

2024

Congregational Annual Report



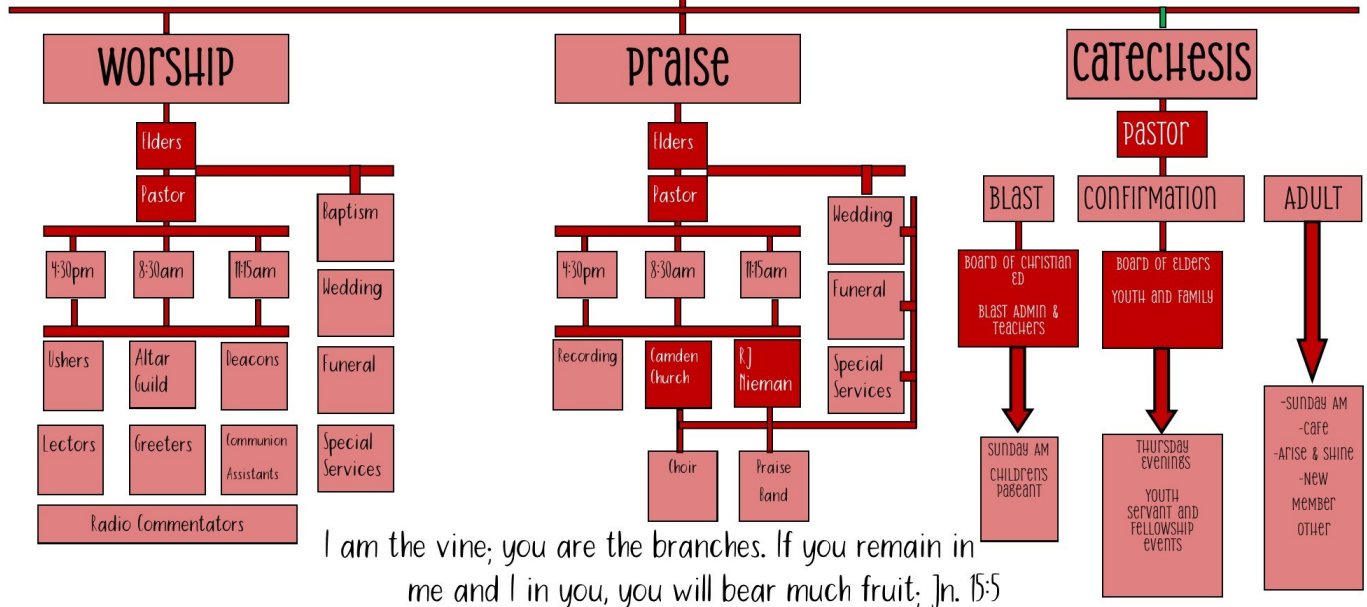
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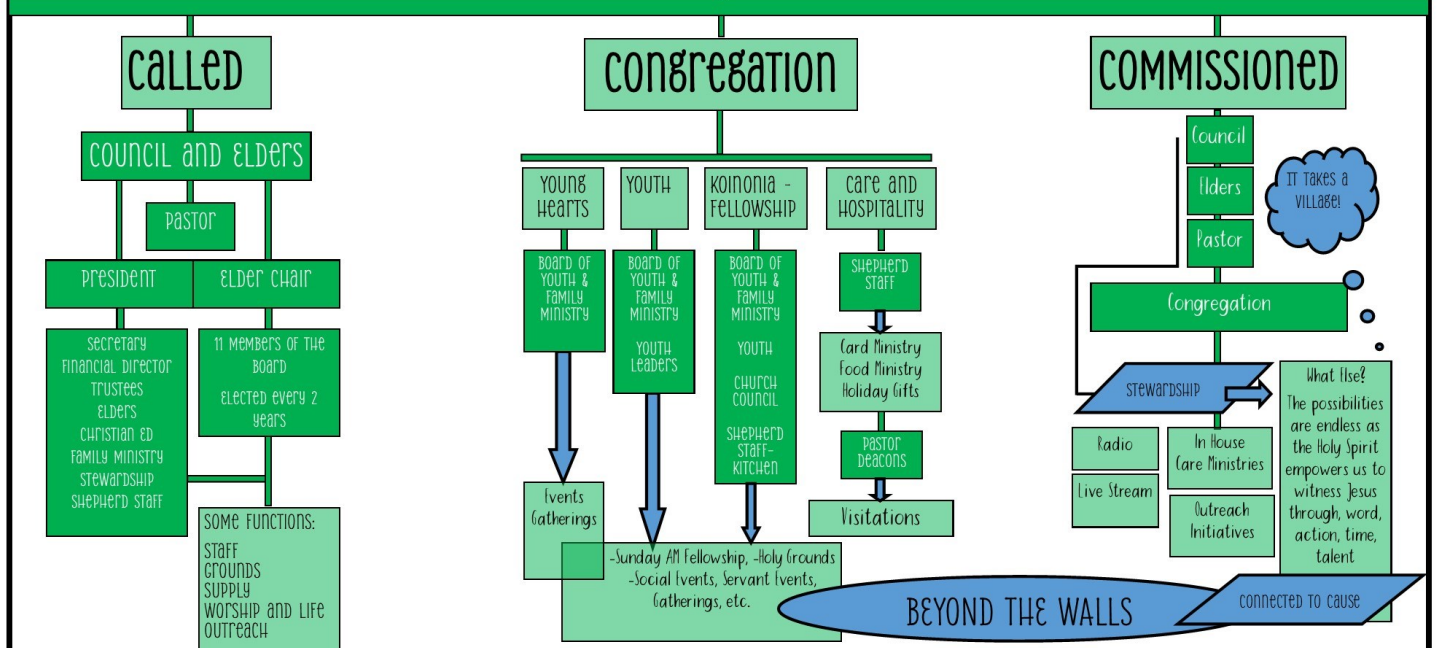
