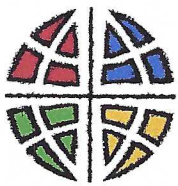




CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2020
JANUARY 24, 2021





South-Central Synod of Wisconsin
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Dear Friends in Christ,

The preacher C.H. Spurgeon once said, "By perseverance the snail reached the ark." Sit with that for just a moment. 2020 felt to me a lot like the journey the snail undertook to the ark. So much of 2020 seemed like a slow crawl along a muddy, unknown, and uncertain path. Like the snail, we may have had days when we forgot what we were crawling toward or what the journey was all about. We may have lost track of the summons to go to the ark altogether.

But, by perseverance the snail reached the ark. This is incredible grace. This too was 2020. The 138 congregations and ministries of the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin proclaimed God's Word, provided places and spaces for people to keep connecting to their community of faith, and reached out in generosity to neighbors. You persevered. Even as we felt it to be a muddy, unknown, unending path beneath us, the church kept crawling forward with the transforming love of Jesus Christ.

You are reading this report because you care about your congregation. Thank you for that care, especially this year, and thank you for attending your congregation's annual meeting. I know you have had to adapt in ways you never imagined. Thank you for persisting.

Please know that your synod, the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin, is committed to being your partner in ministry. CARE-CONNECT-EQUIP are our values. In 2021 we will continue to foster partnerships that help us live out these values. We will persevere on the path together:

- With conferences, the synod council, and the office of bishop
- Among and between congregations
- Among and between rostered and lay leaders
- With ecumenical and global partners
- Between ELCA congregations, the synod and the national church

I am deeply grateful for this new calling to serve with you as bishop. I am honored to call this synod my home and believe that God is leading us forward together. Together may we find new ways to share God's grace, build community and to be Christ's presence along the path.

In Christ,

Joy Mortensen-Wiebe

Bishop Joy Mortensen-Wiebe

CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF SHARON

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AGENDA

Call to Order

Devotions – Pastor Kalen

Prayer

Quorum Call

Congregational Mission – *On our way rejoicing, proclaiming, teaching and sharing God's love.*

Minutes from the 2020 Annual Meeting

Financial Secretary's Report

Treasurer's Report

Committee Reports

Audit	Worship and Music
Endowment	Youth
Christian Education	Youth Fundraising
Property	WELCA
Stewardship	Renewal
Evangelism	President's Report

Pastor's Report

Old Business

New Business

- Synod Assembly Delegates
- Nomination and Election of Audit Committee
- Nomination and Election of Endowment Committee
- Nomination and Election of Council Members
- Budget
- Other

Motion to Adjourn

CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF SHARON

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Annual Meeting Minutes - January 26, 2020

Council member Dan Way called the meeting to order at 11:49 am

Pastor Kalen led us in prayer and devotions.

Council member Dan Way asked Council member Kathy Frederick if there was enough to make quorum. Kathy confirmed that there was a quorum.

The congregational mission was read.

Minutes from 2019 Annual Meeting:

Dan Way asked for a motion and second to approve the minutes from the 2019 Annual Meeting. A Cindy Wuttke/Chris Lynch motion and second to approve the minutes from the January 27, 2019 annual meeting carried unanimously.

Financial Secretary's Report:

Mary DeYoung gave a brief explanation of the report and the state of our financial affairs. Dan Way asked for a motion and second to approve the Financial Secretary's Report. A Jerry Gibbons/Robin Ruosch motion and second to approve the 2019 Financial Secretary's Report carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

Mary DeYoung gave a brief explanation of the report. Dan Way asked for a motion and second to approve the Treasurer's report. A Dennis Frederick/Debbie Way motion and second to approve the 2019 Treasurer's Report carried unanimously. Thank you Mary DeYoung for your work!

Committee Reports:

Audit Committee Report
Endowment Committee Report
Christian Education Committee Report
Property Committee Report
Stewardship Committee Report

Worship & Music Committee Report
Youth Committee Report
President's Report
Pastor's Report
WELCA

Dan Way asked for a motion and second to approve all the committee reports. A Debbie Way/Dennis Frederick motion and second to approve all the above committee reports, carried unanimously.

Old Business:

Dan Way asked if there were any old business that needed to be addressed. None was brought forward

CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF SHARON

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New Business:

Synod Assembly Delegates:

The Synod Assembly will be held at the Kalahari in the Wisconsin Dells. Dan Way asked for nominations for delegates. Kathy Frederick nominated Jerry and Denise Gibbons. Marilyn Lowry seconded nomination. Unanimously carried.

