

**2022 ANNUAL REPORT
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PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Jill Thompson

RENEW – *to make like new: restore to freshness, vigor, or perfection; to make new spiritually.*

Source: Merriam-Webster.com Dictionary, <http://meriam-webster.com/dictionary/renew> - Accessed Dec. 3, 2022

As I reflect on the life of this beloved congregation, I am struck by the level of renewal I am seeing. Following the COVID lockdowns, we all wondered what “church” would look like when we can gather again as people of faith. Would people come back? Would we bring forward new ministries because of what was learned during COVID? Would we continue to be a congregation that served each other, our community, and the wider world? Yes, yes, and yes! It seems not only are we back but there is a sense of things being renewed. Thanks be to God!

We made significant progress with our four focus areas: children, youth, family; belonging; spiritual growth and service. Below are just a few highlights. We saw our members and friends coming back to worship in person, reconnecting and seeing that we belong to each other, growing together spiritually. While we are not yet at pre-pandemic attendance levels, we are seeing steady growth in attendance. In 2022, we welcomed fifty new members, exceeding the number of members received in the previous two years! Worship seems to have a freshness because we can be together again. We learned how to increase our online presence. Christmas Eve had our highest online participation yet!

Thirty-five to fifty children, youth and families are now participating on Sunday mornings to grow spiritually and increase a sense of belonging. Wednesday evenings are filled with children, youth, families, and volunteers, lots of volunteers, nearly *115 people each Wednesday evening*. This is renewing our SHiNE, RiSE (including Confirmation), and FLY efforts by being together and adding interesting and engaging opportunities with the addition of intergenerational workshops. These efforts are supported by our new staff members, Emily Horning (Director of Children and Family Ministry) and Delaney Rhea (Director of Youth and Family Ministry).

Many of our Bible studies and small groups found ways to connect via Zoom, increasing the sense of belonging and growing spiritually. Some have found Zoom a very efficient way to continue to meet. Others are back in person. And despite the pandemic, we were able to start three new small groups. A creative group of volunteers helped plan four great and fun gatherings to help increase our sense of belonging. We added Pastor Varinia as our Pastor of Congregational Care increasing our efforts to make sure those who are ill or unable to leave their residence, feel like they belong and are important to us.

While many of our service teams found ways to continue to serve our community and world during the pandemic, the opportunity to be in-person through our Prayer Shawl Ministry, the Community Garden, Sewing for Missions, and the year-long efforts of our service team has certainly renewed our dreams of meeting the needs of God's beloved. The efforts of those who led and volunteered with Feed the Need STL resulted in 2,748 children being fed globally per day for a year through Feed My Starving Children Mobilepack, and 3,092 pounds of food donated to Operation Food Search.

There are so many more areas that are revitalized and renewing efforts such as our music ministries and administrative committees. It is impossible to list them all!

None of this renewed energy and excitement could have happened without our wonderful staff! None of this renewed energy and excitement could have happened without all the amazing volunteers! None of this could have happened in 2022, without your faithful financial support! I personally want to thank our incredible Council members who meet monthly. They thoughtfully consider how to renew our life together.

I invite each of you to find ways to join with others in Following Christ, Growing in Faith, and Sharing God's Love, either through our four focus areas or our other marvelous ministries. Renewal is happening! Come be a part of it!

Titus 3:5 “He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing or regeneration and renewal.”

Thanks be to God! Yours in Christ, Jill Thompson

Congregational Meeting Agenda
Following Christ, Growing in Faith, Sharing God's Love
February 5, 2023

- a. Call to Order and Opening Prayer
- b. Approval of today's Congregational Meeting Agenda
- c. Approval of Minutes
- d. Constitutional Changes
- e. 2022 Financial Report
- f. 2023 Stewardship Plans
- g. Celebrating Our Ministries I
- h. 2023 Budget Proposal
- i. Lead Pastor's Report
- j. Celebrating Our Ministries II – Come to the Oscars
- k. Closing Prayer & Adjournment

2023 Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Council

President: Jill Thompson

Vice President: Sharon Misuraca

Treasurer: Troy Larson

Secretary: Jan Thompson

Council at Large: Paul Davis, Bob Fingland (past president), Larissa Hautekeete, Greg Mueller, Lanny Schnipper, Gene Unverfehrt

Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes
Following Christ, Growing in Faith, Sharing God's Love
January 30, 2022

Call to Order and Opening Prayer

- a. The meeting was called to order by Bob Fingland at 2:22 pm.
- b. A quorum was verified. This meeting was held virtually via Zoom due to Covid-19 restrictions. Pr. Josh opened in prayer.
- c. Approval of mid-year Minutes (June 6, 2021). Glen Kraft moved to approve minutes. Bill Talbot seconded to approve the motion. No discussion. Approved Unanimously
- d. Approval of today's Congregational Meeting Agenda. Kayla Dye moved to approve; Rock Foster seconded. Approved Unanimously
- e. Review 2021 Highlights and Key Strategies for 2022
 - a. Pr. Josh was approved as the new Lead Pastor, Pr. Amy's position was changed to Pastor of Discipleship, which is a new position, Andrew Leach was hired as full-time staff, and became the Director of High School Ministry, and Suzie Everingham retired at the end of 2021. We will be looking to call a Pastor of Congregational Care. The annual pledge drive resulted in 2022 becoming the highest amount that has ever been pledged. Shifting into on-line worship and ministries has brought some highlights: small groups for Confirmation class, more individuals attending some of the other ministries, daily devotion, and Bible reading. Staff retreat in June articulated a new mission statement: Following Christ, Growing in Faith, Sharing God's Love
 - b. Key strategies by Bob Fingland. Council retreat in September confirmed the mission statement. Council came up with four main points: Belonging (participation and involvement), Children, Youth, and Family, Spiritual Growth, and Service.

New Business

- a. Presentation & Approval of 2022 Operating Budget: Rock Foster presented a balanced budget for approval. The support that was pledged for the 2022 year made up 60% of the proposed budget. Funding for new items such as funding our youth was included. Input from the Town Hall, which was held on 1/23/2022, was also considered in the presented proposal. The use of the Paycheck Payroll PPP funds was not included in any particular portion of the budget. Differences in expenses was due to changing the categories on some of the items. A motion to accept the 2022 budget was made by Julie Davidson and seconded by Mike Kelley. Motion was approved, with 88 on-line yes votes.
- b. COVID Task Force Update: Live streaming will continue to be recorded and available live via online streaming. We paused in-person worship and ministries in January due to an upswing in COVID-19 Omicron. We will be restarting worship/ministries in February, but with renewed focus on social distancing, masking, etc. At onset, in-person will likely be at 25% capacity, with 2 services.
- c. Pastor of Congregational Care Process: Profile was updated and approved, and we will be looking specifically for a rostered pastor. Council approved a Call Committee in December, and an orientation has taken place. The 6 voting members of the Call Committee are Bret Spoerle (Chairperson), Paul Dreher, Carol Hollenbeck, Erik Oswald, Delaney Rhea, and Robin Spence, with Pr. Josh as a non-voting member. Questions from the congregation were answered. Filling this as a Call position will give us more flexibility to sometimes lead worship and availability to perform services such as weddings and funerals, as well as helping with the health and wellness of our congregation.