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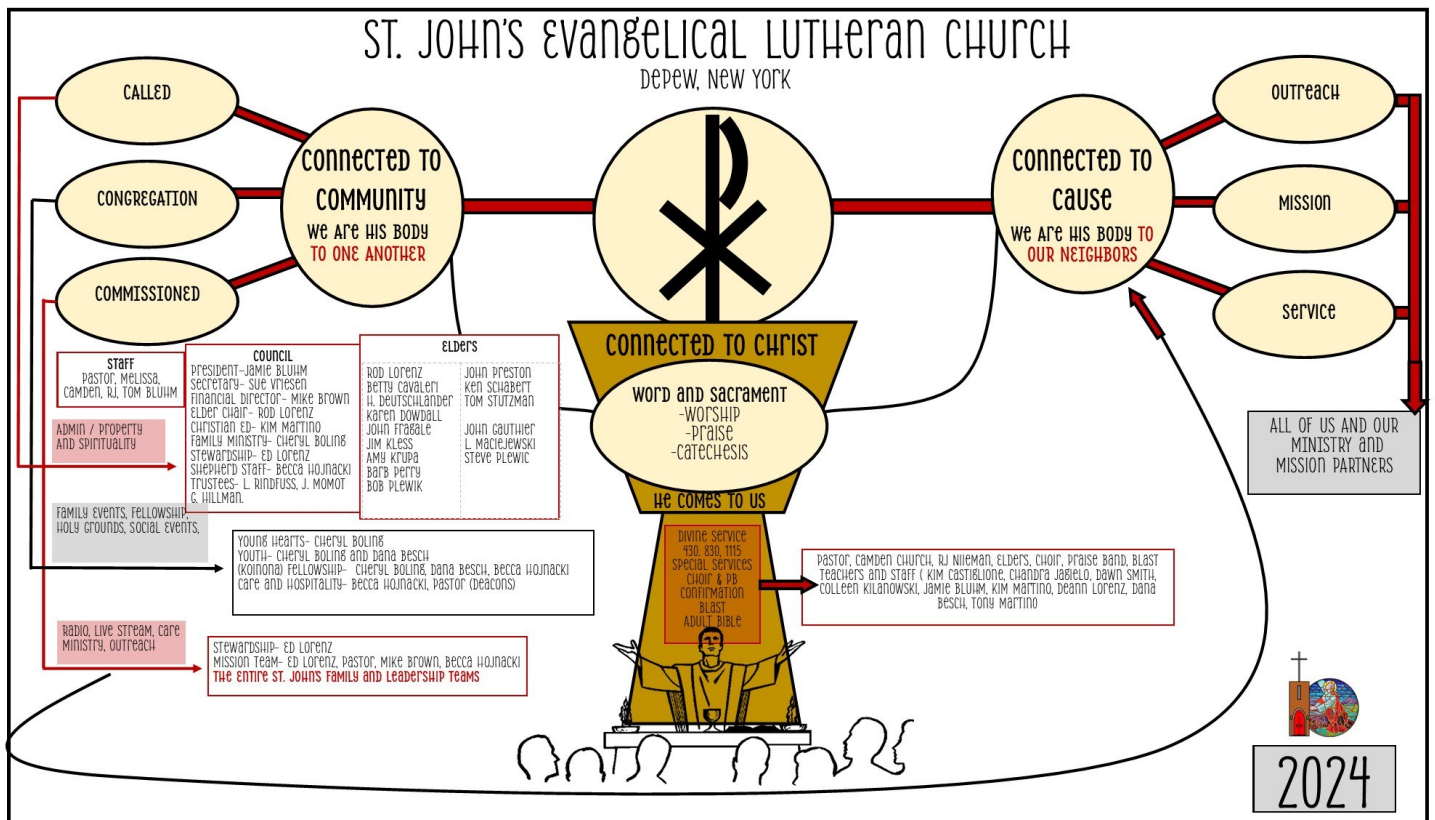
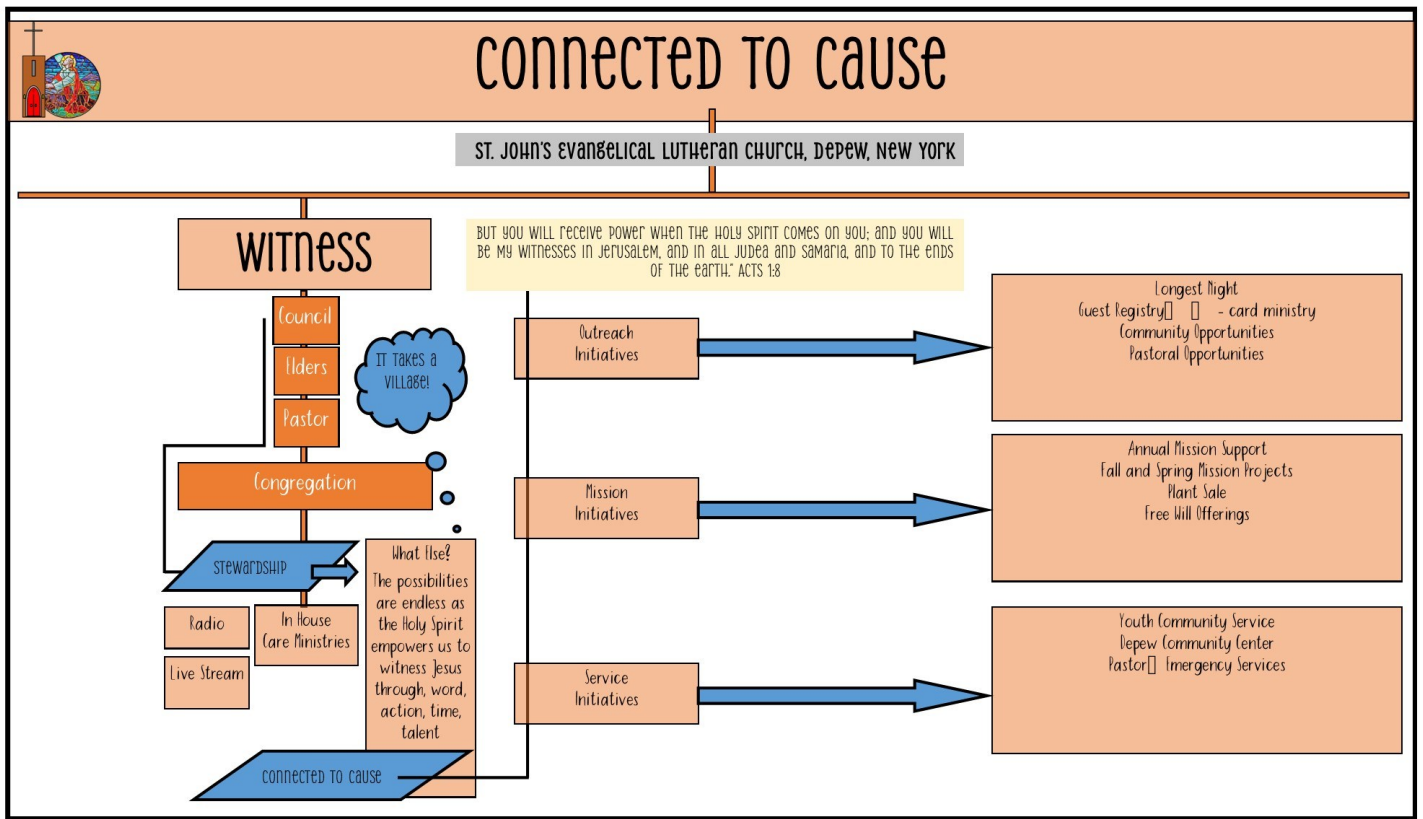
ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, DEPEW, NEW YORK



