



# OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

## DIRECTORY FOR 2023

**PASTOR:** Dan Beattie  
**OFFICE MANAGER:** Pam Steckler  
**CUSTODIANS:** Brad & Kylie Stroehler & Family  
**WORSHIP DIRECTOR:** Mary Jo Burger  
**OFFICE ASSISTANT:** Krystal Albertsen  
**DIRECTOR OF PRAISE BAND:** Jo Beane  
**THE ROCK YOUTH LEADERS:** Nate Vorm, Dan Bierbrodt, Jacob Sauers  
**CHOIR DIRECTORS:**

OSLC Choir — Gary Keller; Accompanist - Melissa Hill

Kid's Choir—Mary Jo Burger

**ORGANISTS —**Barb Smith, Diane Kleckner

**CHURCH COUNCIL —** Meets 3rd Wednesday of the month

**President —** Nate Vorm

**Vice-President —** Lee Nielsen

**Secretary —** Janell Lowe

**Treasurer —** Tammy Sauers

**Council members —** Tim Andersen, Rod Hansen, Elayne Sinow, Barb Jacobsen, Terrill Burger, Allie Brooks (Jan-Aug), Jon Irlbeck (Sept.-Dec)

### COMMITTEES

#### **Building & Property:**

Arch Andersen

Janet Collins

Rod Hansen (Council Rep.)

Bob Sornson

Bruce Andersen

Curtis Derry

Kurt Nelson

#### **Education:**

Tim Andersen (Council Rep.)

Danielle Derry

Megan Kjergaard

Sara Vorm

Katie Bierbrodt (Children & Youth Coordinator)

Anna Fett

Pam Steckler

#### **Evangelism:**

Mary Jo Burger

Janell Lowe (Council Rep.)

Elayne Sinow (Council Rep.)

Sharolyn Fett

Joan Mortensen

#### **Stewardship:**

Dan Madsen

Frank Olsen

Lee Nielsen

Tammy Sauers (Council Rep.)

#### **Worship:**

Mary Jo Burger (Worship Director)

Curtis Derry

Sharon Frederiksen

Barb Jacobsen (Council Rep.)

Raydene Mathisen

Danielle Derry

Ashley Irlbeck

Linda Keller

#### **Altar Guild Committee Co-Chairs:**

Mary Jo Burger

*Co-Chair needed*

#### **Koinonia:**

Joe Elmquist

Steve Mathisen

Lee Nielsen (Council Rep.)

**Mission Ministry Team:**

**Tim Andersen  
Mary Jo Burger  
Jolene Burns  
Curtis Derry  
Traci Irlmeier  
Lee Nielsen  
Nancy Sand**

**Tony Barclay  
Terrill Burger (Council Rep.)  
Chris Bylund  
Danielle Derry  
Barb Jacobsen  
Norma Nielsen  
Dan Smith**

**Caring & Sharing:**

**Judy Baker  
Ardell Kelly**

**Lela Gleason**

**Mutual Ministry:**

**Dan Madsen  
Jenny Smith  
Steve Stetzel**

**Marlene Englin  
Steve Mathisen**

**Nominating Committee:**

**Suzann Derry  
Dan Madsen  
Randy Nelsen**

**Traci Irlmeier  
Norma Nielsen  
*Vacancy***

**Photography Team:**

**Alice Hemmingsen**

**Traci Irlmeier**

**Safety Committee:**

**Megan Kjergaard**

**Tyler Thygesen**

**Scholarship:**

**Lisa Frederiksen  
Shannon Nelsen**

**Lyle Hansen, Jr.**

**Finance Committee:**

**Karen Nelsen  
Jim Tinker**

**Frank Olsen**

**Wellness Committee:**

**Barb Jacobsen  
Lee Nielsen**

**Shellie Madsen**

**Women of Faith Officers:**

**Co-Chairs: Jolene Burns, Janell Lowe  
Treasurer: Sandy Parsons  
Co-Secretaries: Carol Albertsen, Mary Kay Lewis  
Mission Action: Janice Andersen, Donis Hansen & Natalie Lange**

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## OSLC PRESIDENT'S REPORT

With 2023 now behind me, I look back on this past year at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church and thank God for this family that we are all part of. As council president, I have been able to see from a unique view how EVERYONE contributes to the success at Our Saviour's. Now more than ever, I am thankful for our staff, our educators, our committee members, and all our other volunteers. We are truly blessed to have so many who are willing to give their time and resources, so that, we as a church, can continue to spread the gospel of Christ.

As a council, 2023 presented us with some challenges. Like everywhere else in our lives, the budget seems to be tighter at OSLC than in years past. However, along the way we have had the opportunity to see how our giving has been a blessing to others. If we continue to put God FIRST in all that we do, we are confident he will continue to bless our church family.

This past year we saw Our Saviour's continuing to do many of the great things that have become a tradition and blessing to our church and community. To name a few: the annual Christmas Dinner, Lenten meals and services, Vacation Bible School, Touch a Truck, Quilting, weekly bible studies, Operation Motorcycle Mercy, Praise in the Park, Praise Band, Kid's Choir, Adult Choir, Operation Christmas Child, Sunday School, Confirmation, and Advent meals and services and various local missions. These events and many more are possible because so many of you give your time and resources to bless this family we have at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church and the Audubon community.

Sincerely,  
Nate Vorm, Council President

## PRAYER MINISTRY

Peter wrote in his 2nd letter (4:7). The end of all things is near. Therefore, be alert and of sober mind so that you may pray!!!

Our prayer ministry goal - "being devoted to prayer" (Acts 2:42).

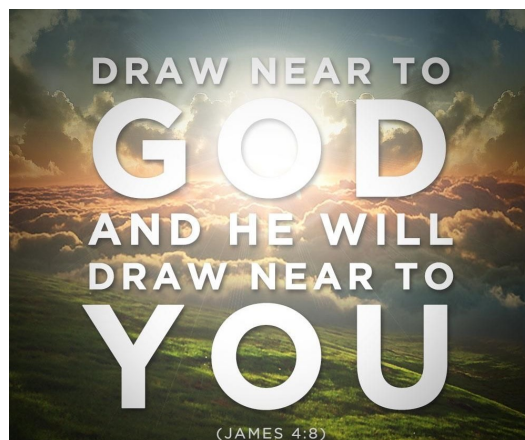
What does, being devoted to prayer, look like?

