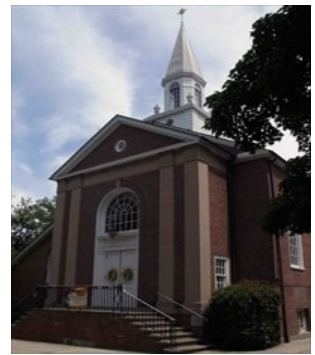




The Parish *Messenger*

JANUARY 2022 NEWSLETTER
THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOR
HADDONFIELD, NJ



In-Person & Zoom Congregation Annual Meeting: January 30th 11:00am; Services as Usual

While the Covid-19 shots and boosters are greatly lessening the risk of contracting the virus or the severity of symptoms for those who do, the risk of contracting the virus is still a concern for many. Given the current increase in cases and positive test rate, the leadership believes it best to omit the brunch portion of the 2022 Annual Meeting. Therefore the schedule for Annual Meeting Sunday will be as follows.

- **8:00 a.m. – In-Person Worship for Vaccinated Only:** Worshippers who have been vaccinated or have confirmed antibodies for the virus may attend with masks being optional.
- **9:15 a.m. – Reflections Worship (In-person & Zoom).** Attending in person wearing a mask or use the link on our website homepage to join the Zoom worship service by your computer, tablet, or smartphone.
- **10:30 a.m. – In-Person/Livestream Worship:** Use the link on our website homepage to join the livestream or attend in person. Masks required for all attending in person.
- **11:30 a.m. – Congregation Annual Meeting In-Person & by Zoom.** We will begin the Annual Meeting in the sanctuary immediately following worship. Those attending in person not in worship can plan to return by 11:30. Those attending by Zoom can use the link on the homepage of Our Savior's website. The meeting has a light agenda and should conclude by 12:30.

What if I don't have the ability to use a computer and feel at risk to attend in person? Can I participate if all I have is a house phone or an old flip cell phone? Yes. The **Meeting ID is 818 6032 9679** and the **Passcode is 343318**, which you will need when dialing into the meeting. Just **dial 1-929-205-6099 on your cell** and punch in the information when prompted. You will be able to hear the meeting and be heard by everyone in the meeting as well. Your image will simply be your phone number.

How will roll call be taken? Council Secretary Ann Querns will have a paper roll sheet for those attending in person to sign. We will be recording the meeting so we will have a record of all who are attending. If you are dialing in by phone instead of using the internet you will be asked your name so we can record your name with your phone number that is on the screen.

Why is it so important for members to make the effort to participate this year, especially when it will be so challenging? In addition to the election of Council and Memorial Gift Board members as well as approving the 2022 Financial Plan for Ministry the big topic for discussion and voting of members will be the approval of Our Savior's Constitution and Bylaw changes so they are in accordance with the ELCA. The revised documents will be sent out in January for members to review prior to the meeting. The overwhelming bulk of the changes were not content based but grammar and nomenclature in substance.

MARK JAN 30 ON YOUR NEW CALENDARS NOW FOR 11:30 IN-PERSON AND ZOOM ANNUAL MEETING.

Boxed Envelopes Available for Pick-Up Until Jan 2

Members of The Lutheran Church of Our Savior are asked to pick up their 2022 offering envelopes in the Narthex by January 2, 2022. If you can drop off envelopes for a friend or nearby neighbor in the congregation please do. Envelopes that are not picked up after January 2 will be mailed out. Please help reduce postage costs by picking up your offering envelopes in the Narthex outside of church. Postage costs to mail the envelopes are over \$5.00 per box.



The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Savior is a faith community that worships Jesus as our Lord, proclaims and shares God's Word, welcomes all people, serves human needs, and nurtures personal and spiritual growth through fellowship all to the glory of God.



“Where Do We Go from Here?”

By Pastor Wayne Zschech

Ever been hiking and come to a fork in the trail? Ever been driving on a trip and come to a “Road Closed” sign? Ever headed down the path toward one particular career or worked in a particular field for some time when suddenly that career or field of study is no longer an option? When we experience those and/or other moments of crisis or change that require a decision to be made we ask a familiar question. Where do we go from here?

