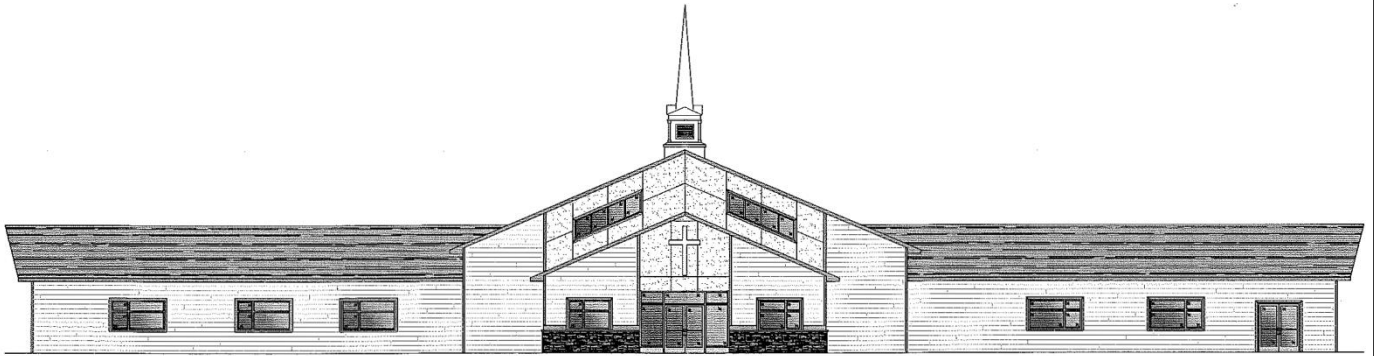


FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING

FEBRUARY 4, 2018



lcmc

Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ

FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Clear Lake, Wisconsin

Annual Meeting

February 4, 2018

(Reports given for 2017)

Table of Contents

	<u>Page</u>
Agenda	2
Church Staff	3
Augustana District Service Coordinator Report	4
Minutes of the 2017 Annual Meeting	5
2017 Pastoral Acts	6-7
Pastor's Report.....	8-9
Council President's Report.....	10
2017 Church Council Highlights	11
2018 Council Elections	12
Women of the Word (WOW)	13-14
Prayer Shawl Ministry	14
Lutheran Men in Mission for Christ (LMMC)	15-16
Education/Youth	17-19
Worship	20
Lifeline Food Pantry.....	21
Outreach	22
Property	22
Stewardship and Finance.....	23
Memorial	24
Financial Secretary.....	25
Treasurer	26-27
2018 Proposed Budget.....	28-29

2018 ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

February 4, 2018 – 10:30 a.m.

1. Call to Order
2. 2017 Minutes
3. Review of Reports
 - a. Pastor
 - b. President
 - c. Finance
 - d. Property
 - e. Other Reports
4. Council Elections
5. Proposed Budget
6. Other Business
7. Adjourn

First Evangelical Lutheran Church Staff – 2017

Pastor..... Bryan Anderson
Sunday School Superintendent..... Patti Wyss
Custodian..... Julie Barfknecht
Secretary..... Terri Moe
Financial Secretary..... Wayne Severson
Treasurer..... Kyle Overby
Music Director..... Brian Wick
Pianist..... Sheryl Wirth

Church Council Officers – 2017

President..... Tim Wyss
Vice President..... Aaron Buhr
Secretary..... Rosemary Johnson

Church Council Members

Until 2018

Rosemary Johnson
Todd Lillie
Linda McIntire
Tim Wyss

Until 2019

Aaron Buhr
Jackie Goodmanson
Liane Petersen
Jerry Thompson

Until 2020

Richard Buhr
Janette Cain
Paul Colbeth
Dale Rosen



Theology, Church, Mission

AUGUSTANA DISTRICT ANNUAL REPORT - 2017

THANK YOU for your partnership in the Augustana District. We are blessed to be one of the 16 Districts and Fellowship Groups within LCMC and 2017 has been a significant year of ministry and mission!

The Augustana District is a non-geographic district. We consist of 65 congregations from 9 states. There are 82 pastors on the Augustana clergy list. Augustana churches support many mission partners. You will find their specific ministries on the website.

The key words that best describe our purpose are: Theology. Church. Mission.

We seek to serve LCMC congregations by tending to theology. Lutheran theology is our gift to share with others and our responsibility to interpret for our context. We will continue to focus on ways to raise up, encourage and support new pastors and leaders.

Alongside this, we also support and encourage churches. The “Creative Calling” piece was added in 2017 as a way for all to see how congregations and staffs have creatively worked together to serve the gospel. The “Church” category also includes such things as assistance in the call process, conflict resolution and resource sharing.

Our theology and our work together as churches spurs on “Mission.” Proclamation is sharing the good news to all people from “Jerusalem to the ends of the earth.” Our close ties to Ethiopia through the Tabor congregation and some new expanding partnerships in India are sure to continue and grow in 2018!

To assist in carrying out Augustana’s mission, we have four Boards: Board of Theology and Ministry, Board of Christian Education, Board of Congregational Mission and Board of World Mission. We also have an active women’s organization called WOW (Women of the Word). Our District Council is the group that oversees and coordinates our various ministries. The Augustana District has four annual events: Theological Conference, Confirmation Retreat, Annual Convention and WOW convention.

Visit our NEW website (www.augustanadistrict.org) or our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/augustanadistrict). Here you will find up-to-date information and resources. For any questions or if you know of other congregations or pastors interested in the Augustana District, please contact Pastor Randy Freund (rfreund@newcreationperham.org), Service Coordinator or Wendy Magruder, Administrative Assistant (office@augustanadistrict.org) or Diane Pedersen, Finance Coordinator (finco@augustanadistrict.org).

Once again, thank you for your partnership in this ministry!

In Christ,

Pastor Randy Freund, Service Coordinator



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Annual Meeting

Sunday February 5, 2017

Call to Order:

Tim Wyss called the meeting to order.

2016 Minutes- Motion made by Mike Johnson to approve minutes. Sarah Hillstead seconded motion and motion was carried with unanimous consent. Tim Wyss introduced the council members.

Review of Reports-

Pastor gave thanks to Patti Wyss, Brian Wick and Sherry Wirth for the commitment to our church.

