year to provide beautiful, meaningful worship experiences for us!*





# OUTREACH

Our Outreach Team continues to organize and coordinate projects for our entire congregation to participate in. Compassion Weekend, Operation Christmas Child, Angel Tree, Thanksgiving and Christmas food baskets, SOUPer Bowl Sunday, and Community BBQ's are just a few from this past year.





# CHILDREN

*We have approximately 15-20 kids attending Kids Club on Sunday mornings. They enjoy a bible lesson, make a craft, or participate in an outreach project.*

*On Wednesday evenings, we kicked off a new program called Rooted where families come enjoy a meal together followed by a kids time and an adult ed class.*

*Vacation Bible School continues to be a highlight of the summer!*





# YOUTH

Confirmation continues on Sunday evenings with Pastor Ralf and a dedicated group of volunteers. Our high schoolers meet for dinner and a Bible study on Wednesday evenings at Pastor Ralf's home. This year we celebrated with 3 Confirmands on Reformation Sunday. Eleven graduates were honored and received quilts in June.





# MUSIC

*We have enjoyed some beautiful music this past year as so many individuals and groups have shared of their gifts and talents.*

*Whether it's our choir, bells, Joyful Noise Band, special music, the Messiah, Jazz Sunday, or Salt and Light concerts we have truly been blessed. Many of us have also enjoyed the new Jazz Jams on the first Friday of each month.*







# CLCW

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*CLCW (Christ Lutheran Church Women) has a steering committee that meets 3x a year. The committee is made up of representatives from each of our Bible study groups, meeting as needed.*

*Here is snapshot of our past year:*

- Prepared the Simeon and Anna Luncheon*
- Sponsored the women's Thanksgiving Offering*
- Quilting: quilters meet weekly to sew and prepare quilts to be sent to Lutheran World Relief*
- Monday morning Bible Study, meeting weekly*
- Quarterly offering to ELCA Synod*
- Pays for mailing of Valentines to college students*
- Participation in Compassion Weekend*
- Annual Synod Convention participation*
- Annual Synod Retreat participation*
- Monthly Bible studies*
- Miriam, Dorcas and Faith Circles with Free Will offerings*
- Balance as of Dec 5 2023: \$2453.57*

*Marcia Melena*

# QUILTERS

*The CLC Quilters had a productive 2024. We love serving God and spending time together every Monday.*

*The work of Lutheran World Relief is rewarding and we feel is making a difference in the lives of people we are called to love.*

*Thelma Kalms and her helpers, young and not as young, have put together both school kits and personal care kits this year. The 95 school kits are meaningful to middle schoolers, filling backpacks made by Nellie Schoenberg. They include four notebooks, eight pens and pencils, crayons, a ruler, and a pencil sharpener for children who cannot afford sometimes both school fees and supplies. The 37 personal care kits contain a bath towel, 2 bars of soap, nail clippers, and a comb. The kits give people fleeing war and natural disasters dignity in hard times. There kits have also been used to teach a simple skill like hand washing to children in Peru .*

*We live on the donations from the congregation and other supporters for fabric and sheets for backing.*

*Thank you to our many friends.*

*This year we were able to put together:*

*235 Quilts*

*95 school kits*

*37 personal care kits*

*9 baby care kits*

*49 fabric kits (these are used to teach individuals to sew and start a small business)*

*The Quilters also purchased six new tables for both our use and the rest of the congregation. The tables can be raised to a height comfortable for our work. The total purchase price was \$983.40.*

*Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow,*

*Nancy Stark and CLC Quilters*





# BIG EVENTS

Use whatever  
gift you  
have received  
to serve  
others.



## EPIPHANY BRUNCH



## TRUNK OR TREAT





# BIG EVENTS



## CHURCH PICNIC



## TAILGATE SUNDAY





# BIG EVENTS



## COMPASSION WEEKEND



## ADVENT FESTIVAL





# BIG EVENTS



**NARNIA**



**JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM**





# BIG EVENTS



**SHROVE  
TUESDAY**



**VBS**







YES, YOU WILL BE ENRICHED IN EVERY WAY SO THAT  
YOU CAN ALWAYS BE GENEROUS. AND WHEN WE TAKE  
YOUR GIFTS TO THOSE WHO NEED THEM, THEY WILL THANK GOD.  
2 CORINTHIANS 9:11

