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Congregation Council Members: (End of Term)

President	Chris Bush (2021)
Vice President	Randy Teegardin (2022)
Secretary	Shayna Gibbons (2021)
Treasurer	Ed Domke (2022)

Council Members

Deborah Wilke (2022)
Jamie Heise (2022)
Bill Freedlund (2022)
Clyde Watson Jr. (2022)
Vickey Argo (2021)
Gary Golnek (2021)
Doug Neeb (2021)
Angela Pruitt (2021)

2021 Annual Congregational Meeting Agenda

Call to order - Vice President Randy Teegardin

Prayer - Pastor Ken Scheck II

Approval of Agenda

Opening Remarks - Randy Teegardin

2020 Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes

Committee Reports

Congregational Membership Report

Statistical Report

Old Business

New Business

Nomination Ballot - Vote

Consideration of Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 - Vote

2026 Goals - Where does Grace go in ministry?

Congregation Remarks

Motion to Adjourn

Closing Prayer

Rules for Discussion and Debate

Based upon Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised in Brief

Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised in Brief

Discussion/debate is limited to those items listed on the agenda.

Each member may speak on a single topic of discussion only two times.

Each member may speak in debate only twice on any debatable motion.

Each time, a member may speak for up to, but not exceeding, 5 minutes.

Time may not be yielded or transferred to someone else.

Members must wait for the current speaker to conclude before signaling your desire to speak.

Stand to indicate a desire to speak to a debate/discussion and wait to be addressed by the Vice-President.

Preference will be given to those who have not spoken over those who have already spoken to the discussion/debate.

Discussion/debate that references another member will be ruled out of order.

Discussion/debate is directed to the Vice-President, not other members.

Questions are to be asked through the Vice-President

[i.e. Mr. President, would the Property Chair speak to the...]

Once a vote has been taken, that specific matter is considered settled and may not be revisited.



Draft - To be approved by Congregation at the Annual Meeting

**Grace Lutheran Church
Annual Meeting Minutes
July 19, 2020**

In attendance: 34 voting members, listed below, meeting the required quorum of 30. (20% of 150 total voting members). The original attendance sign-in sheets are maintained by the Parish Administrator in the Church Office.

Anton, Mark	Heise, David	Scheck, Anna	Wales, Traci
Argo, Vickey	Heise, Jamie	Scheck, Ethan	Watson, Clyde Jr.
Beck, Shirley	Kogge, Jeanette	Scheck, Kenneth II	Watson, Kate
Burdick, John	Longcor, Joe	Scheck, Laura	Wilke, Deborah
Bush, Chris	Neeb, David	Schoessel, Carl	Winick, Kristi
Domke, Ed	Neil, Carla	Varkula, Joe	Wood, Barry
Domke, Kim	Olson, Cindy	Varkula, Sharon	Wood, Margaret
Freedlund, Bill	Proksch, Joyce	Vos, Carol	
Gibbons , Shayna	Proksch, Lyle	Vos, Jack	

Call to Order

- Meeting called to order at 9:30 am by Chris Bush.
- The Congregation was led in prayer by Pastor Ken

Attendance was taken by Shayna Gibbons and Ethan Scheck

Approval of Agenda

A motion was passed to approve the agenda as published in the Annual Report.

Opening Remarks

Thank you everyone for your flexibility during this unusual time we are facing in our world. Thank you to Vickey Argo for monitoring and keeping us on -point in our parliamentary procedure during the meeting . Chris called out the members leaving Council this year : John B., Erin E. , Randy T. Vickey A. (stepping into a new role) . Chris thanked these members for their service , Thank you cards were given , which were signed by Chris and Pastor.

Previous Annual Meeting Minutes

A motion was passed to approve the 2019 Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes. No discussion was submitted.

Reports

A motion was passed to approve the reports as presented in the Annual Report . No discussion occurred

Congregational Membership Report

A motion was passed to approve as corrected for the change of members removed from the role as 5 not 6 for the Congregational Membership Report published in the Annual Report.

We have 33 inactive members , we brought in two members , 2 transfers and 3 deaths.

