

# SAINT JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH



**Annual Meeting of Saint John's Lutheran Church**

**January 28th 2024**

**12:30 PM**

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## Table of Contents

<b>Agenda</b>	<b>Page 4</b>
<b>Minutes of Previous Annual Meeting</b>	<b>Page 5</b>
<b>Pastor's Report</b>	<b>Page 7</b>
<b>President's Report</b>	<b>Page 9</b>
<b>Director of Music's Report</b>	<b>Page 10</b>
<b>Membership Statistics</b>	<b>Page 11</b>
<b>Proposed 2021 Budget</b>	<b>Page 12</b>
<b>Treasurer's Report</b>	<b>Page 14</b>
<b>Music and Worship Report</b>	<b>Page 18</b>
<b>Christian Education's Report</b>	<b>Page 19</b>
<b>Generosity's Report</b>	<b>Page 20</b>
<b>Property's Report</b>	<b>Page 21</b>
<b>Service and Evangelism's Report</b>	<b>Page 22</b>
<b>Congregational Care's Report</b>	<b>Page 23</b>
<b>Welcome and Inclusion Report</b>	<b>Page 24</b>
<b>Preschool Director's Report</b>	<b>Page 25</b>
<b>Preschool Budget</b>	<b>Page 26</b>

**Annual Congregational Meeting**  
**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Philadelphia, 1867**  
**January 28, 2024**

**Agenda**

- Call Meeting to Order
- Opening Prayer
- Approval of 2023 Minutes from the Congregational Meeting on January 22, 2023
- Pastor's Message
- Celebration of Mission and Ministry
- Ballot of the Election of Church Council Members
- President's Message
- Budget Presentation and Vote
- Report of Council elections
- Closing Remarks
- Closing Prayer
- Adjournment

**Next Annual Meeting—Sunday, January 26, 2025**

# Annual Congregation Meeting Minutes

*Sunday, January 22, 2023*

Call to order @ 12:34 PM

Opening Prayer: Pastor Daniel

President of Council: 45 members present.

Approval of minutes from January and May 2021: Marie K. and Dave S.

Pastor's Message: "Keep being the church-keep volunteering and praying."

Celebration of Mission and Ministry: Zones of Peace Partner and 2023 Reconciling in Christ

Ballot of Election Church Council Members: Kim, Richard, Mildred, Kristin, Joanne, Dave, John, Carole, Kara. All elected.

Kara to council: Motion approved Mildred/Kristin

President's Message: Welcome Kara, Carole, and John; it has been a good year at St John's. The Spirit is at work, Saturday night worship and Sunday with the Bell Choir, members helping, and praying for one another. The staff at St John's it's just wonderful.

Celebration of Ministry: St John's Congregation Give Thanks & Response from Congregation

Bell Choir, Cantors, Music Ministry, Barbeque, Bingo, Game Night, Bible/Book Study, Baptisms, Wedding (s) and more.

Rich and Tom experience at St John's has been meaningful in joining worship services and grateful being part of St John's Ministry.

Dave Speece is thankful for every member of St. John's.

Emily Eisenberg is thankful for RIC and grateful to have found a church for Pastor Daniel that may need him anytime e.g., Christmas morning while opening presents, and or throughout the night and during family activities and it feels good to say, "go that's where you have to be." Doreen is thankful for the congregation's generosity, fund raisers, and purchase of bake goods to support the Fire Alarm system.

Highpoints: Our benevolence giving in 2022 totaled 12,556.

Kristin is thankful for Joanne and Kim training and preparation of care for the altar guild furnishings and linens to prepare it for each service.

Pastor Daniel thankful for school supplies and all of the above our celebration of 2022.

Budget Presentation: Fund Balances as of 12/31/2022

Mission Investment: **\$58,970.25**

Thrivent: **\$77,899.02**

Fidelity: **\$259,223.66**

**WEEKLY ENVELOPE GIVING**

2022: Budgeted 190,000.00

Received 154,172.00

Our giving was 81% of the budget.

2023 Goal changed to 160,000.00 in weekly envelop giving.

**2023 BUDGET INCOME**

WEEKLY ENVELOPES	<b>160,000</b>
PLATE OFFERING	2,000
SPECIAL ENVELOPES	10,250
BUILDING USE	64,872
INTEREST/DIVIDENDS	3,500
MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	500
SUNDAY SCHOOL	600
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>241,722</b>

**2023 Expenses**

SEPA MISSION PARTNERSHIP	9,500
STAFF EXPENSES	189,955
PROPERTY, UTILITIES, INSURANCE	90,600
ADMINISTRATION	19,300
MINISTRIES	5,600
<b>TOTAL BUDGETED EXPENSES</b>	<b>314,955</b>

**2023 BUDGET SUMMARY OPERATING**

INCOME	241,722
EXPENSES (budgeted)	314,955
_____ DEFICIT	- <b>\$73,233</b>
Pastor's Unrecognized Health Insurance	27,500
<b>Total Deficit</b>	<b>45,733</b>

Motion to approve 2023 budget for St John's Yes- 44, No- 0, Abstain-1. Motion Approved

