



# ANNUAL REPORT 2023



Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
in America

Peace Lutheran Church



# A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDING BISHOP ELIZABETH EATON



Dear friends in Christ,

Over the past year we have continued to experience changes in the world around us. Even as our church finds ways to adapt to this changing world, we find hope in the unchanging and always present promise of God's love through Jesus Christ. We change and adapt not to conform to the world but because we believe that the gift of God's Son is for the world, and that our congregations and worshiping communities are places to gather and be sent into the world, where we will tell the story of God's love in word and deed.

The ministries of our congregations, our synods and the churchwide organization provide ways for the church to move beyond the boundaries of structures and geography and to share God's love with people in our neighborhoods, our cities, our country and beyond. We engage in this ministry knowing that our church walks by faith, trusting in God's promise in the gospel, and that we exist by and for the proclamation of this gospel word. In John 15:5, Jesus reminds us, "I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing." We are connected by the promise that we do all through Christ and can do nothing apart from him.

God gives the Holy Spirit, who uses gospel proclamation — in preaching and sacraments, in forgiveness and in healing conversations — to create and sustain this faith. Just as we rely on God to sustain our faith, we rely on each other to sustain the ministries that offer God's love to the world. Through your generosity to each expression

of this church — your congregation, your synod and your churchwide organization — you add to our collective voice proclaiming God's love for all.

I am grateful for your generosity over this last year. My gratitude spreads far beyond your generous financial gifts. You've shared your gifts of time through countless hours of volunteering, serving and accompanying. You've shared the gifts of your voices as we've tried to discover and learn how God is calling us to be the church now and into the future. And, finally, dear church, you have shared the gift of the realness of God's love with the world around you. Be well, dear church, and stand steadfast in the promise of God's love and grace as you take that promise with you into the world.

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

---

“I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.” —John 15:5

---

**PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Amherst, Wisconsin

A Congregation of the Tomorrow River Lutheran Parish

**Annual Meeting**

Sunday, January 28, 2024; 9:45 am

Pam Borgen, President  
Gretchen Anderson, Pastor  
Dwight Anderson, Pastor

---

**AGENDA**

1. Call to Order
2. Devotions
3. Secretary's report
4. Approval of minutes
5. Pastor's report
6. Committee & Auxiliary reports
7. Elections
8. Treasurer's report / Approval of Budget for 2024
9. Old Business
10. New Business
11. Adjournment
12. Closing Prayer and Lord's Prayer
13. Reorganization meeting for new and outgoing Church Council members





*O the deep, deep love of Jesus, vast, unmeasured, boundless, free,  
rolling as a mighty ocean in its fullness over me.  
Underneath me, all around me, is the current of Thy love;  
leading onward, leading homeward to Thy glorious rest above.*

Dear Brothers and Sisters of the Tomorrow River Lutheran Parish,

I greet you on this fourth Sunday after Epiphany in the strong name of Jesus! And I call you to an awareness of all that we have received, to gratitude in keeping with those gifts, and to a commitment to pass on those blessings to generations yet unborn.

It has been a year of tremendous grace. As the bigger churches around us falter and as the little churches begin to fail, we enter 2024 in a place of unparalleled strength. Both congregations own their property free and clear without external debt or encumbrance. Both congregations have completed and paid for all necessary work on their buildings. Both buildings are prepared for – and capable of – a generation of use without substantial reinvestment. Beyond this, both congregations find themselves in a place of relative peace. We have our little disagreements, but our unity is strong. Thanks be to God!

It's also been a challenging year. Our society continues its devotion to incivility and we are divided from family and friends. Many of our neighbors have forgotten how to be neighborly and some of us share those struggles. We lost beloved senior members in both congregations, and both pastors disappeared for the summer after my stroke in May. But leaders and members carried on faithfully and gracefully, and younger members picked up some of the work and some of the responsibility and some of the authority of those who have completed their race. I am grateful indeed for your support and care for my family during my crisis and since our return. I am not who I was, I am weaker in many ways, life has new challenges, but I am cognizant of the grace that I have received, the grace I continue to receive.

Everything we have has been gifted to us by God. We have been blessed beyond measure by the fathers and mothers that founded these churches. We have been sustained and graced by the community around us now. God has been faithful and the community of the parish has kept the faith. Now, we are well set up to do the work of the kingdom in this time. There will be fears and there will be struggles. There will be crises within and without. But it is not a time for fear or for anxiety. It is not a time for retrenchment or undue caution. We have been gifted, and graced, and set free to do the work of God in this place. We have been gifted, and graced, and set free to deliver the church to our neighbors and to our children's children. And God, who has so gifted, and graced and freed us, promises to be with us always, to the end of the age.

Be strong! Be of good cheer! The King of Love has claimed you and will sustain you.

Pastor Dwight for the pastoral team,  
January 28, 2024

*O the deep, deep love of Jesus, spread His praise from shore to shore!  
How He loveth, ever loveth, changeth never, nevermore!  
How He watcheth o'er His loved ones, died to call them all His own;  
how for them He intercedeth, watcheth o'er them from the throne.*

## 2023 OFFICIAL PASTORAL ACTS

### Peace Lutheran Church

#### Baptisms:

Margaret Ann Hill	January 1, 2023
Mikayla Marie Campbell	November 12, 2023
Ulla Bruce	December 21, 2023 (baptized in Nelsonville)

#### Confirmed:

Ian Johnson	October 15, 2023
Presley Voss	October 15, 2023
Brooklyn Berrens	October 22, 2023
Stephen Szymkowiak	October 22, 2023
Milo Graham	October 29, 2023
Hannah Rekowski	October 29, 2023
Allyssa Strunk	October 29, 2023

#### Weddings:

#### Funerals:

Suzanne Borgen	February 11, 2023
Carl Bohman	February 25, 2023
Priscilla "Pat" Pomeroy	June 3, 2023
Roger M. Tradewell *	September 27, 2023
Betty Jane Bobbe	October 7, 2023
Harold L. Floistad	October 18, 2023
Reynold "Reyn" P. Carey *	November 3, 2023

\*non-member

#### Members Received:

##### By Affirmation of Faith:

Lance & Kaylene Tischauser, Ashlie Hoffman, Brandon Johnson, Colt Tody, Brysen Johnson, Braelyn Johnson

##### By Baptism:

Margaret Ann Hill  
Mikayla Marie Campbell  
Ulla Bruce





## PEACE 2023

### Attendance

Average Sunday Attendance (indoor service) . . . . . 77 Peace  
Average Sunday Attendance (outdoor service) . . . . . 20 Parish  
Online Average YouTube Views . . . . . 46 Parish

% of Baptized members (Peace) present on Average Sunday (indoor) . . . . 14%  
% of Baptized members (Parish) present on Average Sunday (outdoor). . . . 2.4%  
% of Confirmed members (Peace) present on Average Sunday (indoor) . . . 20.2%  
% of Confirmed members (Parish) present on Average Sunday (outdoor) . . 3.5%

### Parish

Parish Average Sunday Attendance . . . . . 136/week  
% of Baptized members present on Average Sunday . . . . . 16.5%  
% of Confirmed members present on Average Sunday . . . . . 23.7%

### 2023 Attendance Totals

	TOTAL ATTENDANCE	NUMBER OF SERVICES	AVERAGE ATTENDANCE
Peace Indoor Service	4079	53	<b>77</b>
Outdoor Service	500	25	<b>20</b>
Nelsonville Indoor Service	2632	53	<b>50</b>
Thursday Evening Candlelight	1031	49	<b>21</b>



