**2024 ANNUAL REPORT**

A building with a tall tower and a flower bed in front of it

Description automatically generated

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

876 GROVE STREET

CONNEAUT, OH 44030

(440) 599-8908

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[goodshepherd@gwcmail.net](mailto:goodshepherd@gwcmail.net)

Image result for facebook symbolFind us on Facebook and Instagram

MEMBER CONGREGATION OF THE

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

NORTHEASTERN OHIO SYNOD

**Mission Statement for GSLC:**

We are a Christian community, united in God’s call,

to serve others, by sharing the love of Christ.

**2024 Annual Report- Pastor**

The Rev. Joshua Krenz

Grace and peace to you from our Triune God. May the peace, comfort, love, and understand of God surround you and remain with you always.

Leading Worship and Preaching: For 48 of the 51 Sundays with worship services, I presided and preached as per my calling to this congregation (one Sunday in December – December 1st – services were cancelled due to Snow Emergency. Led readings, and sermon via Facebook). Two Sundays in April – April 14th and April 21 – and two Sundays in November – November 10th and November 17th – were taken as vacation days. During the season of Lent from Ash Wednesday on February 14th to Easter Sunday on March 31st, I preached and presided at: two Ash Wednesday services (noon and 7:00pm), the Midweek Lenten Services each Wednesday (except Holy Week), Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday as per my calling to this congregation. I, along with other worship leaders in the Conneaut Area Ministerial Association (CAMA) participated in two Lenten worship services – First Congregational United Church of Christ (UCC) and Amboy United Methodist Church. I guest preached at the UCC Lenten service with Rusty Andrews presiding. Along with other members of CAMA, I helped plan and participate in the annual Good Friday Stations of the Cross at Township Park.

Visitations: There were approximately 15 visitations done throughout the year. The majority of these were emergency visits in the hospital with a few done per request. However, there were several meetings with congregants in the church office.

Baptisms: Unfortunately, I did not have the pleasure to baptize anyone this year.

Confirmation: The 2023-2024 confirmation class began with two students and two adults. We continue the two-year cycle curriculum as written about in the 2023 Annual Pastor Report. The end of the 2023-2024 confirmation year completed the requirements for one student, Nicalli Fill, and confirmed him Pentecost Sunday.

Funerals: I presided at three (3) funerals or graveside services: Caroline Palo, Daniel Curtis, and Bernice and Albert Strasshofer. I attended three (3) funeral services without participating in the service: Richard Rae, Rev. Bob Guldenschuh (Former Pastor of First Baptist Church in Conneaut and CAMA Member), and Rev. Richard Bowen (Former Pastor of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church). I also presided at a Grave Blessing.

Weddings: I presided over NO weddings this year.

Adult Sunday School: For 2024, a new idea was done for Adult Sunday School, a walk and talk session where people can ask questions, have discussion, and walk at the same time to help exercise during the summer months. No specific curriculum was used but just about every Sunday was discussion of depth. For 2025, a request has been made for another structured Adult Sunday School to which I will be exploring options.

Vacation Bible School: Vacation Bible School (VBS) did NOT happen this year for Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. We were unable to collaborate with Corpus Christi Parish as they, for 2024, collaborated with other Catholic Parishes in the Ashtabula County. Children were encouraged to attend VBS at New Leaf or these Catholic programs.

The Wider Church: Beginning in January, I attended the All-Ohio Rostered Ministers Gathering at the Sawmill Resort outside Sandusky, Ohio. Throughout the year, as able, I attended the Ecumenical Committee of the NEOS. I completed the First Call Theological Education in May. I attended the CAMA meetings, and the NEOS CLEEast Conference meetings as I was able. Because of some situations within this congregation, the weather, and distance, I was not able to attend all these group meetings and/or meetings cancelled. It is an unfortunate side-effect of rural ministry that does affect connection to the wider church. In May, George Peterson, Taylor Racut, and I attended the One-Day NEOS Synod Assembly in Akron, Oh. Finally, I have given a number of Invocations at the Conneaut City Council Meetings and preached during the Blessing of the Fleet.

Other Notes: Throughout this year, I have continued to attend, as able, all the activities happening at Good Shepherd including the weekly/monthly/annually activities.

