

Annual Congregational Meeting

JANUARY 15, 2023

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Agenda

Opening Prayer: Pastor Marcia Kisner

Call to Order and Adoption of the Agenda: President Mark Lewis

Reports for Questions and Approval

- Minutes of the 2021 Annual Meeting
- Christian Education
- Inreach/Outreach
- Property Committee
- Stewardship
- Music and Worship
- Treasurer's Reports: General, Mission, Memorial, Scrip, Budget History

Old Business

New Business

- Synod Mission support proposed \$1,000.00. 2022 support was to be \$1,000.00 we sent \$1,155.00 to the Synod, \$794.00 to MICA Missions
- Designation of offerings Ash Wednesday and Maundy Thursday to MICA and Christmas Program, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day to the General Fund.
- 2023 Budget
- Election of Officers

Closing and Adjournment

Minutes of the 2021 Nazareth Lutheran Church Congregational Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 16, 2022

The annual meeting of Nazareth Lutheran Church was called to order by President Mark Lewis at 11:00 following worship, and opened with prayer led by Pastor Marcia. Fourteen (14) voting members were present. Mark began the meeting by reflecting on the “Oh God” movies, where the theme was “think God” and encouraged us to do likewise – think God. Members were given a copy of the agenda to review, which Eileen moved to adopt, and seconded by Lisa Smith. Motion passed. Minutes from the 2021 meeting were approved as read by Joyce.

Attention then went to the Budget report. Lisa Smith pointed out under Budget History, the amounts paid out for building/grounds were divided between derecho repairs, and regular repairs. Joyce asked if Pastor’s salary, which remained unchanged, was okay, due to the rising cost of living – groceries, gas, etc. Lisa Smith pointed out the proposed amounts for gas and electric, as well as insurance, were raised instead. Vince moved to approve the reports, Dave Lewis seconded, motion passed.

Pastor’s Report: Pastor was excited about baptisms, new members, and Memorial Services conducted over the year. There were three baptisms, three new members brought in, one funeral, and presided at the Will Clough Memorial Service.

Old Business: Nothing to report

New Business: Eileen moved that \$1000 for Mission Support remain the same, seconded by Lisa, motion passed. Likewise, Dave moved designation offerings remain the same, seconded by Joyce. Therefore, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday offerings will go to MICA, and Christmas Program, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day will go to the General Fund.

The proposed budget for the year is set at \$70,280, or \$5,856.67 per month. Eileen moved to accept the budget, seconded by Vince, motion carried.

Eileen then brought up Nazareth’s fundraisers. She pointed out our four – Kumla take-out dinner, silent auction, dinner theatre, and Kringla/Lefsa sales – and gave an opportunity for any other suggestions. Pastor Marcia stated she’s not a big fan of fundraisers, and would just assume keep things as is, especially since these contribute to and are enjoyed by the community.

Eileen then mentioned the quilting material being stored in the basement. Since the quilters have disbanded, she asked if we would like to donate the material to a group that meets at the church in Huxley. The Story City Sewing Guild makes clothes for people in Nigeria but only has need for larger pieces of material, but she might know of a quilters group who could use the smaller pieces. Pastor motioned that the material be donated, seconded by Vince, motion carried.

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Last on the agenda was the election of officers. Pastor Marcia moved to keep the same officers, Dave seconded, and with no objection from the officers, themselves, motion carried. Meeting was closed at 11:22.

Respectfully submitted by

Joyce Allen

Joyce Allen, Council Secretary.

Pastor's Report

“The Long and Winding Road” by the Beatles

The long and winding road

That leads to your door

Will never disappear

I've been that road before

It always leads me here

Lead me to your door.

I'm sure it is because I am a Pastor that all music leads me to God's church and God's People. When I read the words from this Beatles song “The Long and Winding Road” I thought of Jesus leading me and all God's people to God and how we can do more, love more, and care more for others. The year 2022 was a long and winding road with many paths that were filled with potholes, and some of the roads paved for a smooth ride, and others leading to places unknown to us all and those roads where Jesus carries each of us. Yes, and we all ended up at God's door carrying on for the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

The long and winding road leads us to worship which started to look fairly normal after two years of Covid but numbers were still down. People were still nervous about going out among others. We did begin streaming every week so those at home were able to share in worship. I try not to think of the numbers but I'm only human and I want God's church to be full. Yet, we continue to remember “where two or more are gathered together God is present.” The doors for worship continue to be open and we continue to send invitations to all to gather at the end of our long and winding road.

