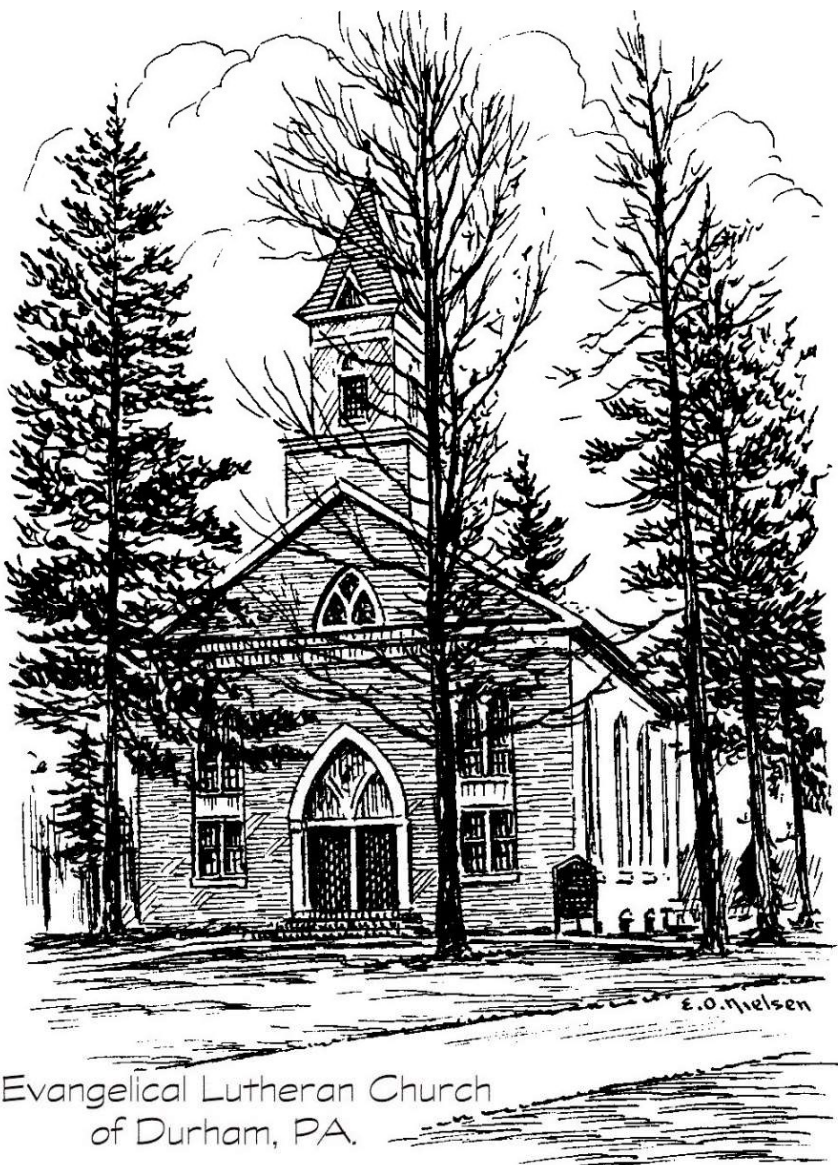


2023

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham
Annual Report



Evangelical Lutheran Church
of Durham, PA.

Annual
Congregation
Meeting

2/19/2023

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham
Annual Congregational Meeting
February 19, 2023

Table of Contents

I.	Opening	2
A.	Call to Order - Scott Gaun.....	2
B.	Brief Prayer - Rev. James Heckman	2
II.	Secretary's Report - Barb Naska	2
A.	2022 Annual Congregation meeting.....	2
B.	Budget Meeting.....	3
III.	Treasurer's Reports - Beth Snyder.....	4
A.	Income and Expense.....	4
B.	Funds report	7
IV.	Financial Secretary's Reports - Kathy Hlavaty	8
A.	Income Funds Report	8
B.	Outreach Monthly Totals.....	9
V.	Congregational Council President's Report - Scott Gaun	9
VI.	Council Nominations and Election - Scott Gaun.....	10
A.	Council Nominations and Elections.....	10
B.	Upper Bucks Conference Assembly – March 5, 2023.....	10
C.	SEPA Synod Assembly – May 5-6, 2023.....	10
D.	Congregation Constitution working group.....	10
VII.	Pastor's Report – Pastor James Heckman	10
A.	Pastoral Acts	10
B.	Pastor's Report	10
VIII.	Ministry Team Reports	12
A.	Altar Guild - Barbara Naska	12
B.	Care-A-Lot Preschool - Val McGinn	13
C.	Outreach - Helen Dungan	13
D.	WELCA - Helen Dungan	14
E.	Property - Mark Harwick	14
F.	Call Committee – Karen Beerer	16
IX.	Annual Statistical Report	16
X.	Motion to adjourn	16
XI.	Closing Prayer	16

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham
Annual Congregational Meeting
February 19, 2023

I. Opening

- A. Call to Order - Scott Gaun
- B. Brief Prayer - Rev. James Heckman

II. Secretary's Report - Barb Naska

- A. 2022 Annual Congregation meeting

ELC of Durham
Annual Congregational Revised Meeting Minutes
March 27, 2022

Meeting was called to order by President, Scott Gaun at 11:35 a.m. Attendance – 33 in-person plus on-line members.

