

Lord of Life

Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Annual Congregation Report

Annual Meeting, November 10, 2019



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Lord of Life Lutheran Church
Congregational Annual Meeting Agenda
November 10th, 2019

Call to Order

Devotions

Qualifications for a Quorum – (need 22 members)

Minutes of the 2018 Congregational Meeting Nov 11th, 2018 (p 2-3)

Financial Year-end Statements (p 4-7) – Samantha Aleshire

Recognition of those concluding formal leadership:

Council:

Youth: Jacoppi Pahkamaa, 2 years

Maintaining records:

Financial Secretary: Amie Maranville, 6 years

Auditing: Dixie Keil, 3 years

Nominating: Bob Thoma, Evan Keil, & Al Griswold, 1 year

Nominating Committee Report:

Vice President: Sean Garrison – 2nd term

Treasurer: Samantha Aleshire – 2nd term

Stewardship: Julie Tanguay

Evangelism: Nancy Uptgraft – 2nd term

Youth: Kaylee Lindhag

Financial Secretary: Becky Peterson

New Business:

Election of Church Council Members

Budget review and approval (p 8)

Local Mission Support allocation

Appointment (no vote needed) of Auditing and Nominating Teams

Auditing Team: Jo Small (3 year term)

Nominating Team: Lisa Garrison, _____, _____

Appointment of Delegates to Synod Assembly, April 24-26, 2019

at Christ Lutheran Church, Soldotna

Evie Freeman, Julie Tanguay

Adjournment and Benediction

Congregational Annual Meeting Minutes

Nov 11, 2018

Call to order: 11:45 a.m.

Devotions – Galatians 5:25, “If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the spirit.”

Qualifications for a quorum – Confirmed by Bob Thoma: 31 voting members present

Minutes of the 2017 Annual meeting – November 12, 2017

Motion to accept: Janis Robertson

Seconded by: Paula Fritsche

All in favor: unanimous

Financial Year-End Statements (p 5-8) – Samantha Aleshire

Motion to accept: Becky Peterson

Seconded by: Paula Fritsche

All in favor: unanimous

Recognition of those concluding Council leadership:

President: Bob Thoma

Mission/Social Ministry: Becky Peterson

Education: Vanessa Knutson

Facility: Jered Dulany

Nominating Team Report as of 10/28

President: Liz Sandbo

Worship and Music: Curt Renner

Secretary: Cheryl Park

Stewardship (1 year):

Education: Paula Fritsche

Evangelism (1 year): Nancy Uptgraft

Facility:

Financial Secretary: Amie Maranville

Mission/Social Ministry: Evie Freeman

Youth: Jacoppi Pahkamaa (and Parent)

Election of Church Council Members

Motion to accept as a slate: Nancy Uptgraft

Seconded by: Donna Heideman

All in favor: Unanimous

Motion to accept slate as presented: Jered Dulany

Seconded by: Janis Robertson

All in Favor: unanimous

Tim Schackman volunteered for the Facility position.

Motion to accept Tim as Facility chair: Jered Dulany

Seconded by: John Hoffmann

All in favor: unanimous

Stewardship position remains open.

New Business:

Pastor's Sabbatical presentation. Bishop Shelley recommends Pastor Dan Bollerud, who was in Anchorage for 26 years as a pastor. Part time position to conduct Sunday service, emergency calls, hospital calls, etc. Synod recommended \$500 per week. Pastor Dan has agreed to be our interim pastor for 10 weeks for \$400 per week and will donate \$100 back to the church, while Pastor Amanda is on Sabbatical. This allowed us to bring down the budget by \$3,200 than what was previously projected. In Pastor Amanda's Letter of Call, we did not have sabbatical specifically listed.

Motion to approve sabbatical leave for Pastor Amanda Kempthorne, next summer, in accordance with Synod guidelines by: Dixie Keil

Seconded by: Janis Robertson

All in favor: Unanimous

Notes: A pastor who has sabbatical leave is asked to remain in their position a year after they return from leave. Dates for sabbatical are May 13 to July 21, 2019.