In the spring the Sunday school children shared several Bible stories they learned. The eight regular children who attend Sunday school really enjoy being in front of the congregation and sharing Bible Stories they learned in Sunday school. One of my favorites was the story of Paul in prison. Sonja Carmon (Sunday school teacher from Methodist Church in Cambridge) made us a prison that when tapped fell. The children played their parts well and even sang a song sharing God's love. Of course the congregation was very thoughtful and applauded appropriately.

A large ministry that we paused during Covid but were able to begin again was the play presented at the Cambridge City Center. It had been produced in the fall in the

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past but this year we offered it in July. Theatre has always been a love and four years ago Joyce Allen and I presented the idea to the Church Council to put a show on for the community. Drinking Habits II was the fourth production produced by Nazareth. We are hoping to continue this ministry but it is very expensive so we are walking carefully into the future.

The fall brought us many returning ministries that Mark Lewis, Vince Tomlinson, David Lewis, and John Edgeland have taken to a new level. In October they began making Lefsa to sell at the City Center in November. Mark and Vince also made Kringla throughout the year. Vince talked Mark into making Krum kaka which became a very popular seller. What a joy to spend time with these chefs in sharing their heritage and faith with others.

A highlight for me and the children in the congregation was the Christmas program. We retold an Australian story of the Nativity titled "Wombat Divine". Nathan Hovland was kind enough to build us a swing for Angel Gabriel to fly in our play as well as playing the Tasmanian Devil. Yes, you read it right, one of the children flew in church. I think Avery will always remember this Christmas program. The costumes were unbelievable, especially the Kangaroo's. The three Kangaroo's left church that morning with their tales swinging for they got to keep their costumes...thank you Eleanor, Gavin, and Greysen. The koalas were Mava and Lilly; Logan was the smallest and most beautiful Mary; Audrey played the wombat to perfection and our narrator "Good Day, Mates," was Aubrey. It was a joyful day.

It was a busy and "winding road" kind of year. Thank you for the many prayers for each other and for me.

Peace and Love,

Marcia Kisner

Marcia Kisner Pastor

Christian Education Report

At Nazareth's Church Council children's Sunday school was the topic at the end of December 2021. We were having adult Sunday school at 9am and children's Sunday school at the same time. It was decided to move children's Sunday school following worship at 11:15 for 20-30 minutes. This encouraged the adults to bring the children to worship and then stay for fellowship while our children were learning Bible stories, sharing crafts and or games. We have had 2-8 children attend. We will continue this schedule through 2023.

The adult Sunday school has gone through some changes also by reading books together and scripture. This usually happens for ½ an hour and then more people arrive and adult Sunday school turns into "how was your week." I so enjoy people gathering at all times in the church to share their faith journey. It really does feel like a family.

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Confirmation is not going as well. I have one student and meetings were hit and miss. We will begin again in 2023, meeting on Wednesday afternoon. The student comes with his sister, who was confirmed two years ago. Continue to pray for our young people as they learn more about God and their relationship with God's church.

Numbers for Vacation Bible School were down this year but again we did have it and all who attended enjoyed and learned. We continue to work with Cambridge Methodist Church. We learned Bible stories and the children acted them out. We also only had it from Monday-Thursday. It is difficult to find volunteers but we will continue to offer VBS in July. It was held in 2022 at Nazareth and it is scheduled for Cambridge UMC next year.

Peace and Love,

Marcia Kisner

Marcia Kisner Pastor

Property Report

In 2022 we focused on updating the parsonage to make the house safe and convenient for Pastor Marcia and also to bring the decor into the 2020's.

The laundry facilities that were previously in the basement were moved up to the main floor. A stackable washer and dryer were purchased and installed in the pantry on the main floor. The shower was moved from the basement to the main floor into a newly remodeled bathroom. We replaced the vanity, toilet, door, flooring and paint. After the shower and laundry were moved the basement was cleaned out. We found items in the basement from 3 pastors ago.

