

ANNUAL REPORT

2024

Blessed are you, Prince
of Peace. You rule the earth
with truth and justice.
Send your gift of peace to all
nations of the world.



Christ the King
Lutheran Church



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

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A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDING BISHOP ELIZABETH EATON



Dear friends in Christ,

All around us, we see signs of God’s love and goodness. A person who has stepped away from church for many years steps back into a congregation, feeling the call of the Holy Spirit. Young adults feeling isolated in a digital-first world start gathering in person in a small group, enjoying the warmth of a hug and a new friend asking about their week. A mother plants a garden, and it yields fruits and vegetables, giving her nutritious food for her kids and extra produce to sell at the local market. Everywhere we look, we see signs of Christ’s love. In Psalm 93, we read: “More majestic than the thunders of mighty waters, more majestic than the waves of the sea, majestic on high is the Lord! Your decrees are very sure; holiness befits your house, O Lord, forevermore” (4-5).

God’s love is a majestic thing, and it moves us to share it in word and deed. The ministries of our congregations, our synods and the ELCA churchwide organization are all working together to share God’s love with people in our neighborhoods, across our country and around the world.

I am so grateful for you, dear church. Your generosity to each of these three expressions of the church — your congregation, your synod and the churchwide organization — has bolstered the church’s ability to share the message of God’s love to people who are longing for it. Through your

“More majestic than the thunders of mighty waters, more majestic than the waves of the sea, majestic on high is the Lord! Your decrees are very sure; holiness befits your house, O Lord, forevermore.”

—Psalm 93:4-5

financial resources, your time volunteering and accompanying others, and your voices, you’ve helped carry this message of God’s majestic love. Thank you, dear church. As we look ahead to the coming year, I encourage you to stand steadfast in God’s promises, sure of God’s love and goodness.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elizabeth A. Eaton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

We are the people of God united in Christ; called to minister to each other, and to reach out to all the people with love and the good news of salvation in Jesus Christ; in order that God's Kingdom may grow and God's will be done here and throughout the world.



OUR VISION: THE DEFINING STATEMENT

Enriching lives of others by sharing our Christian Faith

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AGENDA

January 19, 2024

Opening Litany from Inside Back Cover of Annual Report

Approval of Minutes from 2024 Congregational Annual Meeting

Committee Reports

Evangelism and Outreach Committee Report

Worship and Music Committee Report

Nominating Committee Report / Election

--Presentation of 2024 nominees for Officers/Council at Large/Synod Assembly

Pastor's Report

President's Report

Treasurer's Report

2024 Financial
Ministry Plan

Closing Prayer

Adjournment



"Whatever your task, put yourselves into it, as done for the Lord and not for your masters, since you know that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward; you serve the Lord Christ." Colossians 3:23-24 (NRSV)

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES



Jan. 21, 2024

President Paul Hoffmann called the meeting to order at 9:35 am with 31 members in attendance.

Pastor Daniel Flucke led us in the Opening Liturgy found in our Annual Report.

Minutes from the 2023 Annual Meeting were approved as printed.

Committee Reports:

-Pastor's Report- Pastor Daniel highlighted his hope for 2024 is to record members telling a piece of their faith story (testimony) in what he's calling the "Faith Snapshot" project.

-President's Report- Paul thanked us for allowing him to serve as president. He reminded us that we all have a part in welcoming others. We are today's disciples of the Word and need to share the story of Jesus in our community.

-Records- Robin Honish talked about the token boards she is making for the sanctuary. One board has wooden discs for everyone baptized at CTK in the first 40 years which includes over 200 names. The new board will be from 1963 to the present.

-Memorial Fund- Part of the funds were used to pay for half of the new sidewalk from the parking lot to the doors. The main activity of the account was putting the money into a CD which accumulated a higher interest rate.

-Stone Soup- Over 5,000 pints of soup have been made since the project started which are donated to two local food shelves.

-Audit Committee- the books were audited and everything is in excellent order thanks to Treasurer, Fred Walls.

-Evangelism & Outreach- thanks to everyone who serves on the committee and through the various groups to make so many activities happen at CTK. Jan Nealy talked about a training for Family Promise on Feb. 15 at 10:00 am. CTK also helps serve dinner at Family Promise with GAUMC the week of Feb. 19.

(continued on next page)

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES

-Sister Circle- Robin Honish talked about the Ecumenical group who meets the 3rd Thursday of the month. Besides Bible study, they are making Memory Bears from clothing of fallen Milwaukee Police Officer Peter Jerving to give to his family on the 1st anniversary of his death on Feb. 7.

-Music & Worship Committee- Ellen Smith highlighted the liturgical decorating that Robin Honish and the committee do for the various church seasons.

-Synod Assembly Delegates- Robin Honish and Vicki Lidicker volunteered.

-Audit Committee- Laura Coleman volunteered. It was announced that she is a new member of the Greater Milwaukee Synod Council.

-Lighthouse Youth Ministry- Paul thanked Christin Flucke for her work as the Lighthouse Program Director.

-Children's Ministry- Robin Honish expressed a need to meet to have Sunday School lessons ready when children attend worship.

-60th Anniversary- Robin Honish expressed that everything went very well for the celebration. She thanked everyone who made the church presentable for that day.

Treasurer's Report

-We were shown a Balance Comparison sheet from 2022 and 2023. The cash assets for the end of the year in 2022 were \$72,927.26. The year end cash assets for 2023 was \$79,142.54.

