

From your Council President – January 26, 2022

Yet another week, and yet another change in plans. Despite our best efforts we **will NOT be** holding a church service, nor our annual meeting this Sunday, due to the high number of COVID cases in Oregon. We had planned on holding in person worship this Sunday (January 30) with a short congregational meeting to follow to vote on the budget.

In this week's COVID update from the Bishop's office the numbers were again high. There were nearly 11,000 new cases on Friday (Jan 21) with 1,000 people hospitalized with COVID. This is expected to peak between 1553 and 1652 over the next week. In comparison, last Fall the Delta peak was around 1200.

We are following the suggestion of our Synod and will **cancel in person worship for this coming Sunday, January 30th**. We do have a couple of alternatives for worshiping at home. We will be recording the Prayers and Readings for the day, along with a sermon from Pastor Zieske. These should be available on our Holy Cross YouTube channel which is located at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiHbmFBDWLG1W-jcI8jRhOQ>

In addition, we are invited to participate in the live Zoom meeting broadcast of worship with *Christ the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church* which occurs on Sunday at 10:00 AM. The link/button to gain access to their worship service is located on the main page of their website: <https://www.christthegoodshp.org>

Your council hopes you take advantage of either or both of these options and provide feedback. While never as good as gathering together in person for witness and fellowship, in these challenging times they are solid alternatives between staying safe and closing down.

Also attached to this mailing is the proposed budget for 2022. Your church council has passed a resolution adopting this balanced budget so that we may continue to pay bills and run our programs. Please review and be prepared to comment on and ratify the budget when we hold our postponed Annual Congregational Meeting, hopefully on Transfiguration Sunday, February 27, 2022, if COVID case rates cooperate by going down. We will also be introducing our Transition Team and having discussion about the future direction of our church. If you have questions or concerns in the meantime, do not hesitate to reach out to the council, finance team or Janet and I in the church office.

We wish to pass along our Sympathies to the Miller family as Eileen passed away on the 19th. Please hold the Millers in your prayers. During these times reach out to your fellow Holy Cross church family members. We need to stay connected, even if we cannot meet in person. We have many challenges and are looking to new ways to bring us together in Christ.

Prayerfully your servant, Bryan Struve, Council President

**Worshipping at Home with Holy Cross Lutheran Church
January 30, 2022 – Fourth Sunday of Epiphany**

INVOCATION

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

We gather in the name of God, the Creator of Light; † Jesus, the Light of the World; and the Holy Spirit, the Light who illumines our path.

Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who creates us, redeems us, and calls us by name. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you and your beloved children. We have turned our faces away from your glory when it did not appear as we expected. We have rejected your word when it made us confront ourselves. We have failed to show hospitality to those you called us to welcome.

Accept our repentance for the things we have done and the things we have left undone.

For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe in the glory of your Son born among us, and reflect your love for all creation. Amen.

Rejoice in this good news:

In † Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven.

You are descendants of the Most High, adopted into the household of Christ, and inheritors of eternal life.

Live as freed and forgiven children of God. **Amen.**

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

KYRIE (An expression of God's constant mercy)

Have mercy on us lord, and hear our solemn prayer.

We come to hear your living word; it saves us from despair.

Have mercy on us Christ, and wash away our sin.

Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may begin.

Have mercy on us, Lord; make sin and shame depart.

Renew us with your saving power; create in us new hearts!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and love; and that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

READINGS AND PSALM

Jeremiah 1:4-10 *I appointed you a prophet to the nations*

Psalm 71:1-6 From my mother's womb you have been my strength. (Ps. 71:6)

1 Corinthians 13:1-13 *If I speak without love, I am a noisy gong*

Luke 4:21-30 *Jesus says a prophet is not accepted in his hometown*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. You shall go to all to whom I send you. Do not be afraid, for I am with you. *Alleluia.* (Jer. 1:7, 8)

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 507 "O, God of Light"

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

A brief silence.

Guide your church in the ways of faith, hope, and love. Cultivate ministries and communities of compassion that bear witness to your enduring presence among us. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Teach us to live in humility on the earth. Curb arrogance that leads to destruction of natural resources and disregard for future generations. Inspire the work of scientists who urge us to live in harmony with your creation. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

You are the refuge of all who seek hope and freedom. Accompany immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers who cross borders to find safety and opportunity. Embolden leaders to draft compassionate policies on behalf of migrants and those who assist them. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Love bears, believes, hopes, and endures all things. Comfort with your love all who are lonely, fearful, or brokenhearted. Sustain the hope of all those who suffer in body or spirit (*especially*). God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Your grace falls upon young and old alike. Bless the gifts of children in this congregation and in this community. Give us humble hearts to follow their leadership. Inspire us with their laughter, their insight, and their curiosity. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We praise you for those who have gone before us and now see you face to face (*especially*). Abide with us in this mortal life until we rest in the arms of your neverending love. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, Sovereign of the universe.
You offer us new beginnings and guide us on our journey.
Lead us to your table, nourish us with this heavenly food,
and prepare us to carry your love to a hungry world,
in the name of Christ our light. **Amen.**