A deck and ramp were added to the back door of the parsonage. The railing in the front and the front door also received a new coat of paint. The entire main floor of the parsonage was painted new updated colors and new flooring will be going into the parsonage in 2023.

At the church we painted the handicap ramp, railings and the front door, power washed the mold off the north side of the church. The sump pump, and water heater in the church basement were also replaced. A handrail was installed at the steps into the overflow room at the front of the sanctuary. Also a new computer was purchased for the church along with an external hard drive.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Lewis

Mark Lewis Council President

In-Reach Out-Reach Report

Something new happened in this ministry for Nazareth. I accepted helping First Lutheran Church in Newton, Iowa and Holy Trinity in Ankeny, Iowa by visiting and taking homebound member's communion. I began at First Lutheran in March and Holy Trinity in April. I have finished up at Holy Trinity but continue at Newton. It is an exciting ministry reaching out to our brothers and sisters in Christ at other of God's Churches.

One of the biggest ministries of reaching others was the making and selling of Kumla, Lefsa, Kringla, and Krum kaka. I am so impressed with how hard this group has worked and am thankful to play a small part in this ministry. If you ever get the chance please take some time to join this group in making this special food. It is so fun and you hear really great stories. They are such good and faithful savants.

The play again was a community outreach. Hopefully it will be able to continue. If you would like to help please let the church council know any time.

One of great in reach/outreach events happens every Sunday following worship, fellowship. We don't have a fancy name but we enjoy each other's company and sharing our stories.

Peace and Love,

Marcia Kisner

Marcia Kisner Pastor

Music and Worship Report

Thank you Ellen Olson, Sheila Duhn, Joanne Olson and Steve Hurst. We appreciate you sharing your gifts of music with us.

Joyce Allen, who retired in July, has volunteered to help Pastor Marcia pick the hymns for the year. Thank you. If you have a favorite let Pastor Marcia or Joyce know so we can put it on the schedule.

We struggled getting the choir together but Sheila has given a memorial gift in Alan's name to help us. It is a bluetooth and karaoke machine that we can use to accompany the choir. Thank you Sheila.

Peace and Love,

Marcia Kisner

Marcia Kisner Pastor

Statistical Report

Weddings: Teri and Jackson Ringgenberg, Chris and Winter Heintz

Funerals/Memorial Services: Alan Duhn May 5th, Mary Ann Apland Dec 31st

Baptisms:

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Confirmation(s):

Confirmation Instruction: Jared Mayfield

New Members:

Transfers into Nazareth:

Transfers out of Nazareth:

Pastoral Acts for non-members: Funerals Barb Birkenholtz, Hal Herbold,
Memorial Day Services at Center Grove and Cambridge cemeteries

	12/31/2020	12/31/2121	12/31/2022
Members	102	104	102
Ash Wednesday	21	No Service	10
Maundy Thursday	No Service	11	15
Good Friday	No Service	10	15
Easter Sunday	No Service	34	22
Christmas Program	No Service	34	42
Christmas Eve		39	No Service
Christmas Day	No Service	19	18

Cambridge Food Pantry Report

The Cambridge Food Pantry served 24 families this year. Some have been large families, that means we give a lot more food out and other things we give that they cannot get with food stamps.

We have 4 people from each of the two churches and we usually have a couple of other people that fill in for ones that cannot work that night. We have quite a lot of people that donate to our Food pantry. We gave \$50.00 gift cards to our patrons for Thanksgiving and a \$75.00 gift card for Christmas.

Beginning Balance	\$8,764.05
Deposits	\$5,022.72
Debits	

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Fareway	\$2,829.96
Aldi	\$385.73
Dollar General	\$2,575.07
Food Bank	\$276.22
Debit Total	\$6,066.62
Ending Balance	\$7,720.15

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet Thorson

Janet Thorson

Memorial Fund Report

Balance forward 01/01/2022	\$ 51.50
Funds from Miscellaneous	\$11.50
Funds from Marcia Kisner	\$40.00
Deposits	\$0.00
Total Deposits:	\$ 0.00
Interest	\$ 0.00
Total Withdrawals	\$ 0.00
Balance on hand 12/31/2022	\$ 51.50

There was no activity in the Memorial Account in 2022. However there will be some donations in 2023 in Memory of Mary ann Apland.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Rohde

Jane Rohde

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ELCA Mission Fund Report

In 1991 Nazareth invested \$5,000.00 from the Doris Lewis bequest in the ELCA Mission Loan Fund. This fund loans low interest monies to build new churches. The balance in our account as of December 31, 2020 was \$9,759.77.