# Pastor Report 2023

This year has a lot of ups and downs for us at St. John's, but throughout it all, we remember that Christ is with us always even to the end of the age (Matthew 28). Members of our community have had mental and physical health crises, lost loved ones who have died, lost jobs, and more. It is during these most trying times that we give thanks for the compassionate mercy of God and the love of God's people. I always say that I have the best view in the whole place and I mean it. From where I stand I got to see people from Saint John's gather around each other in love in our most trying moments. I saw folks donate vacuums, tvs, beds, and more when folks needed them for their homes. I saw people hugging and crying with one another after the death of a loved one. I saw new friendships formed. I saw concerned members traversing to Northwest Philly to learn about the dangers of Christian Nationalism. I saw visiting Communion ministers celebrating birthdays with a 95 year old homebound member and sending get well cards to folks in the hospital. I saw babies enthusiastically welcomed in the waters of baptism. I saw good and faithful servants committed to the mercy of God in funerals. In short, I saw a lot of grace and love from God through you all.

Thank you for your faithfulness to God and Christ's church. Truly.

Worship has been a joy this past year. Some highlights include the reestablishment of the vocal choir, the debut of Patrick's original worship liturgy, new pieces played by the bell choir, the midweek Lenten soup suppers and worship rotation, and using Holden Evening Prayer for our midweek Advent worship.

Movie nights are a staple event at St. John's at this point where young folks, older folks, and everyone in between joins in a family-friendly movie out in the courtyard. This has been a wonderful opportunity to fellowship with the St. John's regulars, but we have also met some new people in the neighborhood and got to meet friends and family connected to St. John's members.

We started some connections for ministry this year that we will hopefully build on in the coming year. A group of St. John's folks took a trip to RAW Tools in Kensington to see the anti violence work done there and the witness of peace they provide in transforming decommissioned guns into garden tools and jewelry. We are hoping to get them to do a live demonstration at St. John's sometime in the spring.

We started a new Christian Education program we're calling "Faith Made Real." Each month we gather for brunch and Bible lessons and then each month we go on a field trip or have a more interactive learning experience. We learned about God's love as a shepherd and visited the Philly Goat Project; we learned about the feast as a symbol of God's grace and attended a cooking demonstration by Charity McNatt; and we've got plans to go to the Philadelphia Art Museum and to go stargazing. It has been a truly wonderful experience and we even added a new family into our Christian Education program.

We filled backpacks with school supplies and gave them out to our local elementary schools. We hosted a BINGO fundraiser for one of our members battling cancer. We held our first Christmas Bazaar in many years.

We have some exciting things planned for next year and God has plans for us that we don't even know yet. We are going to host a new senior exercise class, partner in service with Family Promise Philadelphia, build on the Christmas Bazaar, and grow in our faith commitments as a Reconciling in Christ Congregation, a Zone of Peace, and a church of Jesus Christ.

I am truly honored to serve with you all and I can't wait to see what God has in store for us next!

Respectfully submitted,  
Pastor Daniel Eisenberg



# President's Report Annual Meeting 2023

As I sit here, typing this message to the congregation, I remember Luke 2:1-20. Pastor Daniel read it Christmas Eve. I remember the wonderful Christmas Eve services, the decorated church, the bell choir, the singing choir, the music. It was wonderful!! The wonderful Holy Week and Easter services, especially Easter Vigil.

St. John's was busy last year with great services, praising God and many gathering events—fellowships, Bible study, teams meeting, a Bazaar, a BBQ, just to mention a few.

To those members we lost last year, we thank you and you will be missed. To new members of St. John's, we welcome you and look forward to getting to know you.

The teams have been busy this year and I would like to thank the leaders and members of these teams. Please consider joining one of our teams. We have fun and do good work.

To the members of Church Council, thank you for your dedication and service. It was work, but we had fun doing it. Members of St. John's, please consider joining Church Council. We have meetings once a month and you can attend online, if you want.

Thank you to the staff of St. John's—Mark, Charity, Patrick, Heather, Terry and preschool staff. You do such great work each and every day. We couldn't do it without you.

Pastor Daniel, thank you for your devotion, your dedication, your time, all your work you do for St. John's and the congregation. You do so much for this church—Bible Study, visits, team meetings, all the services, counseling's, weddings and that's just a very small list of what you do. Thank you for being our Pastor. Emily and Dezz, thank you letting us borrow him.

We had an awesome 2023. The Holy Spirit was moving through the congregation with praise, songs, words and deeds. "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Matt 6:21 and it shows at St. John's.

THANK YOU ALL!!  
Joanne Hajoway  
Council President

# Annual Meeting-Music Director's Report 2023

## **Bell Choir**

This year, the bell choir continued to expand its musical offerings throughout the church calendar with a more challenging repertoire and an increased number of performances, including ringing for every date in Holy Week with the exception of Palm Sunday. I am very proud of how this group has engaged more challenging musical offerings and increased repertoire load. We also increased our number of ringers to 10, thanks to the addition of 3 Temple Students, Sarah, Makenna, and Isaac. Bell Choir "boot camp" in August was a great success and allowed the group to learn more about music notation and theory before our typical rehearsals started and set a nice baseline/review of important musical concepts. This past year, the choir rang at many of the major holidays including Holy Week, Easter, Reformation, All Saints, Advent, and Christmas. I'm hoping to keep a similar schedule this year with possible added dates on typical Sunday services.