Here is one image: God's people are gathered in worship. God touches souls – often very deeply. God stirs souls during worship. After worship, this stirring is addressed, and spiritual power is released. God's people in need of prayer gather in a set aside place with set aside people. The concerns on their hearts are expressed to our loving Father. Wholeness, fullness, peacefulness is experienced and even healings happen.

When we don't know how to pray or what to pray, even a grunt or a sigh directed to the Lord will be taken up by The Holy Spirit who himself intercedes for us with The Father (Romans 8).

We have several small group Bible Study and fellowship opportunities at OSLC – Saturday and Tuesday mornings, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday evenings. Small groups are great places to experience the power, nurture, and peace that comes to us from God in times of prayer.

The prayer principle in God's Word is very straight forward and not complicated. "Draw near to God and He will draw near to you (James 4:8)."



## MISSION MINISTRY REPORT

Mission: What images does that word inspire? If you think in military terms, you think of operations, a mission objective. If you live in the South-West or are a history buff or like to watch old Westerns you think of a religious outpost manned by priests and nuns. If you are a movie buff, you may think of the Mission Impossible films, or the original TV series, or even The Blues Brothers, “on a mission from God.” Or you may think of a church sending people to far away places on a ‘mission trip.’

All of these images are helpful in shaping our thinking about mission ministry. You see, God teaches us in the Bible that every Jesus Believer is a missionary. And ministry is just another word for ‘service.’ Every disciple of Jesus is a missionary called to participate in ministry, in serving our Master:

He gives us **Mission Objectives**- for example, training our young people to walk in the way of Jesus, collecting and distributing needful items (blankets, food, eyeglasses cases, hygiene kits).

He shapes his people to be a **spiritual outpost** in the wild west. An even better image than ‘outpost’ would be an **OASIS**. An oasis is situated in a dry, desert land. An oasis means life, refreshment. OSLC is created and called by God to be an oasis of the Kingdom of God in a dry and thirsty world. Jesus says, “come to me and drink, and streams of living water will flow from deep within the person who believes in me (John 7:37-38).” The life of Jesus in his people and the life of Jesus among his people brings hope and healing to broken people. Living water is meant to be shared by the church of Jesus Christ. Outside the church, outside the oasis is the desert. And in the world, the desert, there are mirages. Outside of Jesus we all are drawn to mirages that are full of nothing – empty promises of life leaving us stuffing our mouths with sand instead of life-giving water.

We are on a **mission from God**; 1) God is active. God saves us. The good news – the Kingdom of God has come in Jesus – is movement, a good news move – hope and healing in Jesus. 2) There is a distinct oasis community – a set of relationships – a way of life – an ever outward movement of generosity – fullness – peace – life. 3) An oasis is open on all sides. It is the opposite of a fortress. We do two things, we invite people into the oasis to drink and we carry water out to those who are thirsty 4) There is an enemy, there is also a desert, there are mirages.

Everywhere we go is a **mission trip**, even an errand to the bank or post office.

Our prayers for 2024 – What next Lord? What are you up to Lord? How do you want us to participate in what you are doing? Shape us into an oasis. Show us how to partner in this oasis development.

We also want to help other ministries and organizations build an oasis in their desert lands, especially those close to home, close to our oasis – Caring and Sharing, Quilting Ministry, Friendship Home, Children’s Nest, Exira Care Center, Audubon Schools, FFA trip mission supplies, Hawaii fires-LWR, Meals from the Heartland, Audubon County Jail and Audubon Fire Department, Beacon of Hope Shelter in Fort Dodge, Hope Ministries in Des Moines, Okoboji Bible Camp. Heartland District/Church Planting Task Force working in Lincoln NE, Surprise Churches in North Dakota, Blessman Ministries International, Operation Christmas Child, Awakening Lives to World Mission, Faith Comes by Hearing, GoServe Global. Notice how these ministry partners start nearby and then move outward like expanding ripples on a still pond. This is Biblical. Jesus told the first disciples they would be expanding ripples as well, starting in Jerusalem, then Judea, then Samaria, then the ends of the world- Acts 1.

It is so joyful to be part of God’s people where generosity prevails, where an oasis is established, where life giving water is so abundant it flows in streams out into the surrounding deserts. 2023 led the Mission Team (Operation Motorcycle Mercy) to follow their hearts in a couple of different, local ways. In May, we started the summer season out with a “Biker Blessing” with brunch before worship, about 20 riders took off for a wonderful ride and lunch after worship. Then in September we decided to help 3 local families who had fallen on hard times. Our group was hoping to give each family a few hundred dollars, but with the faithful givers that we have at Our Saviour’s, the team was able to support all 3 families with over \$1,000 each!! As a team we were so grateful for each of you that helped make this possible! After service we rode out as a team and hand delivered the fruits of our labor. What a blessing to see the gratitude and thankfulness on each persons face! We pray that in 2024 God will provide us with more opportunities to use our time and talents in mission!

One last thing to keep on our Radar: Where should we send our next missionary team? One of the Ministries listed above? There are many from which to choose. Maybe it could be something entirely new. If we seek the Lord, he will make it clear.

God Bless your missionary lives.

Pastor Dan Beattie revised by Mary Jo Burger, Worship Director

## KOINONIA

The sharing of monetary gifts brings hope, joy and peace to those who are in troublesome times. We thank God that we have been able to extend help to many who are experiencing a crisis and are in need of funds to receive this help throughout the years. We also extend our thanks to everyone who contributes to this fund. The Koinonia Fund is supported by donations, and is not a budgeted item. If you would like to donate, please stop at the church office and visit with Pam.

Committee: Joe Elmquist, Steve Mathisen, Lee Nielsen (Council rep.)

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| January 1, 2023 Beginning Balance..... | \$958.65 |
| 2023 Requests for funds.....           | \$174.90 |
| 2023 Interest/Donations.....           | \$.09    |
| December 31, 2023 Balance.....         | \$783.84 |

## OSLC ALTAR GUILD

It is the responsibility of the Altar Guild to set up and take down the communion services on Sundays and special services. They are also responsible to see that the altar flowers go to the people who signed up to sponsor them and that the liners are returned to the flower shop. We also help set up for baptisms. It is great to be able to share the responsibilities of this wonderful ministry.

Thank you to everyone who serves on the Altar Guild. It is a very important part of the worship presentation. If anyone would like to serve, I need a couple of more volunteers to help fill some duplicate volunteers. Please give me a call. I want to thank all of you for all your help throughout the year! May our ministry continue to grow.