Nazareth Treasurer

Lisa Smith

Lisa Smith

Nazareth Mission Report

Balance on hand 1/01/2022	\$1,251.63
Income	
Monthly Offerings	\$2,011.10
Total Deposit	
Disbursement	
Synod	\$1,155.00
Mica	\$794.00
Recording Error from Nov. 2021	\$2.00
Total Disbursements	\$1,951.00
Ending Balance on 12/31/2022	\$1,311.73

Nazareth Treasurer

Lisa Smith

Lisa Smith

General Treasurer's Report

Beginning Balance 1/1/2022	\$7,384.19
Income	
Envelopes	\$53,576.64
Loose Cash	\$1,221.25
Donations/Gifts	\$17,505.53

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Transfers from Capital Improvements	\$15,000.00
Transfers from Scrip	\$1,725.00
Lefsa/Kringla/Krumkaka	\$1,740.00
Cookbook sales	\$25.00
Easter Breakfast	\$20.00
Amazon Smile	\$154.69
Huxcomm Dividend	\$235.43
Weddings	\$400.00
Kumla Dinner/Silent Auction	\$3,957.00
Lilies/Poinsettias	\$66.00
Thrivent	\$235.00
Special Offering	\$372.11
Total	\$96,233.65
Expenses	
Pastor Salary	\$30,000.00
Pension/Medical	\$14,970.00
Admin Assistant	\$1,108.20
Custodian	\$2,020.88
Pianist	\$200.00
FICA	\$685.44
Gas/Electric Church	\$3,773.38
Gas/Electric Parsonage	\$2,987.04
Phone/Internet	\$1,110.12
Building/Grounds	\$10,148.98
Office Supplies	\$1,979.26
Worship Supplies	\$907.65

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Sunday School/Confirm/VBS	\$592.81
Insurance	\$6,983.00
FundRaising Expenses	\$1,668.79
Outreach Donations	\$150.00
Safe Deposit Box Rental	\$10.00
Fall Annual conference	\$210.00
Water Sewer	\$212.48
Transfer to Mission Investment Fund	\$15,000.00
Graduate Gift	\$10.00
Total	\$94,728.03
Ending Balance 12/31/2022	\$8,889.81

Nazareth Treasurer

Lisa Smith

Lisa Smith

Savings Account Treasurer's Report

Balance On Hand 01/01/2022	\$421.60
Interest	\$0.43
Balance On Hand 12/31/2022	\$422.03

Nazareth Treasurer

Lisa Smith

Lisa Smith

Capital Improvement Account Report

Balance On Hand 01/01/2022	\$21,966.89
Deposits	
Interest	\$32.17

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Withdrawals	\$-15,000.00
Balance On Hand 12/31/2022	\$6,999.06

Nazareth Treasurer

Lisa Smith

Lisa Smith

SCRIP Checking Account

Balance On Hand 01/01/2022	\$2,004.04
Income	
Deposits	\$13,168.00
Play	\$329.63
Silent Auction	\$325.89
Total	\$1,3823.52
Expenses	
Scrip	\$5,057.20
Fareway	\$7,360.30
Kum and Go	\$72.75
Transfer to General Fund	\$1,725.00
Total	\$14,215.25
Balance on Hand 12/31/2022	\$1,612.31

Nazareth Treasurer

Lisa Smith

Lisa Smith

SCRIP Savings Account

Balance On Hand 01/01/2022	\$100.22
Interest	\$0.14
Balance on Hand 12/31/2022	\$100.36

