



Mt Si Lutheran 2022 Annual Report



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Presiding Bishop's Report.....pg. 3

NWWA Bishop's Report.....pg. 4

Leadership and Staff Reports....pg. 5-8

Council President's Report

Pastor's Report

CYF Director's Report

Personnel Report

Annual Statistics.....pg. 8

Ministry Team Reports.....pg. 9-16

Prayer Chain Ministry

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Quilting Ministry

Garden of Giving Ministry

Women of Christ/Hospitality Ministry

Evangelism & Outreach Ministry

Faith Formation Ministry

Building and Grounds Ministry

Worship and Music Ministry

2023 Mission and Ministry Goal Update

Financial Reports

Financial Secretary's Report

Stewardship and Finance Ministry

Year End Financial Report

A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDING BISHOP ELIZABETH EATON



Dear friends in Christ,

We have seen many changes throughout the years and throughout the world. Sometimes we've been left yearning for the days when things didn't feel so complicated. Other times, we have seen something new happen and have asked, "Why did this take so long?" The church has been through its own changes as well. Some of these have left us wishing for simpler times while others have us waiting for even more to come about.

But, dear church, God still is unchanging. God's love is still the foundation on which the church was built. While we have seen many changes, both in the world and at the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the eternal love of God and the good news that dwells with Christ's death and resurrection continue to provide hope for everyone. This is why our mission remains steadfast, whether that is through our traditional mission work in places near and far or from new ventures and visions that encourage us to think of different ways to reach even more people.

The writer of Hebrews reminds us: "Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God" (13:16). That could not be truer in the work we have been doing in each expression of the church. Your gifts continue to benefit the good work of spreading the good news throughout your communities, your synods and the whole church. We are all answering the call to continue to do good work with the help of your support, whether that is through your resources, your time or your talents.

I am grateful for your generous support of each expression of the church. God calls all of us to continue to do the good work, and you continue to answer that call. We also continue to join you in that call and will remain true to looking toward God's unchanging promise. There is still much change and learning that will come before us, but God's steadfast love energizes us for the work God is still doing in the world through this church.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elizabeth A. Eaton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

“Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God”

(Hebrews 13:16).

NWWA SYNOD BISHOP'S ANNUAL MESSAGE



Dear Beloveds in Christ,

“Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, ‘Sir, we wish to see Jesus.’” (John 12:20-21)

When I was in college, I sold books door to door in Alabama. One home that I approached was a trailer with no door - it had burned at some point and there was a smell of decay in the air. We were taught in Sales School that you knocked on every door. Since there wasn't a door, I knocked on the wall. A young mother with two small naked children came. I told her I was selling books. Her face lit up. She said, “Do you have any about Jesus?” And when I said yes, she came back with a jar full of coins that she emptied into my hands. “I want Jesus for my kids,” she said.

I have thought about this young mother and her children for decades now. I still wrestle with my decision to take her coins rather than just giving her the book. I wonder how the children grew up. I hope that they soon moved out of that shack and into a place with at least a door.

But her question has stayed with me the most, “Do you have any about Jesus?” It is so much like the plea from the gospel of John quoted above, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.”

Are we not still asking this today? To see Jesus and to be seen by Jesus. To truly see and be seen in holy community.

In this time in history when there are so many things that are difficult – in our personal lives, in this nation, in this church – we are all longing for Jesus. The very world, in its beauty and in its brokenness, is longing for Jesus.

I encourage you, as you gather for your annual meeting – and as you discuss budgets and maintenance and worship attendance and the building and salaries and all of the things needed to keep the organization of church going – to also, perhaps mostly, think about the question this young woman was so eagerly asking, “Do you have any about Jesus?” The longing that goes back to some Greeks who ran into Philip one day 2000 years ago. “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.”

I pray that as you gather, much of the conversation is about how Jesus sees you and how, through Jesus, you see each other and the world. What are some ways that this is made tangible in your community? Where are we falling short? Where is Jesus being shown to us outside of the church buildings and even outside of Christian community?

Above all things, I pray that as you gather, you experience the love and grace of Jesus. While we don't have the answer for all things that are happening or are coming in this next year, we do know this, Jesus is with us. The Spirit is journeying with us. We are held in God's hands. And when I see you, I see Jesus.

Thank you for the honor of being your Bishop. I am so thankful for you.

God's abundant blessings on your annual meeting and throughout 2023.

+Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee

LEADERSHIP & STAFF REPORTS

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT

At the beginning of the year, we were operating under protocols to address COVID concerns. We were meeting in person for one service on Sunday requiring everyone to wear a mask. We were also live streaming the service out on the internet. Attendance was light at the in person service and we estimated that we had approximately twenty connections on the internet. We were not having Sunday school or coffee hour following the service. On March 6 we began having Sunday school and coffee hour. We were able to drop the requirement for masks and made masks optional for in person gatherings. Attendance picked up slightly and we decided that we would make live streaming the Sunday service a permanent offering.

In February we decided to purchase a defibrillator for the church. We worked with the Red Cross to find one that best met our need. We placed an order in March and were told that delivery would be delayed due to supply chain issues. In September we contacted the company about when we could expect delivery. They said that we were still in the que but due to continuing supply chain issues they were not able to estimate a delivery date. As of mid-November we have not received the unit or been given a proposed delivery date.