Statistical Report

A motion was passed to approve the Statistical Report as published in the Annual report.

Old Business

None.

New Business

A motion was passed to approve the ballot by voice as printed in the annual report packet. No discussion was submitted during discussion time. Nominations from the floor were requested three times; none were submitted.

A motion was approved for the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year budget. The following discussion occurred.

-A request was made for the Stewardship Chair to talk about changes to the budget. Clyde Watson made the following notes:

-The budget was tough this year. The support from the Executive, past chair, and Council members was much appreciated.

The impact of COVID was a huge indicator of how we looked at the annual budget this year.

-Our giving is higher than it has been in 5 years!

-Pretty significant reduction had to be taken then we have had to previously.

Cindy Olson- Can you please tell me why the substitute labor line (Line 5.200.305) is at 0% ? I thought that line item is used partly for when I need to take a Sunday off, and I am supposed to get 4 days a year off. We are going to consider it only for the people who fill in when you are gone, not for you. We may be able to take from another non budgeted choir line item if needed.

Joe Longcor - I make a proposal we put the line back at \$500 which will cover these 4 days- A motion was made and passed to add \$500 substitute labor to line 5.200.305. Deborah Wilke asked about line 5.200.600. Is that only pastors ? Yes clarification - mostly for mileage, not just pay for pastoral duties for the day . The new proposed budget after adding in the \$500 for Line 5.200.305 is \$219,816.60. There was one voting member who abstained.

Shirley Beck- How much do we still owe on Mortgage? I do not have that information. We will ask Randy and Vickey to get together and report back in. The original has been paid off, it is the expansion.

Kim Domke- Can people come to the microphone when they ask questions? No, we are repeating questions and trying to follow the social distancing guidelines.

Congregational Remarks From the Floor

Joe Longcor- I would like to say thank you to Pastor and the entire team for being so flexible during this time. The team is all doing a great job.

Special shout out to Anna for all the tech and the video services during this time.

Chirs Bush -Thank you to Kim Domke's brother who was here a couple months and showed us some ways to make the live stream better for online worship.

Meeting adjourned at 10:10 am with prayer led by Pastor Ken.

Special Congregational Meeting August 23, 2020- Amendment

In attendance

40 voting members in attendance , meeting the required quorum of 34.

Argo, Vickey	Gibbons, Shayna	Melcher, Linda	Scheck, Laura	Vos, Carol
Burdick, John	Kemper, Michael	Neeb, Diane	Schoessel, Carl	Vos, Jack
Bush, Chris	Knickerbocker, Jerry	Neeb, Doug	Schossel, Tim	Watson, Clyde Jr.
Clements, Cherie	Longcor, Joe	Proksch, Joyce	Steadman, Victoria	Wilke, Deborah
Domke, Ed	Marsh, Kay	Proksch, Lyle	Teegardin, Brenda	Winick, Kristi
Domke, Kim	Maupin, Larry	Scheck, Anna	Teegardin, Randy	Wood, Barry
Freedlund, Bill	Maupin, Linda	Scheck, Ethan	Varkula, Joe	Wood, Erika
Freedlund, Lorraine	Melcher, Dick	Scheck, Kenneth II	Varkula, Sharon	Wood, Margaret

Meeting was opened at 9:33 with a prayer led by Mike Kemper.

New Business

A motion was made and approved to elect all the candidates on the nomination ballot into their positions by voice vote. Passed.

Gwen- Are council members informed of what is happening even if not coming to church? Yes, we have monthly council meetings and email correspondence sent out often.

Meeting adjourned at 9:41 with a prayer led by Pastor Ken

REPORT OF MINISTER OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

Grace Lutheran Church, Hastings, Michigan
Year of our Lord 2021
Pastor Kenneth Scheck II

When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart. Jeremiah 29:13

Dear Friends in Christ,

I have been thinking these past few weeks about the potential and purpose Grace Lutheran Church Hastings, Michigan. I attended a conference at Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus, Ohio. One of the conference presenters was my classmate from that very seminary Pastor Doug Hill of Abiding Hope Church in Littleton, Colorado. Pastor Doug spent time focusing on the need for parishes to develop and use guiding statements (mission, vision, and core values). His emphasis on core values intrigued me. Pastor Doug argued that common core values help define the character and culture of a parish.