President's Report- Tim Wyss thanked all council members for their commitment and dedication. He also thanked the members for their financial support.

Financial Report- Dale Wirth presented some upcoming projects and thanked the members for their continued financial support.

Worship Report- Brian Wick acknowledged Terri Moe for her support with Traditional service and commended Sherry Wirth for stepping up and playing the piano in his absence.

Election of council members: Four church members are running for council: Richard Buhr, Janette Cain, Paul Colbeth and Dale Rosen. Mike Johnson made motion to accept all four members as the new council members. Dale Wirth seconded motion. Motion was carried unanimously.

Proposed Budget for 2018

Floor was open to questions and answers were addressed by Tim Wyss and Dale Wirth. Aaron Buhr made motion to pass the budget as proposed. Mike Johnson seconded motion and proposal was passed.

No other business was conducted.

Dale Wirth made motion to adjourn. Aaron Buhr seconded. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by
Jackie Pregler-Goodmanson, Secretary

2017 Pastoral Acts

7 Baptisms

Wyatt Ernest Buhr
Case Micheal Elwood
Issac Harris Elwood
Landon James Everson
Micaiah John Nilssen
Klara Jean Peters
Maverick Reed Sempf

7 Confirmation Class

Rhianna Campion
McKenna Christensen
Samantha Haley
Adam Kaczmarksi
Samantha Kelly
Michael Lillie
Drew Niles

7 First Communion Class

Hunter Gilbertson
Jordan Haley
Blake Harris
Sean Hoefflerle
Lyla Jarchow
Eddie Johnson
Paige Pregler

1 Marriage

Tyler Wirth & Erin Williams

8 Funerals

Brian Dodge, Sr.
Judith Iverson
Sherman Klinger
Thomas Lange
Reggie Levy
Karen Loenser
Delanore Rogers
Gloria Thompson

17 New Members Received

Tracy Brabec
Mike & Kim Elwood (Case & Issac)
Jason & Kristin LaBeree (Lauren, Benjamin & Dylan)
Dwight Martin
April Riniker (Mason & Brynn)
John Robers
Dean & Jane Scholz

2 Member Transferred Out

Heather (Fouks) Owen

PASTOR'S REPORT

Given February 4, 2018, summarizing January 1-December 31, 2017

Beloved in Christ, grace to you and peace. Allow me to express my sincere appreciation for the ministry we share as we enter our 12th year together.

WORSHIP

Worship is the central ministry of First Lutheran. This past year our average Sunday attendance for the contemporary service was 45 and the traditional service was 145. I thank all who contribute their time and talent during services, especially our ever faithful and gifted music director, Brian Wick. Special thanks also for Jackie Goodmanson who prepares the projection for the contemporary service and Patti Wyss who has organized the worship team.

Ecumenical services were held on Thanksgiving Eve and Good Friday. Your pastor also leads monthly worship services at the Golden Age Manor in Amery. This past Lenten Season we enjoyed pulpit sharing with other pastors in our fellowship bringing reformation themed messages. Sunday sermons are now available via our webpage link to our YouTube channel. We continue with a prayer box to welcome individual prayer concerns at worship time.

EDUCATION

Included elsewhere is an excellent summary of the educational ministry of this congregation. Join me in giving thanks to Patti Wyss for her continued leadership as Sunday school superintendent. We also give thanks to Theresa Anderson for leading the Christmas program. These two servants, along with an army of volunteers have truly inspired and blessed our children.

Currently we have some 63 children registered for Sunday school with many regular attendees. The Community Vacation Bible School was led in cooperation with the Methodist Church and the Covenant Church with some 100 kids attending. The committee has decided to rotate the location and leadership duties between the Covenant Church and our own congregation. We continue to enjoy the puppet ministry at Sunday services to introduce the rotation lessons. Volunteers attend a training program to guide their efforts. We are glad to have had some youth assist in special puppet presentations during Easter.

New Member classes as needed and First Communion classes in the spring are led by your pastor along with Wednesday Confirmation instruction for 8th and 9th graders. I also lead a monthly Women of the Word and bimonthly Lutheran Men in Mission Bible study. We will be starting an additional Women's Bible Study this year to be held in the evenings. What undergirds all of my teaching is a trust and respect for the inspiration and authority of God's Word.

Bible Camp Promotion Sunday was held in March and we were successful in recruiting 21 attendees this year. Our ministry to youth continues to grow with monthly events open to all in 7th-12th grade. We participate in an additional four events per year with the community youth Christian fellowship known as CLAY (Christ Led Area Youth). Special thanks to Jackie Goodmanson for taking the lead in this area.

MISSIONS

We are called by Christ to care for the lost and the least. Your church has done much with our women's prayer shawl and quilting ministries. The ongoing grocery collection for the local food pantry as well as our annual toy drive nets generous giving back to our community. Please consult the benevolence giving as detailed in the Treasurer's report. Yours is a giving congregation!

Each year we welcome a Gideon evangelist and take a special offering to assist with their distribution of Bibles. The Women of the Word continue a collection of School Kits for Lutheran World Relief. Your pastor serves on the local Child Evangelism Fellowship Board. We continued our sponsorship of Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF) as a partnering missionary of the congregation. The local director is Lisa Inlow and the offices are in the Clear Lake Community Center. This is our third year of hosting a once-a-month after school elementary Bible club through CEF and Lisa was invited to address the congregation to increase knowledge of this important ministry.

We also continued support of missionaries from the World Mission Prayer League. Missionaries Ed and Karen Scott came for a Sunday visit and shared news from the mission field. Our high school youth with chaperones, took a week in June to work on a servant trip through Youth Works in the Quad Cities. Once again, we enjoyed assisting the school with their Empty Bowls fundraiser for their weekend supplementary backpack food outreach as well as collecting funds for the Military Bible Stick Ministry which brings the scriptures into the lives of soldiers and their families. Special thanks to Linda McIntire for organizing two Red Cross Blood Drives this year and Dale Wirth who planned our first Easter Egg Hunt Outreach.

Your pastor encourages each individual of the congregation to continue to reach out to invite the lost to seek Christ and to serve all people in kindness and love. Let your light shine!

MEMBERSHIP

Currently our total membership is at 602 souls. Seek to join me in welcoming many new faces we have visiting with us through worship and various ministries. We received 17 individuals as new members this year. You will see a tabulation of the various pastoral acts elsewhere. Our hearts go out to those having lost loved ones.