I met with three committees (Christian Education, Quilting, and Evangelism) with the intent to see the passion of the people in their work. I asked each committee these questions: Why does the committee/group exist; How are you all, as leaders, furthering the mission of Christs’ Church in the community of Conneaut; What is your “I have a dream” speech; How does your committee/group interact with other committees/groups in this church; How can church council help your committee/group; How can I as the pastor help your committee/group; If the new mission, vision, value process is counter to your committee/group, are you willing to let this committee/group go; What do you feel is the reason we exist; and, finally, Why does the church as a whole exist. These questions were not given to anyone ahead of time as I wanted their first thoughts and the Holy Spirit to drive what they say and how they respond. These questions were intentionally vague, generic, and did not have a right or wrong answer. The biggest response came from the question: How can church council help your committee/group, with the primary response being: be active, promote, be visible and help out. It is clear to me the focus for Church Council in 2025 is to increase participation in the committees/groups in this church. I was highly encouraged by the response when asked will you let this committee/group go, with an overwhelmingly response of NO. This tells me that these three committees are part of the DNA of Good Shepherd and cannot be stopped.

This year, 2024, we began the process of our Mission, Vision, and Value reevaluation with Pastor Drew Tucker. The Church Council began the process and a survey was published for people to take. However, we did not get a response number that was sufficient for statistical purposes and thus we extended the term of the survey to early 2025. This year, 2024, I also encouraged new ideas and new activities to happen with many of the new activities (GOTL, Waldameer) being great successes with others (Game Night, NYE Party) not as successful. I will continue to encourage new activities and events geared for specifically younger people and activities and events geared for specifically older people.

I look forward to 2025 and all of its possibilities and continuing to be your pastor. I realize – and have concerns about – Good Shepherd financial situation and will continue to advocate for proper and methodical stewardship of all we have as a church including the investment portfolio. I have read the original terms of agreement and by-laws, that we have, of the endowments multiple times, and I have listened to the concerns discussed. I have full trust in the Endowment Committee and their discretion to use the resources the church has for the best interest of the church. I will also continue to emphasize the importance of faithful giving in the offering plate as a form of – and a portion of – worshipping God. I don’t expect all financial failings to be solved in 2025, but I do expect to be on a path of financial stability.

I know this congregation is full of love, and just one of the reasons I absolutely enjoy and love coming to the church every day. I know God is calling us to do God’s work in the Conneaut area and I know this congregation can reach that task. Will we have to make some hard choices? Absolutely, but the love of God and the Holy Spirit is with us always, whatever we do and wherever we go.

Blessings, grace, and peace be with you all.

The Rev. Joshua Krenz

**2024 Annual Report- Church Council**



\*Serves on finance committee as well

According to the Constitution and Bylaws for Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of Conneaut, Ohio of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America:

C12.02. The members of the Congregation Council except the pastor shall be elected at a legally called meeting of this congregation during the month of December. Their term of office shall be for three (3) years, with the term of office beginning on Second Sunday of January (month and day) and ending on Second Sunday of January (month and day). Newly elected Congregation Council members shall be installed at worship the Second Sunday of January. Such members shall be eligible to serve no more than two three-year terms consecutively.

C12.03. Should a member’s place on the Congregation Council be declared vacant, the Congregation Council shall elect, by majority vote, a successor until the next annual meeting. Individuals who have served less than one-half of a regular term shall be eligible for nomination and possible election to a full term.



**2024 Annual Report- GSLC Office**

Jennifer Best

My goal for 2024 was to be more efficient in organizing the paper files. There has been significant headway in this. Pastor and I have reviewed and reorganized several of the filing cabinets and the office closet. In adjusting furniture to make room for the memorial candle stand, we’ve put the blue chairs in the office, and it makes it feel homier. In 2025, we’ll be rearranging the office to accommodate a new printer and the finance office; and I’m hoping it will continue to grow more and more inviting and welcoming to our congregation and guests. A smaller change I’m hoping to see in 2025 is a handheld phone. This will allow me to be more available throughout the church, and not tethered to the desk.

The new printer will replace the one we’ve been leasing from LBP and it is expected to save us about a thousand dollars per year. A space saving measure we started last year was to use the excess of colored paper in the office supply closet. We’ve been using those colors to match the liturgical seasons. While many people seem to like the colored paper, it is vastly more costly than white, so when we run out, we will only be continuing with white paper for the bulletins. Starting December 2024, I have been printing 5 less bulletins than what I expect attendance will be. Throughout 2025, we will continue to gradually reduce the bulletins. Already, many people are opting to use the screens, and we’ve been having an excess of bulletins most Sundays, so this shouldn’t be too drastic. Please let the ushers know if you would like a bulletin or not, and if you and your family can share.