The core values of Abiding Hope Church in Littleton, Colorado are:

- Authentic Worship
- Intentional Relationships
- Sacrificial Service
- Radical Generosity

Every mission and ministry endeavor at Abiding Hope Church is filtered through these four core values. Values are like a compass. They guide us to choose the proper path to take. Values can also serve as a home base and draw us back to who we are supposed to be.

What would you say are the core values of Grace Lutheran Church? Did you know that it is Grace Lutheran Church who sets these core values? The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the National Church, does not set the values for our congregation. The North/West Lower Michigan Synod does not mandate our core values. Grace Lutheran Church is the place for us to determine the congregation's core values. I have not seen any formal core values, and I would invite us to form core values. With core values that are set, they can serve and guide the ministries and mission that God calls us to live here at Grace Lutheran Church. If we do not have core values, we will move as a boat without a rudder.

One of the core values that I have witnessed as pastor of Grace Lutheran Church is our striving for Authentic Worship. As I look at some of our 2026 Goals for Grace, I realize there is a desire for intentional relationships among the people of God. I am prayerful that we can be bold and develop these core values, so that we can seek the Holy Spirit's work here in this place and find God's direction for our congregation.

Searching God with my heart, *Pastor Ken Scheck II +*

REPORT OF MINISTER OF MUSIC

Cindy Olson

It continues to be my honor to be called to the Minister of Music position at Grace! I will be wrapping up my 19th year by the end of summer! The following was included as part of last year's annual report and it pretty much remains the same:

I continue to enjoy being able to participate in almost all aspects of the musical life of this congregation. Admittedly, COVID-19 has created major changes in how we live and serve together. The most obvious is that it is not prudent to sing in group settings currently, which could, unfortunately, last quite a long time.

As much as I love and miss congregational singing, it is still one of the most potentially dangerous ways to spread the virus that is still impacting so much of our society. When we do start singing together as a larger group, I anticipate the need to be masked, at least for the time being. As a side note, the Lakewood Area Choral Society (of which I'm a member) will be attempting a few outdoor, masked, singing opportunities, but we will not be looking at regrouping for regular rehearsals and concerts until Spring of 2022.

I continue to be grateful for all of the gifted singers and instrumentalists that help add some "normalcy" to our online worship services! Thanks to all who have participated in one way or another! It was exciting to be able to continue with the Christmas Eve Pre-Service "Concert" that we've had for many years, even being completely online! Thanks for singers, bell ringers, piano, flute, and guitar players!

A significant part of my job is creating the weekly Worship Planners. I typically choose the liturgy music (Gospel Acclamation, Offertory Song, etc.) for the worship services. I am thankful to be able to work in partnership with Pastor Ken on this! I am also grateful that we have an active Worship and Music Committee who contributes to the choosing of hymns and songs for worship. I am happy to report that we will have had our first in-person meeting for quite a long time when by the time this is read!

Given that we will not be singing in worship for the indefinite future, I continue to try to choose music that is familiar, or very easily learned, for the online worship experience. There will likely be instrumental music for in-person worship, even if/when we aren't singing together.

If you were not aware, my Mom, Darlene Olson, had a small stroke on March 12th (just over two months ago, now). The stroke was in her cerebellum, which affects her balance. The main difficulty currently is moments of dizziness (seemingly out of nowhere; thankfully, it's wooziness as opposed to a room-spinning feeling). My brother (from Chicago) and I have been able to take turns caring for her at our childhood home in Ohio. Our hope is she will be able to drive again within the next couple of months and that we will be able to set up what she needs to be able to remain at home for the time being. There may be a day Mom comes up to Michigan to be nearer to me, but I don't know that she's quite ready for that kind of change. Thank you for your understanding and support of me while I continue to care for her over the summer. The plan/hope is for me to be able to be here consistently in the fall.

