

Agenda
Table of Content for Annual Reports
Congregational Meeting of 2022
January 23,2022

- Call to Order
- Election of new council members
 - nominees are Deena Hart, Joe Freiburger, Paul Marken
- Motion to approve council recommended budget
- Motion to approve recommended bid for roof contract

Table of Content for Written Annual Reports

- Report from Pastor
- Grace Lutheran Preschool Report
- Report from Council President
 - Team Reports:
 - Food Pantry
 - Property
 - Fellowship
 - Altar guild
 - Permanent endowment

- Adjourn meeting

***Purpose Statement:* Empowered by Jesus to participate in God's work with our community.**

Guiding Principles:

- Music and worship are expressions of the Holy Spirit in this place
- Trusting that God equips us, we understand and serve the needs of our community and world
- Each one has something to contribute
- God is at work in the world and we get to participate
- All are on a journey, still traveling and searching
- We can walk arm in arm without seeing eye to eye
- Always growing relationships with God, one another, and the world

Grace Lutheran Church
2022 Budget
February 2022 - January 2023

Revenue	2021 Actuals	2021 Budget	2022 Proposed Budget
GENERAL FUND INCOME			
1101 ENVELOPE OFFERING	\$122,107.43	\$131,000.00	\$125,000.00
1147 INTEREST INCOME	\$24.47	\$24.00	\$24.00
Grace Legacy Fund	\$2,180,754.00		\$60,000.00
Total GENERAL FUND INCOME	\$2,302,885.90	\$131,024.00	\$185,024.00
SPONSORSHIP INCOME	\$70.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
DESIGNATED INCOME			
27101 BREAD LOAF	\$200.75	\$1,250.00	\$1,250.00
27115 FELLOWSHIP	\$3,472.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00
27120 ALTAR GUILD	\$20.00	\$0.00	
27145 PASS THROUGH AS SPECIFIED	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total DESIGNATED-SPECIAL APPEALS	\$6,692.75	\$4,750.00	\$4,750.00
PRESCHOOL INCOME			
27118 Preschool Revenue	\$26,849.34	\$32,500.00	\$32,500.00
27123 PRESCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP FUND	\$865.00		\$500.00
27119 PRESCHOOL SCRIP	\$3,530.80		
Total PRESCHOOL INCOME	\$31,245.14	\$32,500.00	\$33,000.00
Total Revenue	\$2,340,893.79	\$168,274.00	\$222,774.00
Expenditures			
SYNOD APPORTIONMENT	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
ADMINISTRATIVE PAY			
E101 PASTOR-SALARY	\$31,295.28	\$31,295.34	\$30,821.56
E102 PASTOR-HOUSING	\$11,881.07	\$11,881.02	\$11,757.23
E103 PASTOR-AUTO ALLOW.	\$29.76	\$2,160.00	\$2,100.00
E104 PASTOR-SELF EMPLOYED TAX ALLOW	\$3,112.31	\$3,112.32	\$3,065.20
E105 PASTOR-PENSION	\$5,554.60	\$5,554.64	\$5,477.28
E106 PASTOR-HEALTH INSURANCE	\$8,748.71	\$8,067.86	\$9,000.00
E107 PASTOR-CONT ED/MINISTRY ALLOW.	\$162.12	\$504.00	\$490.00
E108 PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY EXPENSE	\$631.93	\$720.00	\$700.00
E109 COUNCIL'S DISCRETIONARY EXPENSE	\$0.00	\$35.00	\$35.00
E110 PRESCHOOL & ADMIN ASSIST	\$25,616.60	\$30,740.00	\$26,130.00
E111 DIR OF CONG MINISTRIES OTHER INCOME CHANGED TO PRESCHOOL CERTIFICATION & CONT ED	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$1,500.00
E113 DIR OF CONG MINISTRIES AUTO ALLOWANCE	\$417.20	\$1,200.00	
E115 PRESCHOOL & ADMIN ASSIST PENSION	\$2,561.70	\$3,055.56	\$1,567.80
E116 PRESCHOOL & ADMIN ASSIST HEALTH INSURANCE	\$6,493.60	\$7,788.12	\$6,650.00
E117 PASTOR'S CELL PHONE	\$432.00	\$432.00	\$420.00
E118 PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR HEALTH INSURANCE	\$6,455.04	\$6,455.04	\$6,650.00