Nominations and Election of Audit Committee:

Darrell Frederick's term is up. Denise Gibbons nominated Darrell Frederick for a three-year term. Dennis Frederick seconded the nomination. Randy Wuttke/Kathy Frederick motion and second to close the nominations. Unanimously carried.

Nominations and Election of Endowment Committee:

Cindy Wuttke's term is up. Cindy has agreed to continue on the committee. A Marilyn Lowry/Dennis Frederick motion and second to close the nominations. Unanimously carried.

Nomination and Election of Council Members:

3 year term; Robin Ruosch, Peggy Rotta and Orson Bangert are up on their term. Orson has chosen to not re-up. Dani Lawler nominated Mike Dowden to council. A Dani Lawler/Dennis Gibbons motion and second to nominate Mike Dowden. Jacqueline Webster was nominated to council. A Jerry Gibbons/Kelly Alicea motion and second to nominate Jacqueline Webster. Robin Ruosch was nominated to council. A Marilyn Lowry/Dennis Frederick motion and second to nominate Robin Ruosch. Kaylie nominated Kelly Alicea, who is unable to serve on council because she is on the Renewal Committee. Kaylie Frederick nominated Peggy Rotta to council, she declined. A Denise Gibbons/Kathy Frederick motion and second to close nominations for the three-year terms. Thank you Peggy for time. Chris Lynch cast unanimous vote. Unanimously carried.

1 year term; Marjorie Christenson is up on her term and has chosen to re-up. A Robin Ruosch/Denise Gibbons motion and second to approve Marjorie Christenson on council for another one-year term. A Dennis Frederick/Kathy Frederick motion and second to close nominations. Unanimously carried.

Parsonage:

Randy Wuttke presented the committee members for the parsonage and has asked for other volunteers, as well as another representative from WELCA. Peggy Rotta volunteered to be on committee as a representative for WELCA. Randy will ask for more volunteers to be on the committee on the upcoming Sundays, then as of March 1st they will move forward with the committee as what needs to be done and how to go about get things moving for the parsonage. Mike Pritchard also volunteered to be on the committee.

CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF SHARON

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Budget:

Mary DeYoung presented the proposed budget from the Finance Committee. A huge Thank you to Chris Lynch and Sue Rambatt for all that they have done and continue to do. There is an increase of \$5,796 or 5.25% from last year's budget. Discussion was had about how to improve our financial standings to continue as last year we ended with a deficit. It will be brought up on February 9th for the automatic giving that is available for anyone that wants to sign up to have their offering made automatically. A Jerry Gibbons/Mark Ruosch motion and second to accept the 2020 budget as presented, carried unanimously.

Other:

Dan Way has mentioned that council has approved and put into action the locking of the doors during service and for the past months it has been happening and has talked to a few police officers that think that it is a good idea. Thought people should be aware of it.

Beth noted that council meetings are open to the congregation. Members can participate in the discussion, but are not allowed to vote.

Motion to adjourn:

A Dennis Frederick/Gianna Webster motion and second to adjourn at 12:46 pm, carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Smith

Council Secretary

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

2020 FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT

CONTRIBUTIONS

GENERAL OFFERING	2020	2019
Benevolence Synod	\$450.00	\$201.00
Candle	\$130.00	\$130.00
Current Offering	\$100,500.96	\$102,041.68
Evangelism/DEBY Dinners	\$750.00	\$87.00
Funds for Friends	\$495.62	\$389.49
Initial Offering	\$62.00	\$98.00
Loose Offering	\$589.00	\$1,419.54
Sunday School	\$12.00	\$53.55
VBS	\$0.00	\$80.00
TOTAL	\$102,989.58	\$104,500.26
Second Sunday	\$3,017.90	\$3,462.24
Building Fund	\$3,525.00	\$0.00
Community Fund	\$950.00	\$0.00
Memorial Fund	\$1,315.00	\$1,120.00
Offering for Endowment Fund	\$2,065.00	\$2,000.00
World Hunger	\$365.00	\$332.00
Youth Fund Offering	\$1,000.00	\$200.00
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$115,227.48	\$111,614.50
Building/Property Fund - Thrivent	\$18.00	\$226.00
Youth Fund - Sub Sandwich Sale	\$1,645.00	\$1,371.00
Payroll Protection Program Loan - Forgiven by Federal Government	\$12,400.00	\$0.00
TOTAL REVENUE	\$129,290.48	\$113,211.50

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church
ANNUAL REPORT 2020
EXPENDITURES FOR 01/01/2020 THROUGH 12/31/2020

