

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
Annual
Congregational Meeting
for the year 2022
January 29, 2023

*Prince of Peace of La Crescent are people
Rooted in the Word, inspired by the cross,
making God visible
by Welcoming, Sharing and Serving.*

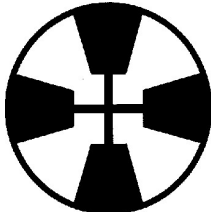
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PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, January 29, 2023

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Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

21 North Hill Street
La Crescent, Minnesota 55947
Phone: (507) 895-4440

2022 CURRENT CHURCH STAFF

Michael J. Woods
Lead Pastor

Anna Sorenson
Associate Interim Pastor

Chris Gustafson
Director of Music Ministry

Michelle Tetzlaff
Office Manager

Kendra Wieser
Director of Faith Formation

Beth Gonia
Youth Director

Patti Dockendorff
Treasurer

Cindee Bottcher
Bookkeeper

Bill Conroy
Custodian

David Riley
Evening Custodian

2022 PELI FAMILY CENTER STAFF

Haley Osborne – **Director**

Lisa Boardman – **4-K Teacher**

Amy Hill & Trinity Norman – **3-K Teachers**

Sherry Massman-Bartelson – **Toddler # 2 Teachers**

Jessica Moser & Mikayla Scheck – **Toddler # 1 Teachers**

Kate Walton, Marianne Hanson, Kari Feldman & Jenny Borkowski – **Infant Room Teachers**

Kenley Pehrson, Halie McGregor, Isabella Gates, Kjersta Hinz, Sarah Lemke – **Float Teachers**

2022 CHURCH COUNCIL

*Scott Pechacek (2022)
President

*Kevin Gittens (2022)
Vice President

Melissa Lambrecht (2024)
Secretary

2022 CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

*Maya Bubbers (Student 2022)
Stephanie Loberg (2023)
Christi Nowland (2023)
Ron Wilke (2024)
Pastor Mike Woods

Tracy Jaquette (2024)
*Eric Morken (2022)
*Emma Stavenau (Student 2022)
Nancy Wright (2023)

Heidi Kerska (2024)
*Brandi Murilla (2022)
Shannon Stremcha (2023)
Pastor Anna Sorenson

*End of council term

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

62nd Annual Congregation Meeting Notes

January 23, 2022

Meeting called to order at 10:03 am by President, Maria Henry

There were 64 people in attendance. 40 attended in person and 24 by Zoom.

Pastor Anna explained hybrid meeting process and how those attending the meeting thru Zoom could ask questions and vote.

A motioned was made, seconded, and approved for the 2021 Annual Congregational Meeting minutes.

Treasurer's Report

Patti Dockendorff presented the annual financial report for Prince of Peace 2021. The full report can be found within the annual meeting report packet. Summary of activities include:

Contributions:

- Contributions for 2021 did not rebound in the last quarter of the year to the levels we had hoped to see. As a result, unrestricted donations were approximately \$32,000 under budget. They are \$42,000 under the prior year and \$80,000 under levels enjoyed in 2019.
- At this time last year, our belief was that the budget for 2021 was very conservative. We did not foresee that the pandemic would drag on as it has, nor did we foresee its longer-term effects on giving.
- It is fortunate that the proceeds from the Paycheck Protection Grant stretched to not only support us for 2020, but also for 2021.

Expenditures:

- Personnel costs in total were under budget by \$11,300 for a variety of reasons, including reduced hours for our Associate Pastor and Bookkeeper, and not filling a budgeted IT position. • Other expenses are up here and down there but overall are under budget by \$1,800. Total operating expenses in 2021 were \$459,604, which is virtually unchanged from 2020 and about \$11,000 less than 2019.

Cash Flow and Debt:

- The cash position at the start of the year was very strong: over \$82,000 in cash. That has been brought down to \$52,400 because of the shortfall in contributions.

• Because the church's expenses are about \$1,146 per day not including the Synod tithe, this means that our existing cash at year end would cover about 45 days of General Fund expenses. • The Peli Family Center Fund transfers to the General Fund have helped to pay down the line of credit. The debt was completely paid off by mid-year! Now that the loan is paid off, the money is helping to offset the shortfall in General Fund giving.

Other Fund Activity:

- Donations continued to come in targeted for debt reduction, and after the line of credit was paid these gifts went toward paying off the Mission Investment Fund loan. It, too, is completely paid off.
- Steve Mau commented wondering if those that were willing to give funds towards a targeted effort would be willing to give to the general fund in 2022.
- The Peli Family Center has been fortunate to experience very limited closures due to Covid exposures, their enrollment has been strong, and the State DHS continues its efforts to support day care and early childhood education through grants. The most recent of these is intended to stabilize childcare services, and requires that a majority of the grant be used to improve pay and/or benefits for childcare staff. Pay has been adjusted accordingly.

Presentation of Ballot for Election

President Maria thanked outgoing council members: Tari LaRue, Lynn Arends, Kristi Knutson, Maria Henry, Amanda Anibas (student) and Evan Pechacek (student).

2022 Election Results:

- **Church Council Members:** Tracy Jaquette, Heidi Kerska, Melissa Lambrecht, Ron Wilke, Maya Bubbers (student) and Emma Stavenau (student)
- **Endowment Committee:** David Peterson. *One position remains open.*
- **Nominating Committee:** Lynn Arends, Kristin Boettcher and Tari La Rue
- **Synod Assembly Delegates:** Bobbie Bringe, Ed Kruse, Peter Petersilie. *One position remains open (new council member?)*
- **Synod Assembly Youth Delegate:** position remains open
- **Bethany Homes Delegate:** Carol Leidel and Sally Miner
- **Sugar Creek Bible Camp Delegate:** Carol Leidel and Cyndy Reichgelt
- **Cemetery Board:** Richard Jore, Don Hill and Gary Larson

Staff Reports

Complete staff reports were included within the annual meeting report packet. Pastor Kent Johnson, Pastor Mike Woods and Pastor Anna Sorenson made individual comments.

Pastor Kent

Kent discussed his upcoming retirement and thanked the congregation for allowing his leave of absence. He also mentioned his upcoming training/focus for peace in Israel.

Pastor Mike

- The congregation is split into thirds (youth, parents and elderly). Prince of Peace does a good job service the first and second thirds of our congregation. How do we coordinate and connect with those in the final third of our congregation? PoP will be hiring a part time person to serve in the visitation ministry.
- Prince of Peace was awarded a Lilly Grant (\$10K over 2 years) that will help us enhance our prayer ministry and help us connect with God.
- Prince of Peace has been selected as a congregation to help settle one of ten Afghan refugee families. This project will go beyond our refugee response team and will require the help of the entire congregation.
- Mike thanked each staff member individually.

Pastor Anna

- Anna outlined how she came to Prince of Peace and how she already worked with Kent, Chris and Kendra with past committee work.
- She went on to thank the staff helping her make the transition into her roll at Prince of Peace.
- A goal for the upcoming year is to how she can pastor a whole community, not just a church. Ideas include:
 - Build community between the two congregations (online/in-person).
 - Hold a live online service during the week.

2022 Budget

Patti Dockendorff presented the Prince of Peace 2022 budget. Dewey Severson motioned to approve the 2022 budget. Lynn Arends seconded. Budget was approved.

Closing Benediction by Pastor Mike Woods

Meeting Adjourned 11:20am.

Meeting Minutes presented by Secretary, Scott Pechacek

Pastor Mike's Report 2022

Years ago, as my family negotiated the trauma of our son's traumatic brain injury a neuro-psychologist used a teaching tool to guide us. It was a basic mantra that airplane pilots learn early on in their training: Aviate, Navigate, Communicate.

Aviate

Coming out of Covid trauma our congregational goal was to remember to aviate – to “fly” the congregation. We experienced overwhelm but we reminded each other that we were not alone – that God is faithful – that Jesus is saving us – and the Holy Spirit is empowering us. It was that basic. We vowed to care for the vulnerable among us, including the immune compromised, the hungry and the refugee. We added monthly communal disciplines to glue us together while we could not gather in-person. Member's financial generosity, Federal and State grants combined to put us in a place of financial strength that we have never known before in our congregation and give us options for our future.

Navigate

We discovered reliable and helpful guides – poetry, art, and music sustained our souls. We leaned into sharing our stories, dabbled with listening prayer, brought journaling into our worship life and now we are letting Sabbath point us to a life that is really life. We're inviting people to make use of Star Words to provide guidance for our congregation and for our individual families. For our loneliness we hired a parish visitor, while apart we expanded faith formation for families to a year-round program and sent it home. Food ministries have been so helpful to the process of coming back together.

This year we will navigate Pastor Mike's retirement. Pastor Anna, who is a gift, is contracted to serve with us another year to provide stability. Our yet unnamed interim pastor will become our head of staff and lead our call committee in preparing for our future.

Communicate

Two-way communication is best. Through social media, mail, web site, emails and texts our staff does our best to keep our members informed. At the same time, through surveys, our members have a wonderful history of letting all our voices matter. We have done many congregation-wide surveys over the past 10 years including: 4 years of Fall ministry Conversations, 3 Congregational Vitality Surveys, 2014 Transition Task Force survey, 2019 Strategic Planning Survey, Covid stories in 2020, and a handful of surveys and informational gatherings on Sundays.

The good news is we re-built our plane as we were flying it. In 2023 we will be experimenting with who we are becoming, and we hope to communicate a message of everyone is welcome on board.

