

Glendale Lutheran Church
2020-2021



1365 N. Sappington Rd.
Glendale, Missouri 63122-1823

314-966-3220

glendalelutheranchurch@gmail.com

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GLENDALE LUTHERAN CHURCH
ANNUAL REPORT
JULY 1, 2020, though JUNE 30, 2021

President's Message – Andy Ryan

My confirmation verse was Revelation 2:10, which reminds us to “[b]e faithful unto death and I will give thee a crown of life.” I remember selecting this verse because I wanted something from Revelation. I also sort of remember this was Pastor Albers’ verse, though he will correct me if I am wrong and then I will be embarrassed for yet another reason. Anyway, I guess I thought having a verse from the last and maybe the “scariest” book in the Bible was kind of cool.

As I grew up (a much longer process for me than for most normal people), I came to realize this verse in its straightforward simplicity captured why being a Christian is both the easiest job and the hardest calling we will ever have. On the one hand, Jesus offered us the gift of forgiveness if we simply believe he died for us, if we confess our sins sincerely, and if we ask God’s mercy. That is the easy part.

For the hard part, we are called to give ourselves over to God entirely and to hold steadfast in our faith no matter what, even if the consequence of staying faithful is we lose our friends, our jobs, and even our lives. Wow, who among us can do that on his or her own without God’s help? I know I can’t no matter how hard I try (though maybe I don’t try hard enough!). Ultimately, we know without God’s support we can never live up to what He expects no matter how hard we try. Nevertheless, we can take comfort in knowing salvation is attainable if we give our lives to Him and put our faith in Him.

Why is this relevant to our Annual Report? Well, over the past year, we lost several members who were faithful unto death and who we can be confident will receive a crown of life when Jesus returns. Because of their faith, these members entrusted us with their bequests so even in death they continue their faithful service to our congregation, to our community, and to the world. I pray we honor their memories by using their gifts in a way that would make them proud.

Statement of Purpose

This Annual Report provides a brief reference of the Church’s pursuits and activities over the July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021, fiscal year as we resume some semblance of normalcy from COVID-19. We owe a debt of gratitude toward several contributors for most of this report, including Pastor Scott, Suk Wille, James Sowers, and Jerry Nicolaus for the bulk of this report. Additionally, we thank Michelle Fiala for finalizing the document.

Staff

We continue to express our unending gratitude to our staff as they continue managing the Church's day-to-day operations while dealing with COVID-19 restrictions that have changed frequently throughout the year.

Pastor Scott continues to serve our Church faithfully like he has since he began his ministry with us in the summer of 2017. His energy, devotion, and creativity continue to help our members grow in their faith and in their love for one another and the community.

Our Church Secretary Michelle Fiala continues working hard to keep the Church office organized while welcoming CCLS staff, students, and their parents. She is also always ready to help Pastor Scott and the Leadership Council fulfill their responsibilities to the congregation.

Jim Thielker continues to provide inspirational music as the Church Organist for our variety of services and programs.

Our Financial Administrator Suk Wille remains a blessing to our members as she spends numerous evenings and weekends in the Church office making sure our bills are paid and we remain financially sound. Tony Petzoldt also provides indispensable assistance to Suk in managing the congregation's finances.

Faith Formation and Christian Education

Sunday Morning Bible Class

Pastor Scott leads Bible class on Sunday mornings at 10:30 a.m. in the Family Life center, usually teaching on the day's sermon text. Over the course of the 2020-21 year, Pastor Scott taught chapter by chapter through Acts, Deuteronomy, Colossians, Psalms, Mark, Joshua, and First Corinthians. He used videos from Bibleproject.com as summaries of those books and also used the video curriculum, "The Visual Bible (Acts), Search for the Lost Shipwreck of Paul," "We the People: Citizens of Two Kingdoms," "Patterns of Evidence: The Moses Controversy," "Affectionately Yours," "Screwtape," and, "The Gospel According to Mark." Fieldworkers Ryan Barnett and Oliver LaMie added their valuable teaching. Further, Lutheran Family and Children's Services led a series on topics that included families, depression, and anxiety.

