

2021 Annual Report



Bethel Lutheran Church
President's Report
Sunday, February 6, 2022
2021

Fellow Bethel Members and Friends,

Twenty twenty-one was a year of change for Bethel:

We flexed back and forth to protect ourselves from COVID-19.

We improved our video connections while bringing back in-person worship.

We re-designed some activities to preserve as much fellowship as possible (Shrimp Boil, Christmas in a Barn, and WATTS).

We produced a cantata for the first time in several years.

In short, we protected ourselves and maintained services for our members, children, and community.

Thank you for your continued support, engagement, and prayers!

John Fredericksen, Council President

Annual Pastor's Report 2021

*I pray that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith,
as you are being rooted and grounded in love," Ephesians 3: 16-17*

Some significant events from 2020:

- 1) **Covid-19 Continues:** 2020 was a year like we had never seen before. And it continued into 2021. To be sure, Covid challenges did offer unique opportunities for ministry in a new way.
 - a. As I shared last year, because of Covid, Virtual Ministry is here to stay. Likewise, Zoom meetings will continue as part of our ministry (in fact our new Disciple Class in 2022 will be on Zoom with 13 students and 3 teachers). Hybrid gatherings where some are "in person" and others are "virtual" will be more prevalent.
 - b. I am glad that we were able to move to "in person" worship in April (on Easter) with Outdoor Worship services. This allowed us to be creative with our outdoor space, as witnessed by hosting "Christmas in a Barn" for the first time ever on our own property (with almost 300 in attendance).
 - c. I was also excited to be able to use Discipleship Hall for worship. It allowed us to get a sense of how display screens can be beneficial to our worship without being intrusive. It also gave us a sense of how truly blessed we are with our building, Bethel Park, and our grounds. I truly hope that we will creatively develop effective ways to use our location and facilities to help finance our ministry and enhance our visibility within the community.

- 2) **New Day Initiative:** This has been an exciting part of our year, even if it has taken much longer than we anticipated. In March, I brought an eclectic group together to begin conversation about a sanctuary renovation; **Kathryn Carpenter, Darline Demott, George Donovan, Ron Lauck, Jane McAllister, Betty Puffinberger, Kaylie Riggelman, David Shoberg, and Mel Siebert.** They met faithfully, discerned a vision, and made thoughtful decisions. They provided a unanimous proposal that I believe will allow us to offer engaging and modern worship experiences, while also intentionally emphasizing our rich Lutheran heritage and the vibrant tradition and history of Bethel.

- 3) **Payroll Protection Program Support:** Bethel was again proactive in applying for and receiving over \$35,000 from the Payroll Protection Program that the government put in place during Covid-19. This, along with your continued support, was instrumental in Bethel concluding 2021, like 2020, in a solid and healthy financial position (i.e., checking balance, reserve account, and designated funds). I continue to witness your faithfulness in this way, and it is inspiring to say the least.

- 4) **Staff Additions and Changes:** I am so blessed by our Bethel staff. **Kim Williams** has been our constant in the office, serving as our Office Administrator and Bookkeeper. We have been blessed by the addition of **Kristin Siebert** and **Melissa Siebert** to our office staff as well; Kristin serving as our Communicator, and Mel serving as our High School Youth Minister. Over time, their roles have morphed, as now they share the Communicator role. They have been tremendous team players and have offered much needed leadership to our congregation this year.

A very special THANK YOU to **Edie McGoff**, our Parish Nurse. Her work in helping us navigate Covid-19 has been such a blessing and gift. She has been my “rock” in many ways, and I could not have been more comforted by her generous and wise counsel.

As always, I am so thankful for **George Donovan** who has been instrumental in continuing the excellence of our worship and music ministry. George has creatively sought to offer meaningful and energetic worship even amidst the everchanging realities of Covid-19. Sadly, we said goodbye to **Sue Correll** this year, who has taken another music director job, but we were certainly blessed by her many gifts.