Pastor Mike

Pastor Anna's 2022 Annual Report

Dear Prince of Peace,

I am glad that the Holy Spirit called me to Prince of Peace. I've served here just over a year now and the word that characterizes this time is **welcome**. Congregation, the council and staff have all been very welcoming to both me and my family. I appreciate the on-going invitations to join various small groups; that is such a good way to get to know people a little bit better than a quick handshake following worship.

I am thankful for the partnership in ministry that Pastor Mike has extended to me. The staff, too, shows gracious hospitality and flexibility bringing in a new person and new ways of doing things.

It is my sense that Prince of Peace continues in a liminal time, a time of transition, toward an as-of-yet unknown future. I confess, I had hoped that in my first year we would have more clarity about that the next steps are for this congregation. However, we cannot rush the work of the Spirit. When we are ready, and the world is ready, the Spirit will guide us to more clarity about what, how, and how we shall serve. In the waiting time, we seek to be faithful in worship, in caring for one another, in teaching the faith and meeting the needs of the community. We continue to discern which things that used to happen here are worth restoring and which it is time to gracefully let go. It's not always easy, and sometimes we make choices that disappoint people. At the same time, we make space for the call of the Holy Spirit for today's ministry.

This congregation is gifted at seeing needs and finding ways to meet them. It is good at flexibility (let us not forget how to pivot quickly). In 2022, we exercised muscles of intergenerational connection that hadn't been utilized as much during pandemic, and we were blessed for it.

As we look into 2023, I anticipate us continuing to have thematic series in worship, by season or by month. I look forward to welcoming new council leaders and these good people continuing to lay the groundwork of health functioning leadership and anticipating future ministries. The 2022 council has identified continuing to improve communication as a priority for council and staff, and I continue to work on my own clarity and intentionality around communication.

I am looking forward to the year ahead and uncovering where the Spirit is guiding us next.

In Christ,

Pastor Anna Sorenson

Letter from our Church Council President; Scott Pechacek

To the congregation of the Prince of Peace,

It has been an honor to serve on our church council this past three years. My experience on council has been.....unusual. The pandemic taught us how to properly wear masks, how to utilize Zoom, and how to socially distance. Not quite the recipe for a loving and welcoming parish family. Although not an ideal experience, these past three years has reaffirmed that Prince of Peace has an amazing team of staff and volunteers that truly love this congregation and community. Every decision was made, even if not popular, with the care and well-being of everyone young and seasoned in mind.

Aside from COVID, these past three years did bring Prince of Peace some very impactful accomplishments to our congregation. Some of these included:

- Blessing our congregation with a new part-time associate pastor.
- Teaching us new ways to worship through Facebook and YouTube, allowing us to reach people well beyond the La Crescent area.
- Expanding our community outreach with our annual work camp trip, drive-through picnics, soup suppers, summer picnics, race and privilege discussion groups, and feeding the less fortunate at Houska Park and other area food shelves,
- Staying connected with elderly as well as those hospitalized or ill through our visitation ministry program.
- Continued providing strong daycare options through our Peli Family Center.

Just as everyone is starting to get comfortable with our new post-pandemic normal, 2023 will throw our congregation another curve ball – calling a new lead pastor. Pastor Mike’s guidance has helped this congregation continue to thrive and serve our community for 23 years. His leadership will be missed. Please consider volunteering to be included in the process to call a new lead pastor.

I am proud to be a small part of what Prince of Peace has accomplished over the past three years. I look forward to what is in store for us in 2023. May you and your families be blessed in this new year.

Scott Pechacek

Prince of Peace Council President, 2022

Director of Music Ministry Annual Report 2022

This was a year we collectively *experienced* how important music is to the life of our congregation. Even if we couldn't always name it, we have felt it in our bodies and in our souls. When we missed it and longed to participate, and when we finally got to share and become part of its creation, our worship music became a big deal!

Music is such an important part of experiencing and praising God, connecting to one another, and being reminded of what it means to be human. When music is missing from our worship experiences and our lives, we lose the capacity for seeing panoramic colorful possibilities, and we experience everything in one monochromatic shade of gray. We feel incomplete. We know something is missing and we are unsettled and uncomfortable. Not only do we long to hear music, but we want to become part of the music and let the music help us feel and experience something larger than ourselves, something really special. We want the music to help us feel the presence of God. The beginning of the year made us feel the void and we didn't like that congregational song was absent from our worship experience. While we understood the reason for a cantor to sing our music during worship on behalf of the whole congregation, it made many of us feel left out and lonely. Isolated and afraid. It was so hard to connect and love.

Fortunately, part way through Lent we were able to bring participatory congregational song back to our worship, all of our voices together, and just in time to share Holden Evening Prayer a few times during our Lenten Wednesday Worship. But we had to learn all over again how to breathe together in preparation to join our voices again and how to listen to one another again in order that our song could be united. We had forgotten how to do these things. We had become passive in just listening to a cantor sing our hymns, and when we were invited to include the voices of the congregation again, we were quite rusty. Individually, our voices weren't at their best, due to their lack of use, and we had grown unaccustomed to doing anything together with others. It was an adjustment that took time and intention, but as the weeks and months passed we experienced steady improvement and now our song of the congregation is strong and beautiful once again. We needed support and encouragement but when we turned towards one another, listened to one another, learned to depend on one another, we became a singing congregation again. It feels so good to be a member of our congregational choir and to be a part of making beautiful music together.

Music rises as an expression of our connections. Demonstration of what we can do together emerges when we sing together, but the music that is shared by the Bells of Peace, and the rhythms that emerge in our Drum Circles also remind us that when we lean on one another and depend on one another the collection and combination creates an amazing synergy not possible without the community. We need one another. What we can do together clearly surpasses what any one of us can do alone. Our music ministry is a microcosm of this. As we join with one another, we discover God in our midst, and we can sing praise with "*Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace...*" *Luke 2:14*

Coda - I cannot close this report without expressing my deepest gratitude to the group of cantors who continue to provide the hymn singing for our worship uploads *every single week*. It is not always easy to fit it into their schedules, but they all are so generous with their time and their voices. Each of them is a gift to all of us and I am grateful for their generosity.

Grace and Peace, Chris Gustafson

Faith Connect Annual Report for 2022

In the past year, forming our faith from generation to generation has been filled with many chances to play together as we find our way into God's stories. Whether its Lenten Devotional kits, seasonal scripture booklets with journaling prompts for God's (literate and grown) beloved children, or opportunities to play with faith in special events, Peli Chapel or Faith Connect time; there have been opportunities for all God's children to form our faith together.

Faith Formation Events in 2022- Journey to Jesus (Dec); VeggieTale Night (Dec); creating Advent Wreaths (Nov-Dec); Lord's Prayer & First Communion (Nov); Podcast Conversations (Oct); Fall JAM club (Sept-Oct); Covenant Sunday (Sept); VBS & Sharing Sunday (Aug); Summer Picnics (June-Aug); Festival of Fathers (June); Garden blessing & planting (June); Peli Staff Brunch & Mother's Day Project (May); Egg Hunt & Sugar Creek Breakfast (April); Seeds for Peace (Mar-April); Ash Wednesday Fire Circle (Mar); Cooking with Love (Mar) & Go Fish-Generational Play (Feb).

Ongoing: Peli Chapel, Faith Connect, Baptismal Promises Project, Liturgical Artist tables & bags

2022 Highlights-

When war came to Ukraine, our children planted sunflower seeds for peace. Weeks later we all blessed a new space beyond our walls for flowers to bloom near our West entrance. I loved watching our adults drink coffee with one hand while tossing wildflower seeds with the other and seeing the awe on little ones' faces as they helped move their 2-foot sunflower sprouts into a bigger place to grow. Throughout the summer our West Wildflower patch beautified the play space for our littlest Peli kids to enjoy God's creation and in the fall our JAM club planted bulbs to rest and make hope visible come springtime.

Our growing spaces around PoP foster connection to creation and one another. Peli Chapel 3K-4K kids helped plant God's Glory Gardens and we met each week during the growing season to hear Bible stories, explore the garden's growth and pick fresh produce for their snack time. JAM club harvested the abundance and shared the produce with congregational meals on Wednesdays and the La Crescent food shelf.

It has been a year of Holy Experimentations. In partnership with the Food Ministry team, we offered three summer picnics that brought together our faith community, our Peli families and our surrounding community. As part of our Summer of Stories, we heard stories of Ukrainians fleeing home (and found ways to support them). We heard about Workcampers seeing God, Sugar Creek Campers shared meal prayers and Vacation Bible School (VBS) kids led us in song. I spent a good deal of the summer writing curriculum and coordinating volunteers for VBS. It should be noted that it is increasingly difficult to find teens and adults able to commit the 12-15 hours to volunteering during VBS week. Despite those challenges, we pulled off a very meaningful VBS week with nature hikes, games, worship and devotional times, snacks, imaginative stories, drum circles, artwork and the creation of Fidget Kits for the entire Elementary school. Sharing Sunday was an experience worth repeating as we find ways to make God visible.

Looking ahead to 2023-

Valentine's VeggieTale Night (Feb 3); Sugar Creek Winter Fun (Feb 5); Sugar Creek Breakfast (March 12); Egg Hunt (April 2); Peli Appreciation (TBD); VBS (July 31-Aug 3) & however else the Spirit leads us to explore our faith together!

Three ways you can support Faith Formation this year-

- You're never too old for Faith Connect- forming our faith is for EVERYONE!
- Pay attention to opportunities coming up and invite others
- Participate- can you spare 15 minutes this year to play & explore our faith?

