

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH



310 Medayto Drive
Spicer, Minnesota
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2018
ANNUAL REPORT
Printed January 2019

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
SPICER, MINNESOTA
ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA
JANUARY 27, 2019

1.CALL TO ORDER, TIM RENNER

2.OPENING PRAYER, PASTOR SEYWARD ASK

3.APPOINTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARIAN

4.ADOPTION OF AGENDA

5.APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 2018 ANNUAL MEETING (JANUARY 28,
2016)

6.REVIEW OF FINANCIAL SUMMARY REPORT (SEE ATTACHED)

7.PRESENTATION OF PROPOSED MISSION PLAN FOR 2019 (SEE
ATTACHED)

8.UPDATES

9.NEW BUSINESS

a.ELECTIONS (SEE SEPARATE BALLOT)

b.APPROVAL OF PROPOSED MISSION PLAN (BUDGET) FOR 2019

10.ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

11.ADJOURNMENT

12.CLOSING PRAYER, PASTOR TODD NELSEN

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH – SPICER, MINNESOTA
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES – JANUARY 28, 2018

Attendance: 96 voting members present

The meeting was called to order at 9:50am by Council President, Tim Renner

The Opening Prayer was given by Pastor Todd Nelsen

Parliamentarian – Sandy George was appointed Parliamentarian of the meeting.

Agenda – A motion was made and seconded to adopt the Annual Meeting Agenda. Motion passed.

2017 Minutes – A motion was made and seconded to approve the Minutes of the 2017 Annual Meeting. Motion passed.

Don Carlson provided a report of the 2017 financial summary. (Supporting report was included.) It was noted that the requested additional giving, as part of the Stewardship for All Seasons initiative, is not part of the 2018 Mission Plan, but a call to give beyond the plan to support additional missions as outlined in the SAS materials.

Hallie Johnson shared the proposed Mission Plan for 2018 (Supporting document was included.) It was specifically requested that members submit giving intention letters back to the church as soon as possible.

Written annual updates from staff and ministries were provided in the handout and are recommended reading.

New Business:

Elections – a ballot was provided and the following individuals were elected – by unanimous ballot – to serve in the identified capacities for 2018. (Motion for unanimous ballot was made, seconded and passed.)

Church Council: Landon Fries, Mari Kooiman, and Tim Renner (this is Tim's second consecutive term).

Columbarium Committee: Jeff Johnson, Gary Lagerstedt, and Susan Hemmingway Westre

Nominating Committee: Kent Louwagie and Janae Rambow

Endowment Committee: Tom Lange and Ron Peterson

Approval of the 2018 Mission Plan – a motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the 2018 Mission Plan.

Acknowledgements – President Tim Renner thanked and acknowledged Faith's generous and talented volunteers, staff and outgoing Council members.

Adjournment – a motion was made, seconded and passed to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 10:22am.

A closing prayer was given by Pastor Todd Nelsen

Minutes submitted by Council Secretary, Kelly McComb on January 28, 2018.

CONGREGATIONAL INFORMATION

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH:

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Baptized Membership as of 12/31/2018 1503

Confirmed Membership as of 12/31/2018 1133

CHURCH COUNCIL (2018)

PRESIDENT Tim Renner
VICE-PRESIDENT Nathan Grotelueschen
SECRETARY Kelly McComb
CONGREGATION TREASURER Don Carlson
Council Members Carla Lagerstedt
Jeff Johnson
Landon Fries
Lila Burmeister
Mari Kooiman
Brian Paulson

CHURCH STAFF:

LEAD PASTOR Todd Nelsen
ASSOCIATE PASTOR Seyward Ask
OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR Joy White
INTERIM PROPERTY MANAGER Jeff Johnson
CUSTODIAN Paul Haney
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC AND WORSHIP ... Dave Eliason
CHILDREN YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRIES DIRECTOR James Lucas
FEAST WORSHIP COORDINATOR .Pat Nelsen
VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR Marge Erickson
PRAISE & PLAY DIRECTOR/TEACHER Patsy Cordes
PRAISE AND PLAY TEACHER Jean Anderson
PRAISE & PLAY ASSISTANT Katina Dahl
MUSICIANS Dean Gylten, Nancy Hall, Susan Rime, Mary Jane Kane
NURSERY COORDINATOR Megan Rooney
NURSERY STAFF Maddie Bisek, Nathan Klaers, Caden Lein, Grace Lange
Jacob Noeldner, Emma Rohman, Averi Prentice