E119 PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR PENSION	\$2,190.00	\$2,190.00	\$2,220.00
E150 ORGANIST SALARY	\$10,712.40	\$10,712.40	\$10,712.40
E180 EMPLOYER FICA	\$5,288.98	\$5,963.36	\$5,648.94
E185 PAYROLL PROCESSING FEES	\$700.04	\$372.96	\$600.00
E190 Preschool Payroll	\$33,692.16	\$36,500.00	\$37,000.00
Total ADMINISTRATIVE PAY	\$155,975.50	\$169,239.62	\$162,545.41
ADMINISTRATION GENERAL			
E201 EQUIPMENT & MAINTENANCE	\$5,112.02	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
E202 SUPPLIES	\$376.38	\$1,500.00	\$1,000.00
E203 POSTAGE	\$170.00	\$250.00	\$200.00
E205 TELEPHONE	\$2,892.55	\$4,000.00	\$3,200.00
E210 SYNOD CONVENTIONS	\$130.00	\$0.00	\$750.00
Total ADMINISTRATION GENERAL	\$8,680.95	\$10,750.00	\$10,150.00
E300 WORSHIP & MUSIC			
E301 ALTAR SUPPLIES	\$341.62	\$500.00	\$0.00
E309 PULPIT SUPPLY	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00
Total WORSHIP & MUSIC	\$1,400.26	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION			
E405 ADULT STUDIES	\$21.82	\$150.00	\$150.00
E415 YOUTH - GENERAL - ALL AGES	\$1,237.21	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Total CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	\$1,259.03	\$2,150.00	\$2,150.00
EVANGELISM			
E501 ADVERTISEMENT	\$361.85	\$500.00	\$500.00
Total EVANGELISM	\$361.85	\$500.00	\$500.00
SOCIAL MINISTRY			
E601 OUT REACH - BREAD LOAF	\$200.75	\$1,250.00	\$1,250.00
E605 FELLOWSHIP (ACTIVITIES)	\$324.78	\$500.00	\$500.00
Total SOCIAL MINISTRY	\$525.53	\$1,750.00	\$1,750.00
SUPPORT			
E1010 FINANCE	\$302.50	\$30.00	\$30.00
E1015 STEWARDSHIP MATERIALS	\$1,563.88	\$1,500.00	\$2,000.00
E1101 UTILITIES	\$10,439.56	\$11,500.00	\$11,000.00
E1102 GAS	\$4,035.60	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00
E1103 SUPPLIES/REPAIRS(INTERIOR)	\$21,238.73	\$15,000.00	\$30,000.00
E1104 SUPPLIES/REPAIRS (EXTERIOR)	\$1,458.31	\$850.00	\$0.00
E1105 INSURANCE	\$9,523.00	\$8,500.00	\$9,525.00
Total SUPPORT	\$48,561.58	\$41,880.00	\$57,055.00
PRESCHOOL			
E901 PRESCHOOL EXPENSES	\$1,294.35	\$2,500.00	\$1,500.00
E902 SCRIP EXPENSES	\$3,605.16		
Total PRESCHOOL	\$4,899.51	\$2,500.00	\$1,500.00
Total Expenditures	\$224,664.21	\$233,769.62	\$240,650.41
Net Revenue	\$2,116,229.58	(\$65,495.62)	(\$17,876.41)



Indiana-Kentucky Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

911 E. 86th Street, Suite 200, Indianapolis, IN 46240 + 317-253-3522 + www.iksynod.org

Pastoral Message to the People and Communities of the Indiana-Kentucky Synod, ELCA
Bishop Bill Gafkjen + January 2022

Joshua did as Moses told him, and fought with Amalek, while Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. Whenever Moses held up his hand, Israel prevailed; and whenever he lowered his hand, Amalek prevailed. But Moses' hands grew weary; so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it. Aaron and Hur held up his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side; so his hands were steady until the sun set. And Joshua defeated Amalek...

