

# 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

## December 8, 2024



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## Membership Roll-December 2024

Active Members - 44	
Abramson, Dana	Lindstrom, Sherri
Adams, Jan	Mooney, Jane
Anderson, Eddie	Nyberg, Larry
Marlys	Nyberg, Shirley
Anderson, Kelly	Perry, Adam
Carolyn	Allison
Barker, Larry	Stroup, Steve
Alma	Sue
Booe, Micki	Thompson, Tom
Carson, Dana	Stephanie
Wanda	Thorell, Dan
Fetters, Laura	Thorell, Dave
Freburg, Dann	Pattie
Patty	Thorell, Lance
Gray, Colby	Samantha
Heather	Thorell, Luke
Gray, Dale	Ashton
Brenda	Thorell, Mike
Hahn, Matt	Kristi
Sasha	Tiller, Gabriel
Larson, Joe	Williams, Mark
Amber	Rosie

Non-Member Active Members	
Abramson, Cale	Porteck, Chad
Taryn	Brenda
Alexander, Barb	Refior, Bud
Baugher, Jim	Melanie
Karen	Robison, Joey
Beckman, Kim	Lindsay
Collin, Ben	Russell, Danny
Logann	Anna
Collin, Ted	Samuelson, Lyle
Cindy	Schoff, Kyle
Edgren, Michael	Kali
Brooke	Smith, Mark
Graham, Sarah	Sheila
Harris, Rogene	Stone, Shawn
Kennedy, Nancy	Stephanie
Lind, Dale	Stroup, Brian
Val	Lacey
Linder, Greg	Thorell, Brice
Sharon	Jani
Myers, Larry	Tiller, Tasha
Teresa	Thompson, Sam
Nelson, Marvin	Urbom, Ron
Avis	Shirley
	Wahls, Rhonda

Inactive Members
Lienemann, Randy
Kris
Edwards, Clint
Shelly
Fetters, Jared
Freeman, Dustin
Melanie

Member Candidates
Delka, Tom
Meghan
Warning, Tiffany
Weaver, Nate
Kristin

## CHAIRMAN REPORT 2024

Greetings Church Family! What another great year it has been at Loomis E-Free. God continues to bless us in many ways, providing us with the finances, resources, leaders, & volunteers that make our ministry thrive. We've witnessed many exciting things this past year such as new memberships, baptisms, Fall Festivals, and exceptional progress from our new church committees. We also brought on a new staff member, with the hiring of Carolyn Anderson as our Church Secretary. Carolyn has gone above and beyond in her roll and we are grateful to have her. We praise God for all of these wonderful blessings and accomplishments.

Although I am very thankful and excited about all of the remarkable things mentioned above, I think what I am inspired by the most is the challenge our Church has overcome this past month with Pastor Tom having his unexpected surgery. Praise God that his surgery was quick and successful and that he is getting better each day!

As we know, it is very uncommon to have a single pastor that is as active and involved as Tom is, lead a church for 30 plus years. Tom does so much for our Church and that really became evident when he had to step away briefly. It would've been easy to panic and for the "wheels to fall off" in a sense, but our Church members stepped up. We had members volunteering to lead worship, teach adult Sunday School, organize card showers and meal trains, and so much more to keep things moving along. I truly think it is no coincidence that our Leadership Team and Congregation felt that this was the year to hire Carolyn to relieve Tom of some of his duties. God's timing was perfect and that role helped tremendously as we navigated through that short period with his absence.

In closing, I ask that you will continue pray for our Church. Pray for Pastor Tom's healing. Pray that our ministry will continue to grow and that it will have an impact on those in our community and beyond. Pray for wisdom for our leaders and spiritual growth for each of our members.

Peace be with you all!