PASTORS' REPORTS

LEAD PASTOR TODD NELSEN

And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Revelation 21:4

It is fitting for me to share with you my thought on all of the "New Things" which have been happening in the life of our congregation in this past year and to invite you to look forward to some "New Things" and opportunities to which we might be invited in the upcoming year.

In the past year, we have welcomed new people to our staff, as we have bid farewell and Godspeed to others. In August, we welcomed James Lucas to our staff to serve as Faith's Children, Youth, and Family Ministries Director as we thanked God for the ministry of Interim Youth and Education Director Hannah Nelsen. We also said farewell to Brian Jensen, who served as both as Property Manager and Feast Worship Coordinator. We then welcomed Jeff Johnson who is serving as the Interim Property Manager and Pat Nelsen who is the new Feast Worship Coordinator. This fall Marge Erickson as our Volunteer Coordinator. Praise and Play Preschool welcomed new teacher Jean Anderson to their staff. Our ministry is blessed by the presence of all these new people who serve among us.

A couple of new traditions began this year at Faith as the youth of the congregation served a Fat Tuesday Pancake Dinner and began a Spring Basket auction fundraiser.

Thanks to the help of a talented group on the Faith marketing team, a new logo has been created for Faith and that logo can be seen on new t-shirts, which identify our congregation as a place where together we Nurture, Inspire, and Share. In addition to our new logo, Faith has a new and updated presence in social media, adding videos and broadcasting our worship services on our web page.

New stained glass windows now grace the south wall of our sanctuary, which not only help diffuse the light but display the beauty of old and new through stained glass harvested from our former church building. This project brought many creative people together and new friendships were formed in the process. This is just another example of how God is nurturing, inspiring, and sharing the blessings of God's goodness at Faith.

New relationships are being formed all the time at Faith, as we welcome the newly baptized, those new to our community, and reach out to serve and welcome our neighbors. All these new people bring new ideas, insight, talents, and gifts, who help us to sing to the Lord a new song.

This past year we tried new things in our life together as a congregation. A new men's Bible study, "Guys on the Go!" was formed. Faith families experienced the joy of getting away and being together in a new setting at Camp House in Brimson, Minnesota. Thirteen youth from faith experienced a new way to worship at the ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston, Texas. As a congregation, we took a new and bold approach to our ministry of stewardship working with the SWMN Syond and a cohort of congregations using a program called "Stewardship for All Seasons." In worship, we embraced new liturgies, the addition of a new form of music as kids accompanied our hymn of praise and gospel acclamation with shakers, and we are finding new ways to use technology in our worship.

Whenever someone asks me about Faith, I tell him or her that God always seems to be up to something new in our congregation. This is the promise of the good news of Jesus, that in his life, death, and resurrection, he makes the world, the church and each of us a new creation.

As we welcome a New Year in our life together, I invite you to try something new. Start by inviting someone new to worship, sharing with them your love for what God is doing in our congregation. Maybe try attending a new group or study, or better yet- start a new one of your own. And if you do want to start a new one of your own, please know that we are here to help and cheer you on.

