



ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Annual Meeting – February 6 , 2022

Vinje Lutheran Church

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2021 Staff

Lead Pastor	Justin Ask
Pastor for Discipleship	Dane Skilbred
Visitation Pastor	Andres Albertson
Intern	Vicar Hope Johnson
Director of Music	Karen Wojahn
Loving Arms Childcare Center Director	Chris Cortez
Office Manager	Tanya Schunk
Ministry Associate	Melissa Hansen
Communications Director	Sara Bos
Custodian	Ron Nordby

Executive Committee

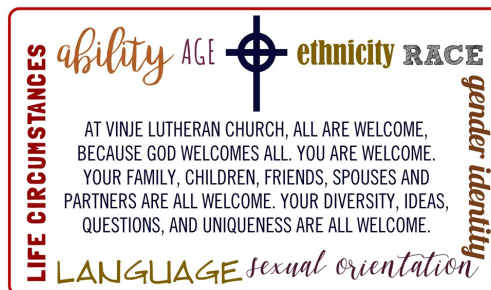
President, Shelly Bormann	Vice President, Scott Hovland
Treasurer, Christina Boike	Member at-large, John Hotek
Secretary, Brad Schmidt	

Council

Terms:

2021-2024	Jennifer Bobbe, Angie Hoppe, John Hotek, Joe Kuehn, Ceci Buzzeo
2020-2023	Deb Habbena, Scott Hovland, Kathy Hund, Brad Schmidt
2019-2022	Christina Boike, Shelly Bormann, Steven Leitch, Tim Ostby

(terms expired in February 2022)



AGENDA

FEBRUARY 6, 2022

Call to Order	Shelly Bormann, President
Opening Prayer	Pastor Justin Ask
Approval of Agenda	Shelly Bormann, President
Staff Report	Pastor Justin Ask
Secretary's Report	Brad Schmidt, Secretary
Treasurer's Report	Christina Boike, Treasurer
Election of 2022 Nominating Committee	Shelly Bormann, President
Election of New Council Members	Shelly Bormann, President
Consideration of 2022 Budget	Christina Boike, Treasurer
Bi-Law Amendment	Shelly Bormann, President
Adjournment	Shelly Bormann, President
Closing Prayer	Pastor Dane Skilbred

Vinje Lutheran Church Congregational Meeting Minutes February 7, 2021

VINJE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Congregational Meeting Minutes February 7, 2021, 11:00 a.m.

The Annual Meeting of Vinje was held via Zoom.

The moderator for the meeting was congregation president, Kevin Hanson.

The meeting was called to order at 11:03 a.m. A quorum of the congregation was determined to be present.

Pastor Justin Ask led the meeting in an opening prayer.

The 2020 Annual Report with the proposed budget and list of Council and nominating committee nominees was available prior to the meeting.

The agenda was presented and a motion to approve the agenda was made by Kris Gulbrandsen, seconded by Val Swanson. Motion carried by voice vote.

Secretary's report was made by noting that the minutes of the 2020 Annual Meeting were included in the Annual Report. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Tim Ostby, seconded by

Rick Loseth. Motion carried by voice vote.

Treasurer's report was presented by Christina Boike. The year was very positive despite the pandemic. Giving was very good. \$727,404 was total income for the year which was over budget. Total expenses were \$708,852 which was under budget. The congregation received PPP loan funds which have been forgiven. Other highlights included the following:

Dedicated/Memorial Accounts - income of \$99,783, expenses of \$70,209 with an increase to the net assets of \$29,574.

Endowment Accounts – endowment income was \$221,445; Cemetery Fund incurred \$3,326 of expenses; Endowment disbursements totaled \$31,900; college Scholarships of \$10,000 were awarded; net Endowment assets at the end of the year totaled \$1,760,293.

Loving Arms – income of \$571,827 and expenses of \$536,599 with a net increase in assets of \$35,228.

A motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Roger Kingstrom, seconded by Marv Napgezsek. Motion carried by voice vote.

The following nominees for the Nominating Committee were identified: Christina Boike, Shelly Bormann, Lynn Gatewood, Kevin Hanson and Scott Lundy. Additional nominations were requested, none received. A motion to approve the nominations was made by Kevin Hanson, no objections were received, and the motion was declared as passed.

The following nominees for Church Council were identified: Jennifer Bobbe, Angie Hoppe, John Hotek, Joe Kuehn and Ceci Buzzeo (youth position). Additional nominations were requested, none received. A motion to approve the nominations was made by Kevin Hanson, no objections were received the motion was declared as passed.

The 2021 budget was presented by Christina Boike. A copy of the Budget Worksheet was included in the Annual Report. An amended budget was proposed to increase the staff expense to include additional funds (\$16,050) for another internship position to be offered after Vicar Kate's term is over. The budget includes the following highlights:

Total projected income - \$751,378

Total projected expense - \$751,378

A motion to approve the budget was made by Christina Boike, seconded by Jim Tiede. Motion carried by voice vote. The pastors abstained from the vote.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Marv Napgezsek, seconded by Lori Schellberg. Motion carried by voice vote.

Pastor Dane Skilbred led the congregation in a closing prayer. Respectfully submitted,

Brad Schmidt, Council secretary

Vinje Lutheran Church Congregational Special Meeting Minutes November 3, 2021

VINJE LUTHERAN CHURCH CONGREGATION Special Meeting Minutes

Date: 11-3-21

A special meeting of the members of Vinje Lutheran Church was held at the church on November 3, 2021.

President Shelly Bormann called the meeting to order at the conclusion of the worship service. The sole item on the agenda was a proposal to issue a call to Pastor Erika Bueller.

A handout was provided to those attending that contained information about Pastor Erika; Lynn Johnson, chair of the Call Committee, provided further information about Pastor Erika.