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ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, DEPEW, NEW YORK





Pastor's Report 2024

My Dear Friends in Christ,

As I thought about this year's annual report, I started my preparation by scanning through reports from previous years and as I did, I came across a beautiful passage I referenced back in 2010 from the Book of Hebrews.

"But Christ is faithful as a son over God's house. And we are his house, if we hold on to our courage and the hope of which we boast." - Hebrews 3:6

2024 has been rich and beyond blessed for us and there is no doubt that it's all because of Christ's faithfulness to us his dear sons and daughters at St. John's! After all he is our never changing Jesus and his presence and love are a constant as we gather, as we minister together, and as we bring his love to those, we love beyond the walls of our faith community.

- * How truly blessed we have been in 2024 as we have been provided with the opportunity to freely worship in the beautiful sanctuary we have been provided with,
- * How rich are lives as Christ continually comes to us over and over through Word and Sacrament ministry!!
- * How blessed we have been to share in numerous opportunities to love and to be God's love for one another!
- * How blessed we have been to model Christ's faithfulness in our faithful dedication to the work we have been called to do through the sharing of our gifts and talents.... All for the betterment of the greater kingdom of God!

Christ has been our faithful guide and shepherd through it all! His faithfulness has led to so many faithful expressions of love through your hands, hearts and voices! Thank you!

And how fortunate we are to have the opportunity to **boast** in our Jesus who has opened doors for us in remarkable ways this past year! Life has been rich

- * As we welcomed a new church musician in Camden Church. How blessed we were by the faithful service of Lois Will and how richly blessed we have been to have Camden who came to us at 18 years old at the start of the year. It has been tremendous to see his growth and to watch his passion as he leads us in songs of faith!
- * As we've expanded on our Christian Education and Fellowship opportunities through Arise and Shine (a Morning fellowship and Bible Study group that meets on the 1st and 3rd of the month), Café (a evening food, fellowship and Bible Study group that meets on the 3rd of the month at 6pm), Sunday Morning coffee and Bible Study (every Sunday morning at 10am). Each month through these groups we had the chance to maneuver through books of the Bible including Genesis, Exodus, Job, Jonah, and Revelation.
- * As we have seen remarkable growth on the 4th Saturday of the Month Chosen Watch Partys! Many thanks to Barb and Joe for coordinating these gatherings!
- * As we complemented our already reverent Divine Service by including 3 pointed questions before the communion liturgy to help us further consider the richness of the life-giving meal we are provided in the Lord's Supper.
- * As we recognized Pastor Blackwell as our Emeritus Pastor and Harold Deutschlander as Elder Emeritus.
- * As we welcomed over 50 new members into our congregation through new member instruction and Transfer from other Lutheran Congregations.
- * As we made a transition from Saturday Evening Worship to Sunday Evening worship to provide opportunity for me to be more present with my family and to hopefully provide further opportunity for members who found it difficult to attend on Saturday evenings or Sunday Morning due to family commitments or weekend travel.

Indeed, Christ has been faithful **"as a Son over God's house."** And of course, without his continued presence and the faith he has given us, none of these blessings would have been possible! Christ Jesus has been our strength and hope this past year and he will continue to be our hope in the years to come. Thanks for the partnership we share! Looking forward to all that is to come as we move into our 130th year of ministry as a congregation!!

With you in Service,

Pastor Cal +

President's Report 2024

Greetings to all,

I want to take a moment to express my gratitude for the opportunity to work alongside our church council as we continue to carry out our church mission and grow our faith community throughout the year. It has been a year filled with blessings, collaboration, and progress. Here is a summary of the highlights from 2024:

Prestigious Titles Bestowed

We were blessed to honor two beloved individuals:

- * Pastor Blackwell was named Emeritus on June 23, 2024.
- * Harold Deutschlander was named (Life) Elder Emeritus on November 15, 2024.

Congregational Dinner

My heartfelt thanks go to Pastor Galen for preparing a delicious Thanksgiving meal and to our youth group for hosting this special event in February that brought 110 of us together..

Summer Picnic

Despite a sunny summer, a weather event led to the cancellation of our summer church picnic at Pioneer on the Lake. A heartfelt thank you to Cheryl Boling and the Youth and Family Ministry committee for their hard work in organizing and planning the event, and for their thoughtful decision to prioritize safety for everyone involved.

Fall Fest & Halloween Party

The Youth and Family Ministries did a fantastic job organizing our fun and successful Fall Fest and Halloween party.

Christmas Services

We ended the year with beautifully decorated services celebrating the birth of Jesus, bringing our church family together in joy and thanksgiving.

Communication Updates

We planned an annual calendar to keep our community informed about ongoing events, ensuring everyone stays updated that is available in weekly bulletins, monthly journals and on demand on the website.

As communication channels continue to evolve, we centralized text communication into one notification group to ensure that all members who sign up for text notifications are kept informed of meetings, changes, and events at the church.

Text reminders and invitations are sent out to both current and new members about ongoing and new faith group meetings within our church.

Community Giving

Our church family made a tremendous impact through various giving initiatives:

- * Solar glasses were collected and donated to St. Lukes.
- * School supplies were donated to Depew Public Schools.
- * 171 lbs of food was donated to Feed More WNY for the holidays.
- * A giving tree provided toys, clothes, and gifts to families in need through the Depew Community Center and children impacted by floods in North Carolina.
- * Monetary donations were collected for relief efforts for victims of Hurricane Helen and Milton.

Saturday Service Change

In November, we transitioned from Saturday night services to Sunday night services, offering a fresh opportunity for worship.

Praise Band Loft Remodel

Over the summer, the Trustees successfully moved forward with remodeling the praise band loft, enhancing our worship space for the 11:30 contemporary service.

Safety Updates

In our ongoing efforts to improve safety:

- * A lockbox for building access was installed.
- * John Hughey conducted a fire drill for our Sunday school program.
- * Security cameras were upgraded.

I am incredibly grateful to the council, elders, and all of our volunteers for their dedication and hard work throughout 2024. Looking ahead, I am excited for all that 2025 will bring to our church community.

Thank you, and may God bless us all in the coming year.

Warmly, Jamie Lynn Bluhm

ELDER'S REPORT 2024

In 2024 St. John's focus was on the Sabbath. We made it our initiative to dedicate ourselves to the Lord.

I am sure all the elders would feel the same when I say, "It has been a privilege to serve our church in 2024." It has been our goal to provide a meaningful and Christ centered worship experience for our congregation and the surrounding community. This year we continued with "The St. John's Style Of Worship". Thanks be to God and the power of the Holy Spirit which gave us the guidance and ability to succeed. Our Radio Ministry has played a significant role in our outreach to spread God's Word. We have been very blessed and express many thanks to all those involved in the Radio ministry this past year. Special thanks to Jim Kless who coordinated our extraordinary commentators, Johnny Sabadasz, Darlene Schwenk, Susan Sabadasz, John Gauthier and Karen Dowdall. We also want to thank Pastor for the continuous efforts that keep improving our broadcast every week. If you haven't seen it lately, you should visit our website and see the fantastic improvements that have been made.