In Christ's Love and Service, Cindy Olson

President's Report: Chris Bush

Thank you, Grace family, for allowing me to lead this congregation these past four years. I have strived to be a servant to you and to bring glory to God's name by showing what grace, and Grace, can do for our world. I have been privileged to work with the Executive Committee and Council, to learn from diverse experiences and opinions, and to see us come together doing God's works with our hands and hearts.

The following is a list of the activities I took part in this past year:

- Met one-to-one with Pastor Ken every 1-2 months
- Attended monthly Exec and Council meetings
- Assisted with staff evaluations
- Compiled Grace's pandemic response debriefing report
- Organized the Capital Campaign team
- Communicated with the Safety Team on security camera system proposal
- Worked with the Parish Administrator to post Grace policies to our website
- Worked with the Council to develop the decision-making strategy for how and when Grace would reopen for onsite worship
- Encouraged Council members, committees, and the congregation to share ideas for Grace's Five-Year Plan
- Assisted with the 2021 Nominating Committee
- Co-administered Grace's Facebook page (other admins are Kate Watson and Myrina Crawford)
- Assisted with counting offerings, including writing up how-to documents
- Helped finalize the order and installation of signage in the building
- Assisted with virtual worship (provided music, acted as Assisting Minister, posted links to Grace Facebook page)
- Assisted with Earth Day cleanup of undeveloped property (cleanup to be done 2x/year)
- Sent cards from the Council to homebound members throughout the year
- Attended the 2021 virtual Synod Assembly

For those wondering how I will occupy my time after my term closes, have no fear! Dennis is planning to retire this year, and we look forward to doing more travelling, hiking, and camping. And I think you know me well enough that I will remain involved in this community of faith, just more in the background now! May this congregation continue to reflect God's boundless love.

Vice-President's Report: Margaret Wood

As Vice-President of Grace Lutheran Church, the following duties were accomplished this past year:

- Attended and participated in monthly Executive Committee and Council meetings in person or via teleconference or in person.
- Assisted with conducting staff evaluations with the Executive Committee.
- Lead the Mission Endowment Fund Committee to determine the distribution of income earned (see separate report).
- Organized the Nominating Committee and began the process of determining a slate of candidates for the 2020 Nomination Ballot for the Annual Congregation Meeting.

Council Secretary's Report: Shayna Gibbons

Council Secretary Report for August 2020 through July 2021

Thank you my Grace family for allowing me to serve as Council Secretary for the past two years. During these past two years I have been amazed by the creativity, adaptability, and the heart to connect with and serve others from our Grace leadership team, and members. I continue to thank God for the vitality and responsiveness of this congregation, and for the freedom to learn and grow and experience grace in new and wonderful ways with all of you! We have so many people contributing their time and talent on a regular basis. Each and everyone of you are truly appreciated.

As Council Secretary, I attended monthly Executive Committee and Congregation Council meetings both in person and via teleconference. The Council Secretary requested and combined the submitted committee reports for each monthly Council meeting and provided those combined reports to the Council members in advance of the meetings. The Council Secretary recorded Council meeting minutes for each monthly and/or special meeting. Minutes have been filed with the parish administrator in the church office and sent out to council members and committee chairs.

Treasurer's Report: Ed Domke

No report submitted

Committee Reports:

Congregation Care Committee Sharon Varkula

During the past year (June 2020 through May 2021), Grace's Congregational Care Committee contacted the congregation by phone several times to share worship/activity information including funerals, a special election, on-site and on-line worship, communion availability, and Grace COVID-19 pandemic updates.

Two prayers shawls were given.

Grace's office administrator Wendy Kimble created a Congregational Care Committee binder including the entire Shepherds' lists so that they are easier to read. Each Shepherd now has a white binder with the entire list, not just her own, in case she makes other member calls or substitutes for another Shepherd.

The Congregational Care Committee never met this COVID-19 pandemic year (June 2020 through May 2021). We did, of course, converse by phone with each other. Our next in-person meeting was held June 7, 2021, at the church.