Pastor Heckman led us in prayer.

Annual reports were handed out for those that did not have a copy.

Secretary's Report – Barb Naska – We reviewed the minutes of the Annual meeting on April 11, 2021 taken by Cathy Mueller. There were no corrections. Linda Sauter made a motion to approve the minutes; Tom Gaun seconded; All approved – motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Submitted by Beth Snyder – Beth explained her report in detail. There were no questions. Dave Sauter made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, Becky Praster seconded the motion. All approved – motion carried.

Financial Secretary's Report – submitted by Kathy Hlavaty – no questions.

President's Report – submitted by Tom Gaun – Scott mentioned he is serving his 4th year as Council President. He thanked Tom Gaun and Dianna Streletz for their years of service on council. Their terms are completed. New council members that have come forth to serve are Beth Snyder for a 3-year term and Cathy Mueller for a 3-year term.

Elections of new council members – Lynn Gaun made a motion to approve Beth Snyder as a newly elected council member, seconded by Ed Xander. Linda Sauter made a motion to approve Cathy Mueller as a newly elected council member, seconded by Tom Gaun. All approved, Motions carried.

Scott announced to the congregation that we will have 3 openings for council for the year 2023-2024. Council members going off next year will be – Mark Harwick, Scott, Gaun, and Val McGinn – their terms will be completed. Anyone interested in serving a 3-year term on council was asked to talk to Scott or a current council member.

Altar Guild – Barb Naska announced that we will be going back to pre-Covid communion beginning on Palm Sunday. We will be going to the communion rail to receive our communion for all those that can.

Care-A-Lot – Val McGinn mentioned that we have 4 commitments as of today. Possible 10 candidates. Open House will be held April 28th at 6:30.

Outreach & WELCA – contact person Helen Dungan – Our congregation is a very giving congregation. Our giving for 2021 was \$15,939.00.

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham
Annual Congregational Meeting
February 19, 2023

Prayer Chain – contact person Joan Mammana.

Property – contact person Mark Harwick – Mark asked if anyone has questions or suggestions for the future of the parsonage, please talk to him.

Playground Equipment – collected \$875.00 to date for the month of March. Tom Gaun made a motion that we spend up to \$10,000 for the playground equipment. Linda Sauter seconded the motion. All in favor – motion carried.

Adjournment – Lynn Gaun made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Joe Hlavaty seconded the motion. Motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Closed with a prayer by Pastor Heckman and the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Naska, Secretary

B. Budget Meeting

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham
Annual Congregational Budget Meeting Minutes
12/4/2022

Present (In person): 33 members present

Called to order: The meeting was called to order at 11:55 pm by President Scott Gaun.

Beth presented the 2023 annual budget and opened the floor for any questions. No questions were presented.

Dave Sauter made a motion to accept the 2023 congregational budget as is. Barbara Naska seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Joe Hlavaty motioned to end the meeting Lynn Gaun seconded. The meeting ended at 11:59