As we moved through the year we continued the discernment process we had begun in 2021. We had identified two passages from the Bible that gave us our mission to serve and spread the gospel, and we had identified our spiritual gifts. Our top spiritual gifts were serving and giving. In the spring we had representatives from service organizations in the valley talk to us about needs. We developed three goals that we will pursue in the coming year. We want to identify opportunities to team with other organizations to assure the safety and wellbeing of children and youth in the valley and to assure the safety and wellbeing of seniors in the valley. We want to find ways to do a better job of spreading God's word in our community.

In January we were contacted by King County about the possibility of using our facilities for an emergency shelter in times of dangerous weather or events that would require evacuation of residences. We decided that we would be willing to offer our facilities but we would need outside help to manage the facility. We have been told that here are organizations that could provide the needed resources. We are looking into this further.

In May the council executive team along with Pastor Krista and John Grebe attended a meeting of the East King County Cluster of the Northwest Washington Synod. Six churches were represented. The purpose of the meeting was to identify ways for us to collaborate and combine our resources to better serve our communities. Work groups were organized for Youth ministries, Music, outreach, and executive leadership. There is a lot of enthusiasm about the possibilities of combining resources.

In June representatives from Mt Si attended the Northwest Washington Synod assembly. The theme of the assembly was "Abounding in Hope". There was an emphasis on opening up to and accepting diversity in our communities. We elected officers and board members. We passed a resolution to add language to the Portico health insurance program for Pastors to allow mental illness to be considered a disability. We also passed a resolution to formally acknowledge that we are on ancestral lands of Native Americans and will strive to work with the various tribal communities in our region to preserve those lands. In the budget we passed for the Synod there is a line item for "rent" being paid to the Duwamish Tribe for the land the synod offices are on. I reached out to the Snoqualmie Tribe through a program that they have for getting community recognition of their ancestral lands and told them that we acknowledge we are on their ancestral lands.

As we moved through the year we were watching our budget closely. With the exception of July our expenditures exceeded our income each month. We are averaging a loss of approximately \$1,400 a month. Due to money we received from the government Payroll Protection Program to help small business and

non-profits get through the COVID pandemic our bank account has been able to absorb these losses. We estimate that at the current rate of deficit spending we will run out of money in approximately four years. All of the churches in our cluster are facing similar shortfalls. We will be looking into possible income sources beyond our monthly giving. One possibility is to rent out some of the spaces we are not currently using.

On November 13 we had our annual congregational meeting. We passed a budget for 2023. The total 2023 budget is \$216,565. Our estimated income for 2022 is \$168,188.25. Council will be monitoring our income versus expenditures and in July will decide if we need to make cuts in our budget. For the 2023 council Jack Boller, Rick Rodriguez, and Dave Spurling were each approved for a second three-year term. We have one council vacancy to fill but there were no nominations and no volunteers to fill the position so it will be left vacant. The 2023 council members are Terry Adams, Ed Benson, Jack Boller, Inge Burnside, Tom Burnside, Rosemary Hanson, John Keiser, Marlin Olson, Paul Ritzenthaler, Rick Rodriguez, and Dave Spurling. Thank you to Jenna Rhyne who finished her service on council this year. This is an exciting time for our church as we look for our path into the future. Internally we will be moving to implement the three goals from our discernment process and expanding our outreach and service to our community. Externally we will be working with other churches in our cluster to identify opportunities to pool our resources and expand our service to our community.

Jack Boller

PASTOR'S REPORT

Grace and peace to you,

This has been a full, exciting, challenging and beautiful year of ministry at Mt Si.

This congregation is blessed by every single person in it. From the youngest to the oldest, each of you has God given gifts that bless this faith community and all who you meet. It is an honor and privilege to serve as your pastor. I continue to pray for each of you.

This year continued to be one of many adjustments and pivots as we sought to offer meaningful opportunities for worship, education and fellowship.

A major undertaking this year was the completion of our Mission Priority Discernment process. Thank you to all who participated in the process through in-person meetings, newsletter prompts and other online engagements. At our November congregational meeting the congregation chose to support three mission goals that will focus our ministry over the next few years. Please see the article on page ___ to read more! More of my time this year shifted necessarily to administrative work. I am grateful for Kathleen's partnership in these endeavors as she works from a distance in CA. She continues to do a wonderful job putting together our weekly News for the Pews, monthly Newsletters and weekly bulletins and slides.

I have also put more time and energy into planning/organizing outreach events that support the ministry of Mt Si. I trust the Spirit will bring together the right leaders to help re-form the Evangelism and Outreach Team. In the meantime, I am grateful for individuals who step forward to offer leadership of events as they arise. A big thanks to John for his presence at Farmers Market each week this summer and his partnership in events such as the North Bend Block Party and Holly Days.

One focus this year was marketing development so we can better share what we are doing with the community. I registered the church for a free pro version of Canva, which is a wonderful marketing tool. Multiple people can have access to the account, which has been shared with Faith Formation leaders and others. This tool helps create social media posts, postcards, posters and more. The best part is that we know all the content has the correct copywrite permissions. This year saw a significant increase in copywrite claims against churches (big and small) for improper use of images and music. It is something we need to be mindful of as we seek to do more communicating in the online world. I have enjoyed learning this program to create many adverts for the church's events.