Colby Gray

## Pastor's Report

*1 Peter 2:12 Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.*

Peter addresses his first letter to Chosen Exiles. Though they were chosen by God to be His very own people, they were separate from the world around them. Even as the world opposed the church, they were to love and serve their neighbors. As the church lives out their faith in holiness, they would by example demonstrate God's amazing grace. This is what we mean when we say, "Go, be the church among your neighbors". This year, we saw God's great love for all people through the book of Jonah. Jonah had great difficulty loving his enemies even as God wanted to forgive them. Like Jonah, we are called to go to our neighbors, near and far, with the message of God's forgiveness in Jesus Christ. Christ has forgiven us, can we forgive others?

It is a great privilege to be your Pastor. I am continually blessed as I see you serving our community. I believe God has called us to be the hands and feet of Jesus in Loomis and beyond. The light of God's grace is shining throughout our community through your sacrificial service. Let's pray for revival among us and our neighbors in 2025.

Thank you to our mission and assimilation teams for their work in furthering the gospel of Jesus Christ both locally and around the world. Thank you also to Carolyn Anderson for her dedicated service to our church family. Carolyn has taken a big load off me allowing me more time to do the things to which God has called me. It is truly a joy to see you serving our community. You serve on the School board, Village board, Loomis Booster Club, Loomis Community Club, Loomis Baseball/Softball and more. You are reaching out to the hurting and lonely. You are reaching children through C2:7, Sunday School and Youth Group. It was a great joy to see Amber Larson and others provide lunches for many children this summer. You have given over and above what many would expect for the glory of God. You are blessing others in need. You are taking the gospel to Phelps County, our Nation and the whole world. God has put us here in Loomis for such a time as this.

Thank you for allowing me to serve others in the name of Christ. I continue to serve on the Camp Joy Board, Christian Homes board, the Loomis Fire Department and the Midwest District Board of Ministerial Standing.

Our youth ministries continue to thrive under great leadership. Amber Larson and Luke Thorell lead our Jr & Sr High. We are thankful to Loomis Public School for allowing us to use the school building. C:27 is reaching nearly 80 children each week with lots of great leaders. Our Sunday School has grown significantly in recent years. Thank you to Brenda, Jani, Gabe and Kelly.

Finally, I want to say thanks for the many ways you have blessed me and Stephanie as I endured emergency back surgery. Thank you to the many who stepped up to serve in my absence. Thank you also for the great meals you provided. It is a blessing to see you serve others at the same time. It is truly a sign of a healthy church when you sacrificially serve others in Jesus' name.

Let's pray together that God will work in ways we can not imagine for His glory in 2025. Above all, remember that God is good all the time!

Pastor Tom

# Haiti Partnership Report

*Psalm 23:4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.*

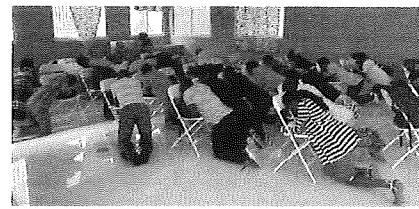


These words from Psalm 23 remind us of God's great love for us even in the darkest of times. Our deepest need is God's presence with us. Even in the valley of the shadow of death the Lord is with us. There is overflowing joy in the presence of the Lord. Even in these dark times our Haitian Brothers and Sisters proclaim *Bondye bon tout tan!* –God is good all the time.

2024 has been another year of waiting on the Lord for an open door in Haiti. It seems that very little has changed. Gangs still occupy much of the capital city of Port Au Prince. A small contingent of international peacekeepers from Kenya has not yet made a significant difference in the city. There have been a few moments of relative peace. Several Teams were able to visit their sister churches this fall. It is important to note that much of the country remains peaceful even as Port Au Prince struggles. The violence, however, has affected the price of all necessary goods. The United Nations has reported that Haiti faces the worst food shortage in history. They reported that 5 million people are food insecure with 1.6 million facing emergency conditions.