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Mueller



Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham

Annual Congregational Meeting

February 19, 2023

III. Treasurer's Reports - Beth Snyder

A. Income and Expense

		Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham Income and Expense Statement					Page: 1
01/24/2023 07:33 PM		GENERAL FUND 01, January 2022 - December 2022					
		Current Period	Year to Date	Year to Date Budget	YTD Budget Difference	Prior Year	
INCOME	4000						
CONTRIBUTION INCOME	4010						
UNRESTRICTED	4020						
Regular	4030	\$101,972.00	\$101,972.00	\$103,263.00	-\$1,291.00	\$106,663.38	
Loose	4040	2,275.50	2,275.50	1,000.00	1,275.50	1,179.00	
Holiday	4060	3,615.00	3,615.00	12,000.00	-8,385.00	4,866.00	
Flowers	4070	760.00	760.00	400.00	360.00	75.00	
Bank Interest	4080	27.04	27.04	40.00	-12.96	19.08	
AMAZON SMILES	4090	5.00	5.00	100.00	-95.00	5.00	
Care A Lot Payroll	4095	0.00	0.00	4,952.96	-4,952.96	0.00	
Subtotal Unrestricted	4020	108,654.54	108,654.54	121,755.96	-13,101.42	112,807.46	
TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED	4201						
OUTREACH = VBS	4205						
VBS	4205-102	0.00	0.00	200.00	-200.00	50.00	
Subtotal Contribution Income	4010	108,654.54	108,654.54	121,955.96	-13,301.42	112,857.46	
INVESTMENT INCOME	4500						
PORTFOLIO INCOME	4520	2,509.71	2,509.71	4,800.00	-2,290.29	2,076.03	
JANNEY TRANSFERS	4521	0.00	0.00	19,600.00	-19,600.00	9,800.00	
PORTFOLIO INTEREST	4525	0.00	0.00	12,603.00	-12,603.00	0.00	
Subtotal Portfolio Income	4520	2,509.71	2,509.71	37,003.00	-34,493.29	11,876.03	
Subtotal Investment Income	4500	2,509.71	2,509.71	37,003.00	-34,493.29	11,876.03	
MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	4600						
Miscellaneous Income	4620	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	71.00	
GENERAL FUND	4805-100	355.00	355.00	0.00	355.00	0.00	
Subtotal Miscellaneous Income	4600	355.00	355.00	0.00	355.00	71.00	
TOTAL INCOME		111,519.25	111,519.25	158,958.96	-47,439.71	124,804.49	
EXPENSES	5000						
PASTORAL MINISTRY	5050						
PASTOR COMPENSATION	5050-010						
Pastor Gross Pay	5050-011	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$31,222.68	\$31,222.68	\$23,417.01	
Christmas Gift	5050-015	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	-1,000.00	100.00	
Furnishings Allowance	5050-020	0.00	0.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	2,250.00	
Pastor Taxes	5050-021						
Fed	5050-022	0.00	0.00	10,560.00	10,560.00	7,920.00	
State	5050-023	0.00	0.00	1,575.00	1,575.00	1,181.25	
Local	5050-024	0.00	0.00	641.28	641.28	480.96	
Subtotal Pastor Taxes	5050-021	0.00	0.00	12,776.28	12,776.28	9,582.21	
Social Security Allowance	5050-030	0.00	0.00	4,305.48	4,305.48	3,229.11	
Pension	5050-040	0.00	0.00	7,982.00	7,982.00	5,973.30	
Med/Disability/etc	5050-050	0.00	0.00	13,652.00	13,652.00	10,104.84	
Housing Equity	5050-056	3,808.22	3,808.22	1,000.00	-2,808.22	749.97	
Subtotal Pastor Compensation	5050-010	4,808.22	4,808.22	73,938.44	69,130.22	55,406.44	
OTHER	5050-059						
Mileage Reimbursement	5050-060	162.63	162.63	900.00	737.37	0.00	
Meetings/CE/Subscrip	5050-070	230.00	230.00	300.00	70.00	154.99	

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham

Annual Congregational Meeting

February 19, 2023

01/24/2023 07:33 PM

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham
Income and Expense Statement
 GENERAL FUND 01, January 2022 - December 2022

Page: 2

		Current Period	Year to Date	Year to Date Budget	YTD Budget Difference	Prior Year
Supply Pastors	5050-150	36,418.75	36,418.75	400.00	-36,018.75	3,050.00
Subtotal Other	5050-059	36,811.38	36,811.38	1,600.00	-35,211.38	3,204.99
Subtotal Pastoral Ministry	5050	41,619.60	41,619.60	75,538.44	33,918.84	58,611.43
WORSHIP AND MUSIC	5100					
Supply organist	5100-030	0.00	0.00	750.00	750.00	0.00
Worship Expense	5100-100	1,154.00	1,154.00	1,750.00	596.00	1,581.10
Flowers	5100-200	873.62	873.62	400.00	-473.62	298.42
Music Supplies	5100-250	62.69	62.69	0.00	-62.69	26.99
Organ and Piano Tuning	5100-260	765.00	765.00	500.00	-265.00	880.00
Devotionals	5100-300	537.44	537.44	700.00	162.56	562.00
Subtotal Worship And Music	5100	3,392.75	3,392.75	4,100.00	707.25	3,348.51
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	5300					
Sunday School	5300-010	279.98	279.98	1,000.00	720.02	439.26
Adult Education	5300-020	0.00	0.00	200.00	200.00	150.00
Youth Ministry	5300-030	133.39	133.39	500.00	366.61	0.00
Vacation Bible School	5300-040	0.00	0.00	200.00	200.00	0.00
Supplies	5300-050	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Subtotal Christian Education	5300	413.37	413.37	2,000.00	1,586.63	589.26
LOCAL COMMUNITY SUPPORT	5400					
Local Support	5400-005	162.00	162.00	0.00	-162.00	0.00
Fire Company/EMT Ambulanc	5400-034	400.00	400.00	400.00	0.00	400.00
WIDER COMMUNITY SUPPORT	5400-039					
Synod Assembly Attendees	5400-080	140.00	140.00	200.00	60.00	220.00
Subtotal Local Community Support	5400	702.00	702.00	600.00	-102.00	620.00
STEWARDSHIP	5500					
PROPERTY	5500-100					
Workers Comp Insurance	5500-110	293.00	293.00	750.00	457.00	489.00
Prop/Liab Insurance	5500-120	5,007.00	5,007.00	5,100.00	93.00	5,236.00
Grounds Mnt/Cemetary Co	5500-130	2,100.00	2,100.00	2,000.00	-100.00	1,800.00
Property Committee	5500-140	4,506.72	4,506.72	4,000.00	-506.72	8,313.78
Subtotal Property	5500-100	11,906.72	11,906.72	11,850.00	-56.72	15,838.78
ADMINISTRATION	5500-200					
Office Supplies/Services	5500-210	1,276.36	1,276.36	830.00	-446.36	887.85
Bank Fees	5500-220	58.36	58.36	60.00	1.64	58.36
Church Utilities	5500-230	6,038.78	6,038.78	8,000.00	1,961.22	6,966.00
Internet/Website Renewals	5500-240	579.77	579.77	370.00	-209.77	300.00
Postage	5500-250	518.00	518.00	800.00	282.00	679.90
Miscellaneous	5500-260	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,092.50
Payroll Service	5500-270	1,004.55	1,004.55	1,200.00	195.45	1,054.00
Staff Christmas Gift	5500-280	400.00	400.00	400.00	0.00	400.00
Subtotal Administration	5500-200	9,875.82	9,875.82	11,660.00	1,784.18	18,438.61
STAFF	5500-300					
Chior Director Gross Pay	5500-305	10,514.76	10,514.76	11,197.80	683.04	10,689.27
Parish Secretary Gross Pa	5500-310	4,767.00	4,767.00	8,798.76	4,031.76	4,707.41
CareALot Teacher Gross Pa	5500-315	0.00	0.00	4,952.00	4,952.00	0.00
Custodian Gross Pay	5500-320	3,921.12	3,921.12	3,921.12	0.00	3,921.12