- 60 for 60 Campaign - raised \$12,361.60 in 2023. The money will be matched up to \$30,000. The goal of the fundraising campaign is to cut the church mortgage in half by Sept. 24, 2024 when it matures and will need to be refinanced. 10% of the funds raised will also go to the Synod.



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES

- We were reminded that the giving policy for budgeted items has changed. Please review them on our website at ctkport.org/documents.

-Treasurer, Fred Walls went through the proposed 2024 Budget line by line and answered questions if there were any.

Highlights to Budget:

-Dividend income was added to Revenue as money was moved to Fidelity for a better interest rate.

-Increased Synod donations from \$325 to \$350 per month

-Increased lawn mowing & related expenses budget in case we need to use a lawn service or have extra repairs done to equipment.

-Capital Improvements were increased for another furnace or flooring in fellowship hall.

-Reminder to Evangelism & Outreach and Fellowship to be better about using funds available in the budget.

-Office Manager, Carrie Rydzewski, has been here one year and is receiving a 5% raise.

-Pastor Benefits should be \$14,700 but were written as \$14,000. A motion was made and passed to change that to the correct amount.

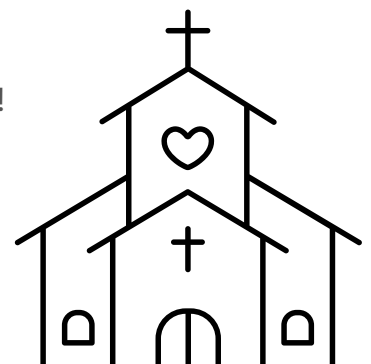
- Robin Honish stated that it is greatly appreciated when people use their Thrivent grant money to pay for various things (ie. food for 60th, quilting supplies).

-A motion was made by Laura Coleman and seconded to approve the 2024 Budget. The motion passed unanimously.

-It was pointed out that we did not end the year with a deficit budget!

President, Paul Hoffmann, closed the meeting with prayer at 10:27 which was followed by brunch.

Respectfully Submitted,
Deb Bruns, Secretary



PASTOR'S REPORT



You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

-John 15:16-17

At the heart of our Lutheran understanding of faith is this simple idea: **God acts first.** As Jesus tells his disciples, "You did not choose me, but I chose you." God has always loved you, even before you were born. Psalm 139 says God knit you together in your mother's womb, knowing your unformed substance before your days existed.

What that means is that everything we do is in response to what God has already done for us. Faith itself is a gift from God. All the good deeds we do, all the good choices we make, all the money we donate, everything we do with our lives is a response to God's love. Hopefully you've heard me (and all the pastors who've served this church before me) say, "There is nothing you can do to make God love you more." God loves you because God loves you, because that's who God is.

And in response to God's love, out of gratitude for the life God freely gives to us, **Jesus calls us to bear good fruit.** We are called to make a difference in this world, to love God and to love our neighbors. Our core task as Christians and as a church is to share God's love. That's the way we offer thanks back to God. "We love because God first loved us."
(1 John 4:19)



It all starts with worship. We gather each week to praise God, thanking God for the love we've received. We confess our sins and hear the promise of God's unconditional forgiveness. We sing to praise God from our hearts, using the rich, emotional language of music. We listen to God's word for both the good news of what God has done and the ways we are called to respond to God's actions.

We pray for each other and for the whole world, turning our burdens over to God. In Holy Communion, we receive a tangible taste of God's love. And finally, we are sent out into the world to put what we've heard into action. We go out to bear good fruit, to share the love we've received in both word and deed with neighbors near and far.

PASTOR'S REPORT



Several of my highlights from this last year involve worship, especially on weeks when we've tried creative experiments. I'm grateful to serve congregations that are willing to be creative and even include some play in worship. And yes, I'm sure there are some people who think we go too far in experimenting, and others who would love for us to go much farther in reshaping worship. Your feedback and involvement in planning is always welcome.

Last spring, we combined with our ecumenical partner churches for shared midweek Lenten services and suppers, a few of which included interactive prayer stations. In June, we had a packed house (with lawn chairs!) for our Vacation Bible School celebration service, then in July we joined with our Methodist neighbors for a wonderful outdoor worship service in the park. Perhaps the most creative point of the year was the service in August when we took a field trip to Piggly Wiggly to shop for the food pantry...in worship!

We are blessed at both congregations with wonderful musicians and worship leaders.

Christ the King continues to be ably led in song by both Mary Stevens and our ATHIRST praise band, and we enjoy special music from the vocal and handbell choirs. Thank you to everyone involved in those groups!



PASTOR'S REPORT

Living Hope, we began the year with musical uncertainty as Trinny Schumann took a position in another congregation. We owe a huge thank you to Mary for stepping up to accompany worship at Living Hope for much of the year as well. God has also led two other wonderful accompanists to our congregation, and we've enjoyed some great music from Sue Gedemer and Tim Pfeifer. We even put together a choir for one recent service!



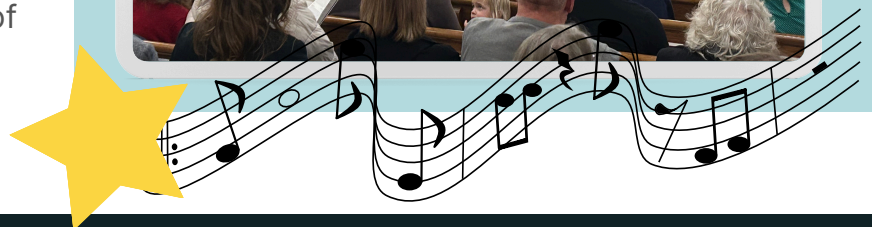
Another huge highlight of this year was our joint **Vacation Bible School**. The energy in the room for opening and closing worship sessions was amazing, and children from the community, our congregations, and Here We Grow had a great time learning from "All God's Creatures" about God's love and how each one of them is "Created Good!"