The violence in Port has forced many to flee the city. Many of these refugees have fled to places like Policard. As a result, the Policard School has added many new students. This has created an opportunity to share the good news of God's grace with an increasing number of students and their families. In August, Pastor Joseph Duverne assumed the role of Pastor in Policard. We pray that through his ministry, many would grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ. As the school adds new students there is a great need for additional classrooms. We are actively seeking to build a 3 room addition. The cost of this addition will be approximately \$60,000. Yes, that is a lot of money but we believe God will provide. It is a great privilege to sponsor about 130 students through the Hope For Kidz program. These sponsorships provide tuition, uniforms, and textbooks. Additionally, every student is provided a hot lunch each school day. For many, this is the only substantial meal for the day.

We are hopeful that God will allow a team to travel to Policard in March 2025. As we wait on the Lord, we join the RMI staff in crying out to the Lord. We are praying for a better Haiti. A Haiti that all children can go to school. A Haiti that you can travel from one end of the country to the other without fear. A Haiti that we can easily receive teams. A Haiti that those in the hospital can get the care they need. A Haiti that has less natural disasters. A Haiti that has less starving people. A Haiti that has clean water easily accessible. A Haiti that allows all to live without fear. A Haiti that believes in our Savior. Will you join us on your knees and pray for this Haiti?



## Church Officers 2024

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Election</u>
Chairman/Elder	Colby Gray	2nd	2025
Elder	Joe Larson	3rd	2027
Elder	Adam Perry	1st	2025
Secretary	Lance Thorell	1st	2026
Treasurer	Kristi Thorell		2025

### Appointed Positions

Financial Secretary	Amber Larson	2026
SS Superintendent	Brenda Gray	2026

### 2025 Ballot

Elder	<b>Colby Gray</b>
Elder	<b>Adam Perry</b>
Treasurer	<b>Patty Freburg</b>

## **Missions Report**

### **2024**

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit," Matthew 28:19. The main purpose of the Mission Team is to go and make disciples as stated in Matthew 28:19 and seek to guide our local church in the responsibilities it should carry in the fulfillment of that purpose. LEFC currently has \$20,000 in its mission account to fund projects and the spreading of the gospel at home and abroad.

Loomis E-Free Church currently supports several missionaries on the national and foreign field, they are Brandon & Melinda Dockum--Latin America, Garrett & Mattie Kreifels-Camp Joy, Joao & Hope Rodrigues—Brazil, Coles—InFaith Alma, Garrett & Mattie Kreifels -Camp Joy, Kyle & Karissa Wagner MMS Aviation, and Jim & April Starkey -RMI Haiti. The church also supports several missions including Lexington Church, Timberlake, Camp Joy, Hope EFC, and sponsors five children through RMI's Hope for kids' program. On top of the church giving to missionaries and missions we have many individuals and families that give in support of them and or different missions across the world. We would like to thank you for that and would also like to encourage everyone to pray for our workers in the mission field. The world seems to be spiraling out of control, and it is more evident than ever that people need to hear The Gospel. So please pray for our missionaries that they may be encouraged and strengthened to go forth and proclaim the name of Christ boldly.

As we look toward 2025, we are excited to see what God has in store for Loomis Evangelical Free Church's Mission Team and the missionaries and missions we support.

Sincerely,

The Mission Team

## Assimilation Committee: (Welcoming Committee)

### Romans 15:5-7

*May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the Glory of God.*

After our first full year as an Assimilation Committee, we want to look back and be thankful for another great year at Loomis Evangelical Free Church. We are blessed to be a small part of what makes for a healthy church and we will continue to look for areas to improve our church experience and extend the gospel to others. As a committee in 2024 we have worked to update the front entryway where you first walk in the doors of our church. Our goal was to make this a more welcoming area and to provide for more spacing and organization for handouts, bulletins, brochures, and packets that are available for visitors each week. Also, now available in the front area are new "Busy Bags" for families with small children attending church. These bags are organized and put together to help keep children entertained during church service with Christian themed activities and crafts and they can be returned at the end of service so that the assimilation team can restock them each week with new and different items. The assimilation committee has also put together a policy document and procedure for reaching out and welcoming visitors to our church, as well as newcomers to our school/community. Our team has put together welcoming gift baskets that were designed by Brooke Edgren that are available to hand out to those new to our church and new to our community. The gift baskets include information for all that Loomis EFC has to offer for both Youth and Adult ministries. The gift baskets are then hand delivered by a member of the assimilation team, who encourages newcomers to join in on being a part of the Loomis EFC Family.