## Online Views Report 2023

Video Title	Video Date	Views
Good News from Matthew 2:1-12	Jan 6, 2023	36
Lesson 14. Teachings - Prayer	Jan 13, 2023	76
Reflections on John 1:29-42. January 15, 2023	Jan 13, 2023	59
Sunday School Lesson on 2 Kings 5:15-27. Elisha's Foolish Servant.	Jan 13, 2023	31
Announcements for January 15, 2023	Jan 13, 2023	25
Sunday School Lesson on 2 Chronicles 22-24. Joash, The Boy King	Jan 13, 2023	25
Sunday School Lesson on 2 Chronicles 24:4-14. Joash Repairs the Temple.	Jan 20, 2023	112
Lesson 15. Parables - Judgement	Jan 20, 2023	48
Announcements for January 22, 2023	Jan 20, 2023	43
Reflections on Matthew 4:12-23. January 22, 2023	Jan 20, 2023	42
Lesson 16. Teachings - Heaven, Hell, The End of Days.	Jan 27, 2023	98
Sunday School Lesson on 2 Kings 6:8-23. God Protects Elisha.	Jan 27, 2023	59
Good News from Matthew 5:1-12	Jan 27, 2023	54
Announcements for January 29, 2023.	Jan 27, 2023	37
Lesson 17. Miracles - Transfiguration and Jesus' Resurrected Body.	Feb 3, 2023	56
Sunday School Lesson on 2 Kings 6:24 - 7:20. Food for a Starving City.	Feb 3, 2023	32
Announcements for February 5, 2023.	Feb 3, 2023	27
Reflections on Matthew 5:13-37. February 12, 2023.	Feb 10, 2023	84
Lesson 18. Parables - Judgement and Grace.	Feb 10, 2023	67
Announcements for February 12, 2023.	Feb 10, 2023	24
Sunday School Lesson on Jonah 1 & 2. Jonah Disobeys God.	Feb 10, 2023	10
Announcements for February 19, 2023.	Feb 17, 2023	38
Good News from Matthew 17 1 to 9	Feb 17, 2023	36
Sunday School Lesson on Jonah 3 & 4. Jonah Preaches at Nineveh.	Feb 17, 2023	24
Lesson 19. Teachings - The Beatitudes.	Feb 24, 2023	50
Good News from Matthew 4 1 to 11	Feb 24, 2023	39
Sunday School Lesson on Isaiah & Hosea. Isaiah & Hosea, Two Great Prophets.	Feb 24, 2023	18
Reflections on Matthew 5:13-37. The First Wednesday of Lent 2023.	Mar 1, 2023	59
Sunday School Lesson on 2 Kings 17. Israel is Enslaved.	Mar 3, 2023	50
Lesson 20. Miracles - Healing the Blind & Deaf	Mar 3, 2023	43
Announcements for March 5, 2023	Mar 3, 2023	36
Reflections on John 3:1-17. March 5, 2023.	Mar 3, 2023	35
Reflections on Matthew 5:38 - 6:15. The Second Wednesday in Lent 2023.	Mar 8, 2023	37
Reflections on John 4:5-42. March 12, 2023	Mar 10, 2023	65
Lesson 21. Parables - The Kingdom of God.	Mar 10, 2023	43
Sunday School Lesson on 2 Kings 18-19 & 2 Chronicles 29-32. Good King Hezekiah	Mar 10, 2023	23
Announcements for March 12, 2023	Mar 10, 2023	19
Reflections on Matthew 5:17-20, 6:16-24. The Third Wednesday in Lent 2023	Mar 15, 2023	27
Lesson 22. Miracles - Raising the Dead.	Mar 17, 2023	54
Good News from John 9 1 to 41	Mar 17, 2023	37
Sunday School Lesson on 2 Kings 20. God Spares Hezekiah's Life.	Mar 17, 2023	26
Announcements for March 19, 2023	Mar 17, 2023	17
Reflections on Matthew 6:25 - 7:11. The Fourth Wednesday in Lent, 2023.	Mar 22, 2023	30
Reflections on John 11:1-45. March 26, 2023.	Mar 24, 2023	69
Sunday School Lesson on 2 Chronicles 34-35. Josiah and the Forgotten Book.	Mar 24, 2023	48
Lesson 23. Teaching - Sex, Marriage, & Divorce	Mar 24, 2023	33
Announcements for March 26, 2023	Mar 24, 2023	25

Reflections on Matthew 7:12-29. The Fifth Wednesday in Lent 2023.	Mar 29, 2023	42
Sunday of the Passion 2023. Readings and Hymns	Mar 31, 2023	42
Announcements for April 2, 2023	Mar 31, 2023	22
Sunday School Lesson on Amos, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk & Zephaniah. Five Other Prophets.	Mar 31, 2023	15
Announcements for April 9, 2023	Apr 7, 2023	32
Easter Sunday 2023	Apr 7, 2023	30
Sunday School Lesson on Jeremiah 1-6. Jeremiah Answers God's Call.	Apr 7, 2023	14
Reflections on 1 Peter 1:1-9. April 16, 2023.	Apr 14, 2023	58
Lesson 24. Miracles - Healing Paralytics	Apr 14, 2023	41
Sunday School Lesson on Jeremiah 7-35. Jeremiah Warns the People.	Apr 14, 2023	19
Announcements for April 16, 2023	Apr 14, 2023	15
Sunday School Lesson on Jeremiah 36. Jeremiah Writes God's Words in a Book.	Apr 21, 2023	71
Reflections on 1 Peter 1:17-23. April 23, 2023.	Apr 21, 2023	60
Lesson 25. Parables - How Shall We Live?	Apr 21, 2023	53
Announcements for April 23, 2023	Apr 21, 2023	26
Lesson 26. Teaching - Money and Possessions.	Apr 28, 2023	64
Reflections on 1 Peter 2:11-25. April 30, 2023.	Apr 28, 2023	45
Sunday School Lesson on Jeremiah 37-52. Jeremiah in the Dungeon.	Apr 28, 2023	16
Announcements for April 30, 2023	Apr 28, 2023	16
Sunday School Lesson on 2 Chronicles 36 & Ezekiel. Captives in a Strange Land.	May 5, 2023	64
Lesson 27. Miracles - Control Over Nature.	May 5, 2023	49
Reflections on 1 Peter 2:1-10. May 7, 2023.	May 5, 2023	48
Announcements for May 7, 2023	May 5, 2023	18
Reflections on 1 Peter 3:13-22. May 14, 2023	May 12, 2023	90
Announcements for May 14, 2023	May 12, 2023	25
Sunday School Lesson on Daniel 1. Daniel in the King's Court	May 12, 2023	25
June 1, 2023 Candlelight Service	June 1, 2023	37
June 8, 2023 Candlelight Service	June 8, 2023	34
June 15th, 2023 Candlelight Service	June 15, 2023	23
2023-2024 Lesson 1. The Basics: The Bible	Sep 29, 2023	86
2023-2024. Lesson 2. The Basics: What Does it Mean to be a Christian?	Oct 6, 2023	62
2023-2024 Lesson 3: Ascension and Pentecost	Oct 13, 2023	76
2023-2024 Lesson 4: Introduction and the First Commandment	Oct 20, 2023	70
2023-2024 Lesson 5. The Second Commandment	Oct 27, 2023	55
2023-2024 Lesson 6: The Third Commandment	Nov 3, 2023	58
2023-2024 Lesson 7: The Fourth Commandment	Nov 10, 2023	76
2023-2024 Lesson 8: The Fifth Commandment	Nov 16, 2023	70
Mr. Herbert O. Wolding Memorial Service	Nov 26, 2023	259
2023-2024 Lesson 9: The Sixth Commandment	Nov 29, 2023	66
2023-2024 Lesson 10: The Seventh Commandment	Dec 8, 2023	64
2023-2024 Lesson 11: The Eighth Commandment	Dec 15, 2023	49
2023-2024 Lesson 12: The Nineth and Tenth Commandments	Dec 24, 2023	18
Nelsonville Christmas Eve 10pm Service	Dec 25, 2023	46
<b>TOTAL VIEWS</b>		<b>4175</b>
<b>AVG VIEWS</b>		<b>46</b>



