



**HOLY
CROSS**
LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Helping People Know, Live and Share
the Love of Christ.*

ANNUAL MEETING of the Congregation

February 4, 2024

 **2703 9th Ave NW
Rochester MN 55901**

 **507-289-1354**

 **[www.holycross-
church.org](http://www.holycross-church.org)**



Meeting Agenda

- **Welcome & Call to Order** - Mark Matthias
- **I. Opening Prayer** - Pastor Jordan
- **II. Recap Prior Year Annual Meeting**
- **III. Ministry Highlights – Celebrating 2023**
- **IV. Business of the Congregation**
 - ❑ Treasurer's Report (2022 Recap & 2023 Financial Ministry Plan) – Roger Lindahl
 - ❑ Election of New Executive Council Members
- **V. Looking Ahead**
 - ❑ Foundations for the Future: Facility Plan 2024 – Sandy Abenstein, Cindy Wessel, Pastor Jeff
 - ❑ 2024 Ministry Plan – Mark Matthias
 - ❑ God's Work at Holy Cross – Pastor Jeff
- **VII. Closing and Blessing** - Pastor Jeff
- **Adjournment**

Technical Details of Zoom Meeting

- Check that your full name is shown in your window
- If there is more than one Voting Member in a "room", please put both names in the window
- Use the Chat function to submit comments to the meeting Chair
- Polling will be used for voting by online attendees

Voting on Zoom

- Only Voting Members may vote on Resolutions
- You *must* select a response to *both* questions in order to activate the **Submit** button (If you haven't, then **Submit** will be *gray* not blue.)
- If you are the *only* Voting Member, then select "Not applicable" for **Voter 2** as shown on the right

Close

Poll

Sample Question

1. Voter 1: Do you like Zoom? (Single Choice) *

☒ Yes

☐ No

2. Voter 2: Do you like Zoom? (Single Choice) *

☐ Yes

☐ No

☒ Not applicable

2 of 2 answered

Submit

Who can see your responses?

RECAP: February 5, 2023 Annual Meeting

- 76 Attendees: In-person (60)/Online (16 via zoom)
- Celebration of 2022 included reports on Ruby's Pantry, CarePortal and the Creative Women's Group's work with MN Adult & Teen Challenge
- Congregation voted/approved the Council members on the slate, noting 5 positions remained open.
- Congregation voted/approved Pastor Jeff and Jo Dean as Voting Representatives for Synod President.
- Mark Matthias reviewed the 2023 Ministry Plan, and Pastor Jeff laid out the 2023 theme of Stewardship.

The Annual Report

- The Annual Report shares highlights of our Ministry at Holy Cross in the past year.
- Get a copy at our website under Welcome/About Us/Annual Reports