Mary Jo Burger  
Altar Guild Chair



## **THE BUILDING AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE**

The Building and Property Committee meets at 6:00 p.m. on the third Monday of each month.

### Highlights of 2023

1. Annual clean up held.
2. Repaired dishwasher.
3. New commercial coffee maker installed.
4. Replaced garbage disposal.
5. Boiler repaired, alarm installed to alert when boiler shuts down (custodian, Kurt or Pastor).
6. New ice maker in refrigerator.
7. Hot water booster installed under kitchen sink.
8. Replaced social room water fountain.
9. Lights on stage repaired.
10. New air conditioners installed in chapel and all three offices.
11. Repaired ceiling tiles in elevator closet and men's bathroom lower level.
12. Boiler broke down, drained, and inspected.
13. Bird remediation, put in screens.

### Projects under consideration in 2024

1. Automated chemical system for boiler.
2. Repair/tuck pointing of chimneys.
3. Landscaping around church/consulting with Earl May.
4. Split air unit is purchased for lounge and is to be installed.

We welcome members to join the Building and Property Committee. Help keep the Lord's House in great condition. Please contact a committee member with any concerns of building upkeep.

Committee members are:

Bob Sornson, Arch Andersen, Kurt Nelson, Curtis Derry, Bruce Andersen, Janet Collins, Rod Hansen (Council Rep.)

## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

The Education Committee's highlights and challenges in 2023:

Sunday School curriculum in 2023 Bright Curriculum from K-6th. PK used a combination of Bright and Sola. This curriculum has been a great asset with it starting out with a video downstairs and then digging deeper into the lesson with grade levels. Our committee is always talking about curriculum and how we can differentiate it with our different grade levels.

Pastor Dan taught five sessions of Holy Communion classes for 2 students, their First Communion was March 19th. The 6th graders received acolyte instruction that started in April and they began their acolyting duties in May.

Our annual trip to the Friendship Home to sing for the residents was on Palm Sunday.

Vacation Bible School this year was from Monday, July 17th through July 20th for 4 year olds- 4th grade with the theme Shine Jesus' Light. Thank you to Tim Andersen for making some larger decorations for us. Bible school was held in the evening from 5-8 p.m. We had daily lessons, music, and activities that reminded us of the light that Jesus could shine. The week ended with a short program for families to see what we had been doing all week. We again invited non OSLC members to attend and had another very successful and well run VBS with over 100 kids, helpers, and adults.

Rally Sunday this year was September 11th. We presented Pre-K students with their beginner bibles and third graders were presented their NIV bibles. The Women of Faith have been helping with snacks after church. This fall we have gone to the Friendship Home twice to do crafts with the residents. We gifted OSLC members living at the Friendship Home, Exira Care Center or Thomas Rest Haven a Christmas gift from the Sunday School students (a daily devotional calendar with a Christmas ornament), with council matching up to \$400. We served the first Advent supper, with funds going to support our Friendship Home ministry. We also served the second Advent supper, with our help from the Methodist Women who prepared the meal.

Sunday School offering is supporting a good cause, helping another child, and spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ! We continue to sponsor two children from Tanzania through Compassion International ministry - a girl, Grace, and a boy, Ibrahimu. We have sent letters to these children and are supporting them financially every month. We also have given monetary birthday and Christmas gifts. They have written us back and drawn us pictures many times! It is our goal to keep the OSLC congregation informed and these children visible to them as well.

The annual Sunday School Christmas program was December 17th. We gave ornaments to the kids. We took a two week Christmas break and resumed classes on January 7th, 2024.

7th-12th Grade Youth Group meets the Second & Fourth Sundays of the month. 9th-12th Graders are encouraged to be a part of Fellowship of Christian Wheelers which meets the first & third Sundays of the month. It has been a time for students to get together to play games, talk about challenges they are facing, and learn about how to keep God in their lives.

Plans for 2024 and upcoming challenges facing the Education Committee are:

- ~inconsistent attendance.
- ~Keep the Compassion Child ministry going and growing with SS offering.
- ~Holy Communion instruction for 5th grade offered in the Spring of 2024.
- ~6th grade acolyte instruction in the Spring of 2024.
- ~Prepare for VBS.
- ~Recruit SS teachers, VBS leaders, and new members for the Education Committee.
- ~Budget needs and requests.

The Education Committee gained a new member this year, and we all would like to offer our appreciation to our teachers, parent volunteers, and music leaders. The many activities of the Sunday School students would not be possible without the outstanding support of our volunteers. We look forward to working with the youth of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church and to a rewarding 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Bierbrodt (Children & Youth Coordinator), Megan Kjergaard, Sara Vorm, Anna Fett, Danielle Derry, Pam Steckler, Tim Andersen (Council Rep)

## **OSLC WORSHIP COMMITTEE**

First off thank you to everyone who has helped in anyway with matters of the Worship Committee. It takes many hands to keep worship moving as smoothly as possible, now more than ever.

The Worship Committee joins in coordinating many activities and services at OSLC by working with the Pastor, church council, Altar Guild, ushers, choirs, Praise Band, organists / pianists, projection system/sound/ video & live stream operators and children message volunteers. We assist with all regular and special services at our church, The Friendship Home and the Exira Care Center. Our thanks go to those who are always willing to serve the Lord by participating in or by overseeing these many areas of worship.

We are still live streaming our services for those who are unable to physically attend services and for those who visit from afar.

We have resumed most of our activities in the community and these are the ones we conducted in 2023:

Nursing Home Vesper and Communion Services, First Communion Sunday, Wednesday Lenten Services with meals being served, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Services along with Easter breakfast, Confirmation Sunday, Senior Recognition, Praise in the Park, Belgian Waffle Feed, along with



a Sunday Operation Motorcycle Mercy – where a group of people raised money for 3 families in our county that have fallen on tough times, Rally Sunday, Backpack Blessing, Quilting ministry, All Saints’ Sunday, Reformation Sunday, Staff Appreciation, Fall and Advent decorating, Wednesday Advent Services with meals prior and annual Ecumenical Music Service and Christmas Eve and Day services and Christmas Day meal.

We have all always enjoyed all forms of music at Our Saviour’s and we are grateful to the directors, accompanists, musicians and singer/players who share their musical gifts throughout the year. “Behind The Cross” Praise Band leads worship the fourth Sunday of the month (Aug.-May), provides AHS Baccalaureate music in May and plays occasionally at area churches. The Praise Band currently consists of 10 youth under the direction of Jo Beane along with Gary Keller and GERALYN Anderson as sound techs and is enjoyed by everyone in our church and in the community. The Senior Choir directed by Gary Keller and accompanist Melissa Hill started back up in September and have been singing the first and third Sundays during worship and for special services. Kids Choir was started back up in January after the kids got back to a routine from Christmas break! Mary Jo Burger is leading Kids Choir.

