



CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH

402-733-3294

ctklc-bellevue.org

7308 South 42nd Street, Bellevue, NE 68147

ALL ARE WELCOME

Annual Meeting of the Congregation Sunday January 22, 2023

Call to Order

Prayer

Distribution of Materials

Approval of the Minutes of the 2022 Annual Meeting of the Congregation (p2)

Action on the Proposed Agenda (p1)

Ministry Reports

President (p3)

Pastor (p3-4)

Vice President (p4)

Worship and Music (p5)

Mission & Service (p5)

Christian Education (p6)

Property (p6)

Finance (p6)

Treasurer (p7)

Consideration of the Mission Plan (p7)

Reports of Boards and Organizations of the Congregation

Women of the ELCA (p8)

Mission Endowment Fund Board (p9)

Unfinished Business

New Business

Elections

Nominating Committee (p10)

Presentation of the Ballot (p10)

Floor Nominations

Voting

Adjournment

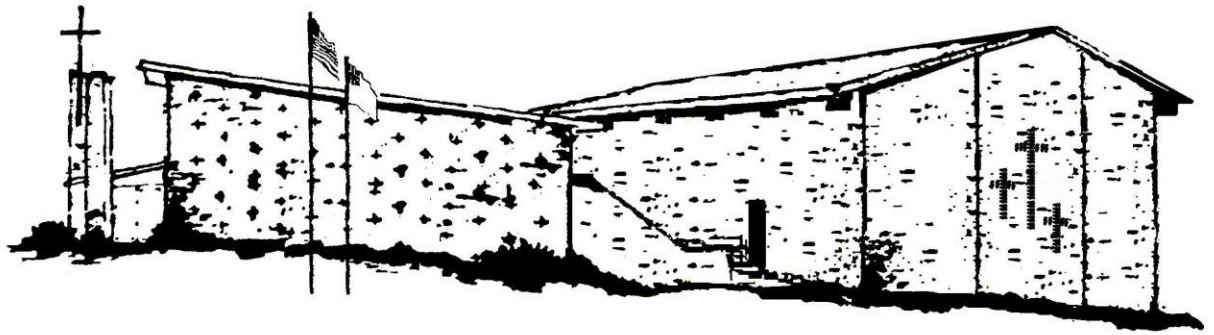
Prayer for the Meal and Benediction

**2022 Annual Meeting Minutes
Christ the King Lutheran Church
January 23, 2022**

- Council President, Dave Wiegand, called the meeting to order at 11:05am and confirmed a quorum of CTK members present to conduct business.
- Council President, Dave Wiegand opened the meeting with a short prayer.
- President remarked that this would be a short meeting in order to handle the annual requirements to brief the congregation on the budget status, the 2022 Mission Plan and complete the 2022 elections. Voting was by “unanimous consent” and the presentation was also livestreamed via Facebook Live.
 - Since the Annual report was distributed for all in attendance, it was not read line by line. The report was accepted unanimously.
- Laurel Wiegand (Treasurer) went over the budget and expenses. All bills are paid in full for 2021 and the proposed 2022 budget is balanced.
 - The 2022 Mission Plan and the associated budget was approved for \$164,617. The Council was able to give Pastor a 6% raise for 2022.
- Old business: None.
- New business: Based on Council discussions and a desire to emphasize “connection vs content”, CTK will be ending routine televising of the weekly service via Facebook Live at the end of January 2022. Exceptions for unique services will be handled on a case-by-case basis.
 - The ballot for 2022 Elections was approved as written and there were no comments.
- Pastor Bryan closed the annual meeting with a prayer and the meeting was adjourned by Dave Wiegand at 11:25am.

Respectfully submitted,
Jocelyn Heldt, Secretary

MINISTRY REPORTS



President – Nick Christy

In starting, I would like to express my gratitude for another year of service. We commenced 2022 with new and old committee members, serving the congregation for the new year. I continued helping Laurel and Jerry with finance committee duties, as there are always different functions that can use a helping hand. We had a successful year as a committee working in the name of service and our creator. The work that was accomplished week in and week out was a true testament to our faith. We are always faced with many challenges, trials and tribulations. 2022 showed that our congregation is able to overcome many of those obstacles, and emerged with unity and gratitude.

We started the year with a great Fish Fry and an increase in the rentals of our Fellowship Hall. Thanks to Judy Taylor, this has been a great staple for income. While we did not have big projects like adding an elevator or reconstruction of the main entrance, we were able to improve existing facilities and resources. We resumed a lot of activities that were put on hold by the pandemic.