**PEACE LUTHERAN PARISH**  
**Annual Meeting Minutes - DRAFT**  
Sunday - January 29, 2023

- I. Meeting Call to Order by Pastor Dwight Anderson at 9:12 am, Roll Call & Establishment of Quorum (25 members present)
- II. Opening Devotion led by Pastor Dwight
- III. **Approval of Minutes**  
*A motion was made by Lori Carlson to accept the minutes from the annual meeting on January 30, 2022. This motion was seconded by Sandra Lynne Schmutzler. Motion carried.*
- IV. **Pastor's Report**  
Pastor Dwight discussed how Peace Church is in great shape. The mortgage is down, building is in good shape, and demographics are good. There is no reason Peace cannot prosper in 2023.
- V. **Committee & Auxiliary Report**  
Endowment Fund: *A motion was made by Lori Carlson, seconded by Sandra Lynne Schmutzler to approve the Peace Lutheran Church Endowment Fund disbursement of gifts for 2022 in the amount of \$1800. Details of the gifts given are listed on page 19 of the 2022 annual report. Motion carried.*
- VI. **Elections** Nominations were open on the floor. The ballot is as follows:  
Council: Abby Blanke, Pam Borgen  
Nominating Committee: Greg Reichenbach, Ila Sanders, Mark Schmutzler, Heidi Voss, Betty Olson, Anne Jensen  
Bethany Home Delegates: Marlene Sannes, Owen Sannes, Tom Maves  
Crossway Bible Camp Delegates: Jerry Carlson, Lori Carlson  
Synod Assembly: Tom Sanders, Ila Sanders  
Tomorrow River Conference Assembly Delegates: Carol Lea, Melba Carey  
*Motion was made by Kenny Voss, seconded by John Olson to elect the entire slate. Motion carried.*
- VII. **Treasurer Report/Approval of Budget** Merry Dudley is our new Treasurer. She informed members that our mortgage is down \$50,000. Details of the Treasurer's report are listed on page 29. *A motion was made by Lori Carlson, seconded by Mark Schmutzler to approve the 2022 Treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried.* Details of the Budget Report are listed on page 27. *A motion to accept this report was made by Jerry Carlson, seconded by Kenny Voss. Motion carried.*
- VIII. **Old business**
  - The generator is in. Peace is a community safe place now. Members thought it would be a good idea to form an emergency plan committee.
  - Beams are sealed and finished.

-The church received donated padded chairs for the sanctuary from All Saints Church in Oshkosh. The current pews have a lot of cracks and are very fragile. They will need to be replaced soon, so this was very beneficial for the Peace Church.

**IX. New Business**

-Peace has a few sink holes in the parking lot.

-The flat roof is failing. It had a 25-year warranty (which has past) and it has been fixed several times. It is approximately \$65,000 to replace with another rubber membrane roof. A few years ago, Peace got an estimate for the roof to be pitched and have a metal roof put on. It was estimated at \$88,000. Pastor Dwight is currently getting a structural engineer to see if the walls can hold the pitch and roof.

-Carl Bohman wanted members to know about the cemetery. There is a relationship of Peace church to the cemetery. Cemetery does not currently have a lot of money. Peace may have to take over at some point.

-Members discussed forming a committee to go over all the baptized members of Peace. Currently Peace is 66% and Nelsonville is 34%.

X. **Adjournment** *A motion was made by Kenny Voss, seconded by Lori Carlson to adjourn at 10:12 am.*

**XI. Council meeting**

- Greg is done with his term. Council needs a President. *Motion was made to table picking a president until next Council meeting by Missy Bricco, seconded by Merry Dudley. Motion carried.*

-Current leadership of Council; President- needed: Vice-President- Ellen Dell: Treasurer- Merry Dudley: Secretary- Missy Bricco.

-*A motion was made by Merry to adjourn this meeting at 10:30 am, seconded by Greg Reinchenbach. Motion carried. Next Council meeting is February 21 at 7:00 pm.*

## Peace Lutheran Church 2023 President's Report

Dear Peace Lutheran Church Congregation,

I hope this letter finds you well as we end a year and start another year.

I took the position of Church Council President in February and all was well, was told situations do not come that often. Here is an outline of the items that did arise in 2023. As a congregation, we made it through...

1. Roof needed to be replaced due to long time leak – fixed and paid in full.
2. Pastor Dwight had health issues resulting in a 3-month sabbatical for both he and Pastor Gretchen. Pastor Dwight is back to good health again.
3. We paid off our mortgage. Watch for a mortgage burning party soon.
4. Met the challenge given to the congregation by a fellow parishioner to assist in the deficit with the budget. We still have some work to do but it will come with faith.

TRACK is still serving the community and continues to make a positive difference in the lives of many.

Young Blessings' Preschool is doing great with enrollment and with the grants received.

There are so many tasks our congregation members assist with that should not go unrecognized, such as the backpacks for the less fortunate in third world countries, the Do Group's quilts for graduates and quilts sent to those less fortunate. The "Care Kits" sent to our college students. I'm sure I am missing something. All deserve a round of applause.

Thank you for allowing me to serve. It has been my pleasure. However, due to circumstances with my employment, I am only able to serve one year.

Pam Borgen  
President

## Peace Lutheran Church Mission Outreach beyond the Congregation

In response to our congregation's faithful commitment to the work of our Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Peace establishes a budgeted percentage of contribution to the following recipients. As general fund offerings to the congregation are received, these percentages of that offering are sent on in mission as our *first fruits* contribution to their work.

ELCA Mission Support	4.5%	Church-wide and Synod offices, Bishop, Missionaries, Call process, Seminaries, Ecumenical, chaplaincy, training, research, worship, assembly
Lutheran Social Services	1%	Adoption, counseling, service to those in need
Crossways Lutheran Camping	1.5%	Family, youth and confirmation group camping experience
ELCA World Hunger	2%	All contributions go directly to serve and feed hungry people
Seminary Student Tuition	1%	Set-aside funds for Peace seminarians and seminarian indebtedness

## Abbreviated Summaries of Service to Peace Congregation

**Lay Ministry:** Lay Visitation Communion Distribution for shut ins coordinated by leaders of Peace and Nelsonville was conducted May - November with great commitment and success.

**Fellowship:** Social Sundays coordinated throughout the year; Lent Soup Suppers; Family Advent night.

**Youth:** See report.

**Stewardship:** Cards sent to members and friends of the congregation; as part of the Annual Response Initiative, cards were sent asking the congregation to respond to all God has done through regular, committed giving; successful Matching Challenge conducted; robust response to appeal to move to electronic giving. Endowment report submitted separately.

**Property:** Official hiring of new custodians Victor and Wendy Voss; lawn maintenance, landscaping, decorating and gardening executed by members.