A motion to issue a call to Pastor Erika Bueller was made by Lynn Johnson, seconded by Joe Kuehn. A video provided by Pastor Erika was then shown. Some brief discussion occurred.

The vote was taken by written ballot, with 84 votes in favor of issuing the call, and 0 votes opposed. Motion by Rod Hanson and second by Ann Trochil to adjourn, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Brad Schmidt

2021 Annual Report – From the Church Records

Baptisms 2021

Remy Fitzgerald Ask – 2-28-21
Millicent Martha Malvin – 4-25-21
Hailey Lynn Fischer – 6-26-21
Joelle Geneva Sandmann – 6-27-21
Griffin Christian Boike – 7-11-21
Liam James Eischens – 8-15-21
William Irvin Boone- 11-14-21
Nolan Jerome Paulson- 11-21-21
Piper Rose DeBoer- 12-08-21
Henry James Hagemeyer- 12-12-21

Confirmations 2021 - October 31

Meryl Bos
Landon Ogdahl
Henry Michelson
Brady Murphy
Tyler Evans
Ady Knake
Birgit Figenskau
Cameron Reishus
Mateo Engan
Carter Schow
Macee Hansen
Chelsea Rohloff

Marriages 2021

Christina Jones & Lee Keil – 6-19-21
Tate Hovland & Anna Backes -7-24-21

Burials 2021

Beverly Jensen – 1-12-21
Joan Nelson – 2-12-21
Jeffrey Konieczny – 2-22-21
David Korsmo – 3-17-21
Leona Whitmer – 3-18-21
Phil Carlson – 5-4-21
Marilyn Dunlavy – 5-14-21
Judy Gort – 5-26-21
Royal Ashburn- 1-9-21
Robert Parker – 9-16-21

Lowell Melbye- 9-24-21
Betty Melbye- 9-23-21
Marjorie Harris – 10-14-21
Robert Tinklenberg- 10-25-21
Phyllis Kamstra – 11-11-21
Rick James – 11-15-21

New Members Received 2021

Jim & Lynn Vossen – 5-8-21
John & Anne Christianson -8-24-21
Erika Boone 9-22-2021
Carren Klenke 11-11-21
Mike, Mindy, Ashton, Braeden, Logan Fagerlie

Members Transferred out 2021

Roger & Kris Moy, Brooque, Nataliah, Ameilyah,
Isaac
Jennifer (Pentz) and Flavio Boni, Laird, Liam Pentz
Bobbi Gates
Aaron & Tosha Privette, Madisen, Brooklyn Privette,
Cody & Tonee Nicholas, Mason Nicholas,
Lynn Itzen

Pastor Justin Ask, Lead Pastor

*I am the Lord, your holy God; I am creating something new. There it is! Do you see it?
Isaiah 43:15,19*

Six years ago, in the winter of 2016, Seyward and I were making a decision about where we would move our family. Brooklyn was less than a year old, and we felt that God was calling us to a new adventure. We cast a wide net in our search and interviewed in many places. We had just returned from interviews in Chicago when I first heard about Vinje. One thing I remember hearing in that first conversation was the spirit of innovation that has long been a part of our congregation. I heard about how Vinje was a pioneer in rotation models of Sunday School and VBS. I heard about partnerships that stretched far beyond Willmar. I heard about a willingness to try new things, knowing that sometimes they would succeed, and sometimes they might fail. I've experienced this to be profoundly true, and as I reflect on what has taken place in the last year I believe we are blessed by how active that spirit of innovation continues to be.

Ministry certainly looks different from when it did in the past. Even six years ago was a vastly different context than what we currently live in. But amid all these changes, our congregation has continued to ask, "What might God be up to?" and we have continued to serve others with a trust that God is always at work around us. I recently heard a Vinje member asked, "What is God up to at Vinje?" and they responded: "Outreach to the community, both locally and more. God is helping us redefine what the church is and does." As I think about what has happened in 2021 I think God has indeed inspired us to think in new ways about how we are a church.

Vinje's willingness to collaborate and share resources for the sake of the Gospel is excellent. Our partnership with Saint John's Lutheran ensures that Christ is proclaimed in Raymond while simultaneously strengthening our ministry in Willmar. This relationship has quickly become a model that other congregations and communities are now emulating. Our partnership with Green Lake Lutheran Ministries to share in the formation of a future pastor is mutually beneficial in many ways. And finally, Loving Arms preschool ministry has expanded to Spicer to further our service to others it is providing much needed childcare while ensuring that each child knows about God's love for them. Each of these developments has come from Vinje's willingness to respond to needs and changes in the community by asking, "What is God up to?"

Six years later, I am just as excited about how the Holy Spirit is working in our lives and in our congregation. I continue to feel very much at home at Vinje and blessed to be part of this ministry that we all share in together. I'm grateful that God is at work among us and creating something new in our lives. Furthermore, I'm grateful for the many ways that you are a part of what God is up to, and grateful for the many ways in which God is at work in your life. God is most certainly creating something new, do we see it? I hope so, and I hope we can share with each other the ways we see God's new creation. I'm pretty sure I'm not seeing everything God is up to, perhaps you aren't either. Good thing God has called us to be a faith community together, so we can share what we are seeing with each other.

Pastor Dane Skilbred, Pastor for Discipleship and Community Engagement

What a year it has been for Vinje Lutheran Church! As I reflect upon 2021, we have had our ups and downs, but I believe there have been a lot of good things happening around here. And for my annual report, I would like to share the ways that I have noticed God at work during this interesting time in which we find ourselves.

I have noticed God at work in terms of the generosity of the members of our congregation. You have shared your financial gifts, and because we have seen an increase in those who give electronically, we have seen a steady stream of income that has helped us financially in navigating uncertain times. I have also been grateful to see members re-engaging with some in-person activities when it has been safe to do so, and it has been great to see the ways you have used your time and talents to serve the needs of those around us.