Thank you to all the volunteers, donors, and HWG staff who made the week happen, and to Christin for all the planning. Mark your calendars now for this year's VBS June 9-12 when we go "Under the Big Top!"

I also continue to be so grateful to all our volunteers who help keep the congregations functioning behind the scenes. Our buildings are wonderful tools for ministry, but they require constant attention.

This year included remodeling a classroom at HWG, completing the shed and replacing a furnace at Living Hope, and new accessible doors at CTK, as well as countless smaller projects.

In addition, thank you so much to our church Office Administrators, Carrie at CTK and Shannon at Living Hope. Along with the church council, they do a wonderful job of keeping things on track here at church.



PASTOR'S REPORT

One thing I've learned over our nearly three years together is that **both Living Hope and Christ the King are generous congregations**. At CTK, many people in the congregation stepped up this year to successfully complete our 60 for 60 Campaign in May. What a great accomplishment to reduce our mortgage debt in half this year, while giving away 10% of what we received to ministries of the wider church!

Both churches contributed money to synod ministries and disaster relief, food to our local food pantries, meals to Family Promise, as well as quilts, hats, and so much more. Living Hope donated half the pancake supper proceeds to food pantries. Together in Lent, we raised \$851 for Family Promise.

We are generous because God is generous. And if we're not generous as a church, if we're not blessing our community, then what are we doing here? Money for mortgages and utilities (and yes, even pastor's salaries) are important to fund our congregation, but our reason for existing must be about more than our own survival. We are here to bless our neighbors!

In 2025, our congregations are going to feature more generosity opportunities as we focus on twelve **Monthly Ministries**. To help us grow in generosity as a congregation, we've put together a monthly calendar of local, national, and global ministries. By focusing on one ministry each month, hopefully we can avoid the confusion of too many giving requests in any one week while making a difference in the world with the resources God has trusted to us.

All of these are causes outside of our own congregation, and I want to be very clear that no one is expected to give to all of them. My hope is that by selecting a range of causes, one or more of them will be something God's nudging you to be passionate about.

In fact, without calling it a "monthly ministry", we've already started this practice. In December, each congregation raised over \$800 for ELCA World Hunger's 50th anniversary. In January, our focus is on Lighthouse birthday kits to be given to food pantries. Some of the upcoming ministries we'll support this year are Lutheran World Relief, Crossways Camps, Breaking the Chains Prison Congregation, and Lutheran Disaster Response.

Thank you for your generosity! I'm excited to see how generous we're able to be together as we continue growing and sharing God's love in 2025. Thank you for your faithful partnership in ministry as together we seek to enrich the lives of others by sharing our Christian faith!



Your partner in the Gospel,
Pastor Daniel Flucke

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Brothers and sisters in Christ, 2024 once again provided many opportunities, challenges and successes. I continue to be amazed at how many people we touch with such a small group. Once again CTK provided for hundreds of people across homes locally and internationally with a warm quilt, a baby layette package, a warm bowl of homemade soup, a warm meal to those that lost their home, a livestream service available to those at home, school kits to children less fortunate and the list goes on. Thank you to all who help doing God's work in so many ways. There is always more to do and so many ways to help. I challenge you to continue our outreach and ministry we are all tasked with and improve upon them in 2025.

As members of CTK we are tasked as disciples of the Word and to share the story of Christ to our community. In a world divided by hate and disagreement, we are tasked with sharing love for one another and being an example of our life in Christ. Please continue to do your part as an active Lutheran. 2025 looks to be a challenge for sure.

In September 2023 we initiated the 60 for 60 capital campaign to reduce our mortgage debt in September 2024. I am so happy to say that we exceeded that goal, thanks to an anonymous and very generous matching donation, and we have reduced the mortgage by more than 50% and cut our monthly bill accordingly. In addition to this project, we also raised several thousand dollars to repair the roof, electrical issues and, with a large grant, installed handicap access to our front and back main entrances.

As you will see from the committee reports, it's been a remarkable year. God bless you and thank you for allowing me to serve as Council President. 2024 marked my fourth term as president and, by constitutional rules, I must step down from my current position. The past four years have been amazing because of all of you and the strength of teamwork in the name of our Lord.

In Christ, Paul Hoffmann



FOR THE RECORD

Attendance Report:

2019 Average Sunday Worship Service Attendance: 39

2020 COVID made attendance challenging to track, with most services being online only.

2021 Combined services alternating with Living Hope, with total attendance averaging 38.

2022 Combined services with Living Hope, with total attendance averaging 44 . Once separate weekly services resumed, Christ the King's average attendance was 30.