<https://holycross-church.org/AnnualReports/AnnualReport2023.pdf>



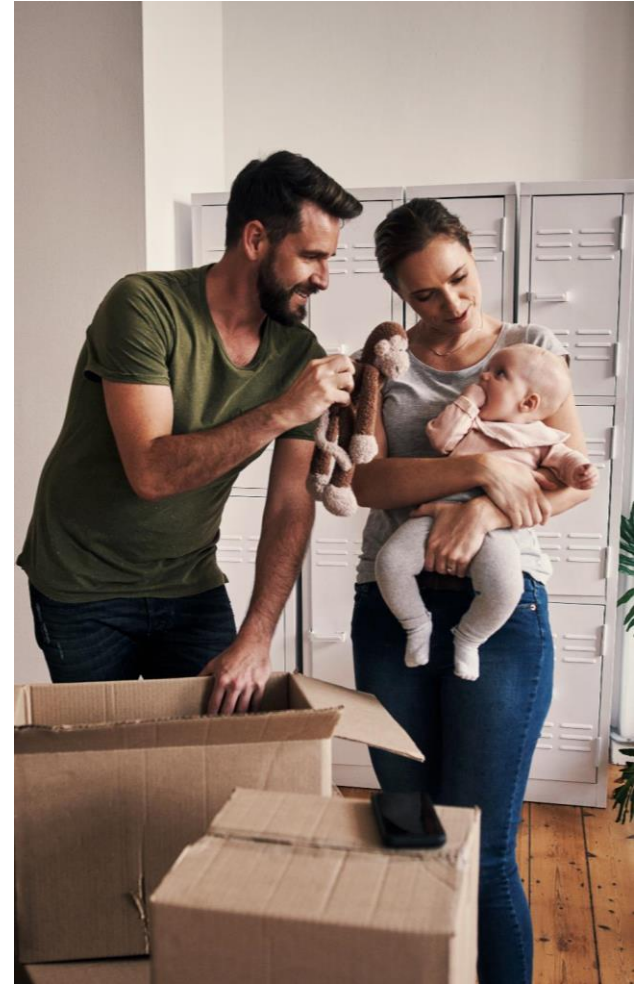
Annual Report 2023



STEWARDSHIP
OF THE
Gospel

WWW.HOLYCROSS-CHURCH.ORG

Ministry Highlights: Celebrating God's Work in 2023

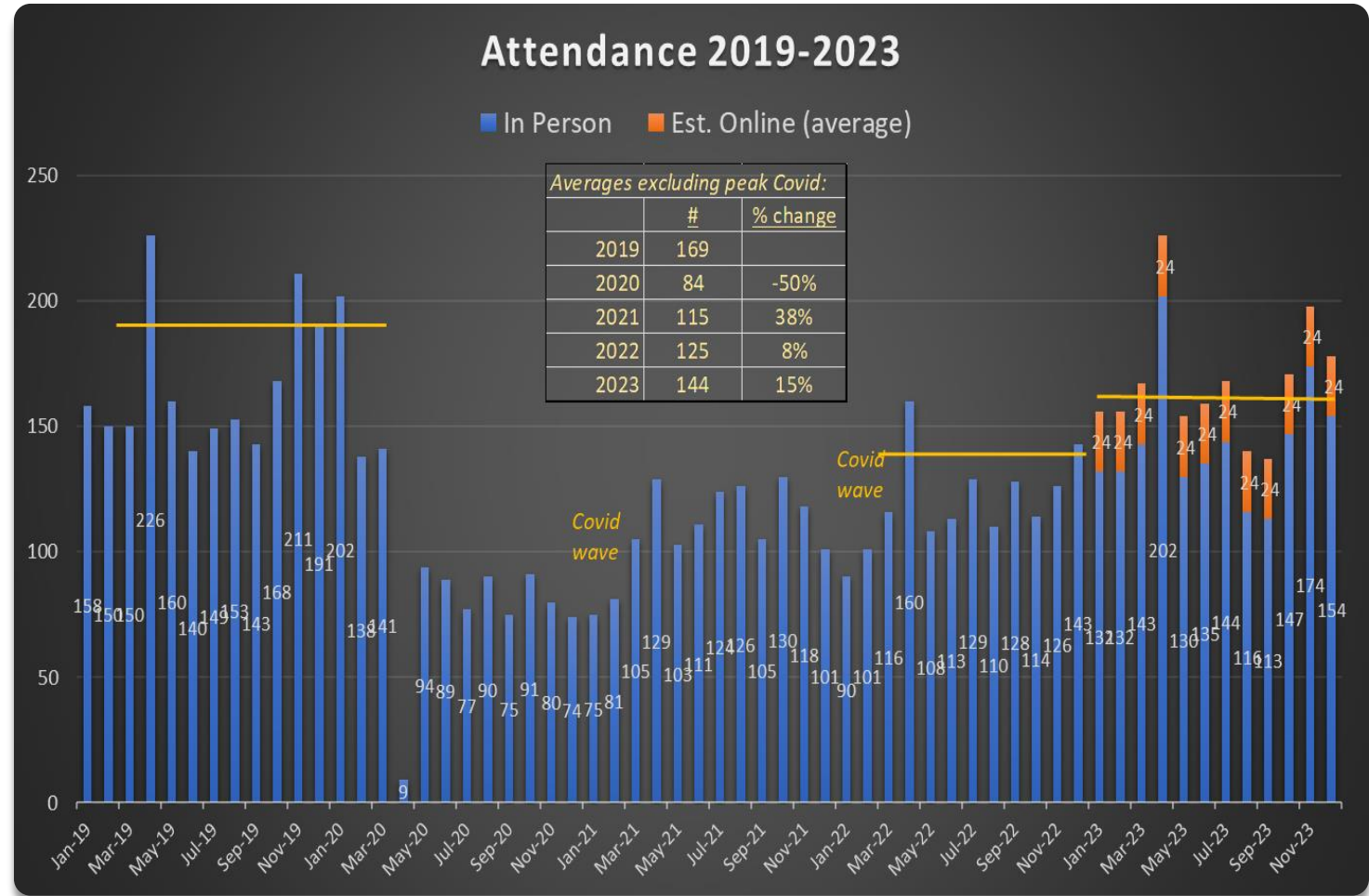


Attendance Trends

In-person attendance keeps growing!

