

# 2022 *Annual Report*



KOST  
CHURCH  
CHURCH



## FROM PASTOR JOSH

I love the moment a storm passes and the sun returns, and if we're fortunate, a rainbow appears. It's such a great reminder of God's promise to never again destroy the earth by flood and by extension, His faithfulness and love and trustworthiness in all circumstances.

In the story of our church, I have the sense and the faith to believe that that moment when the sun and rainbow appears is about to



**MY ALL-TIME FAVORITE PASTOR CARTOON!**

**BECAUSE LAUGHTER IS SUCH A GIFT. DON'T GET ANY IDEAS S.H. OR L.J.**

ministry was accomplished last year. Even more significant ministry will be accomplished in the months ahead.

As you may have heard, there's been some talk about changing the name of our church. I'm not opposed to the idea, but time will tell whether we together decide to do that or not. My point is that in those discussions, the word "hope" often comes up as a consideration for part of a new name for our place of gospel witness in the countryside. I love that! Because that's what the gospel gives us—hope. That's what we want to be as a church—a place that offers hope. That's what the rainbow reminds us of—hope in Christ. And that's what this desperate, dying world needs—the hope that is found in Christ alone.

happen. 2022 had significant moments that served as signs of life and reminded us that the Lord loves His Church and that He's not done with Kost yet. I know some of you have been discouraged. Honestly, I've had my moments, too. But the difficulties of the last few years are starting to lighten up just like the rain does at the end of the storm. The sun is peaking out from behind the clouds and soon we might see that beautiful rainbow. When I started as your pastor almost 6 years ago I said publicly that God has not brought Kost this far to just be done with it now. I still believe that with all my heart and hope you do too. Significant



**I LOVE THIS PICTURE OF OUR BUILDING. THIS PICTURE TURNED UP AT A CLEANING DAY A FEW YEARS AGO AND I ACTUALLY RESCUED IT FROM A THROW AWAY PILE. IT HANGS IN MY OFFICE NOW AND IS A MUCH APPRECIATED REMINDER OF GOD'S PROMISES FOR KOST CHURCH.**



I so appreciate each and every one of you. It is not lost on me that you have many options of places that you could choose to be your church home. And I'm so thankful it's here at Kost! I love seeing Jesus in each of you and knowing that the Holy Spirit is doing His work in each of us to make us more like our Savior. I also am very aware that there's a significant role that I play in each of your journeys. I don't take that lightly. Thank you for your grace, support, love, patience, generosity, and prayers. It is a privilege to be your pastor.

So as you read the various reports in this document, be encouraged, be challenged, be anticipating. The clouds are breaking, the sun is starting to glisten in the water droplets, and the arch of red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet is fading into view. Our God is an awesome God and it is such a privilege to be a church that is part of His kingdom plan for our county and beyond.

You are loved!

*Pastor Josh*

By the way, I am fully aware that there are those who've taken our rainbow to use for their own nefarious reasons. Never forget that God gave us that colorful symbol. It represents His faithfulness to His people. It's unfortunate that it's being used for other purposes by others, but when you see that arch in the sky, I encourage to do as I do and remember with thanksgiving God's love and care and adherence to His promises.



## 2022 HIGHLIGHTS

- † GriefShare
- † Baby Bottle Campaign for Lex Pregnancy Centers
- † Men's Breakfasts
- † 3 consistent Bible studies meeting throughout the week
- † Community Good Friday service
- † The MEATING men's gathering
- † The restart of our own youth ministry
- † The 5th anniversary of our Respawn program for teen boys
- † Weekly corporate prayer times for our church and community
- † A full year of partnering with Timber Bay Ministry and Matt Halseth
- † The celebration of life services of several significant Kost saints
- † 3 Encounter worship nights
- † Surviving the Holidays seminar
- † Operation Christmas Child campaign
- † Ladies Craft & Fellowship nights
- † Partnering with Path to Home @ Trinity North Branch
- † 52 Sundays of praise, prayer, and the study of God's Word

## Care

In 2022 we used the Fare for All food program to provide boxes of groceries to several of our church families 4 times. Thank you to the anonymous donor who paid for the food on one of these occasions. Two of the food deliveries were at the end of the year in November and December to help out during the holidays. We were also able to give some financial assistance on several occasions through the benevolent fund. Thank you for your offerings to this fund which allows us to help meet needs in our church family.