Our Saviour’s is blessed with many faithful volunteers who commit to carrying out the work of the Lord! I thank Judy Baker for her years of service on the Worship Committee and wish her well! We also added Ashley Irlbeck and Sharon Frederiksen to our committee this year!

Raydene Mathisen, Danielle & Curtis Derry, Judy Baker, Linda Keller, Ashley Irlbeck, Sharon Frederiksen, Barb Jacobsen – council Rep and Mary Jo Burger, committee leader

#### **EVANGELISM COMMITTEE**

**Ephesians 4:11-12 “It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists and some to be pastors and teachers to prepare God’s people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up”.**

The Evangelism Committee has continued their work of reaching out to members of OSLC in various ways this past year. Our biggest accomplishment was the completion of the Church Directory! We are currently working on updating the Church Library.

Our regular Evangelism opportunities include:

- Confirmation reception.
- Graduation reception.
- New Member reception.
- Baptismal crosses are presented to the newly baptized.
- Update the Cradle Roll, that hangs in the entry way. This project is managed by Mary Jo.
- Honor mothers on Mother’s Day with a gift. This includes our moms that are in the Friendship Home and the shut-ins.
- Honor fathers on Father’s Day with a gift. This includes our dads that are in the Friendship Home and the shut-ins.
- Hand out treats or small gifts for the various holidays to the Sunday School students.
- Hand out goodie sacks to all the children at the Christmas Eve Service.
- Line up holiday greeters for the extra Worship Services throughout the year.
- Update the Military board honoring our Military men and women serving our country.
- We put newspaper ads in the local newspaper announcing Holy Week, Easter, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services.
- The lawn banner announcing Vacation Bible School, Rally Sunday or “Jesus Lives” for Easter.

We also had a 5 week class with Pastor Dan on what Evangelism is and how we should be reaching out to newcomers. If you would like to learn more, please reach out to one of the committee members.

Members include:

Joan Mortensen, Elayne Sinow (council rep), Janell Lowe (council rep),  
Sharolyn Fett, and Mary Jo Burger

## STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

The stewardship committee of Tammy Sauers, Frank Olsen, Lee Nielsen, and Dan Madsen met several times throughout the year to plan and carry out the various activities the committee is responsible for throughout the year.

The committee helped plan and host the Praise in the Park service and pulled pork meal on the fourth Sunday of August. We presented a temple talk on Stewardship Sunday, formally known as Consecration Sunday, in October.

Wrapping the year up, we worked to plan a budget to present to council for consideration for 2024. Also, if you have a mission weighing on your heart as we move into 2024, contact a member of the stewardship committee or church council to help make it a reality in the upcoming year!

Thank you for your continued stewardship of time, talents, and treasures for God's Kingdom!

Tammy, Frank, Lee, and Dan

## 2024 NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

President - Nate Vorm  
Vice President - Lee Nielsen  
Secretary - Janell Lowe  
Treasurer - Tammy Sauers

### Council Members

Dan Madsen-(serving first year of two year term)  
Traci Irlmeier-(serving first year of two year term)  
Jon Irlbeck-(serving first year of two year term)  
Rod Hansen-(serving second year of two year term)  
Barb Jacobsen-(serving second year of two year term)  
Terrill Burger-(serving second year of two year term)

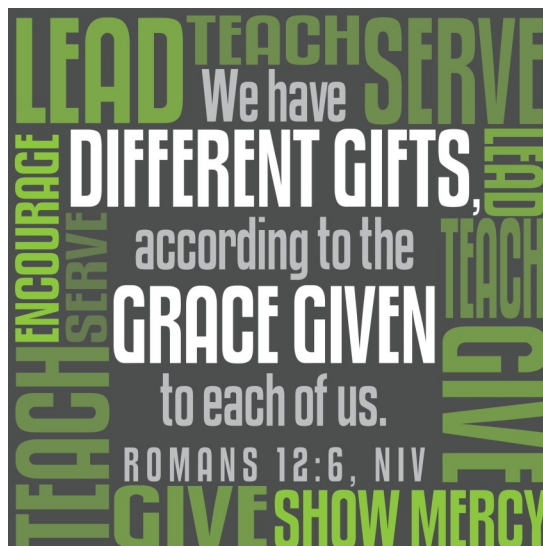
### Nominating Committee Members for 2024 are:

Outgoing council member - Tim Andersen  
Members at large - Chris Bylund, Cliff Nelson, Shannon Jensen, Toby Steckler, (1 vacant position)

LCMC Annual Gathering, Marion, IA. Sept. 29<sup>th</sup>-Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup> (2 delegates)-Jolene Burns & Traci Irlmeier

Heartland District Conference - Barb Jacobsen

Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camp Annual Meeting - Dan & Katie Bierbrodt



## OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN WOMEN OF FAITH

### Officers for 2023

Co-leaders: Jolene Burns and Janell Lowe

Secretary: Carol Albertsen

Treasurer: Sandy Parsons

Mission Action: Donis Hansen and Janice Andersen

### Committees

Caring and Sharing: Judy Baker, Lela Gleason and Ardell Kelly

Meals on Wheels: Shellie Madsen, Judy Baker & Shelby Jensen

A meeting of the officers and co-chairs was held on November 16, 2023 at 6:30. Pizza, pop and ice cream were served. Nine members and Pastor Dan were present. Donis Hansen and Janice Andersen have stepped down from leadership of the Mission Action team. Natalie Lange has accepted leadership of the WOF quilters. We welcome three new co-leaders, Natalie Lange, Lori Applegate and Barb Jacobsen. Thank you for joining our team.

In early May we held our Bakeless Bakesale with proceeds of \$3230. Thank you to all who donated to this wonderful fund raiser.

June 20, 2023 the Friendship Home birthday party was hosted by OSLC and served by Jolene Burns, Janell Lowe and Diane Kleckner.

