

Annual Report

Annual Meeting
Sunday, Feb. 11, 2024
In-person, 11:45am
Fellowship Hall

Welcoming, building community and serving neighbors is nothing new for First Lutheran. Generations of faithful Christians have done this kind of work from First for over 150 years. What is new is using our core values to guide us in our efforts to reconcile with people who have too often been left out, remained uncared for, or have been outright harmed.

The Holy Spirit is up to far more among us than simply putting 'butts in seats.' First Lutheran is doing the far more difficult work of welcoming all and building community in an era when divisions and isolation rule the day. As we look to the possibilities of 2024, we see a presidential election year unfolding alongside an uncertain economy, and filled with uncertainties about so many things. Whatever this next year may hold, First Lutheran is committed to being a steadfast source of strength and peace for its members, our community, and all the world.



FIRST
LUTHERAN

Highlights from 2023 at First

Jan: Stewardship uplifts goals to support Safer Families for Children, help Ukraine through Lutheran World Relief, and to welcome all through music and food ministries.

Faith Alive! U invites Deacon David Rask Behling to speak on becoming an RIC congregation, with additional presentations by Rev. Dione Stepanek and Bishop Felix Malpica.

Pastor Stanton leads an online "deep dive" into the book of Revelation.

The congregation at Wednesday services learns the new *Heartland* liturgy by Jonathan Rundman.

Feb: The First Teen Clothes Closet hosts a teen art show, and the artwork remains at the clothes closet as part of the décor.

Mar: Lenten study: *Beyond Question* by Eric Burtness.

Apr: Over 1,500 attend Holy Week and Easter services, over 200 view services online, and we sing "Alleluia" 142 times in worship!

Pastor Stanton leads an online study of Walter Brueggemann's *A Gospel of Hope*.

12 high school seniors are named recipients of Mabel Anderson scholarships.

May: Faith Alive! U: *Embracing Awkward Conversations*, presented by Rev. Libby Howe.

Members of First Lutheran vote to adopt a new welcome statement, and officially becomes a Reconciling in Christ congregation.

Jun: The exterior of the house is painted.

Throughout the summer our congregation brings Flat Jesus with them wherever they roam, making appearances ranging from Hayward, WI and to the Montreux and Crans Mountains in Switzerland!

Jul: Pastor Stanton celebrates 20 years of ordination!

The First Lutheran Foundation awards \$7,925 in grants to 10 groups, such as Oasis and the Holmen Community Center, prayer shawl knitters and the FLY youth group.

Monthly outdoor worship takes place in the newly re-landscaped outdoor worship space on the east side of the church.

Aug: The FLY Flight Crew holds their first monthly meeting, in support of First Lutheran Youth.

Sept: A new ministry of Faith Webs is launched, uniting households and supporting our youth.

Oct: Jon Ailabouni leads a special worship service featuring jazz liturgy.

Nov: Bible Matters, kicked off by Rev. Libby Howe and led by Pastor Karyn, begins studying the gospel of Mark.

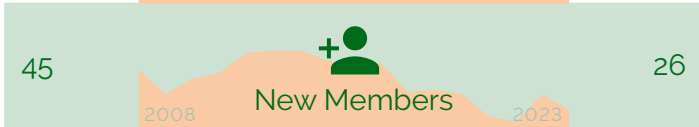
Dec: Over 1,100 attend Christmas services, and over 40 view online.

2022

Statistics

Trend lines in light orange

2023



2023 Financial & 2024 Budget

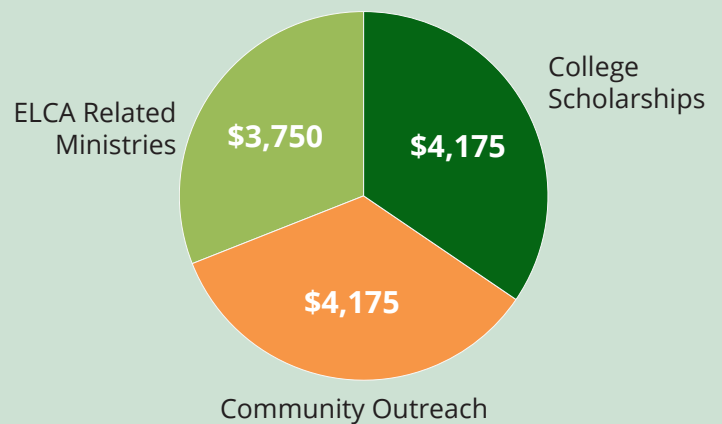
	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2023 Budget	2024 Proposed Budget
Total Operating Receipts	\$ 855,025	\$ 857,358	\$ 889,400	\$ 861,300
<i>Operating Expenses:</i>				
Worship Ministry	\$ 19,714	\$ 20,050	\$ 21,000	\$ 23,100
Faith Alive! Ministries	\$ 150,424	\$ 150,017	\$ 150,000	\$ 154,400
Outreach & Caring Ministries	\$ 107,921	\$ 96,505	\$ 127,900	\$ 93,900
Foundational Support Ministries	\$ 569,262	\$ 578,955	\$ 590,500	\$ 609,900
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 847,321	\$ 845,527	\$ 889,400	\$ 881,300
Excess of Operating Receipts Over (Under) Operating Expenses	\$ 7,704	\$ 11,831	\$ -	\$ (20,000)
Utilization of Operating Reserves to Supplement Shortfall	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,000
Net Excess of Operating Receipts Over (Under) Operating Expenses after Utilization of Operating Reserves	\$ 7,704	\$ 11,831	\$ -	\$ -

Dedicated Accounts Receipts & Expenses in 2023

	Balance 1/1/22	Year To Date Receipts	Year To Date Expenses	Balance 12/31/22
Mission Outreach	\$ 7,181	\$ 5,247	\$ 11,954	\$ 474
Education	\$ 892	\$ -	\$ 892	\$ -
Worship	\$ 2,434	\$ 6,233	\$ 3,489	\$ 5,179
Youth & Family	\$ 10,735	\$ 68,724	\$ 32,405	\$ 47,053
Community Impact	\$ 1,822	\$ 79	\$ 1,093	\$ 807
Memorials	\$ 26,654	\$ 6,542	\$ 6,911	\$ 26,285
Special Events	\$ 2,775	\$ 1,810	\$ 1,159	\$ 3,426
Other	\$ 53,872	\$ 59,898	\$ 25,203	\$ 88,567
TOTAL	\$ 106,365	\$ 148,534	\$ 83,108	\$ 171,791

Foundation Fund

Gifts in 2023



First Lutheran is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)

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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