We delivered fruit baskets or poinsettias to our widows and widowers for Christmas and Christmas cookie platters were given to some individuals. We also give gifts of appreciation to our church staff at Christmas.

Thank you to Phil and Joan DeMunck, Mike and Mary Preisler, and Lowell Nelson who serve along with me on the care ministry team. Each couple has a list of church families that they pray for and reach out to in times of need. Thank you also to Myrna Hoffa and Renee Pflieger for their work with the card ministry. I appreciate each and every one of you.

I want to say a special thank you to Phil and Joan DeMunck who are stepping down from serving on the care ministry team. Joan deserves special recognition after almost 20 years of serving in this ministry and most of those years she was the coordinator. Joan was a great organizer and prayer warrior with a huge heart for serving and ministering to people. God bless you Joan for all you have done in serving your church family through the care ministry!

In Christ,

Carol Nelson

# Care Ministry Annual Financial Report (BENEVOLENCE FUND)

|                              |           |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| Beginning balance 01/01/2022 | \$1190.24 |
| Expenditures                 | \$1055.00 |
| Deposits                     | \$1051.00 |
| Balance 12/31/2022           | \$1186.24 |





## WOMEN

2022 for the women of our church, it was quiet but yet still filled with fun and growing opportunities when we gathered!

The Romans study on Tuesday mornings has continued into Romans chapters 6-8 and the women there are learning new things even though they have followed the Lord and studied God's Word for a long time - proof that God's Word is a never ending treasure that cannot be exhausted. On Thursdays this year, in that group, we have studied Ruth and Abigail with studies from Revive Our Hearts. They are great studies that help you dig deep. The Thursday night study is about to get into a new study so it's a great time to join us! 6:30 - 8:30 pm. Let me know so I can order you a study book! We're really relaxed!

A few of us took the opportunity to attend retreats - Refresh in Wisconsin at Forest Springs in April and Revive in Isanti, Minnesota in May at Erickson's - both were fantastic! Mary Johnson even taught a workshop at the Revive Retreat on Journaling. *\*\*Both of these retreat options are available to you this year as well!* Jodi Brask has been hosting Ladies Night Out gatherings on two Fridays a month to just get together and bring a craft or a project. If you're interested, connect with Jodi or let me know so we can get you the reminders.

This year we are looking forward to and building excitement for our first winter/spring Women's Conference! We haven't had the Fall Women's Conference since before the pandemic and back then our attendance was around 70 women! Pray with us that we have that many and more this year. So far it seems like many are planning on it but of course registrations are slowing trickling in. I hope you check out the QR code to see all about the conference (men and women). Also, if you don't have a prayer calendar, please pick one up - we appreciate your prayers SO SO much! We're so excited for the main speaker, Steph Page, and the workshop speakers and of course the worship leader, Liam! Guys, if you're available that weekend, we would be HONORED and GRATEFUL to have any help you might want to offer with refreshments and serving the ladies.

Ladies, it's so important that we gather and grow and give - please find a group to join up with if you aren't already, or create one! If you enjoy planning and organizing things, let me know, I'd love to have more people doing that!