Tuesday Women's Bible Class

Jeanne Clark leads this class, which meets on Tuesday mornings from 9:15 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. The format is Bible study for an hour and sharing prayer requests for a half hour. Video curricula from Ray Vander Laan and Beth Moore were used. Carol Froesel, Mary Ann Crabtree, Andrea Anderson, Beth Nicolaus, Rosemary Orloff, Phyllis Phelps, Tracey Ortstadt, and Pastor Scott were regular attendees.

Thursday Evening Women's Bible Class

Cathie Albers leads this study upstairs Thursday evenings from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The group has gathered online and studied the Gospels through, "Jesus: A Study of the Words of Matthew, Mark and Luke."

Men's Bible Class

Pastor Scott leads the Men's Bible study, which meets in the Family Life Center or the Courtyard on Mondays from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. Bob Jacobson, Ron Froesel, John Steele, Ken Kight, Joel Hempel, Steve Phelps, John Brugere, and Roger Lubben focused during the study on archeology and tours of Biblical sites, including "Walk as Jesus Walked: Being a Disciple in a Broken World."

Confirmation

There were no confirmands this year. Gwendolyn Boehme began confirmation in the fall of 2021 with Concordia Lutheran's confirmation night on Wednesdays. Pastor Scott teaches 25 eighth graders and leads Gwendolyn's small group.

Sunday School

There was no Sunday school this year due to COVID-19.

Financial Overview

Assets and Liabilities

Assets are summarized in three categories:

- **Operating funds** are available bank balances that support the Church's day-to-day operations.
- **Endowment and restricted-use funds** are accounts someone designates for a specific purpose other than day-to-day operations. Examples of such designations include staff education, youth programs, patio funds, and Church care. The GLC Leadership Council may authorize temporary loans from restricted funds to help managed operating expenses. These funds may be invested through organizations such as Lutheran Church Extension Fund and LCMS Foundation.
- **Building and Property** represents the estimated market value of the Church's real estate along with additions that added due to projects that occurred between the fiscal years.

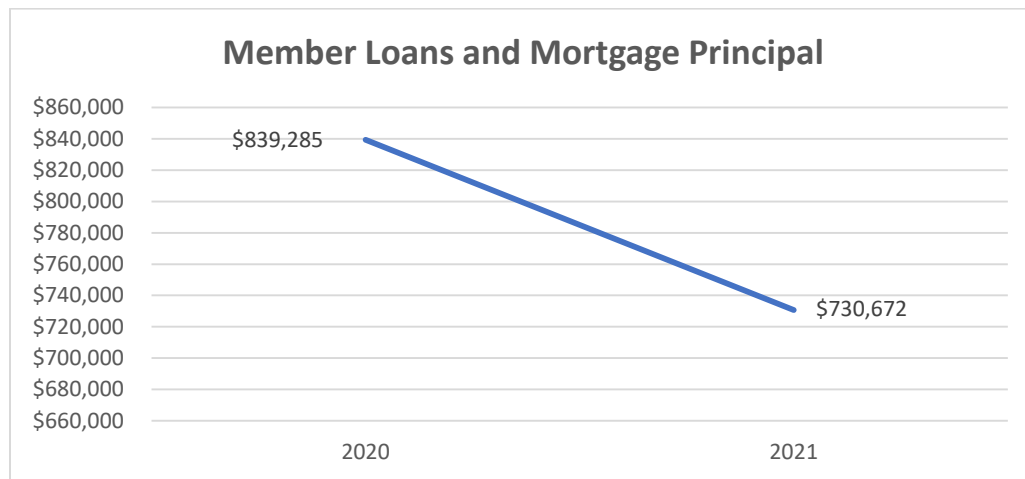
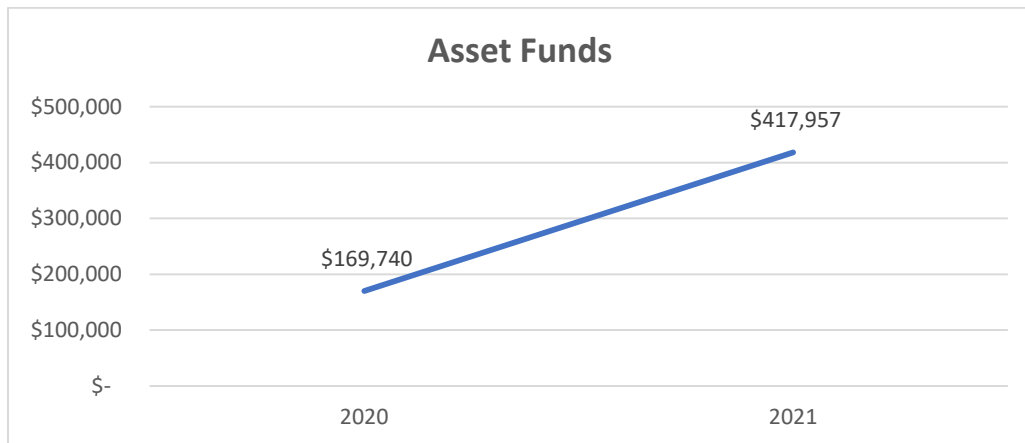
Assets	<u>Balances as of June 30</u>	
	2020	2021
Operating Funds	\$ 62,725	\$ 78,690
Endowment & Restricted Use Funds	\$ 108,301	\$ 339,267
Building & Property Value	\$ 4,054,506	\$ 4,107,805
Total Assets	\$ 4,225,532	\$ 4,525,761