Many thanks are due to our various Deacons; we were able to visit our members again and grow our Deacon program. Great thanks to them who took time to visit those unable to be with us week after week. These dedicated servants are filled with compassion and with humility as they serve their brothers and sister in the name of Jesus.

The Board also wishes to thank Camden Church, RJ Neiman and the Praise Band for their dedication and commitment to providing Christ centered music as we worship our Jesus. We were very blessed to have the Choir & Praise Band providing us with inspiring music. The Saturday service has also been enhanced with the recorded hymns being played on the new organ, special thanks to Camden. Special thanks also to Joe Momot who selflessly stepped in to play the organ for us whenever we needed it. This has been a very exciting time for us as we have been benefitting from the continued advancements with the Choir and the Praise Band. We are truly blessed to have such talented musicians and singers in our midst. Just a side note, we are still in need of all musicians and Choir members for anyone who might be interested.

To Tom Bluhm and all the others who assisted in the collection and distribution of food goods to local pantries and to Betty Cavaleri and the members of the Altar Guild, for their reverent care of our Lord's Altar and the gifts he gives to us in the Sacrament.

The members of our board have worked diligently to achieve our goals. We are so grateful for all of the works those faithful servants have done at St. John's and beyond. As we move forward, we can see God's hand at work helping and guiding us to continue what those have started.

This past year we lost one of our most dedicated Elders Harold Deutschlander shortly after he received Elder Emeritus Status. Dutch has been committed to St. John's his entire life as a servant doing the work of the Lord for the betterment of our church. We are forever blessed by the work he did for our God. Dutch will forever be missed on our board.

In the upcoming year, we will have 2 new members to the board Steve Plewik and John Gauthier. We will also be utilizing alternate Elder's to assist the board this upcoming year, Leslie Maciejewski, and Jackie Kraebel agreed to join us in serving the Lord. We look forward to continued work in worship and the spiritual wellbeing of St. John's, we look forward to the wonderful opportunities of growth that God will provide and we are excited for the opportunities that are ahead of us.

On behalf of the Board of Elders' thank you! We ask for your continued prayers and support as we continue in the Lord's Work here at St. John's and beyond! Thanks be to God.

Respectfully,
Rod Lorenz, Chairman

Betty Cavaleri, Karen Dowdall, John Fragale, Jim Kless, Amy Krupa, Barb Perry, Bob Plewik, John Preston, Ken Schabert, Tom Stutzman and in appreciation of Harold Deutschlander for his exemplary service.

Youth & Family Ministry 2024 Annual Report

St. John's continued support of our Youth & Family Ministry Program's deeply appreciated by everyone! We're truly blessed not only with everyone's ongoing support, but also by our truly amazing, terrific, energetic, and caring young faithful servants as we work, learn, and grow together in our faith!

Besides Youth's ongoing Sunday Holy Grounds, Altar Guild, Praise Band, Choir support, and assisting members with personal home-care in/outdoor needs, our Youth (Y) and Family Ministry's (F) 2024 involvement, assist included:

January & February:

Youth Event Battleground (22 youth+2 chaperones).

Youth assist with Depew Community Center (DCC) Lego sorting along with DHS AOF & LHS Natl Honor Society. (3 attendees).

Y&F Alden Lanes Bowling & Fellowship (52 attended).

Youth assist with Congregation Annual Dinner tix sales, set/clean up prep, & arrange speaker. (20 Y, 4 advisors).

Youth Lock In (17 Y+ 3 advisors).

March & April:

Y&F Easter Egg Hunt & Palm Cross Making Event: delivered palm crosses, crafts, cards, & candy to Greenfields residents, patients, & staff. Arranged for our SJD shut ins to receive too.

Youth assist with Butterfly Hanging (5 Y+4 advisors).

Y&F attend Special Olympics Applebee's Fundraiser w/Timmy Keohane & his magic. (~25+ attendees).

Youth Bison's Keohane's- sponsored baseball game (10 Y+7 chaperones).

May & June:

Youth assist with Butterfly removal.

Youth assist unloading Plant Sale plants (9 Y+3 advisors).

Youth Pioneer-On-The-Lake Work Retreat. (9 Y+3 advisors).

July & August:

Youth DCC cleaning with DHS AOF. (1 attended)

Y&F Donor Reception & Pioneer Fest (1 Y + 2 advisors)

Youth Darien Lake Day (12 Y+3 advisors).

Parent meeting. LCMS 7/25 New Orleans Gathering (16 Y+3 advisors & parents).

POTL - Congregation picnic canceled due to rain.

POTL Fall Work Retreat Planning Mtg. (Cheryl attended)

September & October

9/27-29 Y POTL Work Retreat (7 Y+2 advisors). Hi/Lo Rope, Rock Wall returned!

Y&F Fall Festival, Costume & Bills Pre-Game Picnic. (~80 adults, 12 children, & 21 youth)

November: & December:

LCMS 7/19-23/25 Y New Orleans Gathering Registration \$395/pp deposit submitted. (16 Y+3 chaperones - Dana, Nick & Pastor). Thanks, Mike, for handling!

Y&F assist loading, delivering gifts and food to Maggie's for her D&L Community needing families. (7 participants)

Youth Urban Air (~20 attendees)

Continued 2024-25 Projects:

3/15 Y Grapevine Banquet/Dick Road Meat, Basket & 50/50 Raffles, 6 pm-10 pm.

5/16-18 Y POTL Spring Work Retreat tentatively set.

It's been a blessing to serve and work with everyone over the last 2 years as Youth & Family Ministry Chair! So appreciate all those who helped with our many events and projects! May God bless SJD, Jen Anthony, Dana Besch, our youth, families, and all our future Youth & Family Ministry endeavors! Thank you all! God's Blessings and Peace Always to our St. John's Faith Family,

Cheryl Boling
Youth & Family Ministry Chair
bolingc81@gmail.com/716-704-9324

Dana Besch
Youth Director
danabesch@gmail.com/716-523-3262

Shepherd's Staff Ministry 2024 Annual Report

The mission of Shepherd's Staff is to support and encourage one another in our Christian faith within the church and in the community and to support the overall mission of St. John's. The two main initiatives are hospitality and outreach, which often go hand-in-hand.

Hospitality: From Romans 12:12 "Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality." This initiative, the "social" part, is demonstrated through the various receptions we offer such as funeral lunches, the annual congregational dinner and Veteran's Day reception, beautifying the church with flowers during the different seasons and supporting the many social activities that occur throughout the year in conjunction with other Council Ministries.

Outreach: From Matthew 25:40 "...Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." This initiative, the "serving" part, includes care to families in crisis, the greeting card ministry, gifts for our shut-ins (done in conjunction with our communion deacons), support within our community such as the Christmas Giving Tree, supporting the newly established Depew Community Center, Tri-Community and St. Luke's Food Pantries and Camp Joy. Outreach initiatives change based on community needs and we are always looking for ways to help others.