ACCOUNT	2020 Budget	2020 Actual
Administration		
Copier Lease/Service Contract	1,620.00	598.98
Council Retreat	200.00	0.00
FICA - Employer Share	1,016.00	1,015.11
Internet Service	600.00	581.70
Offering Envelopes	200.00	185.92
Office Supplies	400.00	125.59
Postage	75.00	151.10
Postal Box & Safety Deposit Box	135.00	131.00
Software	385.00	400.81
Synod Assembly	1,000.00	75.00
Vanco - EFT Charges	200.00	239.71
SubTotal Administration	5,831.00	3,504.92
Benevolent Giving		
Synod Benevolence Expense	8,581.00	8,580.96
SubTotal Benevolent Giving	8,581.00	8,580.96
Christian Education		
Confirmation	200.00	77.85
Stewardship/Adult Education	300.00	13.98
Sunday School	600.00	0.00
Vacation Bible School	750.00	0.00
SubTotal Christian Education	1,850.00	91.83
Operations and Upkeep		
Church Maintenance	1,500.00	527.72
Organ & Piano Expense	150.00	0.00
Parsonage Maintenance	500.00	0.00
Property & Workers Comp Insurance	5,500.00	5,331.15
Repair & Cleaning Supplies	150.00	0.00
Sexton - Salary	6,069.00	6,069.00
Snow Removal & Lawn Care	1,750.00	1,620.00
SubTotal Operations and Upkeep	15,619.00	13,547.87

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church
ANNUAL REPORT 2020
EXPENDITURES FOR 01/01/2020 THROUGH 12/31/2020

ACCOUNT	2020 Budget	2020 Actual
Pastoral Ministry		
Book Allowance	250.00	0.00
Continuing Education	800.00	0.00
Housing Allowance	9,000.00	9,000.00
Mileage	1,500.00	258.18
Official Meetings	450.00	0.00
Pastor Salary	33,710.00	33,709.92
Pension & Health	16,439.00	16,277.73
Renewal Ministry	335.00	0.00
Social Security	3,268.00	3,268.08
Supply Pastor	750.00	0.00
SubTotal Pastoral Ministry	66,502.00	62,513.91
Utilities - Church		
Electric	3,600.00	2,273.02
Gas	1,700.00	1,193.65
Telephone	500.00	609.02
Water & Sewer	1,050.00	1,119.16
SubTotal Utilities - Church	6,850.00	5,194.85
Utilities - Parsonage		
Electric	1,100.00	301.39
Gas	700.00	496.77
Water & Sewer	600.00	489.61
SubTotal Utilities - Parsonage	2,400.00	1,287.77
Worship & Music		
Choir Music	200.00	49.08
Organist - Salary	7,200.00	7,200.00
Supply Organist/Musicians	300.00	0.00
Worship Supplies	600.00	512.11
SubTotal Worship & Music	8,300.00	7,761.19
Total Expenditures	115,933.00	102,483.30

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church
ANNUAL REPORT 2020
EXPENDITURES FOR 01/01/2020 THROUGH 12/31/2020

Benevolent Giving/Second Sunday	3,017.90
World Hunger Expense	365.00

NOTE: Benevolent Giving/Second Sunday and World Hunger are non-budgeted items. Donations cover the costs of these items.

Other Expenses

DEBY Dinners - Food & Supplies	130.03
Building Fund - Computer	1,479.94
Endowment Fund - Offering Given to Endowment Fund	2,065.00
Youth Fund - Sub Sandwich Food/Supplies and July 2021 Mission Trip Downpayment for Pastor and Four Students	1,713.99

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

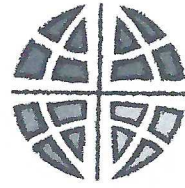
ANNUAL REPORT 2020

ACCOUNT BALANCES

Change in Net Assets for Period: 01/01/2020 to 12/31/2020

	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Ending Balance	
Building/Property Fund	7,774.89	3,043.00	1,479.94	9,337.95	
	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Ending Balance	
Community Fund	1,187.06	950.00	0.00	2,137.06	
	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Transfers From (+) or To Other Funds (-)	Ending Balance
General Fund	-5,536.54	118,772.48	105,996.23	-112.50	7,127.21
	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Ending Balance	
Memorial Fund	26,135.54	1,815.00	0.00	27,950.54	
	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Interest	Disbursements	Ending Balance
Youth Fund	4,043.63	2,645.00	0.94	1,713.99	4,975.58
	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Change in Value	Ending Balance
Endowment Fund	54,804.00	2,065.00	0.00	-644.00	56,225.00
	*A donation of \$1000 was given to the Endowment Fund in the December offering. That amount will not be deposited in the Endowment Fund until January 2021.				

CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF SHARON
ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2020



2020 AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

Sunday, January 10, 2021

The Audit Committee has examined the financial records of Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church for the year 2020. These include revenue and expense accounts for the General Fund, the Building/Maintenance Fund, the Community Fund, and Undesignated Memorials. In addition we reviewed financial records pertaining to the Endowment Fund and the Youth Fund. We have found no discrepancies in any funds. All accounts appear in good financial order.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Randall Wuttke".

Randall Wuttke, Audit Committee Chair

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Darrell Frederick".

Darrell Frederick, Audit Committee Member

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Stephanie Smith".

Stephanie Smith, Audit Committee Member

CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF SHARON

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2020

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Endowment Report for 2020

Even with Covid and the decline of market earlier in the year, the endowment fund generated \$4471.81 in interest and dividends. This year, one application was received and approved for \$500 to be put toward the anticipated youth mission trip in July 2021. All other funds were reinvested.

Cindy Wuttke, Ralph Bollinger, Jean Kovarik, Mary DeYoung

CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF SHARON

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Christian Education Committee Report 2020

Thank you to everyone that made 2020 as successful as it could be during the year that we ended up with.

Sunday School had been planned a couple (dozen, it seems) times. And for the safety of everyone, has been postponed until we can gather again. Stacie was willing to teach with the help of the older kids, if we ever got the chance to meet. Thank you for your willingness to teach again this year.

In lieu of the annual Sunday School Christmas program, with the assistance of the Technology Committee, an Advent calendar was posted online with our own children participating for all the days of Advent. It turned out perfect and made many people happy to see all their faces again!

Bible study started in July and went through October, meeting outside and socially distancing. And again, was enjoyed by all.

Unfortunately, Vacation Bible School was cancelled this year. But that gives everyone plenty of time to create another amazing one next year.

Confirmation was held October 25th, Reformation Sunday. Three students were confirmed during a family members only service, with socially distancing and masks. Live streamed service on Facebook for the rest of our congregation to watch. A link to YouTube was also emailed to everyone that doesn't have Facebook access.

Advent devotions were streamed live on Facebook and Pastor emailed Zoom meeting links for anyone that wanted a more one on one experience.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Smith

CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF SHARON

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2020 Property Report

Obviously this year has been a challenge for all of us. Even though we have not spent a great deal of time in or at Church, many projects were taken care of. Lawn was mowed, trees and bushes were trimmed, bulbs were changed as needed. Replaced an outlet in the kitchen. Cleaned the gutters in the fall. Thanks to all that lent a hand when needed.

Early in the spring, a group volunteered and painted the fellowship hall and hallways. Awesome job and looks great. The large quilt on the wall was removed and placed on a frame and rehung. Through a generous donation, the garage was power washed and painted. Thank you to Kelly, Rosie, and Lito Alicea for painting the storage shed. Thank you to Denny and Carol Frederick for repainting the parking lot signs and the fence by the garage. Thank you to Darrell and Tyler Frederick for replacing the dusk to dawn light in the parking lot.

There are a couple of larger projects we will need to consider in the coming year. The water softener in the fellowship hall needs to be replaced. Tuck pointing areas of the Church exterior needs to be looked at. We will be consulting with contractors and getting estimates for this project as it may have to be done in phases. More information will be passed along as we move forward.

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, the Parsonage project was put on hold. Hopefully, we will be able to meet in person as a group at some point. We hope to bring ideas and decisions to the congregation when we are back in church as a group.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dan Way
Dan Rambatt

CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF SHARON

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STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT – 2020

Stewardship in the Bible has to do with understanding your life is not your own. Your life is on loan from God – regardless if you acknowledge this or not – and God calls you to steward everything about your life for his glory, your good and the good of others.

Stewardship is alive and at work in Christ Lutheran, even though this year of Covid 19 has presented us with many challenges in fulfilling our stewardship duties. Stewardship requires many people working together for the good of God and mankind. But with this year's "social distancing" requirement or suggestion, accomplishing many goals has been difficult.

If it were not for our congregation and their loyalty and understanding of the importance of the many projects we sponsor, it would not be possible to achieve our goals.

One of the first major requests from the Stewardship Committee and Council was an Easter Appeal letter. The mission and ministry of our church did not stop when we got the word that we needed to close our church doors to slow the spread of this virus. The demands became more challenging. As usual, our congregation when difficult times arise, stepped up with their generosity.

We at Christ Lutheran fulfill our stewardship duties in many ways. Christ Lutheran is active in the Sharon community thru Second Sunday special offerings for ministries outside of our Church. The Second Sunday special offerings go for:

- Agape House
- Students for Better Choices
- Lutherdale
- Sharon Lions Club
- Brigham Memorial Library
- Sharon Community Backpacks and school supplies
- Sharon American Legion
- Sharon Food Pantry
- Sharon Fire & Rescue
- Sharon Community Fund
- Sharon Children Christmas gifts and mitten tree

A group of "sewing angels" also made masks to be given to anyone who needed a mask in the Church or community.