I have seen God at work through our children's ministry programs. With a decrease in children attending faith formation on Sundays, we have had to change the way we do Sunday School, offering a "one-room schoolhouse" model where kids from pre-k to 5th grade can learn together, and we have had a lot of fun with that. At the same time we have seen an infusion of energy on Wednesdays, with over 60 kids registered for our re-envisioned "Wednesday Live" after school program. I frequently hear from parents how their children are excited to come to our church on Wednesdays because it is a fun place where they get to learn about God and build relationships. God is certainly up to something here!

I have also seen God at work as we engage those around us. Our outreach team has continued to find ways to support Family Promise, coordinating meals for homeless families at the Day Center throughout the year. They have also hosted three blood drives, and helped facilitate our God's Work Our Hands Sunday, packing 1,000 meals for people in our area and homeless kits to be given out through the Kandiyohi County Food Shelf. I am personally excited as my position changes to include community outreach and engagement and as I get to focus with you more on our outreach efforts. I look forward to listening with you for where God might be leading us.

Finally, I have seen God at work in the partnerships we have been forming this past year. We have furthered our partnership with Green Lake Lutheran Ministries in sharing a ministry associate, Molly Hefner, and a seminary intern, Hope Johnson, as we not only get to benefit from their presence, but we get to partner in teaching and raising up leaders for the larger Church. We have also partnered with St. John's Lutheran, in Raymond, and have seen the beauty of what can happen when we share ministry between congregations. Working with them has helped us to imagine new possibilities for our own ministries, and has created another new partnership, as we welcome, Pastor Erika to serve with us. I am excited to see what she brings to the table and how she helps expand what we can do here and out in the world.

I am so grateful for the many ways God has continued to be faithful with us again this year. I am grateful for the wonderful staff and congregation I get to work with every day. You continue to inspire me with what you do and to support me in our life together. I look forward to seeing where God is leading us forward and the amazing things we'll do together this next year!

Pastor Andres Albertsen, Visitation Pastor

For another year, it was a privilege and an honor to visit with many of you, especially elders, either in person or through the phone. And since many of our elders have gotten comfortable using smartphones, iPads, and computers, text messages, Facebook interactions, and emails are also means through which we stay connected.

In collaboration with our day care center Loving Arms where they cook meals for the kids every day, we were able, once, or twice a week, to convert leftovers from those meals into meals we deliver to members for whom it is difficult to cook healthy meals for themselves. And they are not mere deliveries to the door; they are also the occasion for shorts visits repeated at shorter intervals than the visits with those who do not receive meals that have given me the opportunity to get to know some of you more in depth.

Thank you for letting me listen to your stories, thank you for sharing your questions and doubts about faith, thank you for strengthening my own faith with your commendable ways of dealing with loss and grief, thank you for exemplifying what it means to love a partner and spouse in prosperity and adversity, thank you for teaching me how to adapt to new conditions of living, thank you for your commitment to Vinje, thank you for voicing your criticism of Vinje when you consider it needed. I pray that all these visits that are so inspiring to me, also leave you with the feeling of being heard and cared for.

Sadly, some of the persons whom I got to know through these visits, were among the members of the congregation who died last year, and I appreciate that several of the families let me preach and lead at the services of celebration of life, and that they were willing to share with me their own stories with the beloved that I, too, had come to admire and hold dear.

Visitation, in a wide sense of this ministry, is not restricted to the visits done by the pastors. It includes the efforts of our associate minister Melissa Hansen who quickly and efficiently meet specific needs of members and people from the community who contact Vinje with a request. It includes the efforts of the members of the prayer chain who are willing to pray for other people without having to know all the details. It includes the efforts of the members of the congregational care team who visit certain members, knit prayer shawls, check in with the hospital to find out if Vinje members have been admitted, and write and send cards to the persons we pray for on Sundays, to the bereaved, and to our eldest members on their birthdays. It includes the effort of the Naomi/Sara/Esther Circle that give Christmas gifts to members in nursing homes and assisted and independent living facilities. It includes the efforts of the members who pay attention to who we pray for on Sundays, and who take the initiative to make a call or send a card. It includes the spontaneous efforts of those who make visits, or provide rides, or bring meals to other members in need.

Visitation is a ministry that everyone can join, and you do not need a permission from the church. But if you need assistance on how to do it or who to visit, or if you want a visit from a pastor or someone else from the congregation, please do not hesitate to contact the church office or me. Although I am distinguishing between the visitors and the persons who are visited, I can promise you that it will always happen that both the visitor and the person visited will have something to give and something to receive. As the Scripture says, let us continue being “concerned for one another, to help one another to show love and to do good” (Hebrews 10:24).

Pastor Andrés Albertsen

Vicar Hope Johnson, Intern

I'm so glad to be part of the Vinje Community as my seminary learning context. It has been a joy to come alongside the way you all do life together. I'm so thankful for the individuals who have affirmed me in my learning, challenged me in my thinking, and invited me to grow into who I am as an emerging faith leader. Even in the midst of the ups and downs of living in a lingering pandemic I have been inspired by the heart this congregation has for worshiping together, gathering for fellowship, and serving the larger community. Vinje is such a rich learning environment with its two distinct worship styles and the forward-thinking partnership with St. John's, I'm grateful for the opportunity to gain experience in these diverse settings and with such a wonderful ministry team.

Karen Wojahn, Director of Music

*“For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past,
or like a watch in the night.” – Psalm 90:4*

Reflecting upon 2021 floods me with a sense of having survived. These pandemic times have been stressful, with issues that are no longer black & white but have become quite gray. What we must keep in mind, however, is that in God's time, these days are only temporary and someday will be just a memory. We must remember that God is still with us, strengthening us for the journey.