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham
Annual Congregational Meeting
February 19, 2023

01/24/2023 07:33 PM

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham
Income and Expense Statement
 GENERAL FUND 01, January 2022 - December 2022

Page: 3

		Current Period	Year to Date	Year to Date Budget	YTD Budget Difference	Prior Year
Treasurer Gross Pay	5500-325	4,531.80	4,531.80	5,251.80	720.00	4,535.13
Federal Taxes	5500-330	1,920.00	1,920.00	1,074.48	-845.52	1,742.16
State Taxes	5500-340	894.60	894.60	1,602.36	707.76	892.52
Local Taxes	5500-350	358.68	358.68	778.44	419.76	358.01
Social Security	5500-360	3,612.96	3,612.96	6,283.20	2,670.24	3,604.60
Medicare Taxes	5500-370	845.04	845.04	1,150.56	305.52	843.08
Subtotal Staff	5500-300	31,365.96	31,365.96	45,010.52	13,644.56	31,293.30
FINANCE	5500-400					
Accounting	5500-410	3,955.00	3,955.00	500.00	-3,455.00	455.00
Finance and Stewardship	5500-420	350.32	350.32	500.00	149.68	359.35
Subtotal Finance	5500-400	4,305.32	4,305.32	1,000.00	-3,305.32	814.35
PARSONAGE	5500-500					
Parsonage Utilities	5500-550	6,072.31	6,072.31	4,000.00	-2,072.31	5,102.37
Parsonage Property Taxes	5500-555	3,308.64	3,308.64	3,200.00	-108.64	3,192.40
Subtotal Parsonage	5500-500	9,380.95	9,380.95	7,200.00	-2,180.95	8,294.77
Subtotal Stewardship	5500	66,834.77	66,834.77	76,720.52	9,885.75	74,679.81
TOTAL EXPENSES		112,962.49	112,962.49	158,958.96	45,996.47	137,849.01
EXCESS INCOME/EXPENSES		-\$1,443.24	-\$1,443.24	\$0.00	-\$1,443.24	-\$13,044.52



Finance
Update

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham
Annual Congregational Meeting
February 19, 2023