Budget review and Approval (p 9)

Motion to accept the budget as presented: Marty Pahkamaa

Seconded by: Samantha Aleshire

All in favor: Unanimous

Local Mission Support allocation

Our congregation supports a lot of local ministries. Request congregation to give input on what local ministries we want to contribute our benevolences. Our budgeted benevolence is: \$2,500.00. We want to divide up our benevolence in at least 3 places. Please give your input and ideas to council.

Loving Families conversation – Love INC's homeless family housing program Leadership is asking if Lord of Life would like to continue participating; we are only seeing a few people stepping in to support. Council thinks this is an important ministry. We want to make sure it isn't the same people bringing meals and staying the night every time. Discussion if our church is going to continue to support and step up for meals, to stay the night, etc. Many spoke up on continuing to support the program. The next dates we have a family coming are: December 30 through January 6th.

Appointment (no vote needed) of Auditing and Nominating Teams

Auditing Team: Donna Heideman (3yr), Dianna Lindhag (2yr), Dixie Keil (1yr)

Nominating team: Bob Thoma, Al Griswold, Evan Keil

Appointment of Delegates to Synod Assembly, April 26-28, 19 in Anchorage, AK.

Delegates: John Hoffmann and Paula Fritzsche

Backup Delegates: Jered and Ann Dulany

Adjournment and Benediction

Motion to Adjourn: Bob Workman

Seconded by: Jo Schackman

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10/24/19

Accrual Basis

**Lord of Life Lutheran Church
Profit & Loss**
January 1 through October 24, 2019

Jan 1 - Oct 24, 19

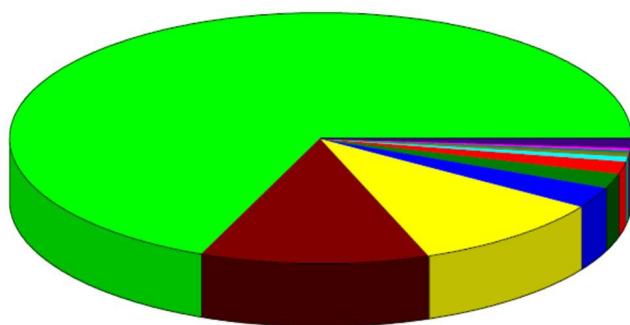
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
41000 · Designated Income	
41003 · Building Fund	16,384.08
41004 · Fuel	2,660.00
41006 · Education	224.00
41007 · Evangelism	250.00
41010 · Kuwaa Mission	300.00
41012 · Missions & Social Ministry	40.00
41013 · Savings	18,934.79
41016 · Sunday School	569.00
41017 · WELCA	117.00
41018 · Worship & Music	260.00
41019 · Youth	2,064.72
41000 · Designated Income - Other	<u>404.99</u>
Total 41000 · Designated Income	42,208.58
49500 · Tithes/Offerings	109,489.52
49501 · Rebate	<u>116.03</u>
Total Income	151,814.13
Expense	
60000 · Advertising and Promotion	70.00
60400 · Banking Fees	
60402 · Online Deposit Fees	486.19
Total 60400 · Banking Fees	486.19
60700 · Benevolence Giving	
60701 · Local Benevolence	1,550.00
60703 · ELCA Mission Support	<u>12,364.98</u>
Total 60700 · Benevolence Giving	13,914.98
61800 · Conferences and Meetings	
61801 · Conference Attendance Fees	<u>1,125.00</u>
Total 61800 · Conferences and Meetings	1,125.00
62000 · Continuing Education/Collegium	235.00
62400 · Designated Expenses	
62403 · Building Fund	4,304.19
62404 · Fuel	4,576.20
62406 · Education	51.37
62407 · Evangelism	218.87
62410 · Kuwaa Mission	239.07
62412 · Missions & Social Ministries	407.28
62418 · Worship & Music	4,434.38
62419 · Youth	3,724.56
62421 · Loving Families	<u>67.30</u>
Total 62400 · Designated Expenses	18,023.22
62700 · Evangelism and Special Events	
62702 · Meals	123.57
62700 · Evangelism and Special Events - Other	<u>333.00</u>
Total 62700 · Evangelism and Special Events	456.57
63200 · Interest Expense	213.50
63300 · Insurance Expense	
63303 · Commercial Multi-Peril	3,450.00
63300 · Insurance Expense - Other	<u>80.73</u>
Total 63300 · Insurance Expense	3,530.73
64500 · Mileage Reimbursement	744.36
64900 · Office Expense	2,806.44