Thank you all for being so generous. We could not accomplish these stewardship goals without help from our Church members.

Respectfully submitted,

CELC Stewardship Committee

Marjorie Christenson, Chairperson

CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, 228 MARTIN STREET SHARON, WI 53585

CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF SHARON

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EVANGELISM COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT – 2020

“Evangelism” can be defined as preaching the gospel with the intention of telling others of God’s love for all through the His son, Jesus Christ, in one’s home community. As members of Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church in Sharon, Wisconsin, we are called to speak the gospel clearly and fearlessly with grace and respect at each opportunity we are given.

Committee Composition

The Evangelism Committee consisted of Council Member, Kathy Frederick, and member, Mary DeYoung along with the help of Dave Friesema and several other volunteers from the congregation.

Fellowship Hour

The Evangelism Committee decided to revive fellowship hour and planned to have fellowship hour the first Sunday of each month. We would ask for volunteers to contribute and if there were none, we would specifically ask people to contribute. The first fellowship hour was held on March 1st and four people brought treats to share. Thirty + people attended.

Meal for Singles

A DEBY (Don’t-Eat-By Yourself) dinner was held on March 8, 2020. The menu included baked chicken breasts, cheesy potatoes, salad bar, rolls/bread, beverages and dessert. We mailed/handed out 43 postcards with the date and menu and reminded them to bring a friend. Eighteen people RSVP’d, 22 showed up, one meal was delivered and four workers were fed. We also sent doggie bags of chicken, salad and dessert home with anyone wanting to take some. The dinners have provided opportunities for people to connect with others rather than staying home and eating alone. We also provide information on each table listing things going on at Christ Lutheran such as worship times, the turkey dinner, the Christmas cantata, bible study, bible school, etc. The Evangelism Committee would like to thank the Endowment Committee for donating funds in support of the DEBY dinners over the last year. The Evangelism Committee has funds remaining as the dinners were discontinued during the Coronavirus.

Making phone calls and sending cards during the Coronavirus

Evangelism Committee members were on a call committee with several other members to make calls to members of the congregation to visit with them on a daily basis to see if they needed anything and just to visit. The Evangelism Committee also mailed out “thinking of you” cards of many varieties to members, people in nursing homes, people who were ill, people they were aware of that were alone and could benefit from a card with a little note to cheer them up. These cards were sent on a monthly basis to 20-30 people.

Conclusion

The Committee thanks all who have helped share God’s love throughout the past year. We thank God for the gifts He has given us and pray, by His grace and the power of the Holy Spirit, that we are able to continue to use those gifts for His glory.

Respectfully Submitted,
CELC Evangelism Committee
Kathy Frederick and Dave Friesema

CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF SHARON

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Worship and Music

The worship and music committee continued to meet throughout the year. We kept busy trying to adapt to the situation. We tried to follow the state's suggestions as how to gather safely during this pandemic. No group singing meant no choir or cantata. Special music was recorded and pieced together to present a wonderful Christmas Eve service. Worship was held online only for parts of the year. In the summer we held parking lot worship along with online. In the fall we moved inside limiting the capacity to 30 people in the sanctuary. Council decided to close to indoor worship between Thanksgiving and New Year's in order minimize the potential spread of the virus. We have offered drive up communion for those who are interested.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jacqueline Webster, Chairperson

CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF SHARON

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Youth Group

In attempt to reactivate the youth group, we started to plan for high school age members of our church to meet with high school age members of Faith Lutheran Church in Walworth. The plan was to alternate locations between Walworth and Sharon. We were excited to get this started. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, these plans got placed on hold.

Some of our youth, along with youth from Faith Lutheran Church and Sugar Creek Lutheran Church, are planning a mission trip July 11-16, 2021. They will be traveling to Leech lake reservation in Bemidji, MN to learn about Ojibwe culture, volunteer, and build relationships. They hope to complete some creative fundraising to pay for the trip.

Mike Dowden, Chairperson

CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF SHARON

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YOUTH FUNDRAISING REPORT

The annual Christ Lutheran Church sub sandwich sale took place on February 2, 2020. Pre-orders totaled 149. Ingredients were purchased to make 164 sandwiches. Of the 164 sandwiches that were made, two were donated.

Eleven kids and 15 adults met at the church at 7 AM to assemble the subs. Breakfast food and beverages were provided for the workers.

We collected \$1,645. Costs totaled \$563.99. The cookies were donated. The net profit was \$1,081.01. Proceeds from the sale went to the youth fund and will be used to offset activity expenses for the youth at the discretion of the council.