I would also like to take this time to let everyone know the dates the office will be closed in 2025. Based on the Employee Handbook, I am approved to have nine (9) paid holidays taken the day of or the next working day for New Year’s Day, Easter Monday (Monday after Easter), Memorial Day, Independence Day (will be observed July 3rd this year), Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and the day after Christmas.

I am also permitted eight (8) working days per calendar year granted as vacation during the first through fifth years. I **tentatively** plan on using these vacation days on March 20th, May 19-22, June 30th, December 30th and 31st. Exact dates will be posted in the announcements and calendars as they approach.

I am so thankful for this job, and for all of you.

May you have a blessed new year.

**2024 Annual Report- altar guild**

Ruth Brown

The function of Altar Guild is to prepare the altar-chancel area for worship service. On a weekly basis, we clean, take care of the flowers and candles, and arrange for Holy communion. The Altar Guild is also responsible for changing the banners and paraments and preparing for baptisms, funerals, and weddings. New members are always needed.

Currents members: Kelly Anthony, Ruth Brown, Robin Bryant, Pearl Ann Curtis, Susan Combs, Janelle Cole, Peggy Harco, Shirley Harco, Mary Lou Moisio, Stephanie Newsome, Katrina Pavolino, Amanda Sanford, Barb Talan, and Susan Tan.

**2024 Annual Report- abiding memorial**

Ruth Brown

Abiding Memorial deposits made in 2024 were received in Memory and Honor of:

Pastor Richard Bowen, Daniel Curtis, Martha Kesatie (Punkar), Dianne Young, Daryl &Pauline Arbuckle, Alex Uveges, Kelsey Walters, Marsha Taylor, Faye Lampela, Parents of Carol Allds, Loved ones of Dave &Martha Jayne Thompson, A.H. (Tubby) & Joy Dittler, Doris DeArment, Anna Mae Sillanpaa, Christopher Harco, Gilbert Kuivila, Barabara Poff, All Loved Ones Passed, Jeffrey Patten, Bob & Jackie Miller, Rev. Joshua Krenz

Abiding Memorial expenditures in 2024 were: Memorial Candle Stand and Stoups

Ending Balance December 31, 2023: $ 13,264.25

Deposits in Nov. 6, 2023- Nov. 6, 2024: $ $ 1,312.00

Expenditures Nov. 6, 2023-Nov. 6, 2024: $8567.24

Ending Balance December 31, 2024: $6009.01

**2024 Annual Report- evangelism**

Michelle Logan

I would like to personally thank everyone that has supported our mission this past year. Thank you to: Martha Jayne and Dave Thompson, Barb Talan, Robin Bryant, Sandra Matheny, Suzanne and Mike Malys, Mark Lytle, Nickolas Mason, Emily McQueeney, Ruth Brown, Mary Lou Mosio, Susan Tan, Stacy and Taylor Racut, Susan and Wes Combs, Sue Robinson, JoAnn Mechling, Janelle Cole, Richard Tulino, and Amy Gallagher. If not for your time and talents the many missions and events would not be possible.

The Evangelism team has had a very busy and rewarding year. We started the year out with co-partnering with the youth group to host a Purse Bingo. It was a big success, with both ministries earning over $1000.00 for each of our missions. We are looking forward to working in partnership with the youth group again on this event.

Next up for the team was the Solar Eclipse. This was a community event. We opened our parking lots for donation. We also offered glasses for purchase and our bathrooms were available for all to use. This was huge since we were the only bathrooms available around the park.

We had Bob Gyros on site and Tasha Cotton Candy. This was an amazing community event. We had the opportunity to meet so many people from all over the US and even some that had traveled from overseas.

We held an All-Community Dinner. We received very positive feedback from those that attended the event and hope to host another one in 2025. In May we hosted our annual Spa Day. This event is becoming quite popular with the community. We had more in attendance than in 2023 and more vendors are willing to provide their services for free.

In June we partnered with the Property Committee to host a community breakfast one Saturday a month. The breakfast averages about 15 people. The breakfast was suspended until the summer months if possible.