## **Praise Band**

The praise band had another successful year. We focused on different ways to play the standard ELW hymns in different unexpected styles to advance worship. Key in this process was my continuing education over the summer at the ALCM biennial conference, conveniently located in Philadelphia this year. Many of the offerings at the conference influenced how we presented the hymns this year, including incorporating different genres, re-harmonizing classic hymns, and delving further into the background of hymns and their composers. Over the course of the year, we somewhat fell away from incorporating more contemporary praise songs into worship. I aim to collaborate with Rich and interested vocalists to return to at least monthly praise songs. Above all, my sincerest thanks and congratulations go to Rich and Tom for learning and playing our new liturgy starting in Advent. It was a thrill to hear it performed live each week. I am also thankful to the Music and Worship Team for trusting me enough to debut an original work (during Advent no less!)

## **Piano/Organ**

The organ remains in good playing condition. In 2023 it was used more sparingly. I would like to incorporate it a little more consistently in worship in 2024. Both pianos received tunings in October and will next need a tuning in the Spring. The sanctuary piano had a string snap off and requires repair. The pedal on the piano in room A is currently broken and also needs repair. I will contact Cunningham Piano to arrange a time for these repairs. It was brought to my attention that there are two additional upright pianos that need to be moved to accommodate Feast of Justice. I recommend that we advertise them for free pickup. Although I am not an expert, due to the large amount of time passed since their last tuning, their age, and the unknown of possible internal problems, I think free pickup would be best with a customer footing the bill for the transportation.

## **Vocal Choir**

September marked the official return of the Vocal Choir! And we have more members than when we left off at the beginning of the pandemic in 2020! So far, the choir has sung three times, twice in Advent and Christmas Eve with Joe Biletta contributing his talents as cantor and soloist on O Holy Night. We will continue our normal rehearsals on Sunday after church, but a more opportune time may help with attendance. Offerings for Lent, Holy Week, and Pentecost are planned in 2024.

Respectfully submitted,  
Patrick D'Amato

# Membership Statistics

Membership end of 2022	185	
	<b><u>Baptized</u></b>	<b><u>Confirmed</u></b>
<b><u>Members Received during 2022</u></b>		
By Baptism		
Children	5	
Adults	0	
By Affirmed Faith	0	1
By Transfer	0	0
Children Joined with Parents	0	0
Baptized Members who were Confirmed	<u>0</u>	6
Total Members Received	6	
Total Baptized and Confirmed Members	191	
<b><u>Members Removed during 2022</u></b>		
By Death	6	
By Inactivity	0	
By Transfer	0	
To Non-Lutheran Congregations	0	
By Own Request	2	
Moved – Address Unknown	<u>0</u>	
Total Number of Members Removed This Year	8	
Membership as of 12/31/2023	183	
Average Weekly Worship Attendance*	53	
Weddings	1	
Funerals		
Members	6	
Non-members	3	

\*Average Weekly Attendance number is an approximation based on in person attendance across 52 weeks and does not take digital attendance into account. This number will not reflect actual attendance across all platforms for those same 52 weeks.

St. John’s Constitution requires a quorum of 15% of all member be present to conduct the business of the congregation (C.10.04). Based on these membership numbers, A required quorum for this meeting is defined as 27 present members.

# Proposed Budget 2024

#	ACCOUNT NAME	2024 Budget	2023 Budget	Difference
<b>INCOME</b>				(decreases)
4000	Weekly Envelope Giving	155,000	160,000	(5,000)
4001	Plate	2,000	2,000	-
4002	Energy	800	800	-
4004	Ash Wed	650	650	-
4006	Holy Thurs	450	550	(100)
4007	Good Friday	750	1,000	(250)
4009	Easter	2,500	2,800	(300)
4010	Thanksgiving	600	600	-
4012	Christmas	3,000	3,500	(500)
4013	Initial	350	350	-
4014	Building Use	80,000	64,872	15,128
4015	Misc.	500	500	-
4016	Interest	5,000	500	4,500
4017	Dividends (reinvested)	6,500	3,000	3,500
4019	Sunday School	300	600	(300)
<b>TOTAL income</b>		<b>258,400</b>	<b>241,722</b>	<b>16,678</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		2024 Budget	2023 Budget	Differences
5000	SEPA	10,000	9,500	500
5001	Service & Evan	200	200	-
5100	Pr Salary & Housing	71,882	69,789	2,093
5101	Pastor SS	5,499	5,339	160
5102	Pastor Travel	700	600	100
5103	Pastor Prof Reimb	300	300	-
5104	Pastor Pension - 12%	8,626	8,375	251
5105	Pastor Medical (27,500)	27,500	27,500	-
5106	Pastor Cont Ed	1,000	1,000	-
5120	Music Dir Salary	25,969	25,212	757
5121	Music Dir Cont Ed	350	350	-
5130	Admin Assist Salary	20,487	19,890	597
5133	Admin Assist Cont Ed	400	400	-
5143	Sexton Salary	23,400	21,060	2,340
5150	Supply Pastors	1,200	1,200	-