Close to my heart are all the times I had the privilege of meeting with people for conversation, talking on the phone or texting. It is always a blessing to be welcomed into your lives and offer what support I can as you navigate day to day life with all its ups and downs. Thank you for your trust.

Another joy this year was the renewal of our mid-week Study group. From Oct.-Dec. we met each Wednesday night for dessert and study. We read the book "Searching for Sunday" by Rachel Held-Evans. It is a beautifully written book that provoked some wonderful conversation. A new study, on the Book of Matthew will begin in January. Marlin O. and I will share leadership of this study. Thank you, Marlin!

The fall also brought with it a return to Confirmation classes. I am so thrilled to have the opportunity to teach four of our youth over the next year(s). Please hold Austin H., Toren R., Kaelynn S., and Judah T. in your prayers as we meet each Thursday night. We begin our time together with a family dinner and then move into our study. The first Thursday of the month we also hold a family worship service, which has been fun! During the service questions are encouraged and I do my best to describe what we are doing and where it comes from. Thanks to John who participates in the class and provides his insight and support!

There is so much more I could say. I endeavor to keep Christ at the center of all I do and I cannot express how meaningful the congregation's continued encouragement and support means to me. Believe it or not, I have been at Mt Si for five years. May God bless this 6th year of ministry together as he has blessed the last five. May the peace of Christ be with you always.

Peace

Pastor Krista

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

This year started with uncertainty about our ability to return to routines and programming we experienced before COVID. With low to no attendance of children on Sundays we have been offering other activities as listed in the Faith Formation's Team report. It has been fortunate to be able to return to some normal routines such as attending concerts, sporting events, and other activities that our children and youth participate in. The involvement in the lives of our community is one of the greatest rewards of youth ministry.

Connections are critical in the community of Christ. I have made efforts to connect our church with a variety of community events. As a result of the work we have all done to increase our visibility the city leadership has increased their requests for our members to volunteer. There were at least 4 times when there were direct requests made for support. We were able to respond to a few and I am currently increasing my support with leadership planning.

Even though attendance has been low due to the lasting effects of COVID our connections with children continue to grow. Each week of the summer we connect with roughly 30-100 kids and our other events have had similar levels of participation. At times there are waves of sorrow and dread because I do not see the kind of involvement, I desire for the sake of experiencing community. This is washed away when kids come together and share their heart felt desire to care about each other. Watching our children grow in relationships with each other and with God is what makes it worthwhile!

Please continue to pray for this ministry trusting that God is preparing us for ways we will grow further into a loving community!

Peace,

John Grebe

PERSONNEL TEAM REPORT

Here is a summary of activities completed by the Personnel Committee in 2022:

- 1) Led Faith Formation Retreat in January to help focus goals and roles for the team.
- 2) Approved Kathleen working from California, updated office hours to one day per week per PK/John availability. Shifted Kathleen to 6hrs/wk after her move.
- 3) Completion of Performance Reviews in September.
- 4) Added Executive Team back onto Personnel in November due to Jenna going off Council. Full team is now Lisa, Pastor Krista, Jenna, Jack, Dave and Ed.
- 5) Met with Pastor Krista to develop plan for her areas of focus for 2023, with the development of a quarterly planning meeting for multiple groups beginning in Feb. 2023.

Looking forward to 2023, here are some Staffing Updates:

- 1) Kathleen is adding Marketing and Communications roles to her job duties, and will be working 12 hours/week instead of 6 hours/week.
- 2) Alisha will continue to work a maximum 10 hours/week and has created checklists for what work gets done when, a place to note supplies, instructions for vacuum use, and has a calling tree for backups if she isn't able to make it into church before a particular deadline.
- 3) John's hours per week will remain at 18/week.

Please feel free to reach out to Pastor Krista, Jenna, the Exec Team or myself for any questions.

In Humble Service,
Lisa Sampson,
Personnel Committee Chair

ANNUAL STATISTICS

Baptisms – Cindy Winter (10/30)

Funerals – Keith Wiltse Memorial (1/15), Jane Churchill Memorial (6/18), Lenard & Joy Benson Memorial (7/17), Larry Boyle Memorial (7/22)

Weddings - None

Transfers – None

New Members – Cindy Winter, by baptism

Current Active Voting Membership: 85 voting members (approved by council 12/14/2022)

Current Member Families and Friends: 128 active family and friends

MINISTRY TEAM REPORTS

PRAYER CHAIN MINISTRY REPORT

Mount Si Lutheran continues to have a strong group of people who pray for many needs and concerns. We have 31 people on the prayer chain and received over 100 prayer requests this year. Grace Culver receives the prayer requests and sends out the prayer requests through email. Pat Thomas receives prayer requests via phone. Nancy Flanagan will be updating the prayer chain this spring. Friends and members of Mt. Si Lutheran Church are always welcome to join the prayer chain and pray for others and their concerns. Please contact Grace or Nancy if you are interested.

Submitted by Nancy Flanagan and Grace Culver

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY REPORT

So excited to get this ministry up and going again, with the help of Thrivent. We received funds to buy yarn. The cubby where the prayer shawls hang is full of yarn, and there is still funds to purchase more yarn. In January I will be contacting those in the past who have helped in this ministry. We need to find a day and time to get together each week. There are some people who have continued making prayer shawls though out the past year, we deeply thank you for your loving creativity.

Please if you hear of someone who needs prayer and comfort take them a shawl, It is a good way of sending love.