2023 Average Worship Attendance: 33

Average Online Attendance: 10

2024 Average Worship Attendance: 32

Average Online Attendance: 7

2024 Special Services:

Ash Wednesday

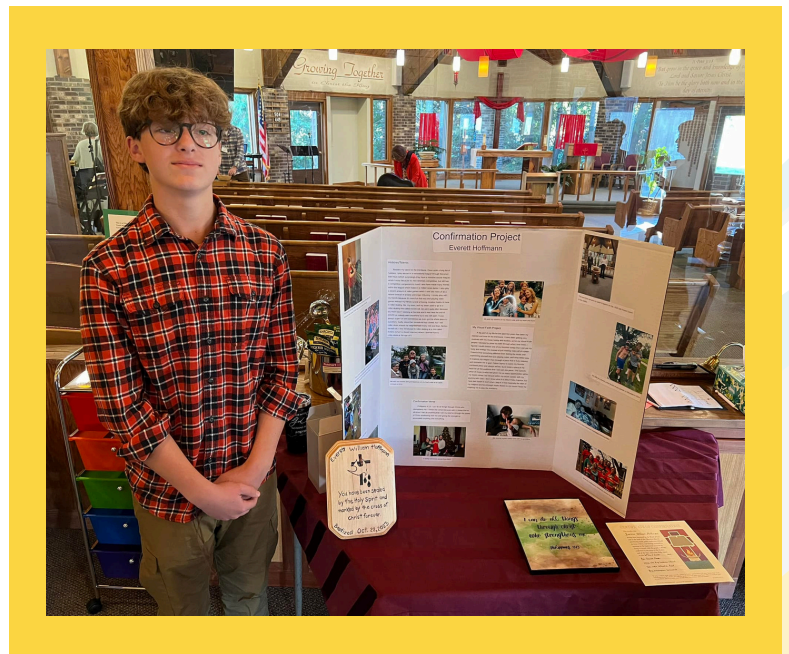
(combined with Living Hope and

Grand Ave UMC, at CTK): 63

Good Friday (combined, at CTK): 37

Polka Service: 63 (2023 was 40)

4:00 pm Christmas Eve: 104 (2023 was 92)



Congregational Membership Updates:

Baptisms:

None in 2024

Deaths & Funerals:

Neil Traxel

Joan Brown

Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmations)

Everett Hoffmann

New Members Received:

Jill Steffen

Members Transferred or Released:

Jill Steffen

Jason, Jennifer, Olivia, and Vince Florio

MEMORIAL FUND

Activity in the Memorial Fund in 2024 was minimal.

In 2023 the congregation's memorial funds were placed in CD's bringing a much higher interest rate for varied periods of time. The new handicap accessible doors were funded largely by a grant.

Projects that we continue to seek funding for are:

- Electronic sign for the corner of Whitefish and Holden Street.
- Replace carpet in Fellowship Hall.

A Financial Report and Fund balance is located within the Budget of the Annual Report.

AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

Paul Hoffmann and Mary Stevens performed an audit the week of January 15, 2025.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Nominating Committee Members: Mary Stevens, Paul Hoffmann (as Council Representative)

COUNCIL OFFICERS

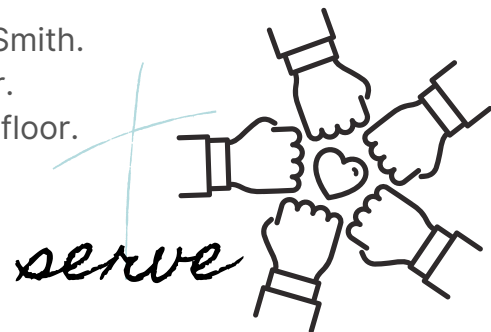
- **President – Committee is nominating Laura Coleman
- **Vice-President – Committee is nominating Fred Walls
- ** Secretary – Committee is nominating Deb Bruns, renewing her current position for year 2
- ** Treasurer – Committee is nominating Paul Hoffmann

OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS

- ** Member-at-Large – Committee is nominating Ellen Smith.
- ** Nominating Committee – Nominations from the floor.
- ** Synod Assembly Delegates – Nominations from the floor.

COMMITTEE LIAISONS

Evangelism and Outreach – Paul Hoffmann
Worship & Music – Ellen Smith



Per the church constitution as approved by the congregation in November 2018: "The members of the Congregation Council, except the pastor(s), shall be elected by written ballot to serve for one year or until their successors are elected. Such members shall be eligible to serve no more than (4) four full terms consecutively. Their terms shall begin at the close of the annual meeting at which they are elected."

EVANGELISM & OUTREACH REPORT

2024 proved another busy year for the E and O committee. Thanks to Jan Nealy, Fern Rathsack, Bonnie Probelski, Robin Honish, Connie Hoffmann, Fred Walls and Pastor Daniel for serving as committee members. Outreach projects include the combined work of many CTK members and have included:

- Family Promise meal support to 15-20 homeless individuals and families sheltered at the facility
- Stone Soup which has produced over 6,000 pints of homemade soup over the past 4 years for local food pantries
- Sister Circle which provides Bible study with over 18 women attending each month from various churches in Port Washington
- ELCA World Hunger event which raised \$1,600+ between Living Hope and CTK
- Outreach for Hope annual fundraiser providing support in manning the Belgium comfort station for the run / walk / bike marathon.
- CTK Directory Review was completed in November. 73 households are listed. The review concluded that 3 members listed are deceased or moved, 36 received a call or card from the CTK E and O members
- Friendship Club attendance at Grand Ave. Methodist by Bonnie and Fern to provide ecumenical Christian outreach to adult special needs patients
- Lighthouse Youth Ministry support and event participation
- Vacation Bible School returned this year including volunteers and students from Christ the King, Living Hope, Here We Grow, and the community learning "I am a child of God and I am Created Good!" with the theme All God's Creatures
- Port Washington Fish Day Parade Float themed "You All Need A Little Jesus" attended by 18 CTK members and handed out 2,000 info cards and Little Jesus figurines with an invite to the joint worship event in Upper Lake Park
- Chili cookoff to raise over \$2,000 for the CTK 60 for 60 mortgage projects
- Trunk or Treat event with 8 cars providing candy and fellowship to 325 trick or treaters