6:24 PM
10/24/19
Accrual Basis

**Lord of Life Lutheran Church
Profit & Loss
January 1 through October 24, 2019**

	<u>Jan 1 - Oct 24, 19</u>
66000 · Payroll Expenses	
66001 · Health & Disability Insurance	21,129.54
66002 · Pension Plan	5,845.48
66000 · Payroll Expenses - Other	<u>71,748.15</u>
Total 66000 · Payroll Expenses	98,723.17
67200 · Facility Maintenance & Supplies	
68600 · Utilities	
68601 · Electric	2,483.00
68603 · Cellular Phone	346.29
68604 · Internet Access & Land Line	<u>1,310.69</u>
Total 68600 · Utilities	4,139.98
Total Expense	<u>145,100.41</u>
Net Ordinary Income	6,713.72
Other Income/Expense	
Other Income	
70200 · Interest Income	4.94
Total Other Income	4.94
Net Other Income	4.94
Net Income	<u>6,718.66</u>

Expense Summary
November 1, 2018 through October 24, 2019 By Account



66000 · Payroll Expenses	68.81%
62400 · Designated Expenses	12.09
60700 · Benevolence Giving	10.22
68600 · Utilities	2.72
63300 · Insurance Expense	2.01
64900 · Office Expense	1.64
61800 · Conferences and Meetings	0.64
64500 · Mileage Reimbursement	0.55
67200 · Facility Maintenance & Supplies	0.39
60400 · Banking Fees	0.34
Other	0.59
Total	\$176,025.39