In late January 2021, we resumed in-person Sunday worship, with masks required but no congregational singing until Lent. During that time, we had two singers each week who provided worship music behind plexiglass screens. Wednesday evening worship resumed in Lent. We continued to record online worship until mid-May.

Rehearsals of our many music groups resumed in the fall, although many singers have been reluctant to return to choir until the pandemic recedes. The Lessons & Carols service was held in December, with a large number of musicians of all ages involved. After having had Christmas Eve worship in the parking lot in 2020, we were delighted to have 3 Christmas Eve worship services in the sanctuary once again. During the summer months, I worked with Pastor Dane and Melissa to revamp our after-school Wednesday programming for elementary students. In September, we rolled out “Wednesday Live!” and we implemented a rotation schedule, which allowed the students to meet in smaller groups for Bible stories, music/singing and an activity.

Loving Arms music and weekly chapel time has continued through the year. The sound of children's voices has been a bright spot in my weekly routine as we have sung songs about God's world and Jesus' love. May God bless these little children and their families!

Responsibility for Vinje's music ministry is a partnership shared by several leaders in the congregation. I am very thankful for the contributions of Su Mickelson, Travis Mickelson, Mary Hodapp, Ann & Steve Trochlil, as well as the faithfulness of everyone who participates in our many groups. Soli deo gloria. Glory to God alone!

*“O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Still be our guard while troubles last and our eternal home.” (ELW #632)*

Shelly Bormann, Council President

The end of 2020 seemed like people were sighing a big sigh of relief that there was hope on the horizon, knowing the vaccine for COVID was on the way, hope that we would be moving back to more in person activities, hope for moving forward in a positive direction. When I think back 1 year ago, could we ever imagine what has transpired, no, I don't think we could have. I want to take a moment to sincerely thank the leadership of this congregation, our Pastors, staff and the amazing people that have served on the Council this year. As we have moved, what felt like forward and back and forward and back, in regard to COVID, the Council, Pastors and staff have been able to have very honest conversations, people have been able to express their views and while we haven't all completely agreed, there has been a large amount of respect for others within our Council and people have listened to each other. I am so grateful to the persons who have served our church this year.

That being said, I feel like we have accomplished an amazing amount this year, sometimes I have felt like we have accomplished two years of work as we have moved forward. Here are some of the highlights:

- Loving Arms – they have continued to keep their doors open and serve the children and families that count on them every day. Along with the good work at the Vinje location, as of January 1st, 2022, Loving Arms has officially acquired Praise and Play preschool at Faith Lutheran Church in Spicer. Construction to expand to Infant and Toddler daycare at that location is also underway and projected to being in early summer. This fills a huge need in our county for more childcare sites needed. There are also other entities that continue to have conversation with the Loving Arms Director and Vinje Lead Pastor for further expansion opportunities.
- Loving Arms also has been able to help with some building improvement needs, they purchased the new ovens in our kitchen in early summer, a new fence for their playground has arrived and is waiting to be installed in the spring of 2022 to expand their playground with the newly acquired playground set from Green Lake Bible Camp, also, new cupboards and countertops for all their classrooms are on order and will be arriving soon.
- Building projects – a new dishwasher was installed to our kitchen early in the year as we continue to update and complete the kitchen upgrades. There is also a new sidewalk on the south door outside of the kitchen. Sanctuary lighting improvements bids are in process as we know we need to replace what is currently there. The proposed Columbarium is also come back on the Council agenda and moving forward after a congregational information meeting was held in December. The Congregational Care Committee is in process of researching Solar Panels for the church as they continue their work of being good stewards of our earth.
- Pastor of Worship Arts & Faith Formation (WAFF)/St. John's Lutheran – what an amazing journey this has been this year. After formalizing a 3 year agreement with St. John's in April 2021, a call committee was formed for this newly approved Pastor position. The Call Committee's work was a journey that lead Vinje to call Pastor Erika Buller, by unanimous vote, on November 3rd, 2021, to be our Pastor of WAFF. What an amazing partnership this has been for both congregations. Pastor Justin and I have had other meetings/requests from other congregations as well to what the options could be for them. I look forward to seeing what God has in store for Vinje in the future.
- Vicar – Vinje has been so blessed to have completed one full year with Vicar Kate and then entering into agreement with Luther Seminary in St. Paul and welcoming Vicar Hope this summer. Again, what a blessing this program is to Vinje and we pray the Interns are blessed by us. This year, the Intern is in partnership with Green Lake Lutheran Ministries (GLLM) and both have benefited. As of this writing, we are in process of applying for this again as we believe all parties grow from this experience.
- Ministry Associate – new in August to Vinje was another partnership with GLLM for a Ministry Associate position and we welcomed Molly this fall to help with Wednesday programming at Vinje and Sunday mornings at St. John's. The consistent presence at both sites every week has proved so valuable for both churches.
- Vinje Staff – how grateful I am for the amazing work this staff has continued to do every week for Vinje. We welcomed Tanya this summer as our new Office Manager and thanked Janet for all her years of service to Vinje. This staff has continued to be flexible through a time so different than any other and continue to learn and grow in so many areas as they continue to move Vinje through each challenge.

Shelly Bormann, Council President, cont...

- Pastors – what a gift we have at Vinje. Every day Pastors Justin, Pastor Dane and Pastor Andres serve this congregation with their whole heart, I cannot thank them enough. Pastor Dane is looking forward to a well deserved sabbatical this summer and now with the addition of Pastor Erika, I pray some of the work is lifted and the Pastor's can move forward as well. Pastor Justin and Pastor Dane are currently in the middle of leading the Council through Strategic Planning and Visioning for Vinje and we will continue that work when our new Council members join us in February.

Another major accomplishment for our entire Synod this year was the election of Bishop Dee Pederson in the SWMN Synod in June, the first woman elected in this position in our Synod. What a great moment for the 229 congregations, and I was so thrilled to be a part of that process.