EVANGELISM & OUTREACH REPORT

- CTK Quilters, led by Kathy Wiskow, created 35 quilts which are forwarded to those in need worldwide through Lutheran Relief
- Baby Layette Kits, led by Ellen Smith, providing 72 kits forwarded to Lutheran World Relief to be used in refugee centers globally
- Milwaukee Pride Parade attended by 6 CTK members joining other ELCA Lutheran Churches
- CTK Medical device lending library which shares several medical assistance devices such as walkers, wheelchairs, canes, crutches, shower chairs, etc. to anyone in need.
- Christmas and Easter Caroling to bring holiday cheer to several local nursing homes
- Christmas Card mailing led by Mark Dybdahl to CTK members and friends that are homebound or haven't been in church recently
- Christmas Rummage Sale led by Ellen and Rick Smith which generated over \$1,603

Respectfully submitted, Paul Hoffmann, E and O Committee Chair



SISTER CIRCLE

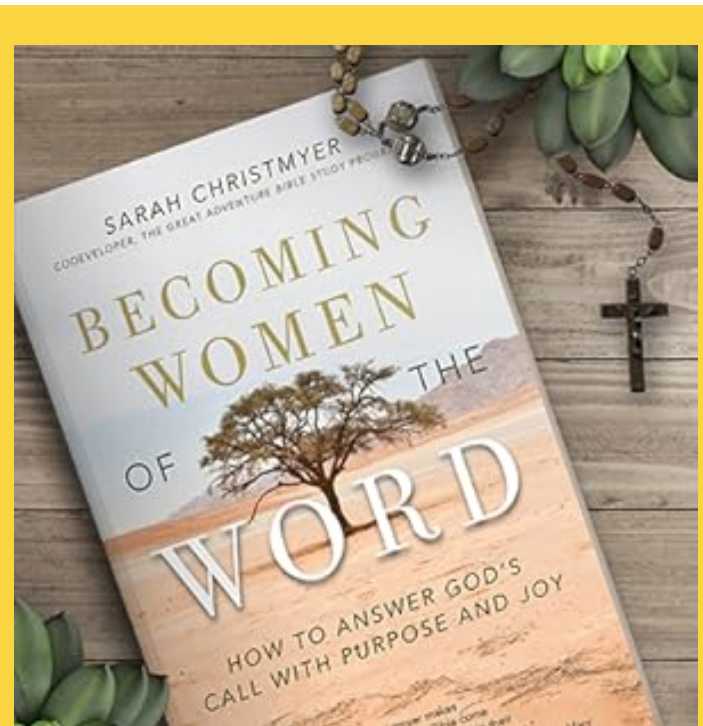
Sister Circle is an Ecumenical Women's group that meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month. We set up the actual calendar at the beginning of the year and avoid holidays if any appear on the 3rd Thursday, and send out a newsletter for the year which is created by Mari Wagner, one of the founding members. We pick a book (sometimes 2) to read for the year. At the end of the year we ask for suggestions from the group and select from those. We try to find books that help us to live and apply our faith in our daily lives. This group started in 2007 and is very laid back and relaxed as far as attendance and sticking to homework. The important part is that we come together as sisters in Christ to pray together, talk, usually about the book, support one another, and just be in the presence of others doing our best to live out our Christian journeys. In the early years of the group we rotated churches each month but for quite a few years now, we meet each week at CTK, usually in the Fireside room, as it is a cozy place to come together and visit.

This last fall we lost one of our original members, Joy Dreier. She passed away after a year long battle of brain cancer. We miss her participation and positive way of seeing every situation. She is our second member to have passed away, the year before Louise Shmelling died unexpectedly after a surgery due to a blood clot. We keep them with us and feel their love in our gatherings.

We started out this year reading a book called *Not Counting Women and Children* by Megan McKenna. It is a good book and provided very good discussions but was a VERY hard, heavy book to read. We prefer easy comfortable reads so, starting in January, we switched to a book called *Becoming Women of the Word* by Sarah Christmyer.

If you are interested in joining us, please come 3rd Thursdays of each month and if you have any questions call me though the church office .

Submitted Sincerely,
Your friend and Sister in Christ,
Robin Honish



faith

MUSIC & WORSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

The Music and Worship Committee members are: Paula Juedes, Mary Stevens, Robin Honish, and Ellen Smith. A very active off-shoot of this committee is the Liturgical Arts Team, consisting of Mary, Jan Nealy, Kathy Wiskow, Leslie Braun, Ellen, and led by Robin.

Our worship services have been meaningful and enriching as we have moved through the church year from Epiphany in January to Christmas in December. We have occasionally worshiped as a CTK congregation with Living Hope, and have also joined with other congregations in our area, sharing special worship occasions. During Lent, we rotated Wednesday services with four other Port and Saukville churches. We enjoyed a beautiful lakeside worship service and lunch in August partnering with Living Hope and Lighthouse Youth Ministry. In October, we were very pleased that many community members attended our Octoberfest Polka Service and dinner. November gave us another opportunity to join with other churches for the Community Thanksgiving Service. (Several CTK members also sang in the joint choir during this service.) New this year were two Wednesday Advent Services and dinners held at CTK and Living Hope which were very well attended.

We celebrated Epiphany, Easter, Pentecost, All Saint's Day, Reformation, Christ the King Sunday, Advent and Christmas. We enjoyed Easter caroling (using new CTK caroling booklets) and Christmas caroling, visiting nursing facilities and bringing the joy of seasonal songs to the residents. We blessed and sent our LWR donations of Quilts and Baby Care Kits in October. We gave out copies of a Christmas storybook to children at our Christmas Eve Service.