With Live-stream, back to 2019 pre-pandemic levels

Still room to engage & minister to each other



Ruby's Pantry

2nd Saturday of Every Month

Over 200 families are getting food on a monthly basis

Growth with RCLS has surpassed Holy Cross volunteers

Growth with Church member relationships

Our community knows who Holy Cross is

Ruby's

PANTRY at Holy Cross



CarePortal

Ministry Update

1,000+
CHILDREN SERVED



SINCE FEB 26, 2021
OLMSTED COUNTY

CarePortal 

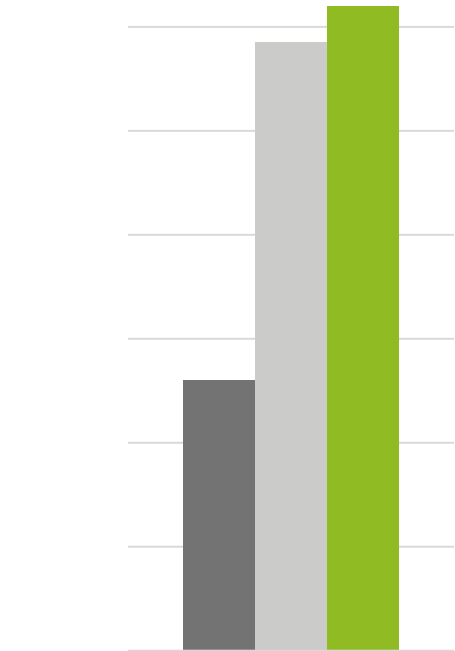
CarePortal

Care for **every** child



A technology platform connecting you
to children and families in crisis

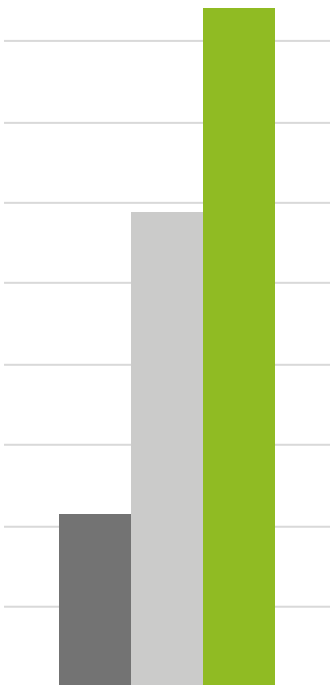
Totals: 293



	Requests Met
2021	52
2022	117
2023	124

2021 2022 2023

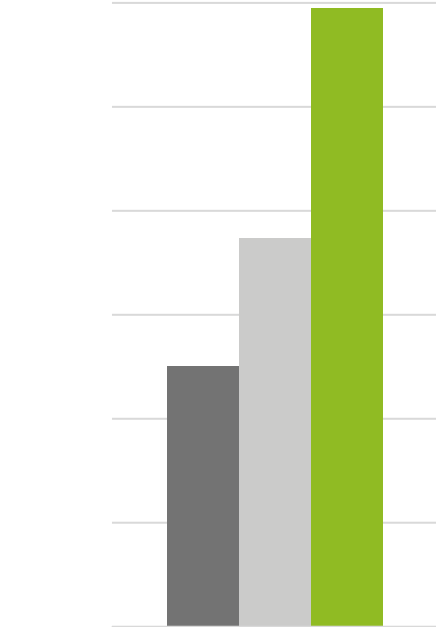
824



	Children Served
2021	108
2022	295
2023	421

2021 2022 2023

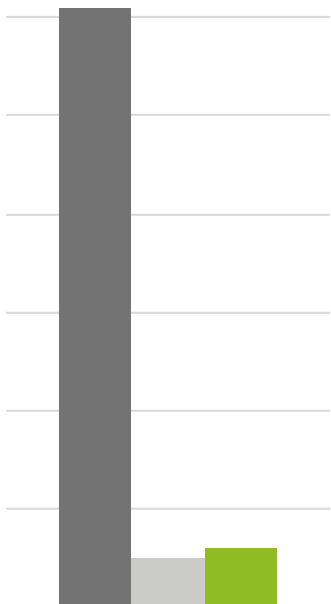
\$243,697



	Economic Impact
2021	50000
2022	74611
2023	119086

2021 2022 2023

72



	New Responders Added
2021	61
2022	5
2023	6

2021 2022 2023



- Requesting Agencies
 - Olmsted County Community Services
 - Next Chapter Ministries
 - **First Care Pregnancy Resource Center**

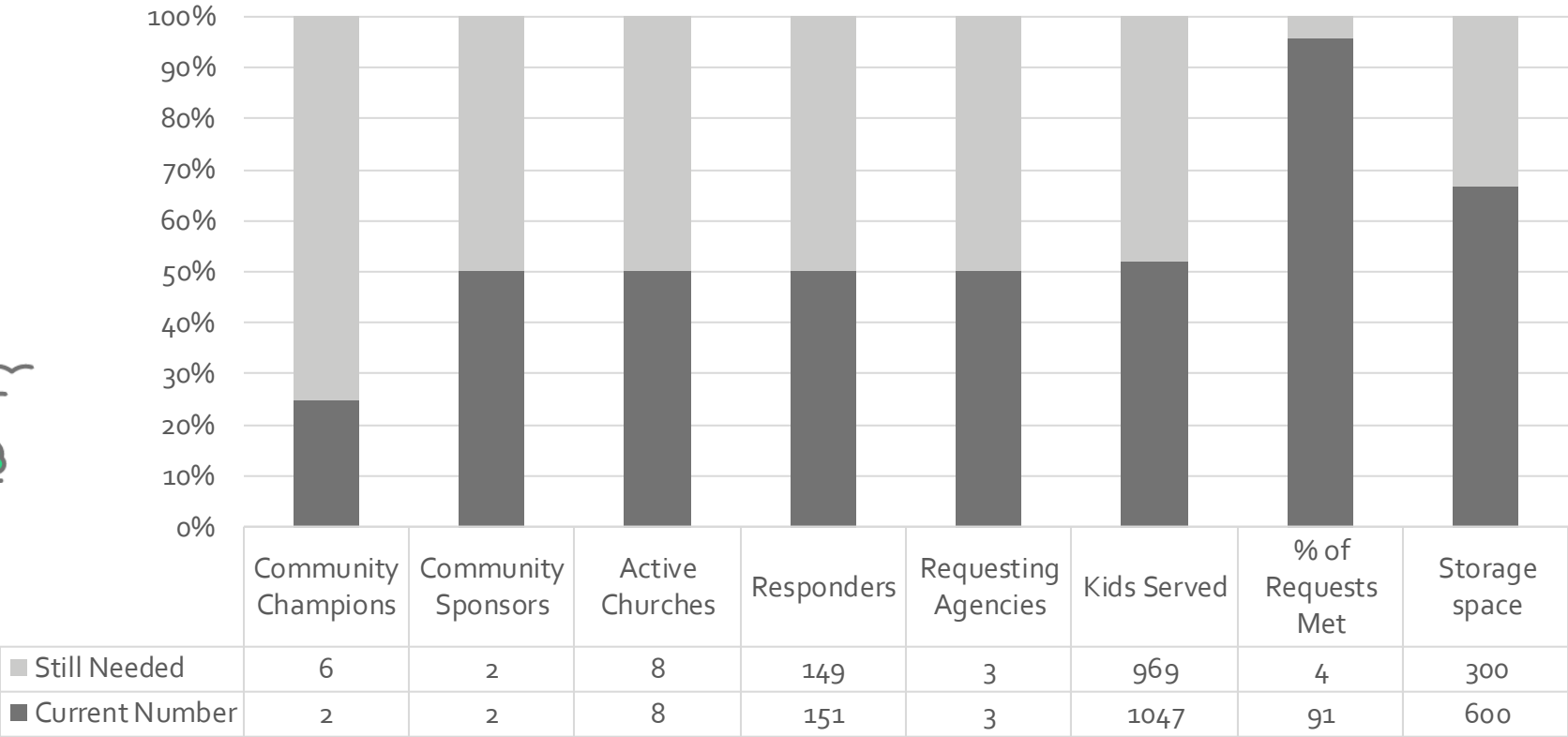


- Churches
 - Autumn Ridge
 - Emmanuel Baptist
 - Gloria Dei
 - Holy Cross Lutheran
 - Marion Road
 - Mount Olive
 - Our Savior's Lutheran (Eyota)
 - St. John's Lutheran (Stewartville)

- Community Champions
 - **American Family Insurance (Tony Zucco)**
 - **Service Pros Plumbing**