**Education:** First Communion Class held with great participation by adults and twelve youth from Peace; robust participation of adults and youth for Confirmation, including online options for those needing that option; weekly Sunday school coordinated by committed members of the church.

Summaries of the work accomplished in these areas of ministry submitted by Pastor Gretchen Anderson

**Peace Lutheran Church**  
**2023 Endowment Fund Committee Report**

Please refer to the accompanied Endowment Fund financial report for details on contributions, gifts that were made, and fund performance.

Thank you to all who made contributions to the endowment fund this year. Please consider the Peace Endowment Fund as you make annual charitable contributions and memorial gifts for loved ones, and in your estate planning.

This year, the endowment team, using our bylaw distribution guidelines, has determined that \$1800 of the fund balance earned income will be allocated for disbursement and be brought to the congregation at the annual meeting for congregational approval. The Endowment Resolution calls for the following formula to be used for disbursement:

10-30% for world-wide, national, or regional missions or charities promoted by the ELCA, including, but not limited to, grants for new congregation development, global mission, ecumenism, evangelism, social ministries, or disaster response.

10-30% for local mission or outreach projects including, but not limited to, social service agencies, agencies to which this Congregation relates, or to local programs and ministries.

5-30% to be used to support leadership training and Christian learning opportunities within our Congregation, including, but not limited to, support for professional leadership, special programs designed for leadership and growth, or for the development of a special ministry of the Congregation.

20-40% to be used by the congregation for any constitutionally and legally allowed purpose recommended by the Team and approved by the congregation, including, but not limited to, capital improvement, debt reduction, general maintenance, or the general fund.

At the December 18th, 2023, meeting of the Endowment Team, **a motion was made/seconded (Sandra Lynne Schmutzler/Bobi Boyles) to recommend to the congregation the disbursement of gifts for 2023 in the amounts of: \$870 to LWR Disaster Response, \$435 to Crossways Camping Ministries, \$435 to the Tomorrow River Parish Youth for their trip to the national gathering, and \$1160 to Oak Grove Cemetery for a total of \$2900.** This recommendation will be voted on at the annual meeting.

Also at the December 18th, 2023, meeting of the Endowment team a motion was made/seconded (Sandra Lynne Schmutzler/Tim Benn) to renew the terms of Lori Carlson and Bobi Boyles for three years each, with officers remaining in current positions. Motion carried.

The members of the Endowment Team are Lori Carlson, Chairperson; Tim Benn, Treasurer; Sandra Lynne Schmutzler, Secretary; Kris Barnes and Bobi Boyles, members. Pastor Dwight serves as an Ex officio member.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lori Carlson, Chairperson



Peace Lutheran Church  
2023 Endowment Fund

**Statement of Financial Position as of 12/31/23**

This statement reflects 12 consecutive months from 1/1/23 - 12/31/23

**Assets**

Cash/checking :

International Bank of Amherst	\$1,068.65
-------------------------------	------------

Investments:

North Star Asset Management Inc	\$182,929.96
---------------------------------	--------------

<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$183,998.61</b>
---------------------	---------------------

**Statement of Activities as of 12/31/23**

This statement reflects 12 consecutive months from 1/1/23 to 12/31/23

Sandra Lynne and Mark Schmutzler	\$1,000.00
----------------------------------	------------

<b>Total contributions</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
----------------------------	-------------------

Transfers

From Amherst Bank to North Star Charles Schwab (Schmutzler)	\$1,000.00
---	------------

From North Star Charles Schwab to Amherst Bank (2022 distribution)	\$1,800.00
--	------------

<b>Total transfers</b>	<b>\$2,800.00</b>
------------------------	-------------------

Expenses

Annual safe deposit box payment	(\$40.00)
---------------------------------	-----------

Lutheran World Relief - 2022 distribution	(\$540.00)
---	------------

Crossways Camping Ministries - 2022 distribution	(\$360.00)
--	------------

Peace Lutheran - Do Group - 2022 distribution	(270.00)
---	----------

Peace Lutheran - Debt Reduction - 2022 distribution	(\$630.00)
---	------------

<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>(\$1,840.00)</b>
-----------------------	---------------------

Beginning balance January 1, 2023	\$162,948.22
Contributions	\$1,000.00
Expenses	(\$1,840.00)
Change in investment account value:	
YE 2022 \$160,675.57	
YE 2023 \$182,929.96	\$22,254.39
Ending balance December 31, 2023	\$184,362.61

**DO GROUP**  
**2023 Annual Report**

The Do Group meets on Wednesdays at 12:30 at Peace. Our group is small, numbering from five to seven quilters, plus numerous people who work from home.

We enjoy meeting and creating Quilts that will be used for warmth and shelter, wherever the need is the greatest.

This year we made:

189 Quilts Shipped

14 High School Senior Quilts

60 Baby Layettes

80 School Kits

We thank you for all your donations. It is all very much appreciated!

- The Do Group

## **C.A.R.E. (Christ's Arms Reaching & Embracing) Program 2023 Annual Report**

Committee Members: Brandi Marquard, Ramona Romundson (Christmas gift bags), Sandra Lynne Schmutzler, Debi Hoffman (Peace church contact), and Gail Benzine (Nelsonville church contact)

Monthly Volunteers: Abby Blanke, Crystal Harris, Gayle & Mark Huglen, Kendall Johnson, Nola Knight, Sally Prideaux, Brandi Marquard, Debi Hoffman, Terry Benzine, and Gail Benzine

2023 Activities:

- \* Handmade cards and gifts were delivered monthly to our limited mobility parish members
- \* Christmas Gift Bag Project
- \* 16 recipients were touched by C.A.R.E. monthly

Balance brought forward 1/1/2023:

Balance in WELCA account	\$100.83
Balance in Nelsonville church account.	\$100.00

Remaining balance on 12/31/2023:

Balance in WELCA account	\$100.83
Balance in Nelsonville church account.	\$100.00

**A big thank you to our amazing youth, who have brought so much joy to our limited mobility church members through their contributions to C.A.R.E.**

**Our high school youth group, under the direction of Rhonda Garceau, created Thanksgiving crafts for the November C.A.R.E. gift.**

**During family Advent night the children, assisted by Abby Blanke and Audrey Bohm, created beautiful Christmas cards included in the C.A.R.E. Christmas gift bags.**

**The steadfast dedication of our volunteers, Pastor Gretchen, and Pastor Dwight, in addition to the prayerful support of our parish family, continue to make this ministry possible.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Gail Benzine

## High school Youth Report 2023

The youth have had a very busy year and are getting ready for the upcoming 2024 Youth Gathering in New Orleans in July. We would like to thank everyone who has helped – either through your donations, by supporting our fundraising, or with your prayers.

January: We donated tie blankets to shut-ins.

Took orders for our pizza fry fundraiser.

February: Annual pizza fry fundraiser. We made and sold 60 pizza fries.

July: Annual pie social fundraiser. We had a youth make a couple of pies and three others helped sell the pies. We sold out early this year.

August: First meeting about ELCA Youth Gathering (six youth going and three adults).

September: Celebrate Nelsonville. Three youth helped serve food and clean up at the event.

October: Confirmation kids were confirmed.

Had five youth show up for Youth Night. We made Mr. Wolding's birthday gift and made 16 November Care Packages for the shut ins.

November: Had over a dozen youth show up for our monthly meeting. We made cookie dough mixes in jars and hot cocoa mixes to sell for our December fundraiser.