A continuing highlight was the liturgical decorating work carried out by Robin and the fore-mentioned group. During Lent, Easter, Reformation, Advent and Christmas we were treated to beautiful and creative displays of streamers, banners, and other decorations to enhance our worship experience.



MUSIC & WORSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

We are especially thankful for Pastor Daniel, the ATHIRST Band, the Hill and Hoffmann family members (tech booth work, every Sunday livestreaming), Mary (organ and piano), Leslie (Prayers of Intercession), Kathy (Bell Choir), Paula/Ellen (Choir), Carrie (Office Administrator), and for all of the readers, ushers, altar care workers, communion assistants, offering counters, coffee hour providers, and all the people who help setup and cleanup for our special events. Our congregation is blessed with volunteers who happily give of their time and use their talents to glorify God.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ellen Smith

Amen!

I would like to thank my Liturgical Arts Team: Mary Stevens, Ellen Smith, Jan Nealy, Deb Bruns, Leslie Braun and Kathy Wiskow for coming on a drop of the hat to change up the liturgical arts decor for each season as it comes up. It is such a wonderful blessing to have this beautiful space to work with and create a meaningful base for worshiping our Lord to give Him all the Glory and Respect! We have a binder in the Library that goes through the church calendar and has pictures of our seasonal decor, please take a look. If you are interested in joining our team please let me know and you can get on my text list to come when available.

Thanks again team, I appreciate you!
Sincerely, your friend is Christ,
Robin Honish



LIGHTHOUSE YOUTH MINISTRY REPORT

Lighthouse Youth Ministry is a cooperative youth ministry effort of five local congregations from three different denominations, organized as an independent 501c3 non-profit organization. Our supporting congregations include: Christ the King Lutheran Church, Living Hope Lutheran Church, First Congregational UCC, Parkside Community UCC, and Grand Avenue United Methodist Church.



Each congregation provides \$5,000 in annual financial support to assist with operational and staffing costs, as well as representatives to serve on our board of directors. Board members meet monthly along with the congregational pastors and the youth director in order to provide support to the youth director and monthly programming, oversee the ministry's finances, and serve as communication liaisons. Becki Hill and Deb Bruns currently serve as the board representatives for Christ the King.

Our vision for Lighthouse Youth Ministry is to be a safe and affirming community where all youth are:

- *WELCOMED regardless of religious affiliation or beliefs,
- *EMPOWERED to explore questions of faith and life, and
- *EQUIPPED to serve their community and the world.

Throughout 2024 we offered regular youth programming, meeting roughly twice a month throughout winter and spring for a variety of fellowship and service activities. This fall, we also experimented with adding an additional night of programming each month which we call "Lighthouse Life Nights". The focus on these nights is to offer a short devotion on a topic of faith and then allow for some time for students to simply hang out, play games, etc. in the hopes of continuing to build a stronger sense of community among our youth who come from a variety of churches and school districts. These nights have been well received, and we will continue to build them into the schedule for the spring semester as well. Attendance at any given event currently averages around 7 students, and during 2024 we served a total of 35 different students!



This year participants have enjoyed a variety of fun events including trips to Sunburst, Skateland, and Lifest (summer Christian music festival), a "Chopped" style team cooking competition, an overnight lock-in, and a Halloween themed Mystery Dinner. We've also had numerous opportunities to practice loving and serving our neighbors through activities like partnering with Christ the King's Stone Soup ministry to make 116 pints of homemade chicken soup, preparing 80 sack lunches for the Milwaukee Rescue Mission, assembling 120 birthday kits for the local food pantries, and making 21 Easter baskets for kids through Family Promise.

LIGHTHOUSE YOUTH MINISTRY REPORT



Another HUGE highlight of the year was offering a 4-day service trip to Madison in July. We partnered with an organization called Serve Boldly and their staff provided housing and meals, and coordinated all of our service projects for the week. While in Madison, our team had the chance to serve at a variety of different service sites including food pantries, urban gardens, and preparing a meal for residents in an intentional subsidized housing community.

We also had a chance to tour the capitol building, visit the Henry Villas Zoo, and have some intentional time for worship and reflection each day centered around the theme “Created to Be” and Ephesians 2:10. Seven youth - with at least one from each of our five Lighthouse congregations - and three adults participated in this awesome experience, and we have enjoyed the opportunity to share lots of photos and memories from our week with all of the congregations (If you haven’t seen the trip recap video yet and would like to, be sure to visit www.lighthouseyouth.org).

Finally, we ended the year on another high note as our Giving Tuesday Spaghetti Supper and Silent Auction fundraiser on December 3rd was a huge success again this year! We were able to raise more than \$13,000, which will be used for youth programming as well as ongoing improvements to the Lighthouse Center. Looking ahead to the rest of 2025, we are very excited to be partnering with Serve Boldly again this summer and this time we will be embarking on a full-week service trip adventure to St. Louis! Other plans include returning to Wisconsin Dells for our 3rd year for the Quake youth conference, partnering again with the food pantries and Family Promise to provide birthday kits and Easter baskets, and many more opportunities for students to gather together in community for fun, learning, and service to others!

We are so thankful for the many hands and hearts that have shaped this ministry up to this point, and we are very excited about where God will lead us in the year(s) to come! Thank you to all of our adult and parent volunteers and to all our congregation members for your continued support of Lighthouse, through prayers, financial contributions, and so much more - we couldn’t do it without you!