I know there are some families that are asking that very question with respect to the leadership of our youth and family ministry following Jaime Frazier’s resignation for personal reasons. Where do we go from here? Do we simply hire someone to pick up where Jaime left off? If so, then why haven’t I and the Personnel Committee hired someone yet? Or maybe the future of faith formation and enrichment for youth and families is not about providing the same programs in the same way this congregation has offered them for the last several decades. The world and culture we live in today is different than that of the world a decade ago let alone in the 1960’s when this congregation worshipped 500 on a Sunday and had well over 150 children in Sunday school. Life is different now. Providing the means for parents to live out the promises they made at their child’s baptism will likely need to be different too. But the question remains the same. Where do we go from here? And after that, and just as important, “What kind of leader will best be able to lead us? Our plan is to hire someone with a background and experience in developing a vibrant Christian faith formation and nurturing ministry that makes disciples. There is an ELCA Youth Ministry Network that is available for posting the position across the nation as well as posting it within the various youth ministry networks of both Lutheran and full communion partner judicatories of New Jersey and surrounding states. We plan to cast a wide net. Simultaneously, we also want to be sure we have the financial resources to support the position from General Fund offerings, which during the pandemic have not been as certain and at the same levels as prior to 2020. As a result, the Council was initially planning to delay the hiring of a new Director until late spring of 2022. However, we are currently following up on an alternative possibility to hire an “interim” Director with extensive experience in youth ministry and faith formation but would only be available for 3-5 years at most.

In the meantime, “Where do we go from here?” Here is the current plan.

Sunday School: Bonnie Richards, who has served for many years previously as the Sunday School superintendent, has agreed to serve again in overseeing the teaching of our Pre-K through 6th grade children in Sunday school. We currently need volunteers to teach our Pre-K and Kindergarten class as our current teacher has had to step back. If we get 3-5 volunteers then each would only be leading class once or twice a month instead of every week.

Faith Stepping Stones: I and Vicar Tom will lead the First Holy Communion classes during the Lenten season this March as well as the blessing services for those baptized in 2021 and those graduating high school this year.

Oasis Senior High Youth Ministry: I will be reworking the Confirmation schedule so that all Play and Serve Events will be joint opportunities for both Junior and Senior High youth to participate for the remainder of the year. Since Oasis met at the same time as Confirmation Learn Events and Huddles I will reschedule the Huddles to be after worship so I can lead an Oasis event that night. This would give youth in Oasis two events every month or more for the remainder of the program year. I will also be taking the lead on registering and accompanying any youth planning to attend the ELCA National Youth Gathering this summer.

Confirmation Ministry: This ministry is unaffected by the absence of a Director as I coordinate and lead all the Learn Events and Huddles and participate in the Play and Serve events as well.

Vacation Bible School: We will be seeking Co-Leaders for this year’s VBS that will be in person and scheduled for the end of July. A theme has not yet been determined.

When it comes to answering the question “Where do we go from here?” with respect to faith formation of our youth and families the answer is not as simple as we might hope. But it will be guided by the Holy Spirit and our commitment to providing a vibrant and meaningful ministry that creates a thriving community bound together by our faith in Christ. I hope you will not only offer your prayers but also your faithful support from the gifts God has first given us, ourselves, our time, and our possessions. In doing so, I am confident that God will bless our ministry with youth and families in the New Year.

Bible Discussion for Daily Living Begins 5-Week Study of “Esther” Jan 10/12

Like some TV comedies, the book of Esther exaggerates familiar human attitudes and behaviors. People can recognize themselves in the story. The humor exposes foolish thoughts, harmful policies, and human weakness. Join us in January and February as we discuss this story in Israel’s history that echoes our story today.

DATE	READ	DISCUSSION FOCUS
Jan 10/12	Chapters 1-2	2:1-18/Esther Made Queen
Jan 17/19	Chapters 3-4	3:1-15/Haman’s Evil Plot
Jan 24/26	Chapters 5-6	5:1-8/Esther’s Request
Jan 31/Feb 2	Chapters 7-8	8:1-17/The King’s Edict
Feb 7/9	Chapters 9-10	9:18-32/Purim Celebrated





Please keep the following people in your prayers:

John Drozdal, Clive Crosby, Yolanda Hales, Doris Rell, Arlene Stolarick, Dick Wilson, Randi Gordon, Shirley Stambaugh, Don &

Caryl Wallace, Ethel Boyce, *Suzanne Ferguson, Rich DeBella, Ralph Volpe, Charles Bakes, Samantha, Jack Kain, Rosemary Dougherty, Peggy Miller, Caren Kaufman, Colin Lawlor, Amelia Marchese, Albert Kern, Stephen Dempsey, Michelle Mavis, John Rell, Kim, Lynn Hoppe Kaminiski, Larry Thatcher, Scott Hansen, Abby Phelps, Bill Getty, Faith Marum DelPercio, Carmela Crawford, Jacob Berard, Keith Maull, Connie Verner, Judy Yerkes, Daniel Mandel, Susan Mazeika, Saunders Family, Ed Miller, Aasiyah Bey, Barbara Kerrane, Sandy Ferguson, Joanne Horn, Terry Mitchell, Ken Koehler, Bette Roncace, Nicholas Juele, Frank Marche, Beckham Williams, Ed Clark, Col. Fred C. Anderson, Fred Moffitt, Lily Gregorio, Julie Bartlett, Jimmy Lombardo, John Daggan, Betty Schurmann, Elva Mastrando, Ryan Roberts, Ann & Len Jones, Chuck Atkinson, Sophia Campos, William T family, David Wenck*