By Account

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10/24/19

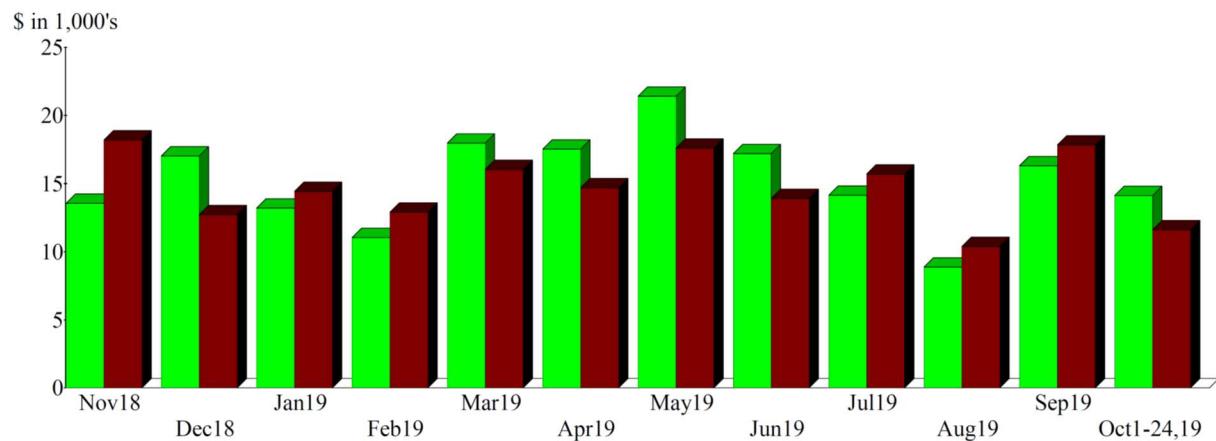
Accrual Basis

Lord of Life Lutheran Church
Balance Sheet
As of October 24, 2019

Oct 24, 19

ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
10000 · Undesignated Checking - 0026	3,817.38
11000 · Designated Checking - 3594	
11003 · Building Fund	406.97
11004 · Fuel	1,200.00
11006 · Education	416.00
11007 · Evangelism	100.00
11010 · Kuwaa Mission	186.93
11012 · Missions & Social Ministry	593.48
11016 · Sunday School	768.55
11017 · WELCA	494.33
11018 · Worship & Music	320.00
11019 · Youth	7,665.78
11020 · Misc - Short Term	88.55
11021 · Loving Families	472.17
11000 · Designated Checking - 3594 - Other	-9.22
Total 11000 · Designated Checking - 3594	12,703.54
12000 · Debit Card Checking - 3607	485.61
13000 · Savings - 0862	7,781.88
Total Checking/Savings	24,788.41
Total Current Assets	24,788.41
TOTAL ASSETS	24,788.41
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
20000 · Accounts Payable	1,529.50
Total Accounts Payable	1,529.50
Other Current Liabilities	
23000 · Line of Credit	1.79
24000 · Payroll Liabilities	3,925.37
Total Other Current Liabilities	3,927.16
Total Current Liabilities	5,456.66
Total Liabilities	5,456.66
Equity	
30000 · Opening Balance Equity	30,060.06
32000 · Unrestricted Net Assets	-17,446.97
Net Income	6,718.66
Total Equity	19,331.75
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	24,788.41

Income and Expense by Month
November 1, 2018 through October 24, 2019



Treasurer's Report

Hello All,

In thinking about what I would like to cover for the annual treasurer report I have to reflect on the year of working with the accounts. There have been lean times and flush times, but we as Lord of Life Lutheran Church always make it through, because we are a family.

This year I have been reconciling the books to make sure we have background (or some information) about all our accounts that have funding still pending. Please let me know if you have questions about the different funds and I can let you know what is going on with them.

From the graphs, you can see the months that are a little leaner than others, and that is something that we as a congregation can work on making sure we are at least covering the expenses of each month. I am not sure if a monthly update on the finances would be helpful, but if it would be, I am willing to put a slide together to let everyone know where we are at each month.

Looking forward to the new year and the new challenges it will bring. I am currently working with the Audit team and a Policy Review team to review/update policies and procedures for finances. This will mean changes in different areas, but overall it will mean a more standard way of managing the funds that are so generously given by you.

Thank you so much for letting me serve you this past year. Please let me know if there are any things you would like to talk about with the finances.

Sincerely,
Sam

A report from the Audit Team will be attached to the end of this document.