This congregation has accomplished so much in 2021, Vinje is financially very strong and there is so much gratitude for the other areas of strengths as well. I sincerely thank the members of the congregation for everything you give to and do for the church, inside and outside of the walls, as we have continued to see through 2021, the church is NOT our building, Vinje is our people. May God sincerely bless each and every one of you in 2022!



Loving Arms Child Care Center 2021 Annual Report

Mission Statement: *“Loving Arms Child Care Center is an integral part of the Ministry of Vinje Lutheran Church. We invite families into our faith community and care for the needs of their children. Its main objective is to provide a loving, safe and stimulating environment for children in a Christian setting.”*

The Ministry of Loving Arms Child Care continues its strong reputation for quality Christian Child Care in our community. For over 25 years, we have served children from 6 weeks of age to 5 years old; with the addition of school age children in the summer months.

Loving Arms faced many challenges in 2021. The Center was continually changing and adapting to the Covid-19 Pandemic. We were extremely blessed to be able to stay open the entire year and didn't have to shut down due to Covid-19 Exposures or Outbreaks.

Enrollment:

Infants (6 weeks—16 months)	12	Waiting list until Jan 2023
Toddlers (16 months—33 months)	20	
Preschool (3—4 years)	18	
Pre K (3—5 years)	10	

Staffing: LACCC employs 13 Full-time, 2 Part-time, and 3 on call staff.

Fundraising: LACCC once again held our annual Geranium Sale in May. It is always such a huge success. We were also able to hold our annual Butter braid sale, and our families did a great job selling these to loved ones, friends and neighbors.

On a personal note, I feel grateful to lead Loving Arms Child Care Center and to be part of the team at Vinje Lutheran Church. I am looking forward to the growth and expansion that 2022 brings.

Chris Cortez, Loving Arms Director (chrisc@vinjchurch.com)

Outreach

- In lieu of hosting families in our building, provided meals to Family Promise day center throughout the year
- Hosted three blood drives in partnership with American Red Cross
- Provided Christmas baskets to families in need through our “Light of Christmas” fund
- Have continued reaching out to our neighbors in new ways through partnerships with the Willmar Inter-faith Network and in partnership with other local service organizations
- Received the “Servant of Christ Award” for packing 1,000 meals that were distributed through LSS meals on wheels program

Children’s Ministry

- Used a curriculum that helped students and families connect and share the faith in their homes when we couldn’t gather in person
- Created and delivered Lenten packets that helped families celebrate the season
- Found new and creative ways to engage children through online services and children’s messages
- Re-envisioned Wednesday after school program, now called “Wednesday Live,” to include a well-rounded experience of Bible time, music time, and craft/activity time. In the Fall, we experienced growth and saw our largest attendance yet, with over 60 students registered!
- Partnership with Green Lake Lutheran Ministries to offer meaningful programs including a Willmar area VBS/Day Camp, First Communion retreats, and regular summer camp

Stewardship Committee

- Continued focus on stewardship as a spiritual practice that encompasses all of what we have and our call to use our gifts for the good of all
- Continued work with council to identify the needs of the congregation and community and to focus our stewardship efforts around those needs
- Received, with gratitude, gifts that not only allowed us to maintain excellent ministry during a global pandemic, but also gifts that allowed us to reach out into the community to help our neighbors
- Continued to encourage electronic giving and to find new ways to give other than physical cash or checks
- Created a Fall Campaign for 2022 called “Built on a Firm Foundation,” to support some much needed maintenance projects around our building

Worship Committee

The Vinje Worship Committee is charged with guiding and coordinating lay worship leaders. This includes Altar Care, Assisting Ministers, Lectors, Communion Servers, Ushers and Greeters. It does not determine policy or plan services.

The Vinje Worship Committee has met once (on October 24, 2021) since March 3, 2020 with just four members in attendance. Those present discussed whether this committee has been serving a purpose in recent years. Excerpts from minutes and from the last three annual reports were read to highlight the issues to be discussed. The records read indicated how the function of the committee has changed. These changes began well before the suspension of in-person services. They include recruitment of usher, reader, and communion server volunteers being handled by the office. The current list of Worship Committee members includes several who feel they have served the term to which they agreed. Some who were doing recruitment of lay volunteers feel they have no reason to participate. Going forward new committee members would need to be recruited.

Although there is strong feeling that the committee has outlived its usefulness, no action was decided upon at this time. Since there is so much disruption in all aspects of life it was the consensus that this is not the time to make that determination.

Sheryl Engan, Worship Committee Chair

Vinje Library

"Due to the COVID 19 pandemic the library was unable to open during the past year. Hopefully that will change in the coming year."

The purpose of the Library is to nurture people in their spiritual growth and understanding of faith by providing and sharing library services which support the overall mission of Vinje Lutheran Church. To accomplish this we::

- Provide Sunday morning story time for 3 year old classes through 2nd grade
- Maintain a large selection of books, DVD's, CD's , Audiobooks and puppets for library patrons
- Select, purchase and process new materials for circulation
- Support education curriculum by providing materials to complement areas of study
- Help patrons locate and check out materials

We are grateful for all our volunteers and continue to welcome new library helpers in this very special Vinje ministry. A special thanks to all who have generously contributed to Vinje library. Each gift allows us to select materials to be used by everyone in our congregation.

The Library functions under the direction of the Library Board with Suzanne Nelsen and Karen Rousseau as co-chairpersons.

Vinje Cemetery

There was one burial in the year 2021, that of Burton Lundberg in August.

Updating the landscaping continues.

Cutting Edge, a contract mowing service, again did the lawn mowing.
Mark Bredeson did the edge trimming and sidewalk snow removal.

