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# Church Officers

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## Board of Elders

Steve Dreyer, Chair

Pete Marcaccini

Buddy Anderson

Steve McKay

Dave Broza

Randy Holl

## Board of Stewards

Pete Ellwanger, Chair

Wayne Sarappo

Jeff Flatten

Steve Peterson

Joshua Bradfield

Lou Farmer

Ralph Shepard

## Financial Secretary

Craig Wyse

## Treasurer

Wayne Sarappo

# Staff

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**Senior Pastor**

**Interim Pastor**  
**Skip Hansen**

**Next Gen Pastor**  
**Aaron Kangas**

**Director of Children's Ministries**  
**Leah Castle**

**Director of Modern Worship**  
**Adam Obermann**

**Director of Classic Worship**  
**John Sandquist**

**Bookkeeper**  
**Krista Magureanu**

**Facilities Manager**  
**Dan Hanson**

**Office Administrator**  
**Christina Leivian**

**Care Coordinator**  
**Dr. Dennis Conroy**

**Production Director**  
**Steve Peterson**

# Ministry Areas & Coordinators

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## **Missions Committee**

*Chris Stiles: Co-Chair*

## **Charter Ministries**

### **Culiacan Ministry**

*Don Buckhout*

### **Funeral Team**

*Sharon Sarappo*

## **Medical Missions**

*Ron & Colleen Johannsen*

## **Adult Ministries**

### **Men's Ministry**

*Don Buckhout*

### **Women's Ministry**

*Beth Flatten & Karen Dreyer*

# Board of Elders' Report

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Greetings from your Board of Elders. 2023 has been a busy, productive, and rewarding year for the BOE. Each member of the board has taken on extra responsibilities in the absence of a senior pastor. A focal point for this year has been refining North Haven's vision and working with the Search Team to both find our new senior pastor and prepare us all for their arrival.

A key element in determining what kind of pastor North Haven needs was examining the typical life cycle of a church. The BOE and the entire leadership team agreed that our church is at a point where a new vision is required. This new vision won't be drastically different than our historic core values and mission. However, there will be more emphasis on relation based outreach.

This can perhaps be best summed up with the phrase, "We need to change from a come and see church, to a go and find church." This emphasis led us to select these top three qualities we are looking for in a pastor; Visionary, Equipper, and Evangelist. We are excited and anticipating who God has in mind for North Haven's next senior pastor. And the BOE is asking each of us to get ready to carry out this exciting vision.

In 2023 we had 12 people who chose to express their faith in Jesus through baptism. We also had 8 people join our membership at North Haven.

I want to highlight the current members of the BOE and thank each of them for their extra efforts this year. Buddy Anderson, Dave Broza, Randy Holl, Pete Marcaccini, and Steve McKay. I also want to thank Don Buckhout for his dedicated service on the BOE over the last several years. I am also so very thankful for our amazing staff, Leah Castle, Denny Conroy, Dan Hanson, Aaron Kangas, Chris Leivian, Krista Magureanu, Adam Obermann, Steve Peterson, and John Sandquist. And of course our energetic and incredible interim senior pastor, Skip Hansen. Special thanks to Aaron for taking on the additional responsibility of leading our staff. We have been blessed by his leadership. I also want to recognize Rebekah Bradfield for serving North Haven for three years as office administrator. Thank you Rebekah. Thank you to our Board of Stewards for their constant dedication to keep our facility a place that we are proud of. Led by Pete Ellwanger, our BOS is Josh Bradfield, Lou Farmer, Jeff Flatten, Wayne Sarappo, and Ralph Shepard.

Thank you, to all of you, members and regular attenders, for your continued financial support. North Haven's financial status remained stable again this year and the BOE is so very grateful for your generosity, both to the general budget, and Faith Promise. We were also blessed this year through a program called the Employee Retention Credit. Thanks to the efforts of Pete Marcaccini and Krista Magureanu we received a large sum from this program that puts us in a good financial position as we head into 2024.

