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## Thank you to those who served on our Boards and Committees in 2023

### Advent Life Ministries Board 2023

Ray Welch Pres.	Kevin Wrenne	Deena Nunes	Dana Schneider
Laura Bluhm VP	Phil Lustig	Bobby Scheppske	Tyler Wyman
Bob Dornblaser	Steve Putnik	Dan Munson	

### Advent Church Advisory Committee 2023

Pastor Dave Franklin	Steve Dingle	Deena Nunes
Debbie Giggey	Susie Dzuro	Alison Atanas
Sandy Jack	Eric Peterson	Keri Bibbighaus

### Proclaim Church Ministry Committee 2023

Pastor Will Torres	Aliana Diaz	Aileen O’Brien	Tyler Wyman
Mark Perez	Dylan Farill	Gene O’Brien	
Lance Hatten	John Wyman	Laura Tandy	

### School Advisory Committee 2023

Jackie Dingle	Carrie Gallagher	Lauren Pazinski
Jackie Finkenoor	Ian Hewitt	
Kim Lineberry	Rhonda Hoffman	

### Advent Square Board 2023

Pastor Andy Hagen	Steve Mackey	Claudia Loch
Cecilia Carroll	Vahan Varian	Kathy Hoar
Bob Dornblaser	Bill Giggey	

### Endowment Committee 2023

Pastor Andy Hagen	Bob Lindmark	Jerry Leitherer
Gloria North	Gary Jensen	Tom Thayer
Kurt Hoffman	Murray Stegelman	

### Finance Committee 2023

Dennis North	Robert Lindmark	Cameron Buetel
Ray Welch	Kevin Wrenne	

# Annual Meeting Agenda 2024

Opening Prayer

Confirm Quorum

Call to Order

Agenda Approval

Approval of February 19, 2023 Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes

Letter from the President

Presentation of Ministry Reports

Finance Committee Reports

Presentation/Approval of 2024 Advent Lutheran Church Boca Raton Budgets

Presentation/Approval of 2024 Proclaim Church Budget

Presentation/Approval of 2024 Advent Square Budget

School Financial Update 2024-2025

2024-2025 Advent School Budgets - Deferral

Presentation of the Nominations Committee

Elections

Old Business

Audit-2022 Financial Reports

Building Project Update

New Business

Audit-2023 Financial Reports

Comments

Adjournment/Closing/The Lord's Prayer

# Advent Lutheran Church

## Annual Congregational Meeting

### February 19, 2023

**Opening Prayer:** Offered by Pastor Andy

**Confirm Quorum:** Over 80 members in attendance, exceeding quorum mandate of 5%. Quorum confirmed by acting Secretary, Ray Welch

**Call to Order:** Steve Putnik, president, called the meeting to order at 11:38am.

**Agenda Approval:** Motion to approve Agenda as submitted was made by Dennis North and seconded by Claudia Loch. Motion was approved unanimously.

#### **Approval of February 27, 2022 Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes:**

Motion to approve Minutes as written was made by Debbie Giggey and seconded by Kevin Wrenne. Motion was approved unanimously.

**President's Report:** Steve Putnik presented his report and submitted it as a matter of written record. He highlighted the work done to revise our ByLaws and spoke about the work done on the upcoming building project.

**Presentation of Ministry Reports:** All reports submitted as a matter of record as written. Pastor Andy introduced and thanked all the pastors and administrative staff. Pastor Dave introduced and thanked all church ministry staff.

**Presentation of Statistical/Census Report:** Pastor Dave submitted the report as written.

**Finance Committee Reports:** Reports were presented by Dennis North, Finance Committee Chair.

**Presentation/Approval of Advent Life Ministries 2023 Budgets:** Each budget was presented for individual approval.

**Advent Church Boca General Operating Fund Budget:** Motion to approve budget was made by Ray Welch and seconded by Dave Diehl. Motion was approved.

**Advent Church Capital Budget:** Motion to approve budget was made by Ralph Schneider and seconded by Leanne Welch. Motion was approved.

**Advent Proclaim Church Budget:** Motion to approve budget was made by Dave Franklin and seconded by Nancy Varian. Motion was approved.

**Advent Square Budget:** Motion to approve budget was made by Claudia Loch and seconded by Adriana Santovenia. Motion was approved.

**Advent Schools:** The combined financials for Advent Schools, as of 12/31/2022, were submitted for informational purposes. The school budget runs on an academic year and not a calendar year.