2024 Highlights:

- Annual Dinner
- Funeral Receptions
- Veteran's Day reception
- provided Thanksgiving and Christmas meals to families in the community
- collected and distributed Christmas gifts to 12 local children in need through Depew Community Center
- collected Christmas gifts for 10 children affected by Hurricane Helene in North Carolina
- began development of a new member mentorship initiative

I am grateful for having the opportunity to serve on the council as Shepherd's Staff Chairperson this past year, and am extremely grateful to Helana Geisen for her guidance and support in this role. I look forward to the good things God will do through this ministry with Rae Carier taking the lead in 2025.

Respectfully,
Becca Hojnacki

TRUSTEES REPORT 2024

It has been a pleasure to serve the St. John's community, and we are respectfully submitting our Annual Report for 2024.

- * Praise Band Loft – Drop Ceiling and addition of two fans
- * Sump pump window in the Boiler Room
- * Boilers checked by Danforth
- * Fire Alert System inspected by Great Lakes Building Systems

Special thanks to Tom & Sue Bluhm for the work that they do around the church, keeping the building and grounds looking beautiful for worship services and special events. Thank you to Billy Rindfuss for his work helping on projects.

Respectfully Submitted,
Larry Rindfuss, Head Trustee; Guy Ramey, Trustee; Gary Hillman, Trustee

Board of Education 2024 Annual Report

Year in Review - Summary of Activities

- * The BLAST classes colored pictures for Valentines Day cards for the Greenfield Residents and made Easter crafts for Greenfields Residents and Shut-Ins.
- * The BLAST 2023/24 Year Closing was held on June 9th and include fruit and yogurt bar for parents, children, and teachers. Average attendance throughout the school year was 20 children per week (about 53% of total 38 regularly attending children).
- * The Youth (grades 6-12+) met regularly throughout the year and had an average class size of 20-30+. Thank you to Dana, Kaylin, Tony, and Nick for keeping this group united and growing on Sunday mornings.
- * Sunday School communications with parents was set up during the summer and used to send messages for BLAST.
- * Incorporated more weeks to build on our Children's Music Program
- * Sunday School BLAST kicked off on September 8th.
- * We conducted a fire evacuation drill for BLAST classes on Nov. 10th. Thank you to John Hughey for guiding us through the proper procedures.
- * BLAST Fall/Winter Mission kicked off in mid-November gathering Christmas gifts for school children in North Carolina.
- * The BLAST Christmas program "Amazing Grace in a Manger" was held December 22th during the 11:15am service.
- * Monthly BLAST newsletters were provided for teachers and families.
- * Attendance certificates were given to BLAST students with perfect or near perfect attendance.
- * Youth grades 6 and up continued to gather on Sunday mornings in the Youth Room.
- * Adult Education classes continued to meet every Sunday in between the morning services.

A special thank you to all the Christian Education teachers and administrators including Pastor Galen, Dawn Smith, Colleen Kilanowski, Jamie Bluhm, Heather Horth, Deann Lorenz, Dana Besch, Kaylin Pauly, Tony Martino, Nick Krupa, Laura Tirone, and Beth Lasky for your time and dedication provided for Christian Education at St. John's.

Thank you to all the parents and grandparents for your continual support!

Respectfully submitted,
Kim Lorenz
Board of Ed Chair

Stewardship 2024 Annual Report

1. Monetary

Cost of expenses was covered by giving in 2024. Thank you all.

2. Time & Talents

Outside of the church ministry has been hampered by medical regulations.
Greenfield is still unwelcoming.
New hope for volunteers may be opening up at other locations.

3. Pastor is working on new, updated Deacon list for volunteers to better service our shut-ins.

4. Thanks to all members of St. John's that serve to make this church the blessing it has been this year.

Thanks to all,
Ed Lorenz, Chairperson

Financial Report 2024

Reconnected, Refreshed, Refocused, Rejoice

John 15:5 I am the vine, you are the branches, if you remain in me & I in you, you will bear much fruit.

Mission & Benevolence Efforts for 2024:

\$ 750 – Lancaster Youth Bureau – Como Park Blvd Apartment Fire

BLAST Spring Mission – Collected Lunar Eclipse glasses for Astronomers Without Borders (AWB).

\$ 2,274 – Plant Sale – Sam & Rachel Vogt – Apartment Fire. Thank you to Lois for coordinating.

\$ 226 – Round up Plant Sale to \$2, 500 from Mission Fund Account

\$ 6,085 – Ride 4 Roswell – Goal of \$ 5,000 – Through grants and matching =\$ 140,000 by Rowsell
Thank You, Grace Stever & Laura Tirone leading.

Collecting School Supplies for Depew Schools and John Sciole Elementary – Lancaster

\$ 500 – St. Paul's Lutheran School – Member designated pass through.

\$ 1,100 – Hurricane Milton (FLA) & Helene (NC) Relief Door Offering, split equally.

Food -Thanksgiving Meal for Depew Family via Maggie. Thanks – Thank you Cheryl & Helana.

FEEDMORE – Food Donations – Thank You Jamie Bluhm for leading.

\$ 100 – Radio Listener – M.A. Zynda - \$ 50 ea. Hurricane Milton & DCC / Maggie

Ornament Tree Presents – “BE THE LIGHT” – For DCCC & Hurricane w/ FIRST TRINITY

Thank you to Becka and Cheryl for leading it.

Statement of Financial Position: Highlights

\$ 16,776 Investment Interest Earned ... Allocated \$ 8,829 Fund Accts, \$ 7,947 Budget Support.

Dedicated Fund Accounts: Highlights

Trustee Improvement Fund

\$ 5,855 – Praise Band Loft remodeled ... Thank You Larry Rindfuss 7 brother Bill for completing.

Memorial Fund

\$ 4,730 – Received In Memory of Saints passed away.

\$ 3,132 – Purchases - Funeral Brunches, Altar Accessories, Pastor Blackwell as Emeritus, Flag.

Outreach Ministries (Non- Budget Mission Pass through)

\$ 8,020 – Received

\$ 8,171 – Gifted in the name of St. John's

Statement of Activities: Summary

	<u>This Year</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
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Budget:	\$ 287,915	
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Giving:	\$ 285,051 ...	\$ 277,206 ... 2.80% Increase
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Expense:	\$ 267,923 ...	\$ 265,904 ... 0.76% Increase
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Net:	\$ 17,128 ...	\$ 11,302
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Radio ... \$197... & Christian Ed ... \$ 590.95 ... Given more than Budget expense, Xfer to Fund Accts.