Closing Prayer & Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Larry Gustafson, with Erik Lindgren seconding this motion. Motion passed unanimously. Pr. Josh closed the meeting with a prayer.

Adjournment at 1:09 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Jan Thompson Congregational Secretary

Special Congregational Meeting Minutes
Following Christ, Growing in Faith, Sharing God's Love
March 6, 2022

12:18 Call to Order and Opening Prayer

- a. The meeting was called to order by Bob Fingland at 12:18 pm.
- b. A quorum was verified, with 96 members present at the beginning of the meeting. This meeting was held as a hybrid, with members attending in person or via Zoom. Bob Fingland opened in prayer.
- c. Approval of today's Congregational Meeting Agenda. Elliot Haugen made a motion to accept, Lori Klopf seconded. Motion was Passed Unanimously

12:21 New Business

Mechanical HVAC Equipment Replacement: Presentation was given by Mike Kelley. Both units are old and fixing them has become difficult and expensive. Bids were acquired for replacing one of the units and for both units to be replaced at the same time. It would save us a significant amount of money to replace both at the same time.

Bob Fingland led a discussion regarding from which church funds the funding for this proposal would come from. The cost of both units being replaced is \$323,838. A motion was made to approve the replacement of HVAC mechanical units serving the Sanctuary and East Education Wing in 2022 for a total cost of to be funded from the following sources: The General Fund, Building Fund, Capital Campaign Fund, and Capital Reserve Fund. The motion was made by Kayla Dye, Seconded by Lori Klopf, Motion Approved Unanimously (99 votes for, and no voting members abstaining).

12:41 Closing Prayer & Adjournment: Pr. Josh closed with a prayer. Kayla Dye moved to adjourn, Jan Thompson seconded, Passed Unanimously.

Adjournment at 12:43 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Jan Thompson, Congregation Secretary

Mid-Year Congregational Meeting
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Following Christ, Growing in Faith, Sharing God's Love
June 5, 2022

12:25 Meeting was called to order by Bob Fingland. A quorum was verified with 77 members present, thru both in-person and on Zoom. Bob Fingland opened in prayer.

12:32 Approval of Agenda. A motion for approval of today's Congregational Meeting Agenda was made by Jan Thompson and seconded by Joel Bretscher. Motion Passed Unanimously

12:34 Approval January 30, 2022, Congregational Meeting. A motion for approval of the 1/30/22 Congregational Meeting was made by Marilyn Jones and seconded by Joel Bretscher. Motion Passed Unanimously

12:37 Acknowledgement of Outgoing member positions:

Council Treasurer: Rock Foster

Council Members At-Large: Jenn Bader, Gary Klopf, Rebeca Hillman

Endowment Committee: Beckie Fingland

Nominating Committee: Gary Klopf, Josh Brecht, Rod Hollenbeck, Steve Spoerle, Kayla Dye, Dawn Schwab, Sara Oswald

12:42 Review of nominees for current positions:

Council Treasurer: Troy Larsen

Council Members At-Large: Larissa Hautekeete, Greg Mueller, Lanny Schnipper

Endowment Committee: Judy Leach

Nominating Committee: Gene Unverfehrt, Dawn Engle, Robert Goerss, Marilyn Jones, Kim Sherwood, Linda Webb

12:50 Financial Reports:

Budgets are made on an annual basis and divided by 12 months. Contributions are within budget, yet contributions are down somewhat in the last six weeks. We are financially sound right now, as Actual Expenses vs Budget. (Surplus of \$56,000). Reminder to take "Shep" with you while on vacation, which might help remind you to maintain giving.

12:54 Updates on staffing:

Pastor of Congregational Care: The Call committee (Brett Spoerle – Chair, Paul Dreher, Carol Hollenbeck, Erik Oswald, Delaney Rhea, Robin Spence, Pr. Josh Brecht) worked hard to screen, interview, and make a recommendation for the Pastor of Congregational Care. The Council approved the candidate and supports the following recommendation to the Congregation.

Pastor Gissela Varinia Espinoza (Pastor Varinia) has the unanimous recommendation of the Call Committee and the Council. A meet and greet is scheduled for June 26, and a vote will be held at a special congregational meeting on July 10, 2022.

Director of Children and Youth Ministry: Emily Hayden Horning has accepted this position and will begin on June 15th. Her ministry will focus on those from birth through the 5th Grade.

Director of Youth and Family Ministry: Emily Hintz has accepted this position and began her employment on June 1st. Her ministry will focus on those from 6th through 12th grade.

1:05 Update on Local Service/Outreach (from one of the four focus areas of the GSLC Strategic Plan: Belonging, Children, Youth and Family; Spiritual Growth; Service).

The Outreach team is comprised of Jill Thompson, Bob Fingland, Paul Davis, Judy Leach, Steve Spoerle, David Franz, and Pr. Josh Brecht. They have come up with a Local Outreach Survey, to be completed by June 30, 2022. This survey will help to discern the primary local interest areas of members. Small focus groups will be offered following the completion of the survey to discern congregational priorities.

1:08 Closing Prayer and Adjournment: Pr. Josh Brecht closed with a prayer. Steve Spoerle moved to adjourn the meeting, and Rock Foster seconded. Motion Passed Unanimously. Adjournment was at 1:09 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Jan Thompson, Congregation Secretary

Special Congregational Meeting Minutes
Following Christ, Growing in Faith, Sharing God's Love
July 10, 2022

12:15 Welcome, Call to Order, Establish Quorum: Prayer offered by Jill Thompson.

12:18 Overview of Process to Call Pastor of Congregational Care by Brett Spoerle. Call committee was established, and steps were discussed. Pastor Varinia Espinosa was unanimously approved by call committee, then by Council, before information was shared with the congregation.

Sharing of Gifts and Skills of Primary Candidate: Pastoral Care, Membership Engagement, Service Teams, Working with and Leading Groups, Worship. These skills were discussed and time for questions was offered.

12:26 Vote to Call Primary Candidate: a 2/3 majority is required for approval. Results: 117 Yes votes, 0 No votes, 0 Abstained. Call approved unanimously.

12:35 Vote to Authorize Council to Arrange Compensation Package in Accordance with Central States Synod Guidelines: requires a simple majority for approval. Results: 116 yes, 1 no

Exploring Our Call Together - "Here I Am Lord" by Jamie and Marcus De Geer (While ballots are counted)

Closing in prayer by Jill Thompson.