Christ the King has been my spiritual home for almost two decades now, and I cannot express my true thanks and gratitude enough. Being available for service and experiencing the fellowship has help us through many difficult times. I would like to thank each one of you for participation, your hand shakes, hugs and fist bumps, and look forward to another year of service.

Pastor – Pastor Bryan Rice

How excellent are the Lord's faithful people,
it is my greatest pleasure to be with them.

Psalm 16:3

I came across this verse recently while reading through the Psalms and it caught my eye. It beautifully articulates the blessing we know as we come together as God's people to care for one another, to support one another, to enjoy the best blessings and endure the worst storms of life together. It is in and through each other that we most profoundly experience God's love and grace as we are the physical embodiment of that love.

In the past couple years of the pandemic, our connections to one another have suffered. Across the nation and perhaps the globe we have become more isolated from one another, and more irritable with one another. Our sense of community has diminished, straining our trust in one another and our respect for one another. People report they are more lonely, angry, distressed, and depressed. In short, we need each other more than ever, and as a congregation we are in the best position to meet that need for each other. Our connection to each other and our care for one another is more important than ever! This is why I am so grateful to serve Christ the King, to be a part of this blessed community. Thank you for being the embodiment of Christ to me and to one another.

Of course, our community is always evolving, and 2022 brought it's share of change to Christ the King. We said farewell to a number of people who either moved or passed away. We also welcomed new friends who have stepped into the life of congregation. In a year of figuring out which changes are here to stay, we enter 2023 with new energy, a strong connection to one another, a commitment to share the good news of Christ and love of God, and a love for the people who call Christ the King their spiritual home. We have emerged from a time of change and uncertainty with renewed purpose and passion!

Thank you for your faithful and generous giving. Christ the King is blessed to be in such a healthy and vibrant position. Congregations across the country have struggled coming out of the pandemic with people struggling with a lack of connection that has impacted attendance, programs, and giving. I am so grateful that we continue to welcome new people especially young families, into our community. Our electronic options for giving have helped giving remain strong and consistent.

As we continue to reconnect as a community coming out of the pandemic, I encourage you to grow in your connection with this congregation. One of my favorite gatherings has been the mid-month breakfast which brings people of all ages together. This is one example where ending two functional ministries and combining them has led to greater participation than the separate events combined! I believe the food and environment for fellowship is better too. This year we were attentive to gathering our young people together too. I am thankful for Jocelyn's leadership as she has gathered our post high schoolers. The group is never the same but it is great that friends even find a welcome. Intermediate and high school gatherings have also provided an opportunity for me to build relationships with the young people in ways that I haven't been able to for quite some time and the pandemic can't be blamed for that.

We have also looked at providing opportunities for everyone to serve. We are purposely not looking to replace a single person with another single person in a service area. The new sacristy area to the left of the altar was not simply a project to make life convenient, but to make it possible for more people to have an opportunity to participate in helping our congregation worship together. The opportunities for you to use your gifts in service are abundant. I encourage you to find blessings in being with God's faithful people here at Christ the King and bless others with your faith and love.

Thank you for sharing your kind encouragement and support with me! It truly is my great pleasure to be with you, and to serve alongside you. I give thanks for the privilege of serving with an amazing, dedicated, talented, and caring faith community. Finally, I am so grateful to serve as your Pastor! May God continue to bless us, and fill us with the Holy Spirit, that we might live out our faith, changing lives as we share the love and grace of God.

Vice President – Luann Thomsen

This year congregational life was able to resume its purpose at church. We were able to have several meals together. The meals are an important part of fellowship. We were able to resume Lenten soup suppers, mid-month breakfasts and meals celebrating special days in the church calendar. We are looking forward to having more meals together in the year 2023.

There were two **Fish Frys** this year, It was great to be back to having them.

Lenten Soup Suppers continued the practice we started last year with a volunteer making a half roaster of soup rather than have people bring soups pot luck style.

Summer BBQ was a great time and we look forward to having it again. It was a great event to invite a friend.

Mid-Month Breakfasts continue to be well attended. **The All Saints Sunday Lunch** was a nice way to close out the stewardship season.

Jocelyn has been the convener of our **Older Youth** about once a month. This has been a good way to keep our older youth together.

