

Dear Congregation,

This summer we've had an energetic week of VBS, heard about planned Mission trips, enjoyed beautiful Sunday worship music, been educated by Eleanor Squad speakers, and had some fun Amazing Grays activities - just some of the wonderful ministries going on within our church community.

However, we want to share that we are struggling financially. We've been including financial summaries in the Pulse each month, but felt the need to bring this matter to your attention now to make sure everyone hears the message.

Stub Year: Sep - Dec 2023	-\$29,000
Jan - May 2024	-\$20,000
Total Deficit	-\$49,000

We started the year with a deficit of \$29,000 carried over from our Stub Year period. As of May, our 2024 actuals show a deficit of almost \$20,000. That's a total of almost \$50,000 in expenses that have exceeded giving over the last 9 months.

Operating the church as a building, like your home, has fixed operating expenses. We've made changes to reduce some of these expenses - like reducing physical phones, eliminating pest control, changing HVAC vendors - but there are limited areas where we can cut operating expenses further.

To enable us to continue to operate, we've had to draw from dedicated funds (funds that have been earmarked for special purposes like the Van Fund, Deacon's Fund, and 75th Anniversary Fund). We know this is not financially feasible and why we feel the need to reach out to you now.

To continue to meet our expenses, we would like to ask for your support through our "Summer 2024 Catch Up" campaign. If you have not given to the General Fund, or are behind in what you planned to give, it would be a blessing if you could consider getting caught up now.

If you are caught up with your planned giving and have the means, now would be a great time to thoughtfully consider an additional gift to help us address this challenge. You can designate additional gifts toward this campaign in the memo of your check or by selecting the campaign from the online giving choices.

As always, we would love to hear from you if you have questions now, or in the future.

In Christ,  
Kerry Gustafson, Jeff Fritz, and Pr. Walter Still



Our Savior's Lutheran Church Financial Summary For the Fourth Month of our Year Ended December 31, 2024			
	Jan-Apr 2024 YTD Actual	Jan-Apr 2024 YTD Budget	Variance
Total Income	\$201,297	\$218,952	(\$17,655)
Operating Expenses	\$70,853	\$77,838	(\$6,985)
Program Expenses	13,666	11,055	2,611
Staff Expenses	120,281	127,127	(6,846)
Total Expenses	\$204,799	\$216,020	(\$11,221)
Pass Through (Income) Expense	(24)	-	(24)
Net Surplus / (Deficit)	(\$3,478)	\$2,932	(\$6,410)
Treasurer's Report			
Statement of Operations - We have generated (\$199k) in YTD General Income which was less than we budgeted (\$215.9k). Our Expenses YTD (\$204.8k) remain lower than our YTD budget (\$216k). Overall, we are \$6k behind in where we wanted to be primarily because of lower giving during the month of April. Most concerning is that our dedicated accounts are underfunded by \$37k which impacts our cash flow (see below).			
Balance Sheet & Cash Flow - Cash has decreased by \$35k YTD, primarily driven by the spending of dedicated account funds. The total of cash and accounts receivable is \$102.4k. Funds allocated to dedicated accounts is \$140.4k.			
Mid - Year Update			
Our budget for 2024 is based on ending the year with more expenses than revenue. We cannot sustain a healthy cash flow operating in this way. The deficit that was created during our stub year (Sep '23 - Dec '23, -\$29.2) plus the projected deficit budget (-\$27k) from the current year, if achieved, leaves us with a cumulative reduction in cash of (-\$56.3). During our Annual meeting we said we would continue to update the congregation on where we are with our budget. We ask that you continue to pray for generous stewardship from our congregation to ease our current financial burden.			

# SUNDAY WORSHIP

## Sunday, July 7th, 2024 †



Our Savior's Lutheran Church  
SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
9:45 AM WORSHIP

### SERVING AT WORSHIP TODAY

Rev. Walter Still  
Rev. Susie Modrow  
Mark Gustafson, Hymn Leader  
Sierra Sommerfeldt, Pianist

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- L: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, † one God, the God of man-  
na, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.
- C: Amen.
- L: Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us  
confess our sin.
- C: God, our provider, help us. It is hard to believe there is  
enough to share. We question your ways when they  
differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We  
turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in  
you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways.  
Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share  
with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in  
the world. Amen.
- L: Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heav-  
en, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of  
miracles, there is always more than enough. Through  
Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than  
enough. Through Jesus, † the Bread of Life, you are  
shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into  
abundant life.
- C: Amen.