A motion to adjourn was made by Jan Thompson and Seconded by Rock Foster. Results: Passed Unanimously.

Adjournment at 12:40

Respectfully Submitted, Jan Thompson, Congregation Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT – TROY LARSON

2022 INCOME STATEMENT		
GENERAL FUND INCOME	2022 ACTUAL	2022 BUDGET
GENERAL FUND CONTRIBUTIONS	\$1,101,265.58	1,143,500.00
GENERAL FUND VARIOUS REVENUE	50,784.85	51,150.00
GENERAL FUND INVESTMENT INCOME	4,642.38	1,645.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$1,156,692.81	\$1,196,295.00
GENERAL FUND EXPENSES		
BENEVOLENCE	\$107,604.00	\$107,610.00
SALARIES	428,295.87	456,886.00
HOUSING ALLOWANCES	66,666.72	79,000.00
PENSION	47,715.04	53,104.00
BENEFITS	117,808.99	125,948.00
PAYROLL TAXES	22,781.97	24,056.00
PROPERTY	170,525.60	185,335.00
ADMINISTRATION	105,504.75	88,906.00
MINISTRY TEAM EXPENSES	63,199.12	75,450.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,130,102.06	\$1,196,295.00
EXCESS INCOME/EXPENSES	\$26,590.75	\$0.00
NOTE:		
GENERAL FUND BALANCE AT JAN 1, 2022	\$283,665.57	
2022 SURPLUS ADDED TO BALANCE	26,590.75	
LESS AMOUNT TRANSFERRED TO THE FIXED ASSET FUND TO PURCHASE THE NEW HVAC UNITS (REMAINDER OF PURCHASE CAME FROM DESIGNATED FUNDS)	-80,000.00	
GENERAL FUND BALANCE AT DEC 31, 2022	\$230,256.32	

2022 Statistics

Membership at end of 2021=1322 and Membership at end of 2022 = 1320

Baptisms (+17)

Isabelle Anderson
Ada Bretscher
Penelope Rosalie Candela
Skylar Doss
Ryleigh Fleschner
Ryder Fleschner
Daniela Michelle Santillan-Horton
Sarai Malina Santillan-Horton
Bennett Matthew Lewellen
Alina Maley
Jack Maley
Lillian Maley
Raylee Mays
Colette McKinney
Isla Molitor
Bennett William Murray
Calvin Wirth

Confirmations (24) Joined (+4)

Graham Russell Bader
Hayden Scott Bell
Elijah Robert Brecht
Ethan Jarold Brookshire (Joined thru confirmation)
Fiona Lucille Dye
Stephanie Nicole Fussner
William Douglas Haack
Lila Kathryn Kayser
Lachlan Rhys Kennedy
Allison Nicole Koehrer
Jackson Ryan Lanfersieck
Wyatt Michael Larsen
Milo Stanley Mainquist
Lillian Elizabeth Maley
Anna Rose Matzner (Joined thru confirmation)
Benjamin Robert Matzner (Joined thru confirmation)
Robert Cole McDaniel
Allison Taylor Miele (Joined thru confirmation)
Ramon Dicke Miraflores IV
Evelyn Kae Raymond
Kajsa Francesca Johanna Recks
Eliot Aubre Sorensen
Brynnen Turner Elizabeth Teel
Ezmond Alexander Van Buren

Weddings

Julia Unverfehrt/Grant Boyd
Michael Butler/Jenna Upchurch

New Members/Inactive to Active (+51) (See Confirmations also)

Dawn Brinkmann
Donna Brinkmann
Kyle Butler
Richard & Margaret Christenson
Caroline Daily
Madeleine Daily; Harrison Daily
Bill & Stephanie Decker
Noah Decker; Madelyn Decker
Steven Donaubauer
Isidro & Gisella Varinia Espinosa
John & Roberta Hardin
Mike & Emily Hobgood
Reese Hobgood; Brynn Hobgood
Richard & Sandra Hochecker
Sarah Huber
Jackson Huber; Sophia Huber
Pam Matzner
Janelle McKinney
Miles McKinney
Kevin & Cindy Nichols
Joe & Nancy Pyatek
RuthAnn Schavey
Brandon & Leasha Teel
Landen Teel; Brynnen Teel; William Teel
Marc & Kristen Tenholder
Abigail Tenholder; Maxwell Tenholder
Katie Thurman
Scott & Linda Whitley
Kevin Whitley
Ashton Wirth
Wilbur & Ruth Woods
Joe Wright

Transferred

Out/Inactive/Moved/Previous member) (-57)

Jared & Isabelle Anderson (Suzy not member)
Brad & Tiffany Anderson
James Anderson; Catherine Anderson
Jim & Diane Ball
Susan Blum
Donna Botkin
Laurie & Doug Brickey
Barbara Burnside
Penelope Rosalie Candela
Jesse Garwood
John & Becky Howard
Rick & Jodie Hu
Harper Hu
Verill Johnson

Ken & Kelly Kinnaman
Claire Kinnaman; Jack Kinnaman
Jon & Katie Lundvall
Phil Mainquist
Lucy Mainquist; Oscar Mainquist; Milo Mainquist
Kyle & Brenda McCommis
James McCommis; Roger McCommis; Caroline McCommis; June McCommis
Caitlin McCommis
Caroline Messerly
Austin & Shae Ogroski
Liam Ogroski
Mike & Ruth Pettigrew
Anna Reeder
Fallon Whitworth
Rodney & Jenn Robinson
Jake Robinson; Madelyn Robinson
Tara Sillienvelope O'Nay
Dorsey Stern
Holly Taylor
Taylor Beck; Whitney Beck
Rich & Rachel Wolf

Funerals/Deaths (-7)

Marge Bauer
Tom Burnside
Beatrice Childs
John Duffy
David Johnson
Karin Niemeyer
Mary Lou Scolatti

Administrative Adjustments (-10)
(People incorrectly transferred from old database to new database)

LEAD PASTOR – Josh Brecht

“... to equip the saints for the work of ministry.”

– Ephesians 4:12

When I reflect on 2022 it is hard to believe how far we have come. December filled our church with joyful singing with the cantata, children’s musical, and Christmas Eve worship. Yet it was in January of 2022 that the most intense wave of Covid hit, and we suspended all in person ministries for several weeks!

I am so proud of this congregation. I am filled with gratitude at how Good Shepherd navigated the challenges of the pandemic. Rather than stopping ministry, we adapted, prayed, and gathered virtually. Throughout the past three years, you have constantly been a beacon of kindness and empathy as we continually adapted and made difficult decisions. Even now, we continue to care for those who are most vulnerable in our community. Through all the challenges, ministry and mission continued!