#	ACCOUNT NAME	2024 Budget	2023 Budget	Difference
5155	Supply Instrumentlists	1,500	1,500	-
5160	Payroll Taxes .0765	5,344	5,140	204
5161	Payroll Service	1,400	1,200	200
5162	Workers Comp	1,000	1,100	(100)
5201	Security	2,600	3,400	(800)
5202	Maintenance & Property	27,000	29,600	(2,600)
5204	Electric	19,000	19,000	-
5205	Gas	22,000	20,000	2,000
5206	Water	6,000	5,000	1,000
5211	Piano Organ Maint	1,500	1,500	-
5220	Insurance	20,000	17,000	3,000
5401	Assembly	700	700	-
5402	Telephone	2,200	2,700	(500)
5403	Office Equip	5,000	4,800	200
5404	Office Supply	2,500	3,500	(1,000)
5405	Postage	500	500	-
5406	Printing			-
5407	Finance	1,000	1,000	-
5408	Processing Fees	600	600	-
5700	Worship Music	300	200	100
5702	Worship Supplies	900	900	-
5703	Licensing	400	1,100	(700)
5801	Leadership Dev	100	100	-
5804	Generosity	500	1,000	(500)
5805	Enrich Lit	500	500	-
5806	Technology/Communication	600	400	200
5807	Christian Ed	500	500	-
5808	Ministry Partners	1,000	1,000	-
5911	Cong Care	250	300	(50)
<b>TOTAL Expense</b>		<b>322,407</b>	<b>314,955</b>	<b>7,452</b>
<b>Operating shortfall (deficit)</b>		<b>(64,007)</b>	<b>(73,233)</b>	<b>9,226</b>
Less Pastors Supplied Health Ins.		<b>27,500</b>	<b>27,500</b>	
<b>Net Operating Shortfall</b>		<b>(36,507)</b>	<b>(45,733)</b>	<b>9,226</b>

# Treasurer's Report

## St. Johns Lutheran Church Mayfair - Philadelphia PA Treasurer's Report as of December 2023 for General Fund

Saturday, January 13, 2024

Account #	Account Name	YTD Balance	% of Budget YTD	Over/Under YTD+(-)	Annual Budget
<b>Income</b>					
4000	Weekly Envelopes	141,378.50		88	160,000.00
4001	Plate Offering	2,487.35*		124	2,000.00
4002	Energy Needs	785.00		98	800.00
4004	Ash Wednesday	546.00		84	650.00
4006	Holy Thursday	325.00		59	550.00
4007	Good Friday	427.00		43	1,000.00
4009	Easter	1,925.00		69	2,800.00
4010	Thanksgiving	650.00*		108	600.00
4012	Christmas	2,730.00		78	3,500.00
4013	Initial Offering Envelope	365.00*		104	350.00
4014	Building Use/Donation	80,555.41*		124	64,872.00
4015	Miscellaneous Income	(4,201.95)		-840	500.00
4016	Interest Income	5,962.40*		1,192	500.00
4017	Dividend Income	18,398.31*		613	3,000.00
4019	Sunday School Income	1,025.00*		171	600.00
	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$253,358.02*</b>		<b>105</b>	<b>\$241,722.00</b>
<b>Expense</b>					
5000	SEPA Mission Partnership	8,712.00		92	9,500.00
5001	Service and Evangelism	(120.00)		-60	200.00
5100	Pastor Salary/Housing	66,611.58		95	69,789.00
5101	Pastor SS Allowance	5,133.50		96	5,339.00
5102	Pastor Auto/Travel Reimb	694.81*		116	600.00
5103	Pastor Professional Reimb	12.24		4	300.00
5104	Pastor Pension	8,564.64*		102	8,375.00
5105	Pastor Medical/Dental/Disab	1,213.32		4	27,500.00
5106	Pastor Continuing Ed	1,000.00		100	1,000.00
5120	Music Director Salary	24,214.10		96	25,212.00
5121	Music Director Cont Ed	375.00*		107	350.00
5130	Admin Assistant Salary	18,565.80		93	19,890.00
5133	Admin Assistant Continuing Ed	245.00		61	400.00
5143	Sexton Salary	20,064.00		95	21,060.00
5150	Supply Pastor	775.00		65	1,200.00
5155	Supply Instrumentalists	1,200.00		80	1,500.00
5160	Payroll Taxes	4,807.50		94	5,140.00
5161	Payroll Services	1,085.75		90	1,200.00
5162	Worker Compensation Insurance	0.00		0	1,100.00
5201	Security	3,140.00		92	3,400.00