Once again, this year we opened our parking lots for the 4th of July parking, and of course D-Day parking. Once again, the 4-day parking event helped us raise over $7000.00. We were able to give $1200.00 to the general fund with the rest being split between Outreach, Fishes and Loave and Nick Closet.

Also, this year we were able to partner with the Social Ministry to help with the Fish Dinner that was held during D Day, we also partnered with Social Ministry to help with the 10 Christmas families that were adopted from HALO. We also partnered with the youth group to help with the several youth events that included a trip to the Adventure Zone and Waldameer Park. In addition, we were able to give the Quilting Ministry $500.00

In October we held our annual Basket raffle. Our community has been very supportive of our mission of the church. We had 108 donated items that we were able to auction off, and we had over 80 tickets sold. This event is growing each year, and we are looking forward to next year’s Basket Raffle.

2024 has been a year filled with many blessings and changes for the Fishes and Loaves Ministry. In 2024 due to changes at Country Neighbor and their partnership with the Cleveland food bank, we were able to partner with the Cleveland Food Bank independently from Country Neighbor. This partnership along with our partnership with Country Neighbor has allowed us to continue to meet the needs of our community.

Our Partnership with the Cleveland Food Bank has been wonderful to say the least. This partnership is for both the Pantry, Nick’s Closet, and the free lunch program. Under this agreement with them we were to purchase a wide variety of food items at little or no cost. Cleveland provided us with grant money for both food programs this past year to help off set the cost of purchasing items. With this partnership we were able to distribute 68,495 lbs. of food in our pantry and 31,050 pounds of food for the free lunches, that is a total of 89,601 lbs. (or 44.8 tons of food, about 44 cars!) of food just from the Cleveland food bank. In addition, with help from the Clevland food bank we were given the opportunity to partner with Walmart. Under this partnership we receive weekly donations of fresh, frozen and canned/boxed food items. On average we receive 300 lbs. of donated items. Our partnership with Country neighbor continues. They continue to be a great asset to our programs. We receive on average 1600 lbs. of food from them. Also, this year they provided a new refrigerator for the pantry. This new addition has given us additional space to store more fresh fruit and vegetables along with dairy items.

We updated our hours for the pantry and lunches, we are now open on Tuesday from 9am to 2pm and continue to be open on Saturdays from 11am to 12:30pm. We have seen the need to continue to grow over the past year. In the year 2023 we served 624 households in our pantry.

This year the total number of households has grown to 1611 (see chart below). In those households, 1824 adults, 1048 children, and 926 senior citizens, totaling 3898 individual people.

Our partnership with Cleveland has also provided us with an opportunity to purchase hot meals from their kitchen. The cost of purchasing our meals on average is $1.50 per meal. These meals are hot and well balanced. We have been able to serve such meals as stuffed Shells, Meat Loaf, Ham, Chicken and all these meals come with 2 to 3 side dishes. Again, we have seen an increase in the amount of those we are serving. In 2023 we served on average 120-150 lunches per week, this year in 2024 we are serving on average 220-230 lunches per week.

As the increased numbers of those that we serve on Saturdays so has the amount of those needing cleaning and hygiene items. To be able to continue supplying these items to the public. Nickolas decided to limit the number of items that they can have to a limit of 4 items per visit.

As 2024 ends and 2025 begins we are excited at what God might have planned for us. Over the past year we have had such positive input from the community. Our love for neighbors is being felt beyond our walls. This past year we have been blessed with volunteers from the community members from outside of church walls that have shared their time talents with us. I know that we are doing Gods command to share the love of Christ to others.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Logan

**2024 Annual Report-** **Vacation Bible School**

Jennifer Best

Our VBS is usually held in conjunction with Corpus Christi Church. This year Corpus Christi partnered with other Catholic churches in their parish. We didn’t have enough volunteers to lead our own. We referred families to the VBS programs at Corpus Christi and New Leaf.

**2024 Annual Report-** **christian education**

Jennifer Best

In Sunday School, we start each class with snack. If they finish snack early, there are coloring and activity pages, aligned with the lessons, available. We’ve continued using the Lift Curriculum, an internet-based course with monthly themes. It includes our weekly Sunday School lessons, with a short video lesson, games, and music. We also incorporate fun, hands-on activities. The curriculum is easy to use for teachers and has been well received by our students. We have about 5-10 students in attendance each week, from age 3 to grade 3. Sunday School is led by Jen Best, Suzanne Malys, and Lisa Murtha. During the 2024-2025 school year, we started the children’s message during the services on the 3rd Sunday of the month. The messages are summaries of the monthly themes we learn about during the Sunday School classes.