Our fellowship continues to grow and toward that end let us be ever mindful when visitors join us. We need to be extra hospitable as we extend warm greetings, share names, and invite others to join us at the fellowship hour or a Bible study. Our ultimate goal is to bring all into Christ's Kingdom.

We had a budget surplus this year with all bills and mission commitments paid on time. It was especially gratifying that we were able to significantly reduce the mortgage rather than simply paying the minimum. We are poised to complete our building project this year with the addition of a new spacious worship area. How exciting this comes during our centennial year. The centennial celebration is planned for Sunday, August 12th. We expect to break ground near that time.

In closing, I thank you all for what God has been able to accomplish through us during 2017. Let it be our prayer for God's will to be done as we seek to grow His Kingdom.

Christ's Servant,
Pastor Bryan Anderson

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I am honored and blessed to have served this church as your council president in 2017. The church council's twelve members and Pastor Bryan are called on to provide leadership and address congregational needs throughout the year. I appreciate the leadership and spiritual guidance provided by this leadership team to address the needs of the congregation while supporting each other. I want to offer a special thank you to retiring council members Todd Lillie and Rosemary Johnson. They will be leaving the board after years of faithfully serving this congregation, dedicating themselves to studying God's word and living out their faith in the Clear Lake community.

First Lutheran has been richly blessed in so many ways again this year. One such blessing was the decreased balance on the Thrivent loan. It was reduced by \$111,953 in 2016 and was further reduced \$154,733 in 2017 to achieve an end of year balance of \$270,015. This balance gives us hope that we are on the threshold of returning to Thrivent to borrow the money necessary to complete our future sanctuary addition. The real possibility exists that we can break ground for the new sanctuary while celebrating our centennial this summer. The exact date of our congregation's 100th anniversary is Wednesday, May 16 while the celebration is slated for Sunday, August 12. These are historic times.

We continue to expand our outreach programs in the community, supporting the community Vacation Bible School, Lifeline Food Pantry and ministering to the Clear Lake community in other ways. Our youth group, under the leadership of Jackie Goodmanson, continues their very active role in our church and in the community. They serve meals, assist with the Smorgasbord, and attend Christian concerts, conferences and events. Many of our youth are also active in Christ Lead Area Youth (CLAY), the Christian youth group for the Clear Lake community and beyond.

The two worship services we offer each Sunday morning give our members a choice in worship style and time; one with a worship team and contemporary Christian music at 8:30, and the other with a traditional service and choir at 10:00. It is my hope that the fellowship time **between** these two services will continue to grow and be the bridge between the two worship services. Come early for the second service and share fellowship with someone leaving from the first service. Keep our congregation united as one body of believers.

Thank you for allowing me to serve the congregation as president in 2017. It has been a growing experience for me at this historic time for First Lutheran Church. Thanks for taking the opportunity to be a part of it. Share the spirit with others and keep praying.

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. Philippians 4:6

Tim Wyss
Council President

CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS – 2017

(Monthly Secretary Reports of Council business are now posted on the office bulletin board in the entry.)

- January** Approved Annual Budget of \$235,069 to go before congregation at Annual Meeting.
Ordered the purchase of 39 wooden pew chairs to be paid for by special memorial offerings.
- February** Elected new council officers: President Tim Wyss, Vice-President Aaron Buhr and Secretary Rosemary Johnson. Invited the Red Cross to conduct a local blood drive through church.
Established Centennial Anniversary Committee.
- March** Approved an Easter Egg Hunt outreach as presented by Dale Wirth. Directed a special gift of \$500 to be sent to the Lutheran Institute of Theology, an LCMC affiliated seminary.
- April** Discussion was had to improve outdoor signage. Approved Blood Drive for June and special offering to be taken at two services for Military Bible Sticks.
- May** Discussion of moving to round tables for fellowship hall, need for new communion ware that is easy care, and necessary lawn landscape improvement for mowing concerns.
- June** Directed a surplus of \$29,000 in the General Fund to be used to pay down the mortgage.
Accepted bid of \$650 to seal cracks in parking lot blacktop and decided to grant office return to PO Box instead of mailbox.

(No July and August Summer Meetings.)

- September** Received settlement for hail damage of church and parsonage roofs. Approved garage sale for Clear Lake Days as fundraiser for sanctuary addition.
- October** Extensive discussion of how to handle lack of volunteers for second service fellowship.
Outreach Committee will assist with school's Empty Bowls backpack food program.
- November** Discussed adding purchase of electronic hymnal for worship use. Approved purchase of new easy-care communion ware.
- December** Received report of Capital Campaign results. Directed a special gift of \$450 to be sent to Salvation Army. Approved purchase of microphone upgrades for worship services.

We thank the following Council members for their service this past year:

Aaron Buhr (Vice-President)
Richard Buhr
Janette Cain
Paul Colbeth
Jackie Goodmanson (Secretary)
Rosemary Johnson
Todd Lillie
Linda McIntire
Liane Petersen
Dale Rosen
Jerry Thompson
Tim Wyss (President)

2018 COUNCIL ELECTIONS

The Council is an elected body of 12 members serving 3-year terms on a rotating basis. The Council meets monthly on the second Thursday to oversee the ministry of the congregation and its pastor. Each member also serves on one committee and serves as an offering counter and communion assistant on a rotating schedule. A group of four comes up for election at each Annual Meeting. Nominations will be taken from the floor:

Term expires Jan. 2018

Todd Lillie

Linda McIntire

Rosemary Johnson

Tim Wyss

Term expires Jan. 2019

Aaron Buhr

Jackie Goodmanson

Liane Petersen

Jerry Thompson

Term expires Jan. 2020

Richard Buhr

Janette Cain

Paul Colbeth

Dale Rosen

Nominees/Incumbent*

1. Dick Becker
2. Dennis Luehman
3. Linda McIntire*
4. Dale Wirth

SAMPLE COUNCIL BALLOT

First Evangelical Lutheran Church – 2018

Vote for 4 for a 3-year term.

Dick Becker

☐

Linda McIntire

☐

Dennis Luehman

☐

Dale Wirth

☐

☐

☐

(Nominees will also be taken from the floor at the Annual Meeting.)