All that we have is Thine alone, a Trust O' Lord in Thee

Mike Brown, Financial Director

St John Lutheran Church

Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2024

	Year to Date Balance	Year to Date Last Year	Change From Last Year
Assets			
KEY Bank Checking Account			
Current Assets			
1001-00 Key Bank Checking Account	65,107.39	38,973.74	26,133.65
KEY Bank Checking Account Totals:	65,107.39	38,973.74	26,133.65
Investments			
Current Assets			
1002-01 LCEF Steward Acct #1131 - 2.530%	2,809.42	4,104.00	(1,294.58)
1002-02 LCEF Note - 18 Mo. #0454 - 5.00%	10,708.97	10,191.22	517.75
1002-03 LCEF Note - 5 Yr. #4141 - 2.375%	0.00	30,000.00	(30,000.00)
1002-04 LCEF Note - 18 Mo. #2 - #4183 - 5.000%	26,670.42	25,380.96	1,289.46
1002-05 LCEF Note - 1 Yr. #4174 - 4.00%	0.00	30,000.00	(30,000.00)
1002-06 KEY Bank - CD - 7 Mo. - #5481 - 5.000%	0.00	25,309.32	(25,309.32)
1002-07 KEY Bank - CD - 10 Mo. #5473 - 5.000%	0.00	25,309.32	(25,309.32)
1002-08 LCEF Note - 3 Yr. #5655 - 4.250%	34,468.39	33,477.57	990.82
1002-09 LCEF Partner Plus 2 - 4 Yr. #373 - 2.25%	0.00	0.00	0.00
1002-10 LCEF Note - 18 Mo. #7 #7595 - 5.00%	15,143.83	0.00	15,143.83
1002-11 LCEF Partner Plus 4 - 4 Yr. #25 - 2.125%	0.00	0.00	0.00
1002-12 LCEF Note - 3 Yr. #3519 - 4.250%	50,000.00	50,000.00	0.00
1002-13 LCEF Note - 2 Yr. #3520 - 4.250%	25,000.00	25,000.00	0.00
1002-14 LCEF Note - 2 1/2 Yr #5814 - 6.250%	32,198.23	30,267.12	1,931.11
1002-15 LCEF Note - 2 1/2 Yr #5802 - 6.250%	21,465.48	20,178.08	1,287.40
1002-16 KEY Bank - CD - 9 Mo. #5705 - 5.000%	21,089.94	20,083.04	1,006.90
1002-17 KEY Bank - CD - 13 Mo. #5713 - 5.000%	0.00	25,103.80	(25,103.80)
1002-18 LCEF Note - 18 Mo. #3 - 5123 - 5.000%	36,285.96	0.00	36,285.96
1002-19 LCEF Note - 18 Mo. #4 - 9261 - 5.000%	36,089.34	0.00	36,089.34
1002-20 LCEF Note - 18 Mo. #5 - 0835 - 5.000%	25,721.92	0.00	25,721.92
1002-21 LCEF Note - 18 Mo. #6 - 3737 - 5.000%	30,694.34	0.00	30,694.34
1002-22 LCEF Note - 6 Mo. - #4206 - 4.50%	30,000.00	0.00	30,000.00
Current Assets Totals:	398,346.24	354,404.43	43,941.81
Investments Totals:	398,346.24	354,404.43	43,941.81
Petty Cash			
Current Assets			
1080-00 Petty Cash	0.00	0.00	0.00
Petty Cash Totals:	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pre Paid			
Other Assets			
1310-00 Furniture & Equipment	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pre Paid Totals:	0.00	0.00	0.00

Church Building & Land			
Long Term Assets			
1510-00 Church Bldg & Land SBL 10.70-2-16	1,370,800.00	1,370,800.00	0.00
Church Building & Land Totals:	1,370,800.00	1,370,800.00	0.00
67 Litchfield Ave - E Parking Lot			
Long Term Assets			
1520-00 East Parking Lot - SBL 104.70-2-17	6,200.00	6,200.00	0.00
67 Litchfield Ave - E Parking Lot Totals:	6,200.00	6,200.00	0.00
Preston St. - Vacant Lot			
Long Term Assets			
1530-00 Preston St. Property - SBL 104.70-2-19	23,000.00	23,000.00	0.00
Preston St. - Vacant Lot Totals:	23,000.00	23,000.00	0.00
Accumulated Depreciation			
Long Term Assets			
1590-00 Accumulated Depreciation	(1,400,000.00)	(1,400,000.00)	0.00
Accumulated Depreciation Totals:	(1,400,000.00)	(1,400,000.00)	0.00
Total Assets:	463,453.63	393,378.17	70,075.46
Liabilities			
Credit Cards			
Current Liabilities			
2000-00 Credit Card - KEY BANK	1,809.92	2,966.41	(1,156.49)
2000-01 Credit Card - LOWES	0.00	0.00	0.00
Current Liabilities Totals:	1,809.92	2,966.41	(1,156.49)
Credit Cards Totals:	1,809.92	2,966.41	(1,156.49)
Payroll Clearing			
Current Liabilities			
2010-00 Payroll Clearing	0.00	0.00	0.00
Payroll Clearing Totals:	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Liabilities:	1,809.92	2,966.41	(1,156.49)
Net Assets			
General Fund			
Fund Balance			
3000-00 General Fund	194,005.40	182,703.60	11,301.80
General Fund Totals:	194,005.40	182,703.60	11,301.80
Dedicated Accounts			
Without Donor Restrictions	126,468.33	79,201.73	47,266.60
With Donor Restrictions	124,041.79	117,204.63	6,837.16
Dedicated Accounts Totals:	250,510.12	196,406.36	54,103.76
Current Period Changes to Net Assets			
St. John's Luthran Church	17,128.19	11,301.80	5,826.39
Current Period Changes to Net Assets Totals:	17,128.19	11,301.80	5,826.39
Total Net Assets:	461,643.71	390,411.76	71,231.95
Total Liabilities & Net Assets:	463,453.63	393,378.17	70,075.46

St John Lutheran Church

Dedicated Accounts

December 31, 2024

Account Shortcut and Description	Beginning Balance	Month Credits	Month Debits	YTD Credits	YTD Debits	Ending Balance
St. John's Luthran Church						
Fund Accounts						
2902-00 Trustee Tech & Improvement Fund	14,702.36	841.35	0.00	9,024.86	9,766.04	13,961.18
2904-00 Memorial Fund	34,578.34	891.26	33.07	4,730.53	3,132.72	36,176.15
2904-02 Legacy Fund	76,636.92	5,063.41	0.00	47,164.32	0.00	123,801.24
2906-00 Christian Education Fund	6,053.67	670.55	109.19	1,808.24	109.19	7,752.72
2908-00 Youth & Family Fund	15,842.33	2,622.91	500.00	11,040.36	8,520.00	18,362.69
2912-00 Anniversary	8,502.26	89.51	0.00	339.07	0.00	8,841.33
2912-01 Organ Fund	2,564.81	27.00	0.00	102.28	0.00	2,667.09
2913-00 Saint's Walk of Hope Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2916-00 Outreach Ministries - Non Budget	2,901.43	229.00	50.00	8,020.00	8,170.94	2,750.49
2916-01 Cafe	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2916-02 Lenten Designation	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2916-03 Lutheran World Relief	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2916-04 LWML	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2916-05 Mission Dinner Fundraisers	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2916-06 Tri-Community Food Pantry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2916-07 Christian Ed - Mission Projects	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2918-00 Mission 2000 - Above & Beyond	0.00	0.00	229.00	364.00	364.00	0.00
2924-00 LCES Grant	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2929-00 Sabbatical Reserve	9,106.21	152.07	0.00	975.26	0.00	10,081.47
2930-00 Media Ministry - "Grace Blackwell" Fu	25,518.03	461.41	0.00	1,201.25	603.52	26,115.76
Fund Accounts Totals:	196,406.36	11,048.47	921.26	84,770.17	30,666.41	250,510.12
St. John's Luthran Church Totals:	196,406.36	11,048.47	921.26	84,770.17	30,666.41	250,510.12
Total for selected dedicated accounts:	196,406.36	11,048.47	921.26	84,770.17	30,666.41	250,510.12