# Treasurer's Report p2

**St. Johns Lutheran Church Mayfair - Philadelphia PA  
Treasurer's Report as of December 2023 for General Fund**

Saturday, January 13, 2024	Page 2 of 2				
Account #	Account Name	YTD Balance	% of Budget YTD	Over/Under YTD+(-)	Annual Budget
5202	Maintenance	30,173.35*	102	573.35	29,600.00
5204	Electric	19,861.28*	105	861.28	19,000.00
5205	Gas	19,603.42	98	(396.58)	20,000.00
5206	Water & Sewer	5,050.87*	101	50.87	5,000.00
5211	Piano/Organ Maintenance	1,250.00	83	(250.00)	1,500.00
5220	Insurance	19,389.37*	114	2,389.37	17,000.00
5401	Assembly/Convention	390.00	56	(310.00)	700.00
5402	Telephone	1,761.31	65	(938.69)	2,700.00
5403	Office Equip Service Contracts	8,527.54*	178	3,727.54	4,800.00
5404	Office Supplies	1,448.14	41	(2,051.86)	3,500.00
5405	Postage	486.61	97	(13.39)	500.00
5406	Printing	335.42			
5407	Finance Expenses	0.00	0	(1,000.00)	1,000.00
5408	Processing Fees	482.28	80	(117.72)	600.00
5600	Miscellaneous	59.07*	0	59.07	0.00
5700	Worship Music	15.46	8	(184.54)	200.00
5702	Worship Supplies	253.43	28	(646.57)	900.00
5703	Licensing and Publications	358.00	33	(742.00)	1,100.00
5801	Leadership Development	0.00	0	(100.00)	100.00
5804	Generosity	1,978.90*	198	978.90	1,000.00
5805	Enrichment/Literature	464.31	93	(35.69)	500.00
5806	Technology	2,311.06*	578	1,911.06	400.00
5807	Christian Education	352.49	70	(147.51)	500.00
5808	Ministry Partners	1,000.00	100	0.00	1,000.00
5911	Congregational Care	(71.04)	-24	(371.04)	300.00
<b>Total Expense</b>		<b>\$281,775.51</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>(\$33,514.91)</b>	<b>\$314,955.00</b>
<b>Difference</b>		<b>(\$28,417.49)</b>			<b>(\$73,233.00)</b>

\* = Income/Expense exceeds amount budgeted to date

# Treasurer's Report p3

**St. Johns Lutheran Church Mayfair - Philadelphia PA  
Consolidated Fund Activity Report as of 12/31/2023**

**Saturday, January 13, 2024**

**Page 1 of 1**

Account #	Account Name	Beg Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Transfers/JE's	End Balance
3000	General Fund	164,740.57	253,358.02	281,775.51	0.00	136,323.08
3002	Building Fund	29,273.19	8,015.00	10,812.51	0.00	26,475.68
3005	Memorial Fund	479,271.30	294,201.90	42,819.96	0.00	730,653.24
3007	Discretionary Fund	5,222.13	1,205.00	1,011.64	0.00	5,415.49
3011	Scholarship Fund	4,321.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,321.66
3012	Miscellaneous Musican Fund Balance	200.00	1,000.00	1,100.00	0.00	100.00
3013	Flower Fund	2,901.37	332.00	50.00	0.00	3,183.37
3015	Youth Fund	2,138.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,138.22
3016	ELCA World Hunger Fund	37.00	1,603.00	1,603.00	0.00	37.00
3019	N.S. Payroll Fund	2,549.38	100,721.79	98,154.67	0.00	5,116.50
3020	Reimbursements Fund	10,445.89	9,571.92	9,409.36	0.00	10,608.45
	<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$701,100.71</u></b>	<b><u>\$670,008.63</u></b>	<b><u>\$446,736.65</u></b>	<b><u>\$0.00</u></b>	<b><u>\$924,372.69</u></b>



# Financial Accounts Report

## WSFS CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE:

Ending Balance as of 09/30/2023 - \$45,700.99

## INVESTMENT FUND BALANCES

Mission Investment Fund \$152,506.26 as of 11/30/2023

Mission Investment Fund 1 Year Fixed Term \$155,942.76 as of  
10/31/2023

Thrivent Fund \$79,477.12 as of 09/30/2023

Fidelity Fund \$274,773.65 as of 09/30/2023

# Worship and Music Report 2023

Worship has been a joy this past year. First of all, a huge thank you to everyone who helps volunteer to make worship as meaningful as it is. I appreciate everyone who dedicates their time as worship assistants, cantors, musicians, choir members, bell ringers, ushers, schedulers, altar guild, cleaners, bread bakers, home Communion ministers, and more! I am also very grateful for the leadership of our musician, Patrick D'Amato. Patrick is an incredibly talented musician and a creative leader of our music ministries.

Some highlights of this past year include the reestablishment of the vocal choir, the debut of Patrick's original worship liturgy, new pieces played by the bell choir, lively worship from the praise team, the midweek Lenten soup suppers and worship rotation, and using Holden Evening Prayer for our midweek Advent worship. You can catch worship on Saturdays at 5:00pm for a quieter, more contemplative service and on Sundays at 10:30am for a lively service. We livestream the weekly worship service every Sunday at 10:30am and we livestream all of the festivals and holidays.

Please let me or Patrick know if you are interested in taking on a worship leadership role in 2024. We can always use more worship assistants, cantors, ushers, or altar guild members. We won't say no to new voices in the choir, another bell ringer, or a member of the praise team. And think outside the box too! If you have artistic talent and would like to display a work or religious art for a season or share a poem or anything else that fits in, talk to me!

My hope and prayer is that our worship together points toward Christ always. May God bless you with faith to trust in the love and mercy of Jesus that conquers even death.

Respectfully submitted,

Pastor Daniel Eisenberg

# Christian Education 2023

Learning that you are loved by God is shared and reinforced as we learn some of the stories in the Bible.