**Presentation of Nominating Committee:** Nominations were submitted by Laura Bluhm, Vice President of Church Council and Chair of the Nominating Committee.

Michael James was nominated to another 3 year term; Dan Munson and Dana Schnieder were nominated for new 3 year positions. A motion to accept the three members to church council was offered by Leanne Welch and seconded by Dennis North. Motion passed.

Presentation of Nominating Committee: (continued)

Laura Bluhm nominated Ray Welch to serve as Church Council President for 2023 and the Congregation was invited to nominate a Church Council President from the floor. None were given. Motion to appoint Ray Welch was offered by Kevin Wrenne and seconded by Dave Diehl. Motion was approved. Ray Welch prayerfully affirmed his nomination.

**Old Business:** None

New Business:

**Advent School Budget Deferral.** Motion to grant authority to Church Council to approve the 2023-2024 School Budget at a point later in the year, closer to the end of the academic calendar was made by Susie Dzuro and seconded by Linda Brier. Motion passed.

**By Laws Revisions.** Motion to accept proposed, revised By Laws as a replacement to our outdated, existing By Laws was made by Brian Ballas and seconded by Jim Viane. Motion passed.

**Motion from the floor:** A motion to keep the current By Laws intact (***Approved draft at 2011 Annual Congregational Meeting. Ratified at 2012 Annual Congregational Meeting 02/05/2012***), as part of our governing documents and for historical purposes was made by Ray Welch and seconded by Bob Lindmark. Motion passed.

**Phase II of Construction Project and Contract for Architectural Drawings:** A motion was offered to agree to pay up to \$120,000 for architectural renderings, contractual work, and costs associated with a new building/ renovation plans from the building fund. Motion was made by Amy Dingle and seconded by Teresa Diehl. Motion passed.

A motion was offered to agree to pay up to \$30,000 in order to relocate maintenance staff and equipment if new building/renovation plans proceed. Motion was made by Jim Viane and seconded by Kerry Bibighaus. Motion passed.

**Audit Deferral:** Motion to defer the auditing of year-end financials due to accounting department employee turnover was made by Kevin Wrenne and seconded by Nancy Varian. Motion passed.

**Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn was made by \_\_\_\_ and seconded by Donna Centebar. Motion passed.

**Closing Prayer:** Pastor Dave led closing prayer.

**Advent Life Ministries**  
**Letter from the President**  
**2024**

Slightly over a year ago, I was asked by then outgoing president Steve Putnik about a potential term as Advent Advisory Board President. After initially saying “no” several times, I agreed, but stated it would be for one term only.

Here we are, one year later, and my time as president has come to an end.

It has been an unbelievable experience. And even for someone who has been in a leadership position for decades, I still learned from our incredible staff and dedicated volunteers across both our Boca and Lake Worth campuses.

An organization that has grown to our size and scope contains lots of moving parts. Sometimes, those parts are not always moving in the same direction, and when those moments happen - leadership, communication, and decision-making skills become critical. Over the past year, we have fixed some misaligned parts but we must never stop trying to improve these critical skills. As our ministry continues to work towards a future local building project and as we continue to share HIS word and love in places around the world, we run the risk of having many “parts” at odds with one another. Advent needs to remember that our mission, across all our ministries, is to create faithful, loving, compassionate and dedicated disciples of Christ. It’s what we do in our schools. It’s what we do at Advent Square. And, it’s what we do in our churches here in Boca and Lake Worth.

Over the course of the next year, our congregation will face several issues. We will be asked to consider funding a new building project. We will be asked to support the call process for additional pastors and to consider what the leadership succession plan looks like for Advent. The Advisory Board has started some of these discussions, and, we have put in some tangible work on them. But, there is still more work to be done and I’m confident the incoming leadership will continue those efforts.

Finally, I want to say thank you.

To our Pastors...thank you for showing me how to lead from love. To our office staff... thank you for being patient with me and always smiling, even when no one was watching. To the Accounting and HR team...thank you for your efforts in keeping the “business” side of our ministry running as smoothly as it does. To the school principals and department heads... thank you for letting me into your worlds and helping me understand what you do on a daily basis. A lot of our staff go largely unrecognized until they announce their retirement, but I now know how much of your time, energy and heart goes into your everyday work...thank you for what you do for Advent.

To my fellow board members...thank you for giving up your time every month, it has been a pleasure to govern with you. And specifically, to Kevin Wrenne, Laura Bluhm, and Steve Putnik...I can't thank you three enough. My methods in our Executive meetings were different and probably a little uncomfortable at first, but you put your trust in me. We took four completely different personalities and made it work, effectively. I am grateful to have had you three on my team.