In Faith,
Kendra Wieser
KendraW@PoPLuth.org

Annual Report to the Congregation 2022

Youth Director

2022 has been an exciting year of ministry full of traditional events and new, inviting opportunities to enrich the faith of the youth at Prince of Peace. Here are some highlights of the past year!

Senior Events

In May of 2022, laughs, tears, and memories were shared as we celebrated the graduation of the class of 2022. Baccalaureate was hosted at La Crescent United Methodist for the first time since 2019 and we also held our traditional senior recognition service here.



Peer Ministry Commissioning

In late May, my first class of Peer Ministry was commissioned. Peer Ministry Leadership is a program that has been part of the confirmation programming for the 10th graders for over 15 years. After the confirmation service, students are given the choice to continue with the sessions and eight students completed the course.

Workcamp 2022- Port Huron, Michigan

After a fantastic experience at the modified workcamp in 2021 due to the pandemic, we were excited for the return of “normal” workcamp this summer. Our group included 29 youth and 6 adult leaders and one of the highlights for many was our overnight on the way home. We had the opportunity to spend a few hours at the beach, have a group dinner at Cracker Barrell, and spend time together at our overnight host church in Aurora, IL. That evening, I led one last youth group devotion including a bracelet remembrance activity that I modified from my days at Sugar Creek as a counselor.



As I finished my closing prayer, our seniors began sharing their memories of workcamp and imparting on the younger workcampers to soak up all the experiences. Each graduating senior and college attendee took time to share and by the end, almost all of the group were in tears at the memories we had shared through this experience. Another highlight was the return to being on work crews with youth from other churches and I loved hearing the stories of those experiencing this amazing aspect for the first time due to the pandemic in the previous years. This group shared a special bond and I was excited to plan a new event that allowed us to send off our seniors by sharing a night of pizza, 9 Square, and sardines in the church. I think it's a good sign when the students don't want to go home at the end of the night.

Confirmation

September brought back to school season, which meant prepping for confirmation with our 10th graders and returning to support confirmation classes with our 8th/9th graders. We have tried out a few different formats for our Wednesday nights and it has been enriching to see how the different styles work for different students. I am excited to bring back worship notes for these students in a new format and to see how the program continues to grow and change in the new year. In October, we confirmed an amazing class, and I am blessed to continue sharing times of faith with some of them who have chosen to continue their journey in Peer Ministry.



La Crescent Youth Faith Collaborative (LCYFC)

This school year also brought the start of an official collaboration with the youth directors at La Crescent United Methodist and Crucifixion to host more events for the middle and high school youth of the La Crescent Community. Beginning with Trick or Treat for Food in the fall, we have taken turns planning and hosting monthly events for HS students and bimonthly events for MS students. We are excited to see where this partnership takes us!

Thank you for the opportunity to serve our youth. I am excited to see what 2023 brings for me in this position!

Beth Gonia

Peli Preschool & Family Center Annual Report 2022

Peli Preschool and Family Center wrapped up another amazing year with many things to celebrate. I want to start by thanking the staff at Peli for the wonderful gifts of inspiration they give to the children each and every day.

I also want to thank all of our volunteers who deliver lunch from La Crosse to Peli Preschool and Family Center.

Lastly, a huge thank you to our volunteers, Shannon Weeth, Bob & Cyndy Reichgelt and Dewey Severson that made the playground expansion possible! Shannon Weeth volunteered his time and knowledge as he took on the lead role in laying the tiles. It wouldn't have been possible without your help!

Current Staff at Peli Preschool & Family Center

Haley Osborne –Director

Lisa Boardman – 4k Teacher

Amy Hill & Trinity Norman – 3k Teachers

Sherry Massman-Bartelson – Toddler 2 Teacher

Jessica Moser & Mikayla Scheck – Toddler 1 Teachers

Kate Walton, Marianne Hanson, Kari Feldman &

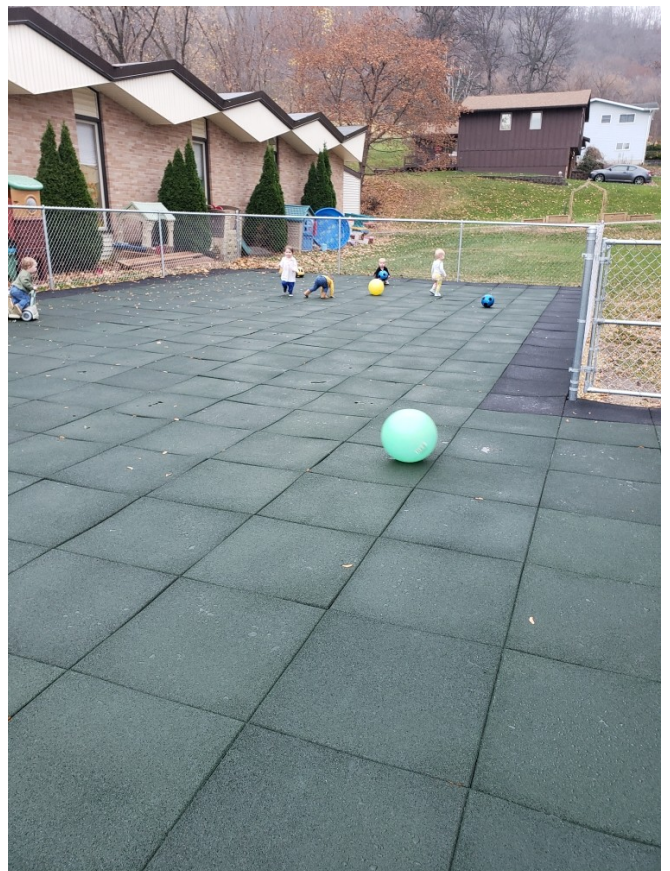
Jennifer Borkowski – Infant Room Teachers

Kjersta Hinz, Halie McGregor, Kenley Pehrson, Sarah

Lemke, Isabella Gates – Float Teachers

Peli had a busy 2022 as we continue to navigate COVID and staffing shortages. We are looking forward to a better 2023, full of exciting changes, opportunities, and continued care for all children. Peli continues to thrive in the middle of this global pandemic with minimal room closures.

Thank You,
Haley Osborne
Peli Family Center Administrative Director



Parish Visitor Report 2022

What a Great First Year!

- 122 Visits Recorded
 - 35 Communion Visits
 - 57 Nursing Home Visits
 - 6 Lunch dates with members
- 70+ meals delivered to homes from Wednesday night meals
- Sent out Birthday cards to members 75+
- Honor to join for the Baptism of Leon Schaper in April 2022
- I've sat with spouse of members who are caregivers
- Many phone calls to members I haven't seen.
- Some members who aren't interested in a visit and some that don't return calls, I will continue to reach out.

Baptism of Lean Schaper, April 2022



Thank You!
Linda Gasper

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Year End Financials 2022 Summary

I think it is fair to say that 2022 was a pretty good year, financially, for Prince of Peace. Last year at this time, we expressed concern that donations in support of the General Fund had not bounced back as quickly as we had hoped. Our expectations for 2022 were conservative. But members responded and giving was up over last year and surpassed our projections!

Expenses, other than utilities, are less than a half a percent higher than the average expenses for 2019-2021. Utilities are a different story. Costs for utilities in 2022 were 35% higher than 2021, and 33.6% higher for the average cost from 2019-2021. Utilities have historically comprised about 5% of our total expense budget. This year: 6.5%. We were able to remain debt-free for the entire year, although our cash position declined.

Peli Preschool and Family Center increased its monthly support of the church facility despite experiencing ongoing staffing challenges and occasional partial Covid-related closures. The toddler playground was expanded, with a new and safer playground surface.

This year, members have been particularly supportive of the Kitchen and Visitation Ministries by participating in fund-raisers (proceeds directed to other charities), and by directing specific gifts for those purposes. The Visitation Ministry Fund already has more than enough to finance this staff position for 2023 and probably 2024 as well.

There are challenges for us going forward. The General Fund, which finances most of the activities of the church, relies on contributions to cover its expenses. The top 5 contributors each year donate, on average, \$14,000 each. Peli Family Center now contributes \$30,000! Is it possible to reduce the amount of support that is needed? Peli has relied heavily on grant funding to get through these past few years, and those grants are not guaranteed to continue into the future. Remaining competitive in the market with respect to tuition and employee pay rates and attracting and retaining staff are important to the financial stability of Peli Family Center.

Inflation, especially in the area of utility costs, has been an issue this year and will continue into 2023. This year we took advantage of free energy audits and made further modest changes to realize some savings. We also made necessary updates to our control panel and boiler gas valves and addressed the ongoing water seepage problem in the youth room. That project is not yet completed, as the walls and flooring must be replaced. Annual contributions to the Building Fund (about \$27,000 a year) provide some money for facility upgrades, but as the facility continues to age, it is likely that major future upgrades will require some sort of long-term financing. The timing and ultimate cost of required upgrades is yet to be determined.