In 2023 we started a new learning experience called Faith Made Real. It is an intergenerational group that meets once a month for a Brunch and Learn that includes a time of learning, discussions, activities, and fellowship over food. We also meet and do a field trip to show how the stories we have learned can be seen in God's Creation. We have gone to the Philly Goat Project to learn about goats and shepherding. Another time we had a cooking demonstration of how we can use our gifts and share food with one another.

Pr. Daniel leads the Bible Study each Monday in person and online. The group studies books of the bible in depth as well as topics that are of interest to the group. Participants learn and share with each other.

The Annual Easter Brunch and Egg Hunt was enjoyed by members of the congregation and community.

All are welcome to be part of our Christian Education program. No one is too young or old to learn and share about the teaching of the Christian Church.

There are Education opportunities each week for all ages:

Brunch and Learn: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

Faith Made Real Field Trip: 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday

Bible Study: Monday, 7:00 p.m.

If you would like to be involved in or have questions about our programs, please see one of our teachers/leaders which include: Doreen Kinzler, Marie Kinzler-Hand, Stephanie Torre, or Pr. Daniel Eisenberg.

Thanks to all who have been a part of Christian Education this year.

Doreen Kinzler

Christian Education Coordinator

# **The Generosity Team 2023**

The mission of the Generosity Team is to teach tithing and first fruits; to promote the expression of Christian faith in daily living through higher levels of proportional giving of time, talent and treasure.

## **Accomplishments 2023**

Fall campaign 2023—the congregation, through 33 Estimate of Giving Cards, promised \$94,040 to meet our annual budget of \$160,000 in Weekly Envelope giving.

This is a \$2,200 increase over last year. WOO HOO!!!

Remind congregation of change from Vanco and Simply Giving to Tithely.

Mailed Giving Statements.

Commitment Weekend was 21-22 Oct 23, “Give from Your Heart” is our message this year. “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Matt 6: 21 (NSRV)

Sent out Estimate of Giving Cards for Commitment weekend.

The weekly envelope mailing is now annual. Send specials to electronic giving congregants only. This saves money on envelopes.

## **Challenges and Goals**

Continue to:

Increase congregational involvement in ministry, discipleship and volunteerism.

Increase congregational knowledge of time, talent and treasure—what this means

Teach congregation how to use the new Tithely electronic giving;

Teach active generosity and growth in generosity to each member.

Attract/enlist members to serve on the Generosity or other teams.

## **Team 2023**

I, Joanne Hajoway, team facilitator, would like to thank the members of the Team—Marie Hand, Doreen Kinzler, Vicki Schempp and Kristin Vasquez for their dedication, creativity, enthusiasm and participation throughout the year.

## **Team 2023 Financial Summary**

Generosity expenses include annual Giving envelope packets, pew envelopes, one congregational first-class mailing per year for commitment weekend, one mailing per year Giving Statements, and cost for Xerox copies. Generosity ended 2023 over-budget by about \$978.90. This is due to Church Budget charging 2022 envelopes in 2023. We have changed envelope companies. The 2024 budget is \$500, \$500 less than 2023.

# 2023 Property Report

Many thanks to all St. John's staff, Feast of Justice staff, preschool staff and members and volunteers that utilize our building. It takes a lot to keep things going, from picking up a piece of trash to organizing a project to following up with a contractor. Every effort is recognized and appreciated. Thank you all.

-Property Team meetings are the 3rd Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. Online or in person.

-Work Days are the 2nd Saturday of the month. 9 a.m to 12 p.m. We plan ahead for weather, so there is always something to do inside or outside. We typically schedule easy projects that can benefit from several people pitching in.

**WE NEED YOUR HELP:** Please utilize the property maintenance request forms located in the property mailbox. This method helps the team log requests in a way that any team member can see it and address it.

Highlights for 2023:

-We logged approximately 30 repair or maintenance requests and completed many of them. Any requests we haven't gotten too were logged on our property spreadsheet for future consideration.

-The fire alarm installation was completed, and we passed our final inspection by the city of Philadelphia. Thank you all for your patience and support, this was a big project!

-We were able to host 12 work days in 2023. Thank you all for coming out.

-We've begun replacing some blower motors in our heating system, these are the boxes you might notice that blow hot air into various spaces. This will only help in keeping our rooms warm.

-We replaced and upgraded some of our outdoor entrance lighting. We have several more to update.

Goals for 2024:

-Continue the monthly work days, the 2nd Saturday of each month.

-Have all current roof leaks repaired and corresponding ceilings repaired.

-Continue working the back log of projects that need to be done.

-Start weekly trash pick up schedule. If you want to help keep our property tidy check out the bulletin board across from the main office door.

Again we offer a special thank you to our Sexton, Charity, who has by far logged the most hours in direct support of the maintenance and cleanliness of St. John's. Charity is an invaluable asset to the St. John's community.