Many thanks to those Shepherds who served Grace this past year: Diana Brown, Karen Halstead, Kay Howell, Jeanette Kogge, Kay Marsh, Sandy Mosteller, Jan Schreiner, Jane Secor, Laura Scheck, Linda Trongo, Sharon Varkula, and Eve Wright. Thanks also to our several liaisons this year: Vicki Argo, Erin Everly, and Bill Freedland.

Stewardship Committee Clyde Watson

No report submitted

Mission Endowment Fund Report

Margaret Wood

The Mission Endowment Fund (MEF) Committee members (include: Margaret Wood, Chair, Pastor Ken Scheck, Dave Heise, Mother Linnea Stiffler, Clyde Watson, GLC Treasurer – was not present as position was unfilled) met via teleconference on February 9 to review requests for monies. The MEF Committee used the following guideline for distribution: Ninety percent (90%) of the earnings of the earnings shall be distributed to mission and ministry apart from the church’s established programs that are already funded through the annual operating budget. The remaining 10% of the earnings shall be reinvested and become a permanent part of the principal. There was \$3025.59 earnings in 2020, resulting in \$2723.03 (90%) being available for the MEF Committee to distribute and \$302.56 (10%) being available to reinvest in the MEF and become a permanent part of the principal. This year monies were distributed to the two requests received as follows: \$650.00 to the Barry County Family Support Center Kinship Support Services program and \$2,073.03 to Barry County Family Promise.

Property Committee

Phil Poholski

Projects most recently completed:

- Completed Grace Maintenance Manual, handed over to Pastor Ken to take to council meeting. This manual includes all items in the church that require periodic maintenance and their location. It also includes an up-to-date floor plan.
- Gave copies of floor plan to Steve Wales; Chair of Safety/Security Committee. He will give copy to Sheriff Dept. and Fire Dept. and keep a copy for Safety/Security Committee.
- Insulated water heater in Mechanical room, next to men’s restroom.
- Discard one pew, this was authorized by council.
- Completed inside trim around steel door that was replaced in Fellowship Hall
- Installed baseboard in Music Office.

Projects in process:

- Clean and organize storage building, this Spring or Summer.

Projects that need to be completed:

- Paint new steel door that was installed in Fellowship Hall along with all outside steel doors this Spring or Summer.

Names of Property Committee members:

Phil Poholski; Chair
Dave Neeb
Tom Drumm
Doug Neeb; Property liaison
Ron Hayward
Joe Longcor

Youth Committee

Angela Pruitt

No report submitted

2020-2021 Community Outreach Committee Annual Report

The Community Outreach Committee plans and organizes a wide variety of projects designed to fulfill our congregational mission of being “*Sent to Serve*” in the Hastings community. Since our committee’s projects often have involved “reaching out” to our neighbors and friends the COVID-19 pandemic led to the cancellation of nearly all the routinely sponsored outreach events since July 2020. What follows is a summary of the projects we did organize and coordinate during the past fiscal year:

Sept.: Books-for-Kids - \$450 was received from member donations to assist Shayna Gibbons and Kim Domke in providing every student in their classrooms at least one Scholastic Book to read each month of the school year.

October: CROP Walk, Barry County - There was no community-wide hunger walk scheduled but our members did raise \$410 through individual donations. A dozen or so members did walk a route in and around our own church facility. **Halloween Trunk-or-Treat**: was cancelled.

December: Holly Trolley - was cancelled. **Christmas Food Basket and Gifts** - We adopted 6 families totaling 12 adults and 18 children. The response from our congregation was wonderfully generous as it has always been especially since we had no formal weekly worship gatherings. **Giving Tree**-Member donations and a Thrivent grant helped accumulate a large assortment of school supplies and snack items to donate to area elementary schools. **Daily Devotionals for Advent** were purchased with Outreach Committee funds.

January/February: Barry County Cares (Food Bank) – Using available Thrivent Dollar grants we purchased \$500 worth of groceries/household goods and combined those with approximately \$300 worth of donated food items from our members. **Daily Devotionals for the Season of Lent** - were purchased with Outreach Committee funds.

