

2022 ANNUAL REPORT
February 26, 2023
ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
Jerome Parish - Edinburg, Virginia

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH is a congregation of the Virginia Synod
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).
The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton, Presiding Bishop, ELCA - The Rev. Robert F. Humphrey, Bishop, Virginia Synod

CHURCH STAFF
Rev. Robin Ferree, Pastor
Musicians:
Miriam Stratton
Dara Booher
Oma Gail Simmons
Clinton Hawkins, Custodian
Denise Dellinger, Treasurer
Nancy Hansberger, Financial Secretary
Linda May, Congregation Secretary

2022 CONGREGATION COUNCIL

Jeff Dellinger, President
Orville Smoot, Vice President
Shelby Boyden, Secretary
Cody Barb, Susan Bell, Matt Booher,
Donald Bowers, Diane Dellinger,
Karen Doane, Miranda Hawkins,
Becky Jenkins, Jerry Oates

2023 CONGREGATION COUNCIL

Jeff Dellinger, President
Orville Smoot, Vice President
Shelby Boyden, Secretary
Cody Barb, Donald Bowers,
Diane Dellinger, Karen Doane,
Brenda Evans, Eileen Fisher,
Miranda Hawkins, Jerry Oates,
Miriam Stratton

ANNUAL REPORT, 2022
Pastor Robin Ferree
St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Jerome Parish

"This life therefore is not righteousness, but growth in righteousness, not health, but healing, not being but becoming, not rest but exercise. We are not yet what we shall be, but we are growing toward it, the process is not yet finished, but it is going on, this is not the end, but it is the road. All does not yet gleam in glory, but all is being purified."

— Martin Luther

"We are not yet what we shall be, but we are growing toward it..."

It's certainly been a year of moving towards where we'd like to be. Attendance is holding steady and has ample room for growth. Giving is strong and should cause us to ask, "What can we grow into with our giving?" We have 3 new members of our congregational council. Where will their leadership guide us in the coming year? Oma Gail Simmons blesses us with her Adult Sunday School teaching. We need to find such a blessing for our children and youth! We have a huge anniversary in 2027 - 200 years! Who do we want to become as we plan for this exciting time?!

We also have been thrown a curve ball. I've said it many times in the past 3 months. My body betrayed me and health concerns have forced me into retirement at least 4 years earlier than my mind and heart expected. My retirement also forces you, as the family of St. Paul's, Jerome Parish, into another pastoral search. I urge you to take seriously Martin Luther's quote with which I began this report. Let it serve as a constant reminder that our faith is a moving, growing, faith-ful journey led by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Be bold in the time ahead. Pay attention to the troubled time in which we live and strive for healing in all aspects of ministry. Welcome the gifts of all!

Please know that you will always be in my heart and prayers as we all begin the next chapter in our lives of faith. Thank you for inviting me to serve as your pastor. Thank you for my new rocking chair, which will grace my front porch, the prayer plant from the children and for the sending gift. All will remind me daily of how blessed I am by each of you.

Your Sister in Christ,
Pastor Robin LH Ferree

Report of Congregation and Council President

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as Congregation and Council President. I appreciate the support of my fellow council members and the congregation. We thank Pastor Robin for all that she has done for us here at St. Paul's.

During 2022 we were saddened to lose eight of our members to death but we rejoice in their new life because of the resurrection. We received two new members by Baptism and two by Affirmation of Faith. We received five members by transfer and four members transferred out, which makes 415 our total number of baptized members at the end of the year.

The combined average attendance for Sunday worship this past year (on-site in person attendance and online attendance by Zoom) was 54.

Our homecoming service was on September 11, 2022 with Pastor Robin preaching.

The council continues to be very active in leadership and committees have continued their work. We still need to give more attention to our Youth and Christian Education Committee. Thanks to all who served on committees and for the faithful dedication of all our members.

Special Mid-week Communion Services were held for our members who did not feel comfortable coming to Sunday church services. In addition, lay eucharistic teams visited and gave communion to our homebound members.

We continued our outreach programs by regular remittances to Benevolence, World Hunger, and approximately 14% to other organizations.