GATHERING SONG Shine, Jesus, Shine ELW#671  
all verses

### GREETING

- L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and  
the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C: And also with you.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

- L: God of the covenant,
- C: in our baptism you call us to proclaim the coming of  
your kingdom. Give us the courage you gave the apos-  
tles, that we may faithfully witness to your love and  
peace in every circumstance of life, in the name of Je-  
sus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

### SCRIPTURE READINGS

Reader: Ron Letnes

### MARK 6:1-13

[Jesus] came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He or-  
dered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear san-  
dals and not to put on two tunics. He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. They cast out many de-  
mons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

L: The gospel of the Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Pr. Walter Still

SONG O God of Light ELW#507  
verses 1, 3 & 4

### 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 THE PEOPLE**  
*After each intercession, please respond to the words,*  
L: Lord, in your mercy,  
C: **Hear our prayer.**

**RECONCILIATION**  
L: The peace of the Lord be with you all.  
C: **And also with you.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OFFERING**

**OFFERATORY SONG**

**PRAYER AFTER OFFERING**  
L: Jesus, Bread of Life, you have set this table with our very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.  
C: **Amen.**

**THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**  
L: The Lord be with you!  
C: **And also with you.**  
L: Lift up your hearts!  
C: **We lift them to the Lord.**  
L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!  
C: **It is right to give him thanks and praise!**  
L: Holy God, our maker...both now and forever.  
C: **Amen.**

**LORD’S PRAYER**  
L: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.  
C: **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.**

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**  
*Christ has set the table with more than enough for all.*  
*Come!*

**SHARING THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST**

**COMMUNION BLESSING**  
L: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
C: **Amen.**

**PRAYER AFTER HOLY COMMUNION**  
L: Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.  
C: **Amen.**


**BLESSING**  
L: The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, † be upon you now and forever.  
C: **Amen.**

**SENDING SONG** *Lord of Light* **ELW#688**  
verses 1 & 4


**DISMISSAL**  
L: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.  
C: **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

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*Ingredients/nutrition facts for the communion bread can be found on the bulletin board in the Narthex.*



**Our Savior’s Lutheran Church**  
9185 LEXINGTON AVE N.  
CIRCLE PINES, MN 55014  
WWW.OURSAVIORSONLINE.ORG  
Saint Paul Area Synod, ELCA


**OFFICE STAFFED:**  
MONDAY - THURSDAY  
9:00AM - 3:00PM  
CLOSED FRIDAY  
763.784.1971

**Centennial Community Backpack Program:**  
*Sign up now, shop later!*


**We need 20 more elementary backpacks** to reach our goal of having all of the elementary backpacks adopted.

Can you help us? **Please sign up now to adopt a backpack.**

Links to adopt can be found in the Pulse or on the OSLC website.



**Online Giving**  
Convenient way to give online: Scan the QR code with your cell phone camera. You will be taken to our online giving site.



**Attendance Totals for June 30th, 2024**  
**9:45am worship**  
in-person = 80  
online\* = 84

\*The ELCA's online worship reporting guidelines multiply online views by 2 to account for individuals within a household.

**Upcoming Events**

**Sunday, July 7th (today)**  
9:45am Summer Service

**Monday, July 8th**  
10:00am Monday Morning Bible Study  
2:15pm Golf League  
7:30pm Troop 65

**Tuesday, July 9th**  
10:00am Quilters

**Wednesday, July 10th**  
7:00pm Chancel Singers Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, July 11th**  
7:30pm Alcoholic Anonymous

**Saturday, July 13th**  
Communion Setup  
8:00am Overeaters Anonymous

**Sunday, July 14th**  
HS Youth Gathering  
9:45am Summer Service

**Monday, July 15th**  
10:00am CMN (Care team)  
10:00am Monday Morning Bible Study  
2:00pm Eleanor Squad Meeting  
2:15pm Golf League



Just a reminder that the next Secret Prayer Sisters “Coffee Break” is coming up. The get together was originally scheduled for July 6th. That date has been changed to Saturday, July 20th because of the 4th of July Holiday.