Thank you all for your generous support of Prince of Peace and its ministries.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patti Dockendorff, Treasurer

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

Statement of Financial Position

General Fund

December 31, 2022 and 2021

	12/31/2022	12/31/2021	\$ Change
Assets			
Cash			
Checking	\$ 16,552	\$ 20,258	\$ (3,706)
Savings - General and Earmarked	27,655	32,155	(4,500)
Total Cash	<u>\$ 44,207</u>	<u>\$ 52,413</u>	<u>\$ (8,206)</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 44,207</u>	<u>\$ 52,413</u>	<u>\$ (8,206)</u>
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Payroll taxes & Withholdings	\$ -	\$ 5,492	\$ (5,492)
Line of Credit <i>(\$125,000 available, not used)</i>	-	-	\$ -
Total Current Liabilities	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 5,492</u>	<u>\$ (5,492)</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 5,492</u>	<u>\$ (5,492)</u>
Net Assets			
Unrestricted			
General Fund	\$ 44,207	\$ 46,921	\$ (2,714)
Total Unrestricted Net Assets	<u>\$ 44,207</u>	<u>\$ 46,921</u>	<u>\$ (2,714)</u>
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	<u>\$ 44,207</u>	<u>\$ 52,413</u>	<u>\$ (8,206)</u>

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

Statement of Activities

General Fund

December 31, 2022 and 2021

	Budget	Actual	Prior Yr
Revenue			
Unrestricted Gifts & Offerings	\$ 424,322	\$ 441,869	\$ 417,778
Other Operating Revenue (Net)	-	846	(956)
Total Revenue	\$ 424,322	\$ 442,715	\$ 416,822
Operating Expenses			
Compensation - Salaries and Wages	\$ 255,842	\$ 245,692	\$ 249,000
Compensation - Taxes and Benefits	112,460	102,510	95,145
Contracted Services	22,191	16,362	21,293
Supplies and Other	17,600	24,010	17,965
Tithes and Contributions	43,932	45,644	43,282
Utilities and Insurance	35,544	41,483	32,919
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 487,569	\$ 475,701	\$ 459,604
Other Revenue and (Expenses)			
Interest Income	\$ 400	\$ 501	\$ 412
Miscellaneous Income	-	6	276
Interest Expense	-	-	(101)
Bank Service Charges	(780)	(830)	(775)
Online Giving Expenses	(500)	(450)	(516)
Total Other Revenue (Expenses)	\$ (880)	\$ (773)	\$ (704)
Other Financial Sources (Uses)			
Transfers from Debt Retirement Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,695
Transfers from Peli Family Center Fund	30,000	30,000	24,000
Transfers from Scrip Fund	2,000	2,415	1,768
Transfer from Kitchen Ministry Fund	-	952	-
Transfer to Instrument Maintenance Fund	(400)	(400)	(400)
Transfer to Sabbatical Fund - Lead Pastor	(1,150)	(1,150)	(1,150)
Transfer to Sabbatical Fund - Assoc Pastor	(771)	(771)	(771)
Total Other Financial Sources (Uses)	\$ 29,679	\$ 31,046	\$ 26,142
Net Revenue Over (Under) Expenses and Transfers	\$ (34,448)	\$ (2,713)	\$ (17,344)

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
Peli Family Center, Large Motor Equipment, Restricted Gifts Funds

Statement of Financial Position
December 31, 2022 and 2021

	12/31/2022	12/31/2021	\$ Change
Assets			
Cash			
Checking	\$ 22,881	\$ 38,632	\$ (15,751)
Savings - Donor-Restricted	\$ 880	\$ 950	(70)
Savings - General and Earmarked	85,259	85,259	-
Total Cash	<u>\$ 109,020</u>	<u>\$ 124,841</u>	<u>\$ (15,821)</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 109,020</u>	<u>\$ 124,841</u>	<u>\$ (15,821)</u>
Net Assets			
Restricted			
Peli Restricted Gifts Fund	\$ 880	\$ 950	\$ (70)
Total Restricted	<u>\$ 880</u>	<u>\$ 950</u>	<u>\$ (70)</u>
Unrestricted			
Peli Family Center	\$ 108,140	\$ 123,891	\$ (15,751)
Total Unrestricted	<u>\$ 108,140</u>	<u>\$ 123,891</u>	<u>\$ (15,751)</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>\$ 109,020</u>	<u>\$ 124,841</u>	<u>\$ (15,821)</u>

Statement of Activities
Years Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021

	Budget	Actual	Prior Yr
Revenue from Operations			
Tuition/Fees/Registrations	\$ 462,137	\$ 405,474	\$ 423,145
MN DHS Grant	62,000	70,771	62,359
Total Operating Revenue	<u>\$ 524,137</u>	<u>\$ 476,245</u>	<u>\$ 485,504</u>
Operating Expenses			
Compensation - Salaries and Wages	\$ 396,345	\$ 363,047	\$ 360,088
Compensation - Taxes and Benefits	30,320	27,773	27,547
Contracted Services	1,800	3,697	936
Supplies and Other	30,700	64,077	41,421
Utilities and Insurance	5,000	4,821	4,419
Total Operating Expenses	<u>\$ 464,165</u>	<u>\$ 463,415</u>	<u>\$ 434,411</u>
Other Revenue and (Expenses)			
Donations and Fundraisers	\$ -	\$ 2,851	\$ 2,912
Miscellaneous Income	-	-	550
Other Expense	(1,300)	(1,502)	(2,202)
Total Other Revenue (Expenses)	<u>\$ (1,300)</u>	<u>\$ 1,349</u>	<u>\$ 1,260</u>
Other Financial Sources (Uses)			
Transfer to General Fund	\$ (30,000)	\$ (30,000)	\$ (24,000)
Total Other Financial Sources (Uses)	<u>\$ (30,000)</u>	<u>\$ (30,000)</u>	<u>\$ (24,000)</u>
Net Revenue Over (Under) Expenses and Transfers	<u>\$ 28,672</u>	<u>\$ (15,821)</u>	<u>\$ 28,353</u>

**Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
Cemetery Association and Cemetery Perpetual Care**

**Statement of Financial Position
December 31, 2022 and 2021**

	12/31/2022	12/31/2021	\$ Change
Assets			
Checking and Savings			
Checking	\$ 5,652	\$ 5,446	\$ 206
Savings - Edward Jones	60,409	13,438	46,971
Mission Investment Fund CDs	55,666	98,380	(42,714)
Total Checking and Savings	<u>\$ 121,727</u>	<u>\$ 117,264</u>	<u>\$ 4,463</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 121,727</u>	<u>\$ 117,264</u>	<u>\$ 4,463</u>
Net Assets			
Restricted			
Cemetery Perpetual Care	\$ 100,535	\$ 96,188	\$ 4,347
Unrestricted			
Cemetery Association	\$ 21,192	\$ 21,076	\$ 116
Total Net Assets	<u>\$ 121,727</u>	<u>\$ 117,264</u>	<u>\$ 4,463</u>

**Statement of Activities
Years Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021**

	2022	2021
Revenue		
Donor-Restricted Gifts	\$ 630	\$ 2,450
Cemetery Plot Sales	2,045	3,950
Grave Opening Fees	3,300	5,050
Perpetual Care Fees	2,000	1,875
Sexton Fees	175	350
Other Fees	-	300
Total Revenue	<u>\$ 8,150</u>	<u>\$ 13,975</u>
Expenses		
Purchased Services	\$ 150	\$ 500
Sexton Fees	75	-
Grave Opening Expense	2,738	4,500
Grounds Upkeep	619	1,026
Other Equipment/Repair	116	100
Gas & Oil	581	209
Maintenance & Cleaning Supplies	55	84
Electricity	729	675
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 5,063</u>	<u>\$ 7,094</u>
Other Revenue		
Investment Income	<u>\$ 1,375</u>	<u>\$ 1,730</u>
Other Financial Sources/Uses		
Operating Transfers		
Transfer from Cemetery Association	\$ 1,918	\$ -
Transfer to Perpetual Care	(1,918)	-
Total Operating Transfers	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Net Revenue Over Expenses	<u>\$ 4,463</u>	<u>\$ 8,611</u>

**Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
Endowment Interest and Principal Funds**

Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2022 and 2021

	12/31/2022	12/31/2021	\$ Change
Assets			
Checking and Savings			
Checking	\$ 6,804	\$ 12,232	\$ (5,428)
Mission Investment Fund CDs	74,700	129,165	(54,465)
Total Checking and Savings	<u>\$ 81,504</u>	<u>\$ 141,397</u>	<u>\$ (59,893)</u>
Other Investments			
ELCA Foundation Ministry Growth Fund	\$ 23,525	\$ -	\$ 23,525
US Treasury I-Bond	10,000	-	10,000
US Treasury T-Bills	24,465	-	24,465
Total Other Investments	<u>\$ 57,990</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 57,990</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 139,494</u>	<u>\$ 141,397</u>	<u>\$ (1,903)</u>
Net Assets			
Restricted			
Endowment Principal Fund	\$ 136,400	\$ 136,400	\$ -
Unrestricted			
Endowment Earnings Fund	\$ 3,094	\$ 4,997	\$ (1,903)
Total Net Assets	<u>\$ 139,494</u>	<u>\$ 141,397</u>	<u>\$ (1,903)</u>

Statement of Activities

Years Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021

	2022	2021
Revenue		
Donor-Restricted Gifts	\$ -	\$ 200
Total Revenue	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 200</u>
Expenses		
Baptismal Baskets	\$ 380	\$ 990
Contributions - ELCA Fund for Leaders	-	-
Contributions - Sugar Creek	-	1,000
Contributions - Churches for Middle East Peace	-	1,000
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 380</u>	<u>\$ 2,990</u>
Other Revenue		
Investment Income	\$ (523)	\$ 2,062
Other Financial Sources (Uses)		
Transfer to Kitchen Ministry Fund	\$ (1,000)	\$ -
Net Revenue Over (Under) Expenses and Transfers	<u>\$ (1,903)</u>	<u>\$ (728)</u>