There have also been many sad moments this past year with the passing of several long time members and regular attenders. We continue to grieve the loss, but also celebrate that they are in the presence of their Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

I want to thank all of you for volunteering in so many ways. Without your ongoing support North Haven would not be successful. As we look to 2024, I ask for your continued support. I'm excited to see what God has in store for North Haven in this next season. *Steve Dreyer (Elder Board Chair)*

# Board of Stewards Report

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This year again with our members having a close watch on their own budgets North Haven Church has been provided for, it's true, and we have been blessed by how God provides for our church and answers prayer.

We were able to maintain the necessities of keeping the church operating and fixing the problems that come up with having an older structure combined with a new one. One very big item is the driveway that needed to be repaved with new asphalt. Also, along the topic of the driveway, the parking lot was crack sealed to mitigate the cracks that form from freeze thaw events during fall, winter and spring. Minor projects included electrical maintenance, garage and lawn equipment maintenance, a spring clean-up day, also keeping our computers up to date is always ongoing.

Another very important issue that popped up was our ash trees that are on the west side of the property that borders resident properties that have become diseased, we have removed some trees and have plans for two more that are close to our neighbors.

The Stewards Board continue to have a more in-depth awareness & vision on safety and security. We have installed 10 security cameras thus far and have plans for several more. We did this on our own to save money by not having it contracted out for installation. The Board now has a security and safety team that has come together with security training for the Staff and then train volunteers. The team also keeps an eye on North Haven during church events. God has blessed the Steward Board and volunteers who have talents and skills to accomplish these tasks, praise God!

The Church is required to keep up on inspections during the year ranging from fire to elevator, AED, furnaces, and our own landscape inspections. so when they need to be scheduled and paid it can be quite a balancing act.

One example of this year was one of our 13 furnaces that needed attention right away because the cold weather is here, so we need the warmth, our very reliable building manger jumped on this issue and had it serviced quickly. Dan is always making sure those furnaces are functioning Correctly.

All these things were done with one common challenge, to try to get the jobs done well and to do it with our eye on our budget, so maintaining our facilities budget is always most important, another example of this with new board members this year came a request to inspect our kitchen appliances and so we made some needed fixes to the refrigerator, freezer and dishwasher at minimal costs.

One of the purposes of the Stewards is to make sure our campus creates a good first impression for visitors like fresh parking lot paint and, also continuing to upgrade our lighting to LED fixtures to save energy are ongoing. We are proud of what we have accomplished, but at the same time we realized we could not do the job on our own.

We have been truly blessed with the time and talents of many members who show up on church cleaning days, and then with special projects that come up that they take on personally.

Although challenged by budget boundaries, those who support our church are generous, faithful, caring, and sacrificial. We want to express our appreciation and gratitude to those who support our ministries and facilities. We thank you for your prayers and by the way you put love into action.

Special thanks go to our Building Manager Dan Hanson for the way he consistently manages the many tasks to keep our building operating and clean. Also, Wayne Sarappo this last year for as he took on the task of the treasurer position. A special thanks to Craig Wyse church Financial Secretary who manages the counting staff and maintains the tithing records of North Haven Church.

We also want to express our appreciation Pastor Aaron, and Interim Pastor Skip and the Elder Board for their spiritual guidance and prayers. And our wonderful Church Staff, again so Blessed!

*Submitted by Committee Chair Pete Ellwanger on behalf of the Board of Stewards:  
Lou Farmer (Co-Chair), Wayne Sarappo (Treasurer), Steve Peterson, Josh Bradfield, Jeff Flatten, Ralph Shepard*

# Worship Ministry Report

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Last year I had explained a few of my goals for the worship ministry. Those were to identify and raise up new leaders on the team, and the second was to make disciples as well. I am pleased to say that I believe that this past year we made some great progress in those areas.