Olmsted County Metrics

Goals for 2024: 8 4 16 300 6 2,016 95% 900 sq ft



■ Current Number ■ Still Needed

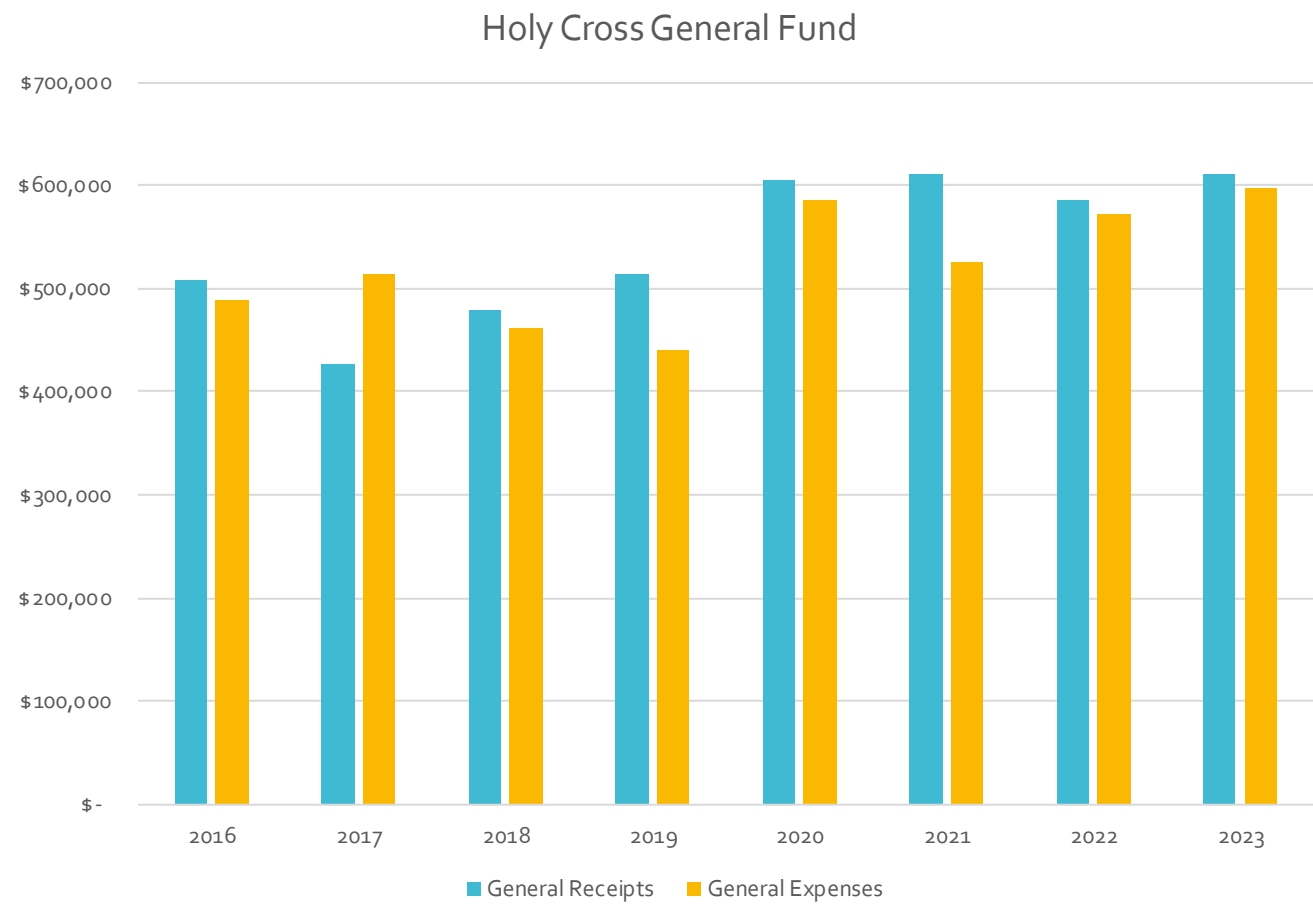
Treasurer's Report



Financial Highlights

- 2023 General Fund operated with a net surplus of \$13,500. Praise God!
- 2023 General Funds gifts increased 4.5% from 2022 and were \$611,455
- Designated gifts very strong, \$44,996 excludes Ruby's Pantry and CarePortal which will be highlighted separately. This includes Suresh, Building Fund, Youth, VBS and many other mission activities.
- Very strong in "dry powder" to continue our ministry, 12/31/2023 balances
 - Checking \$ 123,439
 - Designated \$180,757
 - Unrestricted savings/investments \$111,048
 - Regedahl (Youth/Children) \$85,418 at LCEF
 - LCEF Debt **\$67,498**