- During FY2021, the members forgave the last of the Member Loans. In January 2021, the SBA backed Paycheck Protection Program Loan was forgiven.

Loans Payable	<u>Balances as of June 30</u>	
	2020	2021
Member Loans	\$ 8,000	\$ -
Mortgage Principal – LCEF	\$ 792,528	\$ 730,672
SBA PPP Loan - Lindell Bank	\$ 38,757	\$ -
	\$ 839,285	\$ 730,672

Asset and Liabilities comments

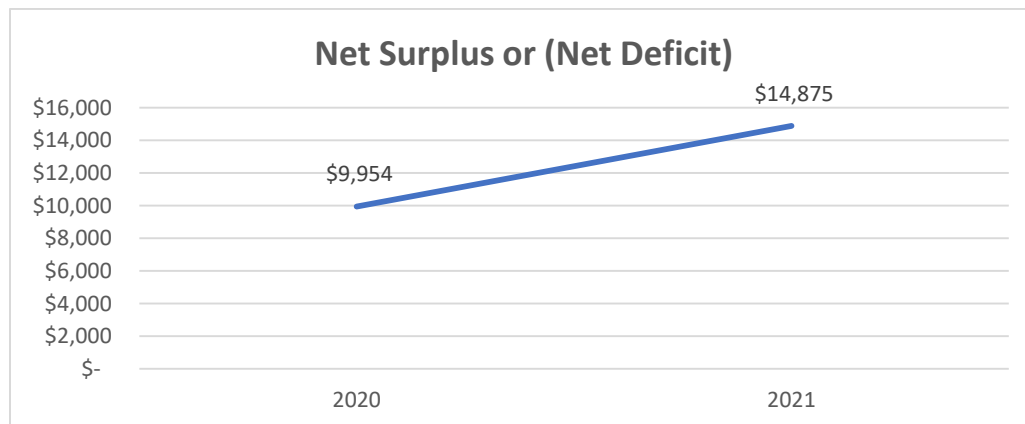
- Operating fund assets increased year-over-year from FY2020 to FY2021. The results impacting these funds are:
 - Changes to the tax code, which reduced giving since fewer individuals are itemizing taxes.
 - The COVID-19 pandemic, which impacted giving beginning the first half of calendar year 2020.
 - Members giving to an account specified for the pay down of the mortgage balance and other specified funds.
- Amounts owed for Member Loans and Mortgage have decreased from FY2020 to FY2021 due to members making specific contributions to pay down the new mortgage debt. Additionally, the last member who had a loan forgave the Church from reimbursing him/her for the Member Loan.