With joy and hugs to you all,

Jen :)





## WORSHIP

What a year 2022 has been! As a ministry we have said goodbye, hello, and had many fun and memorable experiences along the way! This year we saw Liam Jensen graduate from high school and we have enjoyed hearing all the new opportunities God has provided for him to learn and grow. We have also had the privilege of adding Cooper Jensen to the team with skills both on keys and drums. Aaron Duvall has also joined our tech team and is

a valuable asset, both on the computers and the sound board. And Anders Hinderman has expanded his ability with time at the board and helping me in voice recording and other computer driven creative formats. I am so encouraged to see how the Lord continues to use all of us, regardless of our age, to minister to the body of Christ! I am so thankful for the talent the Lord has provided and that He has fostered within the body. Please continue to pray with me that our team would continue to grow, as He leads.



This year, along with continuing the tradition of special services for the Christmas season and Holy Week, we also introduced a new partnering ministry, Superior Call, and began providing worship nights, named Encounter. Our first Encounter service was October 16, followed by one for Thanksgiving and one for Christmas. We look forward to the first Encounter of 2023, planned for February 26, 2023, where we will consider our God, Jehovah Jireh.

Last year we continued the tradition of a Tenebrae (Latin for darkness) service on Maundy Thursday as a time to reflect on the love of Christ shown to us during His final week on earth. We also teamed with Harris Covenant and Main Street Methodist Church for our community Good Friday service. We look forward to continuing those traditions this year as well. We hope to continue to offer new and encouraging musical





opportunities in the new year as well.

As the psalmist encourages in Ps. 96: "Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth."

I rejoice that God has chosen to offer the gift of song to several here in our body! It is a great blessing to be able to sing songs

that have echoed through the ages and songs that see first light in this body of believers! What joy it is to sing to the Lord with the body at Kost and to offer Him the praise He so rightly deserves.

As a team we continue to seek excellence in the way we present the music, graphics, audio, visual, and everything in between. We are always seeking God's guidance for new members who are willing to help in any of the ways mentioned and more. If the Lord is leading in your heart to use your gifts for His glory in a corporate worship setting, please reach out to either myself or Pastor Josh. We would love to hear from you! We are actively seeking sound technicians, videographers, and slide operators, training provided. We are also seeking more vocalists and musicians as well.

As we say goodbye to 2022 and move with anticipation into 2023, it is my great honor to serve my Lord with this body of believers! I am excited to see what God has in store for this ministry and the church as a whole! May He be glorified and the gospel change new hearts throughout this year!

In Christ,  
Maia Hinderman





## Men's Bible Study

We have had a good year of fellowship, prayer and digging into God's Word! We have studied all the Minor Prophets and are finishing up Revelation for this past year. I was curious, so looked through all the books this study group has gone through. It was 25! We meet Wednesdays, at 7 am and are soothed at that hour with treats and

coffee while we list all the praise and other items we need to bring before our God! This year God called Mark Allen home and I miss his input. That leaves 9 of us. Looking for someone to fill that 10th spot! A thanks to Mark Schoess for taking the group picture!

I love all the guys and what they add to the study!

Mike Preisler



## Men

In addition to the weekly Bible Study for men, our men gathered several Saturday mornings to enjoy food, fellowship, and encouragement. And in June, our first annual



The MEATING where 35 teen and adult guys consumed significantly more than 50 pounds of meat as they built community with one another. Our men also served in significant ways through helping CMI with various projects, mentoring young men, to-do projects around the church property, and loving on the people of our congregation.



# CHILDREN

"But let all who take refuge in you rejoice; let them ever sing for joy, and spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may exult in you." Psalm 5:11

2022 was a quiet but fruitful year in Children's ministry. We ended the 2021-22 school year in May with an average of 8-10 children attending. The elementary kids utilized the Jesus Storybook Bible curriculum and learned how "Every story points to Jesus!" while the middle school kids focused on apologetics in their Answers in Genesis curriculum.

The 2022-23 school year was kicked off in September with once again, an average of 8-10 children attending with elementary using the Sharefaith curriculum and middle school continuing with Answers in Genesis. Since last January, we have been blessed with 2 teachers for the elementary and 3 teachers for the middle school.