As we look forward to 2025, we are excited to continue welcoming new visitors and members to Loomis Evangelical Free Church. As a team we will also continue to welcome newcomers to the Loomis community and ensure they are aware of all that Loomis EFC has to offer for both Youth and Adult ministries. As a committee we have more plans for 2025 and we look to add opportunities for adult ministries and church/community gatherings to invite others to be part of the body of Christ by physically coming together in worship, fellowship, and support of one another.

For the Glory of God,

### Assimilation Committee Members:

Chairperson – Micki Booé

Secretary – Brooke Edgren

Member – Adam Perry

Member – Colby Gray

Member – Jane Mooney

## Music Team

*Come into His presence  
With thanksgiving in your heart  
And give Him praise  
All glory, honor and power are yours-  
Jesus-the Name above all names*

These are words to a song - about how we are to come into God's presence – with reverence, awe, praise, and wonder, and thanksgiving. How it lifts our hearts and minds to God when we're singing our praises to God together on Sunday mornings. Many thanks to the Worship Team members who come early on Sunday mornings to practice and also thank-you's to Carolyn and Sam for joining us and doing so well in all they do as well.

The kids have been practicing for the Christmas program during part of the Sunday School – and the C-27 kids are now singing Christmas songs to go Christmas caroling. What a joy it is to hear children singing praises to our God – and Savior – Jesus Christ.

Many thanks to those we provide Special numbers on Sunday mornings. Thank you for your service as well. May we keep the songs of praises going up to God – and worship together on one accord. It's such a privilege and joy to be serving our Great and Mighty God.

*What a mighty God we serve  
Angels Bow Before You  
Heaven and Earth Adore You  
What a Mighty God we serve*

In Christ,  
Jan Adams

Sunday School Report

November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Philippians 4:4 Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!

Greetings from the elementary Sunday school, ages preschool thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Our numbers in these classes tend to be around 16 – 22. Jani Thorell, Gabe Tiller, and myself are the teachers. We just wrapped up our thankful November lessons and are now heading into a Rejoice series for December. Each week we will focus on a new lesson. We will be doing rejoice in hope, rejoice in peace, rejoice in love and rejoice always. The good news of Jesus' birth brings a joy that transforms our lives and inspire us to always rejoice. The children are also working hard practicing for their Christmas program and they are doing a great job! Once again, the older kids will be part of program with the readings. We appreciate their willingness to help. Our program will be December 15<sup>th</sup> during the church service. A special thanks to Jan Adams for being here each week, providing music and prayer for us. We appreciate her so much!!!

Kelly Anderson is leading the Jr. and Sr. High students. Kelly has a great bunch of kids each week, which is so exciting! The students get to enjoy an updated Sunday school room this year but as numbers are growing this room is getting a bit crowded which is a good thing! We may have to look into some other options for expanding his area in the near future.

In Christ,

Brenda, Gabe, Jani and Kelly

## Children's Ministries Report 2024

Psalm 127:3 Children are a gift from God

We thank the Lord that He continues to provide us with opportunities to minister to children in our community and beyond! The 2023-2024 C2:7 season saw approximately 75 children in attendance! There were many outreaches that were available that children and their parents were able to participate in through the C2:7 ministry. Teachers included: Stephanie Thompson, Laura Fettner, Dana Carson, Teresa Myers, Marlys Anderosn and Carolyn/Kelly Anderson. Games were led by Gabe Tiller. Music was led by Jan Adams and Kristi Thorell was in charge of snacks. A shuttle service was provided for children living in Holdrege to help bring them to church. Thank you to all those that help in any way to bring the Gospel to these children!! Junior High and High School kids were able to meet on Wednesday nights at the Loomis High School and were taught by Amber Larson and Luke Thorell.