April: Good Friday Cross Walk – We were able to conduct the Cross Walk this Spring with approximately 20 walkers participating.

July: Car Show/Community BBQ – As of this writing the plans are to tentatively plan to organize a car show and BBQ this coming July (along with an outdoor worship service). Plans are contingent on COVID restrictions and recommendations still in place in the month of July.

Family Promise of Barry County: In addition to financial assistance, we are planning to gather names of members who would be willing to support a “host” congregation by occasionally providing a meal for a homeless family and/or spending an evening conversing with a family or playing games with their children as a supplement to what the host congregation is already providing.

As your Community Outreach Committee, we again wish to extend our sincere gratitude for the generous support we so consistently receive from the members of Grace every year. Your faithful support of our programs and projects has truly been a blessing to us in order that we might in turn be a blessing to others.

Community Outreach Committee: Mike Kemper, chairperson; Gary Golnek, council liaison; Kim Domke; Karen Halstead; Gwen Hansen and Pr. Ken Scheck

Social Activities Committee Deborah Wilke

SAC met several times in a non-traditional manner; by email and teleconference. We also met in person a couple of times.

SAC sent cards to our homebound several times throughout the year.

A Rummage Sale was scheduled for 5/2020 and was postponed until 5/2021 due to the pandemic, but is again postponed due to the pandemic. We are going to try to have the Rummage sale in May 2022.

June is when we usually hold the annual picnic/prayer walk/graduate celebration; we did not hold it in June 2021 due to the metrics affecting Hastings/Barry County regarding Covid-19 and it's variants at that time. We are hopeful things will be much better by this August, it is scheduled for August 15, 2021. A big "thank you" to Phil & Amy Poholski for offering to once again host this event at their home.

Grace's 5-year plan was discussed. We are optimistic that we can have a dinner this December to invite the community to Jesus' Birthday Party Potluck.

Worship Committee Traci Wales

The Worship Committee only met one time in person but had several phone conferences. As far as achievements go I think we did well planning all the different facets during this crazy pandemic, with an emphasis on any changes we might have to implement when we reopen. Honestly we didn't really do a whole lot. We do have plans in the next few years to work on a new sound system and camera set up. This way we can enhance our worship experiences. We continued to plan our music selections for future services when we are able expand to our normal worship service. The committee is planning a folk mass this summer and contemplating new experiences for fifth Sundays.

Bell Choir Kim Domke

Ring Praises to the Lord, it has been a year full of music...in a new way!

Primary accomplishments this past year for Handbell Ministry include:

- Plans were made to have smaller groups for physical distancing and trying some bell tree options
- Grace purchased one bell tree and donations were used for the second bell tree
- 10 ringers participated this year in some form through 1 octave choir, duets or solos
- We became "recording artists" with over 20 songs shared through online services
- We have plans to ring outside a nursing home and down by the Hastings fountain this summer
- We are eager to return to praising God with bells & chimes.

I continue to encourage and recruit, especially within Grace, but also in the community. All who serve are such a blessing to our program. Our ringing crew is currently made of more than 80% outreach (out of Grace) but I continue to encourage Grace members to come give ringing a try. Free GIVE IT A TRY lessons (one on one) can be arranged. Rehearsals are open for anyone to come watch. We are more than a music group...we are friends who love music, but love Jesus even more!

Love in Christ,
Kim Domke

Small Group Committee Bill Freedlund Council Liaison, Eve Wright Committee Chair

Presently there are four groups that are associated with the Small Group Committee.

Small groups Include:

- Women of Faith
- The Adult Forum
- The Brothers of Grace
- The Safety Team

The Women of Faith group has suspended in person meetings during the Covid advisories.

The Adult Forum Bible Study continues to meet on a weekly basis. This past year they have studied the Book of Acts. The group looks forward to continuing to meet and expanding the group.

The Brothers of Grace meet monthly for fellowship, study and to plan projects. One project that is held twice per year is the M-43 Hwy trash pick up. Other service projects are completed through the year.

The Safety Team has been working on the camera installation project that is moving towards completion.