We pray for guidance as we witness for Christ and strive to be living examples of God's Love.

Sincerely in Christ,
Jeff Dellinger
Congregation and Council President

Worship & Music Annual Congregational Report 2022

The Worship & Music Committee was active in helping plan and coordinate Sunday worship services and other special services throughout 2022. We continued to make use of Zoom technology to provide Services for those who were not comfortable worshipping in person.

An Ash Wednesday Service was held, and we held Holden Evening Prayer Service followed by small group discussions on an assigned topic on Wednesday evenings during Lent, preceded by a soup & bread supper. Palm Sunday Service began with the procession of palms starting outside. Maundy Thursday & Good Friday services were held. Easter Sunday began with a Sunrise Service on the front lawn, followed by a breakfast prepared by the men of the congregation & ending with the Easter Service with Holy Communion. Outdoor worship in the pavilion was held, weather permitting, beginning in June. Our Youth led a service using lessons & songs studied during Chat n Chew. Homecoming was held with Pastor Robin preaching, followed by a covered dish meal. Senior Appreciation Sunday, followed by a covered dish meal was held on October 30 which was also Reformation Sunday. All Saints Sunday was celebrated November 6 with a service to celebrate the lives of members, family & friends who died during the pandemic. Mid-week Advent services were held using Holden Evening Prayer & meditation preceded by a soup & bread supper. The children presented a Christmas Program on Christmas Eve followed with the Holy Communion/candlelighting Service. Rev. William Ballance presided over Holy Communion. There was a time for fellowship & refreshments after the service.

Altar flowers were donated in memory or honor of loved ones, & the sanctuary was decorated with spring flowers for Easter & poinsettias for Christmas, The wooden cross was decorated at Easter with flowers donated by the congregation. The Advent wreath was prepared for the 4 Sundays in Advent & the Chrismon tree was decorated by the youth of the congregation.

Altar candles, the candelabra & the Christ candle were filled with liquid oil as needed.

Paraments & banners were changed to go along with the season of the church year.

We thank Pastor Robin for her leadership & guidance in 2022. We scheduled lay leaders to lead services in November & December during Pastor Robin's medical leave. We thank all of our worship leaders, our musicians, those who set up our Zoom services, & those who prepare for our weekly Sunday Service in any way. We are certainly blessed at St. Paul's to have great leaders who are willing to serve when called upon. And we thank you, the congregation, for sharing your time & talents with us!

Respectfully submitted,
Phyllis Lytton, chair

Christian Education and Youth Ministry

Annual Report, 2022

One huge gap in this past year's ministries has been Youth and Christian Education. It's an ongoing struggle to prioritize these vital ministries with a part-time pastor and an abundance of grief and loss ministries. We have added "Chat 'n Chew" once a month, and seen a significant increase in our young people's involvement in worship leadership. We have a faithful, talented and smart group of children and youth. They need to be a priority in the search of a new pastor as they are both the church of today and the church of tomorrow.

Pastor Robin Ferree

Mutual Ministry Committee

Annual Report 2022

The role of the Mutual Ministry Committee is to make ministry better and make sure relationships are strong. The constitutional requirement that every congregation have a Mutual Ministry Committee has been a part of the ELCA since its beginning in 1988. We are blessed at St. Paul's to have dedicated leaders to help our committee broaden its vision of ministry.

Thanks to all who give of their time and talents to see that our mission is fulfilled.

Serving this term are Judy Heltzel, Donna Click and Dara Booher. Miranda Hawkins serves as our liaison to the Church Council from this committee.

We met with Pastor Robin twice during 2022. We had a special called meeting in December to help Pastor Robin transition to a medical leave of absence.

Dara Booher, Chairperson

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

During the year 2022, the Fellowship Committee served the congregation and the community with these events:

Served a meal for five funerals

Held six Relay for Life fundraiser meals

Made 889 peanut butter eggs for sale for Relay for Life fundraiser

Eileen Fisher will be the Council Representative for this committee in 2023.