In addition to Sunday School, two "Family Art Night's" were hosted, one in September and one in October. Families were invited to come and enjoy fellowship, a meal, and then create seasonal crafts as a family. We had small groups for each event but oodles of fun and the love of Jesus was most definitely shared!



Thank you to everyone who attended and thank you to those who prepared meals and served at these events!!

In Christ,  
~Mary Johnson



# Youth

Our Respawn ministry for teen boys celebrated it's fifth anniversary in May! Typically occurring 2 times a month, Respawn gathers on average 12-15 boys for video gaming, gym activities, eating together, and Bible Study. We are very thankful for the space our building affords and the



significant contributions our congregation as well as the boys' families make to keep this ministry top notch. Also we are thankful for Liam Jensen who "aged out" of Respawn and became an even more significant part of its adult leadership. Big thanks also go to the Preislers and Pflegers for making such delicious meals for the guys.



For some time, Pastor Josh has felt a pressing need for Kost to have its own youth ministry once again. In September this happened and on Wednesday nights our building has been buzzing with the sounds of teenagers (typically 10-12 of them) playing games and studying God's Word together. Josh couldn't do it without the help of Maia Hinderman, Jen Jensen, and John Guider. We are excited to continue to grow in numbers as well as in being disciples who make disciples.



## ELDERS

2023 marks Pastor Josh Jensen's 6th year as Senior Pastor at Kost and we are thankful for his shepherd's heart and his love of the Scriptures. Per the terms of the employment agreement, Pastor Josh will be taking a 6 week sabbatical this year which is currently scheduled for July 24th through September 3rd, 2023.

2022 saw the continued progress of the youth Respawn ministry along with the new Wednesday night Youth Group for boys and girls.

The Superior Call Ministry has continued to develop and has launched a Sunday Night service ministry called "Encounter", which is aimed to provide a service where new Christ-focused music written and performed by our own musicians is shared, along with a short, inspirational message. Three such services were provided in 2022 with more to come in 2023.

Several improvements to the technology in the sanctuary were accomplished that work together to help the services run smoothly.

2022 was also difficult in that several loved ones passed away and went home to be with the Lord. We were deeply saddened at Mark Allen's passing. Mark had such a heart for missions and a passion to share the gospel and will be sorely missed. We thank the Lord for his years of faithful service in so many areas at Kost and for the lives he touched.

We thank everyone for their faithful commitment to the ministry at Kost as God continues His work among us.

Respectfully submitted by: Chris Langevin, Secretary



## Missions



2022 found a number of the missionaries we support back in the field after Covid. John Prins went back to Japan working in the area of mentoring Japanese Christians in marriage and other areas of their spiritual growth. Dennis and Linda Beck went back to Poland to help with Ukrainian refugees from the war. Patrick and Kayla Havan are back in Nigeria working with young boys in an orphanage teaching them about Jesus and mentoring them in basic life skills. Chad Christiansen who leads In The Gap ministries in Oklahoma City has had a ministry change from working directly in schools to working with churches training their staff to establish bible clubs in their local communities. Steve and Jane Wheeler are semi-retired but still help out the ministry they established in Montreal, Canada. Roger Sieber is still ministering to people with special needs in Bogota, Columbia.



Pastor Jairo in Iquitos Peru is also a Chaplain who serves the needs of firefighters and emergency personnel; is being supported as a chaplain trained under Mark Allen, Chaplain Ministries International. Lydia Guill is doing long distance teaching English to students in China from her home in Florida and it is doubtful if she ever will go back in person.

Local community groups we support: Options for women pregnancy center North branch, Lexi pregnancy center, Cambridge. EFCA ministries: North Central District for Minnesota, and EFCA National Headquarters.