2022 was a year with many staff transitions. The staff of Good Shepherd have done a ***tremendous*** job of filling gaps, taking on new and different roles, and joyfully welcoming new members to our team! Early in the year, we said goodbye to Emily Harrow and Brenda Ogroski. We were blessed to quickly bring Emily Hintz onboard. She did a phenomenal job leading VBS and getting started, yet we were deeply saddened to learn of her cancer diagnosis in July. We continue to pray for Emily and give thanks to God for the gift of medical care. After these emotional goodbye’s we were able to celebrate three new staff: Emily Horning, Delaney Rhea, and Pastor Varinia Espinosa. These disciples have already done ***remarkable*** ministry, and we cannot wait to see what God does in 2023!

The pandemic created disconnection, isolation, and loneliness on a scale previously unseen. Because of this, we felt led by the Holy Spirit to create opportunities for people to connect and experience the joy of life together again. FLY hosted Trivia night in March, and the Fun Squad and staff coordinated three all-church fellowship events throughout the summer. Several new small groups have formed, and a new Sunday morning Parent Fellowship group has been thriving. Our Stewardship team even created “Shep”, the traveling sheep to keep us connected to each other while we traveled over the summer!

In addition to all this wonderful ministry, Good Shepherd continued to live out our mission of sharing God’s Love. Countless volunteer hours and donations were given by the people of Good Shepherd for outreach ministries in the community. Feed the Need STL was able to hold a mobile pack in September, inspiring generosity and feeding thousands of the most vulnerable children around the world. We have launched a process to identify one local service ministry partner to invest in more deeply in 2023, as well.

Being a part of Good Shepherd, both as a pastor, and as a family, continues to be one of the greatest blessings of my life. I am humbled to be able to serve our Lord Jesus alongside you in this place. May God continue to lead us as we strive to create a community where every person is known by and knows others, and every person would do ministry and grow spiritually.

In Christ,
Pastor Josh Brecht

PASTOR OF CONGREGATIONAL CARE – Varinia Espinosa

I started this position on September 6th. I've been working on settling in at home, as well as church. I found Good Shepherd a very welcoming, supportive, challenging, and vibrant congregation to work with.

My first three months have been a time to build relationships and get to know people. This is a journey that takes time, but people are helping me make this a very smooth process.

I am taking time to observe, to learn, to receive, to give, and to do ministry.

It has been very encouraging to start a new ministry. I found that our ministry volunteers are doing well with our visitation and care ministry. They do an amazing job, connecting with people, cleaning up the prayer list, sending cards (get well soon, thinking of you, birthday cards, Thanksgiving cards and Christmas cards) especially to those homebound or sick, as well as our college students.

As part of this ministry, we incorporated the flower ministry, which is possible, thanks to those parishioners who donate the church altar flowers each week. At the end of the second worship service, we have volunteers who prepare five or six bouquets from the two flowers arrangements used during the worship services. We put a note with the flowers that says: *"These flowers have been in the sanctuary of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Manchester MO. They have heard the hymns that have been sung, the prayers that have been offered, the sermon that has been preached, and the fellowship that has been shared. Now with their silent message they come to you with our love."*

We know this has been a very powerful tool to use in our ministry.

I am also part of the Stephen Ministry. Beginning in January 2023, we will have a new person being trained to become a Stephen Ministry leader, Jan Thompson. We have big hearts and strong caregivers who want to use their gifts to offer care to people who are hurting. We are in the process of reorganizing the ministry and working on being more efficient.

The Welcome team is also part of my work, and I am part of a great team who are working hard to bring new people to membership and to connect them with the different ministries of our church. I am in a learning process.

I work with the Service Team. They are a vibrant team with big hearts. I used my first months here to learn from them about their hopes, dreams and mostly about what they are doing to extend God's love and care for the most unfortunate around us.

I have visited a few times with the CG's and taught a Bible Study. I was very impressed with what they are doing to keep themselves strengthened and connected.

PASTOR OF DISCIPLESHIP – Amy Stewart

2022 has felt like a year of hope and rebuilding in so many ways. While it started off a bit rocky, there have been so many delightful surprises, Spirit-sightings, and joys to celebrate as we look back.

Earlier in the year, I led the creation of two new positions/job descriptions as well as the hiring process for a Director of Children and Family Ministry (birth-5th grade) and a Director of Youth and Family Ministry (6th-12th grade). The hiring teams were eager to bring Emily Horning and Emily Hintz on board and I was just beginning to get them settled in when we heard the heartbreaking news about Emily Hintz. I have stayed connected with her regularly and am thrilled that she is in remission and working hard to finish her chemo treatments and rebuild her strength and health!

In the meantime, I'm grateful that we were able to quickly pivot to hiring Delaney Rhea so that she and I could partner to lead the RiSE and FLY ministries. Delaney has been gracious and brave as she jumped headfirst into this role, and she and Emily Horning have been big blessings to staff and the congregation. We have already seen so much fruit from their ministry with our young people, and because of what they bring to the table, their areas are thriving and growing far beyond what we even hoped for!

SHiNE, RiSE, and FLY have come together in amazing ways on Wednesday nights for recreation, cross-generational dinner fellowship, and faith formation. Over 40 adults, some without children in the program, are sharing their time, energy, wisdom, creativity, and compassion by preparing meals, leading recreation, mentoring small groups of confirmation students, and more! Their faithfulness is the reason SHiNE, RiSE, and FLY happens at all, and it has been beautiful to watch adults of all ages teaching, learning from, and fellowship with children and youth from 2nd-12th grade!

Sunday mornings have a lot of energy too. Youth are leading worship regularly in various ways – A/V, ushering, greeting, serving Communion, reading, and sharing skits and special music – and they are doing it with eagerness and joy! Sunday school is growing. Alongside our young people, we have a strong parent fellowship group and Sunday morning adult education leadership is helping adults to find their own sense of belonging and to talk through life and faith together.

The high school No Coast Youth Gathering at Camp Tomah Shinga and the Confircamp week in and around Good Shepherd were both great successes, with new relationships built and old ones nurtured in a sense of belonging, and youth were able to grow spiritually and do ministry.

We also celebrate the exciting renovation to the FLY room, which has created a deeper sense of welcome and ownership for our FLY youth. Thanks to the Endowment committee for the funds and Jennifer Makowski for her amazing effort to create the beautiful new space! We are grateful that the same opportunity is coming from the Endowment committee for the RiSE room (theMiddle).

Finally, there are a few other areas worthy of celebration. Engaging the children of Building Blocks preschool in chapel is a highlight for me! They are growing in faith and more and more of them are showing up for worship and GSLC events. College outreach is well received and very much appreciated. Students who return home feel connected, check in with folks they know, and even help lead worship. We have had a handful of new small groups form this year, drawing more folks into community.