Thanks to the Spring Cleanup helpers: Dennis Anfinson, Marley Bahl, Ron Carlson, Dave Habbenna, Mike Hanson, Rick Loseth, Harold Mielke, Ted Olsen, Lynn Peterson, Craig Schellberg, Rick Smith, Rocky Stoneberg, Jerry Swanson, Terry Tone and Criag Zempel.

Thanks to all who contributed in the year 2021.

Vinje Memorial Cemetery Board: Dennis Anfinson, Craig Schellberg, Mike Hanson, Jerry Swanson & Mark Bredeson



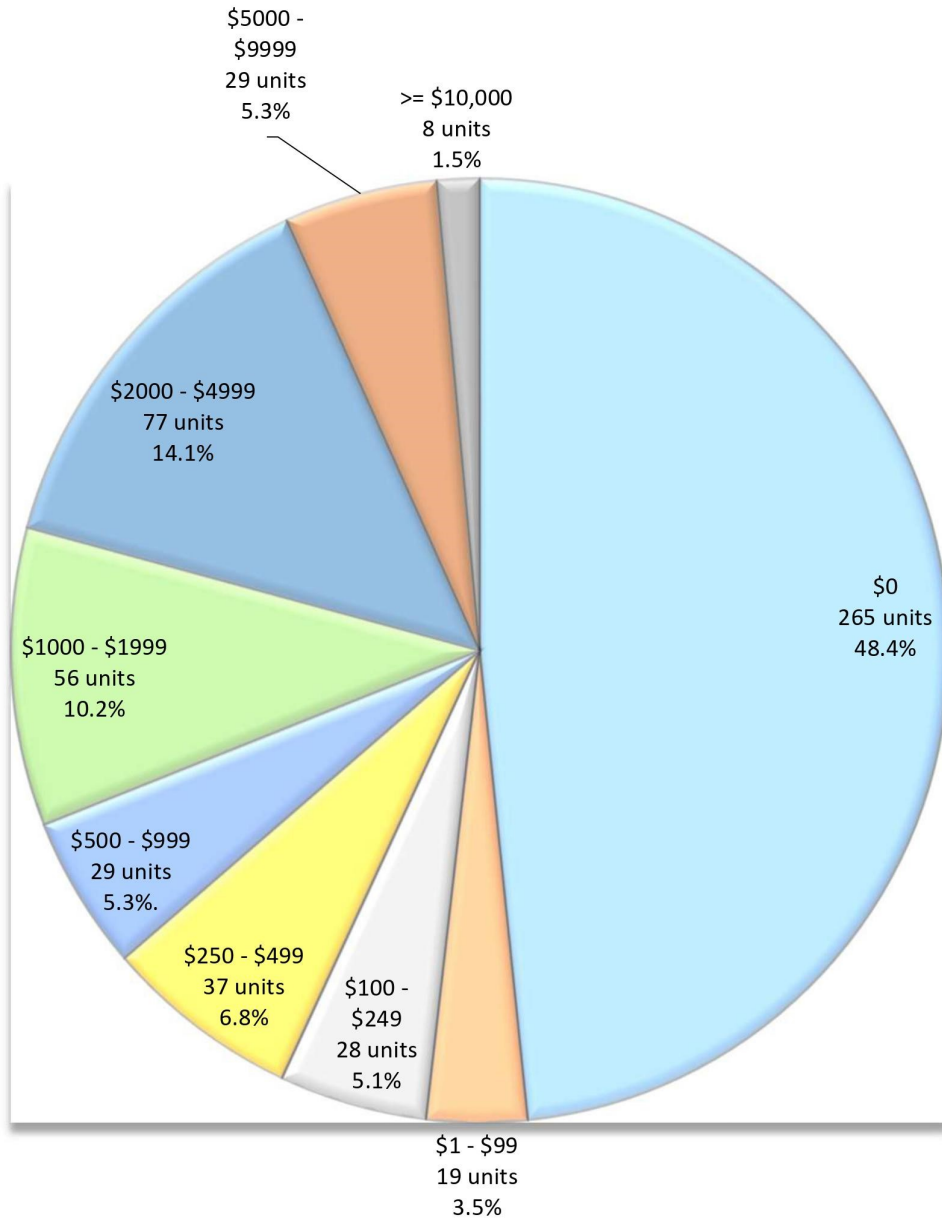
*“Reaching Out, Reaching In,
Reaching Deeper”*

**2021
FINANCIAL
Report**

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Annual Giving per Giving Unit



19% of the giving units provide 80% of the support

Vinje Lutheran Church 2021 Financial Summary

General Fund (Unrestricted)

- Total General Fund income for the year was \$731,568 which is under budget by \$19,810
- Envelope giving for the year was \$664,615 which decreased .9% from the previous year
- Actual Expenses of \$746,671 were under budgeted expenses by \$4,707
- PPP loan in the amount of \$72,915 was forgiven and recorded under Other Income
- The change in net assets was a increase of \$ 57,812

Dedicated/Memorial Accounts and Building Funds (Temporarily Restricted)

- Annual temporarily restricted income was \$106,345 with expenses totaling \$111,850
- The change in net assets was a decrease of \$5,505

Endowment Accounts (Cemetery, Endowment, Scholarship, Vanguard Investments)

- Endowment Fund Income was \$ 226,498
- The Cemetery Fund incurred \$3,263 of expenses
- The Endowment Disbursements totaled \$43,210
- College scholarships totalling \$8,010 awarded
- Net Assets total \$1,932,299

Loving Arms

- 2021 Ordinary Income totaled \$602,278 increase of 7.1% from 2020
- 2021 Expenses were \$567,216 an increase of 5.7% from 2020
- Other Income totalled \$89,101 this included PPP Loan forgiveness in the amount of \$85,885
- Change in net assets was an increase of \$ 124,163

Vinje Lutheran Church
Statement of Assets, Liabilities and Net Assets
Modified Cash Basis
December 31, 2021