Pantry

Our Pantry Families are still in need. **Please continue your generous monetary donations.** When you have the opportunity please continue to donate groceries to the grocery cart to help re-stock the Pantry.



- Cereal,
- Oatmeal packets
- Mac and Cheese
- Rice packets
- Paper Towels.

Pantry Thank You: "You have become such a big part of my life..a life line with nutritional food. Thank you so much for your generosity" "I know the congregation goes out of its way to donate food and gift cards, how unbelievably grateful we are." "The Holiday food and gift cards are a Blessing. Thank you all and bless you."



Undeck the Sanctuary Jan 2 @ Noon

With the arrival of Epiphany comes the removal of the various Christmas décor from around the church sanctuary. Volunteers from the congregation are invited and encouraged to assist the Worship and Music Committee in undecorating the sanctuary and narthex after worship that day. **Please contact the church office if you and your family plan to assist** in the removal of the christmons, lights, and trees. Lunch will also be provided.



Annual Reports Deadline is Jan 3

If you are a chairperson or staff member in a ministry area, you are to submit your annual report of ministry to the Parish Administrator, Sandy DeDonatis no later than January 3 so the

Annual Report of the Congregation can be completed and mailed by the required January 18 deadline. Please be sure to include highlights of your ministry as this document provides an overview of Our Savior's ministry not only for the benefit of the Annual Meeting but for record keeping purposes as well. Thank you in advance for your attention to content and time constraints.

Thrivent Baptismal Medallions Given on Jan 9

On Sunday, January 9, the Church celebrates the Baptism of our Lord. It is also the day The Lutheran Church of Our Savior celebrates the baptisms of all the children who have been baptized in the previous year. At the 10:30 worship parents and sponsors will renew the promises they made at the child's baptism, The children will receive a blessing by Pastor Wayne as well as a gift of a pewter baptismal medallion. The medallion is able to have the child's name and baptismal date engraved on the back as a permanent reminder of God's gracious act. Parents who will be participating in the service are asked to confirm their attendance by contacting the church office either by phone (429-5122) or email the Parish Administrator, Sandy DeDonatis at (lcssandy@gmail.com).



Newcomer Class & Tour Offered January 9 from Noon-3:00

On Sunday, January 9, from 12:00-3:00 there will be a Newcomer Orientation offered in the Parish Hall for those interested in learning more about the ministry at Our Savior and how you can get involved. Each person/family will receive a Congregation Information Binder that contains:

- A Pictorial Directory
- A Congregational History overview
- A Time & Talent survey to assist in getting you connected to ministry
- A Leadership Contact Page
- Membership Form (for those interested in becoming Voting Members).

Then prepare to learn some new faces and names in the congregation on January 16! New members will be received into the congregation of Our Savior at the worship service they normally attend with a photo taken of each family to help in putting names with faces.

Thank You And A Look Forward

You are reading this article as I am still on a high after our annual Lessons & Carols service. After last year's virtual service, which almost killed both me and my little laptop that was not designed for that much audio and video editing (neither was my brain!), it was an absolute treat to look up and see singers sing their heart out – in person! A big thank you to everyone involved with the service and especially to the adult choir, who worked hard to get back into “vocal shape” after 18 months away from the sanctuary and learned all the beautiful, and yet complex music in just over 6 weeks! As I am looking at 2022, we have several musical things in the works for which I hope you can join me!

On January 16th, we will be hosting ChildrenSong as they hold a Justice Sing, a community sing-along for social and environmental justice, open to anyone. This event is inspired by the Justice Choir movement, created in Minnesota, whose mission is to “engage in the empathetic, collaborative, and collective power of singing together to create change.” Everyone can join in song or just attend. All music is very simple and will be taught on site. The event will be in our sanctuary at 2pm.

On May 15th, we will have a choir concert in the afternoon! More details will be forthcoming.

Our choirs will be enjoying a brief, but well deserved winter break and will return in January. As always, you are always welcome to join the choir – you're not required to be able to read music, just to love it!

Thank you for all your support in this past long and strange year of music making. It means a lot.