The Youth Group is formed from the middle school age group, led by Michelle Logan, and the senior high/college group, led by Nickolas Mason and Taylor Racut. We average about 2-3 students in this age range, so they are often merged. They have theological discussions in a laid-back environment.

The confirmation class is led by Pastor Krenz. There is 1 confirmand and about 5 adults learning about the Lutheran faith.

We tried something different with the summer adult Sunday school class, by walking and talking. The idea was to discuss theological topics as they came up while walking, similarly to how Jesus and his disciples did. There was an average of 2 or 3 people at each walk. Attracting less than we hoped, this summer we will resume a tabled discussion, with a theme still to be determined.

During the 2023-2024 school year, the Youth Group held a Purse Bingo fundraiser in collaboration with Evangelism to great success. Sunday School had the annual Super Bowl sub fundraiser.

In 2025, we will once again have the Purse Bingo fundraiser. We will be changing the Super Bowl sub sale to a Summer sub sale. We’re also hoping to have a few more fundraisers in 2025 to help support more youth and family events: Easter candy, Mother’s Day flowers, and a September Soup Sale.

During our 2023-2024 school year, we had our bowling event in collaboration with Evangelism.

During the 2024-2025 school year, we had the Candy Crawl in collaboration with Evangelism. We also had a Christmas party. We plan on having the annual bowling event (2/22/25), a pajama party (3/9/25), swimming at the Y (4/5/25), a hike, and maybe a picnic.

In the 2024-2025 school year, the Youth Group had events at Geneva on the Lake, Waldameer and several here at the church including a Game Night, Halloween Party, and an attempted New Year’s Eve party. We look forward to new and upcoming events as the year continues.

This 2024-2025 school year, we tried something new: our Monthly Ministry Focus (MMF). All are welcome to attend to learn more about the different ministries of GSLC. It lasts about 15-30 minutes, depending on participation. Each month, we focus on a different ministry: what each ministry does, why it’s important, how it helps others, and if the Holy Spirit is calling you towards that ministry, what you can do to help. September, Michelle Logan discussed the Evangelism Ministry. October, Barb Talan and Carol Allds discussed the Quilting Ministry. November, we learned about the various ways GSLC uses food throughout multiple ministries: we talked about funeral luncheons; Suzanne Malys talked about Nisua; Michelle Logan talked about the Food Pantry and Free Lunches; Nickolas Mason taught us how to bake communion bread. December, Jim Fuller, discussed the Music Ministry. We will continue the MMF through May.

We send a big shout out to all our dedicated Sunday School teachers and volunteers!

We appreciate all your support and dedication to our students and to this ministry!

**2024 ANNUAL REPORT- SOCIAL MINISTRY**

Pearl Ann Curtis

* Funeral Lunches
* Catered dinner for congregation
* Organized Lenten soup and sandwich suppers
* Fish Dinner/D-Day weekend
* Church Picnic
* Hanging of the greens and potluck
* Nisua Bakes
* Adopted 10 families for Christmas
* Attended all-committee meetings and council meetings
* Quilters finished 83 quilts and they were delivered by Wes and Susan Combs

Respectfully Submitted,

Pearl Ann Curtis (Social Minister chairperson)

**2024 Annual Report- quilting**

Carol Allds

Our quilting mission aims to help our local community in time of need and to share globally through Lutheran World Relief distribution. From September 2023 through May 2024, we averaged 9-10 faithful workers at our Tuesday 9am-11am meetings and completed a total of 83 quilts. Our heartfelt thanks are given to Wes and Susan combs for their efforts in personally delivering 18 boxes containing 66 quilts to the Lutheran World Relief annual ingathering at Jerusalem Lutheran Church in Seville, OH on October 15, 2023. We donated 1 quilt to our church’s Basket Raffle in October, gave 5 quilts to Michelle Logan for distribution to our local citizens in need, and 2 were given to Good Shepherd’s high school graduates. Several quilts were sold to interested parties.