Thanks to all,
Leslie Hatling

QUILTING MINISTRY REPORT

The church was able to ship the quilts, that we were unable to ship in 2021, this spring. The lady's started meeting together this Fall to put together the quilt tops and bottoms we have been making. We received fabric donations this past year from very generous people. We are blessed and thankful for these donations. We will be able to make many quilts!.

Blessings,
Sue Oster

GARDEN OF GIVING REPORT

This year the Garden returned to normal operation with several days where everyone got together to prepare, clean-up, and plant the Garden of Giving. Because of the weather the garden got a later start than usual; however, we were still able to harvest 431 lbs of vegetables for the Snoqualmie Valley Food Bank. The garden was also a project during God's Work Our Hands Sunday where we laid down some more landscaping cloth, harvested produce, and cleaned up the garden. I'd like to thank everyone who helped in the garden this year from donating plants and cleaning and putting down landscape cloth and planting and weeding and harvesting and delivering vegetables.

Thank You!
Terry Adams

MOUNT SI WOMEN OF CHRIST/ HOSPITALITY TEAM REPORT

Purpose Statement: *As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world.*

We commit ourselves to come together for study, support and action. After the pandemic we find ourselves beginning to return to our regular in person activities just the last part of this year.

The Mount Si Women of Christ accomplished the following in 2022:

- The Monday Bible study has returned. This group is a wonderful way for women to join together to grow in Faith together. It meets from 12:30-2:00 PM. All women are welcome.
- April 6, the hospitality committee prepared the kitchen and fellowship hall to host the “Last Soup Supper” Supper (our first soup supper in a couple years but the last of the Lenten season)
- In September, many women provided the meal and then continued and volunteered in the community for “*God’s Work, Our Hands*” Service Sunday.
- In December, we once again set up our Giving tree for the House of Hope to support the families in residence at the House of Hope/Mamas Hands homes. Our church members responded generously by donating \$700 in gift cards to 4 mothers and 6 children! It was a wonderful way to share our blessings with those little ones and their families.
- In December, we were excited to hold our annual women’s Christmas for the first time in years. We had a fun snowman theme and a devotion focused on JOY. The event was attended by 28 ladies & little ladies.
- Women’s ministry through the Hospitality committee has the privilege to hold memorial dinners for our congregational members as well for other members of the community with no church home. This year we were honored to hold a large memorial reception for our special friends Lenard & Joy Benson. We continue to feel this is one of the most important honors and forms of Evangelism we can have and plan to continue to do so in the future. We are always looking at ways to organize these events and make them more accommodating to all involved. Thank you to everyone who provides food and service.
- Throughout the year, the hospitality committee works to help set up the kitchen /fellowship hall for the events of the church as well as for coffee hour each week. We work hard to keep the kitchen space clean, organized and welcoming to all groups who use our facilities.

Goals for 2023:

- We still would like to explore the possibility of having a Women’s retreat either on site at the church or somewhere close in the valley. These are great events for women to join together in fellowship and grow our faith together.
- We would like increase the number of women that are attending our Bible study/events
- We will look to explore the reintroduction of our Secret Sister ministry focusing on prayer and support.
- We would like to find a group of women with new vision & new ideas to help lead our ministry.
- We will find ways to welcome all women of all ages into our ministry.
We will work to encourage more women to become involved in more aspects of our church embracing the full meaning of church membership. We especially would like to connect with the newer women of our congregation.

- We will support Pastor Krista Johnson, John Grebe and the church council leaders looking for ways to assist in furthering our vision and mission as members of Mount Si Lutheran Church and of the body of Christ.
- We hope to continue to support our world financially and spiritually - locally, nationally, and internationally. We will explore projects we can do to provide this continued support/service within our church as well as outside of it.

The Mount Si Women of Christ and Hospitality Committee are so happy to be together in person again. We are looking forward to see what God has in store for us in 2023 as we continue to Reach, To Serve, and to grow in Grace with the other members of Mount Si Lutheran Church.

Respectfully submitted,
Courtney Adams

*a special thank you to Vivian Waid who supplies wonderful goodies for coffee hour & to Inge Burnside for all her time & energy spent taking care of our kitchen and Fellowship Hall!

EVANGELISM & OUTREACH REPORT

We began the year collecting items for Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits. We were able to send over 40 kits to help support relief efforts around the world. Thanks to Erica H. and Pastor for organizing this outreach event.

During Lent we lifted up the 40 Days Of Giving and had a congregational goal of giving \$500 to support Lutheran World Relief. We met that goal trust the devotional materials provided were a blessing to the congregation.

On May 14th we participated in a valley wide outreach day lead by Sammamish Hills Lutheran Church called, Day of Service. Pastor agreed to be a team leader for the Encompass Learning Center site in North Bend. It was wet out, but we went to work anyway! Thank you to all the volunteers who showed up. There were over 800 volunteers at 22 volunteer sites with a total of 2400+ hrs. of service! Wow! Mt Si will participate again in 2023.

The North Bend Block Party was up and running again this year. Pastor and John G. organized and hosted this event along with help from several members. We were able to offer free crafts, lemonade, snacks and more. The pineapple bubble machine was a hit with little ones dancing in the street! We saw over 100 kids at this event.