Historical review of General Fund



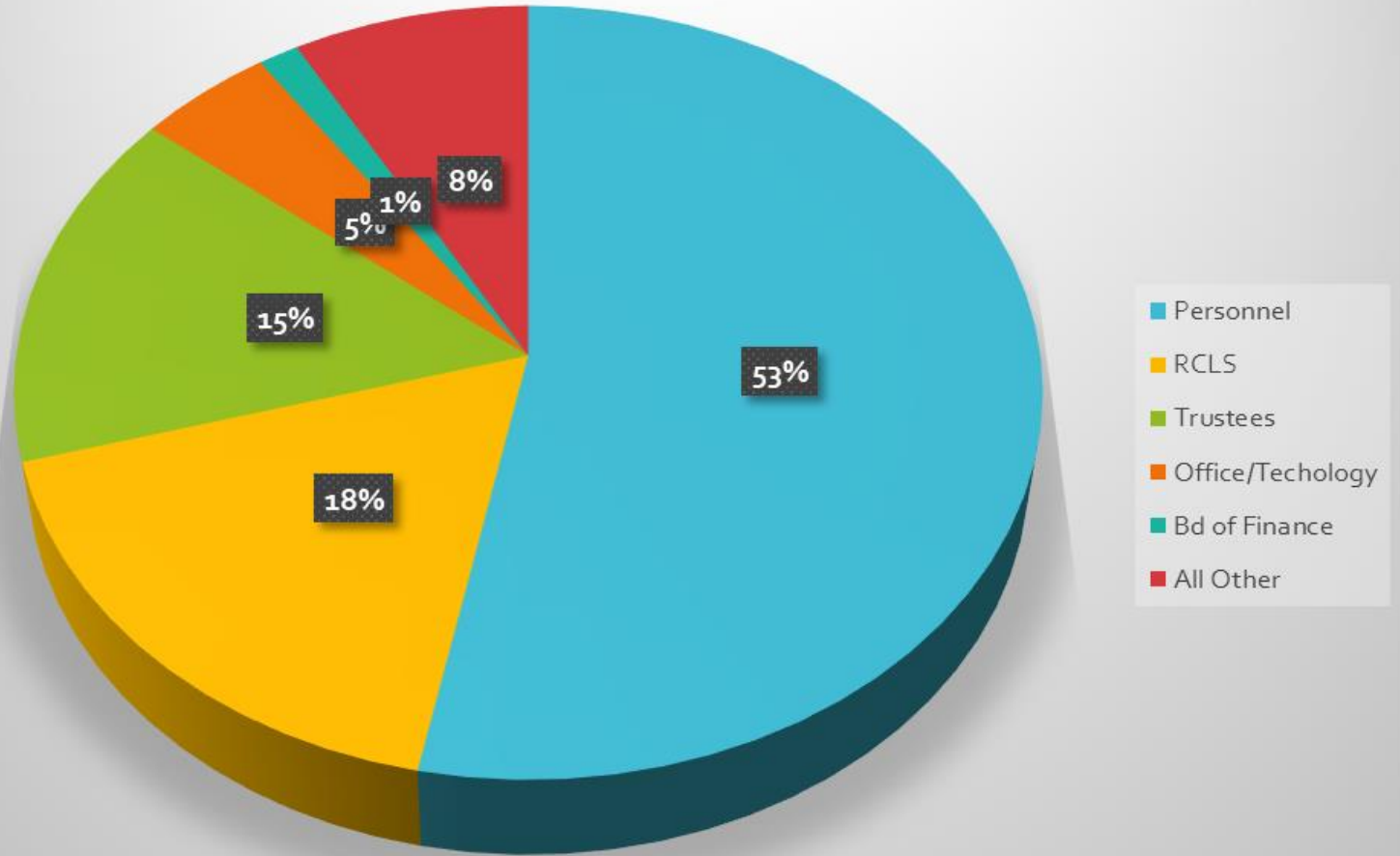
2024 Budget Challenges

2024 budget \$664,982 - up from a \$607,585 2023 spend

- Full year budget with two Pastoral staff, includes part time Bookkeeper, Custodian and Office Administrative Assistant; Office Admin was open for all 2023
- RCLS support up 8.4%, formula based on students, membership ratios across member churches
- Continues on path of Holy Cross Vision on vibrant ministry in children, youth, connecting internally and reaching beyond our walls by Care Portal and other outreach
- Requires trusting God to stir our hearts and provide resources needed to accomplish the Ministry Mission and Vision, 7%+ general fund giving increase; will need combined new members plus member increase
- Typical slight under-spending of budgets (\$21,000 in 2023); all ministry teams use funds judiciously and leverage with volunteers

2024 General Fund Budget

2024 Budget \$664,982



Holy Cross Designated Balances

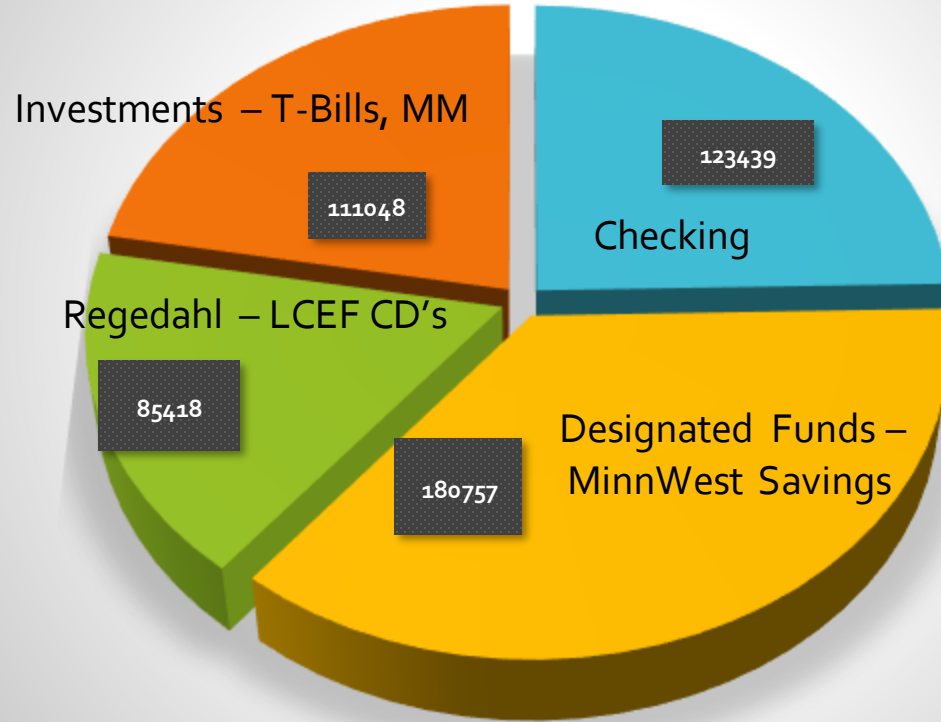
Savings & Investments

12/31/2023 Holy Cross Designated Funds/Savings-Investments

	Designated Funds	
Tractor Fund (Youth Fundraising)		\$ 12,500
Youth & Workcamp		9,350
Care Portal, RP , garden		8,852
Beyond our walls		14,777
FOC Cash Carryover		20,505
Good Samaritan		7,470
Building Related		
Live Stream	45,263	
Building for Eternity	3,020	
PPP Loan Forgiveness	31,100	
Subtotal Building		79,383
Funded Depreciation		23,175
Various smaller funds		4,745
Total Designated		\$ 180,757
Undesignated Savings & Investments		111,048
Total Designated and Unrestricted savings		\$ 291,805

Checking, Designated, Savings & Investments

2023= \$500,662 in Checking, Designated, Savings & Investments








Election of New Executive Council Members

Executive Council — 2023

THANK YOU!