At this time the youth group is inactive. It is our hope that we will be able to revive our youth group in the near future.

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

Christ Lutheran Church Women of the ELCA

Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

Romans 12:13

Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

Galatians 6:2

And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

Hebrews 13:16

My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.

John 15:12

In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5:16

COVID 19 changed the way we worshipped and the activities we normally do at Church. As John 15:12 tells us, "Love each other as I have loved you." One of the ways to show love is by helping others. Reaching out to help others is part of our faith in God and our Christian life. Helping others is also a blessing to ourselves.

WELCA was not able to do their normal activities in 2020 but we shared in the work of the congregation by:

- ❖ telephoning church and community members who might be alone
- ❖ sending cards to keep in contact with church and community members
- ❖ donating money to help purchase school supplies
- ❖ purchasing Christmas gifts for students, and
- ❖ providing Poinsettias, fresh fruit, and snack items to our older church and community members at Christmas time.

Christ Lutheran Church members are examples of people who "act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ." Any action to help others will make a difference in that person's life but will also make a difference in your own life. One small act of kindness can bring someone closer to God. It is an honor to be part of the faithful life we share at Christ Lutheran.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary DeYoung, Secretary
December 31, 2020

CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF SHARON

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2020

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Renewal Committee Report

As with many aspects of ministry, the pandemic affected the plans of the renewal team this year. The renewal process was designed as a three-year process, which was intended to come to an end in April of 2020. The first-year focus was relationships (with God and each other). The second-year focus was stewardship. The third-year focus was a deep listening to the community to discern how God was calling us to reach out in love to those outside our congregation. Pre-pandemic, the renewal team had made the decision to complete the renewal process in the fall of 2020. The renewal team itself began to meet at the start of the process in the fall of 2017, so we decided that continuing the process until the team had worked together for three years made sense.

The third-year focus on community listening began in 2019 with a community leaders' dinner. We invited several members of the community from the school, volunteer organizations, other churches, the police department, and local government. The gathering sparked lots of new energy and fostered some new relationships. The renewal team was planning a second community listening event with the purpose of learning about the needs of teens in Sharon. That event was scheduled for April of 2020, but was cancelled due to the pandemic.

The renewal team met this summer with Walter Baires, our synod's Director of Evangelical Mission, to reflect upon and celebrate the past three years of renewal work. We recalled the many projects initiated by the renewal team including renewing our midweek Lenten services and meals, organizing a stewardship campaign based on Eric Law's "Six Holy Currencies", and the dinner for community leaders. As we reflected on the process, the renewal team felt that the energy of the congregation had shifted over the three years, and that people were becoming involved in new ways. We also discussed the need to continue renewal even after the completion of the three years.

I greatly value the work of the renewal team over the past three years. They prayed and took seriously their own relationships with God and others in such a way that gave them insight into the spiritual life of the congregation. They shared generously of their time and energy, and considered each project and discussion thoughtfully. I believe the renewal team had more of an impact on the positive developments of ministry than they or the congregation fully realizes.

Thank you to Kelly Alicea, Cindy Bangert, Denise Gibbons, Denny Frederick, Cindy Wuttke, and Kaylee Fredrick for sharing their time and talents on the renewal team. We also thank Rick Bursh who was a part of the team before leaving our congregation to pursue a call to pastoral ministry.

As we move into a (hopefully) post pandemic period of ministry, we will need to renew. Everything will shift once again, and nurturing our relationships with God and each other will be a good way to begin.... again. Renewal never ends. In Christ we are always being formed into new creations. What renewal will look like in the near future is an important conversation. May God keep the waters flowing, so the Gospel can flow too, to all the people and places in desperate need of Good News!

Submitted by Pastor Kalen Barkholtz

CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF SHARON

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2020

JANUARY 24, 2021



President's Report

This has been a year like no other. It has been very challenging to say the least. It has forced us to change the way 'we have always done' things. It has also forced us to make difficult decisions. Decisions that were based on gut feelings and the grace of God.

I am thankful for the council members. Dan Way, Dan Rambatt, Margie Christenson, Robin Ruosch, Stephanie Smith, Jacqueline Webster, Michael Dowden, and Kathy Frederick put in many more hours of service than they were expecting. These members expressed thought and ideas, even when it was not easy, to help move the church forward in a safe manner. The discussions and decisions were focused on what was best for the entire congregation.

I am thankful for you, our church family. You helped us to continue to move forward during a very difficult time. You continued your emotional and financial support. You continued to share God's love.