Thanks to the generosity of two individuals who shared their loved ones’ accumulation of beautiful fabric with us, we were truly blessed to be able to continue our efforts to bless others through the comfort of quilts. This year we also began a quilt raffle to help raise funds for the quilting ministry.

We welcome you to visit (and join!) our work sessions and lovingly accept any donations of cotton material.

**2024 Annual Report- nisua**

Suzanne Malys

The nisua crew has been baking every two months with an average of 100 loaves.  We have welcomed several new bakers to our team, which is great!  
Besides buying supplies needed, we have donated to several church programs including quilting, worship music/bell choir, 3M, and also abiding memorial for the stain glass window. Totaling $2100.00.  
Plus an additional $2300.00 into the general fund.  
We appreciate all the support for this endeavor and enjoy our time together.  Come join us and see how it all comes together.  Kiitos

**2024 Annual Report- property**

Beginning the year, we finished the new and improved Audio/Visual recording stand in the sanctuary making it both safer for those using it and more appealing to the eye. We also permanently installed the Ring doorbell with permanent power supply to avoid the need to remove it and recharge it periodically. We had an issue with one of the circuit boards that runs the thermostats on the northside of the new educational wing (the side the pastor’s office is on) which caused some cold days for the pastor to work in the office.

Outside the church, the ongoing saga of renovating and repairing 448 Sandusky continues. Due to misunderstanding and or inability to complete projects, we hired a contractor to finish the punch list of items – a few that still need to be completed. Later in the year, we hired, with Church Council approval, Nick Nelson as Property Manager for the rental properties and in 2025 is taking full control to finish whatever needs to be done to make 448 Sandusky livable again.

But, returning to the main property, this year, rather than spending the cost of a shop to maintain the mower, our team changed the oil and did the maintenance for our riding lawnmower to allow us to cut the grass. Thank you to Gary Anderson, Jerry Lampela, Ron Young, George Peterson, Wes Combs, Pastor Josh and anyone I might have missed for cutting the grass, maintaining the mower, and the general lawn care making our property have a very nice curb appeal. Along with that, thank you to Mark Lytle, Janelle Cole, Susan Combs, Suzanne Malys and anyone I might have missed for planting the flowers and, again, making our property very attractive. Everyone I meet in the summer says, “oh, you’re the place with the nice flowers”, so thank you very much for the work that you do.

This summer, we decided it was time to replace the garage/shed that our outdoor equipment is stored in as there are many holes in the base of the walls, the wood is rotting away, allowing critters to get in there and potentially damage our equipment. After discussion, we have decided on a similar size garage made of metal but placing it next to the shop for both better access to maintenance as needed in the shop and also to allow power to be installed in the garage. Pastor Josh checked that there is plenty of room between the end wall of the shop and the emergency service road. As a way to fundraise for this garage, we began the pancake breakfast every Saturday during the summer between (to begin with) 7 to 11 but going to 8 to 11 towards the end. While we did see some regular folks, we didn’t get near the goal for the new garage. So, we donated all the income to the general fund with the promise the Endowment Committee will investigate the possibility for a new garage for us. Construction for the new garage will begin in the spring after the congregation approves the funding.

Otherwise, property has been on top of maintenance of the church building. We had an issue with the boiler, but that has been resolved; we replaced all the filters in the new education wing; we cleaned up the shop getting rid of a lot of things we no longer need; and we helped out with other committees during the 4th of July Parking, D-Day Parking, and the Fish Fry. We did lose one of our members to moving, George Peterson, which left a little gap in our group, but thanks to Pastor Josh, on top of doing everything else, he has stepped up as he can.

Our group tends to work in the background so other things have happened that are too numerous to mention here. If you’d like to join our group, we don’t have set meetings and willing to teach and meet you at whatever level you are, you are more than welcome to join. 2025 looks to be a year of maintenance with a proposal for a major addition of solar panels in the works, so stay tuned for that. Otherwise, thank you for all the support that you all have given, and I hope 2025 continues to be a serious trouble-free property year.

In his service,

Rev. Joshua Krenz

**2024 ANNUAL REPORT – FINANCIAL SECRETARY**

Ministry Chairperson: Clarissa Murtha

* 2024 marked my 26th year as Financial Secretary for the church. Duties include recording, depositing, and posting your offerings and sending statements to you. We also provide council with a monthly income report. Please use your name or number on all offering to help us record it accurately.
* I would like to especially thank Jan Uveges and Robin Bryant for faithfully coming to the church every week to count offering.