FIRST LUTHERAN WOMEN OF THE WORD

TREASURER'S REPORT – 2017

RECEIPTS

Cards, Napkins, Dishcloths, Beet Pickles	325.00
Bakeless Bake Sale	1890.00
Potluck Luncheon	638.50
Smorgasbord Bake Sale and Other Sale Items	1173.75
Startup Change for Smorgasbord	150.00
Circles and WOW Offerings, Book Reimbursements	429.40
Miscellaneous	562.50

Total Receipts	\$5169.15
-----------------------	------------------

DISBURSEMENTS

Camperships	2442.00
Cards and Napkin Purchasing	87.38
Start-up Change for Smorgasbord	150.00
Circle Study Books	219.86
Methodist Christmas for Children	150.00
Books for Graduates	123.75
Postage	83.30
First Lutheran – backpacks	99.96
Lifeline Food Pantry	250.00
Kitchen Utensils	84.66

Total Disbursements	\$3690.91
----------------------------	------------------

CHECKING ACCOUNT

January 1, 2017	\$4511.55
2017 Receipts Deposited	<u>+5169.15</u>
	Total 9680.70
2017 Disbursements	<u>-3690.91</u>
Balance-December 31, 2017	\$5989.79

Respectfully submitted,
Barb Anderson, Treasurer

WOMEN OF THE WORD (WOW)

The women of the church accomplished another successful year! A bakeless bake sale brought in \$1890.00 and the Smorgasbord bake sale and sale items netted \$1173.75. Instead of a Salad Bar Luncheon during Clear Lake Days, a potluck lunch after church (with proceeds going toward camperships) brought in \$638.50. This gives us \$3702.25 to be used toward camperships this summer.

Thank you to the men who help and support the women in these endeavors! Thanks also to the confirmation class and your help after school at the Smorgasbord!

We were able to sponsor 21 camperships totaling \$2442.00 in 2017. We were also able to donate to our favorite local charities.

All women belong to the WOW group. All are welcome to join a Bible Study Circle of their choice. The Afternoon Stars meet the 2nd Thursday of the month @ 1:00 p.m. at the church. Priscilla meets the second Thursday of the month at 11 a.m. (or time chosen by host) in the member's homes. Joanna meets the second Thursday of the month at Ridgeview at 2:00 p.m.

Our attendance to the WOW meetings was low this past year. Low attendance isn't from lack of interest as shown by your support with all our fund-raising projects to which you give so generously. We meet quarterly or when necessary to plan an upcoming event. The next planned meeting will be April 19, 2018 @ 1 p.m.

Thank you to all the women of First Lutheran for your generosity and hard work! Our continued success is possible due to your generosity and support.

Respectfully submitted,
Barb Anderson, Secretary

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Do you enjoy crocheting or knitting but don't have an outlet for your craft? The Prayer Shawl group is always open to new members. We meet once a month on the last Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. and share a cup of coffee and a snack and a little conversation while we work at our current project for an hour and then we say a prayer for all the recipients and those in need we have ministered to and we are done for the month.

Maybe you don't have time for meetings, but you are more than welcome to donate whatever you make. Just leave them in the quilting room or the office with your name attached.

Twelve prayer shawls were given out in 2017. If you know someone who could use the comfort of having a shawl with extra prayers woven into the pattern to help them heal, a rack of available shawls is in the fellowship hall. Take what you need but leave a name on the clipboard, so we can pray for the recipient.

So, don't feel at a loss while your husband is watching sports on TV or off hunting or fishing. Grab some yarn and your needles of choice and get started constructing a warm hug wrapped in lots of prayer. Someone will be very appreciative.

MEN'S BREAKFAST AND BIBLE STUDY

Started in 1991, the **Lutheran Men in Mission for Christ (LMMC)** is a men's ministry at First Lutheran that provides fellowship and spiritual growth through Bible study. The group meets faithfully on the first and third Saturday mornings of each month. The gatherings are around twelve men; so join us if a small group Bible study interests you. The morning activities start with breakfast served by one of the men from 6:30 to 7:00 followed by a meaningful Bible study lead by Pastor Bryan. In 2017, we finished studying the Gospel of Matthew, completed Romans and now are reading the book of Galatians. We usually read and discuss one chapter of the book during a session.

During Bible study, we strive to make all men feel welcome with no prior Bible study experience needed. If you want to experience honest Christian fellowship with other men and explore your faith through meaningful Bible study, join the LMMC group any first and third Saturday morning. No reservation necessary. Call the church office to be placed on the mailing list to receive a post card reminder.

To support church mission projects, in 2016 we began selling shopping cards for some of our favorite local merchants. Through this program, you can buy a shopping card at church and use it just as you would any debit or gift card. The men's group purchases the cards at a discounted price from the merchants and sells them to you at face value. The card's value never expires and you receive the full value of your purchase! When you are shop local with these cards from the men's group, you are supporting local businesses while supporting church missions.

Among the missions of the LMMC is the monthly financial support of Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF). The area CEF office is located on the second floor of the Clear Lake Community Center where Lisa Inlow serves as the local coordinator. The number of missions supported will be increased as funds become available.

Tim Wyss
LMMC President

LUTHERAN MEN IN MISSION FOR CHRIST

TREASUER'S REPORT - 2017

RECEIPTS

Breakfast Offering	991.00
Gift Card Sales	27,295.00
Service Charge Refunded	<u>6.00</u>
Total Receipts	\$28,292.00

DISBURSEMENTS

Gift Card Purchase	26,812.75
Check Charge	27.77
Child Evangelism Fellowship	300.00
Clear Lake FFA (Apples for Christmas)	70.00
Youth Mission Trip	300.00
Bank Service Charge	<u>6.00</u>
Total Disbursements	\$27,516.52

CHECKING ACCOUNT

January 1, 2017	\$390.40
2017 Receipts Deposited	<u>+28,292.00</u>
	Total
	28,682.40
2017 Disbursements	<u>-27,516.52</u>
Balance-December 31, 2017	\$1,165.88

Michael Johnson
LMMC Treasurer

EDUCATION AND YOUTH REPORTS

CRADLE ROLL

In 2017 we added 7 lambs to the Sunday school banner in the church. These lambs go up on the date of a child's baptism and are sent to them on their 3rd birthday, along with a Beginner's Bible given by First Lutheran Women of the Word. Throughout the first three years they receive mailings to encourage the nurture of faith in the home. Children enter Sunday school following this ministry at 4 years old and continue through 6th grade when Confirmation instruction begins.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

There are currently 63 children enrolled in and attending our Sunday school program- age 4 through grade 6.