2022 was saddened by the death of Mark Allen founder and head of Chaplain Ministries International. Mark became a believer in Jesus at Kost. From that moment on God had a plan for Mark's life. Mark and Chris were involved in missionary work for over 15 years and God eventually led him to establish CMI. Little did he know that God would direct him to train Chaplains in three countries. Starting in Moldova, and Ukraine and Peru. CMI will continue on as God leads. Thank God for his faithfulness Thank Kost Church for its commitment to Missions. Phil DeMunck Mission Chairman



## BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

By God's grace, our building has continued to serve us well. In 2022 there were no major issues—including minimal issues with our boiler system (which has been a headache in the past). We had more than our fair share of mice to deal with this fall but some hard work on Mike P's part has dealt with closing up the spots where they were sneaking in.

As many of you know personally, utility costs have jumped significantly. We are working harder to make sure we steward God's resources carefully to make the dollars stretch as far as possible.

Our 2 furnaces for the sanctuary and Cove areas are on their last legs and will need to be replaced sooner than later. This will be a significant cost that we should be thinking and praying about.

Our desire as a church is to see our building used as much as possible. With our church's use plus Timber Bay and 4-H, that very much is the case. We are thankful for the facility that God has provided.

## Financials

Income 2022 \$163,789  
Expenses 2022 \$168,515  
Difference 2022 \$4,726

### 2022 Actual Spending

Missions \$9,565  
Personnel \$100,605  
Property Management \$32,400  
Office \$11,084  
Christian Education \$2,253  
Elders Ministries \$6,347  
Adults \$852

Designated Spending (Care Ministry,  
Respawn, Women's Ministry, Tech Fund) \$4,615

Kost Church Assets (as of 12/31/22) \$88,051

Checking \$77,519

Designated

\$2,502 Sanctuary Technology

Kitchen \$100

Memorial Fund \$5,000

Camp Fund \$217

GriefShare \$20

Superior Call \$35

Undesignated Checking \$69,645

Savings \$10,533

Ministry Spending Plan 2023 \$171,160

### 2023 Ministry Spending Plan

Missions \$7,175  
Personnel \$116,616  
Property Management \$28,514  
Office \$9,700  
Christian Education \$2,750  
Elders Ministries \$3,805  
Adults \$2,600

A detailed financial report and/or 2022 budget is available upon request

## *Cemetery Association*

Beginning Balance 1/1/2022 \$ 24,573.21

Lot Purchases \$ 1,050.00

Perpetual Care \$ 600.00

Interest \$ 447.04

Transfers In \$ 22,604.04

Memorial \$ 0

Total Deposits: \$ 24,701.08

Grounds & Maintenance \$ 1,115.98

Capital Improvements \$ -

Miscellaneous \$ 35.00

Transfers Out \$ 0

Memorial \$ 0

Total Disbursements: \$ 1,150.98

Ending Balance 12/31/2022 48,123.31

Christian Investors CD's \$26,310 as of 6/30/2022

# KOST CHURCH

Exists to glorify God by reaching others, so all can grow to maturity in faith and bear fruit in Christ's love

Because scripture teaches us to  
LOVE GOD, LOVE OTHERS, and MAKE  
DISCIPLES

As we are BIBLICALLY COMMITTED and GOSPEL  
SATURATED, our core values are  
The SUPREMACY OF CHRIST in all things  
Living in grace saturated COMMUNITY with one  
another  
TRANSFORMATION into the likeness of Christ  
MULTIPLICATION of new disciples

Disciples are the followers of Jesus Christ who are ever  
growing and transforming through the work of the Holy  
Spirit, as well as through the God-empowered scriptural  
practices of WORSHIP, BIBLICAL INSTRUCTION and  
APPLICATION, PRAYER, CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY, and  
SERVICE

Our vision is to be a church family  
NOTED for its love that is WHOLEHEARTEDLY DEVOTED to  
Jesus Christ and IMPACTING our community, region, and  
world with GOD'S LOVE through RELATIONSHIPS,  
GENEROSITY, and SERVICE



KOST  
CHURCH

A MEMBER OF THE  
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CHURCH OF AMERICA

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