Thank you to all our members for allowing me the opportunity to serve you and our Advent community over the past year.

Respectfully,

Ray Welch  
President

**Senior Pastor of Advent Life Ministries-Andy Hagen**

The challenge and joy of my role at Advent is to provide unifying leadership for all of our ministries and continue to aim us toward our mission to “share the love of Christ with the world.” Here are some highlights of that effort in 2023.

- Received a \$125,000 gift to establish the Bowersox Fund to provide financial aid for students in need.
- Began the "Building Together" campaign to raise awareness of our building plans.
- Led 24 members on a tour of Great Britain.
- Took members to the local mosque and synagogue to show support for them during this tense time in Israel.
- Provided support to move our Bangladesh Freedom Church into its own worship space.
- Assumed the chair role of the Village of Hope mission in Haiti.
- Assisted with growth of our partnership with Boca Helping Hands in Lake Worth.
- Completed and received approval for revised bylaws of our Constitution that better serve our ministry.
- Move both parents into Advent Square.
- Bid a fond and grateful godspeed to Pastor Ron Dingle.
- Enjoyed having grandchildren Rory and Mason as students at ECS!

**Boca Campus Pastor-David Franklin**  
**2023 Church Highlights**

- Saw an average attendance of 397 in person and YouTube viewers over the course of the year. In person attendance was up by 29 per week while you tube views fell off slightly.
- Launched 4 new small groups over the course of the year with 30 new people joining groups for the first time.
- Had 27 new families become connected regularly at Advent in 2023.
- Continued working on plans for Family, Faith and the Future.





2024 Goals

- Launch new family worship experience beginning June 9th.
- Continued work to develop new leaders for Advent’s Board and for the future.
- Help 27 new families as well as other newcomers to connect in service and small groups at Advent.

Executive Pastor-Aaron Kruse

Since our last annual report we have had some personnel changes to the shared services division. We hired Brenda Wise for Human Resource and Office Management. She brings to us 30 plus years of human resource experience. We have also added Sonja Honkala to our accounting team. She is serving as our Accounts Receivable and Payroll Specialist. In our Maintenance Department we have hired Lance Williams, Carlos Morales, Julia Murillo. We recognized the long service of Roberto Laboy and wished him well on his retirement.



The focus this year is bringing the idea of a Family Ministry Center into realization with architectural plans and costs for a new and bright future for Advent Lutheran Church. Last year we honored the past in both people and buildings and we look forward to honoring the future with drawings and financial commitments for a new ministry building. The excitement of a new building only adds to the excitement of the accomplishments of 2023. One of the biggest accomplishments was the creation of a new athletic field and ball courts behind the school gym. This area has increase our sports program and play area for the children who attend school.



Join me in prayer for the continued growth and success of the ministries at Advent as we together look forward to 60 more years of vision and ministry in the South Florida area.

Next-Gen Pastor-Chance Elmer

Middle School Youth -

Consistent number of 30 middle schoolers.  
Strategic bi-monthly big events that attract over 55 students.  
6 new confirmations.  
Addition of 6 new students from various middle schools.



High School Youth -

Consistent number of 20 students that meet Sunday nights in the surf shack for youth group.  
Led 24 of our youth students to the Rock the Universe Christian worship concert in Orlando.  
Established boys & girls life groups that meet bi-weekly on Mondays.  
Accomplished 2 youth Sundays.  
Sent 43 people to the RUSH Student Christian Conference in Johns Creek, GA.  
Baptized 8 high school students.





**EMS Involvement -**

- Accomplished both 7th & 8th grade leadership retreats.
- Increased middle school involvement in leading chapels.
- Assistant boys basketball coach.
- Organized a teacher luncheon to provide them with biblical rhythms of rest in their hectic work schedules.

**Goals**

Add ten new high school students, increase student attendance at Sunday services, add a new adult volunteer, and start a new young adult ministry.

**Aftercare Director-Kori Ernst**

- On average, we had 60 kids each day from Kindergarten to 8th grade.
- We brought on multiple new enrichments: Tippi Toes Dance, Amazing Athletes, Robotics and Team Hewitt Martial Arts.
- We have 11 counselors on staff that do crafts, games, and help the kids with their homework.