B. Funds report

EVANGELICAL CHURCH OF DURHAM
2022 ANNUAL INCOME & EXPENSE & TRANSFERS

FUND DESCRIPTION	1/1/2022	INCOME	TRANSFERS	EXPENSE	TOTAL	
BALANCES FORWARD						FUND CATEGORY TOTALS
GENERAL OPERATING FUND	14,151.34	115,882.50	4,398.00	(115,905.89)	18,525.95	18,525.95
						GENERAL FUND
MISSION SUPPORT	-	8,798.00	1,202.00	(10,000.00)	-	
GOOD NEIGHBOR OUTREACH FUND	5,065.18	4,335.00	-	(3,163.00)	6,237.18	6,237.18
MONTHLY OUTREACH	1,850.00	10,465.00	-	(12,315.00)	-	
						OUTREACH FUNDS
PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT	3,049.00	7,276.00	-	(10,325.00)	-	
BUILDING FUND	60,448.39	11,524.16	1,400.00	(66,677.50)	6,695.05	6,695.05
						BUILDING FUNDS
MEMORIAL FUND	6,526.00	3,040.00	-	(494.70)	9,071.30	9,071.30
						MEMORIAL FUND
WELCA - OUTREACH FUND	602.03	2,425.45	-	(2,306.07)	721.41	721.41
						WELCA FUNDS
LIBRARY FUND	541.02	-	-	-	541.02	541.02
						LIBRARY FUNDS
KATHY HLAVATY - SCHLRSP FUND	2,168.59	1,020.00	(400.00)	-	2,788.59	KATHY HLAVATY SCHOLARSHIP FUND
CARE-A-LOT PROGRAM FUND	3,054.50	9,734.79	400.00	(8,676.61)	4,512.68	CARE A LOT PRESCHOOL FUND
TOTAL OF FUNDS AT BANK	97,456.05	174,500.90	7,000.00	(229,863.77)	49,093.18	TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS AT BANK
	BALANCE FWD	GAINS	TRANSFERS	LOSSES	FUND BALANCE	FUND CATEGORY TOTALS
JANNEY -HOLLAND - STUDENT LOAN FUND	5,487.69	-	-	-	5,487.69	HOLLAND STUDENT LOAN FUND
PARSONAGE SALE PROCEEDS	-	286,232.97	-	-	286,232.97	PARSONAGE SALE PROCEEDS
JANNEY FUNDS - FIXED INCOME	201,551.99	1,186.64	(7,000.00)	(1,675.81)	194,062.82	JANNEY FUNDS - FIXED INCOME
JANNEY FUNDS - D. SHAEFFER	639,793.57	69,844.80	-	(87,261.90)	622,376.47	JANNEY FUNDS - D. SHAEFFER
JANNEY FUNDS - ELCOD INVSTMT	696,140.44	93,758.86	-	(133,574.52)	656,324.78	JANNEY FUNDS - ELCOD INVSTMT
MISSION INVESTMENT FUND	34,343.88	772.29	-	-	35,116.17	MISSION INVESTMENT FUND
THRIVENT FINANCIAL FUND	90,631.53	2,180.99	-	(15,484.68)	77,327.84	THRIVENT FINANCIAL FUND
TOTAL OF INVESTMENT FUNDS	1,667,949.10	453,976.55	(7,000.00)	(237,996.91)	1,876,928.74	TOTAL OF INVESTMENT FUNDS
TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS	1,765,405.15	628,477.45	-	(467,860.68)	1,926,021.92	

1/1/2022

12/31/2022

12/31/2022

12/31/2022

12/31/2022



For where your treasure is,
there your heart will be also.

Matthew 6:21

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham
Annual Congregational Meeting
February 19, 2023

IV. Financial Secretary's Reports - Kathy Hlavaty

A. Income Funds Report

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham

Funds Report

Posted Contributions For Period: 01/01/2022 to 12/31/2022

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
10	Loose Offering	2,275.50
30	Regular	102,405.00
40	Mission	8,798.00
45	Flowers	760.00
50	Good Neighbor	4,335.00
60	Building	11,524.16
72	Lenten	465.00
75	Easter	1,220.00
76	Christmas	1,930.00
80	Welca Dues	515.00
81	Welca Income	12.45
100	Care-a-lot Tuition	220.00
101	AHUB	690.00
103	Disaster Relief	900.00
104	Care-A-Lot Scholarship	1,020.00
105	CWS Blanket	625.00
106	CWS Tools	815.00
109	Food Pantries	5,070.00
111	World Hunger	2,365.00
116	Playground Equipment Update	7,276.00
117	Care-A-Lot Donation	660.00
508	Honor of Mr/Mrs Bruce Kriebel	375.00
509	Memorial for MaryEllen Jonczyk	300.00
510	Memorial for Donald V Seipt	2,365.00
604	WELCA - Samaritan's Purse	1,898.00
Grand Total		158,819.11

Submitted by Kathy Hlavaty, Financial Secretary

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham
Annual Congregational Meeting
February 19, 2023

B. Outreach Monthly Totals

Month	Recipient	Amount
January	Food pantries	\$565
February	Food pantries	\$2,830
March	Playground equipment	\$1,505
April	Care-a-lot Scholarships	\$1,020
May	CWS Blankets	\$645
June	CWS tools	\$795
July	Food pantries	\$640
August	Food pantries	\$1,035
September	Lutheran Disaster Relief	\$900
October	World hunger	\$1,705
November	World hunger	\$660
December	AHUB	\$690
	Total	\$12,990

V. Congregational Council President's Report - Scott Gaun

Now that my six years on council are coming to an end, the last 5 being spent as your President, I'd like to reflect on what council has meant to me.

The last thing I thought when I joined Durham Lutheran in 2016 is that I would serve on any council or committee. I like to sing and the last Church I belonged to I joined the choir so I figured that would be my calling for Durham. I always sat next to Pastor Dave at choir practice and it didn't take long for him to start putting a bug in my ear about joining council. At first I thought ME, on council? But we all know Pastor is persistent and persuading and he finally got me to say yes. Well I couldn't thank him enough! These last six years of my church life have been a very rewarding experience. I really learned what the term "fellowship" means. The group of people that I have had the pleasure of working and spending time with over these past 6 years has not only made me a better Christian but a better person.