December: No meeting because of the holidays.

Submitted by,  
Rhonda Garceau – High School Youth Coordinator



## Young Blessings Preschool 2023 Annual Report

It was another busy year for Young Blessings!

We have 33 students, ages 3, 4, and 5, currently enrolled in our program. We are open from 7:15AM to 5:00PM Monday through Friday. Preschool class is held from 8:00 to noon every day and child care is provided for the rest of the day. The number of families using the full day care option increased significantly this year.

We saw our numbers grow for the summer compared to last year and continue to hear from families that they are grateful we remain open during the summer months.

This year we received a small grant from the state to make our space more inclusive. We decided to purchase sound absorbing ceiling tiles to help reduce the echo we had been experiencing when the carpet was removed in 2019. While we were only able to purchase enough this year for part of the area, it has made our space quieter, and the children are better able to focus. We will purchase the remaining tiles needed to finish the entire space in the coming year.

Cory Kearney is in her 18<sup>th</sup> year as head teacher and Barb Ramlow is in her 13<sup>th</sup> year as director. We have 4 teacher assistants: Kassie Tessman and Helena Hartzheim are starting their 2<sup>nd</sup> year with us; Madison Juarez joined us this summer and Brooke Zietlow has been with us 3 years and works as her college schedule allows. We are very thankful to be fully staffed when so many childcare centers are struggling with staffing and funding.

Young Blessings continues to receive grants from the state through the Child Care Counts: Stabilization Payment Program. The grant program was renewed by the governor and is slated to remain until 2025. Grant amounts have been significantly reduced compared to earlier funding. The smaller disbursements will help the preschool with the ever-increasing costs of supplies and wages. It also enables us to keep our program open and affordable for families.

We continue to not use the funds from our Peace Lutheran Church budget line even though we have seen an increase in our expenses and reduction in grant monies.

Our two annual fundraisers were successful again this year: Seroogy's candy bars and coffee in March, and Little Caesar's pizza kits in October. They are definitely favorites!

We partnered with the Children's Special Needs and Foster Care programs of Portage County this fall for our Giving Tree project. Our preschool families were very generous with donations of items needed for both of these programs that help children in the county.

We are very grateful for the continued support of the congregation and local community.

Respectfully Submitted by  
Barb Ramlow  
Director

## Peace Lutheran Church 2023 Treasurer's Report

Greetings from the desk of the Treasurer

The year 2023 has been one of unimaginable blessings for our congregation. We have been able to resolve so many of our financial issues – it's truly unbelievable.

Due to the generosity of Florence Wetzel, who remembered the church in her estate planning, and with the help of special gifts from various members and groups, we were able to catch up on the maintenance of the beams and the roof, fix the catastrophic failure of the flat roof, AND pay off our mortgage. When I took over as treasurer in spring 2022, I would have been pleased if we could have checked even one of those projects off our To Do list. But all three? It was unthinkable. What a miracle!

Some of our special projects and funds also received generous donations, including TRACK, the Do Group, Bible Camp, and especially the Oak Grove Cemetery, which doubled its funds in just a few months. These funds came from many church members donating what they could to the categories that mean something to them.

In short, the last year has seen practically every one of our Designated Fund balances grow. We have even started to build up our Building Initiative fund, which will be used when we need to make our next round of maintenance and repairs as they occur – hopefully without having to go into debt again.

Peace Lutheran Church has been truly blessed, and our community truly is something very special.

When I think of all the churches in the country that have suffered and closed over the last few years, it would be easy to think that they suffered from financial issues. But I think the true problem was apathy. Luckily, our congregation does not suffer from a lack of caring.

To say our Matching Funds Drive was a success would be an understatement. And other than a few large donations – and the generous match, of course – it was really funded by members making modest donations that added up, almost overcoming the shortfall of the General fund that occurred over the last year as we focused on repairs, maintenance, and debt reduction.

I hope you take a look at the General and Building Fund Principal Contributions report (or what I call the Offering Totals report) for 2023. Currently our weekly offerings have not been able to cover the monthly costs of running Peace Lutheran Church. We are close, but we are not quite there. The report shows the last 7 years of monthly giving, and our weekly average had been holding steady until last year. But with a renewed commitment to supporting our church, I know we could bring these numbers up and make sure we have enough to cover those monthly costs that allow us to spread our gifts throughout the community that has supported us.

If you are interested in signing up for online giving, please contact the church office, or feel free to reach out to me via email at [peaceamhersttreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:peaceamhersttreasurer@gmail.com).

Blessings to you!

Merry Dudley  
Treasurer

# OAK GROVE CEMETERY ASSOCIATION 2023

## CHECKING ACCOUNT

CREDITS		DEBITS	
1/13/2023	Interest on CD 3246421	1/5/2023	Safe deposit box rent
	\$5.99		\$27.00
2/17/2023	Donations	5/22/2023	David Dombrowski - mowing
	\$500.00		\$200.00
3/20/2023	Donations	6/9/2023	David Dombrowski - mowing
	\$1,705.00		\$200.00
4/3/2023	Donations	6/30/2023	David Dombrowski - mowing
	\$440.00		\$200.00
4/4/2023	Donations	8/3/2023	David Dombrowski - mowing
	\$5,000.00		\$200.00
4/10/2023	Donations	9/1/2023	David Dombrowski - mowing
	\$500.00		\$200.00
5/1/2023	Donations	10/10/2023	David Dombrowski - mowing
	\$140.00		\$200.00
5/4/2023	Interest on CD 3128283	11/13/2023	David Dombrowski - mowing
	\$0.91		\$200.00
5/12/2023	Donations		
	\$20.00		
5/23/2023	Donations		
	\$100.00		
7/13/2023	Interest on CD 3246421		
	\$5.89		
10/6/2023	Donations		
	\$100.00		
11/3/2023	Interest on CD 3128283		
	\$18.29		
11/21/2023	Donations		
	\$1,384.90		
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>	<b>\$9,920.98</b>	<b>TOTAL DEBITS</b>	<b>\$1,427.00</b>

BEGINNING BALANCE 1/1/2023	\$7,715.71
TOTAL CREDITS FOR 2023	\$9,920.98
TOTAL DEBITS FOR 2023	\$1,427.00
ENDING BALANCE 12/31/2023	\$16,209.69