Pauline





The other day, a seemingly very ordinary trip to the grocery store turned into one of those surprising moments of insight, where I happened to be at the right place, at the right time, and I heard something that stopped me. I entered the parking lot at about the same time as another person, who seemed to be in a hurry. As they, with brisk pace, zoomed into the store, a shopper was zooming out, and boomed—loud enough for me, with barely a foot out of my car, to hear—“You’re gonna need to have your patience pants on to go in there right now.”

I laughed at first because alliterations are fun, especially ones that have not graced the ear before. Then I stopped. You might have already guessed what I was thinking: “Turn around, you can do it tomorrow”, or, “I’ll come back later”, or, “Ah man, this won’t be fun”, or, “Maybe it’s not that bad

in there”. I surely thought all those thoughts at once.

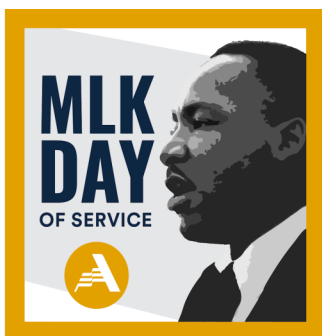
But I knew this was the only time I could shop, so, picking up my patience pants alongside my shopping car, I strolled into the store. With patience, I saw a lot of things I had taken for granted in previous shopping trips. What struck me first of all was that there was a lot of rushing—right out of *Jingle All the Way*. What then struck me was the look on shoppers’ faces: I saw panic, fear, anger, excitement. I understood that between spikes in the new variant of Covid and the frenzy to buy things before Christmas, there was suffering behind the rushing.

Bopping around in my patience pants, I made room for my rushing neighbor and kept a slow pace. Everything seemed to smooth out, even the dispositions of my fellow shoppers, with whom I shared some smiles. As I checked out, somehow in only fifteen minutes, I could see all that the food carried that I was loading into my cart. I could see how far the food had to journey and recognized all the supply-chain issues that the entire world is facing. Gratitude and a sense of wonder welled up in my heart, and at that moment, the cashier handed me my receipt and a “Merry Christmas”.

As I returned the seasonal greeting and walked out, I was amazed at what the proclamation of my grocery store parking lot neighbor had done for me. Hearing them had moved me to act differently, more responsively toward my neighbor. And for us who gather in Jesus’ name, even more amazingly, this is exactly what the Word of God does for us. We exercise our faith in clinging to the Word, clinging to the wisdom of God which embodies every virtue: patience, courage, honesty, kindness, and more. When we hear the Word, we are filled with the light of Christ, and sent out into the world to love and serve our neighbor.

As the season of Epiphany ushers in, would that we might recall the star that the Magi, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar, saw far above, and remember in faith and joy that that light has journeyed to us far below.

May the light of Christ bless you and yours: *Christus mansionem benedicat*. **Vicar Tom**



Martin Luther King, Jr. Worship 7:00 p.m. on Jan 16 at Haddonfield First Baptist Church; Day of Service Begins at 9:00 a.m. on Jan 17 at Our Savior.

The Haddonfield Council of Churches invites area residents to join local clergy in a worship service commemorating the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr on Sunday night at 7:00 at Haddonfield First Baptist Church located on Kings Highway in Haddonfield. In a time when racial conflict and tensions are still heightened in our nation we look to those leaders who have inspired us with a mission and ministry of peace as a means to resolve differences and tension among all peoples.

On Monday, January 17, youth and adults alike are invited to a Day of Service rather than a day off as we remember the work and ministry of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.. Please gather in

the Parish Hall of Our Savior at 9:00 where participants will be provided with different opportunities to spend three hours in service toward those in need. Please contact Pastor Wayne Zschech for more details on either the worship service or day of service activities.



My Father’s House Volunteers are needed to prepare simple meals for the 16 women in MFH’s substance abuse recovery program. Volunteers are asked to make or purchase a meal and take it to My Father’s House at 14 N. King Street in Gloucester City. If you are unable to deliver your meal, we will arrange for a volunteer to deliver it to MFH for you. We’re also looking for volunteers who can drive the meals to Gloucester City when the meal maker isn’t able. Please contact Kathy and Amelia Wright at 856-325-0496 or kathyandgregwright@gmail.com for more information, or visit <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0845a4af2ba31-myfathers> to sign up. Thank you!

Messenger Mailing Helpers:

Thanks to: **Jane Evans, Laura Oakes, Janie Braccio, Millie King, David Foster, Betsy Kuehn, and Deb Hartigan** for helping to assemble the Messenger.

Office Closed Jan 3

The church office will officially be closed for the new year on Jan.3.