If you would like to learn more about Lighthouse, get involved, or offer additional support, please do not hesitate to contact Director Christin Flucke or any of the Lighthouse board members.

Thank you, and may God continue to bless our work together as we serve God’s beloved children!

-- Christin Flucke - Lighthouse Program Director



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY REPORT

So, I begin this report with an apology, as Children's Ministry really was neglected in 2024 and that is mainly my doing. Sharing God's love is a part of the commitment we make as a congregation when each child is baptized and teaching the children about our Lord and his love is and should be a part of our mission as a church. I had to look up in the 2022 Annual Report when we started this program to remind myself what we had planned and attempted to implement for the children between the ages of 4K and up to being a part of Lighthouse Ministry.

Here is our situation, we have very few children at CTK but hey, we DO HAVE children, we have Micah and Jonah and we have visitors occasionally and we hope and pray to have families join us. So what our Children's Ministry team started was a spontaneous Sunday School and Nursery program. We had a team of people that came prepared each Sunday to fulfil those activities if needed. I failed to make out a new schedule for 2024 of volunteers to be available if needed. We had lessons prepared and ready to go. At the annual meeting I will ask for volunteers to join me in the effort to resurrect the Children's Ministry Team, reevaluate what we did and make a plan to change or continue our efforts to share God's love with our young ones however we decide to make that happen. We will have a meeting to get this program on its feet again on Tuesday, January 22, at 6:30 p.m. (or whatever date and time works better for those interested in being a part of our team).

Please prayerfully consider joining our Children's Ministry Team and sharing your faith with our youngest disciples.

Sincerely,
Your friend in Christ,
Robin Honish



BUDGET FOR 2025

	2024 Actual	2024 Budget	2025 Budget	Notes:
INCOME				
Non-Profit Income				
60 for 60	\$49,562.74	\$47,638.40	\$0.00	
Dividend income	\$1,535.80	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	
ELCA Good Gifts	\$225.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	
Family Promise (in)	\$389.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Flower Offerings	\$248.00	\$400.00	\$400.00	
Grants	\$19,458.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	
Interest Income	\$1,645.59	\$1,000.00	\$1,250.00	
Lutheran Disaster Response	\$2,060.58	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Lutheran World Relief	\$225.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	
Memorials Money Received	\$3,169.70	\$500.00	\$500.00	
Milwaukee Rescue Mission	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
OFFERINGS - MAIN ACCOUNT				
Offerings Online Giving v1.00	\$42,537.98	\$43,750.00	\$45,000.00	
Offerings Plate v1.00	\$78,330.12	\$81,250.00	\$75,000.00	
Total for OFFERINGS - MAIN ACCOUNT	\$120,868.10	\$125,000.00	\$120,000.00	
Other reimbursements	\$15.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Recovery of misplaced assets (deleted)	\$446.67	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Reimbursements from Living Hope	\$134.86	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Rummage sale	\$4.00	\$500.00	\$5,000.00	
Stone Soup	\$15.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	
Study books bought by members	\$40.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Vacation Bible School - Receipt	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
World Hunger	\$707.82	\$100.00	\$0.00	
Ice Cream Social	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	
Building-related Funds Raised	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	
Outreach for Hope	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Total for Non-Profit Income	\$201,100.86	\$178,538.40	\$133,150.00	
Total for INCOME	\$201,100.86	\$178,538.40	\$133,150.00	
EXPENSES				
ADVERTISING & MARKETING	\$576.79	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	
BANK CHARGES & FEES	\$983.73	\$0.00	\$0.00	
BENEVOLENCE	\$87.49		\$0.00	
Passthrough Donations (out)	\$3,233.75	\$1,750.00	\$0.00	
Synod	\$10,275.77	\$10,200.00	\$4,200.00	
Total for BENEVOLENCE	\$13,597.01	\$11,950.00	\$4,200.00	
BUILDING EXPENSES	\$2,552.35	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	
BUILDING SERVICES			\$0.00	
Fire Alarm Monitoring	\$606.00	\$600.00	\$606.00	
Lawn mowing & related expenses	\$1,108.61	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	
Snow removal & custodial	\$1,115.00	\$2,750.00	\$2,500.00	
Trash	\$434.58	\$400.00	\$450.00	
Total for BUILDING SERVICES	\$3,264.19	\$6,250.00	\$6,056.00	

(continued on next page)