First Communion for our fifth grade students was held on Maundy Thursday, April 13 with 7 participating: Hunter Gilbertson, Jordan Haley, Blake Harris, Sean Hoefflerle, Lyla Jarchow, Eddie Johnson and Paige Pregler.

First Lutheran Church continues to utilize the rotational model for Sunday school. "The Good News Bible" was distributed to the six SS students entering third grade and will be used through confirmation. "The Beginners Bible" is given to and used by children when they exit the cradle roll and is used through second grade.

This year's scope and sequence of lessons published by Augsburg Fortress was: "Creation", "Baby Moses", "Ruth", "Mary & Martha", "Fruit of the Spirit", and "The Last Supper". Sunday, January 29 was utilized as Bible Camp Promotion Sunday and 21 First Lutheran Children attended bible camp this past summer.

Rally Sunday was held on September 13 as we kicked off the Sunday school year. Theresa Anderson directed the Sunday School Christmas Program with the help of many volunteers. This gift of song and story, "Shine Like Stars" was presented at 2:00 in the afternoon on Sunday, December 18.

The rotational model requires the commitment and involvement of numerous members of our church family. As teachers, they bring their talents, experiences and gifts to share with our children. We thank them and ask the Holy Spirit to continue to stir their hearts to stay involved with this very important work of the church. Theresa Anderson and Stacia Hoefflerle write and perform puppet shows to introduce each rotation. Brian Wick provides weekly piano music for opening and Theresa Anderson accompanies the kids on guitar several times throughout the year. Leona Voss works as a consistent volunteer in the preschool room. Theresa Anderson, Stacia Hoefflerle, Maddie Young, and Pastor attended a Creative Children's Ministry workshop in March. We extend a special thank you to all of them for their ongoing dedication to the Christian education of our children.

Submitted by Patti Wyss, Sunday School Superintendent

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

This year the Community Vacation Bible School was hosted by the United Covenant Church. It was a four-day event, which took place from Sunday, July 9 through Wednesday, July 12 from 6-8 PM. Approximately 100 local children Ages 4 - Grade 5, in addition to many volunteers were blessed by this event. The theme 'Fixer-Upper' was used, which lent itself well to building activities. During the bible school, volunteers and children purchased materials to build picnic tables that were donated to the Clear Lake Park. In addition, a \$100 donation was given to the Clear Lake Park Board to be used for future park improvements.

\$907.41 - Beginning Balance Jan 1, 2017

\$886.11 - Disbursements including curriculum, supplies, postage, \$100 donation, and picnic table building supplies

\$527.45 - Donations Received

\$548.75 - Ending Balance Dec 31, 2017

Respectfully submitted,
Liane Petersen, Treasurer

CONFIRMATION

Seven 10th graders were confirmed on Sunday, October 29th. Confirmation instruction is held on Wednesday evenings for 7th-9th graders. Tim Wyss and Theresa Anderson team teach the 7th grade class. They study the Gospel of John. Pastor Bryan is the instructor for the 8th and 9th graders. 8th graders are lead through a Bible overview and the 9th grade works their way through the Small Catechism. Youth group and regular worship attendance are also encouraged. Each youth must turn in a minimum of 20 sermon notes a year and acolyte on a rotating basis. All Confirmands are also expected to attend a week of Bible Camp in the summer or a servant trip during the three-year program.

YOUTH

Youth meet at least monthly for faith building, fellowship, and service outreach. We had a number of activities this past year with good participation including: Mall of America Concert with collection for the Food Pantry, CLAY Broomball on Lake Magnor with collection for Food Pantry, Youth Movie Night, LCMC Youth Convention, Ash Wednesday Spaghetti Dinner, Easter Brunch, Mom's and Muffins Mother's Day Brunch, Dads and Donuts Father's Day Brunch, Joyful Noise Family Fest Concert, Bowling, Youth Kick-off Kick Ball Game and Movie, CLAY Underground Church and Samaritan's Purse shoebox collection.

We thank the congregation for its generous support of the youth fundraisers, including special gifts received from both the men and women fellowships. Special thanks to Jackie Goodmanson along with Liane Petersen for leadership in this vital area.

FIRST LUTHERAN YOUTH TREASURER'S 2017 REPORT

(Partial Year Summary)

\$663.18 - Balance as of June 22, 2017

\$332.24- Disbursements including supplies for Mother's Day and Father's Day brunch, youth pizza party, and LCMC Youth Event

\$246.00 - Donations Received

\$576.94 - Ending Balance December 31, 2017

Respectfully submitted by Liane Petersen (Treasurer as of June 22, 2017)



Lake Wapogasset Lutheran Bible Camp, Inc.

Wapo • Ox Lake • Luther Dell • Wilderness Canoe Base
738 Hickory Point Lane Amery WI 54001 715.268.8434 campwapo.org

Congregational Report 2017

Thank you for being an Association Member Church! We cherish our role as an extension of the ministry that happens in your congregation. We are thankful for your partnership and support in 2017, and look forward to ministry opportunities in the coming year.

"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever." 1 Chron 16:34. God is good, and we have many reasons to be grateful. This past year was full of blessings and good challenges.

With grateful hearts, we lift up:

- **Board of Directors** Our Board now has a full year of new governance under their belts. This new format has allowed our organization to make many decisions from a strong position. We thank our board and committee members for their commitment to this ministry.
- **Financial Gifts** We've had a very strong financial gift year. We are grateful for people who believe in this ministry, and who feel called to support our operating costs, and campership programs.
- **New Staff** We welcomed the following people to our team in 2017. Becky Martin, Nate Berkas, James Dudgeon, Lindsey Evenson, Kari Anderson, and Micaella Petrich. We are proud of our staff team, and the ways they diligently tend to and care for this ministry.
- **Summer Campers** Our sites were bursting with so many campers! We had so much fun as we experienced a week centered around our "Fearless" theme. We are grateful for a safe summer that welcomed around 6,000 youth and family campers at Ox Lake, Wilderness Canoe Base and Wapo.
- **Our Guests** Folks who come to Memorial Day pancakes, boat-in worship, dinner theaters, retreats, the Giant Paddle, Wapo golf tournament, and many more events. We couldn't do it without you! Thanks for coming to camp and for all of the ways you uplift and support this ministry.
- **A New Cabin** We built a new cabin at Ox Lake. It is a beautiful space with an amazing view! We are excitedly planning for more infrastructure work and improvements at this growing site.
- **Additional Canoes** were purchased at Wilderness this year, in order to accommodate all of our summer guests.