January 2022 Regular Events

SUNDAYS	MONDAYS	TUESDAYS	WEDNESDAYS	THURSDAYS	FRIDAYS	SATURDAYS
8:00 & 10:30 AM Sanctuary Worship & 10:30 Facebook Live 9:15 AM Reflection/Zoom & in-person 6:30 PM Confirmation & Oasis	5:30-8:00 PM ChildrenSong - Sanctuary 6:30-8:30 PM Possibility Players - PH 7:30 PM – 9:00 PM Bible Discussion Zoom & in-person	10:30 AM Pastors' Pericope 2:30 PM Staff Meeting	9:30 AM – 11:00 AM Bible Discussion Zoom & in-person 3:00 PM Tai Chi 4:00-4:45 PM Children Choir 4:45-5:15 PM Children Bell Choir	9:00 AM Fix-It Team 7:00 PM Bell Choir 8:00 PM Adult Choir		

January 2022 Special Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 New Year's Day
						Pauline vacation
2 11:45 AM Undeck the Halls	3 Annual Report Deadline No Possibility Players	4 11:30 HGC 7:00 PM Social Ministry Mtg. 7:00 PM Toastmasters	5 Financial Plan Deadline No Children Vocal or Bell Choirs	6 Epiphany 9:30 AM Mission Quilts No Adult Vocal or Bell Choirs	7	8
Pauline Vacation	12-29 to 1-7					
9 Baptism of Our Lord Presentation of Baptismal Medallions 12:00 Newcomer Orientation 1:00-4:00 Girl Scouts 6:30 PM Confirmation Adult Huddle	10 No Possibility Players	11 7:00 PM Church Council 7:00 PM Toastmasters	12 10:00-12:00 Singing Angels-Sanctuary	13 Messenger Deadline 9:30 AM Mission Quilts	14	15
16 New Members Recvd. Gallo Baptism 4:00 Justice Choir 6:00 PM MLK, Jr. Worship No Confirmation/Oasis	17 Martin Luther King, Jr. 9:00 MLK Day of Service No Possibility Players	18 Messenger Mailing Annual Report Mailing 7:00 PM Toastmasters	19	20	21	22
23	24 6:30 Congregation Resources Mtg.	25	26	27	28	29
30 11:30 AM Annual Mtg.	31					
Sandy Vacation	Thru 2-13					

The monthly calendar is subject to change. Please check the weekly calendar posted in the Sunday bulletin.



Memorial Gifts Fund Corner

As we start the New Year (2022), Memorial Gifts would like to recap and focus our attention on the Lou Dunkle Endowment fund. The purpose of this fund is to provide a vehicle whereby persons may present gifts and be assured that these monies will assist in the future work of the church. In the establishment of the Endowment Fund, it is the intention of the congregation to provide a means, over and above provisions made in the general operating budget, of fostering local outreach, furthering denominational and ecumenical causes, and addressing special ministries and other purposes set forth herein. Such as: Capital expenditures, Grants, Scholarships, Mission development and Outreach.

The Endowment Fund helped some of the following areas in 2021:

Interfaith Caregivers, Haddonfield Community Caseworker, Mustard Seed Community Childcare, and ULS Intern: Thomas Natalini- to name some of our support.

Beginning in January, Memorial Gift Board has approved a method of providing the opportunity for a weekly memorial to honor a loved one which will help fund the grow of the Endowment Fund providing the means to continue supporting worthwhile projects that are above our normal operating budget. This memorial gift to the Endowment Fund (recommended contribution \$25) will work similar to how Altar Flowers are given. The individual honored will be printed in the weekly bulletin and recognized by a yellow rose on the altar. We hope you will find this opportunity worthwhile and take advantage of honoring a loved one in 2022 while helping to grow the Endowment Fund for future work of the church. A form for this purpose is below. Any questions or comments, feel free to reach out to any member of the board.

LOU DUNKLE ENDOWMENT FUND MEMORIAL GIFT

Date of Memorial _____ Amount given _____
 Given by _____
 In memory of _____
 In honor of _____
 Relationship of donor to Memorialized One(s) _____
 Make check payable to "LCOS" and mark on the memo line "Endowment Fund"

RETURN FORM TO CHURCH OFFICE



Stewards of God's Love

God's Love Comes Down, God's People Respond

The Stewardship theme at Our Savior for 2021 was "God's Love Comes DOWN, God's People Turn IN."

This theme puts into words our actions when we make the sign of the cross. Bringing our hand from head to heart reminds us that God continually comes down to us in blessings. Keeping our hands at our hearts helps us turn inward to think about how God is calling us to share those blessings.