Worship and Music – Debbie Cline

Worship and Music would like to begin by thanking all who help out with the services, the assisting ministers, the children's choir, and our accompanists. We were very happy to add the passing of the peace back into our service. We also thank the congregation for their help in adding the beautiful gold communion service set and new kitchenette to make communion preparation so much easier. We are always happy to add more volunteers to assisting. If you would like to sing or play an instrument during communion or assist or contribute your talents please speak with Debbie Cline.

Mission and Service – Deb Marx

Christ the King participated in 4 notable Mission and Service activities in 2022. Two were congregational donations to a specific cause and issue, and two were Mobile Food Pantries. All 4 events were beneficial; however, there were some challenges that will be addressed below.

Sock Drive

A sock drive was started in 2021 but completed and donations delivered in January 2022. Over 150 pair of socks were donated and delivered to the YES (Youth Emergency Services Omaha). No issues

Magdalene House

Starting in March of 2022 our congregation took up collections for the Magdalene House of Omaha, who offer new beginnings, sober housing, and workforce development for survivors of sex trafficking, prostitution, and addiction. We were able to collect several large boxes filled with personal hygiene products and undergarments. Boxes were delivered nearly a month after the drive ended due to lack of a POC (Point of Contact) with the organization. Recommend in the future when donating to a cause we establish contact organization for pertinent information prior to drive.

Humble & Kind

Humble and Kind is a nonprofit organization who provides the local community with assistance with food, clothing, teen mom care, language learning, a safe place, etc. They provided ornaments for our Christmas Tree in the lobby in request for:

- Baby Essentials (Baby Wash, Baby Wipes, Diapers)
- Dignity Items (Underwear, Socks, Diapers)
- Household Items (Dish Soap, Hand Soap, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels)
- Hygiene Items (Deodorant, Razors, Shampoo/Conditioner, Feminine Hygiene, Body Wash)

Donations and coordination went very well, the congregation was very generous. The pastor is continuing to work with the organization for BSA (Boy Scouts) Missions.

Food Pantries

Christ the King participated in two Mobile Food pantries this last year, May and October. Both food pantries were drive through, contactless, and food was provided for 120 families. Food Bank for the Heartland provides all the food. CTK provides the labor and direction.

Challenges:

- Annual Certification
- Communication
- Seems to be too much food
- Plan for delivery
- Need to discuss change in procedures

Christian Education –April Marx

It has been another great year for Christian Education. This year we have divided the age groups into school age, confirmation, intermediate, high school, and post-high school groups. We have had a lot of activities for all the different age groups from game days, mini golfing, a banana party, and campfires to help the kids grow in Christ and develop long-lasting friendships. We had a wonderful group of kids this summer for vacation Bible school as well. This year we have 8 kids in confirmation with 3 kids being confirmed. Sunday school we have an average of 7 kids in Sunday School. We ended the year with the kids having their Christmas program and having confirmation, intermediate, and Sunday school age helping with the program. It has been a pleasure to help the kids grow in their love for God.

Property –Paul Dawkins

I would like to thank Gary and Ann Hunter for all they do maintaining the yard and walks. This year they asked to step away from this opportunity. We are grateful for the 40 years they have maintained our grounds and the equipment needed to do so. This will provide an opportunity this summer for others to serve. Driving a little tractor could also be fun. Look for details soon.

The Kennon family retired from the snow removal business this year. They too for many years have been clearing snow off the parking lot whenever it snows, day or night. We did elect to contract for this service in the future.

In addition to typical maintenance, the large area of damaged asphalt near the north entrance was replaced with volunteer labor and a communion preparation area was installed to the left of the Altar.

Finance – Jerry Wahlert

At the 2022 Annual Meeting I was elected to the position of Finance Chair. Over the past year I have worked with other Church Council members, particularly Nick Christy and Laurel Wiegand to administer the accounting functions of Christ the King. As a relatively new member to CtK, I have been blessed to get better acquainted with the many members who contribute time and talents to the ministry and mission which we have undertaken, with the help of God, to serve this community.

In particular, I have helped to oversee the weekly offerings and with Nick and Laurel have made sure that we properly record your financial contributions and review the expenditures in accordance with good accounting practices. It is with great joy that I humbly report that we are on sound financial footing, with all bills paid and no outstanding debts. We have some reserves, but rely primarily on your regular contributions to meet the monthly bills.

Through God's gracious blessings, each of us have the ability to contribute, in unique ways, to the successful operations of our congregation and the various ministries we have collectively agreed to undertake. I have witnessed a wide variety of ways people have chosen to show the ability to respond – thus the "responsibility" to share those blessings. Much of my career has been in Financial Service work with a variety of financial organizations. Over the years it has amazed me to see how many opportunities we have – and the various ways people have responded – to the needs of others.