Summer Backpack Program Janey helped Erica H. and Pastor take the lead of the backpack program this year. Erica was a tremendous support by taking on the organization, ordering, prep and more. We handed out about 110 K-12 supplies and/or backpacks. Thank you to those who helped stuff, and hand out during distribution week. And, thank you to those who donated funds and/or supplies!

Farmer's Market Pastor helped support the farmer's market by organizing crafts for each week and developing a calendar for coordinating crafts and special events at the market. The evangelism budget supports this ministry. Thank you to John G. for being present each week to set-up and tear down and to Jack, Ed, Marlin, Terry and many other dedicated volunteers who were there week after week! You all are awesome!!!

On Sept. 11th we celebrated God's Work. Our Hands. Courtney A. and Pastor organized the event this year. "CARE for our Community" was the theme beginning with a potluck meal, with service projects at

the Food Bank, Garden clean-up, Birthday Bag creation, & small projects around the church. Thank you to all the team leads and volunteers!

Holly Days was organized by Pastor Krista this year. A big thanks to John G. who was on site to offer leadership and to all the volunteers who supported the day! Despite extreme wind, we saw over 60 kids come through the free craft booth.

LIRS Christmas Cards were created and sent to adults and children currently in US detention centers awaiting trial, deportation and/or assistance.

Marketing throughout the year, for various events, Pastor has worked to create flyers, handouts, tri-folds, adverts, posters and more to share about Mt Si Lutheran while we are out in the community. We currently have gift bags for all visitors, business cards, trifold handouts and more to share at every event we attend. We also have special Christmas Eve adverts and Pastor is learning how and when to use Facebook boost to spread our adverts farther into the social media realm. We say the fruits of this for Blue Christmas worship with community members attending who saw the Facebook ad! In 2023, Kathleen will be taking on more hours so she can begin to care for this part of the ministry

There is not an active Evangelism Team at this time. Pastor and other volunteers are coming together to plan each event as they arise. If you want to help and/or have ideas, please talk to Pastor Krista.

Submitted by Pastor Krista

FAITH FORMATION REPORT

Reflections on 2022: Good events, but more than we liked canceled or attended by very few children and youth. Need to identify better plan for building the bridge between those we meet in the community and tying them to Mt. Si, too many missed opportunities. Excited for the opportunity to work with other churches in the cluster who expressed similar concerns with number of youth attending events. Lots of opportunities for events in 2023 to do as a cluster. We'll have another team retreat in January to build out calendar for year, and help in the process of planning for cluster events, and how we may want to adjust our programming. Adjusted the cadence of our Faith Formation meetings to meet the 1st Tuesday of the month to have more timely communication for Council Report, News from the Pews, and Monthly Newsletter.

A Year in Review:

- Most events on hold in January due to uptick in Covid
- Team retreat with Personnel Jan. 30 to discuss roles/goals/plans for the year.
- Sunday School Jan-June – generally 1st Sunday of the month and then generally 2nd Wednesday in the evening for similar lesson and other activities as part of Kids Club (rebranded to FAMS) grades K-8. Sundaes Sunday on July 10. Took a break from Sunday School in July and August.
- Jan-Jun Pastor held a Kids Craft + Lunch event at the parsonage the first Sunday of every month following education.
- Youth and team led Worship Jan-June – the first Sunday of the month was a youth/Faith Formation-team led worship. Decided not to continue into 2nd half of year, just making sure to invite youth/families to take on worship assistant roles when we know they'll be attending.
- March 20 – Ice Skating at Sno-King in Snoqualmie with hot cocoa at Starbucks after
- April 17 – Easter Egg Hunt
- Farmers Market June-Sept – MSLC was a recognized and appreciated presence each week providing crafts for 30-100 kids each night. Began partnering with other booths for crafts (flower petals from neighboring vendor selling flowers). Hope to build on that next summer.
- Game Night – June 17

- VBS – July 24-28, Discovery on Adventure Island, lots of volunteers, each night had about 12-16 kids attend. Kaelynn helped with Science station, as well as Craft and Games, Addison helped with Cupcake Walk.
- Festival at Mt. Si – Aug 13, Parade Float and co-host Kids Zone with John’s business, Facilitating Team Solutions.
- Rattlesnake Lake fun – Aug. 24. Canoeing and kayaking.
- Sunday School Sept-Dec – continue on 1st Sunday of the month, with someone available on other Sundays if the need be. Attendance ranged from 0-4 children.
- FAMS Sept-Dec – switched to the 3rd Thursday of the month from 4:30-5:30 pm to coincide with Confirmation nights and having a family dinner. Also more of a focused group of K-5 since older students who had previously attended are now in Confirmation. 3-5 children typically in attendance.
- First Cluster Event for grades 6-12 – Sept. 24. Fun afternoon at Mt. Si and Parsonage making pizzas, playing games, and doing team-building activities. Many more cluster events on the horizon!
- Archaeological Dig – Oct. 1 led by Marlin. Fun Intergenerational Bible Study of book of Jude to find jars, put together text, and discuss what text meant. Breakfast and lunch provided.
- Cluster Event – Oct. 15 Mini Golf in Redmond cancelled due to unhealthy levels of wildfire smoke
- Confirmation Oct-Dec – There are four youth in Confirmation led by Pastor Krista with support from John. The class meets weekly on Thursday night beginning with family dinner. Once a month we share in family worship together.
- Adult Study – Wednesday nights in fall saw a return of an Adult Study offering with about 10 folks participating. Pastor Krista led the group in a study of Searching for Sunday by Rachel Held-Evans.
- Harvest Carnival – Oct. 22 We returned to the full Harvest Carnival format. Chili cook-off, crafts, games, cupcake walk, food, costume parade and Trunk or Treat. Over 75 members and community members attended.
- Everything Apples – Nov. 6 Over 300 lbs of apples to create pie filling and cider, with follow-up days making more cider.
- Advent Festival – Nov. 27 Delicious treats, fun crafts, advent wreath and a Devotional
- Youth Christmas Party – Dec. 15 Combo FAMS and Confirmation youth event