[Exodus 17:8-11]

Dear People of God,

Covid fatigue.

The phrase is working its way into public and private conversations as we enter the third year of walking the coronavirus wilderness. The symptoms of covid fatigue are also working their way into our public life, into our individual and family lives, and into our life together as the body of Christ.

We are tired of all the twists and turns, like eating out or going to school or worshipping in-person one week, one day, and then rushing back to “virtual” life the next. We are weary of wearing masks, deciding which masks, keeping distance, and washing hands. We are exhausted by having to make complicated and quick decisions about in-person, virtual, and hybrid worship, communion, and other aspects of our life together as the body of Christ. And, in our exhaustion we are turning on one another, crying out at our leaders and others with exasperation and blame borne of exhaustion, much like our ancestors in faith did on their weary way through the wilderness, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?” Some of us, like those ancestors, even cry out in the silence of our weary hearts, “Is the Lord among us or not?” [See Exodus 17:1-7]

Covid fatigue: weariness borne of walking the wilderness, fighting the seemingly indefatigable virus, living in limbo, losing sight of hope's horizon again and again. It is so tempting to lower our hands like Moses, to stop doing what has been so important in winning this battle, and to live as if the virus were not spreading at record rates and pushing medical facilities beyond their limits yet again.

But, dear people of God, we cannot do that, not if we are going to make it to the other side of this wearing wilderness with as many of us as possible. It's time to let go of bickering, bellowing, and berating and to be Aaron and Hur for one another.

It's time for us to lift each other's hands by reminding each other of God's powerful, promised presence – by being God's loving, compassionate, humble, hopeful presence for one another. We hold each other up when we support each other in making (again) the pivots in our

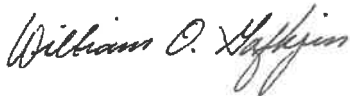
personal lives and in our life together as the body of Christ that will protect the most vulnerable among us, including our children. We are Aaron and Hur for one another when we remind each other of how, by God's grace, we've done what we've needed to do before and that, in the power of the Holy Spirit, we can do it again and for as long as need be...because we hold each other up and go forward together.

We lift each other's hands when we wear a mask, get fully vaccinated if possible, and, like Jesus, who for the promised joy that was set before him endured the cross, accept the limitations and losses that increase the chances that we will win the battle against the virus itself as well as its insipid determination to rend our life together.

Beloved people of God, as we lift each other's arms in this wearying wilderness, we join Aaron and Hur and generations of God's people (like those listed in Hebrews 11) who in times of peril and challenge entrusted themselves to the God of promise and gave themselves to assisting others to get through and beyond.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God. (Hebrews 12:1-2)

Peace be with you,



The Rev. Dr. William O. Gafkjen, Bishop

P.S. Since most of the synod territory is again in red zone alerts, synod staff members are carefully complying with the travel guidelines adopted in September 2021. These guidelines include no travel to or in red counties unless clearly necessary and, even then, requesting or requiring careful adherence to appropriate covid protocols as part of our holding up each other's arms. The guidelines can be accessed here:

<https://files.constantcontact.com/d4943ff5001/538f54a3-bc08-41ef-8329-1f4331f8faa9.pdf>

In addition, we have returned to holding our synod staff meetings via Zoom rather than in person, limiting the number of people in the office at the same time, and wearing masks and distancing in public spaces and when two or more are together.

We also continue deliberate discernment about whether and/or how to hold synod-sponsored/initiated events in person. The guidelines for this decision-making can be found here: <https://iksynod.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Guidelines-for-Planning-Synod-Events.pdf>. These guidelines may be helpful for congregations and other local faith communities in their own planning and discernment.

Pastor's Report:

In 2021 Grace continued to post recorded videos of Sunday morning and other worship services to our YouTube channel. With the resumption of in-person services, we also stream the worship service live (via Facebook).