Fellowship Committee

For the year 2022 The Witness Committee continued to visit, call, send cards (members, neighbors, friends in nursing homes, and homebound). Due to the Covid 19 Pandemic Eucharistic visits were limited. We had in-person meetings monthly and we continued to communicate via telephone, and calling members and sending cards.

- Greeting card fronts were collected and mailed to St. Jude's Hospital
- Published the church newsletter monthly-being printed and sent electronically
- We are actively volunteering and supporting the Bread of Life Food Pantry.
- We collected and delivered 11 Shoe Boxes for the Operation Christmas Child.
- We encouraged the congregation to support "ELCA GOOD GIFTS PROJECT".
- We continue to participate in the SHENANDOAH VALLEY LUTHERAN MINISTRIES PROGRAMS
 - Luke's Backpack providing food items for the children's weekend meals
 - Good Shepherd providing paper products, cleaning supplies, and non-food items for seniors which are delivered by Shenandoah Dept. of Social Services & Shenandoah Agency for Aging.
 - A Small Hand through monetary offerings.

We continue to be active through telephone calls and are very thankful for the support of our congregation and members.

Respectfully,

Anna Barb, Chairperson

**Stewardship Committee
Annual Report 2022**

St. Paul's Stewardship Committee thanks the Congregation for its faithful stewardship in 2022.

With the help of the congregation, the Blessing Box was kept well stocked with food, cleaning supplies and devotional materials.

Donations made to Good Gifts (God's Global Barnyard) in 2022 were \$1,184.00. Donations to Lutheran Family Services were \$1,283.00. Other donations were made by members through the year to: World Hunger, Blessing Box, Luke's Backpack and other organizations.

The Committee made recommendations to Council during the year regarding designation of special offerings.

The Stewardship Committee organized the initiation of a new long-range planning exercise. This is in the beginning stages and will continue through 2023.

The Committee thanks our congregation for remaining a giving and compassionate church as we strive to be "a living example of God's love".

Matt Booher, Chair

**FINANCE COMMITTEE
ANNUAL REPORT 2022**

The Finance and Budget Committee met in September, 2022 to prepare a budget for the year 2023. A proposed budget of \$111,429 was submitted to Council and then recommended to the congregation at the Annual Congregation Meeting held on November 13, 2022.

The finance report for year ending 2022 shows St. Paul's checking account balance as \$96,206.61.

**Orville Smoot, Chair
Finance Committee**

Social Ministry
End of Year Report 2022

The sewing circle did not meet January through April due to ongoing Covid-19 concerns. Nancy Hansberger and Anna Barb worked from home, cutting strips, sewing them together and rolling the fabric strips into balls. They have my sincere thanks for their diligence while we were not active as a group.

We resumed meeting the beginning of May and have had 5-10 attendees for the remainder of the year.

During 2022, we:

- purchased 4 new scissors for the sewing circle to use and donated the old scissors to the office and the youth.
- donated 6 complete cleaning kits and 6 used rugs to Family Promise with the help of Thrivent seed money.
- purchased drawer dividers for kitchen drawers.
- bleached and sorted kitchen linens and discarded non-usable items.
- set up a Flu Shot Clinic which was later canceled by Walgreens due to poor participation.
- donated a quilt made by Anna Barb to St. Paul's Relay for Life group for raffle.
- sold rugs at Orkney Springs Fire and Rescue Auxiliary (Anna Barb).
- served nearly 90 community members at our annual Thanksgiving Community Meal.
- created 23 Christmas Boxes for shut-in members and friends with help of Thrivent seed money. Extra foodstuffs were donated to St. Paul's Blessing Box.
- sent 123 cards to sick and shut-in folk.
- sold 92 rugs
- provided fried chicken for Homecoming and funerals.
- donated 6 jeans to Good Life.
- donated 6 jeans to Family Promise.
- donated 2 boxes of miscellaneous fabric to Central High School drama department.
- donated 2 boxes of fabric scraps and quilt squares to Rosanna Winner.
- donated a large bag of pillow forms and fabric to Tiffany Dellinger for a youth project.