Sunday School Leaders: Pastor Krista, Marlin, Courtney, John, Kim, Rosemary

Committee Members: CYF Director John Grebe, Pastor Krista Oppie, Courtney Adams, Marlin Olson, Jane & Ed Benson, Jack Boller, Nancy Flanagan, Lisa & Kaelynn Sampson.

The Faith Formation team would like to thank all those who have prayed for us, volunteered to lead various events and activities, as well those who have donated Thrivent cards to help make many of these events even more special with the added funds. And thanks to all who attend the events and activities, your participation makes for a greater experience for all!

Respectfully Submitted in Christ,
 Lisa Sampson
 Faith Formation Team Secretary

BUILDING AND GROUNDS

1. Lawn care continues to be managed well with all machinery in good working order. Several volunteers have ensured the grounds remain cut and trimmed. Tree trimmings were disposed of through a local lawn and garden company.
2. All exterior doors have been repainted. And all ground floor sanctuary windows have been reglazed as needed and repainted.
3. A timer control module was replaced in the Fellowship Hall that automatically turns on and off the lights under the walkway.
4. All appliances and heating/air duct/gas systems are currently working as designed.
5. Numerous minor repairs completed as soon as reported. This includes wood door repair, bulb replacement, reattachment of exterior vinyl siding, broken windows, loose fasteners, etc.
6. All the fire extinguishers were inspected and re-certified.
7. B&G will schedule the annual spring cleanup day (Saturday) prior to Easter Sunday. Date TBD.
8. Replaced wax seal ring in parsonage ground floor toilet.

Submitted by Tom Burnside, Mike Hanson, and David van Handle

WORSHIP AND MUSIC REPORT

We continue to be blessed to offer in-person and online worship for the church community and beyond. I am grateful to Terry A. and Mike B. who give of their time each Sunday to run the AV/Sound for our worship and for Terry A. who takes the time each week to make DVDs and deliver to home bound members. I know they are always open to teach others how to do this work that has become such a valuable piece of our Sunday morning worship ministry.

We are also blessed to have Dave S. continue to volunteer his time as our accompanist each week in worship. He has even taken the time to pre-record items when he is away. Recently, we were given permission by the music minister at Camano Island Lutheran Church to use her YouTube recordings of ELW and ACS hymns to supplement the wonderful work Dave is doing for our faith community. We also enjoyed special music from Kaelynn and Annie S. this past year, which was such a joy!

Thank you to all of our Lectors, Ushers, Communion Assistants and Assisting Ministers. Worship is meant to be shared together, thank you for sharing of yourself in worship.

Over the last year Kathleen has taken charge of bulletin creation and weekly slides which is such a gift. Thank you, Kathleen! I also want to thank Tom and Inge for the work they do to change over paraments and care for the altar area and sanctuary.

Dave and I meet as we are able to set music for each week. We understand there is an ongoing desire to see a blend of hymns and praise music in worship. We are doing our best to meet that desire. We welcome any musicians to please share your gifts during worship. I continue to develop liturgy settings for each new season drawing on several resources.

January brings with it the Epiphany season and a focus on being the light of the world. **February-April** we find ourselves in Lent. This year we held in-person mid-week worship that was also live-streamed.

On the final week we shared in a soup supper meal for the first time in a couple years. It was good to gather around those tables again for all who were comfortable.

April brings us into Holy Week and the Easter Season. Holy Week services are such a joy to craft and create. I pray they were a blessing. **May** brought with it Pentecost, our Sunday of red, once again. This is such a joyful and vibrant worship as we celebrate the pouring out of the Holy Spirit.

June-August we entered our summer worship season. VBS Sunday, at the end of August continues to be a wonderful celebration and connection point for the congregation.

One big shift for us this year was to move to the Narrative Lectionary in **September**. This wonderful resource has been a joy to use again. I hope it has been a blessing to you all as well. Through the fall we built a covenant paper chain, adding new links each week, as we learned about the persistence

In **October** the cluster clergy did a pulpit swap and sermon series on “Lutheran Theological Gems.” It was such a wonderful experience to worship with other faith communities. From what I heard, folks at Mt Si really enjoyed hearing from our guest preachers. Hopefully we can find a way to do something like this again in the new year.

December brought with it the Advent season. Erica helped design the window displays and decorations in the sanctuary. We also have a new Christmas Tree which was put together with help from Tom and Inge. This year we held a Blue Christmas Worship for the first time. By using social media we were able to effectively invite the wider community. We saw an even split of church members attending and community members. Given the feedback, I believe this will become an ongoing tradition here.

As I write this we are nearly to Christmas Eve and Christmas Day worship services. The candles are being prepared, the music and lessons practiced, and sanctuary spruced up for the occasion.