I was selected to participate in the Whitley County YMCA's Team HEED (Helping Everyone Embrace Diversity). We put together four luncheon seminars for local business and government entities this past fall. I had the privilege of writing and leading the last hour-long session and discussion.

I participated in the ELCA's Vital Congregation Reboot training and discussion program. This program included congregations and pastors from all over the United States. In many ways, the conversations carried on the work we have done as part of the Synod's connect process. Part of that process assessed the ways Grace Lutheran is known within our community. Grace continues to be known in our community by our two signature ministries, the preschool and the food pantry. Grace continues to make a difference in people's lives in the community through both ministries.

Late in the fall, Grace was contacted by Josh with Safe Families. Safe Families is seeking to partner with a Whitley County church. Safe Families reached out to us because of the difference we have made in people's lives due to the Preschool and Food pantry. Josh will be at Grace on February 5 to talk more about this opportunity.

During the summer and fall, I participated in several conversations with IN DCS to form a faith-based partnership with their department. Work is still progressing but seems to have stalled with increasing COVID infections.

As pointed out in the Vital Church Reboot sessions, congregational vitality and vibrancy are not linked with attendance and membership numbers. Indeed, the church is not as big as it once was, and COVID has only accelerated the decline in numbers. However, it can be argued that Grace is just as vibrant and vital (if not more so) than at any other time in its history. Vital and vibrant congregations are doing God's work with their community. Grace is doing that work. Through our participation in God's mission, GLC is making a difference in the lives of the people around us.

Parochial Report:

Weddings: 1
Funerals: 9
Baptism: 4
Confirmations: 5

In-person worship
Average: 57
Median: 56
Standard Deviation: 15

Streaming
Average: 5 views¹

On-Line Recorded Services:
Average: 51 views¹ per month

¹ A view could be a single person or multiple people

Preschool's Annual Report

Total of 32 Students-

16- MWF Morning, 7- MWF Afternoon, 9- T/TH Morning

We unfortunately went down to 32 students when we came back from Christmas Break. The family had to make some changes that effected the oldest to change schools.

I have completed Orientation 1 and 2 to become a Registered Ministry and will continues onto the next steps. A registered ministry is a "preschool or day care provided as an extension of a church or religious ministry that is a religious organization exempt from federal income taxation." We are hopefully that becoming a Registered Ministry will help our enrollment numbers in the coming years.

We've already had 3 calls/ emails inquiring about information for the 2022-2023 school year!

These next couple of months will be very busy in the Preschool. We have many days together which leads to a lot of learning. We will be focusing on learning more letters, writing our names, learning numbers 5-10 and all our shapes.