At this time of the year, most of us are reviewing our personal finances and considering our personal income and expenses – as part of that reviewing and planning process please consider the appropriate ways in which you can respond to God's blessing in your life. Many of our expenses are increasing and if you are able, please consider appropriate increases in whatever ways you choose to contribute.

God gives each of us a calling, some form of ministry to perform, I look forward to the ministry of helping with the responsible administration of the collective financial affairs of Christ the King in the coming year. I would be glad to respond to any questions or concerns you might have.

We give thee but thine own, what 'er the gift may be. For all we have is thine alone, A trust O Lord, from Thee. *We Give Thee but Thine Own* ELW 686

Treasurer – Laurel Wiegand

2022 was a tumultuous year for me as treasurer. The pandemic was uncertain, but I expected 2022 to be more “normal”. The year started off well, then the waste removal company increased the rate, then added fuel charges, then raised the rate again. This is one concrete example of inflation I saw that was greater than what I budgeted for. As I watched the prices of everything rise, I was sure the short fall would increase, it didn't. Thankfully the congregation met their pledges and then some. Christ the King paid all its bills on time and came out a little ahead.

All our accounting information starting in 2020 has been entered into Icon Systems accounting online software. This software ensures our data is backed up continually, accessible online, and there is customer support for issues and questions. Nick and I have had excellent customer service to our queries.

The Memorial fund maintenance has been absorbed by the treasurer. The ledger will be updated and current by mid-2023. The new accounting software will allow us to track the memorial funds and expenses right along with our day-to-day operations. I will start sending the thank-you notes as the memorial donations are received. The information in the ledger is an important part of Christ the King history.

For 2023 we will be paying for snow removal and mower maintenance that was previously covered by Donations in Kind. I have also included a small increase in the money we send to Synod and a small increase to pay rates for payroll. We opted to lease a new copier for about the same cost as operating the old one this past year. Our previous copier was 10 years old and although working fine, had reached the end of its maintainable life. We still have the amount of the 2021 PPP loan in 2021 to offset the shortfall from these increases. Christ the King continues to be in good financial standing.

Operating Income/Expenses	2022 est	Actual 2022	2023 est
Hall rental income	\$22,000.00	\$31,495.00	\$33,000.00
Loose income	\$5,000.00	\$3,986.00	\$4,000.00
Envelope income	\$130,000.00	\$137,204.00	\$132,000.00
TOTAL	\$157,000.00	\$172,685.00	\$169,000.00
Expenses			
Payroll/Benefits	\$130,000.00	\$132,661.02	\$137,950.00
Utilities	\$12,453.00	\$13,037.96	\$13,000.00
Insurance	\$6,389.00	\$6,864.00	\$6,700.00
Other	\$13,375.00	\$9,963.94	\$9,548.00
Synod	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00	\$2,640.00
TOTAL	\$164,617.00	\$164,926.92	\$169,838.00
Overall	(\$7,617.00)	\$7,758.08	(\$838.00)

CONSIDERATION OF THE MISSION PLAN

Be it resolved that the Congregation of Christ the King Lutheran Church approve the recommendation of the Council and adopt the Mission Plan for calendar year 2023 in the amount of \$169,838.

*This is a Council resolution approved to be forwarded to the congregation at the December Council Meeting and therefore does not require a motion or second.

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND ORGANIZATIONS OF THE CONGREGATION

Women of the ELCA – Mardelle E. Gocek, Coordinator – CTKLC Women of the ELCA

The women of the ELCA Bible Study group met each month for fellowship and Bible study. In June we held our annual picnic at the church because of hot weather. In December our annual Christmas potluck luncheon was held in the Fellowship Hall. We continue to use the Bible study in *Gather* magazine.

The Nebraska Synod Women of the ELCA sponsored a winter retreat in Grand Island on January 22. The NSWOW sponsored two “Saved to Serve” events. One was at Magdalene Omaha; the second was at Camp Sullivan Hills, in Lodgepole in August.

Metro East Spring Gathering was held April 2 at First Lutheran Church in Blair. Two women from Christ the King attended.