Goals:

* Continued support in the ministries of the church.
* May our offerings reflect our blessings in 2025.
* If you have any questions concerning your offering, please contact the church office.

In His Service,

Clarissa Murtha

**2024 ANNUAL REPORT- ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE**

Greg Betteridge

Current Endowment Committee members are Amy Gallagher, Paul Mechling, Pastor Joshua Krenz, Stacy Racut, and Greg Betteridge. As several of the members are new to this committee, our first task was to research and familiarize ourselves with the existing funds, which the committee oversees.

The committee made recommendations to Church Council for the purchase of a floor scrubber ($3724), a gift to Christ Lutheran Church of Santa Fe, New Mexico, to aid in the repair of damaged utility services ($2000), payment for consultation to rewrite Good Shepherd’s mission statement ($3500), and to award an educational scholarship to Nickolas Mason ($1500). The committee also updated and clarified applicant requirements for Good Shepherd Mission and Education scholarships.

After much discussion, deliberation, and a meeting with local representatives of Morgan Stanley, the committee made recommendation to Church Council that all funds held by Vanguard Funds be liquidated and transferred to Morgan Stanley to receive higher returns through more active management of the funds. As required by our current by-laws, the recommendation was also brought to the congregation and passed with majority approval.

We have also discussed and approved the request for the Property Committee’s purchase of a new garage for the storage of the outdoor lawn care and property maintenance equipment. This recommendation will be brought to the congregation soon. We are currently exploring the possibility of installing solar panels and are pursuing further information for that project.

In 2025, we are planning to review and modify, as needed, the by-laws that govern the current endowments both to better utilize the endowments and to maintain the future of this congregation for which the endowments were established.

It is the expressed commission and desire of this committee to continue the best utilization of these valuable assets to strengthen and preserve the intent of the funds and management for their continued growth.

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| --- | --- |
| **12/31/2023** | **1/31/2024** |

January 2024

December 2024

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Respectfully submitted,

Good Shepherd Endowment Committee

Greg Betteridge, Chairperson

**2024 ANNUAL REPORT –TREASURER**

Stacy Racut

**GSLC CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET**

**ASSETS**

**CURRENT ASSETS DECEMBER 31, 2024**

General Fund (including Sunday school) $ 8,947

GENERAL SAVINGS

Discretionary (Account closed) 0

Education 257

Bulletins, Altar Flowers, Memorial Candle – Savings 2,167

Abiding Memorial 6,609

Reserve Account 0

Detroit Street 1,885

Sandusky Street 9,282

Youth Mission 10,652

Continuing Education 218

Miscellaneous Other Savings Accounts 23,365

**TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS $ 63,382**

**LONG TERM ASSETS**

Mission & Education Endowment Fund: Investment Portion $ 123,194

Capital Improvement Endowment Fund: Investment Portion 951,663

Family Center Fund 39,223

Thrivent Fund 14,456

**TOTAL LONG TERM ASSETS $ 1,128,536**

**FIXED ASSETS**

Land $ 294,000

Church Building 1,207,500

Other Buildings 3,675

Parking Lots 42,000

LED Sign 50,000

Furniture and Fixtures 131,250

Office Equipment 7,350

Pipe Organ 253,575

Pianos 18,900

Hand Bells 8,295

Digital Keyboard 8,925

Art Glass Windows 88,515

Stained Glass – The Good Shepherd 250,000

472 Detroit Street 60,000

448-450 Sandusky Street 85,000

Carillon 14,700

TOTAL FIXED ASSETS $ 2,523,685

TOTAL LONG TERM ASSETS 1,128,610

TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS 63,382

TOTAL ASSETS **$ 3,715,603**

**LIABILITIES AND NET WORTH**

**LIABILITIES**

4th Quarter 2024 Accruals (Payroll taxes) $ 1,130

Benefits Accruals $ 448

**TOTAL LIABILITIES $ 1,578**

**NET WORTH $ 3,714,025**

**NET WORTH AND LIABILITIES $ 3,715,603**

**GSLC GENERAL FUND INCOME & EXPENSE STATEMENT**

**INCOME ACCOUNTS DECEMBER 31, 2024**

**GENERAL FUND INCLUDING SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Weekly Offerings $ 113,232

Special Offerings 2,865

Other Income 6,157

**TOTAL** **$ 122,254**

**EXPENSE ACCOUNTS**

**GENERAL FUND**

Christian Education including Sunday school $ 730

Evangelism 0

Social Ministry 0

Worship and Music 3,051

Stewardship 392

Staff Salaries 99,663

Staff Benefits 27,985

Property 31,279

Utilities (Annual)