God blesses us in abundance so that we may share in abundance. Through our pledges for 2022 the people of LCOS responded in November and December to this call to share and have ensured that Our Savior's ministry will continue to provide a strong program locally and continue to reach out to support God's work throughout the world. In this second pandemic year with continuing economic stresses, you responded with pledges that give a strong witness to your faith that God will continue to provide more than enough to share.

Shown below are the number of pledges and the totals pledged for 2020-2022 as of mid-December:

2020	91 pledges	total pledged: \$253,550
2021	84 pledges	total pledged: \$214,206
2022	80 pledges	total pledged: \$239,101

By the beginning of the current year the number of pledges for 2021 had increased from the 84 shown above to 100, and the amount pledged increased to \$246,866. Most likely the 2022 totals also increased in the second half of this past December. Hopefully we reached—or even exceeded—last year's 100 pledges!

It's not too late for you to respond to God's blessings by returning a pledge card for 2022 if you haven't already done so. Pledge cards are at the usher's stations and in the church office. Return them in the offering plate, by mail to the church office, or email to the LCOS Financial Secretary, Shannon Foskett, at sgfoskett@yahoo.com. Shannon will directly record your estimate of giving in our church database.

Thank you for responding to God's love in trust and faith through your pledges.

Thank you for your caring and concern!



HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE 2021

by Betsy Kuehn

Thank you to all who donated holiday food bags or made monetary donations. This year's Holiday Food Drive benefitted the Peace Center at Bridge of Peace Lutheran Church in Camden, a ministry to the poor and homeless in Camden, and the LCOS Pantry families. This year, a total of 45 bags of food were delivered to Bridge of Peace, and 9 food bags to our Pantry families. At last report, a total of \$895.00 in donations were received, which will be divided between the Peace Center at Bridge of Peace and the LCOS Pantry.

This year, Bridge of Peace also requested \$25 Acme gift cards, 38 were received. Thank you to all for your donations.

God Bless LCOS Angels; Advent Giving Tree 2021 Update

"I tell you, whenever you did this for one of the least of these, you did it for me." (Matthew 25:40)

Once again, the people of Our Savior have put their faith into action with their generosity. A huge thank you and well done from the Social Ministry Committee to everyone who took Advent Giving Tree tags in-person at church or thru the online registry, and bought the gifts or donated money to purchase gifts. We started with 221 tags and ended with 165 tags taken and 56 tags left. Also, in addition to the \$1000.00 budgeted for the Giving Tree, \$799.13 was contributed to the Advent Giving Tree fund to purchase gifts for all of the leftover tags. The gifts are given to children, teenagers, young adults, adults and families through the following organizations.

1. **Urban Promise** – provides Christian outreach and education programs for children and youth of Camden.
2. **My Father's House** – a court mandated substance abuse counseling center for male and female teenagers and adults.
3. **Caring Hearts Ministry** – provides support for individuals with HIV/AIDS and their families.
4. **Pantry Families** – families in our area who are regularly provided with groceries from the LCOS pantry.

You can still contribute to the Advent Giving Tree project. There are two ways to contribute.

1. Mail a check made payable to "LCOS" with "ADVENT GIVING TREE" in the memo line to 204 Wayne Avenue, Haddonfield, NJ 08033.
2. Make an online donation through the Simply Giving app on our website <http://oursaviorhaddonfield.org/simply-giving>. Indicate your gift is for the ADVENT GIVING TREE in the Outreach section of the page.

Thank you for participating in God's work of spreading hope, peace, love, and joy this Advent season for those who are less fortunate in our midst.

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOR: NOVEMBER 2021 FINANCIAL REPORT NARRATIVE:

Monthly Revenue and Expense are approximately on Plan producing a monthly deficit of \$7,829. This result was anticipated as we draw down on our PPP Loan. We anticipate our Year End Revenue to be above Plan by \$4,000 and Year End Expenses to be below Plan by \$4,000 generating a Net Income of \$8,000.