As a whole, for the last 6 years, we as council have accomplished more than I could have imagined. Between all the property upgrades, the re-opening of Care-A-Lot and the search for a new Pastor it just goes to show that when good people come together by the grace of God there's nothing they can't do! So for now, I take a hiatus from council because I'm sure I'll be back in some form or fashion a year from now. In the meantime I'm always here for my Church family in whatever capacity they need me. May God bless and keep you all!

Sincerely Your President,
Scott Gaun

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham
Annual Congregational Meeting
February 19, 2023

VI. Council Nominations and Election - Scott Gaun

A. Council Nominations and Elections

There are four 3 year term seats to be filled for this year's council roster.

Scott Gaun, Mark Harwick and Val McGinn are completing their second terms as of March 2023, and so are not eligible for a 3rd term per the church bylaws. Beth Snyder is transferring membership to another church, so we need someone to fill out the remaining 2 years of her term.

B. Upper Bucks Conference Assembly – March 5, 2023

We will be holding elections for Dean and Treasurer, and introducing a grant program from the Fisher Trusts. Need to appoint two delegates, preferably one Female and one Male.

C. SEPA Synod Assembly – May 5-6, 2023

This will be in person this year at Franconia Mennonite Church. Need to appoint two delegates, preferably one Female, one Male, and optionally one youth representative.

D. Congregation Constitution working group.

We will be updating the Constitution and By-Laws this year for approval in the 2024 congregational meeting. We need to appoint a few volunteers to work in this update. This will require about 1-2 hour per month for up to 6 months.

VII. Pastor's Report – Pastor James Heckman

A. Pastoral Acts

Baptisms: November 6, 2022 (All Saints' Sunday)

Julia Ann Michl DOB: 8/22/22

Parents: Bethany Marie Michl (ne. Naska) and Joshua Allan Michl

First Communion: June 5, 2022 (Pentecost)

Landon Helfrich

Affirmation of Baptism: June 12, 2022 (Trinity Sunday)

(Confirmation) Clayton Helfrich

Addyson Mammana

Ben Naska

Funerals: December 10, 2022

Donald V. Seipt (DOD: 12/3/2022)

B. Pastor's Report

It is not often that a Bridge Pastor has to write an Annual Report. While I wasn't the official Bridge until March 1st, I had already become engaged with the congregation by supply preaching at least two Sunday's a month beginning in October of 2021. I will confess when the question of my becoming a bridge here at Durham, I was hesitant for three reasons. First, the church is about 25 miles from my home and that was before gas price went crazy. Second, the last two Bridges I served were very

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham
Annual Congregational Meeting
February 19, 2023

challenging and I wasn't sure I wanted the headaches. Finally, I know that retirement was just around the corner for my wife and myself (as a school bus driver), so I didn't want to get into any responsibility entanglements. Honestly, if the Dean had asked me to consider taking Durham as a Bridge in October of '21 I probably would have said no. However, as I came to worship with you over the next 5 months and got to know you a little better, when the question was asked, I said I would consider it. Then the Spirit took hold and before I know it, it was a done deal, and I was your Bridge Pastor and to date I have never for one second regretted the decision. You have been open to dealing with the limitations I brought with my bus driving and have warmly welcomed me, my wife and my leadership.

While 2022 began with the challenges of hangover from Covid and the lack of any regular pastoral leadership, Durham moved forward with focus and determination. This was clearly displayed by the Transition Team under the leadership of Pastor Shirley Guider. They undertook their task of writing the congregation's profile, and the congregation supported it by sharing thoughts, concerns and visions with the team. Before we knew it, the MSP was approved and sent on its way to the Synod. Now we wait for the Spirit's action.

The issue of getting things "back to normal" after Covid took a little longer. Without pastoral leadership, the worship went along as best it could but questions were there about what the future would hold. So in March when I officially became the Bridge, I was faced with two critical issues. The first was Lent, Holy Week and Easter worship preparations. The second was finding a pattern of worship which would feel comfortable and stable for moving into the future. Both tasks were helped along with the support of our wonderful Organist/Choir Director Carolyn Williams. We not only made it through Lent, but we had powerful Holy Week celebrations which culminated on Easter Day. The reality is, that any time pastoral leadership changes in a church, the "flavor" of worship changes. By the end of the year, we have found a new comfort zone. That does not mean that it will never change, for indeed it will change when you call a new pastor. In the meantime, we have worked to enhance our worship by making some changes to our bulletin format. This continues as a work in progress.

Shortly after arriving, I was thrown into the process of Confirmation Classes. The blessing was that Durham has worked with Trinity, Pleasant Valley and St. Peter's, Riegelsville on Confirmation Classes and I simply eased into the rotation of teaching. Thanks to Pastor Gow, it was a smooth and strong transition. While this was my first encounter with the other congregations in PALM (Palisades Area Lutheran Ministry) it was far from the last. What a blessing this relationship has been for all the congregations. It showed itself most brightly with the Living Nativity event in December. I believe that this is an important and strong relationship which needs to be fostered.