ASSETS

Current Assets

Cash and Cash Equivalents

General Fund Checking	\$ 272,711
Cemetery Fund Checking	985
Des Gifts/Mem Savings	453,167
Endowment Fund Savings	59,141
Scholarship Fund Savings	501
L.A. Child Care Center Checking	176,513
L.A. Savings	5,908
L.A.Savings (Scholarship)	1,166

Total Cash and Cash Equivalents 970,092

LA Accounts Receivable 4,863

Prepaid Expenses 15,617

Total Current Assets 990,572

Other Assets

Property & Equipment 4,843,161

Ameriprise 3,142

Vanguard Investments 1,871,672

Total Other Assets 6,717,975

TOTAL ASSETS **\$ 7,708,547**

LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable \$ 14,236

Payroll Liabilities 5,403

Total Current Liabilities 19,639

Total Liabilities 19,639

Net Assets

Board Designated-Scholarships 1,166

Unrestricted Net Assets 5,066,490

Donor Restricted Net Assets 2,621,252

Total Net Assets 7,688,908

TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS **\$ 7,708,547**

Vinje Lutheran Church
Statement of Assets, Liabilities and Net Assets - General Fund
Modified Cash Basis
December 31, 2021

ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	
General Fund Checking	\$ 272,711
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	<u>272,711</u>
Total Current Assets	272,711
Other Assets	
Property & Equipment	4,808,455
Ameriprise	3,142
Total Other Assets	<u>4,811,597</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 5,084,308</u>
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	\$ 12,415
Payroll Liabilities	5,403
Total Current Liabilities	<u>17,818</u>
Total Liabilities	17,818
Net Assets	
Unrestricted Net Assets	5,066,490
Total Net Assets	<u>5,066,490</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	<u>\$ 5,084,308</u>

Vinje Lutheran Church
Budget Report - General Fund
Modified Cash Basis
Year Ended December 31, 2021

Ordinary Income/Expense	Year Ended	Budget	\$ Over/(Under) Budget
Income			
GF Regular Envelope Income	\$ 664,615	\$ 688,178	\$ (23,563)
GF Other Budgeted Income	66,734	63,200	3,534
Non-Budgeted Income	219	-	219
	<u>731,568</u>	<u>751,378</u>	<u>(19,810)</u>
	731,568	751,378	(19,810)
Expense			
Mission Support	53,526	53,500	26
Parish Care	2,860	4,400	(1,540)
Worship	10,509	7,850	2,659
Music	10,637	16,395	(5,758)
Faith Formation	9,734	16,420	(6,686)
Property	117,333	121,350	(4,017)
Stewardship	-	1,400	(1,400)
Public Relations	3,045	3,900	(855)
Administrative	62,611	53,900	8,711
Program Staff	339,787	336,897	2,890
Program Staff Expense	28,835	27,410	1,425
Support Staff	86,039	81,610	4,429
Support Staff Expense	15,982	23,346	(7,364)
Other Expense	4,207	-	4,207
General Non-Budget	1,565	3,000	(1,435)
	<u>746,671</u>	<u>751,378</u>	<u>(4,707)</u>
Net Ordinary Income	(15,103.00)	-	(15,103.00)
Other Income			
Grant Income	72,915	-	72,915
Total Other Income	<u>72,915</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>72,915</u>
Change in Net Assets	<u>\$ 57,812</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 57,812</u>

Vinje Lutheran Church
Statement of Assets, Liabilities and Net Assets - Dedicated Fund
Modified Cash Basis
December 31, 2021

ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	
Des Gifts/Mem Savings	\$ 453,167
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	<u>453,167</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>453,167</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>\$ 453,167</u></u>
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	
Net Assets	
Donor Restricted Net Assets	\$ 453,167
Total Net Assets	<u>453,167</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	<u><u>\$ 453,167</u></u>

Substantially all disclosures ordinarily included in modified cash basis financial statements are omitted, and no assurance is provided on these financial statements or supplementary information.

Vinje Lutheran Church
Dedicated Fund Balances - Modified Cash Basis
Year Ended
December 31, 2021

Description	12/31/2020 Balance	Year To Date		Balance
		Receipts	Disbursements	
GENERAL PURPOSE				
Brotherhood Fund	\$ 16,954	\$ -	\$ 213	\$ 16,742
Moving Fund	139			139
Undesignated Funds	8,782	3,576	3,134	9,223
Flowers/Decorating/Plantings	3,509	1,715	2,875	2,350
Thrivent Choice Dollars	449	472	143	778
Creation Care	177			177
Special Gift - Miscellaneous	847			847
Library	20,770	315		21,085
InterFaith	2,589	430	994	2,026
Interest/Bank Fees	7,131	37	5,852	1,316
Total	61,346	6,544	13,210	54,681
MISSION FUNDS				
Local Mission				
Community Meals	884			884
Family Promise - Vinje Only	4,521			4,521
Local Missions	2,422	200	1,000	1,622
Local Missions In/Out	100		100	-
Willmar Area Food Shelf	431	4,710	4,426	715
Always Being Made New	10			10
Misc. In/Out	514	150	200	464
International Mission	-			-
Missionary Sponsorship	-	100		100
Disaster Appeals	-	775		775
Lutheran World Relief Coffee Project	100			100
Young Adults in Global Mission	20			20
Total	10,562	7,475	5,726	12,311
PROPERTIES				
Building Donations	11,731	26,591	10,988	27,334
Maintenance Reserves	30,411	35,000	30,691	34,720
Exterior Signage	1,710			1,710
Special Project	17,000			17,000
Total	72,606	63,976	48,703	87,879
FAITH FORMATION				
5th Qtr Income				
Camp Scholarships	912	799	410	1,301
Sunday School Offerings	340			340
ELCA Youth Gathering	8,473		8,473	-
Grace Notes	50			50
Tallakson Interest	288			288
Youth Ministry	2,656	100		2,756
Youth Mission Trip	4,595	375	200	4,770
H.S. Youth	-	2,000		2,000

Substantially all disclosures ordinarily included in modified cash basis financial statements are omitted, and no assurance is provided on these financial statements or supplementary information.