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By: Mike Brown

Dedicated Accounts

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St John Lutheran Church

Statement of Activities

December 31, 2024

Account Shortcut and Description	YTD Actual	Annual Budget	YTD Last Year	YTD Less YTD Last Year	YTD Actual as % of YTD Last Year
Income					
Income - Budget					
4001-00 #ed Envelopes	258,087.74	261,735.00	253,818.40	4,269.34	101.68
4010-00 No Envelope#	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4012-00 Miscellaneous & Office	1,677.50	3,000.00	2,366.34	(688.84)	70.89
4020-00 Christian Education - Budget	2,613.05	4,000.00	3,645.49	(1,032.44)	71.67
4030-00 Radio Sponsorship WXRL	9,540.00	9,540.00	9,540.00	0.00	100.00
4040-00 Sanctuary Flowers	2,272.50	2,700.00	2,141.00	131.50	106.14
4060-00 Building Use & AA	1,990.00	1,440.00	1,690.00	300.00	117.75
4100-00 Youth & Family - Budget	945.00	2,000.00	0.00	945.00	0.00
4210-00 Interest Income	7,925.17	3,500.00	4,004.91	3,920.26	197.88
Income - Budget Totals:	285,050.96	287,915.00	277,206.14	7,844.82	102.83
Income Totals:	285,050.96	287,915.00	277,206.14	7,844.82	102.83
Expense					
Pastor Salary					
5041-00 Pastor Salary	45,904.00	46,000.00	43,500.00	2,404.00	105.52
5042-00 Pastor SECA	9,877.68	9,891.00	9,537.00	340.68	103.57
5050-00 Pastor Housing Allowance	24,000.00	24,000.00	24,000.00	0.00	100.00
5051-00 Pastor Car Allowance	3,400.00	3,400.00	3,400.00	0.00	100.00
5052-00 Pastor Health Insurance	18,000.00	18,000.00	18,000.00	0.00	100.00
5053-00 Pastor (403b) Pension	5,381.00	5,381.00	5,381.00	0.00	100.00
5054-00 Pastor Disability	1,176.00	1,176.00	1,176.00	0.00	100.00
5060-00 Pastor Continuing Education	0.00	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5061-00 Pastor Expense Account	81.80	500.00	0.00	81.80	0.00
Pastor Salary Totals:	107,820.48	108,848.00	104,994.00	2,826.48	102.69
Other Staff Payroll					
5100-00 Staff Payroll	45,223.00	52,556.00	46,027.50	(804.50)	98.25
5190-00 Employer FICA/Medicare/FMLA	3,459.57	4,021.00	3,521.11	(61.54)	98.25
Other Staff Payroll Totals:	48,682.57	56,577.00	49,548.61	(866.04)	98.25
Church Office Supplies					
5360-00 Church & Office Supplies	8,590.80	11,000.00	10,215.13	(1,624.33)	84.09
5361-00 Postage	999.11	600.00	677.83	321.28	147.39
5363-00 Copier / Tech Supplies & Licensing	15,678.70	14,000.00	12,908.62	2,770.08	121.45
5364-00 Fellowship Food, Dinners	1,978.46	600.00	1,654.07	324.39	119.61
5365-00 Bank Fees	1,768.79	1,800.00	1,742.86	25.93	101.48
Church Office Supplies Totals:	29,015.86	28,000.00	27,198.51	1,817.35	106.68

Board Ministries

5311-00 Substitute Pastors & Music	700.00	1,500.00	600.00	100.00	116.66
5315-00 Sabbatical Reserve - Budget Trnsfr	600.00	600.00	600.00	0.00	100.00
5320-00 Music & Copyrights	0.00	1,700.00	783.89	(783.89)	0.00
5350-00 Sanctuary Flowers	2,508.00	2,700.00	3,167.69	(659.69)	79.17
5371-00 Elders	0.00	500.00	9.89	(9.89)	0.00
5380-00 Shepherds Staff / Outreach	3.00	500.00	282.18	(279.18)	1.06
5385-00 Stewardship	0.00	150.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5400-00 Youth & Family Ministry - Budget	4,900.62	8,000.00	4,194.39	706.23	116.83
5401.01 Youth - Budget to Fund Xfer	3,600.00	3,600.00	3,600.00	0.00	100.00
5410-00 Bd of Ed & Christian Ed - Budget	2,613.05	3,500.00	2,685.40	(72.35)	97.30
Board Ministries Totals:	14,924.67	22,750.00	15,923.44	(998.77)	93.73

Missions - Budget

5421-00 Radio - WXRL Broadcast	9,540.00	9,540.00	9,540.00	0.00	100.00
5430-00 Concerned About Persons (CAP)	0.00	150.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5440-00 Eastern District - Pledge	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00	100.00
5441-00 Eastern District - Assessment	957.00	1,000.00	1,002.00	(45.00)	95.50
5470-00 LCE- Society Dues	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
5480-00 Friends of Pioneer, Inc.	1,000.00	1,000.00	500.00	500.00	200.00
5490-00 Disaster Relief	500.00	500.00	0.00	500.00	0.00
5491-00 Concordia - St. Louis - Budget	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00	100.00
5541-00 Trinity Lutheran School	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	100.00
5542-00 Summit Life Outreach Center	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	100.00
5543-00 Village Depew Comm Action Team	500.00	500.00	500.00	0.00	100.00
5544-00 St. Luke's L.C. - Food Pantry	500.00	500.00	500.00	0.00	100.00
5545-00 St. Paul Lutheran Church - Batavia	1,250.00	1,250.00	1,000.00	250.00	125.00
5546-00 WNY Law Enforcement	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	100.00
Missions - Budget Totals:	23,847.00	24,040.00	22,642.00	1,205.00	105.32

Building & Grounds

5610-00 Gas - NFG	2,984.57	5,000.00	5,040.46	(2,055.89)	59.21
5620-00 Electric - NYSEG	4,135.42	5,000.00	5,227.27	(1,091.85)	79.11
5630-00 Property Taxes & Water	972.37	1,100.00	1,035.86	(63.49)	93.87
5640-00 Phone / Internet - Spectrum	3,001.22	2,700.00	2,591.18	410.04	115.82
5650-00 Insurance - Disability	132.18	400.00	81.54	50.64	162.10
5660-00 Insurance - Workers Compensation	1,328.42	1,600.00	1,333.28	(4.86)	99.63
5670-00 Insurance - Property	9,256.50	9,500.00	8,476.50	780.00	109.20
5710-00 Property Maintenance - Budget	13,421.51	14,000.00	13,411.69	9.82	100.07
5730-00 Trustee - Budget to Fund Xfer	8,400.00	8,400.00	8,400.00	0.00	100.00
Building & Grounds Totals:	43,632.19	47,700.00	45,597.78	(1,965.59)	95.69

Expense Totals:	267,922.77	287,915.00	265,904.34	2,018.43	100.76
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Income - Expense:

17,128.19	0.00	11,301.80	5,826.39	
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Financial Review Letter to the Congregation

Review Date January 26, 2025

Members of St. John's Lutheran Church:

We, as an appointed "Financial review Committee", have reviewed the Financial Reports of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Depew NY Inc.