All these efforts continue into 2023, and I look forward to any other Spirit-surprises in store as we seek to Know Others, Be Known, Do Ministry, and Grow Spiritually together!

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRY – Emily Horning

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." - Matthew 19:14

We have been blessed with a year that has shown renewed growth in the number of families involved in our Children's Ministry programming. As I began my tenure as Director of Children and Family Ministry in June 2022, I looked forward to preparing 2023's report with full knowledge of our activities!

Here are some events that marked Children's Ministry in 2022:

- The Sunday School year kicked off with an End-of-Summer Bash, organized by Pastor Amy and me. It was a huge success, especially the dunk tank! It was a wonderful inter-generational gathering with sno-cones, games, and music! Sunday School had its first class following Labor Day weekend, with over 60 children ages 2 to 8th grade.

- In September, we celebrated with 16 first, second, and third graders and their families as they received their First Communion. The two-week family discussion events leading up to this faith milestone were led by Pastor Josh.
- Additional faith milestones in 2022 included: Little Lambs First Bible presentation, age 2 ABC Christmas Books celebration, and Kindergarten Spark Bible presentation.
- 30 youth in grades 3 through 8, along with high school junior guides and adult volunteers, were part of the 2022 *Be Like Jesus* Service lock-in.
- Vacation Bible School 2022 – Emily Hintz led this amazing week of Compassion Camp, with 41 volunteers and 50 campers.
- The FMSC Feed the Need Youth Pack was attended by 72 participants! We enjoyed fellowship and pizza following the pack at Kennedy Recreational Center.
- Trunk or Treat was a massive success, with 175 families (almost 700 people) attending. Only 25 of those families were from Good Shepherd, so this has clearly become a Community Event.
- The Easter Children’s Celebration was led by Pastor Amy, with hundreds of eggs stuffed and hidden by many volunteers. Indoor games were led by the Longfields.
- The Sunday School Christmas presentation of *Away in a Mango* was an early Christmas gift to many. It was a blessing to have so many families commit to the December Saturday rehearsals! Many thanks to Jamie De Geer, Karen Kallansrud, Katherine Van Horn, and Nancy Stelmachowitz for their leadership!
- Our Christmas Eve Live Nativity family services were again spirit-led and well received.

Ongoing programs include Sunday School and SHiNE Wednesday evening faith formation for 2nd – 5th grades. All these offerings are made possible because of the support of this congregation and the army of volunteers we are blessed with at Good Shepherd. We currently have 15 volunteer leaders involved in our Sunday morning Children’s Ministry program, and three regular volunteer leaders each Wednesday evening for our SHiNE programs.

Looking ahead to 2023, I see continued growth in our children’s programming, an increase in inter-generational service opportunities, and more community events. I feel privileged to call Good Shepherd my church and my employer, and I strive to maintain and expand this ministry.

In Christ, Emily Horning

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY – Delaney Rhea

These last six months have been a whirlwind of unexpected blessings and experiences of God’s work in my life as I’ve stepped into the role of Director of Youth and Family Ministry at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. I cannot overstate the amount of joy that working with our GSLC youth has brought me.

Pastor Amy, Emily Horning, and I have joyfully brought back our beloved Wednesday night youth club meals, sometimes feeding upwards of ninety people in thirty minutes. Our RiSE middle school students have enjoyed opportunities to work with and learn from congregation members in their recreational sessions. On Wednesday nights they have strengthened their understanding of the Bible and their faith through confirmation lessons with Pastor Amy and in their mentor-led small groups. We have had consistent participation from students these evenings, and we couldn’t do it without our many generous volunteers.

Our high school FLY group has adjusted to holding meetings on Wednesday nights instead of Sundays as in previous years. Some of the blessings we’ve witnessed with this change include our high school youth getting to participate in our family style youth club meals and our younger students being able to get sneak peaks into the fun that happens in our FLY room. We have balanced nights of crazy fun, including games and messy projects, with faith-based conversations. Our entire youth community really appreciates the comfortable and aesthetic updates and upgrades to our FLY room.

As we dive into 2023, I am looking forward to learning more and striving to be an effective Director of Youth and Family Ministry, and I’m grateful for all the support and help along this journey.

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY – Jamie De Geer

2022 started with a bang! In the aftermath of our exuberant Christmas Eve services and a carol sing on the following Sunday, things fizzled with the temporary shut-down of in person worship due to covid and the subsequent cancellation of choir plans which were to resume in January. My family also contracted covid, so we were locked down for two weeks. Plans to start SHiNE singers were postponed and eventually cancelled.

Fortunately, things quickly improved in the community, and we were able to bring back all three choirs by mid-March. I was happy to see most people return with renewed energy and excitement to be back together again. Lenten services at noon were well attended but the evening service was underwhelming with sometimes more people leading than attending. It was exciting to have the Joint Choir sing at the traditional services on Easter Sunday, after not singing together since Transfiguration Sunday in 2020.

The Tone Chime group resumed playing in April, after a brief hiatus at the beginning of the year, and the Hand Bells returned to ringing in May for the first time since 2020. SHiNE Singers resumed in September, and we were excited to welcome the Four Crossmen back to worship in October!

Music Camp will continue to be held in July due to a change in leadership. Katherine Van Horn took over the position of Camp Director this year and we are thankful for her expertise in the area to theater production. We had a successful camp with thirty registered campers, five counselors and seventeen volunteer leaders. Special thanks to the leadership team: Katherine Van Horn, Nancy Stelmachowicz, Laura McCommis, Carin Gado-Recks, Shelly Watkins-Parker and Karen Kallansrud.

If I had to sum up the beginning of 2022, I'd say it was like a superhighway with lots of exits and entrances, stops, and starts. We said goodbye to three staff members and welcomed three new staff members. Groups started, stopped, started up again, etc. But the end of the year seemed more settled and stable. We are fully staffed; all music groups are going in full swing, and we had an exciting Advent and Christmas season!

The Annual Christmas Cantata was a triumph with one of the best orchestra and choral groups I have had the privilege to lead! That was followed up by an energetic and exciting Sunday School Christmas Program with over forty kids participating. And the trifacta was Christmas Eve with all three choirs back to singing at three different services. It was a very busy season, but it was such a blessing to be able to make music together and tell the story of Jesus in so many different and awesome ways!

As I approach my 60th Birthday in January and reflect on this past year, I remember that I joined Good Shepherd in December of 1992 which means that I have been a member here for over half my life. So many memories, so many people, so much music, so much joy and love. I give thanks to God for the blessings that have been bestowed on me during these past 30 years and look forward to what will come.