## OAK GROVE SAVINGS ACCOUNT - closed 7/28/2022

### CDs AT THE INTERNATIONAL BANK OF AMHERST

CD 3128283	\$1,230.00
CD 3246421	\$4,750.00
<b>TOTAL CDs</b>	<b>\$5,980.00</b>

**TOTAL CASH HOLDINGS AT THE INTERNATIONAL BANK OF AMHERST**  
**\$22,189.69**



**General and Building Fund Principal Contributions**

**In-Person + Vanco**

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
January	\$18,957.00	\$23,977.00	\$16,805.00	\$17,602.80	\$16,794.75	\$18,486.08	\$15,647.25
February	\$11,675.75	\$19,298.74	\$11,989.00	\$15,354.12	\$14,251.00	\$13,534.00	\$14,031.00
March	\$11,518.00	\$19,370.91	\$23,459.00	\$19,689.06	\$17,772.25	\$17,590.00	\$18,781.01
April	\$16,334.00	\$19,796.00	\$16,590.00	\$20,082.00	\$17,974.60	\$17,183.55	\$20,015.47
May	\$11,418.11	\$19,651.10	\$17,619.00	\$12,990.00	\$13,666.18	\$13,391.00	\$13,798.34
June	\$16,432.00	\$19,693.00	\$14,774.25	\$21,380.00	\$21,813.75	\$13,748.75	\$13,614.00
July	\$16,990.00	\$23,441.00	\$22,935.25	\$17,230.00	\$16,379.00	\$27,335.75	\$25,441.91
August	\$10,017.00	\$18,307.60	\$25,459.35	\$12,049.50	\$14,378.00	\$13,003.50	\$12,462.00
September	\$9,700.00	\$17,619.00	\$15,173.00	\$15,754.50	\$15,153.01	\$20,674.56	\$16,348.50
October	\$14,287.00	\$16,405.00	\$16,938.25	\$15,315.00	\$14,036.50	\$15,091.02	\$17,121.51
November	\$11,993.00	\$18,458.00	\$15,766.00	\$11,572.00	\$13,348.00	\$16,034.64	\$17,632.47
December	\$15,442.10	\$27,708.35	\$23,169.00	\$30,147.00	\$25,372.30	\$20,033.87	\$23,023.95
<b>Special Gifts</b>				\$4,000.00	\$41,600.00	\$7,000.00	\$2,500.00
<b>Total</b>	\$164,763.96	\$243,725.70	\$220,677.10	\$213,165.98	\$242,539.34	\$213,106.72	\$210,417.41
<b>Weekly Avg</b>	\$3,168.54	\$4,687.03	\$4,243.79	\$4,099.35	\$4,664.22	\$4,098.21	\$4,046.49

In-Person Offering	2023	2022
January	\$14,105.00	\$18,017.00
February	\$6,873.75	\$13,183.74
March	\$6,766.00	\$13,310.91
April	\$11,582.00	\$13,936.00
May	\$6,551.11	\$13,716.10
June	\$11,620.00	\$14,533.00
July	\$12,188.00	\$17,121.00
August	\$5,265.00	\$11,997.60
September	\$4,998.00	\$11,709.00
October	\$9,560.00	\$10,470.00
November	\$7,301.00	\$12,558.00
December	\$10,730.10	\$21,498.35
<b>Total</b>	\$109,562.96	\$174,072.70

Vanco Deposits	Total	Peace	Nelsonville	2022
January	\$5,535.00	\$4,852.00	\$683.00	\$5,960.00
February	\$5,485.00	\$4,802.00	\$683.00	\$6,115.00
March	\$5,485.00	\$4,752.00	\$733.00	\$6,060.00
April	\$5,435.00	\$4,752.00	\$683.00	\$5,860.00
May	\$5,550.00	\$4,867.00	\$683.00	\$5,935.00
June	\$5,545.00	\$4,812.00	\$733.00	\$5,160.00
July	\$5,485.00	\$4,802.00	\$683.00	\$6,320.00
August	\$5,185.00	\$4,752.00	\$433.00	\$6,310.00
September	\$5,085.00	\$4,702.00	\$383.00	\$5,910.00
October	\$5,110.00	\$4,727.00	\$383.00	\$5,935.00
November	\$5,125.00	\$4,692.00	\$433.00	\$5,900.00
December	\$5,095.00	\$4,712.00	\$383.00	\$6,210.00
<b>Total</b>	\$64,120.00	\$57,224.00	\$6,896.00	\$71,675.00

Roof Donations	2023
January	\$10,866.00
February	\$637.00
March	\$124.00
April	\$72,900.25
May	\$125.00
June	\$30,042.48
July	
<b>Total</b>	\$114,694.73

Paid in full!

Matching Funds Drive	2023
November	\$32,356.00
December	\$17,659.25
<b>Total</b>	\$50,015.25
Match from donor	\$20,000.00
<b>Total</b>	\$70,015.25

Mortgage Retirement	
Balance on 12/31/22	\$125,890.54
Amounts paid in 2023	\$128,610.76
Balance on 7/31/23	\$0.00



Treasurer's Report

2022 and 2023 Fund Balances

Fund	12/31/2022	1/31/2023	2/28/2023	3/31/2023	4/30/2023	5/31/2023	6/30/2023	7/31/2023	8/31/2023	9/30/2023	10/31/2023	11/30/2023	12/31/2023	Balance	Final Balance for 2023
General	-\$46,908.34	-\$33,328.86	-\$35,666.00	-\$53,625.17	-\$42,413.21	-\$41,581.05	-\$36,930.87	-\$39,138.98	-\$47,361.92	-\$54,393.79	-\$75,517.03	-\$77,669.02	-\$87,011.41	\$-87,011.41	-\$16,996.16
Flowers	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$180.00	\$180.00	\$180.00
Ministry in Mission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Wednesday Meals and Supplies	\$3,246.81	\$3,246.81	\$3,246.81	\$3,246.81	\$3,444.81	\$3,444.81	\$3,444.81	\$3,444.81	\$3,444.81	\$3,444.81	\$3,544.81	\$3,544.81	\$3,544.81	\$3,544.81	\$3,544.81
Designated Gifts	\$21,731.99	\$22,002.74	\$27,002.74	\$26,878.00	\$28,056.52	\$28,056.52	\$28,170.71	\$28,400.03	\$28,334.93	\$28,450.09	\$28,822.09	\$29,309.96	\$29,758.17	\$29,758.17	\$29,758.17
Pastor Discretionary	\$9,278.72	\$9,278.72	\$9,278.72	\$9,278.72	\$12,684.76	\$12,684.76	\$12,316.93	\$12,316.93	\$12,486.83	\$12,486.83	\$12,486.83	\$5,909.38	\$5,491.15	\$5,491.15	\$5,491.15
Young Blessings Preschool	\$39,320.82	\$47,741.56	\$46,887.32	\$30,340.99	\$44,173.53	\$32,307.86	\$34,027.86	\$22,161.35	\$17,192.39	\$14,104.42	\$28,362.92	\$28,339.16	\$28,658.89	\$28,658.89	\$28,658.89
Sunday School	\$2,946.77	\$2,946.77	\$2,946.77	\$2,946.77	\$2,946.77	\$2,946.77	\$2,946.77	\$2,946.77	\$2,946.77	\$2,946.77	\$2,946.77	\$2,946.77	\$2,946.77	\$2,946.77	\$2,946.77
Youth Account	\$2,866.93	\$2,866.93	\$2,866.93	\$2,866.93	\$2,866.93	\$2,866.93	\$2,866.93	\$2,866.93	\$2,866.93	\$2,866.93	\$2,866.93	\$2,866.93	\$2,866.93	\$2,866.93	\$2,866.93
Building Improvement (flat roof repairs)	\$5,429.17	\$16,952.17	\$16,952.17	\$16,972.17	\$87,776.42	\$40,251.42	\$4,897.99	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Building Principal (loan reduction)	\$14,438.20	\$2,800.00	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	\$630.00	\$630.00	\$4,897.99	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Matching Funds Drive	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,200.00	\$5,400.00	\$5,400.00	\$32,356.00	\$68,015.25	\$68,015.25	\$0.00
<b>Scholarships</b>															
ELCA scholarship	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Pat Moe scholarship	\$0.00	\$9,500.00	\$9,500.00	\$9,500.00	\$9,500.00	\$9,500.00	\$9,500.00	\$9,500.00	\$9,500.00	\$9,500.00	\$9,500.00	\$9,500.00	\$9,500.00	\$9,500.00	\$9,500.00
Florence Wetzel scholarship	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00
International Bank Checking Account	\$67,351.07	\$100,369.84	\$103,015.46	\$64,405.22	\$165,666.53	\$107,108.02	\$71,240.32	\$52,497.84	\$44,610.74	\$34,806.06	\$28,413.32	\$47,103.99	\$73,950.56	\$73,950.56	\$73,950.56
<b>Breakdown of Designated Gifts</b>															
Bible Camp	\$1,411.11	\$6,411.11	\$6,411.11	\$6,411.11	\$6,411.11	\$6,411.11	\$6,411.11	\$6,411.11	\$6,411.11	\$5,661.11	\$5,661.11	\$5,661.11	\$5,661.11	\$5,661.11	\$5,661.11
Do Group	\$1,813.37	\$1,813.37	\$1,813.37	\$1,382.31	\$2,282.31	\$2,282.31	\$2,282.31	\$2,252.31	\$2,552.31	\$2,552.31	\$2,757.31	\$2,757.31	\$2,757.31	\$2,757.31	\$2,757.31
Seminary Tuition	\$14,607.67	\$14,607.67	\$14,607.67	\$14,913.99	\$15,192.51	\$15,192.51	\$15,306.70	\$15,471.02	\$15,640.92	\$15,741.08	\$15,838.08	\$15,980.95	\$16,100.88	\$16,100.88	\$16,100.88
Sunday School	\$2,813.64	\$2,813.64	\$2,813.64	\$2,813.64	\$2,813.64	\$2,813.64	\$2,813.64	\$2,813.64	\$2,813.64	\$2,813.64	\$2,813.64	\$2,813.64	\$2,813.64	\$2,813.64	\$2,813.64
Thrivent Action Team (kettle)	\$356.95	\$356.95	\$356.95	\$356.95	\$356.95	\$356.95	\$356.95	\$356.95	\$356.95	\$356.95	\$356.95	\$356.95	\$356.95	\$356.95	\$356.95
Vacation Bible School	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Building Initiative - Future (as of July 2023)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$95.00	\$310.00	\$325.00	\$395.00	\$740.00	\$1,060.00	\$1,060.00	\$1,060.00
<b>Total of Designated Gifts</b>	\$22,002.74	\$26,878.00	\$27,002.74	\$26,878.00	\$28,056.52	\$28,056.52	\$28,170.71	\$28,400.03	\$28,334.93	\$28,450.09	\$28,822.09	\$29,309.96	\$29,758.17	\$29,758.17	\$29,758.17
Construction Loan at Int'l Bank of Amherst	\$125,890.54	\$111,782.20	\$110,387.98	\$105,096.06	\$105,096.06	\$105,096.06	\$111,330.22	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