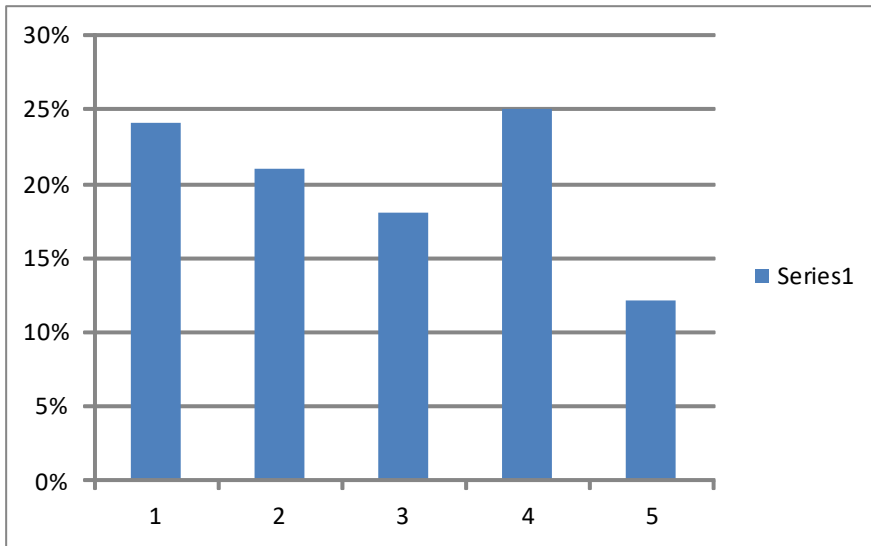
The ladies have agreed to serve a Lenten meal on February 28,2024.

Our current balance is \$7095.99. The following benevolences were approved for 2024.

Okoboji Camp Ministries. \$200.00  
Caring and Sharing \$500.00  
Hope Ministries \$500.00  
Operation Christmas Child \$400.00  
New Opportunities \$300.00  
Lutheran World Relief \$200.00  
Good Neighbor Center \$300.00  
Oaks Indian Mission \$200.00  
Prison Story Book Ministry \$200.00  
Family Crisis Center \$500.00  
Life Care Pregnancy Center \$400.00  
Exira Care Center \$200.00  
Friendship Home \$200.00  
Audubon School Lunches \$500.00  
Audubon Foster Care \$100.00  
OSLC staff Christmas gifts \$475.00



**STATISTICAL REPORT**  
**A DECEMBER, 2023 DEMOGRAPHIC OF OSLC**  
**ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP TOTALING 598 BAPTIZED MEMBERS**



- 1  
Ages 0-19

2  
Ages 20-39

3  
Ages 40-59

4  
Ages 60-79

5  
Ages 80 &  
above

|                                   | <u>2015</u> | <u>2016</u> | <u>2017</u> | <u>2018</u> | <u>2019</u> | <u>2020</u> | <u>2021</u> | <u>2022</u> | <u>2023</u> |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Average Weekly Worship Attendance | 223         | 216         | 220         | 213         | 200         | 96          | 118         | 139         | 135         |
| Baptisms                          | 10          | 12          | 8           | 13          | 14          | 7           | 2           | 21          | 7           |
| Marriages                         | 3           | 3           | 1           | 7           | 4           | 1           | 3           | 6           | 1           |
| Confirmations                     | 5           | 7           | 9           | 8           | 8           | 11          | 4           | 6           | 9           |
| Funerals                          | 15          | 25          | 20          | 23          | 16          | 15          | 10          | 17          | 18          |
| New Members                       | 29          | 3           | 16          | 27          | 10          | 13          | 0           | 2           | 4           |
| Baptized Active Membership        | 623         | 632         | 631         | 632         | 636         | 605         | 598         | 591         | 576         |

**Education Fund Balances - 2023**

|                             | Special Fund     |                  | TOTAL            |
|-----------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
|                             | Education Fund   | CD               |                  |
| <b>Beginning Balances</b>   | <b>23,857.33</b> | <b>10,000.00</b> | <b>20,656.26</b> |
| <b>Loan Repayments</b>      | <b>0.00</b>      | <b>0.00</b>      | <b>0.00</b>      |
| <b>Loans Issued</b>         | <b>-500.00</b>   | <b>0.00</b>      | <b>-500.00</b>   |
| <b>Interest Earned</b>      | <b>13.62</b>     | <b>278.36</b>    | <b>479.24</b>    |
| <b>Interest Transferred</b> | <b>278.36</b>    | <b>-278.36</b>   | <b>0.00</b>      |
| <b>Ending Balances</b>      | <b>23,649.31</b> | <b>10,000.00</b> | <b>21,135.50</b> |
| <b>Outstanding Loans:</b>   | <b>4,165.00</b>  |                  |                  |