Submitted with thanks and love, Jamie De Geer, Director of Music Ministry

DIRECTOR OF CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP – Gail Brecht

My heart is filled with gratitude for the church staff, council and volunteers who have so graciously led our congregation forward in 2022. We have finally been able to safely bring back C+ high school praise band! We have such talented young people, and I am deeply grateful for their involvement. However, I have had to step away from leadership for *Our Neighbors, Our City* so that I have time to lead C+ Harmony.

Our 11am worship service would not be possible without the wonderful musicians and A/V crew who have given and shared their gifts in worship this year: Richards Bagwasi, Thebe Bagwasi, Brandon Wade, Jimmie Miller,

Jason Fulbright, Amy Fulbright, Jim McCommis, Josh Brecht, Christian Saia, Jamie De Geer, Bethany Dreher, Kathy Irwin, Laura Ewald, Tim Thurman, and Eric Lindgren. Thank you so much! Each of them has greatly blessed our community with their beautiful gifts of music in worship.

I encourage you musicians who may have any interest in modern music leadership to have a conversation with me. I pray you would consider offering your time and talent in the Contemporary Worship Service (yes, even piano and keyboard players!) We welcome a large variety of skill levels! I hope to hear from you soon.

Peace, Gail Brecht, Deacon/Director of Contemporary Worship

DIRECTOR OF BUILDING BLOCKS EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER AND PRESCHOOL – Kathy Rebholz



Early Childhood Center and Preschool Operations

- [2022 Building Blocks Video Link](#)
- Brightwheel Preschool App allows for online student registration, online tuition payments, and parent/school text messaging system.
- Ministry and Community outreach program of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church for children ages 1-5 and teaches about God's love for each child; 75 students enrolled.
- Members of the Evangelical Lutheran Education Association (ELEA)
- Thematic Curriculum is integrated and play-based to encourage spiritual, social, emotional, cognitive, physical, and independent development of the whole child. Activities that look like play have an educational purpose. Schedules are complete with Chapel Time, Science Discovery, and Music Class.
- Learning Without Tears Curriculum is a multisensory curriculum full of developmentally appropriate activities for our oldest students. It teaches children about letters, body awareness, numbers, sequencing, and sharing.
- Family events are held throughout the year to facilitate family bonding and healthy partnerships with staff and other families (Meet the Teacher, Ice Cream Social, Family Fall Festival, Christmas Program, Grandparent's Day Program, Spring Picnic, Completion Ceremony)
- Parent Teacher Conferences are held twice a year to discuss developmental and foster open communication between school and parents/caregivers.
- Active Parent Group who collaborates special appreciation events for the teachers

Preschool Staff

- Consists of twelve degreed staff members (bachelor's and master's degrees in early childhood and elementary education, background in special education and autism; a certified Parents as Teacher's educator; a licensed professional counselor, a degreed library science educator, and certified reading specialists)
- CPR certified and participated in professional development opportunities through the Missouri Department Office of Childhood, and various early childhood organizations.
- Collaborates with local school districts and specialists to aide in the identification of students who may benefit from specialized early intervention.
- Member of the West County Preschool Director's group

Building Blocks Business Operations

- Follows State of Missouri Rules and Regulations: unscheduled inspections by sanitation, fire, and state departments; required protocols for student admissions and immunizations; and required human resources procedures for hiring employees.
- A Limited Liability Corporation under GSLC
- Brightwheel App used for online tuition payments.
- Offers tuition assistance through the Peg Metroff Scholarship Fund

REPORT ON BEHALF OF ANDREW LEACH – Amy Stewart

Good Shepherd has a practice of sharing annual reports from all rostered leaders (clergy and deacons) and program directors. However, Andrew Leach spent the first half of 2022 as the Director of Youth Ministry and has done some other crucial ministry in his IT/Audio Visual Coordinator role in the past year. We want to make sure to lift up that work too.

Many youth and adults across the country were disappointed when the ELCA Youth Gathering needed to be cancelled in 2022, due to COVID. Andrew knew how valuable this experience has been for others in the past and set to work to see what could be done. As Director of Youth Ministry, he was instrumental in creating the synod's No Coast Youth Gathering, in coordination with Camp Tomah Shinga and Bethany College. Andrew served on the leadership team that created and ran that Gathering, as well as taking many of our 8th-12th graders, who were richly blessed by their time there.

In his IT role, Andrew's work with our Touchpoint software has been a gift to all areas of ministry. He has helped staff to create digital signups, for events and programs, that have offered more streamlined and comprehensive registration experiences, freeing up staff energy for more ministry. Members have shared appreciation for how easy it is to sign up for multiple events through the app and pay online.

Andrew also helped staff to learn and use the scheduling function on Touchpoint. This means that our 40+ volunteers on Wednesday nights, working with SHiNE, RiSE, and FLY, could easily sign up for various roles, quickly request substitutes when scheduling issues arose, and check in with their assignments if they forgot. All of this could be done without having to work through staff, again freeing up energy to create impactful, fruitful ministry opportunities. This is the same scheduling system that worship leaders have been using for over a year, and while Touchpoint isn't a perfect system, it is improving regularly, and staff are learning more and more, often under Andrew's leadership, to use it most effectively.

All of this in addition to offering worship in your homes each week by leading the A/V team to livestream our services! We hope you will join us in giving thanks for Andrew's ministry at Good Shepherd in 2022 and moving forward.

WELCOME MINISTRY TEAM – Elliott Haugen, Team Leader

Good Shepherd has a long tradition of being a welcoming and inclusive congregation. This is because the entire Good Shepherd congregation is its welcome ministry! This is also why individuals and families continue to visit, attend, and join this church. The Welcome Team supports this effort by emphasizing the importance and relevance of being welcoming by its actions and monthly congregational Wink newsletter article. We also reintroduced the "Welcome Children" cards in each pew.

One of the Welcome Team's key responsibilities is to identify and follow up with visitors, express our gratitude for their worshipping with us, help them feel a sense of belonging, answer questions about Good Shepherd, and invite them to return. We intentionally connect with them, offer information/orientation sessions, and link them to members, activities, and groups. This effort continues after they join Good Shepherd.

Who We Are:

Our Team consists of Karen and Jon Fatzinger, Vicki and Elliott Haugen, Marilyn Jones, Sandy and Mike King, Sally Kloppe, Pat and Dave Naffziger, Dawn and Scott Schwab, Julie Weber, Linda and John Webb, and Joe Wright. Julie and Joe joined the team this year and we also welcomed Paster Varinia as the liaison to the Welcome Team.

What We Did In 2022

Each year our team develops and reviews goals that focus our work and support Good Shepherd's strategic priorities: Belonging; Children, Youth and Families; Spiritual Growth; and Service. Team members stay connected to the

congregation by being active and informed. Some members attended the Council's Leadership Development and Planning retreat in October, and we provided input to the Pastor of Congregational Care call committee.