Remember my friends, that God who makes all things new in Jesus Christ, gives to the church a new commandment and a new vision to nurture, inspire, and share God's love with all people. Amen

Pastor Todd Nelsen

ASSOCIATE PASTOR SEYWARD ASK

2018 went by so quickly, I am surprised to find myself already writing another annual report. But it has been a good and fruitful year, and I feel so blessed to be living out God's ministry alongside such wonderful, faithful people here at Faith Lutheran Church. Here are some highlights on how I have spent my time during the past year:

Ministries

- I am the staff liaison for Tuesday's Table, and I have enjoyed the opportunity to serve alongside our wonderful group of volunteers on multiple occasions.
- I am the staff liaison to The Link, which continues to flourish and seek to fill the needs of our community.
- I am the staff liaison to Family Promise, a very much needed ministry within our community and surrounding areas. Our volunteer coordinators work very hard throughout the year, and they are always seeking the assistance of many more volunteers in order to continue as a host site.
- As we wrapped up a successful pilot year of the Feast and kicked off a second year this past fall, I have continued to be involved in shaping this ministry.
- I meet monthly with the head of our Altar Guild team to discuss upcoming worship changes, baptisms, funerals, and anything else related to worship.
- I am the staff liaison for our community garden, which is open to the whole community and includes our Bounty Cart, a wonderful real life example of God's abundant grace for all.

Faith Visitation Ministry

I have recruited a team to restart our visitation ministry at Faith, a much needed and appreciated ministry for our homebound members. As we continue to grow, we will be adding more aspects to this ministry, including grief support, encouraging families to do a homebound visit together, and creating postcards for our visitors to leave along with a note when the person they planned to visit is sleeping or away.

Outreach

- I helped to organize our monthly congregation-wide service projects, which typically take place on Wednesday evenings as part of the Feast.
- I oversaw Faith's annual Link Mitten Tree, which involved receiving gift requests and creating labels for the mittens; securing volunteers to put up/take down the tree and cut out the mittens, decorating it with the gift request mittens, sorting through and delivering the donated gifts, and purchasing remaining gift requests.

- I oversaw our three annual homebound gift deliveries: Easter lilies, Thanksgiving treat boxes, and Christmas poinsettias.
- I organized and encouraged volunteers to sign up to deliver Meals on Wheels during Faith's assigned month of June.
- I oversaw our volunteers for Coffee Hour.
- I planned our annual Baptism Festival, which celebrates families who have had baptisms at Faith over the past two years (2016 & 2017). After hearing feedback from parents, I moved this celebration from a lunch after worship to a much more casual brunch during the coffee/Sunday school hour and had the main meal catered, while asking parents to bring sides to share. This change in time was well received.
- I oversee our nursery, which is staffed and available to children age 3 and under on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings. I oversee the hiring process of our high school aged nursery staff, and I also supervise our nursery coordinator, Megan Rooney, who oversees the nursery schedule.
- I oversee our Faith 101 class, which is an orientation for people who are interested in becoming members at Faith and learning more about our church.

Continuing Education

- In January I attended the ELCA Extravaganza. I also used this time to write the summer theme curriculum for Serve Boldly.
- In June I attended (along with Pastor Todd) a conference called "Preaching in Series" at St Andrew Lutheran in Eden Prairie. It was an amazing conference, and we have utilized what we learned to put together all of our Feast sermon series, as well as our Lenten series for Sundays and Wednesdays.

The Wider Church

- I have regularly attended our monthly New London Spicer Ministerial meetings.
- I have regularly attended our monthly Synod Lakeland Conference Pastors meetings.
- I attended the Southwest Minnesota Synod Annual Fall Theological Conference, which is a time for our pastors and rostered leaders to gather together as a Synod, discuss items from the most recent Synod Assembly and ELCA Churchwide Assembly, and hear updates from Bishop Jon Anderson regarding ministry in our Synod and the wider ELCA.
- I attended the Southwest Minnesota Synod Annual Synod Assembly.
- I am on the Synod's Equipping Congregations Day planning team.
- I am a partner and co-founder of Serve Boldly, a nonprofit organization that provides week-long summer service trips for middle and high school Lutheran youth groups.
- I am an occasional devotional writer for Augsburg Fortress and also regularly review Sunday school curriculum for Sparkhouse.

Routine items and misc.

- I have been involved in shaping our #AllinFaith project, which has included planning the videos, creating social media content, and discussing the best ways to encourage our church members to want to go "all in."
- I served as a chaperone on the National Youth Gathering in Houston, which was a wonderful opportunity to get to know some of our youth better, and reminded me of my passion for youth ministry.