Executive Officers		Vice President (open)		
	Mark Matthias President		Roger Lindahl Treasurer	Jo Dean Secretary

TEAMS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leads • Associate Leads RCLS REPS	Lead Elder (open)			Discipleship Associate Team Lead (open) AV		
		Brandon Marsh Elder Associate Lead (AV)	Sherri Emedo Discipleship Team Lead		Adam McClung Outreach Team Lead	Denise Frey Outreach Associated Team Lead AV
KEY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AV = Alternate Voter • NV = Nonvoter 				Volunteer Ministry Team Lead (open) AV		
	Sandy Abenstein Trustees Team Lead	Ken Schultz Finance Team Lead (AV)	John Beise Personnel Team Lead		Laura Rhee RCLS Rep (NV)	Dan Johnson RCLS Rep (NV)

STAFF and Volunteer STAFF



Executive Council – 2024

Slate for Voting:

Doug Happel
Kevin Kelle
Sandy Abenstein
Brenda Stowe
Denise Frey

Open:
Team Leads for
Outreach, Personnel,
Volunteers

Executive Officers			
			
Mark Matthias President	Doug Happel Vice President (on ballot)	Roger Lindahl Treasurer	Jo Dean Secretary

TEAMS: Leads & Associate Leads					RCLS Representatives
					
Kevin Kelle Lead Elder (on ballot)	Sherri Emedo Discipleship Team Lead	Outreach Team Lead (on ballot)	Sandy Abenstein Trustees Team Lead (on ballot)	Personnel Team Lead (on ballot)	Laura Rhee RCLS Rep (NV)
					
Brandon Marsh Elder Associate Lead (AV)	Brenda Stowe Discipleship Associate Lead (AV) (on ballot)	Denise Frey Outreach Team Associate Lead (AV) (on ballot)	Ken Schultz Finance Team Lead (AV)	Volunteers Team Lead (AV) (on ballot)	Dan Johnson RCLS Rep (NV)

STAFF and Volunteer STAFF



Foundations for the Future



Sanctuary Upgrade

History

Focus

- Excelling in Worship
- Building the Kingdom for Next Generation
- Expanding our Outreach
- Extending the Life of the Facility

Prioritization

- Roof Repair
- Sanctuary Upgrade
- Additional Projects

Sanctuary Upgrade

Roof Repair

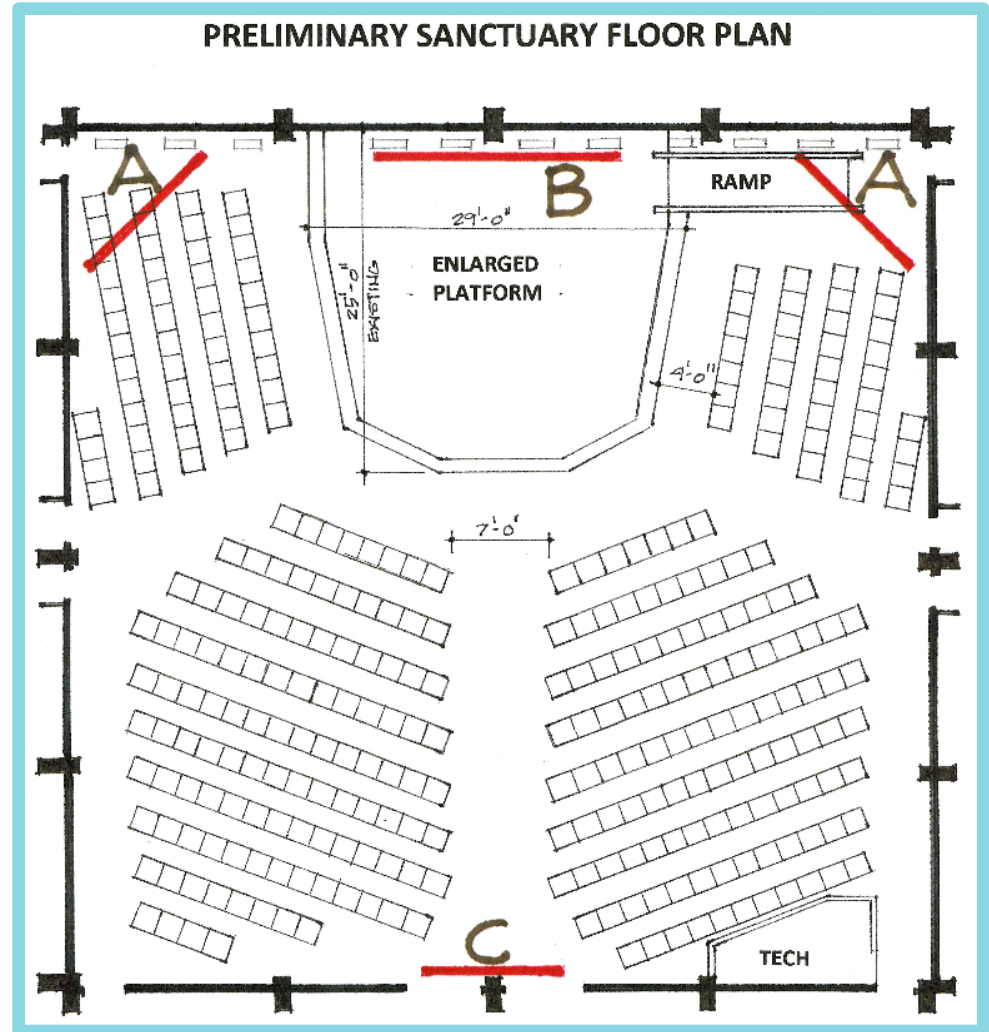
- Repair leaks due to ice dams (completed)
- Repair interior damage
- Evaluate options for correcting construction of original roof
- Reshingle