CHRIST THE KING ANNUAL REPORT 2024

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	2024 Actual	2024 Budget	2025 Budget	Notes:
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT	\$9,457.02	\$10,000.00	\$25,000.00	
CONFERENCES & CONTINUING EDUCATION	\$1,266.40	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	
EVANGELISM AND OUTREACH	\$588.55	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	
FELLOWSHIP	\$434.22	\$250.00	\$500.00	
INSURANCE				
Insurance	\$7,281.34	\$7,100.00	\$9,000.00	
Workers' compensation	\$471.00	\$450.00	\$450.00	
Total for INSURANCE	\$7,752.34	\$7,550.00	\$9,450.00	
INTEREST PAID	\$4,437.45	\$6,500.00	\$4,200.00	
LIGHTHOUSE YOUTH MINISTRY	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	
MISCELLANEOUS	\$839.89		\$1,000.00	
Stone Soup expenses	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$500.00	
Total for MISCELLANEOUS	\$839.89	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00	
OFFICE				
Accounting	\$771.00	\$1,000.00	\$800.00	
Church Mgmt Software	\$516.00	\$850.00	\$564.00	
Copier rental & ink	\$1,524.15	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	
Office supplies	\$909.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	
Secretarial services	\$21,077.60	\$25,000.00	\$26,250.00	
Total for OFFICE	\$24,797.75	\$29,850.00	\$30,614.00	
PARISH EDUCATION				
Adult	\$219.40	\$800.00	\$300.00	
Confirmation	\$38.90	\$100.00	\$100.00	
CTKids coordinator	\$0.00	\$0.00		
Total for PARISH EDUCATION	\$258.30	\$900.00	\$400.00	
PASTORAL SUPPORT				
Pastor benefits	\$14,343.01	\$14,000.00	\$18,162.00	
Pastor salary + taxes	\$37,809.02	\$37,950.00	\$39,483.00	
Supply Pastor	\$453.70	\$750.00	\$750.00	
Total for PASTORAL SUPPORT	\$52,605.73	\$52,700.00	\$58,395.00	
TAXES & LICENSES	\$65.00	\$50.00	\$100.00	
TRAVEL		\$500.00		
Mileage	\$963.41	\$1,250.00	\$1,250.00	
Total for TRAVEL	\$963.41	\$1,750.00	\$1,250.00	
UTILITIES				
Gas and electric	\$4,661.08	\$8,000.00	\$7,000.00	
Phone/internet	\$2,028.40	\$2,100.00	\$2,100.00	
Water & sewer	\$620.64	\$900.00	\$900.00	
Total for UTILITIES	\$7,310.12	\$11,000.00	\$10,000.00	
WORSHIP & MUSIC				
Flowers	\$288.56	\$500.00	\$500.00	
Music licensing fees	\$539.00	\$750.00	\$750.00	
Organist	\$403.69	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	
Worship supplies	\$1,313.01	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	
Total for WORSHIP & MUSIC	\$2,544.26	\$3,750.00	\$3,750.00	
Total for Expenses	\$139,294.51	\$155,500.00	\$167,415.00	
NET INCOME/LOSS	\$61,806.35	\$23,038.40	-\$34,265.00	

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TREASURER'S REPORT

CTK TREASURER'S REPORT

For Full Year 2024

BALANCE SHEET 2023

Checking account balance (as of 12/29/23): \$27,440.74

Youth fund balance (as of 12/29/23): \$887.99

Fidelity account balance (as of 12/29/23): \$50,813.81

TOTAL CASH ASSETS: \$79,142.54

Mortgage balance (as of 12/29/23): \$116,683.70

TOTAL LIABILITIES: \$116,683.70

BALANCE SHEET 2024

Checking account balance (as of 12/31/24): \$23,925.24

Investment balance Fidelity (as of 12/31/24): \$53,976.24

Youth fund balance (as of 1/7/25): \$887.99

TOTAL CASH ASSETS: \$78,789.47

Mortgage balance (as of 12/23/24): \$54,378.28

TOTAL LIABILITES: \$54,378.28

Memorial fund summary (included in above):

Memorial fund balance (as of 12/29/23): \$26,836.78

Memorial fund balance (as of 12/31/24): \$30,006.48

Notes:

- We refinanced our mortgage this year to \$60,000 as a result of our successful "60 for 60" campaign. We were able to tithe 10% of the funds raised to the Synod's "Equipping the Saints" campaign. We will continue to pay down our mortgage debt as our balance sheet allows.
- On the previous 2 pages is a draft 2025 budget submitted for approval by the congregation.
 - Note that some of the door-related expenses (~\$10K) will be paid in 2025 under capital improvement.
- Reminder there are online expense and donation acknowledgement forms with automations for the approval workflow. See: <https://ctkport.org/documents/>
- This was my final term serving as Treasurer. Thank you everyone for trusting me with the congregation's finances! I look forward to working with the next Treasurer to ensure a smooth transition.

Respectfully submitted,
Fred Walls

faith



ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

OPENING LITURGY

Confident in God's generosity and gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us praise God and give thanks ...

God, we praise you and give you thanks.

You are good, and your mercy endures forever.

You gave us a garden with good food to eat.

We praise you for food that nourishes us.

You rescued your people from slavery.

We praise you for freedom.

You gave us prophets to correct, rebuke and encourage us.

We bless you for your justice and mercy.

You gave us your Son, Jesus, to love, redeem and save us.

We praise you for his death and resurrection.

You gave us your Holy Spirit to be our Advocate and Comforter.

We bless you for the gifts of every tribe and nation.

Strengthen your church with every spiritual gift

and commission us again to be your servant people.

Multiply in us the fruit of the spirit:

love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Send us in your love and mercy,

that the world may know you and praise you.

Now Thank We All Our God



1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voice - es,
2 Oh, may this boun - teous God through all our life be near us,
3 All praise and thanks to God the Fa - ther now be giv - en,



who won - drous things has done, in whom this world re - joic - es;
with ev - er joy - ful hearts and bless - ed peace to cheer us,
the Son, and Spir - it blest, who reign in high - est heav - en,



who, from our moth - ers' arms, has blest us on our way
and keep us all in grace, and guide us when per - plexed,
the one e - ter - nal God, whom earth and heav'n a - dore;



with count-less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.
and free us from all harm in this world and the next.
for thus it was, is now, and shall be ev - er - more.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship, 840

Text: Martin Rinkhart, 1586-1649; tr. Cathering Winkworth, 1827-1878

Music: NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT, Johann Crüger, 1598-1662

Let us pray.

Gracious God, you are the giver of every good gift. Bless us with all that we need for ministry in your name, that we might be a blessing to others. In the name of the one who broke bread and fed the multitudes, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.



Christ the King Lutheran Church

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