We did many things this year even though our doors were not open. We did some painting and sprucing things up. Some of us learned more about technology than we ever thought possible. I would like to thank Pastor Kalen for bravely embracing the use of technology to continue to lead worship and stay connected with members. In light of these changes, we formed a Tech Committee. We were forced to accept that technology is here, it is not going away, and it allows us to easily connect to so many people. Many of us learned it is ok to think out of the box.

I would like to thank Mary DeYoung for her work securing a PPP Loan. In the spring, the government issued a Paycheck Protection Program designed to help small businesses continue to pay employees during the COVID-19 pandemic. If several qualifications were met the loan could be forgiven entirely. Mary applied for the loan and followed through. The church was granted the loan and loan forgiveness. This allowed us to pay the salaries for Pastor Kalen, Chris Lynch, and Sue Rambatt.

My position as President has come to an end. I am thankful for the help and support that has been shown to me. I look forward to being a part of the great things this church will accomplish in the future.

Sincerely,

Beth Frederick

CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF SHARON

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Chris Lynch was another member who took on extra responsibilities during the pandemic. She was coming in twice weekly—once to record the service and again on Sunday to livestream. We could have simply prerecorded once, but she made the extra trip, so that worship could be offered both ways and reach more people.

Thank you also to Sue Rambatt for her efforts to keep the building safe during the pandemic. We were blessed to have Sue serve as our sexton for many years. She made our church a welcoming place, and gave her best to the position. Her work was a ministry of hospitality. I am thankful for her service to our church this year and in previous years.

Our mission is to proclaim, teach, and share God's love. Little Church, with God's help, you kept on doing it! During this pandemic, the world has needed God's love in Christ Jesus, and it will continue to need it. It is a privilege and a blessing to serve with you. My hope for the future is that God will continue to empower us to share God's love, that we will learn from the lessons of this year, and that healing will come. I am sure that God has something for us to do to help bring about that healing. My hope is that we listen, and follow that call faithfully, always grounded in the Gospel of Jesus.

Thank you for your partnership in ministry,

Pastor Kalen Barkholtz

CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF SHARON

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2020

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Pastor's Report

I am grateful for my seminary training. I wouldn't know where to begin without it. However, when you become a pastor, you find yourself in all kinds of situations where you think, "Seminary did not prepare me for this."

Ministry in a global pandemic was one of those situations. This year has created ministry challenges, theological questions, justice issues with which to grapple, difficult decisions, and an aching need for prayer and blessing. On March 13th, (I remember because it was my husband's 40th birthday), the family fun night at my daughter's school was abruptly cancelled along with in-person school. That Sunday council held a special meeting after worship and made the decision to close the church building and find a way to offer worship online. We assumed that we would be back in worship on Easter or a few weeks later. We had no idea that congregational life, and life in general, would be greatly altered for the entire year.

We did so many things differently. I am not technologically inclined, so it was an adventure for me to figure out Facebook Live, Youtube, and ZOOM. You participated in worship from your homes. At first, we did not have Communion, but as the weeks wore on, we realized it was needed. We shared Communion in the parking lot, through car windows, with prepackaged bread and grape juice. We tried outdoor worship. Chris set up her microphones and keyboard through October and braved the bees. We sat on lawn chairs and worshipped. We fasted from congregational singing for months. We created safer indoor worship with masks and social distancing. Our Bible study group went through the entire Gospel of John outside on Wednesday summer nights as we competed with dogs barking and one neighbor's very loud ATV. Our children gave us a beautiful virtual Advent calendar. We didn't do Easter or Christmas in the usual way, but Jesus was still born, and he is risen indeed!

As I write this, I realize that a year ago, if I were to read this very report, I would have no idea what I meant by any of it. It's been quite a ride, and God has been with us the whole time. One of the most powerful ways God showed up for me was through all of you. Thank you all for your patience and understanding, your faithfulness in attending online worship, your diligence, your encouragement, your prayers, and the heart you bring to this ministry. Thank you for making the extra effort to offer your gifts even when the offering plate wasn't being passed in front of you. Thank you for reaching out to your brothers and sisters in Christ with phone calls and cards. Thank you for asking me how I'm doing. Thank you for continuing the work of this church when it was a challenge. The building closed, but God's church never did.

I especially want to thank our council. We held many special meetings, and the meetings were hard work. The council had difficult decisions to make. They had countless factors to consider—the spiritual health of our members, the physical health of our members, the call to love our neighbors, the impact that cancelling in-person worship would have on the vitality of the congregation, safety measures in the building, and the list goes on. Serving on church council this year was most likely more than they thought they were signing up for, but they showed up, again and again, approaching God's call to lead this congregation with thoughtful energy and deep care. I am grateful for Beth Frederick and her leadership. She put a tremendous amount of effort, time, and thought into her role as council president this year.

CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF SHARON

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PASTORAL ACTS

Baptisms

Alivia Louise Lawler
Georgia Lou Roth

Confirmations

Ezekiel Hardt
Kaden Rambatt
Jacob Schmig

Weddings

Gage Wuttke and Racquelle Simons

New Members

Jessica Roth
Zachary Roth
Jacqueline Webster
Michael Pritchard

Funerals

Doris "Dodi" DuPont
Evelyn Dundee (providing vacation coverage for Pastor Linda Winkleman at Jefferson Prairie Lutheran)
LaVonne Webster
Donna Yirku
Irene Dowey
Barbara Kleiber
Susan Fredrick
Elmer "Butch" Schutt
Jessie "Pauline" Anderson (prayer service)
Helen Burrus (another pastor officiated funeral, Pastor Kalen held graveside service)

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

ANNUAL REPORT 2020 PROPOSED BUDGET 2021

ACCOUNT	2020 Budget	2020 Actual	2021 Poposed Budget
Administration			
Copier Lease/Service Contract	1,620.00	598.98	1,416.00
Council Retreat	200.00	0.00	200.00
FICA - Employer Share	1,016.00	1,015.11	1,025.00
Internet Service	600.00	581.70	600.00
Offering Envelopes	200.00	185.92	200.00
Office Supplies	400.00	125.59	300.00
Postage	75.00	151.10	200.00
Postal Box & Safety Deposit Box	135.00	131.00	135.00
Software	385.00	400.81	410.00
Synod Assembly	1,000.00	75.00	1,000.00
Vanco - EFT Charges	200.00	239.71	225.00
SubTotal Administration	5,831.00	3,504.92	5,711.00
Benevolent Giving			
Synod Benevolence Expense	8,581.00	8,580.96	8705.00
SubTotal Benevolent Giving	8,581.00	8,580.96	8,705.00
Christian Education			
Confirmation	200.00	77.85	200.00
Stewardship/Adult Education	300.00	13.98	300.00
Sunday School	600.00	0.00	600.00
Vacation Bible School	750.00	0.00	750.00
SubTotal Christian Education	1,850.00	91.83	1,850.00
Operations and Upkeep			
Church Maintenance	1,500.00	527.72	2,000.00
Organ & Piano Expense	150.00	0.00	150.00
Parsonage Maintenance	500.00	0.00	500.00
Property & Workers Comp Insurance	5,500.00	5,331.15	5,500.00
Repair & Cleaning Supplies	150.00	0.00	150.00
Sexton - Salary	6,069.00	6,069.00	5,980.00
Snow Removal & Lawn Care	1,750.00	1,620.00	1,750.00
SubTotal Operations and Upkeep	15,619.00	13,547.87	16,030.00

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church
ANNUAL REPORT 2020
PROPOSED BUDGET 2021

ACCOUNT	2020 Budget	2020 Actual	2021 Poposed Budget
Pastoral Ministry			
Book Allowance	250.00	0.00	250.00
Continuing Education	800.00	0.00	800.00
Housing Allowance	9,000.00	9,000.00	9,000.00
Mileage	1,500.00	258.18	1,500.00
Official Meetings	450.00	0.00	450.00
Pastor Salary	33,710.00	33,709.92	34,755.00
Pension & Health	16,439.00	16,277.73	16,716.00
Renewal Ministry	335.00	0.00	335.00
Social Security	3,268.00	3,268.08	3,347.00
Supply Pastor	750.00	0.00	750.00
SubTotal Pastoral Ministry	66,502.00	62,513.91	67,903.00
Utilities - Church			
Electric	3,600.00	2,273.02	3,600.00
Gas	1,700.00	1,193.65	1,700.00
Telephone	500.00	609.02	600.00
Water & Sewer	1,050.00	1,119.16	1,200.00
SubTotal Utilities - Church	6,850.00	5,194.85	7,100.00
Utilities - Parsonage			
Electric	1,100.00	301.39	600.00
Gas	700.00	496.77	500.00
Water & Sewer	600.00	489.61	600.00
SubTotal Utilities - Parsonage	2,400.00	1,287.77	1,700.00
Worship & Music			
Choir Music	200.00	49.08	200.00
Organist - Salary	7,200.00	7,200.00	7,416.00
Supply Organist/Musicians	300.00	0.00	300.00
Worship Supplies	600.00	512.11	600.00
SubTotal Worship & Music	8,300.00	7,761.19	8,516.00
Total Expenditures	115,933.00	102,483.30	117,515.00

Budget Increase - \$1,582 or 1.4%
Synod Benevolence - 8%