We are happy that these small groups are a part of our Grace family. Members of Grace who are interested in forming a small group for study, fellowship or support are encouraged to contact the committee. Some groups have met by phone or in person with social distancing. More in person meetings will become a reality as Covid restrictions are relaxed. Anyone interested in joining the small Group Committee is welcome to contact a member for further information.

North/West Lower Michigan Synod Assembly Report

Anna Scheck



On May 15th, 2021, myself (Anna Scheck), Ethan Scheck, Pastor Ken, and Chris Bush attended the 2021 North/West Lower Michigan Synod Assembly on behalf of the people of Grace. It was our first ever virtual assembly and I believe it was both the most effective and responsible way for our synod to gather and complete the most essential business. However, condensing the assembly which is typically held over the course of 3 days into a one-day, business only, online event, it was about as painfully boring as online events can get. All from our individual computers in one big Zoom, we attended “together” whilst physically apart.

In preparation for the assembly, Grace’s voting members attended a technology orientation event, to familiarize ourselves with Zoom and the voting website that we used during assembly. This was very helpful, and the Synod also offered pre-assembly discussions of the budget and resolutions, which would have typically been built into in-person assembly. So, on the day of we all logged on and got right down to business. There were some technical issues and setbacks that started us off behind schedule, which never bodes well. However, we were eventually able to approve and then vote on the ballots for electing Synod Council, the Consultation Committee, the Discipline Committee, and representatives to the 2022 Churchwide Assembly. **Our very own Rev. Mike Kemper was elected to the consultation committee, woohoo!**

As a synod, we also approved two resolutions, both related to the environment. The first is focused on reducing the use of disposable plastics, and the second is a response to the climate emergency. I am very passionate about environmental science, and was excited to pass both of these resolutions. I hope, however, that the resolution to decrease the use of disposable plastics doesn’t result in giving every voting member at future synod assemblies reusable cups every year, as it takes a lot more resources to create reusable products. To make them actually more sustainable than disposable products, they need to be used many many times. This is a misunderstanding that many people have about sustainability, so I do hope that the pragmatic steps we take in response to these resolutions are truly environmentally friendly.

In terms of connecting with the wider synod, I don’t believe this format accomplished that. We heard from Bishop Satterlee and other synod leadership at this event, but I miss the element of connecting with people throughout our synod over meals and through worship. I wouldn’t have wanted to prolong the already long event that was this year’s synod assembly, as the virtual format was not particularly enjoyable. However, having no proper worship this year made the assembly feel, arguably, too businessy. I look forward to participating in in-person synod assembly in the future, but this year did teach us that we can do it online for a fraction of the price and a fraction of the time.