Annual Income and Expenses

- Income includes offerings and fees from using the building and property.
 - The category “Other Sources” includes fees from Glendale Chrysler for using the parking lot, CCLS for classroom and gathering spaces, and various groups that regularly meet at the Church.
- Expenses are summarized by the three main ministry focus areas and by operations:
 - Discipleship, Outreach, and Faith Formation.
 - Operation expenses include personnel, building maintenance, and office support.

Full Fiscal Year - July 1 through June 30			
		<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
Income			
	Offerings	\$ 416,123	\$ 410,161
	Other Sources	\$ 57,566	\$ 58,289
	Total Income	<u>\$ 473,689</u>	<u>\$ 468,450</u>
Expenses			
	Discipleship	\$ 4,540	\$ 4,872
	Outreach	\$ 74,371	\$ 67,613
	Faith Formation	\$ 910	\$ 1,786
	Operations (includes payroll)	\$ 383,915	\$ 379,304
	Total Expenses	<u>\$ 463,735</u>	<u>\$ 453,575</u>
	Net Surplus or (Net Deficit)	\$ 9,954	\$ 14,875



- A decrease of \$5,962 or 1.4% in offerings between FY2020 and FY2021 is noted. The explanation for the change is more dedicated offerings towards Mortgage Principal reduction were made in FY2021. If these giving amounts were included, the net change would be minimal from fiscal year over fiscal year.
- Other Sources increased slightly by \$723 or 1.3%, which helped offset a portion of the reduction in offerings. The amount received was impacted by the Coronavirus, which reduced the number of sources using the facilities in part due to the pandemic. Year-over-year, we have seen an increase in groups using the Church, which has helped us to continue our operations. Due to the ongoing pandemic, however, these sources may be impacted well into FY2022.
- For FY2021, we continued to make necessary improvements to our facility when needed. Nevertheless, expenses have been controlled and were within the budgeted amount for FY2021. Indeed, our expenses were \$28,500 under budget for FY2021, which allowed the Church to achieve a \$14,875 Revenue to Expense net surplus for FY2021.
- Outreach Ministry breakdown is indicated in the chart below for FY2020 and FY2021.

Outreach Ministry Expenses		
	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
Synod/District	\$ 4,184	\$ 269
Communications	\$ 2,352	\$ 3,670
Together in Missions	\$ 3,600	\$ 3,600
Concordia Seminary STL support	\$ 1,000	\$ -
Outreach Activities	\$ 2,741	\$ 211
CCLS Assessment	\$ 56,233	\$ 56,795
Lutheran High School South	\$ 3,600	\$ 2,400
Good Samaritan Fund	\$ 661	\$ 668
	<u>\$ 74,371</u>	<u>\$ 67,613</u>

Worship Participation/Membership and Summary of Official Acts

Worship attendance

Average worship attendance from December 2020 to October 2021 was 77 in person and 29 people viewing the service online.

Membership

- Membership as of December 17, 2020: 359 Baptized, 306 Communicant
- Membership as of November 3, 2021: 352 Baptized, 298 Communicant

New Members

- Sue Shatzman via Confession of Faith – August 29, 2021

Baptisms

- Jacob Ernest Morse – June 13, 2021
- Sophia Nicole Prudence – August 15, 2021

Transfers from Glendale Lutheran

- Katherine Hadler (to Ascension Lutheran, St. Louis, Missouri) – February 8, 2021
- Thomas Schultz (to Zion Lutheran, St. Charles, Missouri) – March 17, 2021
- Sue Schmidt (to Christ Memorial Lutheran, St. Louis, Missouri) – July 6, 2021

Deaths

- Jack Rutter – December 24, 2020
- Nancy Allen – February 8, 2021
- Charlotte Moret – March 1, 2021
- Bettie Welch – April 29, 2021
- Joan Winkler – May 13, 2021
- Corrine Gutzler – June 24, 2021
- Karen Raterman – August 7, 2021
- Gwen Peiper – October 30, 2021

Facility Management

Co-Chairs – Jerry Nicolaus and Carol Froesel

Ad Hoc Volunteers – Ken Clark, Rod Nobis, Karl Das, Frank Moret, Tom Crabtree, Karen Frimel, and Laura Murphy

We continue to both monitor and address all the mundane activities that mostly go unnoticed to assure a clean, bright, and well-functioning infrastructure. There is a constant, almost daily flow of activity that includes replacing light bulbs and clock batteries, ensuring rugs are scheduled for cleaning on a timely basis, painting when necessary, trimming and weeding landscape, and generally organizing volunteers or vendors to fix broken or dysfunctional items.