Feb. 23 & 25 Parent/ Teacher Conferences

March 29 & 30 Open House/ Registration Night 6:30-8:00

April 4-8- No School- Spring Break

April 15- No School- Good Friday

May 19 & 20- Field Day

May 25 & 26- Picnic at Kid's Dreamland- Last Day of School

Graduation Programs

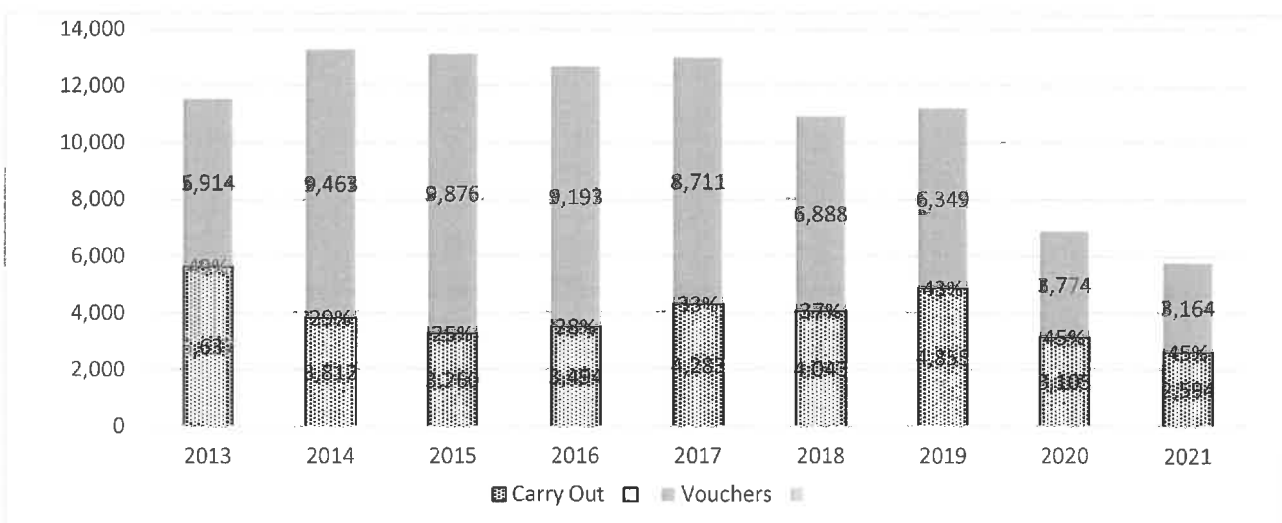
I will continue to work 2 days a week over the summer with a few weeks off. This will allow me to be prepared for the coming 2022-2023 school year. I plan to update the website, Facebook page, the yearlong lesson plans, and continue becoming a Registered Ministry.

**Grace Lutheran Church - Food Pantry Activities
Columbia City, IN**

2021 Year End Report

- ➔ We have experienced a decrease in client requests, both carry-out and voucher, since the onset of Covid-19. Many clients are in poor health and have seemed fearful of contact, although we have experienced an uptick in client visits starting in September of 2021.
- ➔ We are still using modified distribution procedures which were started in spring of 2020 minimizing person-to-person contact and requiring fewer volunteers. Much of food is still pre-bagged and clients are admitted one at a time and restricted to an area just inside the rear entrance.
- ➔ In April 2020, we received a \$13,400 credit for our Voucher program at Community Harvest Food Bank from an anonymous benefactor which expired with June, 2021. Other donations throughout the last couple years, including from Hope Lutheran, have been generous, allowing us to maintain voucher shopping at 50 pounds per visit.
- ➔ We have a great crew of enthusiastic, reliable, and caring volunteers from Grace, Hope, and the community.
- ➔ Kroger provides weekly fresh packaged fruits, vegetables, and bakery products which are very popular and nutritious.

	People Served		People Served		Total	Vs Prior Year
	Carry Out		Vouchers			
2013	5,637	49%	5,914	51%	11,551	
2014	3,812	29%	9,463	71%	13,275	15%
2015	3,260	25%	9,876	75%	13,136	-1%
2016	3,494	28%	9,193	72%	12,687	-3%
2017	4,283	33%	8,711	67%	12,994	2%
2018	4,043	37%	6,888	63%	10,931	-16%
2019	4,855	43%	6,349	57%	11,204	2%
2020	3,105	45%	3,774	55%	6,879	-39%
2021	2,594	45%	3,164	55%	5,758	-16%



Property Team Report for 2021

Team Members: Vic Trowbridge, Keith Darstein, Don Ruesch, Bill Owen, Tom Straub,
Todd Linvill, Mark Krider, Joe Freiburger, Pastor Matt

In 2021 our goal was to maintain the church building and the property.

Repairs & Upgrades

- New exterior doors & frame at outdoor maintenance room.
- Updated Fire Alarm Panel to most up to date equipment.
- Repaired attic ductwork due to raccoon damage.
- *Replaced floor coverings in first floor hallway, classroom & freezer pantry room.
- **Five new furnaces 2 northside of sanctuary, 2 lounge & 1 fellowship hall.
- AED paddles were replaced
- Repainted all exterior steel doors
- *Restroom floors were professionally steam cleaned.
- One bush in courtyard was replaced w/Hibiscus Tree in memory of David Smith by Men's Breakfast.