	2018 Actual Budget	2019 Proposed Budget	2019 Actual Budget to 10.24.19	2019 Estimated Budget to 12/31/19	2020 Proposed Budget
INCOME: DESIGNATED OFFERING	55,400.99	13,000.00	42,208.58	8,441.72	15,000.00
GENERAL OFFERING	144,860.41	160,940.00	109,489.52	21,897.90	164,826.00
REBATES	57.67	170.00	116.03	23.21	170.00
Total:	200,319.07	174,110.00	151,814.13	30,362.83	179,996.00
EXPENSE:					
Mission Support (Benevolence)					
ELCA Mission Support	11,491.58	13,500.00	12,364.98	2,473.00	14,904.00
Local/Other (cong must vote)	2,256.88	2,500.00	1,550.00	0.00	2,500.00
Total:	13,748.46	16,000.00	13,914.98	2,473.00	17,404.00
PASTORAL:					
Salary	29,381.04	32,612.00	26,216.24	5,243.25	35,960.00
Housing Allowance	35,000.00	35,000.00	28,269.36	5,653.87	35,000.00
SECA	4,924.92	5,173.00	4,168.22	833.64	5,429.00
Pension/Health/Disability	32,688.24	32,988.00	26,975.02	5,395.00	34,678.00
Continuing Ed/Travel/Collegium	285.00	500.00	235.00	47.00	1,000.00
Mileage Reimbursement - IRS RATE	1,022.15	685.00	744.36	148.87	1,200.00
Total:	103,301.35	106,958.00	86,608.20	17,321.64	113,267.00
PROGRAM					
Education	432.57	275.00	51.37	10.27	400.00
Evangelism	359.62	400.00	742.74	148.55	400.00
Missions & Social Ministry	944.63	350.00	407.28	81.46	600.00
Stewardship	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Youth Program	28,538.09	250.00	3,724.56	744.91	250.00
Worship & Music	1,329.58	3,700.00	4,434.37	886.87	1,500.00
Total:	31,604.49	5,075.00	9,360.32	1,872.06	3,250.00
ADMIN & GENERAL					
Advertising	75.00	75.00	70.00	14.00	150.00
Facility Maint/Janitorial/Supplies	451.92	525.00	4,935.46	987.09	650.00
Insurance - Liab, Prop, Work Comp	8,143.50	6,000.00	3,530.73	706.15	6,000.00
Mortgage / Line of Cr + Int / Debt	5,627.00	5,627.00	11,955.50	2,391.10	0.00
Office Expenses	3,071.62	1,000.00	2,806.44	561.29	3,000.00
Conferences / Meetings	1,050.00	1,050.00	1,125.00	225.00	1,050.00
Utilities	10,977.20	10,000.00	8,716.18	1,743.24	12,000.00
Acctg / Bank / On-Line Fees	639.95	600.00	699.69	139.94	600.00
Total:	30,036.19	24,877.00	33,839.00	6,767.80	23,450.00
PAYROLL EXPENSE					
Janitor	0.00	700.00	0.00	0.00	Donated
Nursery (1 Lead)	670.00	1,500.00	0.00	0.00	1,500.00
Office Assistant	12,247.40	14,600.00	9,924.78	1,984.96	15,000.00
Payroll Taxes	491.00	1,500.00	2,630.76	526.15	2,500.00
Pianist/Organist (\$125/Sunday - \$100/Sub)	2,100.00	2,900.00	2,200.00	440.00	3,625.00
Treasurer (\$100/mo)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total:	15,508.40	21,200.00	14,755.54	2,951.11	22,625.00
Grand Total Budget (Expenditures)	194,198.89	174,110.00	158,478.04	31,385.61	179,996.00

Pastor's Report

"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted... He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover he has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end." Ecclesiastes 3:1-2, 11

Each place of ministry has its own cycle of seasons: churches, schools, even our own hearts experience cycles of changing. We tend to classify the parts in these cycles as good or bad. Summer = good; healthy body = good; lots of people = good! But in doing so, we miss the beauty of what we label as "bad".

2019 brought a different feeling season to Lord of Life. Worship attendance typically drops in January as we all recover from the commercially extended Christmas season, but we didn't see those numbers return. There were no baptisms into the community this year. We had some big projects to tackle (paying the roof loan and replacing the septic system.) And, we were forced to say goodbye to some really wonderful families for personal and military-move reasons. I feel it, and I wonder if you do too.

But 2019 has been far from "bad." The people who are here are impressively engaged in the life of this community of faith. We confirmed 4 amazing youth – people who care deeply about others, who are loyal to each other, who are finding their way through life with admirable grace and a good measure of humor (Kaylee, Ashley, Mercedes and Jacoppi – I'm talking about you! You're my favorite!)

That massive roof loan (\$10,000 remaining of the \$22,000 project) was paid in full by a family who loves their church. The septic system was replaced for a little over \$4,000 with the grunt labor and donated excavator and skill of some amazing men who had a little time on their hands. The supplies we need always show up, the care for people hurting runs deep, and the joy in gathering to praise the God who motivates all of this is palpable. 2019 has been GOOD!!!

But perhaps the greatest gift I have experienced is your overwhelming support in caring for me. The 10 weeks of sabbatical were balm for my tired spirit. Reading, prayer, house clearing, gardening, camping, the preaching conference, time with my family, Holy Wisdom Monastery, and serving the community gave my spirit space to stretch out. It was that break that helps me see the good in our season and imagine ways to invite and welcome the next one.