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Building Fund Activity

	2022 Cash Activity
Balances at Start of Year	\$ 17,384
Donations Received	27,833
Interest Income	168
	-
American Waterworks: waterproof Youth Room	(9,038)
PT Electric: various electrical repair and replacement	(5,528)
Deml Controls: replace control system	(10,064)
Deml Controls: replace gas valves for boilers	(2,526)
Deml Controls: replace exhaust fan restrooms	(1,267)
US Bank: Misc charge	(34)
Balances at End of Year	<u>\$ 16,928</u>

Notes:

Average annual contributions to this fund over last 4 years \$ 28,513

Upcoming expense: estimate to complete restoration of the youth room \$ 20,000

Long-term debt was paid off in 2021

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church**Change in Net Assets - All Funds**

January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022

Fund	Starting Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Transfers	Ending Balance
Archive Church Records Fund (R)	\$ 1,692	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,692
AV Equipment Fund (R)	520	-	-	-	520
Bells of Peace Fund (R)	1,786	455	-	-	2,241
Block Party Fund (R)	1,323	-	-	-	1,323
Building Fund (R)	17,384	28,001	28,457	-	16,928
Cemetery Association (U)	21,075	7,096	5,061	(1,918)	21,192
Cemetery Perpetual Care (R)	96,188	2,429	-	1,918	100,535
Chair Replacement Fund (R)	500	-	-	-	500
Endowment Earnings Fund (U)	4,997	(524)	379	(1,000)	3,094
Endowment Principal Fund (R)	136,400	-	-	-	136,400
First Communion Cups (R)	55	-	-	-	55
General Fund (U)	46,921	443,222	476,982	31,046	44,207
Gods Glory Garden (R)	568	-	99	-	469
Instrument Maintenance Fund (U)	1,300	-	-	400	1,700
Kitchen Ministry Fund (U)	4,302	9,808	6,251	(4,866)	2,993
LED Lighting Fund (R)	1,000	-	-	-	1,000
Library Fund (R)	183	-	-	-	183
Lilly Grant Fund	-	10,000	-	-	10,000
Liturgical Arts Fund (R)	1,159	300	-	-	1,459
Making God Visible Fund (U)	960	-	-	-	960
Memorial Book Box Fund (R)	415	-	-	-	415
Music Ministry Fund (R)	679	350	-	-	1,029
Peli Family Center (U)	123,891	476,756	464,917	(27,590)	108,140
Peli Restricted Gifts Fund (R)	950	2,340	-	(2,410)	880
Prayer Shawl Fund (formerly Par Nse Fd)	4,376	75	664	(3,865)	(78)
PT - Beyond Doors Local Fund (R)	-	420	1,222	802	-
PT - ELCA World Hunger Fund (R)	-	4,313	4,313	-	-
PT - LIRS (R)	-	284	1,038	754	-
PT - Local Food Shelf Fund (R)	-	792	792	-	-
PT - Lutheran Disaster Respons (R)	-	5,105	7,320	2,215	-
PT - Lutheran World Relief (R)	-	300	300	-	-
PT - Pastor Emergency Fund (R)	-	7,565	7,565	-	-
Quilters Fund (R)	745	395	721	-	419
Refugee Response Fund (R)	1,001	1,350	9	(216)	2,126
Sabbatical Fund - Assoc Pastor (U)	2,031	-	-	771	2,802
Sabbatical Fund - Lead Pastor (U)	3,835	-	-	1,150	4,985
Scrip Program (U)	13,677	66,041	58,010	(2,415)	19,293
Stewardship Fund (U)	1,179	-	306	-	873
Third Grade Bibles Fund (R)	189	-	150	-	39
Unrestricted Memorials Fund (U)	9,374	2,426	10,268	(600)	932
Visitation Fund (R)	-	9,775	3,489	4,465	10,751
Womens Retreat Fund (R)	108	-	-	-	108
Youth - Sugar Cr Camperships (R)	825	1,306	1,145	-	986
Youth - VBS Fund (R)	-	692	192	-	500
Youth - Workcamp Fund (R)	12,785	24,158	32,551	1,359	5,751
Youth Ministry Fund (R)	17,174	620	3,306	-	14,488
Totals	\$ 531,547	\$ 1,105,850	\$ 1,115,507	\$ -	\$ 521,890

Electronic Giving at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

Many donors enjoy the convenience of using some type of electronic giving instead of using cash or checks. One option for E-giving is to authorize the Church's bank to make automatic weekly or monthly ACH withdrawals from the donor's account. Another method to give electronically is by using the Tithe.ly application on your smartphone. Last year, electronic gifts totaled \$130,593, of which \$107,967 was given via the ACH withdrawal method, and \$22,626 via Tithe.ly. (By comparison, gifts of cash and/or checks totaled \$384,331.)

E-giving with Merchants Bank

Merchants Bank is our regular bank. To do either weekly or monthly withdrawals from your checking or savings account, you contact Michelle in the church office for a form stating how much you choose to have withdrawn, which way (monthly or weekly), your choice for where the money is to go, i.e., regular giving, building fund or other giving. Then you will list your financial institution and your bank account number using a voided check or deposit slip. The information will be put into a special computer program at Merchants Bank and automatically be withdrawn each week or month.

Tithe.ly App Mobile Giving and Online Giving

Mobile: Download the tithe.ly app from Google Play or the app store. Online Giving: visit <https://get.tithe.ly/>
 The Tithe.ly transaction fees are as follows: Credit / debit card transactions: 2.9% + 0.30 per transaction.
Example: \$100 donation --> \$96.80 deposited. Or \$50 donation--> \$48.25 donation. You may choose to pay transaction fees or have it come out of your donation. Minimum \$5 donation is required.

STATISTICAL REPORT FOR PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Membership Record	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Baptized <small>[start of the year]</small>	1280	1079	1080	1092	970	890
Confirmed <small>[start of the year]</small>	984	787	788	813	694	713
Detailed Statistics						
Baptisms	21	20	23	6	16	14
Confirmed this year <small>(10th & 11th graders)</small>	30	18	22	0	28	11
Confirmands now being instructed:						
8th Grade	24	25	12	17	15	14
9th Grade	20	26	18	11	17	13
Weddings	10	16	12	1	7	6
Funerals/Deaths <small>(Members & Non-Members)</small>	11	12	15	11	17	12
Transfers Out (Baptized)	6	5	11	3	10	10
Moved To Non-Participation <small>(Baptized)</small>	12	243	16	136	2	155
Received (Baptized)	41	25	28	9	35	5
Total Number Communed Per Year	9961	10036	9821	n/a	n/a	n/a

Prince of Peace Cemetery Association 2022 Annual Report

The prince of Peace Cemetery Board submits the following report for the 2022 calendar year.

Grounds – With the ground crew of Don Hill, Les Snuggerud, Gary Larson, Steve Chapman, Richard Jore, & David Loberg, the cemetery is kept as one of the best in Tri-State area. A workday in May was held and mulch was place around planters, bushes, and gazebo. No special projects were done, and no major money spent.

Financial – See page 22 of this report. The Perpetual Care Fund balance of \$100,535 is invested partially in Mission Investment Fund (MIF) CD's and partially in an Edward Jones Account. The Cemetery Association Fund balance is \$21,192; with \$5,652 in checking and the rest in the Mission Investment Fund.

Personnel – The following individuals were elected to the Cemetery Board in 2022 for 3-year term; Richard Jore, Don Hill, and Gary Larson. Elected as officers, Joel Affeldt; President, David Ebner; Vice President, David Loberg; Secretary, and Bruce Bauer; Treasurer.

Observances – Memorial Day service in conjunction with the La Crescent American Legion was again observed in the usual way. Was well attended by more than 100. Following the service, refreshments were served by the Cemetery Board.

Other – The Cemetery Board appreciates the assistance of volunteers during the Year and especially on designated workdays. Together, we all agree that care of the cemetery was a work **“WELL DONE”**. The Board also thanks all those who support the Cemetery through gifts, memorials, and bequests. Your help is greatly appreciated. There was a total of 8 interments during the 2022 year. Two gravesites were sold during the 2022 year. A total of 368 gravesites and 7 columbarium niches have been sold. There have been 173 interments.

Respectfully submitted

Prince of Peace Cemetery Association Board

Joel Affeldt-President, David Ebner-Vice President, David Loberg-Secretary, Bruce Bauer-Treasurer, Dewey Severson-Sexton, Tim Ferkingstad, Don Hill, Richard Jore, Gary Larson, Kevin Gittens; Council Representative, Pastor Mike Woods

2023 Nominations for Cemetery Board members are:

Dewey Severson, Joel Affeldt, & David Ebner

Prince of Peace (POP) Scrip Program-2022 Year in Review

The Scrip Program was started in 2011 to help raise funds for the Peli Preschool program. The preschool program has since evolved to the Peli Family Center and is self-supporting. The Scrip Program allows Prince of Peace to buy gift cards from area businesses and the RAISE RIGHT company (formerly Great Lakes Scrip Center) at a discounted price, then sell them at face value.

Local businesses participating in the Scrip Program are Kaddy's Kafe, Sports Hub, Corky's Pizza, Time Out Tavern, Swing Bridge Pub, Quillin's, Festival, Woodmans and Kwik Trip. Gift cards for big box retailers and chain restaurants are ordered from RAISE RIGHT. To see everything available from RAISE RIGHT, check their website at www.raiseright.com or ask for a "purple sheet" from Michelle in the church office that lists many of the retailers. Ordering dates for RAISE RIGHT are published in the Prince of Peace on-line newsletter.

Scrip gift cards can be purchased in two ways:

- 1) In the narthex from volunteer Jim Hermes the first and third Sundays of every month.
- 2) From Michelle in the church office during the week during normal business hours, 8am-3pm.