Repairs to extend the life of our 30-year-old Family Life Center roof were completed and we now have a 15-year time and material warranty against any leaks. Failed caulking on our new building was also refreshed and professional cleaning and repairs to our large stained-glass windows on the Church's south wall were completed. Our 40-year-old sanctuary chandeliers were replaced with current and brighter technology. We are still trying to find a proper home for our retired chandeliers.

As we had hoped, we were able to re-install our courtyard sails this year without hiring a vendor. Special thanks to Paul Barbercheck for his careful documentation to make sure we did this correctly. Additionally, a large crew of volunteers moved a significant amount of mulch last summer to cover all the planting beds that surround the courtyard.

On the other hand, the installation of the courtyard had some unintended consequences. For example, storm water was now draining more efficiently into a relatively small pipe and water that backed up through floor drains in the Parish House stairwells seeped into the basement. This was remedied by taking a huge root out of the drain, re-routing a roof drain on the Parish House roof's west end, and installing water back flow preventers in both Parish House stairwell drains. We are again high and dry.

More "user friendly" motion activated soap dispensers were installed in most bathrooms as well as motion activated towel dispensers. Wall repairs and painting were completed in classrooms 213, 217, P1004, and P1002. In general, all classrooms were prepared for the beginning of a new school year.

New breaker boxes were installed in all the older areas of our campus to comply with our liability insurance provider's safety concerns. A persistent, intermittent leak in our sanctuary roof right above or lectern was diagnosed and repairs effected.

Ministry Areas

Elders

The Elders' primary responsibility is to support and work with the Pastor. Traditionally, Glendale Lutheran Church has three to four elders. For 2020 and 2021, Mike Toney, John Steele, and Jason DeBord were these dedicated members with Mike serving as head Elder. The Elders meet monthly with Pastor Scott and review the Church's ministry and the Pastor's well-being. In the course of their work, the Elders use "Christian Concepts of Care" for training, which explains how the Church can help people's mental health. The Elders also oversee worship and a representative attends the Church Leadership Council meetings.

Fieldworkers

Seminary fieldworkers are placed at Glendale Lutheran Church as part of their education towards becoming Pastors. They devote a dozen hours a week to participating in the life of the congregation. Pastor Scott meets regularly with the fieldworkers to encourage and bless them. In the fall of 2020, second-year seminarian Oliver LaMie continued his training with us. He preached seven times over the course of a year and led Bible class. Later, in the summer of 2021, Oliver and his wife Bethany left on vicarage to St. Paul's Lutheran church in St. Joseph, Missouri, near Kansas City. Bethany obtained a job at their preschool and is loving it. They will return to us next summer. Last year, first-year student Ryan Barnett was assigned to us. He has not yet been able to preach or lead liturgy but he has attended women's and men's Bible studies as well as CCLS chapel.

Deacons (New Ministry Area)

In the fall of 2020, Joel Hempel renewed a Deacon Team as part of our long-valued history at Glendale Lutheran Church. Deacons are lay ministers who bless congregation members going through difficult times. Pastor Joel worked with Pastor Scott in recruiting the team, which includes Cathie Albers, Marcia Hempel, Bob Jacobson, and Tony Petzoldt. The deacons were assigned members of the congregation who Pastor Scott and the Elders recommended. Pastor Joel, the deacons, and Pastor Scott during monthly meetings shared their ministry experiences that included spiritual conversations, care assessment, spiritual listening, interventions, care principles, mature faith, spiritual exercises, dynamic questioning, confession, and absolution. Additionally, Pastor Joel led an annual retreat for the deacons at the Mercy Retreat center on Geyer Road. Pastor Joel and the deacons are a wonderful resource for this congregation for which we are very grateful.