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Nazareth Treasurer

Lisa Smith

Lisa Smith

Budget History

Budget category	2020		2021		2022	
	Actual	Budgeted	Actual	Budgeted	Actual	Budgeted
Pastor	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
Pension Medical	\$14,794.50	\$15,000.00	\$14,838.00	\$14,800.00	\$14,970.00	\$14,800.00
Mileage	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Secretary	\$1,108.20	\$1,200.00	\$1,108.20	\$1,200.00	\$1,108.20	\$1,200.00
Custodian	\$1,440.68	\$2,000.00	\$1,883.94	\$2,200.00	\$2,020.88	\$2,200.00
Organist	\$923.50	\$1,400.00	\$1,145.14	\$1,400.00	\$200.00	\$1,400.00
FICA	\$693.09	\$800.00	\$575.28	\$800.00	\$685.44	\$800.00
Gas Elec Church	\$2,513.69	\$3,500.00	\$2,747.16	\$3,500.00	\$3,773.38	\$3,500.00
Gas Elec Parsonage	\$1,731.71	\$2,200.00	\$2,281.30\$	\$2,200.00	\$2,987.04	\$2,200.00
Water Church	No charge	No charge	No charge	No charge	\$110.99	\$0.00
Water Parsonage	No charge	No charge	No charge	No charge	\$101.49	\$0.00
Telephone	\$1,106.01	\$1,000.00	\$1,113.33	\$1,100.00	\$1,109.52	\$1,100.00
Building Grounds	\$3,387.38	\$1,000.00	\$570.62 \$26,370.62*	\$1,000.00	\$10,255.98	\$1,000.00
Insurance	\$4,477.50	\$4,800.00	\$5,862.00	\$5,000.00	\$6,983.00	\$5,000.00
Office Supplies	\$618.43	\$700.00	\$512.50	\$700.00	\$1,982.26	\$200.00
Worship	\$421.57	\$500.00	560.49	\$500.00	836.65	\$500.00

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Supplies						
Outreach Fellowship	\$420.72	\$300.00	\$596.10	\$300.00	\$20.00	\$300.00
Continuing Education	\$561.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$457.44	\$300.00
Special collection payouts	\$1,261.57	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$0.00
Sunday School VBS	\$330.30	\$300.00	\$302.13	\$300.00	\$309.37	\$300.00
Council Authorized	\$28.00	\$200.00	\$185.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Fundraising expenses	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$1,968.12	\$500.00	\$1,668.79	\$500.00

*The payout was due to the damage from the Derechio. This is a payout of the insurance payout received in 2020.

Proposed Budget

Salaries	2022		2023	
	Percent of Budget	Budgeted for 2022	Proposed Budget	Percent of Change
Pastor	45.08%	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	No Change
Pension Medical	22.24%	\$14,800.00	\$15,300.00	+3.38%
Mileage	1.50%	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	No Change
Secretary	1.80%	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	No Change
Custodian	3.31%	\$2,200.00	\$2,200.00	No Change
Organist	0.00%	\$1,400.00	\$200.00	-70%
FICA	2.10%	\$800.00	\$700.00	-14.28%
Building Office Maintenance				
Gas Elec Church	5.26%	\$3,500.00	\$3,900.00	+11.43%
Gas Elec Parsonage	3.31%	\$2,200.00	\$3,000.00	+36.36%

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Water Church		No charge	\$720.00	+720%
Water Parsonage		No charge	\$600.00	+600%
Telephone	1.65%	\$1,100.00	\$1,100.00	No Change
Building Grounds	1.50%	\$1,000.00	\$5,000.00	+500%
Insurance	7.51%	\$5,000.00	\$7,500.00	+150%
Office Supplies	0.38%	\$250.00	\$300.00	+20%
Worship Fellowship				
Worship Supplies	0.75%	\$500.00	\$500.00	No Change
Outreach Fellowship	0.45%	\$300.00	\$100.00	-66.67%
Continuing Education	0.45%	\$300.00	\$450.00	+33.33%
Special collection payouts	0.00%	\$0.00	\$0.00	No Change
Sunday School VBS	0.45%	\$300.00	\$300.00	No Change
Council Authorized	0.30%	\$200.00	\$200.00	No Change
Fundraising expenses	0.75%	\$500.00	\$1,000.00	+50%
Total	100%	\$66,550.00	\$75,270.00	+13.10

Ballot 2023

Officers:

President (1 year term)

Mark Lewis

Vice President (1 year term)

John Egeland

Secretary (1 year term)

Joyce Allen

Treasurer (1 year term)

Lisa Smith

Audit Committee

Nathan Hovland

Memorial Treasurer

Jane Rohde