The entire Worship team (**Darline Demott, Alex Kimble, Charlene Romano, and Barbara Simmons**) continue to be awesome as well, along with our regular vocalists **Molly Beyer, Ron Lauck** and **Karen Nguyen**. We have also welcomed the addition of two Shenandoah University students – **Shanshan Zhang** and **Jake Barger**, which continues our rich tradition of relationship with our local university. To everyone who has participated this year with the Worship Team, thank you! I love working with such talented and faithful people.

Patty White, Cliff Crowder and **Gretchen Meade** are valuable team members whose efforts behind-the-scenes, while changed this year because of Covid-19, continue to be a gift to us. While Patty and Gretchen remain with us Cliff has stepped down from his role with facilities. We need someone(s) to take the lead in this area sooner rather than later, so please prayerfully discern if perhaps God is leading you to help in this area (either individually or as part of a team).

A sincere thank you to **Beth Garner** for her time with us on the Council. Her thoughtfulness, leadership, and ongoing commitment to helping Bethel be a place that serves others was truly engaging and inspiring.

Likewise, the rest of the council members were able and faithful leaders, who led us through difficult decisions during 2021. I could not be prouder to have worked with hem: **Lee Braithwaite, Dustie Fisher, John Fredericksen, Michael McKiernan, Betty Puffinberger, and Vonda Wilt.**

I am looking forward to addition of **David Look and Diane Milburn** (taking the place of Mike McKiernan who is stepping down) in 2022 as they are also wonderful leaders with unique and diverse perspectives.

Finally, I offer a sincere and heartfelt **Thank you** for all the ways that you have gone above and beyond to help support Bethel as we strive to do the “next right thing.” I am humbled and thankful to serve with such a beautiful congregation who continues to be a light even when darkness pervades our lives.

In Christ,
Pastor Dave

Bethel Membership Statistics (as of December 31, 2021)

FYI - Members are those families/individuals who have joined Bethel. Attendees are those families/individuals who have not joined Bethel, but attend regularly and give regularly

Member households = 160

Attender households = 25

Total households = 185

Adult attendees = 63

Child attendees = 11

Total attendees = 74

Adult members = 298

Child members = 48

Total members = 346

Adult members/attendees = 361

Child members/attendees = 59

Total members/attendees = 420

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

2021 Financial Annual Report

MINISTRY INCOME

Total Tithes & Offerings (Operating Income)	\$344,232.29
Other Facility Use	\$6,284.00
Other Income	\$1,230.38
TOTAL MINISTRY INCOME	\$351,746.67

WORSHIP MINISTRIES

Altar & Sanctuary Care	\$1,530.62
Music Ministries	\$4,278.01
Resources, Publications & Licenses	\$2,742.94
Special Events-Christmas in a Barn (Thrivent Action Team)	\$1,978.46
Sound, Video & Recordings	\$8,737.75
Other Worship Ministries	\$1,061.91
Worship Staff Salaries, Taxes & Expenses (Music Director, Musicians, Nursery Staff)	\$31,371.72
SUBTOTAL WORSHIP MINISTRIES	\$51,701.01

LEARNING MINISTRIES

Annual & Special Events	\$481.77
Sunday School	\$1,046.58
Vacation Bible School (Thrivent Action Team)	\$0
Other Learning Ministries	\$0
SUBTOTAL LEARNING MINISTRIES	\$1,528.35

SERVANT MINISTRIES

Hoe Down Servant Project (Thrivent Action Team)	\$0
Returning Thanks (Thrivent Action Team)	\$28.93
Other Servant Ministries	\$110.42
SUBTOTAL SERVANT MINISTRIES	\$139.35

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE MINISTRIES

Student Relationship Ministries	\$877.47
Adult Relationship Ministries	\$57.08
Appreciation & Celebration	\$174.63
Other Congregational Life	\$0
Youth Staff Salaries, Taxes & Expenses	\$4,844.25
SUBTOTAL CONGREGATIONAL LIFE	\$5,953.43

CARE MINISTRIES

Welcome Baskets (Thrivent Action Team)	\$0
Quilting (Thrivent Action Team)	\$481.45
Funeral Receptions	\$0
Greeting Card Ministry (Thrivent Action Team)	\$6.84
Devotional Materials	\$308.00
Other Spending	\$0
SUBTOTAL CARE MINISTRIES	\$796.29