Respectfully,

The Property Team

[property@stjohnsmayfair.org](mailto:property@stjohnsmayfair.org)

## **Service and Evangelism Report 2023**

Saint John's is continuing to make new connections in our neighborhood, city, and the world. This year, we were recognized by Interfaith Philadelphia as a "Zone of Peace" congregation due to our commitment to ending violence in our city. The Zones of Peace Program aims to address the underlying causes of community violence including poverty, lack of educational opportunities, lack of support for your people, lack of adequate education opportunities and the like. As part of this commitment, we are pursuing a deeper relationship with Family Promise Philadelphia which supports families experiencing homelessness in helping folks get on their feet, get temporary housing, etc. In 2024, we are planning a household items collection so families moving out of shelters into permanent housing can have the essentials they need.

We also took a tour of RAW Tools in Kensington where anti-violence education takes place and they transform guns into gardening implements and jewelry. We will definitely be supporting the work they do and witnessing to the Good News the peace and justice of God. We are planning on hosting a live demonstration of the reforging process sometime in the spring or summer.

We have been collecting food for Feast of Justice throughout the year and will definitely continue to do so as the need in our community continues to grow. For the second year, we collected school supplies and filled backpacks to hand out to our local elementary schools. We will definitely be doing that again this year.

In house, we are also starting a new senior exercise class led by Janice Barnett. We're so excited to be able to host this wonderfully important ministry!

Thank you to all the members of the Service and Evangelism Team! And thank you to everyone who has answered the call to live out our faith in service to God's people!

Respectfully submitted,

Pastor Daniel

# Congregational Care Annual Report 2023

The Congregational Care Team had another busy year planning fellowship events and sending out greeting cards. From May through October we held the monthly outdoor (sometimes indoor depending on the weather) movie nights. Family movies were shown and each month had a different theme. Everyone brought their chairs and blankets and we supplied lots of snacks for them to enjoy. We saw the number of participants grow this year and were glad to see some of our neighbors joining us. We could not be doing this without Pastor Daniel and his expertise in setting up all the needed equipment. Thanks also to everyone who brought snacks to share and helped with the cleanup afterwards. Look for us to resume in May.

The annual church picnic was held once again at Neshaminy State Park. There were not as many people this year since the date conflicted with one of our member's wedding. Everyone enjoyed themselves whether at the picnic or the wedding. Mark your calendars for this year's event to be held on Saturday, June 22nd from 12 Noon to 6:00 p.m. Burgers, Hot dogs, paper products and condiments supplied. We ask that each family bring a side dish or dessert to share. We will be looking for a new volunteer who likes to cook over that charcoal grill. See me or Pastor Daniel if you would like to help and watch for more details in the future.

Every third Sunday we sponsor a Fellowship Time in Room A following the 10:30 a.m. worship service. It has been a time to socialize and enjoy some refreshments. Thanks to all those who bring food each month and help with cleanup. Everyone is welcome to join us.

Trivia Night with Dave Speece returned in September. The Jeopardy style team game is always lots of fun. We meet on the third Saturday of the month in Row A at 6 p.m. following the 5 p.m. worship service. The activity alternates between Trivia Night and Game Night and includes light refreshments.

Our card ministry continues with volunteers sending out get well, thinking of you and sympathy cards. Special thanks to Vicki Schempp, Joyce Snowden, Linda Soltysiak and Jan Barnett for volunteering with this ministry. If this is something you think you might want to do see me or speak with Pastor Daniel.

Our team also helped with the annual Fall Barbecue held on church grounds in September.

Special thanks to the other members of the Congregational Care Team, Dave Speece, Vicki Schempp, our council person, Kara Hartman, and Pastor Daniel for his encouragement, support and inspiration.

Susan Black Thomas

# Welcome and Inclusion Team Annual Report

This was our first full year as a Reconciling in Christ congregation and we have done a faithful job living into our commitment of making our church a vessel of God's love and and welcome for all people no matter who they are.

In 2023, we put up gender inclusive signs for our bathrooms; started using name tags which include pronouns; and installed a progress flag.

I do want to note that over the course of this past year, our progress flag has been torn down at least five times. There is a lot of hate in our world and even in our neighborhood. It truly upsets me that there are folks in our neighborhood who are so offended by the idea of a church publicly showing love and support for LGBTQ+ folks that they are willing to vandalize a church repeatedly. But honestly, I think that demonstrates part of why we made this commitment to live out our faith in abundant welcome. If folks are willing to vandalize a church, imagine the harassment experienced by LGBTQ people themselves. I am sure the LGBTQ people in your life could tell you stories. For that reason, I am glad that we have committed to being a safe place of welcome and grace.

But at St. John's, we've made the commitment to live out the love of Christ and to explicitly state God's love for all our siblings. I have had conversations with people in our neighborhood who have been harassed and threatened for who they are and who they love- and I have heard them share their appreciation for the witness of this church. So on behalf of the Welcome and Inclusion Team, thank you for making a commitment and taking the risk to love as Jesus loves us.

We celebrated PrideMonth for the first time this year and we kept it pretty simple. We hosted a Pride Prom Night where we dressed up and watched the movie "The Prom." We decorated our name tags after church. We held a Pride Worship Service using materials provided by our friends at Reconciling Works.

I helped organize a Transgender Day of Remembrance service hosted at University Lutheran Church. I took a car full of folks down with me and we remembered the lives of Transgender people who were murdered this past year. I am hoping that we hold another interfaith service and I encourage you to attend this moving memorial.