We have started team prayers as a weekly standard as well. After rehearsals on Thursday nights, we pray with and for each other as a team. On Sunday Mornings we have also made sure we have time to pray together before the service begins. Inviting the Holy Spirit to move in and through the service has made a big difference. Also having these times to pray together I believe has not only brought us all closer as a team, but I also think it's a good step in the right direction towards leadership.

This year we are focusing on Worship. In many ways we are breaking down what is worship? Why do we worship? What does worship mean? Asking questions of this caliber. A couple leaders and I have been working on a worship survey that we intend to release this upcoming year and would love to see as much participation from the congregation as possible.

We are also trying to get a side ministry off the ground. We want to invite other local churches to join us to have a worship workshop/invitational of sorts. Essentially, we have recognized a need for worship leaders (and have expanded it to worship and tech teams) to be able to worship and connect with other leaders outside of a normal Sunday service. Yes, they have online forums for things like this, but we wanted something more tangible, more personal.

This endeavor would have a group of selected churches who are interested, come together, and have some time to connect with other leaders and musicians and be able to ask questions, have fellowship, worship together and talk about topics that are worship/tech specific.

As leaders and musicians, we spend a lot of time preparing and practicing, and leading others into Gods presence. Sometimes we need that for ourselves. A place to come and be filled, to worship and not have to plan or lead at all. Just soak in Gods Holy presence. This is a subject that God has been forming in the hearts of our worship leaders.

The worship ministry is a very special and yet overlooked ministry. Its so much more than playing an instrument or singing a song. We were made to worship by our creator. It is within all of us. The beauty in it, is that we are all different people and therefore we worship in different ways. The Lord is so majestic and beautiful, and so is our heartfelt worship to him for all he has *done and has yet to do*.

*Adam Obermann (Modern Worship Director)*



# Next Gen Ministry Report

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The theme I have seen in this 2023 season of Next Gen ministry has been “Sowing & Reaping.” The work that was done in the previous two years to help regrow our youth program after COVID is ripening into a beautiful harvest. Our youth group attendance has doubled since the previous year, going from an average of six students on Sundays and 15 on Wednesday nights to 12 on Sundays and 28 on Wednesdays. But more than numbers, I’m seeing a change in their walk with God. These students are EXCITED about spending time in God’s Word, in worship, and in service. They are developing a desire to ask deep questions to know more about how God wants them to live, and they are exploring how they can share their faith with others more boldly and effectively. I’m excited to see how God is going to use these students in the coming years.

Two highlights from our year were the Explosion middle school event in June and the Culiacan mission trip at the end of July. During Explosion, the students learned about worship, about how we can give God glory and honor in the way we live, and how it is more than just singing songs. There were 9 students and 4 leaders who went on the mission trip to Culiacan from July 29 to August 5. The primary purpose of the trip was to support Emmanuel Church and Casa de Esperanza Church in their VBS program. Our students led three groups of kids in the lessons as they followed the story of Peter in the New Testament. This was the first time most of these students had left the country, so it was a great experience as they shared the good news of Jesus with these kids. It was also an eye-opening experience as they saw extreme poverty and shared their testimonies with individuals at drug rehab centers.

Leah Castle has done a great job in her role as Kids Ministry Director, and she has become more established here now that she has finished her first year. Some highlights from her year have been connecting with the kids and families during our Wednesday night program, attending the Winter Mega Fun retreat at Camp Lebanon, and VBS this summer. There continue to be connections built with families throughout the year as God is growing the kids program. Leah is now entering into the “reaping” season after being on staff for one year.

While we are enjoying reaping the fruits of what has already been planted, we also want to continue to plant seeds for what will come next. One of my recent focus areas has been in building connections with other local churches and the nearby Christian colleges in order to reach our surrounding community for the sake of the kingdom. The goal is to see how we can support one another in our different ministry activities, encouraging one another and sharing ideas. My prayer is that God would use these unified church connections to dramatically impact North St. Paul and the surrounding areas with the message of the Gospel.