Vacation Bible School was held later this year August 5<sup>th</sup> through 9<sup>th</sup> to accommodate Camp Joy's new camp schedule which started in May. Our theme this year was "Building On God's Word" construction theme. Over 60 children were able to attend!! We were blessed with many helpers throughout the week! Special thanks to Tiffany Warning and Chad Porteck for decorating the church for a fun environment and special thanks to Pastor Tom Thompson for driving the school bus to route kids from Holdrege to church. Messages were shared throughout the week about building your life on God and how God can transform us! The week concluded with a lunch provided for all the kids.

Our current C2:7 season is underway and have had around 70 kids registered at church and Junior High and High School kids are meeting at the Loomis School. The C2:7 kids have been involved with bringing items for Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes, Phelps County Food Pantry, and Loomis Toys for Tots Program.

These ministries would not happen without the help of our volunteers and we thank them for their time and energy they bring! We could always use some extra hands to help and we encourage everyone to come and see how the ministries operate and consider investing in a child's spiritual journey!

Submitted by Carolyn Anderson

## GREETER LIST 2025

January 5	Linder	Greg & Sharon	July 6	Carson	Dana & Wanda
January 12	Lindstrom	Sherri	July 13	Collin	Ben & Logann
January 19	Mooney	Jane	July 20	Edgren	Michael & Brooke
January 26	Myers	Larry & Teresa	July 27	Fetters	Laura
February 2	Nelson	Marv & Avis	August 3	Freburg	Dann & Patty
February 9	Nyberg	Larry	August 10	Park	
February 16	Perry	Adam & Allison	August 17	Gray	Colby & Heather
February 23	Porteck	Chad & Brenda	August 24	Gray	Dale & Brenda
March 2	Refior	Bud & Melanie	August 31	Hahn	Matt & Sasha
March 9	Smith	Mark & Sheila	September 7	Harris	Rogene
March 16	Stroup	Steve & Sue	September 14	Hetrick	Jim & Sharon
March 23	Stone	Shawn & Stephanie	September 21	Kennedy	Nancy
March 30	Thorell	Brice & Jani	September 28	Larson	Joe & Amber
April 6	Thorell	Dan	October 5	Lind	Dale & Val
April 13	Thorell	Lance & Samantha	October 12	Linder	Greg & Sharon
April 20	Thorell	Luke & Ashton	October 19	Lindstror	Sherri
April 27	Thorell	Mike & Kristi	October 26	Mooney	Jane
May 4	Tiller	Gabe & Tasha	November 2	Myers	Larry & Teresa
May 11	Urbom	Ron & Shirley	November 9	Nelson	Marv & Avis
May 18	Wahls	Rhonda	November 16	Nyberg	Larry
May 25	Williams	Mark & Rosie	November 23	Perry	Adam & Allison
June 1	Abramson	Mike & Dana	November 30	Porteck	Chad & Brenda
June 8	Anderson	Eddie & Marlys	December 7	Refior	Bud & Melanie
June 15	Anderson	Kelly & Carolyn	December 14	Smith	Mark & Sheila
June 22	Baugher	Jim & Karen	December 21	Stroup	Steve & Sue
June 29	Booe	Micki	December 28	Stone	Shawn & Stephanie

Greeters are asked to arrive by 10:30AM. Please welcome each one as they arrive for worship and hand out the bulletins. Please be prepared to help newcomers find their way around our building. You are welcome to but not required to plan special music. Jan Adams may call to confirm this. Remember, you may be the first point of contact for new comers. So greet with a smile and be friendly. Thanks for serving in this vital ministry.

Please make arrangements to trade with someone if you are unable to serve on your scheduled date