- I was the supervisor for our interim Director of Youth and Education Ministries, Hannah Nelsen (whose term ended in May), and I helped to shape and fill that role, which is now James Lucas, our Children, Youth, and Families Ministries Director.
- I led worship and preached on a regular basis.
- I taught weekly Confirmation classes.
- I led our weekly Thursday morning bible study
- I led our weekly Preschool Chapel service
- I officiated baptisms, funerals, and weddings.
- I led Sunday and Thursday afternoon worship at Glen Oaks.
- I have written articles for our Forecaster newsletter as well as the Lakes Area Review newspaper.
- I made numerous nursing home, hospital and homebound visits.

I'm certain there are things I have forgotten to mention, but this should give you a general idea of what I have been up to. 2018 was a great year, and I'm so thankful to be spending this time with such faithful people and wonderful staff members. Thank you for being a part of this vibrant Faith community!

Pastor Seyward

Children, Youth and Family Ministries Director

JAMES LUCAS

2018 saw a lot of transition for our Children and Youth ministry programs. The position formerly known as Youth and Education Director was restructured and changed to more accurately define the scope of the position, and the ages that fall within that role. The new title is Children, Youth and Family Ministries Director, which covers 3 areas of Ministry; Children which is defined as preschool age to 6th grade; Youth which is defined as 7th grade to 12th grade; and Family which covers multi-generational ministry by providing opportunities for parents, grandparents and other family members to be involved at church. In 2018 Hannah Nelsen filled in the role formerly known as Youth and Education Director until leaving in late May. Officially starting August 7th, James Lucas was hired into the newly restructured position of Children, Youth and Family Ministries Director.

In 2018 Hannah Nelsen continued working with Sprouts, a children's ministry program on Wednesday nights. Once the Feast started up again James took over leading Sprouts, which was divided into two groups in order to better accommodate students' learning and cognitive abilities. Now Seeds, preschool to 3rd, and Sprouts, 4th grade to 6th grade start their lesson together and end the lesson separately. The primary goals of Seeds & Sprouts are to provide a space for students to express themselves, listen to others, pray together, read the bible together, and play games. These together provide an opportunity for community building, and supplemental faith formation at an early age.

Sunday School was ran by Hannah Nelsen beginning in 2018, where she provided a musical large group opening for students. Curriculum for Sunday School had been written by Laura Weikle before resigning, which had been designed to be a one-size fits all lesson, and then edited and revised by Hannah Nelsen once she had taken over interim. Once James Lucas started in August, a new curriculum was purchased and implemented by all Sunday School teachers. This new curriculum is based around the ELCA lectionary that we follow every week, so what students learn in class, is reinforced during the church service. This curriculum also was designed with different age level variations, in order to engage students at the appropriate cognitive and learning levels.

Youth Group, 9th grade to 12th grade, was created in the Fall of 2018 to help the longevity of youth ministry in Faith Lutheran Church. Youth Group was created for high schoolers, with input from parents of high school students. We wanted our high schoolers to have a place to talk about their faith, their lives, and their futures. Typically, churches lose high school students once they get confirmed. The goal of Youth Group, and this may take a few years, is to keep our high school students coming back to church. Students in high school become more and more independent and begin making decisions that will affect the rest of their lives. It is also important for our younger students to see that our church has a program waiting for them once they reach high school. This is meant to help offset the low attendance of high school students once finishing Confirmation.

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC AND WORSHIP REPORT

DAVID ELIASON

As I reflect back on the past year, I am amazed at all of the musical and music-related items and events that took place. We are blessed to have so many talented people who willingly share their musical (and artistic) gifts with our congregation. We should remember not to take that for granted. It is truly a blessing from which we all benefit.

Here are some of the music-related highlights from the past year.