Our Lutheran World Relief Quilt group was active again under the leadership of Phyllis Carlson. Thank you to Phyllis for your dedication to this project. Thank you to everyone who donated fabric and other items to the quilt project. Thank you to everyone who helped to assemble the quilts. Fifty-one quilts were sent to Lutheran World Relief in November. CTKLC also donated thirty school kits to LWR.

We continued to collect cancelled postage stamps and Family Fare grocery receipts for various service organizations.

Mission Endowment Fund – Beth Christy

The Christ the King Endowment Fund has been in existence since 2002. All of the monies are invested in a mutual fund managed by American Funds headquartered in Indianapolis, IN. The Mission Endowment Fund was established to support scholarships, new ministries, and community projects. The Endowment Fund Board meets quarterly to discuss the status and future plans for this fund. There are five directors on the Board who have been elected by the congregation, and serve terms of five years. The majority of the contributions to this fund have been memorials for friends and loved ones. It is not a requirement that memorials go to this fund and only memorial funds that are designated for the Mission Endowment Fund are deposited in the fund. Donations in celebration of a special event such as a birthday, anniversary, and new grandchild are also great opportunities to make a contribution that has lasting significance. When considering charitable donations in your will, the CTK Endowment Fund would be an appropriate place to continue God's work in the community. If you have questions or would like to contribute to the Mission Endowment Fund, please contact a committee member: Beth Christy- Treasurer, Angie Wicklander - Chair, and Jocelyn Heldt were present for the distribution discussions.

- \$400 went to NLOM for scholarships for Christ the King youth.
- \$200 went to the Bellevue Food Pantry.
- \$100 went to Skyview Learning Academy. Skyview Learning Academy provides a Christ based education using nature, hands-on learning, and the word of God. They have several students each year that have survived painful circumstances such as neglect, learning disabilities, abandonment, & physical & mental abuse. These students are only able to attend with tuition assistance; the school serves the Southeastern NE community.
- \$100 went to Humble and Kind. Humble and Kind is a new Bellevue non-profit created in June 2021 which evolved from a community closet project started by one of the teachers at Omaha South High School. The organization is committed to helping others during their times of need by providing clothing, food, furniture and household item assistance.
- \$400 went to Nebraska Lutheran Campus Ministries (NeLCM). NeLCM is an agency of the Nebraska Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America that facilitates and manages campus ministry across Nebraska. Its mission is to invite people in academic settings more deeply into Jesus Christ and the community that bears his name, so they can discover and fulfill their vocation as disciples. Its vision is to be the presence of Christ and the invitation of Christ to the entire academic setting. With members of our congregation attending two campuses with a NeLCM presence we are grateful for the efforts of this serving arm of our Synod.
- We also allocated \$200.00 last year to go to Pastor for a year-end bonus in 2022.

ELECTIONS

Nominating Committee – Jodi Keating

If after nominations from the floor, an uncontested election is held at the Annual Meeting of the Congregation (all candidates are running unopposed), it is the suggestion of the Nominating Committee that the Congregation proceed with a voice vote as allowed by our Rules of Order. (RROR4; 66, 46:3)

2021 Church Council

emboldened positions will have elections this year

Council President	Nick Christy (1st term)
Council Vice President	LuAnn Thomsen (Congregational Life) (2nd term)
Council Secretary	Jocelyn Heldt (2nd term)
Ministry Coordinators	April Marx (Christian Education – 2nd term ends January 2023) Debbie Cline (Worship & Music – 1st term ends January 2023) Jerry Wahlert (Finance – 1 st term ends January 2024) Paul Dawkins (Property – 2nd term ends January 2023) Deb Marx (Mission and Service – 1st term ends January 2023)

2022 Endowment Fund Board

emboldened positions will have elections this year

Will Strain	1st term ends January 2023
Julie Junker	1 st term ends January 2024
Jocelyn Heldt	1 st term ends January 2025
Beth Christy	2 nd term ends January 2026
Aaron Schmidt	2 nd term ends January 2027

Ballot for 2023 Elections

President	Nick Christy	(1 year term)
Vice President	Judy Taylor (Congregational Life)	(1 year term)
Secretary	Debbie Cline (Worship and Music)	(1 year term)
Christian Education Chair	Angie Wicklnder	(2 year term)
Property Chair	Trent Daniels	(2 year term)
Mission and Service	Deb Marx	(2 year term)
Endowment Fund Board	Janiece Huddleson	(5 year term)
Nominating Committee	Jodi Keating	(1 year term)

**For the nominations from the floor, please write in the name of each candidate nominated.
When voting, circle the name of the candidate for whom you are voting.**