## Our Saviour's Lutheran Church 2024 Proposed Budget

| Income                                  | 2024 Budget         | 2023 Actual         | 2023 Budget         |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Designated Gifts Giving                 | \$8,950.00          | -\$758.68           | \$700.00            |
| Envelope Offerings                      | \$301,844.26        | \$268,551.22        | \$309,000.00        |
| Plate Offerings                         | \$4,848.64          | \$5,509.54          | \$4,500.00          |
| Interest (General Fund)                 | \$.00               | \$37.12             | \$100.00            |
| Sunday School Offerings                 | \$.00               | \$-496.74           | \$340.00            |
| Thrivent Choice Dollars                 | \$542.00            | \$616.00            | \$275.00            |
| <b>Total Income</b>                     | <b>\$316,184.90</b> | <b>\$273,458.46</b> | <b>\$314,915.00</b> |
| <b>Ministry Staff</b>                   |                     |                     |                     |
|   | <b>2024 Budget</b>  | <b>2023 Actual</b>  | <b>2023 Budget</b>  |
| Director of Praise Band                 | \$3,122.70          | \$3,122.70          | \$3,122.70          |
| Custodian                               | \$17,841.60         | \$17,841.60         | \$17,841.60         |
| Organists/Pianists                      | \$2,494.98          | \$2,474.93          | \$2,494.98          |
| OSLC Choir Director                     | \$2,060.96          | \$2,726.33          | \$2,060.96          |
| Worship Director                        | \$30,420.00         | \$36,723.40         | \$30,420.00         |
| Kids Choir Director                     | \$4,056.00          | \$0.00              | \$4,056.00          |
| Office Manager                          | \$37,228.87         | \$39,808.89         | \$37,228.87         |
| Staff Support                           | \$500.00            | 0.00\$              | \$500.00            |
| Staff Continuing Education              | \$500.00            | \$45.00             | \$500.00            |
| Employer's Social Security              | \$7,700.00          | \$7,848.72          | \$5,500.00          |
| The Rock (Youth) Staff                  | \$0.00              | \$0.00              | \$0.00              |
| The Rock (Youth) Travel                 | \$500.00            | \$899.48            | \$500.00            |
| Youth & Children Coordinator            | \$1,837.50          | \$1,837.50          | \$1,837.50          |
| Staff cell phone allowance              | \$500.00            | \$240.00            | \$500.00            |
| Staff IRA match                         | \$2,836.00          | \$2,855.19          | \$2,000.00          |
| <b>Total Ministry Staff</b>             | <b>\$111,598.61</b> | <b>\$116,423.74</b> | <b>\$108,562.61</b> |
| <b>Bank Charges</b>                     |                     |                     |                     |
|   | <b>2024 Budget</b>  | <b>2023 Actual</b>  | <b>2023 Budget</b>  |
| Bank/Simply Giving/Vanco Charge         | \$703.00            | \$702.31            | \$700.00            |
| <b>Total Bank Charges</b>               | <b>\$703.00</b>     | <b>\$702.31</b>     | <b>\$700.00</b>     |
| <b>Benevolence</b>                      |                     |                     |                     |
|   | <b>2024 Budget</b>  | <b>2023 Actual</b>  | <b>2023 Budget</b>  |
| Benevolence Giving (16%)                | \$48,295.08         | \$42,057.21         | \$49,404.60         |
| Mission Support (see benevolence sheet) | \$0.00              |                     |                     |
| <b>Total Benevolence</b>                | <b>\$48,295.08</b>  | <b>\$42,057.21</b>  | <b>\$49,404.60</b>  |
| <b>Building &amp; Property</b>          |                     |                     |                     |
|   | <b>2024 Budget</b>  | <b>2023 Actual</b>  | <b>2023 Budget</b>  |
| Contract Services                       | \$4,000.00          | \$4,743.89          | \$4,000.00          |
| Custodial Supplies                      | \$2,400.00          | \$2,004.07          | \$2,400.00          |
| Insurance                               | \$17,250.00         | \$1,348.00          | \$14,500.00         |
| Organ & Piano Maintenance               | \$2,763.00          | \$2,030.00          | \$2,763.00          |
| Maintenance & Repairs                   | \$9,000.00          | \$15,956.44         | \$9,000.00          |
| Phone/Internet                          | \$2,570.00          | \$2,575.57          | \$4,800.00          |
| Utilities                               | \$15,857.00         | \$15,566.00         | \$18,000.00         |
| <b>Total Building &amp; Property</b>    | <b>\$53,840.00</b>  | <b>\$44,223.97</b>  | <b>\$55,463.00</b>  |
| <b>Christian Education</b>              |                     |                     |                     |
|   | <b>2024 Budget</b>  | <b>2022 Actual</b>  | <b>2023 Budget</b>  |
| Faith Stepping Stones                   | \$600.00            | \$488.15            | \$600.00            |
| Adult Discipleship                      | \$600.00            | \$27.00             | \$600.00            |
| Bible School                            | \$1,500.00          | \$2,304.65          | \$2,000.00          |
| Confirmation                            | \$800.00            | \$287.06            | \$800.00            |
| Sunday School                           | \$900.00            | \$861.92            | \$700.00            |
| Youth - The Rock                        | \$1,800.00          | \$2,567.34          | \$2,800.00          |
| Family Activities                       | \$0.00              | \$70.40             | \$300.00            |
| Children's Bags                         | \$200.00            | \$175.72            | \$300.00            |
| <b>Total Christian Education</b>        | <b>\$6,400.00</b>   | <b>\$6,782.24</b>   | <b>\$8,100.00</b>   |