Construction loan was paid off on 7/6/23  
 Flat Roof bill was paid off on 6/19/23

# Peace Lutheran Church

## Annual Contributions By Fund

Totals for the period: 1/1/2023 to 12/31/2023

<b>Fund</b>	<b>Total Amount</b>
General Fund	\$188,016.34
Memorial Fund	\$0.00
Scholarship Fund	\$0.00
World Hunger	\$0.00
Flower Fund	\$180.00
Sunday School Fund	\$0.00
Forward in Faith	\$0.00
Ministry in Mission	\$0.00
Designated Gift Fund	\$29,323.00
Young Blessings Preschool	\$150,144.60
Discretionary Fund	\$10,295.00
Youth	\$0.00
Building Fund	Roof through June \$114,694.73
Building Initiative	Loan Reduction \$113,307.31
Building Initiative - Future	Donations after June \$1,060.00
Matching Funds Drive	\$44,000.25
Non-Cash Donations	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$651,021.23</b>



**Peace Lutheran Church  
2023 Budget Report**

	<b>Account Name</b>	<b>2023 Formula</b>	<b>2023 Budget</b>	<b>2023 Actual YTD</b>	<b>2024 Formula</b>	<b>2024 Proposed Budget</b>
1	Pastors Salary	Synod Guidelines	\$64,743.82	\$64,118.25	Synod Guidelines	\$77,835.24
2	Office Manager Salary	35 hrs/wk x \$18.05 x 52 x .67	\$22,010.17	\$21,516.41	35 hrs/wk x \$18.75 (max \$19) x 52 x 67%	\$23,016.17
3	Sunday School Coordinator	\$160/mo x 12 mo	\$1,920.00	\$1,440.00	\$40/wk for 52 wks	\$2,080.00
4	Custodian Salary	Change to hourly; 15 hrs/wk x \$15 x 52	\$11,700.00	\$9,084.50	15 hrs/wk x \$18.50 x 52	\$14,430.00
5	Organist Salary	\$90/service x 62 services	\$5,580.00	\$5,130.00	\$95/service x 62 services	\$5,890.00
6	Treasurer Salary	Hauser + QB \$455/mo x 12; ADP?	\$10,000.00	\$6,969.25		\$10,000.00
7	Financial Secretary Stipend	\$125 per quarter	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$125 per quarter	\$500.00
8	Supply Pastor	\$115/service x 6	\$690.00	\$3,189.89	\$115/service x 6	\$690.00
9	Pastors Housing Allowance		\$30,882.53	\$32,070.29		\$23,350.57
10	Pastors Mileage Reimburse	65.5 cents/mi x 11,000 mi	\$7,205.00	\$2,898.36	67 cents/mi x 11,000 mi	\$7,370.00
11	Pastors Soc. Sec. Allowance		\$7,315.42	\$7,596.72		\$7,740.71
12	Pastors Pen & Major Med.		\$27,730.29	\$30,313.54		\$30,000.00
13	Employers SocSec Expense		\$3,000.00	\$2,457.22		\$3,000.00
14	Workers Comp		\$5,000.00	\$2,856.00		\$5,000.00
15	Employers Medicare		\$700.00	\$572.84		\$700.00
16	Pastor Cont. Ed.		\$675.00	\$0.00		\$675.00
17	Pastor Cont. Ed. Carryover	2021=\$495.94 2022=\$675.00	\$1,170.94	\$171.05	2021=\$324.89; 2022=\$675; 2023=\$675	\$1,674.89
18	Office Manager Cont. Ed.		\$200.00	\$0.00		\$200.00
19	Synod Events and Seminars		\$800.00	\$162.50		\$800.00
20	Stewardship		\$1,000.00	\$0.00		\$1,000.00
21	Evangelism		\$50.00	\$0.00		\$50.00
22	Conference Dues	25 cents per baptized member	\$150.00	\$134.00	25 cents per baptized member	\$150.00
23	Education		\$3,000.00	\$0.00		\$3,000.00
24	Confirmation		\$300.00	\$212.78		\$300.00
25	Youth & Family Ministry		\$750.00	\$778.63		\$750.00
26	The Lutheran/Publications		\$350.00	\$163.61		\$350.00
27	Committee Misc Expenses		\$100.00	\$0.00		\$100.00
28	Fellowship		\$200.00	\$0.00		\$200.00
29	Worship Supplies & Misc		\$3,000.00	\$2,821.90		\$3,000.00
30	Office Supplies & Expense		\$2,400.00	\$3,703.98		\$3,000.00
31	Electricity & Gas		\$11,000.00	\$13,024.00		\$13,250.00
32	Sewer & Water		\$1,000.00	\$925.55		\$1,000.00
33	Property Maint. Expense	Includes yearly maint of A/C & furnaces	\$9,000.00	\$7,501.26		\$9,000.00
34	Stephen Ministries Supplies		\$100.00	\$73.60		\$100.00
35	Commercial Insurance		\$7,000.00	\$9,854.05		\$10,000.00
36	Computers		\$1,000.00	\$0.00		\$1,000.00
37	Office Equipment & Repair		\$1,200.00	\$0.00		\$1,200.00
38	Copier		\$4,000.00	\$3,184.88		\$4,000.00
39	Tech Allowance	\$750-Pastors \$500-Tr \$175-Suz \$175-Cus	\$1,600.00	\$1,553.96	\$750-Pastors \$500-Tr \$175-Suz \$175-Cus	\$1,600.00
40	Tech Allowance Carryover	Pastors	\$0.00	\$0.00	Pastors	\$0.00
41	Telephones		\$1,800.00	\$1,688.08		\$1,800.00
42	Postage		\$3,200.00	\$1,754.50		\$3,000.00
43	Young Blessings Preschool		\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00
44	Building Loan-Interest		\$5,500.00	\$3,114.79		\$0.00
45	Non-budgeted Expense		\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00
				\$0.00		
46	<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>		<b>\$259,523.17</b>	<b>\$241,536.39</b>		<b>\$272,802.58</b>
47	<b>Benevolences for 2023</b>		<b>Year to Date</b>	<b>PAID OUT</b>		
48	ELCA Mission Support-4.5%		\$7,414.38	\$7,414.38		4.5%
49	Lutheran Social Services-1%		\$1,647.64	\$1,647.67		1%
50	Crossways Luth Camping-1.5%		\$2,471.48	\$2,471.48		1.5%
51	World Hunger-2%		\$3,295.27	\$3,295.27		2%
52	Seminary Student Tuition-1%	Professional Church work support	\$1,647.61	\$1,647.61		1%
53	<b>Total Benevolences</b>		<b>\$16,476.38</b>	<b>\$16,476.41</b>		<b>10% tithe</b>
54	<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>\$275,999.55</b>	<b>\$258,012.77</b>		
55	Building Loan Principal	\$125,890.54	\$125,890.54	\$0.00		