Goals for next year are to prepare seasonal liturgies farther in advance as well as have a better method for seeking worship assistants. If anyone is interested in helping manage worship volunteers, please reach out to me.

Blessings,

Pastor Krista

MISSION & MINISTRY GOALS FOR 2023

At our November 2022 congregational meeting the congregation offered its support of the following ministry goals to guide our work together for the next few years. A reminder that our current mission statement reads: Mt Si Lutheran seeks to serve, reach out and grow in grace. The following goals are meant to support that mission.

1. Mt Si seeks to support, advocate and be a safe place for children and youth in the Snoqualmie Valley.
 - **Develop**
 - Build on existing and develop new partnerships with Trail Youth, Empower Youth Network, Encompass Learning, North Bend Downtown Foundation, Snoqualmie Valley Chamber of Commerce, Farmers Market, SVFB, SVSD, Echo Glen and East King County Cluster.
 - **Offer**
 - We have ample space for children and youth to gather.
 - We have a number of dedicated leaders with gifts and skills of teaching, nurturing and being present with children and youth.
 - We offer a vibrant VBS and family friendly events open to the community such as the Harvest Carnival.
 - We show up at community gatherings and offer safe space for children and youth to play and engage with each other such as the Farmers Market and Holly Days.
 - **Expand**
 - May build and expand partnerships to extend our school supply and backpack ministry
 - May build partnerships to expand our monthly children’s gathering (F.A.M.S) to reach more families and widen our support base.

- **Explore**
 - o What are we not doing at this time that we might be able to in partnership with other groups?
2. Mt Si seeks to support, advocate and be a safe place for seniors in the Snoqualmie Valley.
- **Develop**
 - o Build on existing and develop new partnerships with the Senior Center, Senior Housing, SVFB, SVSS and A Supportive Community for All
 - **Offer**
 - o We have ample accessible building space to host various gatherings for seniors
 - o We have volunteers who have a heart for serving seniors
 - o We have seniors engaged in current classes and programs who have insight into needs and opportunities to serve seniors and offer opportunities for senior to serve
 - **Expand**
 - o Listen and Learn what opportunities there are to offer gatherings at the Senior Center such as a Bible Study or prayer circle or to invite folks to Mt Si groups and gatherings such as quilters, prayer shawls, Bible Study, etc.
 - **Explore**
 - o What are we not doing at this time that we might be able to in partnership with other groups?
3. Mt Si is committed to be Christ's disciples as we grow in what it means to share the Gospel with the community in our daily life.
- **Develop**
 - o Reach out to Synod and local leaders who have gifts in teaching about Evangelism and Discipleship
 - **Offer**
 - o Every member of Mt Si is a beloved child of God who has been called to follow Jesus and his commands to love God and love our neighbor. The Spirit works through each of us. We offer these gifts in service to God.
 - o We offer regular Bible Study for adults that provide valuable space for discipleship growth
 - o We offer regular worship for all ages that seeks to encourage and support discipleship growth
 - o We offer Christian education for children and youth to teach the stories, practices and tenants of our faith.
 - o Prayer chain ministry that offers tremendous support for our community
 - **Expand**
 - o Invite and encourage participation in worship, education and fellowship to deepen our sense of community and commitment
 - o Listen to everyone in our faith community and find ways to expand current worship, education and fellowship offerings
 - **Explore**
 - o What are we not doing at this time that we might be able to in partnership with other groups?

We need the full support of the congregation to fulfill these goals. Over the next year council will be asking for your commitment and participation in this effort to live out our purpose as Jesus' disciples. Lots more info to come in 2023! Thank you all for your efforts in bringing these ministry goals to light. Peace, Pastor Krista

STEWARDSHIP and FINANCE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Mission Statement

The Stewardship and Finance Committee's mission is to initiate programs that develop scriptural stewardship attitudes and actions among church members and to oversee use of the time, talents, and finances of our congregation.

Stewardship

The COVID 19 Pandemic subsided enough for us to finally resume regular "in person" worship for most of 2022. Our ministries were still somewhat handicapped as they could not meet and operate in a normal fashion. The ZOOM option continues to be available for all services. We were all happy to finally start meeting in person again.

The Congregation did a fantastic job supporting the continued operations of Mt Si Lutheran. COVID 19 does not care if we have building expenses, operating expenses, and payroll obligations to honor. Members continued to support the church through the various available options (online giving, mailed donations, Amazon Smile, and Sunday Service Plate Offerings). It might be time to consider resuming the regular Sunday Plate offerings in 2023 (passing the plate).

The focus for all will be continued growth of our Congregation in 2023. Adding new members to the Congregation will continue to be an important goal of the Congregation. The COVID-19 Pandemic and flu concerns continue to hamper our normal activities and perhaps is a factor in new people willing to attend and/or join the congregation. Council continues to monitor the guidelines from State and Federal authorities as the OMICRON Variant, flu and RSV remain present.

In 2022 our expenses were approximately \$11,000 greater than our income (giving). We depleted funds existing in our checking account to make up this difference. We have approximately \$65,000 in our checking account as of 12/31/22. We have enough funds to manage this shortfall in the near term, but we certainly would like to have our giving and expenses more in line with each other each month for the future growth and viability of our congregation.