Vinje Lutheran Church
Dedicated Fund Balances - Modified Cash Basis
Year Ended
December 31, 2021

Description	12/31/2020	Year To Date		Balance
	Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	
W.A.C	472	74	69	477
Youth Scholarships	1,892			1,892
Brown - Faith Formation	246,407		11,883	234,524
Brown - Leadership for Faithful Innov.	7,710		1,375	6,335
Brown - Faith Formation Youth	4,174			4,174
Brown - Faith Formation Video	8,037		1,255	6,782
Total	287,106	3,373	23,664	266,814
CONGREGATIONAL CARE				
Christmas & College Assistance	4,063	4,933	6,608	2,388
Parish Care Ministries	2,376	110	65	2,421
Pastor's Discretionary Checking	2,784	7,324	8,553	1,555
Prayer Shawl Ministries	949	70	96	923
Sabbatical Study-Assoc. Pastor	850	1,166		2,016
Sabbatical Study-Lead Pastor	1,335	269		1,604
Wednesday Evening Ministries	5,408	1,134	2,448	4,093
Total	17,764	15,006	17,769	15,000
MUSIC/WORSHIP				
Hand Bells	1,080		380	701
Music	1,988	2,800	994	3,794
Contemporary Music		4,700		4,700
Organ	3,025	20		3,045
Piano	756			756
Worship Resources	14			14
Total	6,862	7,520	1,374	13,009
WOMEN'S MINISTRIES				
Quilters	89	385	388	86
Women of Vinje	1,311	800	20	2,091
Elizabeth Circle	846	1,266	995	1,117
Esther Circle	180			180
Total	2,426	2,451	1,403	3,474
	\$ 458,672	\$ 106,345	\$ 111,850	\$ 453,167

Substantially all disclosures ordinarily included in modified cash basis financial statements are omitted, and no assurance is provided on these financial statements or supplementary information.

Vinje Lutheran Church
Statement of Assets, Liabilities and Net Assets - Endowment Fund
Modified Cash Basis
December 31, 2021

ASSETS

Current Assets

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cemetery Fund Checking \$ 985

Endowment Fund Savings 59,141

Scholarship Fund Savings 501

Total Cash and Cash Equivalents 60,627

Total Current Assets 60,627

Investments

Cemetery Investment 12,403

Endowment Investment 1,048,319

Scholarship Investment 810,950

Total Investments 1,871,672

TOTAL ASSETS \$ 1,932,299

LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

Net Assets

Donor Restricted-Cemetery \$ 13,388

Donor Restricted-Endowment 1,075,721

Donor Restricted-Scholarship 811,451

Donor Restricted-Tallakson 31,739

Total Net Assets 1,932,299

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY \$ 1,932,299

Vinje Lutheran Church
Statement of Revenues and Expenses - Endowment Fund
Modified Cash Basis
Year Ended December 2021

REVENUE	
Cemetery Fund	\$ 500
Endowment Fund	84
Scholarship Fund	-
Vanguard-Capital Gains	8,402
Vanguard - dividends	38,019
Vanguard - Unrealized Gains	<u>179,493</u>
	226,498
EXPENSES	
ENDOWMENT FUND EXPENSE	
Cemetery Fund	10
Scholarship Fund	8,010
Endowment Fund	<u>43,210</u>
	51,230
CEMETERY FUND EXPENSE	
Cemetery Fund Expense	620
Cemetery Utilities	303
Cemetery Lawn Care	<u>2,340</u>
	<u>3,263</u>
	54,493
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	<u><u>\$ 172,005</u></u>

Vinje Lutheran Church
Statement of Assets, Liabilities and Net Assets - Loving Arms
Modified Cash Basis
December 31, 2021

ASSETS

Current Assets

Cash and Cash Equivalents

L.A. Child Care Center Checking \$ 176,513

L.A. Savings 5,908

L.A. Savings (Scholarship) 1,166

Total Cash and Cash Equivalents 183,587

Accounts Receivable 4,863

Prepaid Expenses 15,617

Total Current Assets 204,067

Fixed Assets 34,706

TOTAL ASSETS \$ 238,773

LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable \$ 1,820

Total Current Liabilities 1,820

Total Liabilities 1,820

Net Assets

Board Designated-Scholarships 1,166

Donor Restricted Net Assets 235,787

Total Net Assets 236,953

TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS \$ 238,773

Vinje Lutheran Church
Statement of Revenue and Expenses - Loving Arms
Modified Cash Basis
Year Ended December 31, 2021

Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Tuition	\$ 457,978
Fees	225
Food Program	25,069
Contributions	1,691
Grants	96,303
Fundraising	13,507
Interest Earned	22
Misc. Income	7,483
	602,278
Expense	
Food	38,133
Program Supplies	6,881
Custodial Supplies	137
Property Improvement	19,251
User Fee	29,200
Licensing Fees	2,968
Administration	2,765
Fundraising Expense	8,529
Administrative Salaries	58,035
Teaching Salaries	347,046
Benefit Plan Contributions	4,100
Taxes	35,544
Continuing Education	1,253
Workers Compensation Ins	2,723
Special Gifts	4,007
Special Events/Field Trips	1,771
Event Bonus	4,873
	567,216
Net Ordinary Income	35,062
Other Income	
Grant Income	89,101
Total Other Income	89,101
Change in Net Assets	\$ 124,163

Substantially all disclosures ordinarily included in modified cash basis financial statements are omitted, and no assurance is provided on these financial statements or supplementary information.