We look ahead with eager anticipation and a sure sense of hope

- We have placed our Luther Dell site on the market. Please join us in prayer as we seek a buyer who will make good use of that beautiful site.
- Our theme for the 2018 summer season is "Together, Created for Community". Hebrews 10:24 instructs us to "consider how to spur one another on toward love and good deeds". We are excited for the conversations that will occur around this theme. The world will benefit if we heed this advice!
- Sharon Olson, who has worked in our accounting office for over 27 years, will be retiring in March, 2018. We are excited for Sharon as she moves into this exciting stage in her life, but we will miss her diligence and expertise.



We consider it a joy and privilege to walk alongside people of all ages who come away to camp in order to see, hear and experience stories of Jesus and fellowship with one another. **We hope to see you at one of our places this year!**



WORSHIP AND MUSIC

I begin this report by giving thanks for the people who add their talents and abilities to make our worship a meaningful experience as we Grow God's Family Through Our Service. This includes Pastor Bryan, Brother Gary, the ushers, the altar Guild, the readers of the lessons, the communion assistants, the choir, the worship team, the projection operators, and the acolytes. And we can't forget the Sunday School and puppets who are always a big hit when they participate during service.

There has been a change in our choir program. We now meet on Sunday evenings at 7:00. This has allowed the choir to better prepare music for services and concerts. We have also opened up the group to include people from the community to join us. This group joined with the United Methodist Church Bell Choir and presented an awesome Christmas concert back in December. It would be great to have more people come and make a joyful noise to the Lord.

Technology is great when it works right. Unfortunately, we have glitches that happen from time to time. Sometimes it is a program glitch, computer problem, equipment malfunction, or human. It is important that we all stay patient while those problems are fixed.

Speaking of technology, the church is considering the purchase of a piece of equipment called a digital hymnal. This will be very useful when there are times I am not able to be at church or can be used to enhance our worship experience and our outreach ministry. More info on this will be at the Annual Meeting.

Many of you may not know that the sermon each Sunday is recorded. That recording is then put on YouTube. It is a helpful outreach for those people who are not able to be at church on a Sunday or for those who would like to hear the sermon again. I try to stay up to date with these postings and apologize for being behind on that task.

We can always have more people involved in our worship and music work. I invite everyone to consider using your God given ability to help in our worship and music experience in an area that is of interest to you. Contact me or let the church office know of your interest. Special thanks to Sherry Wirth for occasional special music at worship.

To God be the glory in our worship and music in this coming year. Make a joyful noise unto the Lord.

Brian Wick
Worship and Music Director

Lifeline Food Pantry – 2017

“Whoever is kind to the needy honors God.”

Proverbs 14:31

This has been a remarkable year at Lifeline Food Pantry, we were able to assist many families in the Clear Lake and Clayton areas. Our local communities are generous with gifts of food donations and cash contributions. We are thankful for the overwhelming support we receive.

During 2017 LFP distributed over 95 ton of food. Donated funds allowed us to purchase over \$17,000.00 in food items. Our resources come from churches & church groups, community drives, civic clubs & groups, individuals and businesses. Core contributors are our area churches and individuals. The bulk of our purchases are from Second Harvest Heartland; the upper mid west’s largest hunger relief organization. As an agency partner, we are able to receive items from them for pennies per pound, thus monetary donations offer us more ‘bang for our buck’.

Lifeline Food Pantry is recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a non-profit organization. Contributions are tax deductible.

We are open for service twice per week and emergency contact information is posted for those in need. During 2017, we supported an average of 128 families that followed our once per month visit policy. We sincerely respect our client’s privacy and confidentiality is a priority. The statistics below represent annual service activity.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Number of families	1,732	1,946	1,976	1,738	1,530
Individuals in these families	4,549	5,291	5,418	4,328	3,665
Adults, 18 & older	3,165	3,586	3,571	2,909	2,536
Children under 18	1,384	1,705	1,847	1,419	1,129

LFP continues to operate as a host site in Westcap’s seven county service area for the seniors only *Commodity Supplemental Food Program*. Low income seniors who are pre-qualified (age 60+ and at or below 130% of the federal poverty level) will receive a box of assorted commodity foods as a nutrition supplement. The USDA commodities arrive at the pantry and LFP distributes on behalf of Westcap. This service is separate from normal pantry activity.

A huge “thank you” to our volunteers and to the community for your support. God bless you as you continue to support LFP’s mission to fight hunger in our community.

Deb Arcand - Administrator

OUTREACH REPORT - 2017

The outreach committee started off the year with a Red Cross blood drive on January 24th and we had a great turn out for this event. There were 34 appointment slots to fill and we filled them all!

There was a first annual Easter Egg hunt on April 18th. We invited everyone in the community to come join in the fun. There was a puppet show and games along with the egg hunt. Much fun was had by all!

In June we had another blood drive, we filled a little over half of the slots this time.

In December our church helped out with the Empty Bowls event. Some volunteered their time to make bowls, others brought soup to the event and some helped set up, serve, and clean up. This event was very successful.

Thank you to everyone who helped in any way to make these events successful! Other outreach activities not coordinated by the Outreach Committee are listed elsewhere. We appreciate those efforts as well.

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda McIntire

PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT

We would like to thank all the members of the congregation that help make this place of worship looking so great.

This past year many members donated money for getting new pew chairs. It is in the works to get some new temporary signage outside the church.

We would like to thank all the volunteers who help keep our sidewalks shoveled in the winter and lawn mowed in the summer. And speaking of lawn, improvements were made on some of the ditches, so it will be safer and easier mowing.

As most of you probably know, this past summer we had a pretty damaging hail storm. Upon inspection it was determined the church's roof was damaged and a claim was filed with our insurance company. A new roof will be installed in the coming year.