It was great to return to a more normal schedule after Covid-related changes. This year, we held three orientation sessions for 46 people who joined Good Shepherd (other new members included baptisms and some confirmands). In 2020, 38 people joined and in 2021 we had 10. We also prepared a report for Council that confirmed that recent new members are getting involved by attending worship services and participating in education, music, fellowship, service, and senior programs.

In the past, members of the Welcome Team recruited volunteers from the congregation to serve as door greeters at the 9am and 11am worship services. Now, the Connect app allows members to sign up to be greeters (and for other worship service roles) and the office also sends regular emails to members soliciting volunteers. These actions allow the Welcome Team to spend more time identifying, welcoming, and talking with visitors in the narthex and sanctuary.

Your Welcome Team looks forward to partnering with you to invite and include everyone in 2023!
As the apostle Paul instructed us in Romans 15:7 --*"Welcome one another, therefore, as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God."*

SERVICE MINISTRY TEAM – Judy Leach, Team Leader

The Service Team Mission is, "To provide opportunities to reach out in love and demonstrate our Christian faith by serving those in need in the local and global community in way that forms community between those who give and receive, so that the faith of all involved is encouraged and enriched."

The members of the Service Team are dedicated and enthusiastic members who have a passion for helping others. The team meets monthly to organize and manage projects that involve church-wide outreach activities throughout the year, such as collection drives in the narthex, and to make decisions about the disbursement of Local Benevolence funds to various charitable organizations that serve local, national, and international populations. The congregation at Good Shepherd has been extremely generous. In 2022, the Service Team allocated \$24,000 to agencies serving people in need. In addition, we managed nine collection drives: Reverse Plate offerings during Lent, the Baby Shower in May, Back to School in August, Thanksgiving Baskets and the Wartburg Seminary collection in November, the Christmas Giving Tree, Laundry Baskets, and the ELCA World Hunger drive in December, and the Food Bin all year. The collections during several of these drives reached record levels (Thanksgiving Baskets, Wartburg Seminary, Christmas Giving Tree, Laundry Baskets). An incredible number of lives were changed as a result!

When allocating Local Benevolence funds, the Team uses monthly themes to provide for a diversity of needs:

January: Missions	July: Helping Children/Youth
February: Random Acts of Kindness	August: Health
March: People with Disabilities	September: Affordable Housing
April: International Outreach	October: Assisting our Older Citizens
May: Women's Concerns	November: Hunger
June: Men's Concerns	December: Christmas Giving

The themes are a guide, not a directive. The Service Team also responds to natural disasters and other crises around the world. Before any money is approved for any agency, the Team researches the mission and financial integrity of that agency, using annual reports and internet sites such as Charity Navigator and GuideStar, to ensure that Local Benevolence funds will be put to good use. Each member of the Team also has personal contact with one or more of the St. Louis based charities we help support. A goal of the Team has been to establish personal relationships as much as possible with the organizations we choose to support on behalf of the congregation.

The non-profit agencies receiving donations (either cash or goods) from Good Shepherd through Local Benevolence in 2022 include:

ALIVE	First Step Back Home	Missouri Veteran's Endeavor
Almost Home	Fisher House	Nurses for Newborns
Annie's Hope	God's Helping Hands	Our Ladies Inn
ARC	Home Sweet Home	Parkway Food Pantry
Beyond Housing	International Institute	Project Backpack
Casa de Salud	Kids in the Middle	Safe Families
CHAMP Assistance Dogs	Lafayette Industries	St. Patrick's Center
Circle of Concern	Lutheran Family and Children's Services	Trinity Souldard
Confluence Academy	Maplewood-Richmond Heights School District	Voyce
Crudum Foundation	Mary Ryder Home	Wartburg Seminary
Delta Gamma Center	Meals on Wheels STL	Wings of Love and Care (Crisis Aid)
ELCA Disaster Response	Microfinancing Partners in Africa	With God's Little Ones
ELCA Good Gifts		Worth Industries
ELCA Global Missions		

The Team meets on the first Monday evening of every month. New members are welcome! Team members in 2022 were: David Franz, Melissa Huse, Karen Kallansrud, Cindy Kraft, Judy Leach (chair), Julie Patthoff, Dennis Mall, Barb Rouse, Janie Wolfangel, Sandy King.

The Team lost a beloved member in December with the passing of Barb Rouse. Barb was part of the Service Team for decades and her passion for helping others was an inspiration to all of us. She led the Prayer Shawl ministry for many years and brought joy and comfort to many who were ill and their caretakers. We will miss her more than words can say.

STEWARDSHIP TEAM – Rock Foster, Chair

“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.” – Ephesians 3:20-21

The Stewardship committee consists of Rob Engle, Rock Foster, Emily Goerss, Sharon Misuraca, and Pastor Josh attending meetings and providing astute guidance. Larry Hibbard and Glenn Kraft have finished their time with the committee, and we thank them for their service. With the turnover, we are now preparing to review the effectiveness of the 2022 programs and continue to expand our efforts in accordance with the book *“Abundance”* by Mike Ward and best practices in this area relying on the experience of Sharon Misuraca, Emily Goerss, and Pastor Josh to align and mature as a team. We continually strive to seek volunteers with a passion for service and motivational or artistic talents for one time project assistance.

We enjoyed meeting “Shep” to share travel experiences of the GSLC family. We shared regular communication throughout the year encouraging a more level giving pattern to better match our expenses. The giving pattern remained fundamentally like previous years with higher winter and fall giving, and lower throughout the spring and summer. We will continue to promote regular giving where possible.

Our approach to communicating with the congregation will be based on transparency while curating and sharing special experiences in the lives of the family of Good Shepherd. Also, we will maintain visibility of the ongoing status of our stewardship gifts and needs throughout the year.

We strive to empower, teach, and encourage all to glorify God with all they have been given through God's grace. We continually strive to expand practices of generosity by all through gifts of time, talent and treasures aligned with the means of the body and the needs of GSLC.

Apart from unique one-time gifts, 2022 was the largest annual contributions ever! We look forward to a future where Good Shepherd grows in following Christ, growing in faith, and sharing God's love.

FEED THE NEED STL – Bob DeBolt

2022 marked our first mobilepack in almost three years following the pandemic years of 2020 and 2021. There were many challenges involved with re-starting the pack, not the least of which was discovering that our new venue at Queeny Park would be unavailable due to delays in remodeling their facilities.

A quick search for another venue ultimately resulted in another site, Kennedy Recreation Center, as well as a revised date for packing. Despite those late changes, we had our most successful pack ever as more than 2,400 people found us in South St. Louis County and together packed more than 800,000 meals while providing the funds for another 187,000 meals to be packed by machine.

Summary and highlights of the pack completed September 8-11th.