**Goals**

- Increase attendance to 70+ students
- Add more enrichments to enhance the program



**Proclaim Church-Pastor Will Torres**

- We served over 12,600 Hot meals on Friday nights, and served over 14,000 pantry bags for Saturday food distribution.
- We had 31 new adults become members of Advent Life Ministries through our proclaim congregation.
- 6 New Baptisms.
- Leadership/ Discipleship Cohort – developed 10 new ministry leaders.
- Updated our Children’s ministry area “Proclaim Kids”.
- We launched Alpha at NOBO – Missional small group.



As we gear up for 2024 we believe that we are poised for continued growth. We have focused for this ministerial year on “Love” - being loved by God, loving one another, and bringing that love to our community and the world around us. **Love is the reason we are still here!**

**Goals**

- To reach weekly average attendance of 120
- Develop 20 new Ministry leaders through our Leadership/ Discipleship Cohort
- 20 new member families add to the church roles
- Launch a Men’s ministry
- Launch Church Small Groups
- Launch Christian Adult Education Classes
- Quarterly Mental Health Community nights
- Continue Alpha at NOBO



**Facilities Manager-Bill Hickman**

- Remodeled room 9 at the Early Childhood School
- Added four new AC units to the gym and new AC’s for the Dingle Center
- Remodeled rooms 11, 12, Technology and Science classrooms at the Elementary and Middle School

**Goals**

- A new addition to our maintenance staff

**Family Ministries-Jessica Ballas**

- Implemented a new Bible curriculum, GROW, into our Advent Kids Church Program with interesting and fun monthly themes.
- Our Girls Life Group meets at our home every other Monday night for dinner, fellowship and Bible study. We enjoyed many fun nights that included a Galentines night, Friendsgiving, a Burr Basket exchange at Christmas time and we participated in the Operation Christmas Child Program. This time allows our high school girls to build strong bonds with one another that will last for years to come.
- Our community outreach continues to grow with successful events such as our EMS Family Carnival, ECS Family Fun Nights & Family Faith Sundays. We filled over 5,000 Easter eggs for our hunt and had 40 trunks (families) participate at our Trunk or Treat event.
- Moms Morning Prayer continues each Tuesday morning in the Narthex where we pray for our families, pastoral staff, students and teachers.



**Goals**

- We will kick off our new Sunday Family Worship service on June 9th in the school library that will be transformed for VBS and summer camp. This service will be streamlined for young families that will include a shortened message, age appropriate worship for children and a fellowship time for all.
- Volunteer connections such as launching a new Ambassador Program that will connect church families to our school families.



**Advent Summer Camp-Kori Ernst**

- We had 130 kids in attendance throughout our 7 weeks of camp ranging from Kindergarten to Middle School.
- Several in-house field trips including, but not limited to, Build-a-Bear, Reptile Show, Petting Zoos and Bubble Truck.
- Our Fourth, Fifth and Middle Schoolers went off-campus to the movies and Gumbo Limbo.
- Introduced several families through Summer Camp to the Advent Family.



**Goals**

- Increase attendance to 150 campers
- Get campers on more off-campus field trips



## The Garden-Julie Putnik

- All-volunteer leadership team created intentional events for women to grow in the Word, in worship and in wonder of Jesus presenting and leading at 19 events held throughout the year.
- Completed The Garden season 5, themed “Cultivate What Matters” in May 2023 and began season 6 of The Garden with the theme of “Breaking Free” with the goal of breaking free from strongholds that keep us from living fully and freely in Christ Jesus.
- Surveyed the garden attendees in May 2023 and again in September 2023 using the results to tailor our garden events more specifically to the needs of women. Based on the feedback, we included more personal testimonies of women and developed programs guided by the specific expressed needs of women.
- Continued monthly community evenings as a means to further build connections between women of THE GARDEN and create a casual, relaxed place to foster deep relationships.
- Created a Garden “takeover” of worship services on September 24 where women of the garden helped lead our community in worship including Angel Kruse, Susan Hagen and Julie Putnik sharing a message.
- Developed a monthly scripture writing plan for season 6 whereby women write a curated collection scripture each day on a specific topic highlighted at THE GARDEN.



### GOALS

- Continue to hold space for women to find their voice, to share their unique stories with other women, to inspire and support each other while strengthening the bonds between each other and God.
- Foster a strong spirit of discipleship encouraging women to continue to enthusiastically invite their friends, family, neighbors, co-workers to garden events.