We are also excited to see our next phase of building is in the works.

Respectfully Submitted,
Todd Lillie & Dale Rosen

STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT - 2017

As was noted in last year's Stewardship and Finance Report, we are blessed as a Congregation to have members who support the mission of First Lutheran with a wide variety of financial and service stewardship gifts. This report focuses on the financial aspects of our stewardship. Other reports detail some of the many aspects of our members' service stewardship.

Perhaps the highlight of our financial stewardship this past year was the extremely successful Capital/Mortgage Reduction Campaign conducted this past fall. It resulted in one time ("up-front") gifts of \$78,695 and ongoing gifts over the next 3 years totaling \$180,810 (or \$60,270 per year)—a total of \$259,505. For this great response, we say **THANK YOU!** As a result of these one-time gifts, our ongoing mortgage fund contributions received during the year, and other Council actions such as applying unspent loan funds from our current loan, we made remarkable progress in reducing our mortgage debt from \$424,748 at year end 2016 to \$270,015 at year end 2017—a principal reduction of \$154,733. This positions our church to begin negotiations with our lender for a new loan that would finance the construction of our new sanctuary.

Our general fund (GF) giving finances our church operations. Our GF income numbers, shown in Treasurer's Reports, are inflated by the inclusion of \$50,860 of insurance proceeds due to the hail damage our building sustained this past summer (that amount is also still included in our checking account balance). Eliminating the insurance proceeds from our GF income results in GF income from contributions being \$208,535 which is an increase of \$32,800 over 2016 levels. The 2017 numbers also include about \$6,300 raised by the special sanctuary chair appeal. For this strong support we say **THANK YOU!**

Total general fund spending came in at just under \$177,000, slightly under \$7,000 over 2016 actual GF spending and about \$9200 over the 2017 budget amount. But, \$6300 of this excess was due to the sanctuary chair purchase (included in "Miscellaneous Expense"), which was not budgeted and provided its own financing from the special appeal. So, for budgeted expenses, we were actually over budget by about \$2900.

The attached budget projects a fairly modest increase over 2017 actual spending, including a modest increase in spending for Benevolence/Missions purposes and about \$6,000 for one-time expenses (Centennial Celebration and Digital Hymnal items). The budget also shows a sizable increase in mortgage fund payments, well above current scheduled amounts, but conservatively in line with our Capital Campaign indicated, planned giving amounts. This will also allow us to demonstrate our ability to cover payments on an increased loan amount and should be close to the payments that would be required to service such an increased loan balance that would finance a new sanctuary.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Pastor Bryan and Terri Moe for their great effort on the Capital/Mortgage Reduction Campaign. And, we want to thank Kyle Overby and Wayne Severson for all the work they perform as our Treasurer and Financial Secretary respectively.

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace;

1 Peter 4:20 ESV

Respectfully submitted,
Jerry Thompson, Finance and Stewardship Committee
Dick Buhr, Finance and Stewardship Committee

MEMORIAL FUND

2017 Summary

January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017

BALANCE BY ACCOUNTS

Account	1/1/2017	Gifts	Expense	Transfer	12/31/2017
Building Fund	735.00	2,510.00		(3,100.00)	145.00
Unspecified	1,783.49	550.00	(376.63)		1,956.86
Sunday School	453.14	1,565.00	(365.71)		1,652.43
Memorial Garden	5,752.00	50.00			5,802.00
Outdoor Signage	1,227.00	300.00			1,527.00
Total:	9,950.63	4,975.00	(742.34)	(3,100.00)	11,083.29

Date	Checks	Written to	Purpose	Fund	Amount
02/14/2017	#5022	First Lutheran Church	Transfer to Building Fund in General Fund	Building Fund	\$1,500.00
02/22/2017	#5023	First Lutheran Church	Creative Ministry	Sunday School	\$170.00
03/23/2017	#5024	First Lutheran Church	Creative Ministry	Sunday School	\$54.80
03/23/2017	#6000*	First Lutheran Church	Check Endorsement Stamp	Unspecified	\$21.98
05/25/2017	#6001	First Lutheran Church	Transfer to Building Fund in General Fund	Building Fund	\$500.00
08/01/2017	#6002	First Lutheran Church	Two Sunday School Parachutes	Sunday School	\$140.91
10/09/2017	#6003	First Lutheran Church	Transfer to Building Fund in General Fund	Building Fund	\$500.00
11/16/2017	#6004	First Lutheran Church	Communion Trays	Unspecified	\$247.41
11/27/2017	#6005	First Lutheran Church	Communion Trays	Unspecified	\$42.39
12/11/2017	#6006	First Lutheran Church	Transfer to Building Fund in General Fund	Building Fund	\$600.00

*New checks from Huntington Bank.

*3/8 New checks from Huntington Bank \$45.65 and deposit slips \$19.20 taken out of Unspecified Fund.

INCOME REPORT - 2017

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals
Envelopes	16,700.00	10,158.00	10,678.00	17,226.00	10,539.00	9,178.00	10,454.00	11,065.00	9,368.00	16,295.00	9,888.00	26,597.00	158,146.00
Simply Giving	1,825.00	1,630.00	1,630.00	1,835.00	1,630.00	1,630.00	1,835.00	1,630.00	1,630.00	1,835.00	1,630.00	1,830.00	20,570.00
Plate Offering	869.28	423.20	1,166.00	1,200.92	1,279.50	158.50	385.10	1,008.30	665.68	1,501.30	974.75	1,425.50	11,058.03
Lent			260.00	665.00									925.00
Christmas													0.00
Easter													0.00
Memorials								40.00			15.00		55.00
Sunday School			1,512.35			20.00						21.68	1,554.03
Designated Youth					836.00					620.00			1,456.00
Thrivent	15.00												15.00
Other	1,038.00	5,755.00	2,263.93	931.00	1,325.75	446.00	200.00	245.91	1,074.82	541.37	892.41	786.39	15,500.58
Interest	1.63	1.12	0.48	0.49	0.52	0.50	0.50	0.68	0.67	0.74	0.93	1.05	9.31
													0.00
G.F. added deposit			647.90	834.49			50,860.15			384.90			52,727.44
G.F. Income	20,448.91	17,967.32	18,158.66	22,692.90	15,610.77	11,433.00	63,734.75	13,989.89	12,739.17	21,193.31	13,386.09	30,661.62	262,016.39
Mortgage offering	3,560.00	2,058.00	2,457.00	3,643.00	2,245.00	3,823.95	3,072.00	2,182.00	2,799.51	5,822.00	28,042.00	16,150.00	75,654.46
S.G. Mortgage fund	1,266.00	1,181.00	1,181.00	1,281.00	1,181.00	1,181.00	1,281.00	1,181.00	1,181.00	1,281.00	1,181.00	1,611.00	14,987.00
M.F. added deposit	0.00	1,500.00									40,428.62	5,000.00	46,928.62
M.F. From Mem.					500.00								500.00
M.F. Income	4,826.00	4,739.00	3,638.00	4,924.00	3,926.00	5,004.95	4,353.00	3,363.00	3,980.51	7,103.00	69,651.62	22,761.00	138,270.08
Total G.F. + M.F.	25,274.91	22,706.32	21,796.66	27,616.90	19,536.77	16,437.95	68,087.75	17,352.89	16,719.68	28,296.31	83,037.71	53,422.62	400,286.47