Starting balance on 1/1/23





# TOMORROW RIVER LUTHERAN PARISH LEADERSHIP 2023

## **Peace Lutheran**

President: Pam Borgen  
Vice President: Ellen Dell  
Treasurer: Merry Dudley  
Secretary: Missy Bricco

### **COUNCIL LIAISON & (COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON):**

Worship:  
Education:  
Evangelism:  
Fellowship:  
Lay Ministry:  
Long Range Planning:  
Property:  
Stewardship:  
Youth: Rhonda Garceau  
Other Council Members: Abby Blanke, Nelson Bricco,  
Carl Richard Evenson, Beth Wojtalewicz

### **PEACE SERVICE LEADERS**

Sunday School: Missy Bricco  
WELCA: Ila Sanders  
Cemetery: John Olson  
Altar Guild: Bobi Boyles  
Endowment: Lori Carlson  
Lay Distribution for Shut-ins: Debi Hoffman  
CARE (parish group): Gail Benzine  
TRACK: Betty Olson  
Financial Secretary: Missy Bricco  
Counting Team Coordinator: Jake Barnes  
Landscape and Lawn: Jerry Carlson, Sally Prideaux

## **Nelsonville Evangelical Lutheran**

President: Alana Woyak  
Vice President: Peggy Parker  
Treasurer: Judy Konkol  
Secretary: Kim Becken

### **COUNCIL LIAISON & (COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON):**

Education: Jamie Trzebiatowski  
Evangelism: Peggy Henke  
Fellowship: Peggy Parker  
Social Concerns: Kim Becken  
Worship:  
Long Range Planning:  
Property: George Konkol  
Youth: Jamie Trzebiatowski, Rhonda Garceau  
Other Council Members: Bobby Bailey, John Loberg

### **NELSONVILLE SERVICE LEADERS**

Sunday School: Jamie Trzebiatowski  
WELCA President: Gloria Onan  
Cemetery: Karla Leppen  
Altar Guild: Peggy Henke  
Endowment: Gary Anderson, Terry Benzine, Andrea Crane  
Lay Communion: Gail Benzine  
CARE (parish group): Gail Benzine

E-mail address: [trchurch@gmail.com](mailto:trchurch@gmail.com)  
Parish Phone: 715-824-5615 Website: [www.trchurch.org](http://www.trchurch.org)  
Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Pastor Gretchen Anderson & Pastor Dwight Anderson  
Home Phone: 715-824-2710

### **STAFF:**

Young Blessings Preschool Director: Barb Ramlow  
Organist: Ruth Gordon  
Maintenance/Custodian: Victory & Wendy Voss  
Treasurers: Merry Dudley (AM), Judy Konkol (NV)  
Office Manager: Suzanne Braunschweig

### **2023 WORSHIP:**

8:30 am Inside Service at Peace, Sunday School at 9:00 am  
9:30 am Outside Service at Nelsonville (May through October)  
10:15 am Inside Service at Nelsonville, Sunday School at 9:30 am  
7:00 pm Thursday Evening Prayer Service at Nelsonville

# ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

## OPENING LITURGY

### Son of God, Eternal Savior

Recognizing that our faith is a living, busy, active and mighty thing, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with each of you.

**And also with you.**

Teach us to love you with all our heart, soul, mind and strength.

**Receive our prayer, O God.**

Descend on our hearts, that we may love others in the ways Jesus loves us.

**Receive our prayer, O God.**

Empower us to be enthusiastic in pursuing your vision for our congregation.

**Receive our prayer, O God.**

Move us to engage issues in our community in Christlike ways, and to pursue deep and authentic relationships with those with whom we serve and partner.

**Receive our prayer, O God.**

Strengthen us to face the barriers we encounter in doing your work, learning to work with others amid disagreement.

**Receive our prayer, O God.**

Give us the ability to adapt to the cultural, economic and social changes that occur in the neighborhoods we serve.

**Receive our prayer, O God.**

Guide us to be a healthy congregation that learns from its failures as well as its successes and offers wisdom to others.

**Receive our prayer, O God.**

As we strive to become the church that we proclaim to be, raise up leaders who focus on the gospel of freedom, forgiveness and reconciliation as given to us through God's indescribable act of love in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Renew us daily in our baptism, that we may discover vitality in our relationships with you, each other and those we serve in the world.

**Amen.**

1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,  
2 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, so may we for oth - ers live.  
3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and Prince of peace;  
4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,

Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race,  
Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed; free - ly may your ser - vants give.  
hush the storm of strife and pas - sion, bid its cru - el dis - cords cease.  
Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race:

you our head, who, throned in glo - ry, for your own will ev - er plead:  
Yours the gold and yours the sil - ver, yours the wealth of land and sea;  
By your pa - tient years of toil - ing, by your si - lent hours of pain,  
by your pray - ing, by your will - ing that your peo - ple should be one,

fill us with your love and pit - y, heal our wrong, and help our need.  
we but stew - ards of your boun - ty held in sol - emn trust will be.  
quench our fe - vered thirst of plea - sure, stem our self - ish greed of gain.  
grant, oh, grant our hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth your will be done.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship, 655

Text: Somerset C. Lowry

Music: IN BABILONE, Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen, 1710;

arr. Julius Röntgen

Text and music are in the public domain. May be reproduced without restriction.

Through your generosity, God is at work across the ELCA. A portion of your offering, called Mission Support, advances the ministry of our church, helping the ELCA nurture Christian community, raise up leaders, serve our neighbors and strive for justice. Read stories and learn more at [ELCA.org/SOFIA](https://www.elca.org/SOFIA).