In addition to the above list, we:

- provide the consumable products for the kitchen. ALL church groups are welcome to use these items. We also occasionally help make large purchases for the kitchen and dining room.
- maintain artificial flower arrangements for dining room.
- provide laprugs for members entering nursing homes or hospice care.
- provide quilts for disaster relief locally and globally.

WHAT WE NEED FROM ST. PAUL'S:

- let us know who needs a card.
- bring an elder to visit us one Monday morning.
- donations of Thinking of You cards/envelopes (either purchased or homemade).
- donate fabric or used jeans.
- NEW FACES to help continue this worthwhile and fulfilling ministry. We meet weekly 9am to noon, followed by a potluck/potfaith meal.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Respectfully submitted,

Miranda Hawkins

Committee Chair &

Council Representative

Property Committee Annual Report – 2022

Purchased culverts for installation at new property line of cemetery and also for replacing the old culvert that VDOT will replace

Permits for cemetery culvert work applied and paid for at VDOT

On Friday, August 19, 2022, the culvert was installed on the property line of the land donated to St. Paul's by Allen Funkhouser. Thanks to the volunteers that made this happen: Garland Funkhouser for the load of gravel and getting the signs from VDOT, Ralph Heltzel for backhoe work and Jerry Oates and Hubert Barb for their help. Present and future members will now know the location of our property line.

Culvert inspected and approved by VDOT

Gate installed at property line of land donated to the church by Allen Funkhouser

Mowed and weed-eated at the parsonage

Removed leaves at the parsonage

Trimmed some trees at the parsonage

Oil changed and blades sharpened on lawn mower at the parsonage

Replaced screen at the parsonage

Fixed urinal in upstairs bathroom at the church

Leveled off graves, moved dirt and spread grass seed in cemetery

Sprayed for bees in the pavilion

Marked off graves for installation of stones as needed

Removed snow and ice at parsonage and church

Had the furnace serviced at the church

Had the furnace serviced at the parsonage

Had Culligan service the water softener system at the parsonage

Pressure washed the front steps and siding at main entrance of the church

Cleaned the pavilion in preparation for outdoor services

Had a spring clean-up day at the church to remulch the flower beds

Cody Barb, Jerry Oates & Donald Bowers
Council Representatives

Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church (WELCA)

Annual Report

During the past year, St. Paul's has continued membership in the Virginia Synod Women's Organization and the national organization. We have maintained a unit, participated in synod wide conferences and supported local church and community efforts.

In August, Oma Gail Simmons represented St. Paul's at the Synod conference in Staunton. Anna Barb and Oma Gail also attended the All Women's Conference at Natural Bridge in November.

Additionally, women representing WELCA conducted the Thankoffering Service at St. Paul's, and there was a church wide effort to collect and distribute socks to homeless shelters, a project called Sox Box.

Plans are to continue these same types of activities and ministries in the coming year. Oma Gail will serve as a contact person for WELCA in the congregation.

Oma Gail Simmons

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 2022

Beginning Balance January 1, 2022 (Checking)	Current-Used for Budgeted Expenses	63,137.16	
	Ordination Scholarship Fund Interest	512.37	
	Special Discretionary Fund	208.20	
	Youth - Fundraisers	7,557.85	
	Long Range Planning	1,338.03	
	Youth Ministry	840.00	
	Blessing Box	643.34	
	Santa's Workshop	73.29	
	Checking Acct-Jan 1, 2022	74,310.24	
RECEIPTS			
<u>Benevolence</u>			
World Hunger		680.00	
Lent Envelopes - Lutheran Family Services (now enCircle)		1,283.00	
Luke's Backpack - pd by Members		50.00	
Trey Coffman - pd by Members		250.00	
Family Promise - pd by Members		207.00	
Lutheran Disaster - Ukraine - pd by Members		1,920.00	
Global Barnyard - pd by Members		1,234.00	
Response - pd by Members		150.00	
Hurricane Disaster Relief - Hurricane Ian		150.00	
Santa's Workshop - Global Barnyard		117.10	
5th Sunday loose offering - Shenandoah Alliance		153.11	6,194.21
<u>Receipts Received for Budget</u>			
Current		103,715.00	
Interest Income		410.83	
Thrivent for Current		382.00	
Current for Deceased		2,745.00	
Easter Breakfast		165.00	107,417.83
<u>Non-Budgeted Receipts</u>			
Ordination Scholarship Fund Interest		540.49	
Flowers		710.00	
Discretionary Fund - pd by Members		1,727.00	
Donation for Banner - pd by Member		50.00	
Late Charge for Credit Card - pd by Member		32.00	
Cemetery Fund - donations - pd by Members		1,130.00	
Sewing Circle - reimb for supplies		59.98	
Youth - IMO Mary Barb - pd by Members		465.00	
Senior Dinner - chicken - reimb by Member		75.00	4,789.47
<u>TOTAL RECEIPTS</u>			118,401.51