*Pastor Aaron Kangas*

# Missions Committee Report

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As the Missions Statement of North Haven Church states, we believe God is calling us to join in His mission of bringing the good news of salvation to the whole world near and far

North Haven has had the privilege of providing support to our missionaries through Faith Promise funds and in prayer.

One of the highlights for the Missions Committee throughout this year was hearing in-person updates from each of our missionaries and ministries. As in years past, each attendee of NHC was asked to prayerfully consider, between God and themselves a one-year financial commitment toward missions for the 2024 calendar year. Our goal was \$62,200.

North Haven has graciously promised \$ 58,540 toward making Jesus known locally, regionally and to the ends of the earth. To God be all the glory!

*Submitted by Alta Houghton*

# Culiacan Charter Ministry Report

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The purpose of the Mexico Ministry Team is to obey God's call to minister the love and truth of Jesus Christ to the people of Culiacan, Mexico, in partnership with the people of our sister church, Emmanuel Christian (Baptist) Church. Since 2000, North Haven has supported 40 short-term mission trips to Culiacan for nearly 200 different people. The congregation has faithfully supported this ministry with Faith Promise giving, special fund-raising events, and, most importantly, prayer for our short-term team members.

There were two mission trips to Culiacan in 2023, one in February and one in the summer. The summer trip was a youth group trip planned and led by Pastor Aaron Kangas. The February trip was primarily to introduce Pastor Aaron to the people and the city so that he would be better able to plan and lead the youth summer trip. However, the February trip turned out to be more than just a get acquainted trip. In addition to Pastor Aaron and Don Buckhout, four other men joined the team for the first all-male mission team. In addition to sharing their testimonies at residential drug treatment centers, the team visited a migrant farm worker camp to share our faith in Christ Jesus and help lead a mini-Bible school for the children.

North Haven has also sent funds to help support the on-going work of the Progreso mission church that our teams helped start back in 2006. We have been invited to send representatives to participate in the dedication of the Progreso church as an independent congregation, which will be in February 2024.

We have so much to celebrate in God's faithful leading and protection for our mission trip teams and for the open doors for ministry that He has provided over the years. We continue to seek His leading and direction for the future of this ministry.

*Don Buckhout for the Mexico Ministry Team*

*Cindy Johnson, Glynae Deschene, Pete Marcaccini, Carol Buckhout, Juliann Monroe*

# Funeral Team Charter Ministry Report

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In the event of the death of a member or regular attender of North Haven Church the Church will host a lunch from options available following the funeral service. Lunch or refreshments are served and

cleanup is conducted by the Funeral Team. If the funeral service is for a non-member the

The Funeral Team is available to serve and clean up. In addition, the Funeral Team provides table decorations, if requested.

The Funeral Team served lunch and/or refreshments for the following memorial services/funerals:

Date of Funeral Person

1-13 Stan Anderson

4-29 Lee Wanovich

7-8 Diane Hansen

7-29 Wayne Knott

8-19 Deanna Carlson

11-18 Korby Bigelow

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Sharon Sarappo*

*Funeral Team Coordinator*

# Operation Christmas Child Charter Ministry Report

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The final packing party at North Haven Church for Operation Christmas Child (OCC) happened in November, 2022. For the majority of the members of the NHC OCC Leadership Team, new seasons and demands in their personal lives made continued dedication of time and financial resources unsustainable. However, those who choose to continue participation in the humanitarian and evangelistic ministry of OCC may do so by partnership with the First Evangelical Free Church in Maplewood.

Opportunities to donate hygiene supplies (soap, washcloths, tooth brushes, etc.), clothing, toys, books, and other items will continue. Volunteers will still be needed to remove packaging from products purchased and to combine related items into space-conserving bundles.