While Christian Education is another area of ministry which often identifies the health of a congregation, our year-end report is one of a dynamic high and a concerning low. First the high. Durham has a great strength in adult education. It manifests itself in a strong Wednesday afternoon adult study which currently runs about 10 or so (with room for more). This group is lay-led and always

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham
Annual Congregational Meeting
February 19, 2023

willing to ask questions of faith that the scripture stirs up. There is also a Sunday morning class which is led by Helen Dungan. Unfortunately, Sunday morning education is where we meet our challenge. Since the end of Covid, we have not reinstituted a children's Sunday School program. This is not due to lack of interest, but lack of children. This is an area for concern and creative thinking in the coming years – how do we reach out to more families with children. The reality is that this area doesn't have as many children as it used to, so maybe the deeper question is, what ministry is God calling us to period?

A significant responsibility for answering this question will fall upon the leadership of the Church Council. While we struggled at the beginning of the year to fill the vacancies, once we did, we had a strong and active council. However, we once again face the problem of leadership turnover. We need 4 new council members. I am sure that the leadership necessary is within the congregation. I am praying that the right people hear the Spirit's call and respond. God will provide.

The other part of a good leadership team is the employed staff. This year we had to replace our church secretary and we have been blessed with Ken Anderson's taking the position. We are also in the process of hiring a bookkeeper to fill the shoes of Beth Snyder who faithfully serviced as Treasurer/Bookkeeper for nine years but is now transferring to a church closer to home and family. We give thanks for her work and wish her God's speed in her new church home. I have already mentioned Carolyn and the blessing she is. And I do want to thank Dianna Streletz who continues as our custodian, keeping the church clean and cared for every week.

One last program which I must mention is Care-a-lot. After a two-year hiatus, it is up and running again with nine wonderful children. We are thankful for Lisa Miller and Samantha O'Brien who led the program. It is hoped that we will keep it going in 2023, yet it will take the effort of the entire congregation to help produce potential students.

While my time here at Durham is an unknown, I will continue to count it a blessing to work with the strong leadership team to discern God's will for your future ministry.

Your servant in Christ,

The Rev. James T. Heckman

VIII. Ministry Team Reports

A. Altar Guild - Barbara Naska

2022 Altar Guild consists of nine members (Mark Harwick, Valerie McGinn, Nancy Moskella, Barbara Naska, Dorothy Peterman, Becky Praster, Linda Sauter, Beth Snyder, and Bea von Watzdorf). A few of our members were on sabbatical this past year because of health issues and family commitments. I would like to thank all the members that stepped up and filled in when needed. A very big thank you to Cheryl Mesko, Beth Snyder, and Serena Ashmore for their many years of service to the guild.

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham
Annual Congregational Meeting
February 19, 2023

It is with great pleasure to announce the return of LeeAnn Kressman and Miriam Anderson. Thank you ladies.

This group of men and woman prepares the church sanctuary for service every Sunday morning and holidays. We are always looking for new members. Anyone interested in learning more about the responsibilities of an altar guild member, please don't hesitate to reach out to me or any existing member.

Many thanks to all that served on the Guild in 2022 and I look forward to another year serving with you. May God bless you and your families in 2023 as we continue to move forward.

Submitted by Barbara Naska, Chairperson

B. Care-A-Lot Preschool - Val McGinn

After a 2 year closure due to the Covid pandemic, CAL reopened in September with a new Head Teacher, Lisa Miller. Samantha O'Brien returned as Assistant Teacher. We have 9 children, 6 of whom are expected to move on to kindergarten, so we ask the congregation's assistance in seeking potential students for the 2023-24 school year. Our hours remain Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 9:15 am to 12:15 pm, from September to May. The new playground gets frequent and joyful use. The children were adorable as the angels in the Live Nativity in December.

Val McGinn, Council Liaison to CAL

C. Outreach - Helen Dungan

Prayer ministry: Joan Mammana is the contact person for adding names to the prayer list (phone: 610-258-5717 or 610-417-6553; email: yakkityyak7@gmail.com)

Social ministry: We collected food, personal care needs, and cleaning supplies for our two foodbanks throughout the year. We also collected supplies for 5 cleanup buckets which were sent by the Cluster to Kentucky to help with the cleanup after their devastating floods. Lynn Gaun orchestrated our Christmas outreach to children in need in our area – gathering names and getting gifts. We made soup and sold it by the jar at Durham Days – contributing the proceeds to Samaritan's Purse to support their work in Ukraine.

We used the Outreach collection envelopes to donate \$12,990 to help our neighbors in need.

Shut in ministry: We went Christmas caroling to many of our home bound members – WELCA donated poinsettias for us to deliver. We traveled from Bethlehem to Doylestown!

Shut in members are: Cleo & Ken Eck; Norma Fox; Betty Kreitz; Phyllis Lanshe; Jayne Miller; Silas Rodenbach; and Hal Taylor.