DISBURSEMENTS			
Budgeted Items:			
Outreach Ministry - Regular Benevolence		10,320.00	10,320.00
Pastoral Ministry			
Base Salary		33,900.00	
Utilities - Electric, Telephone		3,395.26	
Equity Allowance		504.00	
Pension/Disability/Life		5,218.80	
HSA (Health Savings Account)		2,500.00	
Cell Phone Allowance		600.00	
Continuing Education		500.00	
Car Allowance		3,000.00	49,618.06
Church Ministry			
Fuel Oil		4,158.57	
Electricity		1,668.49	
Telephone/Internet		1,870.40	
Office Supplies & Records & Copier		700.95	
Copier		824.32	
Central Valley Conference		30.00	9,252.73
Worship			
Altar Supplies		490.52	
Worship/Music		1,863.31	
Devotional Booklets		195.50	
Supply Pastor		847.50	
Living Lutheran		98.45	3,495.28
Learning			
Other Educational Materials		67.12	
Youth Retreats/Camp/Activities		299.52	366.64
Witness & Stewardship			
Stewardship/Witness Materials		25.00	25.00
Service			
Discretionary Fund		200.00	200.00
Support			
Offering Envelopes		211.40	
Postage		1,159.26	
Synod Assembly		195.00	1,565.66
Property			
Maintenance		4,015.20	
Insurance		4,827.00	
Cleaning Church		3,600.00	12,442.20
Total Budgeted Items			87,285.57

Non-Budgeted Items:			
Extended Ministries			
World Hunger		680.00	
Global Barnyard (2021) - pd by Members		185.00	
Lutheran Disaster Response - Ukraine - pd by Members		1,920.00	
enCircle (was LFS) - Lent & Easter envelopes & loose offering		1,283.00	
Luke's Backpack - pd by Members		50.00	
Response Inc - pd by Members		100.00	
Milestone Ministries - Jean Getz graduation gift - reimb by Thrivent		150.00	
Discretionary Fund - pd by Members		1,195.64	
Blessing Box - pd by Members		275.88	
Global Barnyard - pd by Members (2022)		720.00	
Family Promise - Advent & Christmas envelopes/loose		207.00	
Hurricane Disaster Relief - Hurricane Ian - pd by Members		150.00	6,916.52
Other Non-Budgeted Items:			
Flowers - pd by members		785.00	
Jan portion of Portico - reimb by Pastor		578.62	
Jan portion of Portico pd - reimb by Pastor		(578.61)	
Credit card late fee - pd by Treasurer		32.00	
Denise Dellinger - reimb from Sewing Circle - supplies		59.98	
Foltz Store - chicken for Senior Appreciation lunch - pd by Member		75.00	
Foltz Store - chicken for Senior Appreciation lunch - per Council		21.06	
Cemetery Fund - pd by Members		1,130.00	
Christmas Appreciation Gifts (Shelby Boyden, Clinton Hawkins) - per Council		200.00	2,303.05
Total Non-Budgeted Items			9,219.57
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS			96,505.14
ENDING BALANCE DECEMBER 31, 2022 (Checking)			
	Current-Used for Budgeted Expenses		82,854.01
	Ordination Scholarship Fund Interest		1,052.86
	Special Discretionary Fund		1,241.01
	Youth - Fundraisers		7,557.85
	Long Range Planning		1,338.03
	Blessing Box		367.46
	Youth Ministry		840.00
	Santa's Workshop - 2021 & 2022		190.39
	Banner		50.00
	Youth (IMO Mary Barb)		465.00
	Trey Coffman - National Youth Forum		250.00
	Checking Acct-Dec 31, 2022		96,206.61
Denise M. Dellinger, Treasurer			