Those who desire to continue their participation in OCC-related activities will have the opportunity to attend First E-Free Church fundraising events toward covering shipping costs, to attend the packing parties, and to donate toward shipping the packed shoeboxes (\$10/box). OCC at NHC is not done.

*Submitted by Linda Holl*

# International Medical Missions Charter Ministry Report

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During the annual church meeting we will be on route to Kenya and overseas for about a month doing medical care for a wonderful group of people, many of which make less than \$5 a day. Importantly we have the opportunity to teach the young Kenyan doctors and nurses in training and the mission medical staff best practices and updated information that they can continue to use after we leave to show excellence in medical care in the name of Christ.

We did not do a Medical Missions fundraiser this year, but with \$4000 from each of the other two fundraisers, North Haven Church has helped fund life saving cardiac procedures for many young people in Ethiopia and Kenya and helped with support of medical equipment. In addition, you have been part of the very successful rheumatic heart disease (RHD) school-screening program started in a number of mission hospitals to find and treat this disease early. Our teams with chaplains get an opportunity to touch the physical and spiritual hearts of these young people. RHD kills 300,000 predominantly young people in the developing world/yr.

Colleen and I send additional funds to International Medical Missions during the year to help with travel costs. In addition to the focused use of the NHC fundraiser, we send through various Christian Mission agencies financial support for medical equipment, training grants, and salary support for personnel at mission hospitals. We look forward to doing another African dinner and African market in 2024 to tell you more and allow you to sponsor parts of this ministry.

We truly need prayer support from our church as we plan three teaching trips this year.

With gratefulness for your partnership.

*Ron and Colleen Johannsen (NHC Medical Missions Coordinators)*

# Care Coordinator Report

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On January 1, 2023 my position increased from 8 hours per week to twenty hours per week. I have added responsibilities to include teaching the Senior Bible Study and reviewing benevolent fund requests.

I have been meeting with members of our congregation to help them work through a variety of individual concerns, both spiritual and other.

**The Grief Group** for people experiencing the recent (or not-so-recent) loss of a loved one has continued to provide ongoing support for those experiencing loss.

**The Care Team has evolved into a small network of men and women volunteer to help those in our congregation in need:**

- We have helped the elderly with minor maintenance or repair home tasks and offer advice on significant repairs.
- We provide home visits/hospital visits for those who are not able to travel.
- We have also been helping those who cannot drive get to medical appointments.
- We provide for individual prayer support after each Sunday service
- Volunteers are coordinating a Caregiver Support Group which will be open to North Haven members and attendees but also to the greater North St. Paul/Maplewood community.

**What I am looking forward to in 2024:**

- Continued growth for individuals working through a variety of problems
- Expansion of the Grief Group with ongoing support and fellowship
- Continued growth for the Care Team.
- Expansion of the outreach for people needing assistance with maintenance or other small home tasks.
- Providing support for those in caregiver positions.
- Evaluating the need for a Celebrate Recovery Group as requested by several congregation members.
- Integrating youth members in to providing services for needy congregants so as to earn money for mission trips.

**How you can pray for my ministries in 2024:**

- Pray for continued strength and commitment in our current volunteers
- Pray that we have more leaders to use their gifts and abilities in the context of our church and its ministries.
- Pray for volunteers working within the care ministries to help those in need.

*Dennis Conroy (Care Coordinator)*

# Office Administrator's Report

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## Membership

November 21, 2022

Steve Anderson, Kristin Anderson, Kate Peterson, Leah Castle, Craig Castle

May 22, 2023

Brad Currier, Gail Currier, David Curtiss, Emily Curtiss, Sara Kangas, Marcia Lawrence, Emmanuel Nsong, Miriam Nsong

Total Members as of  
November 19, 2022:  
184

## Attendance

January	168
February	174
March	159
April	181
May	193
June	166
July	157
August	158
September	173
October	185

## Sunday Morning Attendance

(monthly average)