*Sponsored by anonymous donor

**Partially Sponsored by anonymous donors

LED LIGHTING PROJECT

All of the LED Lighting Project was sponsored by – Grants, Men's Breakfast & several anonymous donors.

- Replaced soffit lights in sanctuary to LED lighting.

Things to watch for in 2022

- Update lighting in the basement, freezer pantry room & the office work room.
- New roof coming in March or April 2022.
- Replace balance of the old Air Conditioning units.

Respectfully submitted by
Mark Krider
Property Team Chairman

Columbia City, IN

The Fellowship team did not have much opportunity to host activities during 2021 due to the ongoing Covid restrictions. However, we did organize the Shrove Tuesday tenderloin fry, which was conducted on a “drive thru” basis. Even though we did not have the opportunity to provide a seated meal, the drive thru seemed to be well received by all those who participated, as we had essentially the same volume of meals as we’ve had in past dinners resulting in a profit of just over one thousand dollars to the church.

Submitted

Dave Hockerman

01/17/22

Altar Guild Annual Report 2021

Director Marsha Ruesch

Assistant Director Kim Nelson

The 15 members of the Grace Lutheran Altar Guild serve the congregation in preparing the worship space for all Sunday, midweek, and special worship services. We prepare and care for the furnishings, vessels, elements, linens and paraments to be used for these services. We work with Pastor Matt in helping him share his ministry here at Grace. We would welcome any member of Grace who would like to help with this important part of each service. Think about the impact if this sacrament could not be provided each week. If you are interested in joining us in serving our congregation please let any of the members, officers, or the office know.

I want to thank all the Altar Guild members for their faithfulness in serving our congregation for the 52 weekly services, plus all the special services including Advent, Lent, funerals and baptisms.

Respectfully submitted,

Marsha Ruesch

Permanent Endowment Fund
2019 Annual Report

Council Representative
Team Members

Sarah Pearl
Penny Samuels
Janet Knafel, Treasurer
Brad Nelson, Chairperson

Pam Shanahan
Pastor Matt

The Grace Lutheran Permanent Endowment Fund was established in 1988, when the church received a large bequest from a long time member. It was directed that the funds from the bequest be invested and only the interest from the investment be used. Since that time, many have contributed to this fund with the same intent.

Because the contributions are endowed, they are never spent. They are permanently invested to produce income for benevolent projects at Grace Lutheran Church and throughout the greater community.

The Permanent Endowment Committee has traditionally helped young people with substantial scholarships for undergraduate college degree. We have also given grants to the Grace Lutheran Pre-school to assist families in need to enroll their child in a Christian environment.

Let's keep this fund growing!!! Gifts given do not have to be large amounts. Gifts may be in the form of cash, life insurance, shares of stock, or even real estate. Spiritually planned giving is your personal ongoing response to God and a way to choose to carry out the Gospel Message.

Respectfully submitted,

Brad Nelson, Chairperson
January 18, 2022

PERMANENT ENDOWMENT FUND

Balance 1/1/2021	Savings:	\$1,469.59	
	Annuity:	\$264,669.14	\$266,138.73

Contributions/Expenses	Savings Dep:	\$7,675.00	
	Savings Disburse:	-\$7,500.00	
	Savings Int:	.17	
	Annuity to Savings:	\$-7,500.00	
	Annuity Int:	\$9,074.45	\$1,749.62

\$267,888.35
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Scholarship Disbursements

Tyler Barnhart	\$ 500.00
Bethany Parish	\$ 500.00
Jaclyn Fries	\$1,000.00
McKenzie Hart	\$1,000.00
Autumn Horner	\$1,000.00
Cole Hart	\$1,000.00
Tucker Pearce	\$ 500.00
GLC Pre School	\$1,000.00
Andrew Marken	\$500.00
Audra Marken	\$500.00

\$7,500.00
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Balance 12/31/2021	Savings:	\$1,644.88	
	Annuity:	\$266,243.47	\$267,888.35

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