1. A new Lenten liturgy was written and used during the season of Lent.
2. For the first time, a Passion Week Cantata was presented by the choir and additional singers on Palm Sunday. Feedback was very positive and plans are to prepare another piece for this year.
3. The Prairie Arts Chorale continued their concert series at Faith Lutheran presenting concerts both in the spring and fall. We are fortunate to have several of our members in this fine group.
4. The Faith Chancel Choir performed their annual Concert of the Year in May recapping the church year in song.
5. We enjoyed several worship services lead by the Green Lake Bluegrass Band.
6. Our sound system was given significant upgrades in August and is serving us well. The upgrade included new mics, new speakers and new video capabilities.
7. Pat Nelsen was chosen to succeed Brian Jensen as the leader for the Feast Band. She has added talented new voices and instrumentalists to the group.
7. The Chancel Choir also continued their participation in the annual concert for the LINK, held at Peace Lutheran Church in New London. This concert raises thousands of dollars for the LINK.
9. And finally, we were blessed to hear a second cantata during Advent presented by the choir and additional singers and instrumentalists from Faith and from the Paynesville area. This cantata was also very well received and will probably become an on-going tradition at Christmas time.

Again, thank you to all who added to the worship life of our congregation by sharing their gifts and lifting up God's people.

Dave Eliason
Director of Music Ministry

PRAISE and PLAY PRESCHOOL

Patsy Cordes

The 2017-2018 school year wrapped up in May 2018. Eighteen families were members of Praise+Play, with two staff members: Patsy Cordes as Director/lead teacher, Katina Dahl as aide. Miss Patsy continued what Trisha Voss had started in fall of 2016 by covering the afternoon teacher's hours. There were 18 students enrolled at the end of the year M-TH. with about 14-18 students each day with 14 staying full days. Praise and Play did a fundraiser in the Spring, selling Herberger's Community Days coupon books. However, as Herberger's announced their bankruptcy that Spring we did not receive the full award dollars. Of our 18 children, 9 returned fall semester of 2018-2019 plus another 12 new children to make our enrollment for 2018-19 at 21. This year we were able to offer Fridays for our families and 7 of them took advantage of that.

New signage outside this Fall helps people see where we are located within the church and advertises our new logo.

Praise and Play had a new fundraiser this fall, buttered braids, a frozen bread dough, which was the most successful fundraiser they have ever had to date, one we will continue every Fall. We will continue with the Pork Chop Grill Out but changed it to a late Spring date.

Praise and Play received a three star Parent Aware Award in July. This gave us \$3,500 to use for program improvement. But the big part is that parents, who qualify, can receive a full scholarship from Parent Aware. We had three parents receive this scholarship for our first year. Another part of the three star award is parents looking on line for preschools will see that and know the quality is being met.

Another eventful item that took place in the fall of 2018 is that Praise+Play found and hired an afternoon and all day Friday teacher. This gives Miss Patsy time for Director hours Monday through Thursday in the afternoons. Jean Anderson and her husband have relocated to Lake Koronis from the metro area. Jean brings to Praise+Play experience in a metro Lutheran preschool as well as a metro public school preschool program.

Praise+Play added two events last year: we had donuts for Dads and Grandpas, with over 50 attending and muffins for Moms and Grandmas which had 68 attending. Pastor Todd came to the Dads event while Pastor Seyward attended the Moms event. We ended the year with a short singing program during our final chapel.

This Fall, we sang a song during one of the Wednesday night advent services and presented a Christmas program during our last chapel before Christmas. Both were well attended.

We continue to be on Facebook, updating weekly with pictures of current children and our activities. We continue to look for more ways to get the word out about Praise and Play.

Praise and Play Preschool continues to be grateful to the church members for allowing us to be here and part of Faith's missions.