MINISTRY SUPPORT

Administration Ministries	\$11,968.98
Computer/Office Equipment \$508.49	
Office Supplies \$1,693.05	
Copier Lease & Printing \$7,951.00	
Shipping & Postage \$279.00	
Other Spending \$1,537.44	
Breeze Database \$600.00	
Communications Ministries	\$2,911.40
Advertising \$1,177.00	
Website \$300.00	
Other Spending \$741.52	
Zoom \$692.88	
Finance and Insurance Ministries	\$14,173.21
Insurance & Licenses \$12,114.00	
Membership & Bank Fees \$861.95	
Offering Envelopes \$317.30	
Supplies \$229.96	
Other Spending (QuickBooks Renewals) \$650.00	
Hospitality Ministries	\$31.54
Human Resources Ministries	\$895.00
Leadership Development/Support \$90.00	
Safe Gatherings Background Checks \$740.00	
VA Synod Assembly Delegates \$65.00	
Safety and Security Ministries	\$862.45
Fire Alarm Maintenance & Monitoring \$450.00	
Other Spending \$412.45	
Admin Staff Salaries, Taxes & Benefits	\$38,054.64
Pastoral Staff Salaries, Taxes, Benefits & Expenses	\$131,033.97
Synod/Church Wide Support	\$20,000.00
Utilities	\$37,594.83
Electric \$8,602.53	
Gas \$20,942.86	
Telephone & Internet \$8,049.44	
Facility & Property	\$34,549.82
Cleaning & Housekeeping \$1,175.58	

Lawn Care/Snow Removal \$13,190.00	
Pest Control \$829.00	
Repairs & Maintenance \$13,542.75	
Trash Removal \$548.51	
Other Spending \$4,833.98	
Inspections \$430.00	
SUBTOTAL MINISTRY SUPPORT	\$292,075.84

MORTGAGE LOAN

Principal	\$18,272.99
Interest	\$7,371.01
SUBTOTAL MORTGAGE LOAN	\$25,644.00

Line of Credit Repayment	\$1,782.00
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TOTAL MINISTRY SPENDING	\$379,620.27
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INCOME (LOSS)	(\$27,873.60)
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Payroll Protection Loan Proceeds	\$35,408.00
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NET INCOME (LOSS) WITH PPP LOAN FUNDS	\$7,534.40
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MORTGAGE LOAN/JUBILEE CAMPAIGN RESULTS

Principle remaining as of December 31, 2012	\$797,768.00
Principle remaining as of December 21, 2021	\$115,737.94
Overall Decrease in Principle Balance in 9 years	\$682,030.06

DESIGNATED MINISTRIES GIVING IN 2021

FOR THE WORLD

World Hunger Appeal	\$220.00
Tanzania Missions	\$290.00
The Philippines Missions	\$32.00
CCS Sponsorships	\$360.00
Guatemala Missions	\$585.00
India Missions	\$5.00
General Missions	\$0.00
Global Christmas	\$5,075.00
Harvest Sunday	\$2,077.00
Student Missions Scholarships	\$20.00
SUBTOTAL	\$8,664.00

FOR THE COMMUNITY

CCAP	\$955.00
Good Samaritan	\$2,413.97
WATTS	\$0.00
Bright Futures	\$0.00
Lenten & Advent Food Drives Cash	\$0.00
Jones Joyner Music Fund	\$12,628.52
SUBTOTAL	\$15,997.49

FOR THE BETHEL COMMUNITY

Mortgage Principle Payments (Jubilee)	\$8,616.00
Youth Donations	\$2,036.00
Seminarian Fund	\$797.24
Bethel Park & Scatter Garden	\$18,470.82
Underground Work Donation	\$5,000.00
Memorial Gifts	\$2,150.00
SUBTOTAL MINISTRY SUPPORT	\$37,070.06

TOTAL DESIGNATED GIVING	\$61,731.55
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