Sanctuary Upgrade

- Front Screens or LED Walls
- Larger Confidence Monitor
- Sanctuary Lighting
- Enlarge Platform
- Sanctuary Chairs

KEY

- A – Front Corner Screens
- B - Front Display Screen for Visual Images and Video
- C - Rear Confidence Monitor



Render 1

Front Wash



**PRO
CHURCH
LIGHTS**

Benefits of Correct Lighting



**PRO
CHURCH
LIGHTS**

How correct lighting affects your worship environment

Increases Quality and Visibility

Both your in-person and live-stream congregations need to clearly see what's happening on stage. Lighting directly impacts the quality and visibility of you delivering the most important message in the entire World.

Reduces Distractions

There's nothing worse than a church service or live-stream with distractions. Using the correct light fixtures to light your stage and room is important in keeping your congregants focused.

Improves Engagement

Lighting can impact the comfort and engagement of congregants in a large way. Creating a comfortable worship atmosphere is crucial to helping congregants engage in impactful worship.

Render 4

Atmospheric



PRO
CHURCH
LIGHTS



Screen or LED Walls Options





Welcome!
11.48' x 6.56'

Welcome!
14.76' x 8.2'

Welcome!
11.48' x 6.56'



HOLY CROSS
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Helping People Know, Live, and Share, the Love of Christ



PRO
CHURCH
LIGHTS

HIS WORD IS ALIVE







who's your
ONE?

30 Days of Prayer

In the Sanctuary, weekdays 12:00-12:30 PM

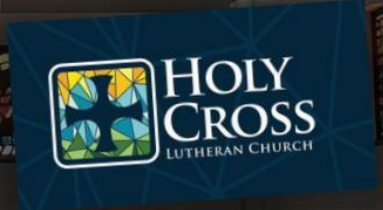
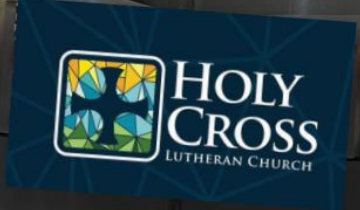
January 3 through February 1

More info here



PRO
CHURCH
LIGHTS







PRO
CHURCH
LIGHTS



Kids Ministry Update!



Sanctuary Upgrade

Excelling in Worship

- Churchfront
 - Guidance in Strategizing Goals
 - Support in Selection of Technological Equipment and Lighting
 - Provide coaching and training for Worship Ministries



***Message from
Churchfront Rep
Luke Jackson
(Part 1)***

Hey there, Holy Cross. Luke here from Churchfront.

Churchfront is an equipping and resourcing company that is really excited to come alongside Cindy, her team, and Holy Cross as a church at large to accomplish their goals in this next season.

We as a company are all about resourcing and equipping the church to really remove distractions from the worship gathering so that people can focus on the main thing during worship services, which is Jesus and pointing others to Him. So, our heart in that is to make sure that every obstacle, every question mark is removed from the process when it comes to upgrades or improving systems.

So, our team does a lot of done-with-you and done-for-you when it comes to finding the right gear within your budget, finding the right systems to deploy within your team, and helping equip and train your team through our course library of training resources.



Message from Churchfront Rep Luke Jackson (Part 2)

We never want to push an agenda. What we want to make sure happens is that your church is able to accomplish its mission and vision in your local context, in your area of ministry with the tools at your disposal. So, we want to come alongside you guys and point you to the right tools for the job and the ones that will get your goals accomplished. And, we're really excited because Cindy has been so wonderful to work with so far, and we are just excited to see where this journey takes us.

We've seen some mock-ups of the room and we only know that great things are ahead for you and your church. So, we're excited to come alongside you guys. We're so overjoyed and really encouraged by the vision of your leadership team and their heart behind this next ministry season. And, we hope that you come onboard for the ride and the journey.

And, we know that God will be magnified and Christ will be shown to many people in your area as you guys do so. So, thanks so much for giving us a chance to come alongside and be part of this journey. We can't wait to see what's around the corner.

Thanks, guys.

Sanctuary Upgrade- Cost Estimates

HOLY CROSS PROPOSED FACILITY PLAN 2024

Grand Total \$350,000

Part I	Total Estimate - Roof		\$150,000
	Reshingle sanctuary and parish hall roofs		\$85,000
	Remove rigid insulation and construct code approved solution (waiting for structural engineer's analysis and recommendations late Feb/early March)	original est.	\$50,000
	Cost of structural engineer for roof analysis		\$2,400
	Patching plaster of sanctuary wall/ceiling		\$4,150
	Rounding / Contingency		\$8,450
Part II	Sanctuary Upgrade:	estimate	\$150,000
	*chairs (250@\$68/chair = \$17,000)		
	*platform (\$20,000 estimate)		
	*lighting		
	*audio/visual technology		
Other		estimate	\$50,000
	Complete outdoor worship area (regrading, adding irrigation to planted areas and Adding electrical)		\$12,000
	Install signage at parking lot entrance/cost of materials	estimate	\$2,000
	East bathroom upgrades		\$2,000
	New AC/Heating mini split unit for library/office		\$15,000
	Other from supplemental list		\$19,000

Sanctuary Upgrade–

Waiting List

Additional Projects – as funds allow

- Replace Front Paving with repairs to Foundation
- Upgrade Handicapped Restrooms
- Replace old stove with warming ovens (Catering Kitchen)
- Replacement of (3) north façade windows

Sanctuary Upgrade-

Funding Summary & Motion

Funding:

Three primary sources --

- a) Designated Building & Technology Funds*
- b) Unrestricted Savings*
- c) New Gifts & Pledges*

Initially, we seek your approval for the Roof (est. \$150k), using \$100k of savings and \$50k of projected new gifts/pledges. Because of timing, borrowings may be used until new gifts can be raised.