(Expect appropriately \$60,000 in envelop offering in December)

REVISED

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

	<u>FINANCIAL PLAN</u>	<u>NOVEMBER 2021</u>	<u>YEAR TO DATE 2021</u>	<u>YEAR END ESTIMATE</u>	<u>2021 EST VARIANCE</u>
REVENUE					
Envelopes	412,300	32,294	351,136	420,000	7,700
<u>Other Income</u>	<u>57,600</u>	<u>710</u>	<u>53,228</u>	<u>53,900</u>	<u>(3,700)</u>
Total Revenue	469,900	33,004	404,364	473,900	4,000
EXPENSE					
Salary & Benefits	310,091	25,712	278,336	308,720	(1,371)
Property	50,000	3,620	43,936	49,180	(820)
Administration	41,800	3,826	38,871	43,050	1,250
<u>Program Ministries</u>	<u>68,009</u>	<u>7,675</u>	<u>54,697</u>	<u>64,950</u>	<u>(3,059)</u>
Total Expense	469,900	40,833	415,840	465,900	(4,000)
INCOME	0	(7,829)	(11,476)	8,000	8,000



EPIC

The EPIC (Experienced Persons in Community) Group looks forward to seeing your smiling faces whenever you can join us; we gather again on Tuesday, Jan. 25 at noon for another enjoyable lunch and afternoon of cards, bingo, Mexican Train, and fellowship. Each month we will meet on the 4th Tuesday. Invite your friends of all ages to join us, the more the merrier!

The schedule for the year is: Jan. 25, Feb. 22, March 22, April 26, May 24, June 28

It would be helpful for me if you would RSVP a week before the scheduled date so that I can purchase enough food and drinks for everyone. Peg Hartmann: 856-745-2459 -

mamahart16@comcast.net

We are asking each person to make a one-time donation for the year, up to June of 2022, which will help defray the costs of the lunches. Members of Our Savior are asked to pay \$25 and non-members \$35. This can be paid by a check made out to "LCOS" and marked EPIC Group and mailed to the above address or by bringing a check or cash (exact amount please) with you when you attend for the first time. We hope the cost will not be a burden to you but if it is please talk to me. We also hope you will continue to contribute to our Pantry which helps several families in need in our area. Our Book Cart will be available for you to peruse and if you have books to contribute, we will welcome them.



Photo posted on Facebook by Pastor Wayne of the quilt delivery group January 13, 2020

On Sunday, November 14, LCOS had the Blessing of the Quilts for 23 mission quilts that were ready to go to Lutheran World Relief to be shipped to disaster sites around the world. You may have heard Pastor Wayne briefly refer to the fact that our previous quilt shipment encountered problems overseas. Here is the rest of the story.

In January 2020 Pastor Wayne and a group of LCOS members delivered 57 quilts to the LWR warehouse in Maryland to be baled and stored until needed. When the Mission Quilters pack the quilts every box gets a distinctive barcode label indicating that the contents were quilts from our congregation. Because of the barcode which Sandy had printed using the LWR website, our quilts were trackable and information was sent to us when extraordinary events occurred to "our" quilts. In July 2020 these quilts were part of an LWR shipment sent in three 40-foot containers to Lebanon. These containers were

awaiting transport to refugees in and around Lebanon when, on August 4, a massive explosion hit the Port of Beirut. It was feared that the containers and contents were damaged beyond use. Miraculously, in late September it was discovered that the three containers of quilts and other items were apparently stored behind a concrete block building that helped spare them from the blast. The contents of the containers had been spared from damage and could be delivered to the designated areas of greatest need, possibly even in Beirut.

Because of COVID I had not checked the Mission Quilts mailbox until Friday before the recent Quilt Blessing so only then, more than a year after the event, did I know our quilts had been impacted by the Beirut explosion. It seems to me that the fruits of our labors are indeed Blessed. **Laurie Eason for Mission Quilters at LCOS**



Sisters in Spirit: Be Social From the Comfort of Home

Sisters In Spirit invite LCOS women and their friends to a virtual social hour on Friday, January 21, 6:30 p.m. Grab a favorite beverage, and join Sisters in Spirit on the Zoom screen for a stress-free get-together. Catch up with others without donning your mask, worrying about the weather or leaving the house. Dress casually, and no one will ever know if you're wearing pajama bottoms and slippers.

RSVP to Nancy Gulick at nvgulick@gmail.com to receive the Zoom link a few days before. Hope to see you there!

Thank You for Your Generosity!

Thank you to all who gave so generously in response to Sisters in Spirit's Christmas ornament project in support of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services. We are pleased to announce that \$500 was raised to help with the LIRS efforts to care for and resettle Afghan refugees newly arrived in the United States.



The Spotlight is on You, Betsy Kuehn!