God’s Blessings,
Anna Scheck

<u>Acct#</u>	Account Name	2020-2021 Annual Budget	2021-2022 Annual Budget Proposed
5.100.051	Mortgage Payment	\$14,808.00	\$14,808.00
5.100.100	Office Supplies	\$3,000.00	\$1,500.00
5.100.105	Kitchen Supplies	\$450.00	\$380.00
5.100.110	Leased Office Equipment	\$3,500.00	\$3,600.00
5.100.200	Gas / Electric	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00
5.100.210	Telephone / Web Service	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
5.100.220	Water / Sewer	\$600.00	\$600.00
5.100.300	Building Maint / Repair	\$3,600.00	\$6,370.00
5.100.310	Insurance	\$3,100.00	\$3,100.00
5.100.320	Custodial Supplies	\$1,200.00	\$1,000.00
5.100.330	Lawn Care / Snow Removal	\$1,000.00	\$800.00
5.100.400	Stewardship Committee	\$500.00	\$250.00
5.100.410	Indoor Décor Committee	\$0.00	\$0.00
5.100.420	Social Activities Committee	\$250.00	\$0.00
5.100.500	Musical Instrument Maintenance	\$300.00	\$0.00
5.200.100	Pastor's Salary	\$31,845.00	\$31,845.00
5.200.105	Housing Allowance	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
5.200.110	Pastor's Auto Expense	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
5.200.115	Pastor's SS Allowance	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00
5.200.120	Pastor's Hospital / Pension	\$43,000.00	\$43,000.00
5.200.200	Minister of Youth & Faith	\$0.00	\$0.00
5.200.250	Nursery Attendant	\$3,000.00	\$0.00
5.200.300	Minister of Music	\$21,841.00	\$21,841.00
5.200.305	Substitute Labor	\$750.00	\$0.00
5.200.310	Choir Accompany	\$0.00	\$0.00
5.200.315	Bell Choir Director	\$2,005.60	\$2,005.60
5.200.390	Financial Coordinator	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
5.200.400	Parish Administrator	\$9,617.00	\$9,617.00
5.200.405	Church Accountant / auditor	\$3,600.00	\$3,600.00
5.200.500	Custodians	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
5.200.600	Substitute Ministers	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
5.200.700	Employers FICA Account	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
5.300.050	Assembly / Conference	\$0.00	\$700.00
5.300.100	Worship Supplies	\$750.00	\$500.00
5.300.125	Vocal Choir	\$0.00	\$0.00
5.300.130	Bell Choir	\$550.00	\$0.00
5.300.140	Worship Committee	\$0.00	\$0.00
5.300.145	Worship Art	\$0.00	\$0.00
5.400.100	Vacation Bible Experience	\$0.00	\$0.00
5.400.130	High School	\$0.00	\$0.00
5.400.400	Education Committee	\$0.00	\$0.00
5.400.600	Pastor's Continuing Education	\$0.00	\$500.00
5.500.100	Synod / ELCA	\$11,500.00	\$10,000.00
5.500.120	Living Water Ministry (LORMM)	\$400.00	\$200.00
5.500.125	LSSM	\$400.00	\$400.00
5.500.135	Barry County Cares	\$200.00	\$200.00
5.500.140	Habitat for Humanity	\$300.00	\$200.00
5.500.145	Evangelism Committee	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
	Totals	\$220,066.60	\$215,016.60

Nomination / Ballot 2021 Annual Meeting

- President _____ Randy Teegardin (2023)
- Secretary _____ Lisa Pohl (2023)
- Vice President _____ _____(2022)

There are four positions available for Council:

- _____ Vickey Argo (2023)
- _____ Doug Neeb (2023)
- _____ _____ (2023)
- _____ _____ (2023)

There are four positions available for the 2021 Nominating Committee:

- _____ Gwen Hansen
- _____ Phil Poholski
- _____ Kristi Winick
- _____ _____

There is one male, one female and one youth delegate position available for the 2022 Synod Assembly:

- _____ Male Matt Markwart
- _____ Female Kim Markwart
- _____ Youth Lydia Markwart

Rites Conducted

Baptisms:	<i>None</i>
Confirmations:	<i>None</i>
Weddings:	<i>None</i>
Funerals:	<i>Gale Robert Morway and Carol Morgan (non-member)</i>

Congregation Membership Report

Members on Inactive List: 36

New members: 0

Members removed from roles: 2 (1 transfers, 1 deaths)

Voting Membership Total as of June 30, 2021: 145

Congregation Statistical Report

Sunday Worship Averages for Five Fiscal Years:

	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
July	92	97	92	91	131
August	106	105	88	80	168
September	91	86	87	76	150
October	103	106	87	85	163
November	94	92	94	82	197
December	90	95	103	91	213
January	79	103	81	58	208
February	81	87	80	78	181
March	94	105	85	75	207
April	104	116	108	128	234
May	103	102	86	72	157
June	102	88	93	74	140
Yearly Average	95	99	90	83	179

Grace Lutheran Church

Annual Report 2021



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Mission Statement

Saved by Grace. Called to Worship. Sent to Serve.

Staff

Pastor
Office Administrator
Minister of Music
Bell Choir Director
Custodian

Pastor Ken Scheck II
Wendy Kimble
Cindy Olson
Kim Domke
Nathan Freedlund



A member of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Presiding Bishop: Rev Elizabeth Eaton
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www.elca.org

North/West Lower Michigan Synod
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