Electricity 10,153

Gas 4,025

Water & Sewer 724

Telephone 574

Other Property Costs 15,802

Parish Administration 8,638

Other 10,714

**TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENSES** **$182,452**

**ESTIMATE OF MISSION FUNDING**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **2024 Budget** | **2025 Budget** | **Difference** |
| *Christian Education* |  |  |  |
| Sunday School | $1,300.00 | $1,300.00 | $0.00 |
| Vacation Bible School | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 |
|  | $1,300.00 | $1,300.00 | $0.00 |
|  |  |  |  |
| *Worship and Music* |  |  |  |
| Worship Supplies | $2,600.00 | $1,800.00 | -$800.00 |
| Maintenance - Music Equip. | $1,100.00 | $1,100.00 | $0.00 |
| Supply Pastor (@$220) | $980.00 | $980.00 | $0.00 |
| Guest Organists | $300.00 | $300.00 | $0.00 |
| Altar Guild | $200.00 | $200.00 | $0.00 |
|  | $5,180.00 | $4,380.00 | $-800.00 |
| *Stewardship* |  |  |  |
| Offering Envelopes | $450.00 | $0.00 | -$450.00 |
| Hospitality | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 |
|  | $450.00 | $0.00 | -$450.00 |
|  |  |  |  |
| *Staff Salaries* | $99,131.92 | $100,131.92 | $1,000.00 |
|  |  |  |  |
| *Staff Benefits* | $28,084.19 | $27,827.59 | -$256.60 |
|  |  |  |  |
| *Property* |  |  |  |
| Hall Usage Refund  Janitorial Supplies | $900.00  $800.00 | $600.00  $800.00 | $-300.00  $0.00 |
| Maintenance - Building | $5,235.00 | $5,000.00 | -$235.00 |
| Safety/Security | $680.00 | $900.00 | $220.00 |
| Electricity | $9,000.00 | $10,000.00 | $1,000.00 |
| Gas | $5,000.00 | $5,000.00 | $0.00 |
| Water & Sewer | $740.00 | $740.00 | $0.00 |
| Trash Removal | $715.00 | $715.00 | $0.00 |
| Snow Removal | $3,024.00 | $3,000.00 | -$24.00 |
| Insurance | $7,000.00 | $8,300.00 | $1,300.00 |
| Telephone | $570.00 | $600.00 | $30.00 |
|  | $33,664.00 | $35,655.00 | $1,991.00 |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | **2024 Budget** | **2025 Budget** | **Difference** |
|  |  |  |  |
| *Parish Administration* |  |  |  |
| Office Supplies | $1,000.00 | $1,300.00 | $300.00 |
| Pastor’s Discretionary | $900.00 | $600.00 | -$300.00 |
| Postage | $725.00 | $1,000.00 | $275.00 |
| Maint - Office Equip. | $0.00 | $2,400.00 | $2,400.00 |
| Copier Contract | $4,440.00 | $0.00 | -$4,440.00 |
| Internet Service | $1,200.00 | $1,200.00 | $0.00 |
| Sundays & Seasons | $600.00 | $600.00 | $0.00 |
| One Call | $700.00 | $600.00 | $100.00 |
|  | $9,565.00 | $7,700.00 | -$1,865.00 |
| *Finance* |  |  |  |
| Finance Charges | $30.00 | $30.00 | $0.00 |
| Bank Fees (checks/deposit slips) | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 |
|  | $30.00 | $30.00 | $0.00 |
|  |  |  |  |
| *Congregational Council* |  |  |  |
| Synod Assembly Fees | $1,500.00 | $700.00 | -$800.00 |
| Administrative Expense | $100.00 | $300.00 | $200.00 |
| Benevolence (10% giving) | $14,500.00 | $15,000.00 | $500.00 |
|  | $16,100.00 | $16,000.00 | -$100.00 |
|  |  |  |  |
| **TOTAL** | $193,505.11 | $193,024.51 | -$480.60 |