✠ GREAT THANKSGIVING

When our congregation gathered for the celebration of Holy Communion, we heard again the story of God's mighty acts and of the love shown us in the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

With thanksgiving we remembered that "in the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

The people of our congregation were given assurance of our Lord's presence through the gift of his Holy Spirit. Now we bring to you this same bread of life and this same cup of blessing, that you may be strengthened through your participation in the body of Christ.

Jesus said, "I am the bread of life, whoever comes to me shall never hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst."

At this time, you may remember the gift of holy communion with your own bread and cup.

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace. **Amen**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,

now and forever. Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We give you thanks, gracious God,
for we have feasted on the abundance of your house.
Send us to bring good news and to proclaim your favor to all,
strengthened with the richness of your grace in your Son, Jesus Christ.
Amen.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

BLESSING

God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness,
who rejoices over you,
and who calls you by name,
✠ bless your going out and your coming in,
today and forever. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Go with Christ into a weary world.
Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

Proposed Budget

ACCOUNT TITLE	Actual 2019	Budget 2020	Actual 2020	Budget 2021	Actual 2021	Budget 2022
Income						
General Contributions						
Envelopes	165,921		156,496	150,000	140,292	140,000
Loose Plate	1,565		229	1,640	118	400
Holiday	282		1,064	600	1,744	1,500
Sunday School	93		300	100	0	100
Interest	3		6	10	42	50
Total General Contribution:	167,864	160,000	158,095	152,350	142,196	142,050
Designated Funds						
Building Projects	450		61	2,000	0	0
Servants	548		1,055	500	0	100
Faith in Action	113		0	300	500	100
Education	368		0	100	0	100
Youth	3,114		754	750	415	100
Miscellaneous	50		1,106	5,000	666	100
Total Designated Funds	4,643	4,000	2,976	8,650	1,581	500
Other Income						
Coffee/Potlucks	290	300	69	100	115	150
Rent & Building Use	32,156	30,000	15,907	16,200	17,773	32,300 (R)
Reimbursements	248	400	14	300	0	0
Total Other Income	32,694	30,700	15,991	16,600	17,888	32,450
Income from Operations	205,200	194,700	177,062	177,600	161,665	175,000
Transfers and non-operating income						
Building sale	0	0	0	0	115,374	0 (H)
Insurance proceeds	0	0	0	0	7,851	0
Thrivent Choice	2,123	2,000	1,373	1,600	830	750
Restitution	7,250	4,000	3,000	4,000	13,127	0
Fred Meyer Trust	104	100	107	100	68	50
Memorial Fund Transfer	0	0	0	0	870	0
Synod Grant	900	200	0	400	0	0
Other	550	0	18,760	0	200	0
Total Transfers & NOI	10,927	6,300	23,240	6,100	138,320	800
Total Income to Holy Cross	216,127	201,000	200,301	183,700	299,985	175,800

Proposed Budget

ACCOUNT TITLE	Actual 2019	Budget 2020	Actual 2020	Budget 2021	Actual 2021	Budget 2022
Expense						
Clergy						
Salary	53,686	50,058	54,799	51,310	40,402	37,800 (1)
Benefits	19,450	21,500	18,191	19,000	13,904	5,400
Auto	3,399	3,600	2,755	3,600	2,644	6,000
Contracted/Supply	2,075	2,000	300	1,800	1,800	3,200
Conference/Cont Ed	184	700	75	700	0	700
Total Clergy	78,794	77,858	76,120	76,410	58,750	53,100
Personal Services						
Salaries & Pay	21,246	28,800	14,590	18,440	14,878	21,600 (2)
Payroll Expense	2,247	3,122	1,557	1,500	1,560	1,600
Total Staff	23,493	31,922	16,147	19,940	16,438	23,200
Administration						
Paper	652	600	562	600	428	600
Supplies	5,487	5,600	4,161	4,000	3,459	4,000
Telephone	2,386	2,100	2,259	2,400	3,331	4,000
Postage	848	1,000	2,348	1,500	2,417	2,500
Auto Mileage	0	100	0	0	0	100
Computer Maintenance	2,360	2,400	2,046	3,300	2,269	2,500
Copier lease	5,157	5,100	6,430	6,500	7,326	7,200
Equipment Repair	0	500	0	2,300	0	0
Equipment Purchase	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bank charges	336	200	456	300	250	300
Total Administration	16,574	17,600	18,262	20,900	19,479	21,200
Council						
Supplies	0	200	15	200	422	500
Conferences/Synod Asser	1,721	1,500	209	1,500	75	1,500
Special Events	0	800	0	800	562	800
Total Council	1,721	2,500	224	2,500	1,059	2,800
Education						
Supplies	0	200	27	200	15	200
ELCA Good Gifts	368	0	0	0	0	0
Adult Ed	61	200	0	200	0	150
Sunday School	0	200	169	200	0	150
Total Education	429	600	196	600	15	500
Fellowship						
Supplies	480	200	150	200	69	200
Special Events	0	300	0	300	0	100
Total Fellowship	480	500	150	500	69	300