Wayne Severson, Financial Secretary

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

TREASURER'S REPORT

for the year ended December 31, 2017

	Jan - Dec 17 Actual	Budget	\$ Over Budget
GENERAL FUND			
Income			
Income	259,385.31	167,712.00	91,673.31
Interest Income-General Fund	9.31		
Total Income	259,394.62	167,712.00	91,682.62
Gross Profit	259,394.62	167,712.00	91,682.62
Expense			
Staff	108,090.78	111,212.00	-3,121.22
Property	23,370.34	27,900.00	-4,529.66
Office	7,677.54	5,900.00	1,777.54
Worship	4,345.62	3,800.00	545.62
Education	6,954.94	4,000.00	2,954.94
Missions	12,469.00	10,400.00	2,069.00
Miscellaneous Expense	14,027.51	4,500.00	9,527.51
Total Expense	176,935.73	167,712.00	9,223.73
NET GENERAL FUND	82,458.89	0.00	82,458.89

BUILDING FUND			
Other Income			
Mortgage Reduction Fund	137,134.56	45,168.00	91,966.56
Interest Income-Building Fund	66.58		
Total Other Income	137,201.14	45,168.00	92,033.14
Other Expense			
Thrivent Principal Payments	154,732.90	27,650.70	127,082.20
Interest Expense-Building Fund	16,301.66	17,517.30	-1,215.64
Total Other Expense	171,034.56	45,168.00	125,866.56
NET BUILDING FUND	-33,833.42	0.00	-33,833.42

Respectfully submitted: Kyle Overby

SAVINGS AND FUNDS

December 31, 2017

FUND	WESTCONSIN CREDIT UNION	FIRST MERIT	TOTALS
Mortgage Escrow Fund	17,770		17,770
General Fund Savings		1,043	1,043
General Fund Checking		* 94,415	94,415
Total General Fund		95,458	95,458
TOTALS - ALL FUNDS	17,770	95,458	113,228

Thrivent Note Payable Principal Balance	270,015
Insurance proceeds in general fund	* 50,860

*This includes monies from hail damage insurance settlement totaling \$50,860.

Respectfully submitted: Kyle Overby

2018 PROPOSED BUDGET (Rounded)

	2017 Budget	2017 Actual	2018 Proposed
Staff			
Pastor			
a. Base Salary (Tier 17)	51,200	51,200	52,794
b. Social Security Offset	3,920	3,920	4,039
c. Pension	7,050	7,050	7,270
d. Health & Disability	1,300	1,300	1,500
e. Mileage	1,200	0	1,200
f. Continuing Education	600	200	600
g. Supply Pastor	300	234	400
Administrator/Secretary			
a. Salary	26,570	26,570	27,100
b. Continuing Education	300	0	300
Music Director	4,600	4,600	4,800
Pianist	1,200	1,200	1,200
Youth Director	1,200	0	1,200
Treasurer	1,600	1,600	1,600
Financial Secretary	750	750	750
Custodial Services	6,200	6,200	6,400
Payroll Taxes	3,222	3,267	3,316
Property			
Insurance	4,100	3,801	3,500
Communications	2,800	2,746	2,800
Utilities	16,000	13,163	16,000
Maintenance	5,000	3,660	6,000
Office			
Postage	1,600	2,021	1,900
Copy Machine	1,600	1,959	1,600
Office Supplies	2,700	3,697	3,800
Worship			
Supplies	3,000	3,615	3,000
Offering Envelopes	800	730	800
Digital Hymnal	----	----	3,000
Education			
Sunday School	1,500	1,478	1,500
Confirmation & Youth	1,500	4,149	1,500
Adult Education	1,000	1,328	1,200
Centennial Celebration	----	----	3,000
Missions (See Benevolence Schedule)	10,400	12,469	12,000
Miscellaneous (Includes Pass Through)	4,500	14,028	5,000
Total General Fund Budget	167,712	176,935	181,069
Minimum Mortgage Payment	45,168	171,034	54,000*
Grand Total with Mortgage	212,880	347,969	235,069

(Projected Mortgage *4,500 x 12 = \$54,000)

2018 BENEVOLENCE SCHEDULE

Month	LCMC	Augustana District	WAPO Bible Camp	Local Ministries	World Ministries
January	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$300 CL Food Pantry	\$250 Lutheran World Relief
February	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$300 CL Food Pantry	\$250 Lutheran World Relief
March	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$300 CL Food Pantry	\$250 Lutheran World Relief
April	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$300 CL Food Pantry	\$250 Lutheran World Relief
May	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$250 Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers	\$250 Lutheran World Relief
June	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$250 Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers	\$450 Lutheran Bible Translators
July	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$450 Child Evangelism Fellowship	\$450 Lutheran Bible Translators
August	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$450 Child Evangelism Fellowship	\$450 World Mission Prayer League
September	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$250 Habitat for Humanity	\$450 World Mission Prayer League
October	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$250 Habitat for Humanity	\$450 World Mission Prayer League
November	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$450 Salvation Army	\$450 World Mission Prayer League
December	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$450 Salvation Army	\$450 World Mission Prayer League
TOTALS	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$4,000	\$4,400

Grand Total \$12,000