We will be meeting in Luther Hall from 9am to 11am on July 20th. We will be Celebrating all of The Secret Prayer Sisters Birthdays! There will be cupcakes (you will be decorating) & ice cream along with games to help us celebrate. You are never too old to celebrate as a child when attending a Birthday Party.

So, embrace Your Inner Child and come for some FUN! Treats and beverages will be served. There will be a Good Will Offering to help fund the treats.  
Please R.S.V.P. by July 13th to:  
Marge Otte @ 763-784-9033 or Donna Juran @ 612-618-5013



**Chancel Singers Wanted**

We would love for you to consider joining us!

**We will be singing at service on July 28th at 9:45am**

Choir meets to rehearse Wednesdays 7:00 - 8:00 PM. Highschool-age singers & older are all welcome to join!  
Email [rebeccaluttio@gmail.com](mailto:rebeccaluttio@gmail.com) if interested!



**Come Join the Yardeners!**

Our Savior’s Yardeners are having a worknight on Thursday, July 11th (unless it’s raining) & would like to invite anyone interested in helping out with some projects (or are interested in learning more about our Yarden program) to join us. We enjoy time together at our own individual plots and/or working on projects that are always popping up around our large church yard.

We will start around 6:30, come when you can and we often end the evening on the patio at Carbone’s.

We would love to see you there!

**PRAYER CONCERNS**  
Please remember in your prayers:

**Russ Ellenwood, Cori Sendle, Carol Shook, Les Schwiesow, Halen D, Pat K, Ethan O’Brien, Jacque Capistrant, Marv Brown, Rick Carlson, Darlene Hults Dave Hults, Sharon Dornfeld, Theresa Cullen**

Annie, granddaughter of **Roy and Pat Feine**  
Dillon, son of Donna Garopher & cousin to **Karen Davis**  
Shana, daughter of **Russ and Cindy Ellenwood’s**  
Brooklyn, granddaughter of **Cindy & Les Schwiesow**  
**Denny and Sharon’s** friend, Larry  
**Louise, Gordon & Chad, family of Eunice Banta**  
**Friends and family of Anita Callander**  
**Kerry Gustafson’s** friend, Sue  
**Jeanne Lasch, & family of Dick Lasch**  
Lori Krick, daughter of **Karen Davis**


**Please pray that God would send equipped staff and volunteers to the new Mobile Hope program in the Centennial Square mobile home park to serve kids, youth, families, and adults.**

**First Responders, Military & their families**  
**San Isidro Labrador in Guatemala, Tarkanfi in Ethiopia**  
**Sudan & Ukraine**  
**Relationships**

Shut-ins unable to worship with us include:

Shirley Meek	Elaine Thielke
Marnie Mackey	Marv Brown
Marlys Gamm	Carolyn Mathieson
Eunice Banta	Garnet Ellertson
Cindy Durand	Marlena McClanahan

To join the prayer chain or to add your concerns, please email [prayerchain@oursaviorsonline.org](mailto:prayerchain@oursaviorsonline.org) or call Jeanne Zaske 651-398-2414



Your Impact at Second Harvest Today  
366 Boxes of Apples  
71 Boxes of Cereal  
15,265 Pounds of Food Packed  
12,720 Meals Packed  
245 Meals per Person!

A group from OSLC met at Second Harvest Heartland to pack apples that will be sent to local food shelters.

**Planning Council Affirmations:**

Kyler Nielson’s Eagle Scout Project refreshing the fire pit; The HR team for adding structure and processes for OSLC employees/contractees; Ellie and Sierra for work on updating congregational membership; Nick Gilbert for planning National Youth Gathering and Adult Chaperones for supporting this trip; Congregational Members that attended Susan’s Nienaber’s session.