Playground (New Ministry Area)

In the summer of 2021, Glendale Lutheran Church began exploring the potential for using bequest money to fund a new playground. A committee was formed that includes Derek Don, Jerry Nicholas, Pastor Scott, Paul Barbercheck, Kelly Climer, Rod Nobis, and Beth Kiessling. Derek Don is a landscape architect, Jerry, Paul, and Rod represent property management, and Kelly volunteered to work on grant applications. Beth is the campus manager for CCLS, which has agreed to partner in the project. The estimated completion date is summer 2022.

Preschool Team

The Preschool Team did not meet during COVID because school activities were limited. Marcia Hempel did continue her birthday bags ministry, which donated more than 70 bags to poor families.

Communications Team

Paul and Sandy Barbercheck, Andy Ortstadt, Kelly Climer, Lauren Mistler, Steve Phelps, and Pastor Scott led the Communications Team. Paul is the graphic designer who has created logos, street light banners, posters, window signage, street signs, stationary, welcome banners, and email designs. Sandy has marketing expertise and Steve takes care of print media such as advertisements in the Webster-Kirkwood Times. Andy was our Web Designer until he and Tracy moved to Indiana, Kelly posts on Twitter, and Lauren covers Facebook.

Vision Team

The Vision Team was suspended during COVID. In June 2021, Pastor Scott reached out to Lutheran Church Extension Fund for guidance through a visioning process.

Teens Encounter Christ

Teens Encountering Christ suspended their ministry during COVID. The next weekend will be in the summer of 2022.

Potlucks

There were no Potlucks during COVID. They were restarted in December 2021.

Oktoberfest

Oktoberfest was suspended due to COVID during the 2020-21 year, though we were glad to have one in Fall 2021.

Tables of Eight

There were no Tables of Eight during the 2020-21 year due to COVID.

Seminary Presents

Mary Skouby leads the efforts to gift Christmas presents to seminary kids. Seminary families are usually away from extended family and have few financial resources during these times when they work hard to make sure we have men who can lead us in our faith. A member grabbed every angel placed on the tree and bought a present for one of our seminarians.

Samaritan's Purse

Carol Froesel organized Glendale Lutheran Church's efforts to support this non-profit organization that sends shoe boxes full of gifts all over the world to the needy. We gave more than 70 boxes filled with school supplies and toys in time for them to be sent during the holidays.

Alcoholics Anonymous and Crossroads

Glendale Lutheran Church hosts Alcoholics Anonymous on Thursday and Friday nights in the Family Life Center. The Thursday night group is mixed men and women and is open to anyone. Friday nights include a 6:15 p.m. women's group and an 8:00 p.m. men's group. In 2020, Alcoholics expanded at Glendale Lutheran Church to Tuesday night and Saturday morning.

Glendale Lutheran Church also continues hosting Crossroads, a group for teen addicts and their families we began sponsoring in 2018. Fifty teenagers and 100 parents come together for support, resources, and fun using our gym and youth rooms. While the group suspended meeting in 2020 due to COVID, it has resumed since.

Lutheran Family and Children's Services

LFCS has an office on our property with counselor Jeanne Oberdan, M.S., LMFT, who counsels kids and families. LFCS's goal is to meet the shifting needs of children and families in Missouri by offering affordable or free counseling, adoption services, crisis/unplanned pregnancy education, parent education, foster care help, and child development education. A new counselor named Hannah Bisch MA, ATR-P, PLPC, was assigned to us when Jeanne retired in fall of 2021.

Christ Community Lutheran School

CCLS is the largest Lutheran School in St. Louis and has the highest reputation in national Lutheran education. Its goal is to grow the faith of kids and provide excellent schooling. Glendale Lutheran Church is an association church for CCLS that gave just over \$50,000 in the 2019-20 school year. We also received \$40,000 from CCLS for rent.