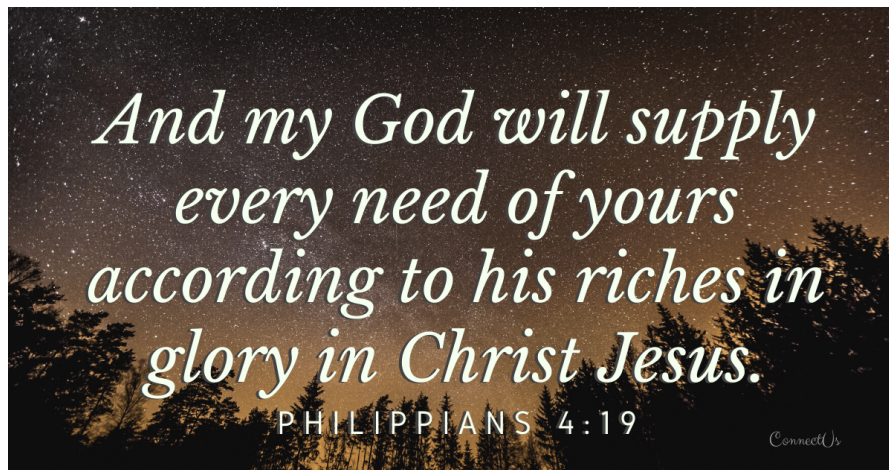
| <b>Evangelism</b>                     | <b>2024 Budget</b>   | <b>2023 Actual</b>   | <b>2023 Budget</b>   |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Broadcast                             | \$0.00               | \$996.00             | \$1,000.00           |
| Outreach                              | \$500.00             | \$604.26             | \$500.00             |
| Coffee & Receptions/Kitchen supplies  | \$800.00             | \$785.75             | 790.00               |
| Congregational Meals                  | \$300.00             | \$1,188.57           | \$500.00             |
| Advertising                           | \$500.00             | \$159.80             | \$1,000.00           |
| Books for Library                     | \$250.00             | \$0.00               | \$250.00             |
| <b>Total Evangelism</b>               | <b>\$2,350.00</b>    | <b>\$3,734.38</b>    | <b>4,040.00</b>      |
|                                       |                      |                      |                      |
| <b>Office</b>                         | <b>2024 Budget</b>   | <b>2023 Actual</b>   | <b>2023 Budget</b>   |
| Copier Rental                         | \$7,256.83           | \$7,309.38           | \$8,000.00           |
| Office Supplies                       | \$1,700.00           | \$1,593.65           | \$2,200.00           |
| Computer Software/Support             | \$2,500.00           | \$2,559.51           | \$2,500.00           |
| Security                              | \$900.00             | \$642.00             | \$800.00             |
| Postage                               | \$3,000.00           | \$3,308.58           | \$2,800.00           |
| <b>Total Office</b>                   | <b>\$15,356.83</b>   | <b>\$15,413.12</b>   | <b>\$16,300.00</b>   |
|                                       |                      |                      |                      |
| <b>Pastoral Ministry</b>              | <b>2024 Budget</b>   | <b>2023 Actual</b>   | <b>2023 Budget</b>   |
| Interim Pastor Compensation           | \$35,000.00          | \$0.00               | \$0.00               |
| Pastor Housing Allowance              | \$8,333.00           | \$25,000.00          | \$25,000.00          |
| Pastoral Compensation                 | \$24,000.00          | \$60,250.00          | \$47,250.00          |
| Pastor Auto Expenses                  | \$2,500.00           | \$1,727.56           | \$2,500.00           |
| Cell Phone                            | \$1,200.00           | \$1,200.00           | \$1,200.00           |
| Insurance/Pastor                      | \$4,333.00           | \$0.00               | \$13,000.00          |
| Pension/Pastor                        | \$7,000.00           | \$6,999.96           | \$7,000.00           |
| Pastor Continuing Education Allowance | \$750.00             | \$378.79             | \$750.00             |
| Professional Resources                | \$200.00             | \$78.10              | \$200.00             |
| Self-employed social security         | \$2,500.00           | \$5,000.00           | \$5,000.00           |
| Pastoral Search Travel                | \$2,500.00           | \$0.00               | \$0.00               |
| <b>Total Pastoral Ministry</b>        | <b>\$88,316.00</b>   | <b>\$100,634.41</b>  | <b>\$101,900.00</b>  |
|                                       |                      |                      |                      |
| <b>Stewardship</b>                    | <b>2024 Budget</b>   | <b>2023 Actual</b>   | <b>2023 Budget</b>   |
| Misc./Special Mailings                | \$200.00             | \$25.68              | \$200.00             |
| Offering Envelopes                    | \$450.00             | \$446.92             | \$450.00             |
| Wellness Ministry                     | \$0.00               | \$222.98             | \$200.00             |
| <b>Total Stewardship</b>              | <b>\$650.00</b>      | <b>\$695.58</b>      | <b>\$850.00</b>      |
|                                       |                      |                      |                      |
| <b>Worship</b>                        | <b>2024 Budget</b>   | <b>2023 Actual</b>   | <b>2023 Budget</b>   |
| Devotional Books                      | \$0.00               | \$1,178.31           | \$1,100.00           |
| Flowers                               | \$300.00             | \$692.67             | \$300.00             |
| Copyright Licenses                    | \$1,000.00           | \$857.15             | \$1,000.00           |
| Music Supplies                        | \$250.00             | \$-14.70             | \$500.00             |
| Misc. Worship Supplies                | \$500.00             | \$526.02             | \$750.00             |
| Sound/Video/Projection                | \$500.00             | \$873.06             | \$500.00             |
| Pulpit Supply                         | \$1,500.00           | \$2,188.64           | \$1,000.00           |
| <b>Total Worship</b>                  | <b>\$4,050.00</b>    | <b>\$6,301.15</b>    | <b>\$5,150.00</b>    |
|                                       |                      |                      |                      |
| <b>Other Expenses</b>                 | <b>2024 Budget</b>   | <b>2023 Actual</b>   | <b>2023 Budget</b>   |
| District & National Assemblies        | \$2,500.00           | \$2,211.93           | \$2,500.00           |
| Miscellaneous                         | \$500.00             | \$592.36             | \$500.00             |
| <b>Total Other Expenses</b>           | <b>\$3,000.00</b>    | <b>\$2,804.29</b>    | <b>\$3,000.00</b>    |
|                                       |                      |                      |                      |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>                 | <b>\$334,559.52</b>  | <b>\$339,772.40</b>  | <b>\$353,470.21</b>  |
| <b>Net Income/Loss</b>                | <b>(\$18,374.62)</b> | <b>(\$66,313.94)</b> | <b>(\$38,555.21)</b> |

## 2023 SPECIAL GIVING

|                    | 12/31/22          | Receipts         | Expenses         | 12/31/23          |
|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Benevolence-Other  | 4,605.35          | 3,939.68         | 7,000.00         | 1,545.03          |
| Christmas Dinner   | 5,810.28          | 2,031.95         | 4,416.39         | 3,425.84          |
| Church Camp Fund   | 31,001.40         | 1,367.76         | 1,675.75         | 30,693.41         |
| Education Fund     | 23,857.33         | 291.98           | 500.00           | 23,649.31         |
| Future Needs Fund  | 60,510.47         | 0.00             | 0.00             | 60,510.47         |
| Interest           | 0.00              | 97.25            | 97.25            | 0.00              |
| Memorial Fund      | 20,556.53         | 34,785.78        | 7,708.17         | 47,634.14         |
| Mission Loan Fund  | 36,303.14         | 0.00             | 36,303.14        | 0.00              |
| Mission Outreach   | 36,591.59         | 40,201.22        | 29,287.23        | 47,505.58         |
| Okoboji, Counselor | 0.00              | 1,198.58         | 1,000.00         | 198.58            |
| Praise Band        | 1,858.18          | .97              | 0.00             | 1,859.15          |
| Scholarship Fund   | 1,699.45          | 661.97           | 1,200.00         | 1,161.42          |
| The Rock           | 9,196.09          | 5.84             | 0.00             | 9,201.93          |
| <b>Total</b>       | <b>231,989.81</b> | <b>84,582.98</b> | <b>89,187.93</b> | <b>227,384.86</b> |

Yearly interest of \$97.25 was divided into active special funds accounts.

|                      |                                     |                             |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Holdings:</b>     | Special Funds Checking              | \$227,384.86                |
|                      | CD-Memorial                         | \$834.65                    |
|                      | CD-Education Fund                   | \$21,135.50                 |
|                      | CD-Loan Security (Education)        | \$10,000.00                 |
|                      | <b>Total Special Funds Accounts</b> | <b>\$259,355.01</b>         |
| <b>Other Assets:</b> | General Funds Checking Account      | \$34,472.66                 |
|                      | Audubon County Endowment Fund       | \$29,188.44 (as of 9-30-22) |