We've got a church full of amazing people, and I am grateful for each of you.

Peace and Love,
~Pastor Amanda Kempthorne

President's Report

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

These words of inspiration from Philippians 4:13 have been my mantra when I am presented with life's opportunities and challenges. I think we can all agree that the ability of God to do "things" through His people here at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, is incredible, unlimited, and powerful.

You will hear in these council reports about the ongoing work to accomplish the goals we set back in January at our council retreat in the areas of visibility, engagement, communication, and outreach. I am beyond impressed and thankful for the teamwork and effort of the council and the entire congregation.

Thanks to the generosity of your time, skills, and financial support; the loan of the roof is paid off, the septic system has been replaced and upgraded, our online presence has increased, and we have seen improvements to our grounds and building appearance and functionality. In addition, we have continued our support of Loving Families, school lunches, Kuwaa Mission, the women of Liberia, and so much more.

I am so thankful to the congregation for providing the opportunity to send Pastor Amanda on sabbatical for her professional, personal, and spiritual growth. We will be hearing about and experiencing the benefits of this pastoral experience for many years to come. Many thanks go out to Pastor Dan Bollerud for the effort and energy he dedicated to our congregation during this time.

There is still much work to be done, the council has established a Constitution/Bylaws committee and are reviewing and creating needed policies and procedures, is finding ways to reach out to members new and old and those who might be looking for a church home, and is looking to create faith-development opportunities for all ages.

The tremendous faith and trust involved in creating and maintaining a budget based on the giving of church members has been a humbling experience for me. I am continuously amazed at the blessing of those who give regularly and those who give beyond that when the need arises. There are also so many who give of their time, skills, and resources with no expectation of compensation. Council is constantly looking for ways to provide stability to the budget and to use every gift with wisdom and efficiency.

Special thanks to past presidents Bob Thoma and Eileen Dubowski for their support and guidance as I began and continue this journey. The experience and dedication of the returning council members have provided a valuable continuity. I am so grateful for this along with the energy and enthusiasm of all council members. I am confident and excited for the year to come and the work we will do as a council and congregation.

Faithfully,
Liz Sandbo

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Vice President's primary task is to support the President, aid with personnel, and bring communications from our churchwide ELCA offices.

Thanks,
Sean Garrison

This is the 2019 Annual Report for the Youth of Lord of Life

This year our youth did not do many things but what we did do, makes a difference. We did go to Valdez in March to work with the churches there and help around the town of Valdez. Our 2nd year confirmation class were confirmed on Mother's Day in May, making us members of the church community. This group included Ashley Garrison, Kaylee Lindhag, Mercedes Lindquist, and me, Jacoppi Pahkamaa. We also welcomed in the new confirmation class including Caden Lindhag and Caleb Boatman. We have new children start attending youth group growing that small community. Many of the youth group volunteered this summer with the Vacation Bible School either as teachers or helpers. We donated money to Love INC, Food Bank, and The Door. We also help give our time by working at the Food Bank sorting food and organizing.

submitted by Jacoppi Pahkamaa

There are currently 7 to 10 attending Youth Group (7th to 12th graders), which meets the second and fourth Sunday of the month. The Underground (3rd to 6th graders) meet the 3rd Sunday and has 3-7 youth attending field trips to congregation member's workplaces to learn how their faith in God matters in the world.

(Pastor Amanda)

STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship is everything we do after we say "I believe." How we use our time, how we shift away from loving money, how we work to care for God's creation, how we serve our community – it's all Stewardship!

For the final year, the stewardship chairperson has been missing from council. The weekly role of scheduling Tellers has been taken on by Office Manager Jo Schackman. Pastor Amanda has planned big-picture stewardship activities in lieu of a chairperson.

We look forward to the leadership that will be taking over in 2020! May we all grow in the call to live what we believe as we trust God with our time, talents, and treasures!

