January Report Associate Pastor Elizabeth Submitted 2/3/22

January started off with Winterfest, our high school faith formation event with 120 participants from Synod; 5 St. John's youth. We had no covid spreading and built relationships across the synod and with our youth group. I was a part of the planning team for our event and helped to lead it on the ground. While our participation numbers were much lower than in the past, we were just glad to pull it off in the midst of so many challenges!

The ELCA Youth Gathering 2022 has been canceled. There were many leadership changes and challenges we could not overcome in order to pull it off safely. I am deeply saddened that some of our students will not get to experience this amazing event, but we hope to come up with something meaningful in its place.For now we turn our attention to the 2024 Youth Gathering.

I continue to assist in planning ALIVE (April 1-3, 2022) , Confirmation Camp (June 19-25), Racial Justice Task force for the Synod

Looking forward we kickoff February with our Word Of Life Wednesday dinners again and look forward to Lenten Midweek services following dinner in March.

Pastor Sarah and I are working harder to build relationship with the Childrens Garden staff to learn more about how they teach their Christen Education in their classrooms and how the teachers themselves are growing in their faith. We continue to evaluate the curriculum and seek ways to better assist the teachers.

Our Morning Devotional participation has steeply declined in the last few months. Pastor Sarah and I have discussed ending the daily devotionals and moving to a devotional two times a week that are more interactive.

Home Visit/Hospital: 3 Lower this month due to covid and omicron spread

Funerals: 2 = 1 member, 1 non-member