Finance

The Treasurer Position again was handled by Jeff King in 2022. We greatly appreciate Jeff and all his expertise with all our financial reporting functions. Leslie Hatling continued as our Financial Secretary for 2022 and does a great job!

Some Financial Fun Facts:

Description	2022	2021
Total Income	174,577	215,609
Total Expenses	186,149	182,161
Total Benevolence	8,968	15,352

Endowment Fund

Our Endowment Fund was started in 2018 with a donation of \$4,888 and has now grown to \$5,015. When this Endowment Fund balance reaches \$50,000 via various donations (Estate donations and restricted donations) and Fund appreciation, the proceeds will be distributed to our Church Ministries.

Amazon Smile

Amazon Smile donations contributed \$246.60 in 2022 compared to \$263.16 in 2021. When you use Amazon Smile to purchase items on Amazon a percentage of the sale price is donated directly to Mt Si

Lutheran. It costs nothing to the buyer. A great deal for the church. You just need to designate Mt Si Lutheran as your charity.

Thrivent Dollars

If you are a Thrivent member, there are Thrivent Dollars available to you to donate to the church. For example, Pastor Krista reports that “one reason some of the ministries didn't spend their full budget this year was due to Thrivent Action Team dollars secured through generous members. We had 11 action team grants at \$250 each for a total of \$2,750 in grant income for ministry expenses. This money was used for quilting, evangelism, prayer shawl ministry and faith formation.

If interested, ask Leslie or Pastor Krista how this all works! A great way to support Mt Si Lutheran Church. Thrivent Dollars are available every year.

Ways to donate to Mt Si Lutheran:

1. Mail a check:
Mount Si Lutheran Church
ATTN Financial Secretary / Leslie Hatling
PO BOX 487
North Bend, WA 98045
2. On-Line via credit card or electronic check. You can now set up automatic donations either via credit card or check to Mt Si. Your financial institution will deposit directly to the Church's account. It is easy to do, secure and confidential. It can be for one-time donations or as often as you like; both members and non-members can use it. Just go to our web page and click on the “Giving” tab
3. Amazon Smile. When using this platform on Amazon a percentage of your spend with Amazon is donated to the church. It costs you nothing! Please ask anyone on Stewardship or Pastor Krista for details if needed.

Below are some of the Committee Activities throughout the year:

1. Meet every month to review the Treasury report and monitor income and expenses. Look for ways to reduce costs and increase giving opportunities.
2. Facilitate quarterly congregational financial meetings.
3. Facilitate and prepared the annual Congregational budget.
4. Review and recommended approval for scholarships.
5. Distribute semi-annual statements.

2023 Goals

1. Continue to promote On-Line / Automatic Giving via our web site. Via checking account or credit card.
2. Promote Amazon Smile Giving opportunity.
3. Keep record keeping up to date (i.e.: members, baptisms, funeral, etc.)
4. Continue to promote Endowment Fund and ability of donors to donate stock through our brokerage account with Thrivent.
5. Help improve pool of counters to count and deposit church offerings. Especially needed if we restart regular plate offering in 2023.

2022 Members

Tom Chase, Leslie Hatling, Jeff King, Terry Adams

Financial Secretary Annual Report 2022

On-line Giving

Mt Si Lutheran Church continues to offer an automated payment program to our congregation through on-line giving. It is a convenient way to contribute to the Church. Contributors' sign-up, then set and determine the amount, and frequency of their gift (weekly, semi-monthly, or monthly). Payments are withdrawn from contributors checking or savings account or credit card and deposited directly into the Mt Si Lutheran Church bank account, for those using credit card the church does incur a service fee. Changes to a contribution plan are easy and can be done at any time.

The Church pays a small, per transaction fee to participate it is a convenient, safe, and easy way to make your church offerings! The program offers Mt Si Lutheran Church greater financial stability, less bookkeeping, and can also help foster good stewardship.

Assigned Offering Envelopes

Mt Si Lutheran Church has offering envelopes available for use if you so wish to use them, but they will have 2019 dates on them. The church has decided to not purchase new envelope right now.

Un-reimbursed Expenses (Purchases for the church)

If you purchase something for the church, but do not want to be reimbursed for that expense, please complete an Unreimbursed Expenditures form, attach your receipts, and turn in to the Church office. Unreimbursed expenses are recorded as In-Kind donations on contributors Annual Giving Statements for tax purposes. The information provided is also used for budgetary purposes (this helps us keep track of accurate Church expenses).

\$622.34 in Unreimbursed Expenditures were reported in 2020 for the following ministries:

Altar Guild		Technical Ministry	163.50
Buildings & Grounds	243.71	Fellowship	
Evangelism		VBS	
Hospitality		Quilting & Knitting	134.60
Office Supplies & Expense		Family & Youth	
Global Missions	48.17	Women's Ministry	
Parish Ed	32.36	Stewardship & Finance	
House of Hope		Worship & Music	

Special Offering

Memorial	200.00
ELCA World Hunger	200.00
VBS	295.00
Easter Flowers	358.78
Backpack Project	605.00

We had 12 projects funded by 7 Thrivent Members in our church with action funds through Thrivent Financial.

If you have any comments or concerns, or would like information about the *On Line Giving* program, Offering Envelopes, or Unreimbursed Expenses, please contact Leslie Hatling, Financial Secretary at the church office or via email at financialsecretary@mtsilutheran.org.