From: Pastor Amanda

WORSHIP & MUSIC REPORT

A huge thank you to everyone who volunteered for our worship services this year, especially those who weren't signed up but stepped in where and when it was needed.

This year was busy as usual, training acolytes and sound booth volunteers, and meeting with special committees to pick hymns and music while Pastor Amanda was gone on sabbatical this summer. Special thanks to: Barb Thoma, Jim Woolace, Al Griswold, Meg Ojala, and Margi Ungrodt for serving on these committees. We intend to continue forming these kinds of teams not only for music selection, but planning worship themes.

Another special thank you to Jo Schackman for sending out notices when Sunday morning volunteers were needed and preparing all worship materials throughout the week.

This year we purchased and tried new music videos for use on Sundays when the band was not available to play and lead.

If you have any suggestions or comments or would like to learn how to serve on Sundays, please contact me.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Curt Renner

EVANGELISM REPORT

Two year-round programs overseen by the Evangelism Committee are the Visitors' Packets and Tiny Tot Activity Bags.

Visitors' Packets: Two brightly colored family bags and three white adult bags are usually available each Sunday to hand out to visitors. The family bag includes an adult packet, a kid's packet, and a jar of homemade jam. The adult bag includes an adult packet and a jar of homemade jam. The adult packet includes a letter from the pastor, a church pamphlet, a monthly newsletter, a copy of the Christ in Our Home devotional, and a bookmark with a Bible verse on it. The kid's packet includes a Pencil Fun Book (The Lord's Prayer), a pencil, a prayer card, and two packets of Starburst candies.

Tiny Tots Activity Bags: The bags hang in the back of the sanctuary. They are changed at least four times a year. They each include a doodle tablet, a pencil, and a box of crayons. There are usually one or two books, a "hand-on" activity, a game or puzzle, a plush animal or doll, or thought-provoking toy included. A content chart is hung next to the bags to hopefully ensure items are returned to their assigned bags.

Submitted by Janis Robertson, chairperson is Nancy Uptgraft

FACILITIES REPORT

I have been busy since I became chair. The biggest project on the list was completion of the new septic system. Work began as soon as the ground thawed in late spring. Thanks to the expertise and hard work of Bob Thoma, Duane Dahl, Ken Turnquist, Jim Woolace, Evan Keil, and Lars Peterson, among others, it was finished in just a few days and came in well under budget. Leftover rock was split between low spots in the parking lot and the shed project (more on that later). In the process of digging the system, a wire to light the church sign was broken. Lars Peterson and I rented a ditch witch, dug a trench for new wiring, and the sign is already working again.

Over the summer, I cleared brush and trimmed trees to improve visibility of the church from the road. A tree that came down on the roof in a windstorm was cut up and set aside to donate. Curt Renner spearheaded a project, now finished, to have reflective markers created and placed at the entry of the driveway. Kevin Powers refinished the stairs and deck at the rear of the building.

Spurred partly by the need for a home for the church mower and partly by a need for a dry place to store donated wood pellets, I built a shed next to the firewood lean-to behind the church. River's Edge Wood Products donated siding to finish the project. The floor is rock from the septic tank project.

A new Facilities Work Order form was drafted, to allow anyone who sees a need to bring it to the attention of the Facilities Chair. It also lets me track work as it's finished. Forms are on the Office Manager's door, and people are starting to use them.

Heading into winter, the woodshed is completely full. We can't accept more firewood until we donate some.

Projects in Progress:

- Expanded handicapped parking (one additional space) and installing new signs.
- Replace several electrical outlets.

Potential Projects:

- Get the elevator re-keyed.
- Church sign out front. It needs painting and repair (has a small hole). This would be a great project after spring thaw.
- Picnic tables. If they are in good enough condition to keep, paint or stain them.
- Vacuum cleaners. We have too many. Keep the best, donate the rest.

I'm sure I've missed people who have helped with projects, and I'm thankful for all the help over the past year.