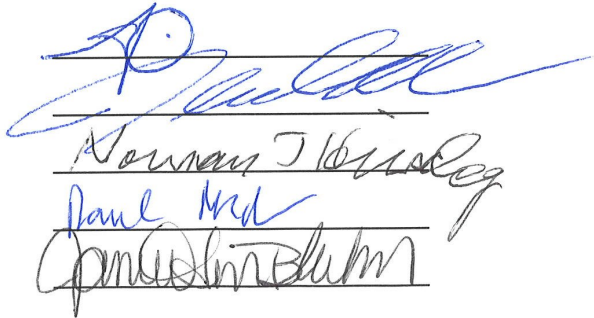
Our financial review covered the period of January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024.

We performed the review at the request of our Congregational President and in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of our church.

As a result of our study, certain recommendations have been made to improve the record keeping of our church and to assist the Financial Director of his or her duties.

We thank God for this opportunity to serve him and pray that our recommendations are received as constructive information to improve and strive towards excellence as God Commands us.

The Financial Review Committee:



Three handwritten signatures in blue ink are shown, each over a horizontal line. The signatures are: 1. A stylized signature starting with a large 'A' and 'D'. 2. A signature that appears to read 'Norman J. Hensley'. 3. A signature that appears to read 'Paul M. Blum'.

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF ST. JOHN'S STAND ready TO HELP YOU IN WHATEVER WAY POSSIBLE:

PRESIDENT OF THE CONGREGATION:

JAMIE BLUHM..... 479-2633

BOARD OF ELDERS:

ROD LORENZ Chair..... 683-6771

BETTY CAVALERI..... 685-4056

KAREN DOWDALL..... 391-1171

JOHN FRAGALE 597-9388

JOHN GAUTHIER..... 310-8119

JIM KLESS..... 644-4440

JACKIE KRAEBEL..... 656-7126

AMY KRUPA..... 681-6068

LESLIE MACIEJEWSKI..... 481-6975

BARB PERRY..... 983-7064

BOB PLEWIK..... 430-0325

STEVE PLEWIK..... 430-6211

JOHN PRESTON..... 681-1294

KEN SCHABERT..... 937-9994

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

LARRY RINDFUSS..... 632-0830

JOE MOMOT..... 998-5462

NORM HIRSCHHEY..... 588-2003

FINANCIAL DIRECTOR: MIKE BROWN..... 901-6219

STEWARDSHIP: ED LORENZ..... 683-0444

SECRETARY OF THE COUNCIL: SUSAN VRIESEN..... 685-4135

SHEPHERD'S STAFF: RAE CARLER 949-5323

BOARD OF EDUCATION: KIM LORENZ..... 863-1787

FAMILY MINISTRY CHAIR: JEN ANTHONY..... 812-3744

CHURCH OFFICE

PASTOR PURPURA..... 683-3947
PASTOR PURPURA E-MAIL..... PASTOR@SJLCDEPEW.COM
MELISSA DIETZ-SCHALL, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT..... 683-3947
CHURCH OFFICE E-MAIL..... SECRETARY@SJLCDEPEW.COM
WEBSITE:..... WWW.SJLCDEPEW.COM
EMERGENCY CALLS: PASTOR PURPURA, CELL..... 474-6418
PASTORAL ASSISTANT, REV. HOWARD WARNER..... 668-5194
CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP LEADER, RJ NIEMAN..... 444-5034
ORGANIST, CAMDEN CHURCH..... 228-4034
CUSTODIAN, TOM BLUHM..... 837-1251
SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT, CHANDRA JAGIELO..... 308-9738

SUNDAY SCHOOL STAFF:

PRE-KINDERGARTEN, DAWN SMITH..... 796-8826
KINDERGARTEN, COLLEEN KILANWOSKI..... 684-4008
GRADES 1 & 2, JAMIE BLUHM..... 479-2633
GRADES 3 & 4, KIM MARTINO..... 684-6256
GRADE 5, DEANN LORENZ..... 683-0444
GRADE 6, DANA BESCH..... 523-3262
GRADES 7 & 8, TONY MARTINO..... 473-4331
ADULT, PASTOR GALEN..... 474-6418

CHOIR DIRECTOR: CAMDEN CHURCH..... 228-4034

SUNDAY SCHOOL MUSIC DIRECTOR: BETH LASKY..... 681-6314

ALTAR GUILD: BETTY CAVALERI..... 685-4056

USHER CHAIR: TOM BLUHM..... 837-1251

PRAYER CHAIN LEADER: JIM KLESS..... 544-4440

RADIO ANNOUNCERS: JIM KLESS, KAREN DOWDALL, SUZANNE SABADASZ, JOHN GAUTHIER

VISITATION DEACONS: BETTY CAVALERI, NORM & VIKKI HIRSCHHEY, PENE RITZ, RAE CARRIER, CAROLINE COFFED, EILEEN KRANZ, KAREN CARWILE, MIKE BROWN, ED LORENZ, JEFF BEST, GEORGE BUSHEY.

THE MISSION OF ST. JOHN'S

The Mission of St. John's is grounded in the presence of Christ in God's Word and in the Sacraments. We are called by the Holy Spirit to spread the Kingdom of God through ministering to all our members and sharing the love of Christ by preaching the true Word of God, providing ongoing Biblical education for spiritual growth, and reaching others with God's love in all we say and do.



THE VISION OF ST. JOHN'S

We have a vision of St. John's where...

We seek innovative ways to carry out our mission while remaining grounded in our core values

All people feel welcomed, valued and loved

Parents will become equipped as faith mentors to their children with the support and encouragement of the whole community

Faith is strengthened and people are spiritually uplifted

We joyfully share the Gospel everyday with people outside the church who don't know Jesus as their Savior.

We strive to model Christ in responding to every situation and circumstance of physical, emotional or spiritual need.

**SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW
TO DIGITALLY ACCESS THE
2024 CONGREGATIONAL
ANNUAL REPORT!**