## Traditional Music Ministry-Dave Kirk

- Music for the Traditional services incorporates different styles of music ranging from Choral standards like Stainer’s “God So Loved the World” to Joel Rainey’s “At the Riverside”.
- It is a joy to work with our choir and hear the results of their hard work.
- I also enjoy writing and arranging music for the choir and the piano.
- Sunday’s postludes are God-given improvisations.
- My prayer is that my ministry at Advent Church will draw people closer to God, giving Him all the glory.



## Senior Ministry-Dave Kirk

- The Friday morning 10:00 AM Bible Study is a wonderful time of fellowship and learning.
- We average between 25-30 attending with 3-5 following on Zoom.
- Right Now Media has provided great teachers including Chip Ingram, Francis Chan, Andy Stanley, Tim Tebow, Max Lucado, Jon Keher and many others.
- Some of the studies this year have been; "Jesus's Farewell Message", "Why I Believe the God of the Bible", "The Gospel According to Isaiah", and others.
- We all enjoy Peggy Bopp's goodies she provides every Friday.
- Being a part of Advent Square's ministry is such a blessing. Such a little thing as playing the piano 5-10 minutes before their Thursday Bible Study with Pastor Andy and seeing their joy touches my heart.
- The Y.E.S Group (Youthful Energetic Seniors) enjoys food and good times with movies and special entertainment throughout the year.
- Working with Joyce Weliky and Claudia Loch with the Healing Ministry Team is so rewarding. As we gather to sing and pray with those who have come with physical and spiritual needs it is wonderful to know we have a church that ministers in such a loving way to those I need.



## Praise Band-Julie Putnik

- Led the body of believers at Advent's contemporary service in music and song as an offering of worship to God and creatively supported the pastors' visions of worship formats, ideas and themes throughout the year.
- Provided special music for the Easter season at the Last Supper Experience in April, seasonal songs for the Advent and Christmas seasons and a Christmas musical reflection worship experience in December.
- As a team we welcomed new members and are fostering the musical growth of young people in our church by encouraging their singing and playing in our rehearsals and worship services.
- We prayerfully collaborated as a band in song writing sessions through the year which produced many songs for our church. We wrote the song *True Vine* for the sermon series called "I Am." We wrote a song for sixth season of THE GARDEN called *Stronghold* and we wrote a Christmas song called *How Was It Silent? (Jesus is Here)*. As we explore scripture together and listen to the words of our church community, we will continue to write songs for our church so we can encourage one another and draw closer to the heart of God.





2023 Statistical Report

		BAPTIZED	CONFIRMED
MEMBERSHIP AS OF DECEMBER 2022		607	405
MEMBERS RECEIVED DURING 2023			
A.	By Baptism: Children (15 years and younger)	30	N/A
B.	By Baptism: 16 years or older	5	5
C.	By Affirmation of Faith	24	24
TOTAL MEMBERS RECEIVED DURING 2023		59	29
Baptized Members Confirmed During 2023		6	6
TOTAL		672	440
MEMBERS REMOVED DURING 2023			
A.	By Death	3	3
B.	By Transfer	2	2
C.	Removed for Inactivity/Other Reason	0	0
		5	5
TOTAL MEMBERS REMOVED DURING 2023		5	5
MEMBERSHIP AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2023		667	435

AVERAGE SUNDAY CHURCH ATTENDANCE		IN PERSON	STREAMING
2022		246	145
2023		267	129

Advent Square Director-Cecilia Carroll

- Q1 brought the Agency for Healthcare Administration on-site for a re-licensing inspection
- Installation of a power Transfer Switch enabling the entire campus to be covered by the generator
- Installation of Fire Sprinklers and alarms in all apartments
- Successful fundraising event “Jukebox Bingo” allowed for the purchase of 5 new recliners for the Memory Care building
- A grant from Advent Life Ministries allowed the Activity Coordinator to take a class for Activities and Engagement for Persons with Dementia

2024 Goals

- Expansion: Complete the expansion process
- Occupancy: Continue to work with local providers and referral sources; hold an open house to introduce our newly expanded AL services
- Activities: Continue to improve the activities program
- Environment of Care: Continue to enhance grounds, re-do fencing and landscaping around generator, paint sidewalks with non-slip paint



Early Childhood School Director-Barbara Leon

- VPK teachers at the Ready2Learn conference learning more about the Age of Learning for reading program.
- Preschool Playdate ECS family’s fellowshiping and enjoying an afternoon of fun.
- Pre-K Field’s Trip to Gumbo Limbo learning about Florida’s sea life.

2024 Goals

ECS goals are to fill our campus walls with new murals and replace some of the old play equipment in our Tiny Tots playground.