God Bless, Tim Schackman

EDUCATION REPORT

It has been a year already. 2019 began a little rough with sporadic attendance for Sunday school. We raised over \$400 for ELCA Good Gifts and purchased goats, water filtration, mosquito nets, family dinners, chickens, and other items to give families a source of income. Adults continued to meet and study Animate:Faith, each lesson taking 3 to 4 Sundays as we explored God, Religion, Jesus, Salvation, the Cross, the Bible, and Church in-depth.

This fall the children's study is All-in-One. Lessons are all from Genesis with themes of family, connection, uniqueness, care of creation, and many others. Different adults teach each week, choosing a topic that they are passionate about. The Sunday morning adults are continuing with the Animate series. The second book is the Bible with topics about the books included, history, testaments, Gospels, genre, interpretation, and grace. There are three youth in confirmation class this year, also studying the Bible. To kick off fall education, we did a hot dog roast and a bonfire with a scavenger hunt for the kids.

The theme for Vacation Bible School this summer was Babylon: Daniel's Courage in Captivity. Children learned to trust God in all things. Leaders ranged from 6th grade through adults and we deeply appreciate all those who work hard to prepare and lead these faith-building events. Attendance was somewhat lower than hoped for, a total of 18, but all the kids had a great time.

For the children's Christmas program, we have chosen something completely new: The Fumbly Bumbly Angels. See director, Nancy Uptgraft, to join the bumbly fun!

Thank you,
Paula Fritsche

MISSION & SOCIAL MINISTRY

Serving those in the Community:

- This year we have started reaching out to other Churches to see if they have a project they are working on that we can help them with. We now help the 1st Baptist Church of North Pole with sorting clothes for their Clothing Give Away on the 1st Saturday of each month.
- Supply firewood for those in need thru Love INC, gave out 6 pickup loads full, winter 18-19.
- Housed Families in need through Love INC for 3 weeks total in 2019.
- Collect food for the North Pole Food Pantry housed at St. Jude Episcopal Church
- Distribute weekly food boxes from the Fairbanks Food Bank. We also help provide turkeys for the big distribution the day before Thanksgiving (175 in 2018, estimating 250 in 2019).
- Provide a meeting place for other groups such as 2 AA groups, 2 Girl Scout troops, The 17-Mile Homemakers, and occasional one-time meetings.

(continued)

Serving those in the world:

- We continue to work on the sanitary kits for the Kuwaa Mission. We have made over 900 Kits since beginning in 2017.

Serving those in School: Lunches, Snacks, and Cup-O-Soups. (submitted by Janis Robertson) Our church part of the North Pole Ministerial Alliance. Together with other churches, we supply snacks and soups every first Thursday and prepare lunches every second Friday of each month during the school year.

- Snacks: at least three cases of Goldfish crackers, cracker sandwiches, and granola bars are delivered for North Pole Elementary
- Soups: at least one case of Cup-O-Soups are delivered to North Pole Middle
- School Lunches: 45 lunches for 2018-2019 school year were upped to 55 lunches for 2019-2020. 25 to North Pole Elementary, 30 to North Pole High. (Middle school has only requested soups.) Each lunch consists of 2 peanut butter & raspberry preserve sandwiches, a fruit cup, a fruit juice, 2 Slim Jims, a cheese stick, a bag of chips, 2 homemade cookies, and a spoon. In addition, high school lunches include a Cup-O-Soup and sometimes instant oatmeal.
- Senior Graduate Gifts: 130 rocks with an inspirational message were given to the graduating class at North Pole High. (submitted by Pastor Amanda)

Serving those in the Church:

- We have also started a new Yoga program on Saturday mornings, that the members enjoy.
- We continue to make meals for our members in need.
- The Banner project is moving along slowly as we only have 2 people working on it. We have completed 2 banners and are close to finishing 2 more.
- Looking into a single person who will take care of making sure the kitchen supplies are ample. (ie: plates, silverware, napkins, paper towels, cups.)

I hope to implement more church gatherings in the next year.

Submitted by Evie Freeman