Thanks to those who regularly buy and use scrip. Scrip gift cards are as easy to use as cash or a credit card, so please consider buying scrip and supporting our local businesses and Prince of Peace at the same time! For any questions about purchasing Scrip, contact Michelle in the church office or myself @ princeofpeacescrip@gmail.com.
Respectfully submitted, Terri Discher, Scrip Program Coordinator

American Red Cross La Crescent Community Blood Drive 2022

Nationally, during 2022 the need for blood remained high and the supply dwindled. Many blood drives were canceled due to local weather or natural disasters. Four American Red Cross La Crescent Community Blood Drives were held at Prince of Peace.

169 units of blood were collected in 2022, thus helping 507 patients.

The tentative schedule for 2023 has been established. The first drive of 2023 is scheduled for February 17.

Thank you:

- To Merchants Bank and Home Federal Bank for distributing flyers at their drive-up windows.
- To the church council and pastors for their continued support of Prince of Peace's sponsorship of the Community Blood Drive. The Office Manager and Custodians who do their best to make the site welcoming and the drive successful.
- To the volunteers who distribute posters, put out yard signs, and staff the registration desk and the refreshment area for each drive. They show hospitality to all who come to the blood drive.
- To the donors who deserve special recognition for giving their time and blood.

Respectfully submitted,
Sylvia Allen,
Blood Program Leader
La Crescent Community Blood Drive

Building & Grounds

To Do List For The Fix-It-Fellows - 2022

- Mowing of Church Lawn-weekly; John Haugan & Dewey Severson
- Peli Toddler - Shade Sail; Up - May, down - Nov. 2022
- Yearly Spring / Fall Maintenance on John Deere Mower; Les Snuggerud
- Repaired: three rocking chairs for Peli Family Center; Gary Larson
- Removed gas oven in The Pit and sent to Recycling Center, Dewey Severson
- Repair Janitor cart - replaced back wheels - Les Snuggerud
- Removed East and South walls from The Pit-Youth Room before American Water Works in 09/15/2022 with help from the Workcamers & Paul Harris.
- Maintenance on Snow Blower; Les Snuggerud

Contracted Updating/Remodeling for Current Year

- Painted 2 rooms for Peli - 3-K & Toddler #1: Jerry Schomer's, May 2022
- New Coffee System for Kitchen; Curtis GEM-120A-63 Brewing system, May 2022
- Replaced faucet in 4-Toddler Bathroom - Bob Mach, June 2022
- Peli Toddler Playground - rubber tile ground cover, Oct. 2022
- Philip Fencing – extended Toddler Playground 26'x30' with swing gates, Oct. 2022

Contracted Repair for Current Year

- Maintenance on Kitchen Refrigerator, Ron Hammes Refrigeration, April 2022
- Maintenance Contract: Deml Controls, Changing of filters & monthly inspections church wide
- Maintenance Contract: Schumacher-Kish Elevator Company, quarterly checkup of elevator & controls
- 4 - New Thermostat placed in: Office, Toddler #2, Infant, Music. WIFI connected, MN Energy. July 2022
- American Water Works; Waterproofing east & south walls in youth room 'The Pit' September 2022

Many thanks to the hard work, hours, and the care our building and grounds members put into Prince of Peace. Truly we are blessed at Prince of Peace to have you all.

Food Ministry Team - 2022
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

The Prince of Peace Food Ministry Team is a small but mighty group of folks who are willing workers and committed to the tasks they choose to participate in.

For our team, 2022 was a year for continuing and developing some of our new ministries, but to also bring back some of the ministries that were on pause because of Covid. In February, another Cooking With Love event allowed busy moms to come together to enjoy conversation and fellowship while preparing meals for themselves to take home to freeze and to also “fill the freezer” with entrée’s to be delivered to our Senior population. With Lenten Soup Suppers still on pause due to Covid, several drive-thru Soup Suppers were held, with each freewill offering going to important causes, both within our walls of PoP and outside of the PoP walls. Donations to those causes amounted to approximately \$3,100.

At the same time we provided a few meals for the Warming Center at Catholic Charities. In the summer, we planned and carried out three picnic suppers, two of which were held at Wieser Park, and one became a “drive thru picnic,” due to inclement weather. All were well attended and the picnics in the park were enjoyable for all. The freewill offering from the picnics went to support Ukrainian Refugees, which was approximately \$2700. We also provided 400+ meals for our neighbors at Houska Park, and shared the same meals with our Seniors, thanks to a collaborative effort between our FM team and Linda Gasper delivering the meals.

We also have a group of people keeping the freezer filled with cookies and soup or small entrees, for Linda to share with her Seniors at her visits. Coffee Fellowship after Worship resumed indoors for the first time since Covid. In September, when Wednesday Worship resumed, we provided a meal every other Wednesday and for two of the Advent Wednesday meals.

PoP staff provided the remaining two meals (one cancelled due to weather). Throughout the year, we have continued to offer a meal to baptismal families in the weeks following the baptism, we also cleaned out & reorganized our storage closet, finding new homes for lefse equipment and an assortment of other items that have been unused for years and unlikely for us to have a need for. We are working on developing sustainable plans for Sunday Morning Coffee Fellowship, Funeral Luncheons, Wednesday Worship Suppers, and Lenten Soup Suppers.

Plans for 2023 are to continue the current work we’re doing, both inside the walls of Prince and Peace and outside of outside of our walls, find meaningful new ministries to experiment with, and find more worker bees and leaders to join this wonderful ministry! If you’re interested let one of us know, by calling, texting, email or talking at church!

Bobbie Bringe
608-738-4205

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Nancy Wright
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Bobbi Haugan
507-429-2716

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Refugee Response Team Annual Report for 2022

POP's Refugee Response Team has continued to carry out our mission which is: "We will make God's love for all people visible by welcoming, sharing and serving needs of migrants and refugees. We will learn about the process of immigration and about the needs of refugees and immigrants, while furthering our understanding and acceptance of diversity among people. We will act by advocating for and providing hope and a helping hand to support refugees, immigrants, and American citizens who are supporting family members who are refugees or immigrants." We work for AWARENESS, ACCOMPANIMENT, and ADVOCACY. We have struggled after the Covid interruption to find a meeting time for our team that gets a larger turn out of people, yet many do stay active virtually. We continue to try to solve this problem.

After team discussion and suggested projects, we created and conducted a congregational survey on two Sundays seeking input to help guide the work of our team. The results of the survey showed interest as follows: Donate \$ to POP's Refugee Fund (12); Pray for Immigrant and Refugees (10); Migrant/Refugee Sunday (10); Hope for the Holidays (9); Winona Refugee Support (8); Pen Pal Program (6); Movie Nights (6); Advocacy (6); Transformed Community Bible Study (5); Mini Missions (3); Border Immersion (3); and Conversation Partners (3). This helps us in decision making.

Here is a list of some of the things we have done in 2022:

- Met with Pastor Libby Howe and Pastor Peder Johanson, from the Wisconsin Council of Churches, who provided information on possible action and advocacy.
- Participated in Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services (LIRS) webinars and daily and weekly immigration updates from the LIRS website.
- Showed support to migrant families in detention with holiday cards and \$538 from the refugee baskets and the Refugee Fund sent to the "Hope for the Holidays" LIRS program to purchase gifts for migrant children detained or in foster care.
- Continued to educate ourselves about refugee needs and ways to help those in our area and beyond and shared that information with the congregation via announcements, bulletin board posts, and requests for support of projects.
- Made contact with leadership of the Winona Sheltering Network and made it known we have willingness to help that group if needs are made known to us. Upon a request, individuals purchased and donated two lawnmowers—one for each of the houses the newcomers are housed in.
- With the outbreak of the war against Ukraine and the growing numbers of refugees and displaced people, we looked for ways to respond. The three summer POP picnics became a means of raising funds to offer up to Kendra Weiser's Ukrainian friends Viki and Oleksandr who fled Ukraine and came to live with a sponsoring family in Trempealeau. We raised \$2,752.81 and following Viki's desires we sent most of that money through the Synod to help other Ukrainian refugees—some to Lutheran Disaster Response and some to LIRS.
- Prayers for refugees are included quite regularly in the church e-updates and can be requested of the POP prayer chain.
- Migrant/Refugee Sunday was held on November 13th, under the leadership of Pastor Anna and Cyndy Reichgelt. The emphasis was on Guatemala with materials from LIRS with Anna and Cyndy's personal experiences enriching the program.
- We continue communication with the Gora family. As they strive for independence while trying to navigate the systems and hurdles that they encounter, our support now has been mostly in the form of advice.

Cyndy Reichgelt and Kathy Rosenberg were elected to the Synod Church in Society Committee. They were instrumental in establishing and now serve on a sub-committee called the Migrant Justice Team. It is our hope that as a larger group of people representing more congregations, we can work together across the Synod to have a broader reach and gain information to guide the team at POP.

We welcome anyone who would like to join our team at POP!
Respectfully submitted by Kathy Rosenberg and Cyndy Reichgelt

2023 Council Nominees

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Annette Gittens

Annette is married to Kevin and has 4 children and 7 grandchildren. She has been a Prince of Peace member since 1990. Annette has served the La Crescent community by opening her home to provide daycare. At Prince of Peace she has been involved as a Sunday school teacher, an usher and a reader.

How does Annette see God at work through PoP? She sees God at work through Prince of Peace in our outreach programs. She appreciates and values the sense of family and peace we have at Prince of Peace, that our church is welcoming to ALL.