Elementary and Middle School Principal-Donna Centerbar

- Enrollment - We have a total of 267 students this school year (23/24). We opened a second 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classroom this year along with the two full Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade classrooms. We will be opening a second 4<sup>th</sup> grade class next year and we are anticipating full classes next year based on our current enrollment for the 24/25 school year.
- Community Outreach - Our students and families have generously supported our quarterly social concerns projects. For the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter social concerns service project we collected over 440 food items to provide Thanksgiving meals for local families in need. For the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter project we collected over 200 toys for the Family Promise organization.
- Facilities - We have completed the installation of a new key card gate access system. A new intercom, bell, and emergency alert system has also been installed and implemented. Both are wonderful upgrades to our security. We are finalizing the installation of Epson projectors in the classrooms which convert a standard whiteboard into an interactive Smartboard.
- Accreditation – Our school is due for re-accreditation at the end of this school year. This process requires an in-depth evidence based self-study process that culminates in a three day site visit from an accreditation team on April 22 – 24. Our staff has been very busy all year completing the requirements for this process. We are accredited by the National Lutheran School Accreditation (NLSA) which serves as the accrediting body for Lutheran schools in the United States and throughout the world.
- Staff Update – I will be retiring at the end of this school year after 23 years at Advent. We hired Shahna Clark as the assistant principal at the start of this school year and she will be assuming the role of principal after mentoring with me for the entire school year. Although, I am sad to leave, I am confident that Shahna’s strong Christian faith and her leadership abilities will make her a successful principal of our school.



Goals for 2024/2025:

- Work with the church staff to bring more EMS families into the church family.
- Provide more opportunities for our students to serve in our community.

Trustee Committee Report-Phil Lustig

- Completed upgrade/conversion of classrooms in EMS to allow for 2 classes per grade.
- Completed upgrade of sports field – including new sod – in area behind Advent Life Enrichment Center (ALEC)
- New Basketball and other outdoor sports area behind ALEC
- New Air conditioners installed in ALEC and in the Dingle Center
- Continued to address Air conditioners across the campus in Boca

Moving Forward – We need to re-commence monthly Trustee meetings so that all members of the Trustee Committee might participate. We need to focus on the infrastructure at Proclaim. There are serious concerns about the sewer system and the air conditioning at Proclaim. As we stated last year, we continue to ask the members on both campuses to be additional eyes for us. If you see something that you feel needs to be addressed, PLEASE bring it to the attention of any member of the Church Advisory Board, anyone on the Trustee Committee or to one of the Pastors.

Respectfully submitted,

Phil Lustig

Finance Committee Report-Dennis North

Despite the challenges of 2023, the ministries of Advent continued to build on their strong financial position, especially as it relates to our cash reserves and reducing our long-term liabilities. It would be hard to summarize all the events of the year in this report, but included with this annual report are the presentation of the results of the different divisions and a combined balance sheet.

Here are a few highlights from 2023 worth noting:

General offerings from church members surpassed our budget and exceeded \$1 million for the fourth year in a row!

Based on the results from our operational revenue and enhanced by receipt of an Employee Retention Credit, we accumulated cash reserves over \$2 million in short-term interest bearing investments at year end.

Promissory notes from individuals were reduced by \$140,000 through redemption or forgiveness by members holding them. Campus improvements of almost \$500,000 included the replacement of numerous large A/C units, as well as new access and intercom systems for the school.

The Schools continue to benefit from tuition support programs offered through the state and through other grants and these financial assistance programs have helped us maintain strong enrollment numbers that help bolster the ability to provide a good education in a safe and secure environment.

The Proclaim Church continues to grow and show improvement in giving trends and membership. It provides significant outreach to the local community utilizing the support of numerous volunteer teams each week. At Advent Square, some inspection issues delayed our conversion of some independent living units to assisted living units. The inspection setbacks have negatively affected the financial results of that ministry.

It should be noted that during 2023, the accounting department were not operating with a full team, but we are grateful that this team and our Administrative Pastor, Aaron Kruse were able to step up to the challenges that included accounting for the records of all the divisions and preparing numerous reports for the monthly Finance Committee meetings.

Special thanks to the Finance Committee members, pastors and several Church Board members for their attendance at numerous and usually long meetings and for their wisdom and dedication in watching over the treasures He has provided us. We pray that we will continue to be blessed in 2024, especially as we continue to address improvements and potential renovations to the campuses. None of this would be possible without the continued support of our church members and school communities. Thanks be to God.

Respectfully Submitted

Dennis North, Chairman