Proposed Budget

ACCOUNT TITLE	Actual 2019	Budget 2020	Actual 2020	Budget 2021	Actual 2021	Budget 2022
Faith in Action						
Disaster Preparedness	0	0	0	500	0	500
Supplies	265	0	0	100	500	100
Christ In Our Home	500	500	500	500	500	500
Lutheran	634	700	556	700	323	400
Local Benevolence	0	50	841	50	135	100
Total Faith in Action	1,399	1,250	1,897	1,850	1,458	1,600
Property						
Easter House Utilities & Ma	564	1,300	3,620	1,700	0	0
La Casita Maintenance	0	200	0	0	83	0
La Casita Utilities	1,023	1,200	806	1,300	1,877	2,000
Contract Janitorial	8,030	9,000	4,520	9,000	3,485	10,000
Supplies	278	100	1,176	250	2,464	2,500
Equipment Purchase	2,141	3,000	0	3,400	5,121	5,200
Equip Repair & Upkeep	953	700	1,004	800	2,987	1,000
Building Repair	9,148	7,570	7,228	7,000	6,354	9,000
Utilities	15,343	16,600	16,497	19,000	17,432	19,000
Insurance	10,324	10,000	10,614	11,000	11,517	12,000
Permits and fees	136	100	181	100	380	500
Total Property	47,940	49,770	45,646	53,550	51,699	61,200
Stewardship						
Supplies	383	400	0	400	401	400
ELCA Synod Support	4,200	4,200	4,410	4,200	5,200	4,800
Total Stewardship	4,583	4,600	4,410	4,600	5,601	5,200
Youth						
Supplies	609	200	140	250	0	100
Youth Events	1,491	1,800	0	1,000	0	100
Camp Scholarships	0	0	0	250	0	0
Total Youth	2,100	2,000	140	1,500	0	200
Worship & Music						
Subscript & Cont Ed	0	0	0	700	0	100
Supplies	594	700	445	1,200	1,176	1,200
Guest Musicians	1,200	500	2,300	5,000	2,600	500
Special Events	1,200	500	0	400	0	400
Repair & Maintenance	82	500	0	500	0	2,000
Equipment	0	0	0	1,000	1,060	1,000
Copyrights	330	400	405	400	487	500
Total Worship & Music	3,406	2,600	3,150	9,200	5,323	5,700

Proposed Budget

ACCOUNT TITLE	Actual 2019	Budget 2020	Actual 2020	Budget 2021	Actual 2021	Budget 2022
Notes & Mortgage						
Mortgage	10,800	10,800	10,800	10,800	7,200	0
Total Notes & Mortgage	10,800	10,800	10,800	10,800	7,200	0
Total Operating Expenses	191,719	202,000	177,142	202,350	167,092	175,000
Transfers and non-operating expenses						
House sale to savings	0	0	0	0	115,000	0
Deferred Maintenance	0	0	0	6,000	0	0
Total Transfers and n-o exp	0	0	0	6,000	115,000	0
Total Expenses	191,719	202,000	177,142	214,350	397,092	175,000

Summary

Operating income	205,200	194,700	177,062	177,600	161,665	175,000
Operating expenses	191,719	202,000	177,142	202,350	167,092	175,000
Net Income from Operations	13,481	(7,300)	(80)	(24,750)	(5,427)	0
Non-operating income	10,927	6,300	23,240	6,100	138,320	800
Transfers out and non-operating	0	0	0	6,000	115,000	0
Net Gain or Loss	24,408	(1,000)	23,159	(24,650)	17,893	800

The net gain or loss is the difference between new income to the church from donations, grants, and rental activities, and the cost to operate the church, including salaries, supplies, and building maintenance costs.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church also has various funds dedicated to specific projects. These carry over from year to year and may be used to pay for specific expenses. The balances of these funds are shown on the balance sheet in this report.