Paul Harris

Paul has been a member of Prince of Peace since 1962. He has 3 children; Jamie, Jacob & Kaleb. Paul works in carpentry and is a bus driver (safely transporting our workcampers!) Paul's community involvement includes being a past Applefest member, a football/basketball coach for 7th-9th graders, and he was a past zoning administrator for La Crescent. Paul has served Prince of Peace as a music cantor, being a past choir member, a building & grounds committee member, and our workcamp bus driver & chaperone.

How does Paul see God at work through PoP? He see the way we are a true family church, through our great youth programs and how we are so community involved reaching beyond our doors.



Jim Howe

Jim is married to Monique. They have 3 children; Eric, Melissa, & Brian. Jim has been a Prince of Peace member since 1969. Jim is retired and can be found serving the community in the food pantry, American Legion and he has been a Gundersen Health System volunteer for 15 years. Jim's Prince of Peace involvement includes serving on Church council two terms in the 70's, church council president, Sunday school teacher, Fix-it Fellows, usher, & food shelf. He has been found also in the kitchen helping prepare meals, lefse and apple pies.

How does Jim see God at work through PoP? He sees God at work through Prince of Peace in our helping 'in need' families both locally and globally, and in how our church works with the youth to grow in their faith.

2023 Council Nominees

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Barbara Kruse

Barbara is married to Ed. She has been a Prince of Peace member since 2019. Barbara has shared her gifts and talents with Prince of Peace serving as a worship reader, enjoys the Peace Conversation Monday group, various Bible studies, communion assistance and coffee captain.

How does Barbara see God at work through PoP? She sees God at work through Prince of Peace in the emphasis on Baptism and children, the quality sermons, the food ministry, and the Parish Visitor, to name a few.



Susan Michalke

Susan is married to Richard. She has been a Prince of Peace member since 1978 and raised her family, Melissa, Michael, and Mikayla here. She is now often seen with her grandchildren Logan & Lyndon in the pew. Susan serves LaCrescent community as a manager at Sinclair Pump 4- Less, and was also a past Girl Scout Leader. Susan has shared her gifts and talents with Prince of Peace serving communion, & coffee/cookies.

How does Susan see God at work through PoP? She sees God at work through Prince of Peace in our local & global missions such as the prayer shawls, quilts, mission trips, Bible camps, money jars, and our outreach of feeding the homeless/hungry at Houska Park. She values that ALL are welcome at Prince of Peace.



Mark White

Mark White is married to Debra. They have been Prince of Peace members since 1996 and have raised their family, Maria, Aaron and Anna here. Their family has grown and they can often be seen with Maria's family –Ryan, Kenley and Maya now. Mark is a retired school administrator, principal and teacher. Mark's community involvement includes Applefest, the community food shelf, Red Cross blood drives and the La Crescent school board for 9 years. Mark has been involved in Prince of Peace as a Sunday school teacher, Sugar Creek breakfast pancake flipper, Halloween Food drive helper and often as an usher.

How does Mark see God at work through PoP? He sees God at work through Prince of Peace in so many ways including our emphasis on children and families, our outreach in the community and beyond, and that we are open to ALL people.

Prince of Peace Delegate Information

Serving as a Prince of Peace Delegate means you are to be prepared to knowledgeably and faithfully vote in elections, approve ministry budgets, advocate for the needs and desire of the congregation to the meeting (without being beholden to “vote the way the congregation would”, and likewise advocate for the organization within the congregation. At their best, the delegate should be a means of communication and advocacy in both directions. Our expectation would be that the delegate would report to the congregation through a written report in the annual meeting booklet.

Synod Assembly Delegate

Represent Prince of Peace at the La Crosse Area Synod Assembly, Fri.-Sun., June 9-11, 2023 in La Crosse. There is a pre-assembly caucus (spring) with an expectation that the delegate will become informed on issues before the assembly (materials will be provided in advance). Most of what is voted on at assembly has been through executive committee and comes to the delegates for final vote.

Attendance is expected at all sessions, Friday night, Saturday and Sunday. Being held in La Crosse, delegates can go home each night. Friday night is opening with worship, Saturday is a full day, and Sunday's seem to vary (always a worship +) depending on what is planned.

Nominating Committee

Work in the fall of 2023 to secure quality leadership for our church council and committees.

Sugar Creek Bible Camp Delegate

Represent Prince of Peace at the annual meeting of Sugar Creek Bible Camp in February.

Major Gift Committee Delegate

Review and process all major gift requests.

Eagle Crest Communities (formally known as Bethany Home) Delegate

Represent Prince of Peace at the Eagle Crest Communities Annual Meeting in spring 2023.

2023 Ballot of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

Church Council

3 yr. term, vote for **five (5)**

- Annette Gittens
- Paul Harris
- Jim Howe
- Barbara Kruse

- Susan Michalke
- Mark White
- _____ (write-in)

** the fifth elected member will serve a 2-year term.

Church Council Youth

1 yr. term, vote for two **(2)**

- Addison Murilla

- Kamryn Jorgenson

Endowment Committee

3 yr. term, vote for **two (2)**

Terry Meyer
 Eric Morken

_____ (write-in)

Nominating Committee

1 yr. term, vote for **three (3)**

Kevin Gittens
 _____ (write-in)

_____ (write-in)
 _____ (write-in)

Synod Assembly Delegates

1 yr. term, vote for **four (4)**

Peter Petersilie
 Nancy Wright

_____ (write-in)
 _____ (write-in)

Synod Assembly Youth Delegate

1 yr. term, vote for **one (1)**

_____ (write-in)

_____ (write-in)

POP Major Gift Committee Delegate 1 yr. term, vote for **one (1)**

_____ (write-in)

_____ (write-in)

Eagle Crest Communities (Bethany Homes) Delegate

1 yr. term, vote for **two (2)**

Carol Leidel
 _____ (write-in)

Sally Miner

Sugar Creek Bible Camp Delegate 1 yr. term, vote for **two (2)**

Jodie Gonia
 Carol Leidel

Cyndy Reichgelt
 _____ (write-in)

Cemetery Board

3 yr. term, vote for **three (3)**

Joel Affeldt
 David Ebner

Dewey Severson
 _____ (write-in)

Prince of Peace General Fund Budget 2023 Notes

Contributions Revenue:

Projecting an increase of 1.42% overall. This is supported by the increases reflected on intent for giving cards, as well as the favorable trend that we are seeing for gifts in excess of pledges. This projection is felt to be realistic, however it is not sufficient to cover anticipated expenses.

Expenses:

Projecting an increase of 3.6% overall.

Compensation and Benefits

Staff compensation and benefits increased by 2.45%.

The Visitation staff member's wages and payroll taxes are projected to be funded entirely by the special gifts received to support this position.

The salaries and benefits for the pastor positions are based upon the recent past. However the church is entering into a call process to replace the Lead Pastor. This process has an unknown timeline and outcome. The hope is that the budget in total for these positions will be adequate, but this is not a certainty.

Contracted Services

Increases are expected in the areas of Building Maintenance and Technology. In prior years we relied heavily on volunteer help from members but are now purchasing these services from contractors.

Supplies and Other

Expect Worship Supply category to decrease due to the discontinuation of communion kits.

Tithes and Contributions

Nothing new.

Utilities

Projecting increases in Gas (20%) and Electric (5%).

Other Sources/Uses

Nothing new.

Cash Position

The budget as presented erodes the cash position by \$14,369, bringing the Average Days Expenses to around 24.3. Our goal is 30 days of cash, which would provide a little cushion in the event things do not go as planned. If Contributions Revenue or other fundraising strategies would increase to cover the \$14,000 shortfall, cash balances would be at a more comfortable 35 days of expenses.

Other Considerations Beyond the General Fund Budget

Visitation Ministry: annual expenses estimated to be \$4,000 per year. Restricted donations have paid for the entire cost this year and \$10,000 remains in that fund, which is more than sufficient to cover 2023.

The activities of the Kitchen Ministry are funded for the most part by donations generated during their events.

The Building Fund has a balance of \$17,000 at year end, and collects approximately \$28,000 per year in restricted donations. Future capital expenditures are not included in the General Fund budget.