Before the pandemic hit we cast a spotlight on different members of the congregation. As we move forward we would like to turn on the spotlight again. We are spotlighting Betsy because of all the hard work she has done these past couple of months in coordinating the Holiday Food Drive, The Acme Gift Cards for Bridge of Peace and the Advent Giving Tree. For over 16 years Betsy has been involved with Social Ministry. She also coordinates the sock and deodorant drive for the Caring Hearts Ministry. On the first Sunday of each month you will find Betsy in the Sacristy washing communion glasses after each worship service. Not to mention her being here on the Saturday before setting up communion at the rail. She is also involved with Mission Quilts, the EPIC Group, a Lay Reader, Communion Assistant, Altar Guild, and has been hosting our virtual coffee hour. In addition to the work she

does at Our Savior, Betsy is involved with Interfaith Caregivers and frequently drives clients to their doctor's appointments, hairdressers and food shopping. We are very thankful for everything Betsy contributes to the ministry at Our Savior and the community at large!



where, oh, where is
our library? Do you know it isn't far from the sanctuary and has oodles of books, family DVD's, and jigsaw puzzles. Imagine that. Come find the library and look around! While you are in there pick up a winter jigsaw puzzles or two"

~ The Library Ladies



Congregational Support: January – November 2021

<u>Year</u>	<u>Average YTD Attendance</u>	<u>Total General Fund Offerings</u>
2019	167	\$ 380,280
2020	204*	\$ 360,669
2021	166*	\$ 351,136

* Since March 2021, when church reopened, the in-person attendance at all services is added to the livestream Facebook numbers to get the total number in attendance for any given week. Livestream attendance is calculated using a formula provided by the ELCA: number of one-minute views on livestream multiplied by 2 to get the number of people worshipping by livestream.



Thank You for Being Stewards of God's Love

Thank you to all those who are mailing in their offering envelopes or giving electronically. In these difficult times, Our Savior's faithful givers are sharing their offerings so that others may know God's love. We may be socially distant, but our faith and commitment continue to be at work in the world.

Environmental Happenings



For God's People and God's Planet and God's Animals Watch your waste !!

Eat Those Leftovers !!

After the holidays season you will likely have leftovers from New Year parties, family gatherings a great way to be a steward to the Earth is to consume your food. And as the year goes on to continue to eat your leftovers. Did you know that Americans throw away 25% of the food they buy? Not only is this a waste of money but, it is also harmful to the environment. Producing food takes land, water, and heavy machinery. By eating your leftovers you are not only saving money but, also preventing energy waste from food production. Not to mention, you are keeping them from taking up space in a landfill.

Be The CHANGE God's World Needs !!

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Savior

204 Wayne Ave., Haddonfield, NJ 08033 (856)429-5122 (voice) (856)429-7245(fax) www.oursaviorhaddonfield.org

Worship 9:15 AM Zoom Reflections, & 10:30 AM Facebook Live

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January 2022 Messenger

Time Sensitive Material Enclosed Mailed December 23, 2021

Address Service Requested

Jan 1 Beth Hill
 Jan 2 Jeffrey Martinsen
 Jan 4 Ethel Boyce
 Jan 4 Warren Reintzel
 Jan 5 Chase Atkinson
 Jan 5 Millie King
 Jan 5 Peg Olt
 Jan 5 Kimberly Shaw
 Jan 7 Chase Adams
 Jan 7 Patrick Lynch
 Jan 7 Jill Qualls
 Jan 8 Charlotte Lynch
 Jan 8 Heather Oakes
 Jan 9 Samuel Chaiken
 Jan 9 Michael Wolf
 Jan 10 Betsy Kuehn
 Jan 10 Barbara Standke
 Jan 10 Tracy Stiefel
 Jan 11 Brett Ainsworth
 Jan 11 Patrick Ainsworth
 Jan 12 Edythe Austermuhl



Jan 12 Michael Newton
 Jan 13 Courtney Mills
 Jan 13 Sue Windle
 Jan 15 Dave Wyche
 Jan 16 Ava Cottone
 Jan 16 Nicole Fallon
 Jan 17 Cleo Cottone
 Jan 17 Lila Cottone
 Jan 17 Cindy Jentsch
 Jan 19 Emily Demers

Jan 20 Lukus Hammond
 Jan 21 Nancy Frazier
 Jan 22 Nicole Speyerer
 Jan 24 Easton Nemeth
 Jan 25 Joan Hall
 Jan 25 Michael Turner
 Jan 26 Luke Fabian
 Jan 26 Dave Foster
 Jan 26 Sandy Hoffman
 Jan 26 Donna Mirabello
 Jan 27 Thomas Atkinson
 Jan 27 Judy Caravelli
 Jan 27 Christian Gross
 Jan 27 Kimberly Vasallo
 Jan 28 Bob Dempsey
 Jan 29 Zachary Hugo
 Jan 30 Kali Williams
 Jan 31 Jessica Martinsen
 Jan 31 Julia McKeever
 Jan 31 Kylie McKeever
 Jan 31 Debbie Tredinnick