The Numbers:

- Meals packed - 816,480
- Meals provided – 186 624
- Total meals donated – 1,003,104
- 20 barrels of food donated for Operation Food Search/3,092 lbs.
- 2,402 volunteers
- \$302K of total funds raised.

The meals provided enough food for 2,748 kids to eat one hot meal per day for a year. We saw three trailers fully loaded during the event and bound for Nicaragua and Haiti. Operation Food Search donations provided quality nutrition for one person to eat for 773 days in our local community.

Since its inception in 2007 as a youth event in Good Shepherd's gym, this event has paid for and packed 8.5 million meals, feeding more than 23,000 children a hot meal a day for a year as well as provided more than 20,000 volunteer opportunities for people in our community.

New Partners Join the Pack:

One of our goals in 2022 was to establish stronger community relationships and build on the solid base we have at GSLC. As just one example, Rotary of West County performed set up, tear down and forklift operations during the pack. Because these areas tend to be very physical and/or require special skills, they are a great addition to the team and Rotary have indicated they want to be our partner at the event for the foreseeable future.

Demand for our food:

You may not be aware that following several decades of declines in the number of people suffering and dying from starvation, the last two years have seen an extreme reversal in that trend with more and more people on the verge of famine. In addition to natural disasters, where our easy to ship and nutritious food has been critical to impacted communities, new global conflicts like you see in Ukraine, Yemen, Afghanistan, and Sudan create millions of people who are displaced and who need food to survive.

On behalf of hungry and starving children around the world, the Feed the Need STL team would like to say thank-you to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, for its continued leadership and support.

Until all are fed, Bob DeBolt, Volunteer Co-leader

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT & PLANNING COMMITTEE - Michael Kelley, Chair

Committee members: Mike Kelley (chair); Rod Hollenbeck; Gene Unverfehrt; Rick Hautekeete; Roger Cannon; Julie Deay, staff representative

Throughout 2022, FMPC researched, supervised, and contracted multiple projects to make Good Shepherd a clean, safe, and welcoming place to support and encourage the mission and ministries of the congregation.

The largest project was the replacement of two large rooftop HVAC units after financial approval by the congregation. The old units reached a point of parts no longer available when needed for repair and operation. The project required detailed specifications checking many boxes: efficiency, performance, value, durability, environmentally sound, and during these times of viruses and public health, optimum airflow, and filtration. We are blessed to have two members with professional expertise in HVAC who were invaluable throughout the process: Lyle Ziemann and Rick Hautekeete. We are still tweaking operation and integration into our building management system, but this was a successful, large-scale project brought in under budget.

In addition to the usual maintenance, repair, and upkeep for a 50,000+ square foot building including sections with vintages dating back to the 1960s, notable projects included an upgrade to the lighting for the cross on the hill, repair and sealing of the preschool play area, and new track lighting in the sanctuary. For the latter we are still waiting for parts held up in the supply chain to finish, but the lighting improvement is noticeable.

Projects currently in the works include replacement of overhead fans in the lower level, upgrading cameras and screens for the secure entrance under the canopy, upgrading the narthex lighting from failing fluorescents to LED, etc. The ability to complete such projects in a timely fashion is possible because of the ongoing budgeting for capital projects by the council, for which we are thankful. A major undertaking on which we are just starting is the optimal timing for re-pavement of failing blacktop surfaces, especially in the lower-level parking area.

We wish to thank all of those who have spent time and work improving the wonderful legacy of building and grounds which we have today. These include Stephen Stewart, who handles cleaning and maintenance for us ongoing, the men's group "Basecamp", for various projects throughout the year, and Julie Deay, whose day-to-day presence and oversight is invaluable.

Respectfully submitted, Mike Kelley

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE – Dan Engle, Chair

Good Shepherd is blessed to have an endowment that is used to fund approximately \$25,000 each year for approved projects. The current members of the Good Shepherd Endowment Committee are Beth Anderson, Paul Davis (Council rep), Dan Engle (Chair), Rick Hautekeete, Judy Leach, Steve Schilson and Tim Sorensen.

The purpose of the Endowment Committee is to use the funds allocated to it for grant requests to promote Good Shepherd's Mission and Vision Statement of "Following Christ, Growing in Faith, Sharing God's Love" while being "Guided by God's Grace". In 2022, the Endowment Committee approved funding for the following grant requests:

1. \$5,000 for Christ the Servant Lutheran Church in Louisville, Colorado, to assist with forest fire restoration.
2. \$5,000 to Start Inc. – Welcome Neighbor STL for Afghan resettlement.
3. \$5,000 to Lutheran World Relief for global resettlement missions.
4. \$380 for sacks to be used by the Parkway Food Pantry food drive.
5. \$4,000 to Iglesia Evangelica Lutheran Church in Puerto Rico for assist in hurricane restoration; and
6. \$5,000 for improvements to upgrade the middle school classroom at GSLC, as was done for the senior high room (with a pending approval for an additional \$1,900 for ceiling fan replacement).

The Committee welcomes all grant requests for consideration. Such requests usually are \$5,000 or less and that meet the other criteria set out on the grant request form. This form is available online by contacting the church office.

The Committee looks forward to continuing its mission in 2023.

CHRONOLOGICALLY GIFTED – Urb & Annette Molitor

The CG's is a group of "chronologically gifted" adults who gather for fellowship, bible studies, fun, exercise, entertainment and to meet new people. The CG's is a welcoming and open group, and we encourage everyone take a turn at planning an event.

We normally meet every Thursday:

- 1st Thursday: Bunko at 10:00 AM in Rm 150
- 2nd & 4th Thursdays: Bible Study at 10:00 AM in Rm 205 led by Pastor Josh or Varinia; Pickleball at 2:00 PM in the Gym (*Paddles are provided if you don't have one*)
- 3rd Thursdays: A planned monthly Activity--time & place varies.
- 5th Thursdays: A Community Service Project

2022 Third Thursday Activities:

- January: Canceled due to ice storm.
- February: Canceled due to ice storm - Chili Luncheon held after March Bunco
- March: Corned Beef & Cabbage Luncheon
- April: Meramec Bluffs Lunch & Tour
- May: Ed Golterman spoke at Chesterfield Heritage Museum; Lunch at the Cheesecake Factory
- June: Movie (*Miracles from Heaven*) & Lunch at Edge Wild Restaurant
- July: Ed Golterman spoke on the History of the Muni
- August: Lunch at the Sunflower Hill Farm, Augusta MO
- September: Bev Schuetz speaker on *The History of American Comedy*, & Lunch at Hearth Room
- October: Chili Luncheon & Sing-along with Pr. Josh & Gail
- November: Lunch at The Blue Owl, Kimmswick, MO
- December: Christmas Party at Andre's West, Fenton MO

Urb & Annette Molitor