**ACTUAL BENEVOLENCE GIVING IN 2023**

|   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| Awakening Lives to World Missions             | \$2,118.11        |
| Blessman Ministries                           | \$2,118.11        |
| Caring & Sharing                              | \$2,541.74        |
| Children’s Nest                               | \$1,568.38        |
| Faith Comes By Hearing                        | \$2,329.92        |
| Friendship Home                               | \$2,965.35        |
| Go Serve Global                               | \$2,414.65        |
| Heartland Church Planting                     | \$2,329.92        |
| Heartland District                            | \$1,059.07        |
| Hope Ministries                               | \$1,270.86        |
| LCMC National                                 | \$3,475.89        |
| LCMC-Seminarian Loan Fund                     | \$1,598.12        |
| Lutheran Services in Iowa                     | \$1,313.24        |
| Lutheran World Relief                         | \$1,313.24        |
| Okoboji Lutheran Camp-Sponsor Camp Counselors | \$1,270.86        |
| Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camp                   | \$2,753.54        |
| OSLC Mission Outreach                         | \$1,016.69        |
| Other Benevolence                             | \$3,939.68        |
| Surprise Church, Bismarck, ND                 | \$2,329.92        |
| Surprise Church, Mandan, ND                   | <u>\$2,329.92</u> |
|   | \$42,057.21       |

**PROPOSED 2024 BENEVOLENCE BUDGET**

| 2024 Benevolence Budget                         | 2024   |
|---|--------|
| <b>16% of Annual Income (Envelope Offering)</b> |        |
| Awakening Lives to World Missions               | 5.00%  |
| Blessman International                          | 5.00%  |
| Caring & Sharing                                | 6.00%  |
| Children’s Nest                                 | 3.70%  |
| Faith Comes By Hearing                          | 5.50%  |
| Friendship Home                                 | 7.00%  |
| GoServe Global                                  | 5.70%  |
| Heartland Church Planning Taskforce             | 5.50%  |
| Heartland District                              | 2.50%  |
| Hope Ministries/Des Moines                      | 3.00%  |
| LCMC—National                                   | 8.70%  |
| LCMC—Seminarian Loan Fund                       | 4.00%  |
| Lutheran Services in Iowa                       | 3.10%  |
| Lutheran World Relief                           | 3.10%  |
| Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camp                     | 6.50%  |
| Okoboji-Sponsor Jr. Counselor                   | 3.00%  |
| OSLC Mission Outreach Workcamp/Adult Missions   | 2.40%  |
| OSLC Other Benevolence Missions                 | 9.30%  |
| Surprise Church, Bismarck, ND (Mission Church)  | 5.50%  |
| Surprise Church, Mandan, ND (Mission Church)    | 5.50%  |
| Column Totals                                   | 100.0% |



**Our Saviour's Lutheran Church  
Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes  
January 23, 2023 at 11:30 am**

The meeting was called to order by President Nate Vorm. 39 members were present.

Pastor Dan led devotions and Nate led us in prayer.

**Approval of Agenda** (no additions or corrections)

Motion to approve: Raydene Mathisen; second Dan Bierbrodt. Motion Carried.

**Pastor's Annual Report**

Pastor shared how OSLC has moved forward since all the COVID restrictions and how the body of OSLC is back and to thinking about we are an oasis. There is opportunity for OSLC to improve our prayer life.

**Approval January 23, 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes**

Motion to approve minutes by Katie Bierbrodt; second by Barb Jacobsen. Motion Carried.

**Treasurer's Report – Tammy Sauers**

**Nominating Committee Report – Dan Bierbrodt**

Congregational Officers: (1 year terms) President, Nate Vorm: Vice President, Lee Nielsen:

Secretary, Janell Lowe: Treasurer, Tammy Sauers

Council Members at Large: (2 year terms)

Rod Hansen, Allie Brooks, Barb Jacobsen, Terrill Burger

**Delegate to Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camp Conference (1 year term)**

La Dona Jorgenson

**Delegates to Heartland District Conference (1 year term)**

Barb Jacobsen and Pastor Dan Beattie

**Delegates to LCMC National Conference (1 year term) need two.**

Lee Nielsen nominated Terrill and Mary Jo Burger. (They accepted the nomination)

**2023 Nominating Committee (1 year term)**

Norma Nielsen, Randy Nelsen, Suzann Derry, Traci Irlmeier, Dan Madsen, Janet Collins;

Motion to approve Ballot as presented by Barb Jacobsen, second by Dan Bierbrodt. Motion Carried.

Motion by Lee Nielsen, that nominations cease and to cast a unanimous ballot; second by Steve Mathisen.

Motion Carried.

**Report by Election Tellers– None**

**OLD BUSINESS: None**

**NEW BUSINESS: None**

**2023 Proposed Budget- Stewardship Committee- Tammy Sauers**

Proposed Staff salary increase – 5% (cost of living is 8.37%).

Proposed Benevolent changes:

Remove: Church of Damascus Road, Uganda HESED International, Okoboji Lutheran Bible

Camp (beach House is completed), The Rock (no additional Funds needed)

This makes available 17.7% to be re-distributed.

Add: Caring and Sharing increase, Friendship Home, Okoboji Junior Counselor Program, Children's Nest.

Motion to approve the 2023 Proposed Budget by Lee Nielsen, second by Dan Bierbrodt. Motion Carried.

**Presidents Comments: Nate Vorm**

President Vorm thanked everyone and reminded us how many people it takes each day to grow and keep this congregation a family pleasing to God. Nate reminded all that Feb. 5 is installation of Council and Women of Faith Officers.

Motion to adjourn by Aaron Jorgensen, second by Pam Steckler. Motion Carried.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Janell Lowe, OSLC Council Secretary

**OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA  
JANUARY 28, 2024**

1. Devotions and Opening Prayer
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of January 22, 2023 Annual Meeting Minutes and 2023 Committee Annual Reports
4. Report of Financial Review Committee and Approval of their Report
5. Elections:
  - A. Report of Nominating Committee
    1. Congregation Officers (1 year terms: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer)
    2. Council Members at Large (Terms as indicated on Ballot)
    3. 2024 Nominating Committee (Six voting members of the congregation, two of which are to be outgoing Church Council Members)
  - B. Okoboji Bible Camp Annual Meeting, Okoboji, IA (1 or 2 delegates)
  - C. LCMC Heartland District Meeting (1 or 2 delegates)
  - D. LCMC Annual Gathering, Sept 29-Oct 2, 2024, Marion, IA (2 delegates)
6. Old Business
  - A.
  - B.
7. New Business
  - A.
  - B.
8. Recommendation of 2024 Budget by Stewardship Committee
9. Report of Election Tellers
10. Announcements
  - A. President's comments
  - B. Installation of all 2024 Council Members and Officers will take place on **Sunday, February 4, 2024**
12. The Lord's Prayer and Adjournment