After an expected Fund-Raising effort raises a sufficient amount (TBD), we will return for approval of the remainder.

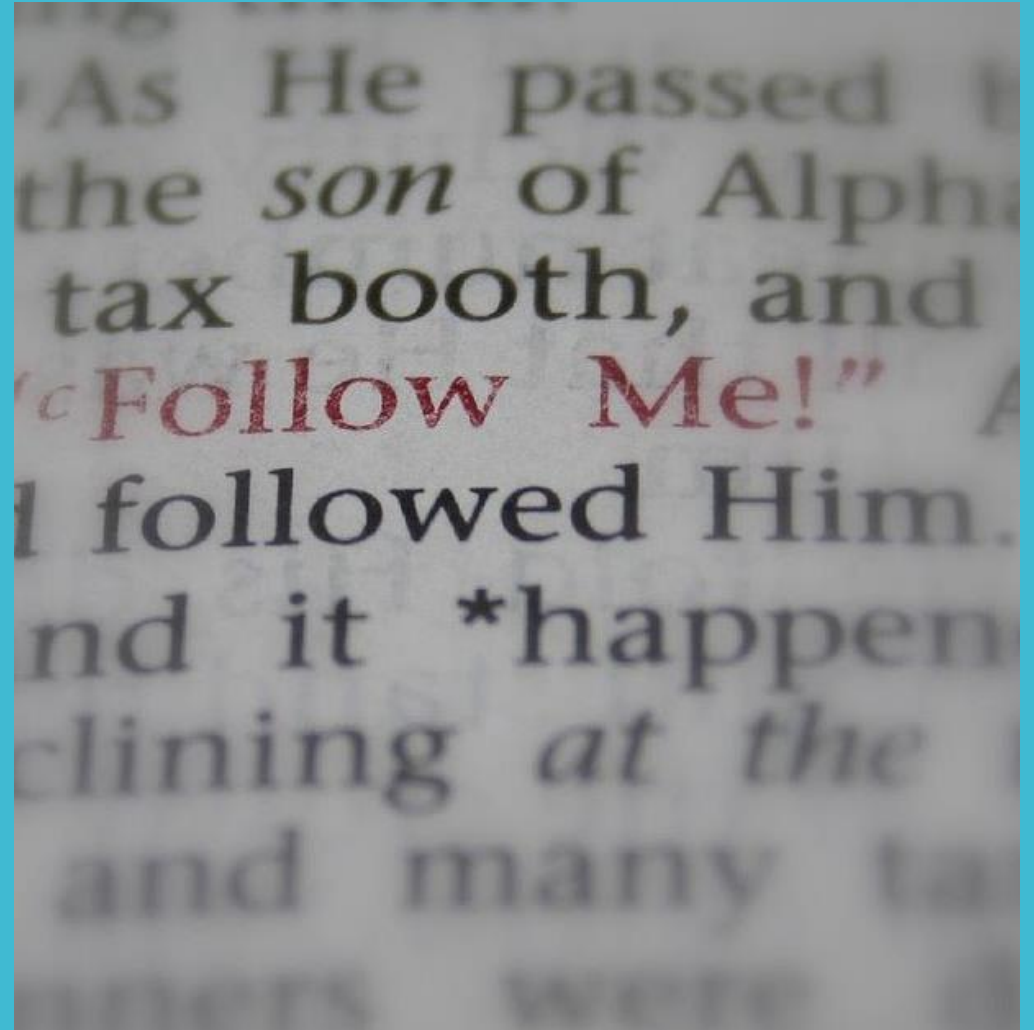
Accordingly, the current requested motion reads:

"In order to repair damage and beautify our facility for future generations, we hereby authorize proceeding with the roof repair & replacement at an estimated cost of \$150,000, with up to \$50,000 in short-term borrowings. "

Ministry Plan 2024

Psalm 102:

¹⁸ Let this be written for a
future generation,
that a people not yet
created may praise
the LORD:...



A Key Responsibility of the Executive Council is the Ministry Plan; initiatives do not Replace other Core Ministry activities, like Worship and Education in importance.

Ministry Plan — 2024



Top 3:

• ***Develop Evangelism Emphasis and Training***

- ☐ Build out Joining Jesus initiative, including planning, training & execution
- ☐ Incorporate with 30 Days of Prayer and "Who's Your One"
- ☐ Explore opportunities to engage in ministry with community partners

• ***Sanctuary Upgrade***

- ☐ Partner with Churchfront for Design and Planning
- ☐ Determine final scope and financial requirements; build out fundraising and communications
- ☐ Incorporate "Excelling in Worship" as a central theme

• ***Strengthen What We Have Begun***

- ☐ Ensure we have the right resources, tools and processes for existing ministries like CarePortal and Kids4Truth.
- ☐ Build redundancy into leadership roles.
- ☐ Grow our membership by 50 with commensurate giving impact.

Ministry Plan – 2024



- *Others of Note -*

- ☐ Complete a **5-year planning** effort & roadmap
- ☐ Implement recommendations of **Communications Team** for the efficiency & effectiveness of our efforts
- ☐ Continue to improve processes for **Member Management** to support Connection & Engagement and our Mission
- ☐ Expand # of **adult Bible studies & fellowship** opportunities
- ☐ **Increase impact** of key/core outreach ministries, particularly through **deeper relationships**
- ☐ Increase **general fund giving** to fully fund base operations



**HOLY
CROSS**
LUTHERAN CHURCH

- ☐ Who's Your One? / 30 Days of Prayer
January 2024
- ☐ Joining Jesus Launch Event
April 19- 21, 2024
- ☐ Revelation Sermon Series
Summer 2024
- ☐ Apple Of His Eye
September 27-29, 2024



HOLY
CROSS
LUTHERAN CHURCH