Helen Dungan

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham
Annual Congregational Meeting
February 19, 2023

D. WELCA - Helen Dungan

Programs: Lynn Gaun presented a program on the history of our church's women's group based on over a hundred years of minutes. Becky Praster shared some of her experiences serving in the Foreign Service with her husband including Afghanistan. We held her talk on Sunday after church, so the whole congregation could hear her. We listened to a recording of the Bible study on Esther that was given at the Churchwide Women of the ELCA's Leadership Event. We also went over some of the issues facing our society that WELCA is emphasizing, and decided to make a donation to Samaritan's Purse, an organization providing medical care to Ukrainians. With the help of the congregation, we raised \$1,000 for them. We also made soup for Durham Days, using many home-grown vegetables. Kathy Hlavaty's quilting group had made a quilt commemorating Ukraine, and we exhibited this at Durham Days. All proceeds also went to Samaritan's Purse. Lynn Gaun led us in making new Chrismons for our Christmas trees. In June we went to Olive Garden for our annual lunch for the first time in years.

Ongoing ministries: We sponsored the congregational Christmas covered dish dinner also for the first time in 3 years. We gave plants at Christmas to our shut-ins, and organized Blanket and Tool Sundays.

Officers are:

- Helen Dungan, president
- Gladys Nicholas, vice president
- Barbara Naska, secretary / treasurer

Helen Dungan

E. Property - Mark Harwick

2022 had several significant events involving the Church's physical property. New playground equipment was installed in the Spring. This Summer the exterior of the Church was painted by Bennett Painting. And in September the parsonage was sold. Generous donations of money, time, and hard work made all these things possible. These projects were the results of the ENTIRE congregation working together with purpose, vision, and conviction. Together we can be proud of the upkeep, improvements, and beautifications made to our buildings and grounds this year.

Other activities in 2022 included repairing the interior narthex and stairway walls, hiring Hissim Woodworking to repair and rebuild the ornamental woodwork at our front door entranceway, thoroughly cleaning the horse stalls and garage bay in preparation for our Fall picnic, keeping the chairlift operational (with careful monitoring during use), an expensive snaking and unclogging of our bathroom septic lines, a professional inspection of the church building for any signs of termite activity (none found), and replacing bulbs in the light fixtures hanging from the church sanctuary ceiling.

Routine activities have been the biannual testing of our well water, the annual inspection and maintenance of all fire extinguishers and kitchen ansul system, and in December the biennial Pa. state inspection of the boiler and furnace.

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham
Annual Congregational Meeting
February 19, 2023

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank some people whose hard work and contributions might not have been so evident to the congregation:

PS Construction Inc. (Dianna and Peter Strelitz) for tearing out and removing the old playground equipment, wood chipping and softening the new area, and repairing water-damaged walls in the parsonage.

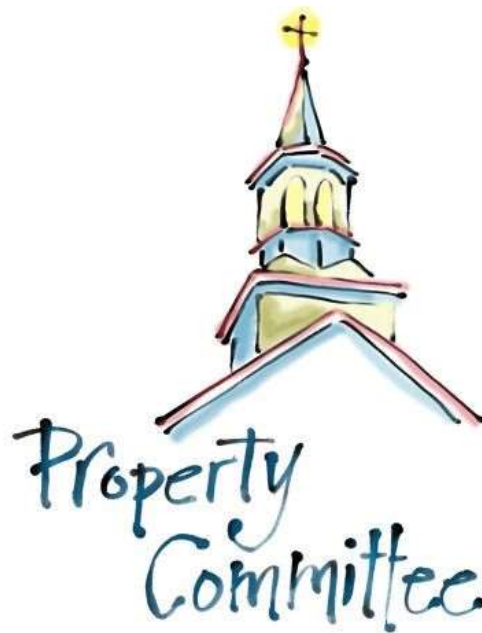
The Mueller family (and everyone else) who helped carry everything out of the attic at the parsonage, and then helped empty the house completely.

Kathy and Joe Hlavaty for scrubbing and cleaning and hosing the mold and mildew off all the outside walls of the church office and then painting the trim around the windows.

To Miriam Anderson who plants, waters, weeds, and maintains our beautiful outdoor flowers and landscaping.

To Bob Fox for plumbing repairs to a busted water line that restored water to our outside spigot.

And as I leave council after 6 years, a personal thank you to Dave Sauter who ALWAYS took my calls and was available with knowledge, advice, and guidance.



Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham
Annual Congregational Meeting
February 19, 2023

F. Call Committee – Karen Beerer

IX. Annual Statistical Report

Baptized Membership as of 12/31/2020	167
Members received in 2022	1
One Child Baptism	
Members Removed in 2022	1
One Adult Member removed by death	
Total Baptized Membership as of 12/31/2022	167
Confirmed Membership as of 12/31/2020	162
Confirmed Membership as of 12/31/2022	162

X. Motion to adjourn

XI. Closing Prayer



Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham
PO Box 100
Durham, Pa 18039-0100