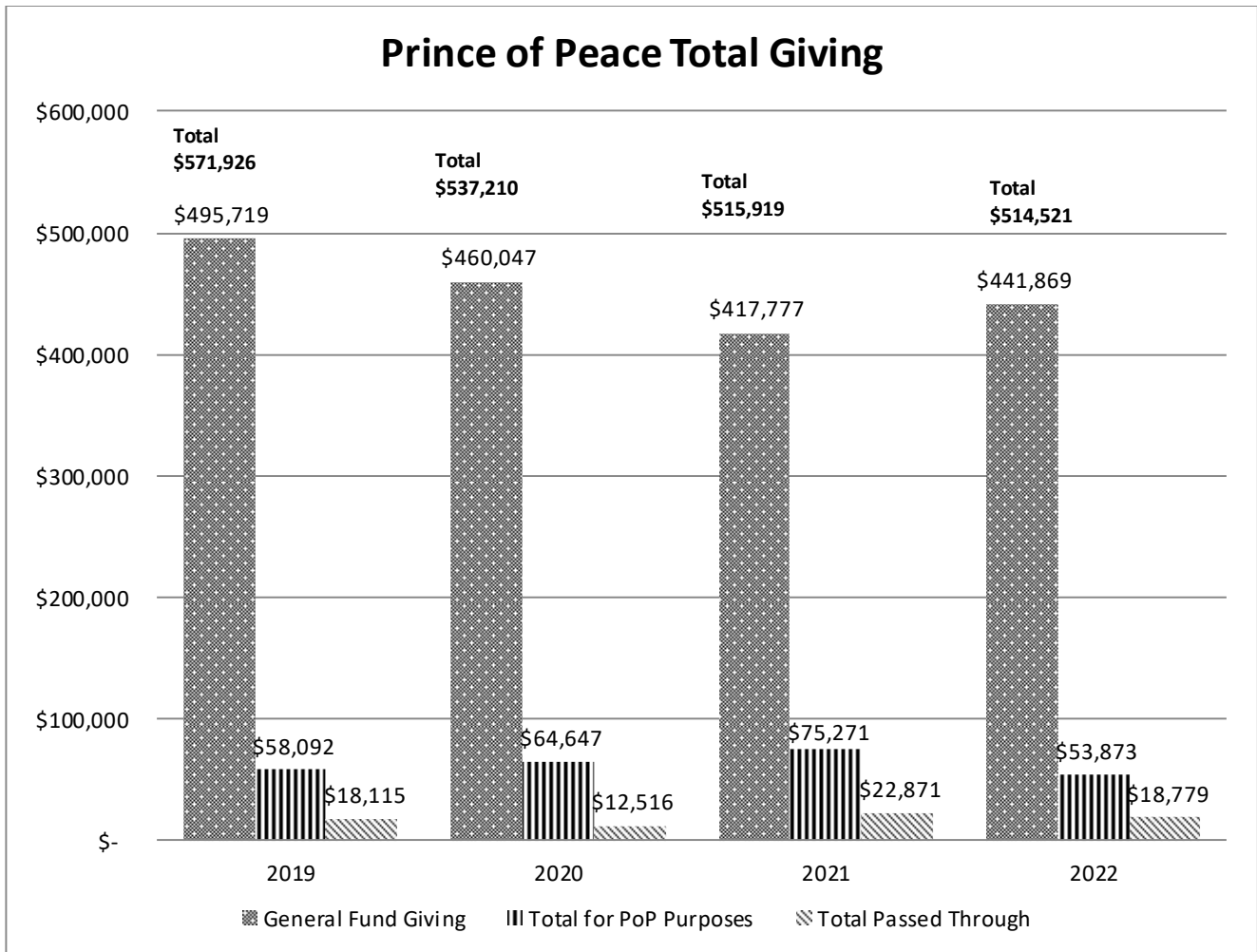
The Peli Preschool and Family Center enjoys a strong cash position due to grant support from the state of Minnesota. However, that grant funding ends in mid-2023. Tuition increases will need to be aggressive for a few years to make up the difference, as staffing difficulties limit the Center's ability to increase enrollment. Their 2023 budget anticipates a decrease of \$10,000 in cash, however days of expenses in cash remains healthy at 76.5.

Submitted by Patti Dockendorff, Treasurer

Prince of Peace La Crescent General Fund Budget

Account	Calendar 2022		Calendar 2023	Change 22-23	History		
	Budget	Actual	Budget		2021	2020	2019
Operating Revenues	\$ 424,322	\$ 442,714	\$ 449,000	1.42%	\$ 416,822	\$ 460,942	\$ 496,388
Operating Expenses							
Compensation - Salaries and Wages	\$ 255,842	\$ 245,692	\$ 252,355		\$ 249,000	\$ 263,125	\$ 249,925
Compensation - Taxes & Benefits	\$ 112,461	\$ 102,510	\$ 104,374		\$ 95,145	\$ 90,065	\$ 92,268
Total Personnel Expense	\$ 368,303	\$ 348,202	\$ 356,729	2.45%	\$ 344,145	\$ 353,190	\$ 342,193
Contracted Services	\$ 22,191	\$ 16,361	\$ 22,300		\$ 21,293	\$ 15,265	\$ 18,750
Supplies and Other	\$ 17,600	\$ 24,011	\$ 22,100		\$ 17,964	\$ 14,071	\$ 22,520
Tithes and Contributions	\$ 43,932	\$ 45,644	\$ 46,400		\$ 43,282	\$ 46,949	\$ 51,141
Utilities and Insurance							
Electricity	\$ 11,435	\$ 13,827	\$ 14,518	5%	\$ 10,890	\$ 9,529	\$ 13,062
Gas	\$ 8,615	\$ 12,209	\$ 14,651	20%	\$ 6,892	\$ 7,510	\$ 9,300
Insurance - Property & Liability	\$ 8,094	\$ 8,260	\$ 8,400	2%	\$ 7,935	\$ 7,521	\$ 12,263
Insurance - Workers Compensation	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,970	\$ 2,000		\$ 1,887	\$ 2,004	\$ -
Telephone	\$ 3,000	\$ 2,752	\$ 3,000		\$ 3,020	\$ 2,757	\$ 3,024
Water and Sewer	\$ 2,400	\$ 2,464	\$ 2,500		\$ 2,295	\$ 1,423	\$ 1,555
Utilities and Insurance	\$ 35,543	\$ 41,482	\$ 45,069		\$ 32,919	\$ 30,744	\$ 39,204
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 487,569	\$ 475,700	\$ 492,598	3.6%	\$ 459,604	\$ 460,218	\$ 473,808
Other Revenues	\$ 400	\$ 507	\$ 350		\$ 688	\$ 62,649	\$ 5,592
Other Expenses	\$ 1,280	\$ 1,280	\$ 1,200		\$ 1,392	\$ 3,550	\$ 5,281
Other Financial Sources-Uses							
Transfer from Debt Retirement Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 2,695	\$ 26,680	\$ 10,000
Transfer from Peli Family Center	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000		\$ 24,000	\$ 24,000	\$ -
Transfer from Kitchen Ministry Fund		\$ 952	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Transfer from Scrip Fundraiser	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,415	\$ 2,400		\$ 1,768	\$ 2,063	\$ 2,465
Transfer to Instrument Maintenance Fund	\$ (400)	\$ (400)	\$ (400)		\$ (400)	\$ (400)	\$ -
Transfer to Sabbatical Fund - Assoc Pastor	\$ (771)	\$ (771)	\$ (771)		\$ (771)	\$ (771)	\$ (771)
Transfer to Sabbatical Fund - Lead Pastor	\$ (1,150)	\$ (1,150)	\$ (1,150)		\$ (1,150)	\$ (1,150)	\$ (1,150)
Total Other Financial Sources-Uses	\$ 29,679	\$ 31,046	\$ 30,079		\$ 26,142	\$ 50,422	\$ 10,544
SUMMARY							
Total Operating Revenues	\$ 424,322	\$ 442,714	\$ 449,000	1.4%	\$ 416,822	\$ 460,942	\$ 496,388
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 487,569	\$ 475,700	\$ 492,598	3.6%	\$ 459,604	\$ 460,218	\$ 473,808
Total Other Revenues	\$ 400	\$ 507	\$ 350		\$ 688	\$ 62,649	\$ 5,592
Total Other Expenses	\$ 1,280	\$ 1,280	\$ 1,200		\$ 1,392	\$ 3,550	\$ 5,281
Total Other Financial Sources-Uses	\$ 29,679	\$ 31,046	\$ 30,079		\$ 26,142	\$ 50,422	\$ 10,544
Net Revenues (Expenses)	\$ (34,448)	\$ (2,713)	\$ (14,369)		\$ (17,344)	\$ 110,245	\$ 33,435
Cash Net of Payroll WH at Start of Period	\$ 46,921	\$ 46,921	\$ 44,208		\$ 76,986	\$ 27,420	\$ 15,998
Payment of Line of Credit	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ (12,721)	\$ (60,680)	\$ (22,013)
Cash at End of Period	\$ 12,473	\$ 44,208	\$ 29,839		\$ 46,921	\$ 76,986	\$ 27,420
Average Days Expenses (not including Synod tithes)	10.2	37.3	24.3		41.4	67.2	23.3
Line of Credit Balance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 12,721	\$ 73,401

Prince of Peace Total Giving



	2019	2020	2021	2022
Gifts for Prince of Peace Special Purpose				
Building Fund	\$ 25,542	\$ 26,280	\$ 34,469	\$ 27,833
Music Related (BoP, Music Min, Instr Repair)	\$ 590	\$ 610	\$ 825	\$ 805
Debt Reduction	\$ 14,135	\$ 26,680	\$ 17,965	\$ -
Refugee Response	\$ 6,904	\$ 1,886	\$ 760	\$ 1,350
Parish Nurse	\$ 120	\$ 190	\$ 4,505	\$ 9,775
Peli Preschool and Family Center	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,851
Various Youth (Camperships, WorkCamp, VBS)*	\$ 6,357	\$ 5,498	\$ 1,396	\$ 7,192
Undesignated Memorials	\$ 3,278	\$ 2,235	\$ 9,646	\$ 2,426
Cemetery Association	\$ 220	\$ 220	\$ 2,450	\$ 630
Endowment Principal	\$ -	\$ 35	\$ 200	\$ -
Other Various	\$ 946	\$ 1,013	\$ 3,055	\$ 1,011
Total for PoP Purposes	\$ 58,092	\$ 64,647	\$ 75,271	\$ 53,873

*Does not include fundraisers such as Stock Sales, Breakfasts, Sub Sales, etc.

Gifts Passed Through to Other Charities				
ELCA/Lutheran Causes	\$ 5,338	\$ 6,008	\$ 13,531	\$ 10,002
Local Food Shelf/Other Local Charities	\$ 6,025	\$ 5,153	\$ 5,610	\$ 1,212
Pastor's Emergency Fund	\$ 6,752	\$ 1,355	\$ 3,730	\$ 7,565
Total Passed Through	\$ 18,115	\$ 12,516	\$ 22,871	\$ 18,779

Notes:

