

**St. John's Lutheran Church
Quarterly Congregational Meeting**

July 28th, 2024

Following the 8:15am Traditional Service

1. Opening Prayer
2. Call Meeting to Order
3. Approve April Quarterly Meeting 2024 Minutes
4. Financial Report
5. Senior Pastors Report
6. Associate Pastors Report
7. Intern Report
8. Adjournment of Meeting

St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church

Quarterly Meeting

Saturday, April 27, 2024, Following the 4:00 Service

Opening Pray and Call Meeting to Order-President Aaron Clark called the April Quarterly meeting to order and opened with prayer after the Saturday, April 27 service at 4:57 P.M.

Packets were distributed that contained: the meeting agenda, the minutes from the January 28 Annual meeting, the March Financial Statement, the Senior Pastor's report, the Associate Pastor's report, and Vicar Dale Stanley's report.

Approval of the January 2024 Annual Meeting Minutes: Mike Esposito made a motion to approve the minutes. Mike Gibboney seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously by voice vote.

Financial Report-Treasurer Kathy Myers reported the financial position of the operating fund remains strong. There were no questions about the Financial Report.

A motion to approve the Financial Report was made by Barb Hill. Gayle Woodgeard seconded the motion. The motion to approve the Financial Report passed unanimously by voice vote.

Senior Pastor's Report-Pastor Seth Jersild submitted a written report included in the meeting packet. He also highlighted the need for prayer as we search for a Youth Minister.

Associate Pastor's Report-Pastor Patti Morlock submitted a written report included in the meeting packet. She noted that her report focused on the leadership role that each of us fills here at St. John's. It is based on Joshua 14 and her notes from a presentation given by Bishop Emeritus John Bradosky. Pastor Patti reminded members that St. John's will be hosting the Ohio Mission Region Convocation events this coming weekend (May 3 &4) and invited members to attend. Women of St. John's are invited to the September 7 Mother/Daughter/Ladies Tea.

Vicar Dale Stanley's Report-Vicar Dale submitted a written report highlighting the areas that he has been involved in so far. He is very thankful for the warm reception and varied learning opportunities he has had and will have in the SEOMD during his internship.

Adjournment-A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mary Campbell. Pam Brown seconded the motion. The meeting ended at 5:05 P.M.

Karen Bentley, Secretary

St. John's Lutheran Church

Monthly Financial Statement
Prepared 7/23/2024

June 2024

Monthly/Year to Date Major Funds		
Month of:	June	Year to Date
Income		
Operating - Current+B&M	\$65,479.59	\$352,987.06
Benevolence	\$8,659.25	\$37,694.30
Total Operating Income	\$74,138.84	\$390,681.36
Expenses		
Operating - Current+B&M	\$53,657.42	\$318,975.10
Benevolence	\$8,922.07	\$36,008.00
Total Operating Expense	\$62,579.49	\$354,983.10
Fund Differences		
Operating - Current+B&M	\$11,822.17	\$ 34,011.96
Benevolence	(\$262.82)	\$ 1,686.30
Totals	\$11,559.35	\$ 35,698.26

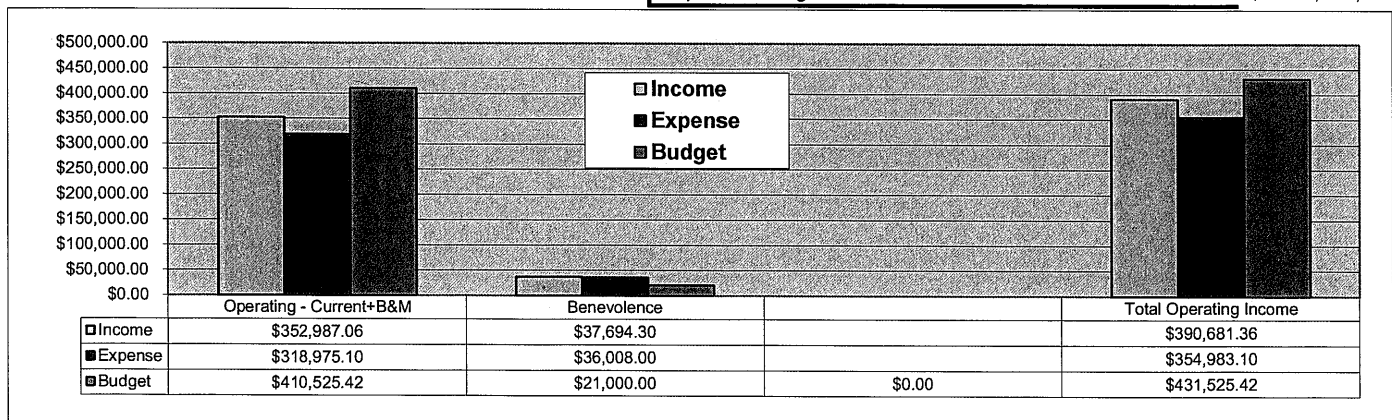
Approved Non-Budgeted Expenditures	
Account	Year to Date
Current	\$0.00
Benevolence (Previous Year/Designated)	\$15,008.00
Building & Maintenance	\$0.00
Total Income	\$15,008.00

Budget Comparison - Year to Date		
Budget vs. Actual thru	June 2024	
Account	Budget	Actual
Current - Budgeted	\$410,525.42	\$318,975.10
Benevolence - Budgeted	\$21,000.00	\$36,008.00
Bldg & Maint - Budgeted	\$0.00	\$0.00
Totals	\$431,525.42	\$354,983.10

Budgeted expenditures listed above do not include spending approved from the three (3) operating accounts separate from the budget. These expenditures were approved by either the Council or congregation. They include items such as "pass-through" designated benevolence, benevolence funds received at the end of last year but spent this year, and particular maintenance or capital improvement items.

The charts below show total income and expense, rather than budgeted items only.

Fund Balances: End of Month Balanced	
Account Name	Amount
OPERATING:	
Operating -- Current + B&M	\$295,275.44
Benevolence	\$42,969.92
DESIGNATED:	
Genesis Fund	\$3,181.88
Youth Designated Fund	\$44,109.41
Sarah Circle & Elizabeth Circle	\$593.20
Beacons	\$563.61
Bereavement Dinner Ministry	\$4,729.26
Designated Funds Interest	\$215.24
MEMORIAL:	
Memorial Fund Unrestricted Savings	\$68,671.87
Memorial Restricted (M/R) Library	\$315.24
M/R Handbell	\$5,946.82
M/R Kitchen	\$6,286.51
M/R Music	\$29,293.48
M/R Youth Camp Memorials	\$599.93
M/R Youth	\$11,344.34
M/R OWLs	\$996.97
M/R Special One-Time Account	\$21,421.45
M/R Accessibility Project	\$140,124.42
M/R Puppet Ministry	\$1,350.81
M/R Mission Trip Gen	\$27,218.68
M/R Mission Trip Alaska	\$14,371.06
M/R Mission Trip Mexico	\$28,280.90
M/R Columbarium Fund	\$18,390.00
M/R Organ and Renovations	\$50.89
M/R Bell Tower Carillon	\$2,000.00
ENDOWMENT-PRINCIPAL:	
Endowment/Gen/Restricted/Principal	\$751,897.56
Endowment/Prop/Restricted/Principal	\$234,404.64
Endowment/Youth/Restricted/Principal	\$32,395.25
Cemetery Endowment Principal	\$46,000.00
Unrealized Appr/(Depr)	\$44,456.50
ENDOWMENT-AVAILABLE INCOME:	
Endowment/Gen/Available Income	\$14,975.82
Endowment/Prop/Available Income	\$1,838.07
Endowment/Youth/Available Income	\$10,056.97
Cemetery Available-HNB Premium MM	\$3,808.59
COLLEGE GRANTS/SUMWALT LOANS:	
College Fund Savings - HNB	\$5,766.39
Sumwalt Savings Account - HNB	\$5,766.39
Bequest Holding Account	\$ 2,355,701.02



Pastor Seth Jersild
Notes for Quarterly Meeting Report
St. John's Lutheran Church
July 2024

- A Long-Range Ministry Planning team will be meeting after late services, usually twice each month, for the next five months. Please consider being part of the team. The following is their purpose statement:

To fulfill St. John's mission statement in the coming years to the best of our abilities as a congregation and to the glory of Jesus Christ, we will:
engage in a five month process of:

- *Prayer*
 - *Assessment of strengths and areas of challenge*
 - *Assessment of leadership needs (lay and professional)*
- *Assessment of our current cultural (Grove City and American) context*
- *Assessment of needs and points of engagement with our local community*
 - *Discernment of God's will for St. John's in our current context*

*And, based on the results of this process, formulate a **five-year ministry plan** with measurable goals and the lay and staff leadership necessary to reach our goals.*

Anyone who has a heart for ministry planning is strongly encouraged to become part of the Long-Range Ministry Planning Team!

- As part of Long-Range Ministry Planning, the entire congregation will be invited to attend one or two *cottage meetings* in September, to share ideas and brainstorm for ministry (dates TBD). We need to hear your thoughts and dreams for St. John's, so please come!
- The 175th Anniversary Team has put together a list of special events to mark this milestone 2024 year, including:
 - Musical Concerts
 - Special Worship Services (e.g. upcoming German Heritage)
 - Guest Preachers (including some former pastors of St. John's)
 - Temple talks by St. John's members
 - Video presentations from longtime members of St. John's
 - Honoring the Saints of St. John's who have entered into eternal life
 - Historical pictorial presentation in the new North entrance
 - Re-dedication service and Celebration Lunch on Reformation Sunday, October 27th

- Confirmation instruction orientation sessions are scheduled for late August. If you know parents of any students entering 7th or 8th grades, please let them know that our confirmation classes are open to all.
- As you know from the quarterly meeting agenda today, the church council is recommending that St. John's hire an external agency to facilitate our search for a new youth minister. Please pray for our Youth Minister Search Team as they search for potential candidates to fill a vitally important leadership position in our congregation.
- Council continues to work on providing a safety/security policy for the congregation.
- Promise Keepers, our regular men's Bible discussion group, is meeting every Thursday at 8:00 a.m. Currently we're working through the Gospel of Mark.
- Pastor Patti and I appreciate being notified when church members have been hospitalized or are dealing with health issues.
- Staff and administrative duties are going well.
- As always, I am available for conversation and/or pastoral care, any time (217.255.2118)

Thank you so much, everyone, for your faithfulness to Christ and your support of His Church!

Peace, Pastor Seth Jersild

Quarterly Report – July 2024
Pastor Patti Morlock

“Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.” (Matthew 5:16)

This is our Baptismal call, and these are the words I used to deliver a word of hope to the family and friends of Helen Link. Hers was one of several funerals I presided over this last quarter – three in the last two weeks!

I am so thankful for you and all that you do for our Lord and for St. John’s Lutheran Church. We’ve had another amazing quarter here at St. John’s as God is moving in incredible ways in and through the lives of our people through our worship, our small groups, our various classes across the generations, our youth and children’s ministries, our servant events, VBS, and the many ways we have gathered to love and support those in need through our many helping ministries. It’s all because you have allowed God to use you to help other people and bring about His Kingdom here in Grove City and beyond.

You have volunteered faithfully, given generously, led boldly, taught with authority, worshiped prayerfully, all to the Glory of God. I’m so grateful to be part of such a faith-filled community, because you love God, you love people, and you love the Church. As we celebrate 175 years of being faithful witnesses to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, I give praise to be a small part of the workings of His Holy Spirit here at St. John’s.

Preaching and Pastoral Care are a huge part of what I do, and being the type-A organized person that I am, I also take care of mundane things like preaching schedules and supply pastors, seasonal sermon series and celebration planning, women’s ministry through retreats and most recently scheduling speakers and planning activities for the special inter-generational women’s tea to be held in September. I have the honor of supervising our intern Dale as he learns the detailed workings of the church and has a chance to “practice and hone” his skills in a warm and welcoming environment.

As we begin this next quarter, we look to what it means to live into our Baptism more fully. Continuing to hold fast to our identity as beloved children of God, let us commit to not only enter fully into this next season with open hearts and minds to what God will do next in and through us, let us commit to draw others in as well.

Seek out the lost, the lonely, those who need the encouraging words and invitation that YOU have to offer. Offer to give a ride, sit with in worship and study, share a meal together. This is how the early church functioned as a body, how they grew.

In Baptism, you are anointed with oil, sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. I see so many signs of the Holy Spirit at work in and among us. And we bear the signature of God – His cross on us to remind us of who we are. So continue to SHINE, in Jesus!

Pastor Patti

July Quarterly Report from Vicar Dale

The halfway point of my internship has quickly snuck up on me. The past three months has been full of opportunities to learn, grow, and observe a congregation at work. I continue to be deeply appreciative of the time and friendship being shown to my family and me here.

Meetings

Pastor Patti and I continue to meet on a weekly basis. Our discussions have included sermon preparation, funeral arrangements, personal growth and family care, and loving the congregation as Christ does. I am glad and grateful to have her as my Internship Supervisor. Pastor Seth and I continue to meet regularly to discuss the ins and outs of ministry: leading a congregation, direction, planning, and his experiences. Their time and candor have greatly benefited me - even in the few months we have been meeting.

The Internship Committee comes together each month to discuss my experiences. This wonderful group has helped me find areas of ministry in which I can concentrate my efforts to grow. Each meeting they come with helpful ideas, good insights, and honesty. I feel increasingly more prepared to minister to a congregation with their support. I continue to meet with the staff each Monday and the Church Council each month. These experiences of hearing concerns, coordinating with others, and discussing issues and solutions have been invaluable for one preparing for ordination.

Grief Share

The first 13-week session of Grief Share wrapped up several weeks ago. It was a blessing to spend each Tuesday afternoon with a sincere and compassionate group of people. It was an amazing time of healing and growing closer to the Lord and each other. We plan to make this ministry of consolation and healing available on an on-going basis – beginning the next session in the fall. Many thanks to JoAnne Keller and Wilma Philips for their leadership and support! If you are interested in participating or helping, please contact Dale.

Sunday School

I continue to attend and help lead the Sunday School group which meets in the old fellowship hall as often as possible. This is a wonderful, friendly, and inquisitive bunch with whom Rosalind and I love spending Sundays. They have been very helpful and patient with an intern who is learning how to conduct a Bible study. I appreciate their shared joy in lifting one another up in prayer and love, as well as their delight in discussing the Bible.

Recently, I had the opportunity to be a substitute Sunday School teacher for the 5th & 6th Grade class. The organization with which the Sunday School program is run is evident in the conduct of the kids. I have never been in such a delightful and well-prepared class for this age level!

Youth

I have joyfully taken part in several activities with the youth of St. Johns. The Service Camp for the older kids at St. Johns was a delight to attend. I was able to get to know some kids with whom I had not previously talked. We learned about service, being and showing Christ's light to others in a dark world. It was wonderful working alongside these young sisters and brothers in Christ at Bed Brigade. I had heard much about this ministry and have been impressed with what I heard. I was even more impressed with what I saw! The dedicated crew was able to orient the youth to their jobs, instruct them

well, and complete about 40 beds in a short amount of time. The hands-on experience each teenager received will stick with them for years, I know.

I was able to help out with VBS this June. The planning behind the scenes was incredible and instructive to behold! Pastor Seth allowed me to tag along with his group of older kids and even lead a lesson on Day 2. The mixture of fun and learning was fantastic! My family and I have also participated in Joyful Pause days. It was delightful to have this time with my kids and other families. It is also so unique and simple. I hope to take the spirit in which such events are planned to my next call.

Worship

I have had more opportunities to help lead in both Traditional and Contemporary services. This experience has helped me grow increasingly comfortable with being in front of a congregation. Additionally, I have been able to preach in both Traditional and Contemporary services. I appreciate each opportunity to preach God's Word to His beloved people. I pray that our Lord has blessed you through these times as He has me.

Not only at St. Johns have I been able to worship and preach, but also in other congregations in our Mission District! I have attended and spoken at Grace Lutheran Church in Thornville, Grace Lutheran Church in Springfield, and St. John Lutheran Church on Broad St. (twice). I will continue the trajectory of visiting a new congregation each month (at least) for the remainder of my year in Grove City. As I have stated before, the opportunity to be with multiple congregations is a unique experience for a pastoral intern. I appreciate your generosity in sharing me among our sister congregations in the NALC.

I have had other delightful events and opportunities this past quarter, as well: I attended the Mission District/Region Convocation. It was wonderful to be among so many brothers and sisters of the NALC. The volunteers who organized and hosted the event at St. Johns did a fantastic job of welcoming a large crowd! I have been able to talk with active and retired pastors in the area and hear of their experiences in ministry. How vital it is to hear about all the ups, downs, and surprising challenges and blessings ministry holds! I have been welcomed at the OWLS gatherings where good food, warm conversations, and interesting speakers abound!

Opportunities to visit homebound members have also been wonderful. It is a blessing for me to spend time with members of St. Johns in their homes and rooms. Accompanying the Homebound Communion Team has been a real joy! I have also become the chaplain for our Boy Scout troop. I look forward to helping these young men grow in their faith as they grow in their knowledge and skills.

Finally, I formally received my degree of Master of Divinity from the North American Lutheran Seminary in May. Thank you for all the expressions of joy and support I have received these past months!

Glory to God for all He is doing among us!

Your Brother in Christ,

Dale Stanley