ST PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH MEMORIAL FUND - 2022

REINVESTED:

Edward Jones - 50% Stock & 50% Bond (60% of \$130,000)

Beginning Balance January 1, 2022	107,116.95
January-December 2022 fees	(1,364.36)
January-December 2022 change in value	(16,215.87)
Ending Balance December 31, 2022	<u>89,536.72</u>

Edward Jones - 35% Stock & 65% Bond (40% of \$130,000)

Beginning Balance January 1, 2022	104,163.19
January-December 2022 fees	(1,337.50)
January-December 2022 change in value	(15,229.93)
Ending Balance December 31, 2022	<u>87,595.76</u>

Balance in Edward Jones December 31, 2022 **177,132.48**

Checking Account - Farmers & Merchants Bank

Beginning Balance January 1, 2022	1,201.33
January-December 2022 Interest Income	3.13
Ending Balance December 31, 2022 - Checking	<u>1,204.46</u>

Balance in Memorial Fund December 31, 2022 **178,336.94**

THRIVENT FUNDS - MILESTONE MINISTRIES - 2022

Beginning Balance January 1, 2022	5,138.86
Loss (Jan-Mar 2022)	(129.76)
Loss (Apr-Jun 2022)	(98.27)
Loss (July-Sept 2022)	(62.39)
Gain (Oct-Dec 2022)	62.21
Balance December 31, 2022	<u>4,910.65</u>

ST PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH - CEMETERY FUND - 2022

FARMERS & MERCHANTS BANK

Beginning Balance January 1, 2022		38,448.08
Deposits:		
Donations	1,775.00	
Donations In Memory	420.00	
Purchase of Cemetery lots	200.00	
Transfer from checking account-pd by Members	1,830.00	
Jan-Dec 2021 Interest Income	35.26	
Total Deposits for Jan-Dec 2022		4,260.26
Disbursements:		
Lonas Lawn & Landscaping	9,900.00	
Culvert in new driveway for new cemetery	2,355.43	
Total Disbursements for Jan-Dec 2022		12,255.43
Ending Balance December 31, 2022		30,452.91

ENDOWMENT FUND POOLED TRUST - as of 12-31-2022

	Inception	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total
J. Dellinger Estate Fund Endowment	5/27/2005	\$25,000.00	\$30,070.08	\$55,070.08
Pius & Rebecca Miller Fund	9/16/2005	\$10,568.92	\$15,423.94	\$25,992.86
Seminary Scholarship Fund	10/31/2005			\$12,987.76
Cemetery Fund	5/08/2007	\$32,918.23	\$54,409.95	\$87,328.18

WOMEN OF THE ELCA TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 2022

Beginning Balance January 1, 2022	286.15
Valley Flower Shop - Palm vases	(67.00)
Ending Balance December 31, 2022	219.15

St. Paul's Sewing Circle
Fiscal Year 2022

Checking Account #621015727		
Balance Forward January 1, 2022		\$ 789.06
RECEIPTS:		
Rugs		\$ 2,675.00
Donations		\$ 1,100.00
	Subtotal	\$ 3,775.00
EXPENDITURES:		
Kitchen Supplies/Propane Gas		\$ 784.48
Miscellaneous: Shut-in Boxes		\$ 25.00
Food for Events		\$ 416.35
Rug Weaving		\$ 1,185.00
Donations		
	Subtotal	\$ 2,410.83
ENDING BALANCE DECEMBER 31, 2022		\$ 2,153.23
Sold Rugs	92	
Rug Inventory (on hand for sale)	19	
SAVINGS ACCOUNT #680058272		
Balance Forward January 1, 2021		\$ 2,362.77
Interest Received 2022		\$ 3.55
Balance December 31, 2022		\$ 2,366.32

Anna A. Barb, Treasurer