Thank you to all the members of the Welcome and Inclusion Team and thank you to everyone committed to sharing the unbounded love of Jesus who welcomes all!

Respectfully submitted,  
Pastor Daniel Eisenberg



# Preschool Annual Report 2023

New Year Greetings from St. John's Preschool! We hope everyone enjoyed their holiday! We have been looking forward to share all the wonderful and positive developments that our preschool has experienced this past year!

It is with great pride that we share with everyone that after a lengthy process and a team effort of hard work and dedication, St. John's Preschool, previously a STAR 2 level program, was awarded a STAR 4 level of excellence from the Keystone Stars Program!!!! Star 4 is the highest level you can achieve within the program, and opens up many more opportunities to be eligible and invited to apply for grants and other program enriching experiences! As the Director, and co-worker, I am not only beyond proud, but so very grateful for the dedication and commitment the preschool staff has given to achieve this long-awaited goal! Our goal for the future is to maintain and continue on this path of providing our families and the community, a high quality early education experience in a loving, Christian environment!

St. John's Preschool is also pleased to report that for the 2023/2024 school year, our enrollment is at pre-pandemic numbers!! Our three year old program has 16 children, and our 4/5 yr old program has 19 children! We are confident that our enrollment for future school years will continue to rise and St. John's Preschool will continue to thrive and be a staple in the community. Our families have been excellent in sharing about us and their experience with us to friends and family, helping us grow in numbers and solidifying our reputation as a premier early childhood education program. Further, due to our increased enrollment, and the need for extra support for children who have special needs, we have made the decision to add to our preschool team. We would like to extend a warm welcome and introduce our newest team member Alexis Thompson! Alexis will work in both classrooms M-F from 8:30-1:30. She is an experienced early childhood educator who also lives in Mayfair. Alexis will be joining us sometime this January after completing necessary background checks. We look forward to growing our team, and enrollment with Alexis!

Lastly, I am pleased to share that a grant we received last year has now been spent and put to wonderful use! The preschool was able to finance a portion of the new fire system, roof repairs, and the purchase of health and safety equipment required by Philadelphia Department of Health, specifically, a commercial grade refrigerator required for storing the children's snacks and lunches. It was truly a blessing that this grant enabled us to provide funding for such important and meaningful things! Additionally, just two days before Christmas, we received word that we are being awarded with yet another grant! Details and information should be received shortly! We are so blessed!

From everyone here at St. John's Preschool, we thank you for your continued support of our program, and the prayers you send our way. We continue to support and pray for everyone at St. John's as well! Stay healthy and blessed!

Sincerely,

Heather Mann

St. John's Preschool Director

# St. John's Preschool Budget

<b>St. John's Pre-School Monthly Report</b>				
Income	Budget as of	12/30/2023	Balance	%
Tuition. 2 day	25,920	14,233.00	11,687	-45%
Tuition. 3 day half	10,440	6,149.00	4,291	-41%
Tuition. 3 day full	15,255	9,128.00	6,127	-40%
Tuition. 5 day	43,740	14,970.00	28,770	-66%
Tuition. Registration	3,300	1,700.00	1,600	-48%
<b>Total Tuition</b>	<b>98,655</b>	<b>46,180.00</b>	<b>52,475</b>	<b>-53%</b>
Pre/After School	350	130.00	220.00	-63%
Summer Camp	6,000	0.00	6,000	-100%
Caring People Alliance	0	3,739.86	-3,740	
Fundraising	2,500	2,792.24	-292	12%
year)	<b>33,000</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>33,000</b>	<b>-100%</b>
New Grant Realized		0.00	0	
Misc	0.00	110.00	-110.00	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>140,505</b>	<b>52,952.10</b>	<b>87,553</b>	<b>-62%</b>
Expenses	Budget as of	12/30/2023	Balance	%
Salaries	110,385	35,911.01	74,474	67%
Medicare & Social Sec	8,444	2,747.21	5,697	67%
Workers Comp	0	155.06	-155	
Payroll fee	800	218.47	584	73%
<b>Total Payroll</b>	<b>119,629</b>	<b>39,030</b>	<b>80,600</b>	<b>67%</b>
Student Withdrawal	350	300	50	14%
Office Supplies & Bank Checks	100	47.49	53	53%
Accident Insurance	0	0.00	0	#DIV/0!
Insurance	1,100	0.00	1,100	100%
Building Use	12,500	5,000.00	7,500	60%
Building Repairs	500	0.00	500	100%
School Supplies	2,000	425.76	1,574	79%
Safety Supplies	150	632.04	-482	-321%
School Fellowship	600	125.61	474	79%
Advertising	900	0.00	900	100%
Fundraising expenses	350	1,443.76	-1,094	-313%
State Licensure	200	424.34	-224	-112%
Clearances & Training	300	239.00	61	20%
Seminars & Training	300	10.00	290	97%
Verizon Phone	1,020	511.67	508	50%
Returned Checks Fees	100	0.00	100	100%
Misc.	400	48	352	88%
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>20,870</b>	<b>9,207.67</b>	<b>11,662</b>	<b>56%</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>140,499</b>	<b>48,237.4</b>	<b>92,262</b>	<b>66%</b>
<b>Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>5.55</b>	<b>4,714.68</b>		