Property Team

The Faith Lutheran Property Team has recently completed their first year of managing your church home. While not everything that the Team would have liked to have completed was accomplished it was still a progressive year. Currently approximately ½ of thermostats have been converted to wireless access which are easily controlled and accessed remotely. Not only does this allow for easy revisions to temperature it also allows tracking and reporting on a regular basis. Leaks in the roof were investigated, located and near as can be determined, repaired. Several the light bulbs in the more used areas have been replaced with the newer, more efficient, LED styles. More still need replacing and that is on the agenda for 2019 depending on funding. Several parking lot lights have been converted to LED as well and plans are underway to replace several more yet this calendar year. There was a determination made that a recent hail storm had damaged several furnace units and roof shingles as well. Insurance settlements are being negotiated and work will be done on those items as the weather improves. We have implemented a snow shoveling team approach that seems to be working. More volunteers are always welcome. There will be a similar team approach for lawn mowing so please step up and help mow the lawn at your church home. The more team members the less time any one individual must commit. There have been numerous other projects that either volunteers or Property Team members have undertaken. Thanks for the everyone's help with this.

Looking forward a major item that we all must be planning for will include repairs to the parking lots. Parking areas always require ongoing maintenance, or they deteriorate. Your church parking lot is no exception. Currently you already see the signs including large cracks, depressional areas that may hold water and areas that have been patched in the past. Repairs can include milling the surface, milling the large cracks and then overlaying with new asphalt. If not done relatively soon it will result in larger areas that began crumbling and expose the underlying base gravel. Watch to the future for additional discussions on costs and potential ways to fund this necessary project. Other items include replacing additional parking area lighting along with replacing LED bulbs throughout the gathering space and other frequently occupied spaces resulting in more efficient use of energy and an overall cost saving. There are also ongoing items such as paint touch up, sheet rock patching, snow removal, lawn mowing, etc. If maintenance issue can arise at your own home, it also happens at your church home. Therefore, your help and your contributions are always welcome.

Columbarium Report

Just a few quick notes from the Columbarium Committee. Niches continue to be sold with a total of 26 of a possible 92 currently sold. There have been several funerals this past year utilizing the Prayer Garden as the inurnment portion of the memorial process. If you visit the garden please note that any Veterans inurned have a special emblem placed on their respective niche. Hopefully many of you have had a chance to enjoy the Feast Services held in the Prayer Garden. While it can be a place of solitude to remember your loved ones it is also a place for celebration of life. Looking forward we are working on installing the balance of the concrete sidewalk and platform to prepare for the time that another unit is installed sometime in the future. The final portion of stage 1 will be to install the scattering garden and wooden walkway. Prices on the niches are still at \$1600 though the prices on the brass urns and engraving costs are going up in 2019. Thanks for supporting this project. The Columbarium Committee

CHURCH COUNCIL

The Faith Lutheran Church Council would first and foremost like to give thanks to our Lord and maker for providing us the gifts and talents that make Faith Lutheran Church a wonderful place to worship and have fellowship.

2018 was a year of building on the foundational changes of 2017. The Feast on Wednesday evenings continues to be a positive weekly opportunity for fellowship and worship as well as learning. We have also continued to build on the Vision and Mission set forth in 2018, including the creation of a new Church logo and communications, promotions and initiatives aligned with our mission and vision.

We appreciate the continued commitment to giving, because without it, Faith would not be able to accomplish as much of God's work.

Here are some of the 2018 highlights from your Church Council:

- Council members and congregants participated in The SW MN Syond's "Equipping Congregations" event in February at Vinje Lutheran Church, where we learned about tools and resources to support our congregation.
- The MRT kicked-off the Stewardship for all Seasons as a new approach to our stewardship ministry.
- Praise + Play Preschool increased enrollment in the fall of 2018 and is experiencing very positive "buzz" in the community, hopefully indicating further increasing enrollment and continued opportunities to shape the lives of Preschoolers in our area.
- JAMES LUCAS – Came on board in August of 2018 and has been a positive influence James has brought his experience from working at Green Lake Lutheran Ministries to help build our programming to middle school and high school youth.
- The efforts to review Faith's Personnel Policies and job descriptions has resulted in increased reliance upon teams and volunteers to get work accomplished.
- We accepted Brian Jensen's resignation as property manager and are thankful for Jeff Johnson's willingness to fill in on a temporary basis until the role and responsibilities are fully re-evaluated.
- As committed in 2018, we were able to set aside \$12,000 for capital improvements. This is in preparation for future repair and maintenance needs of our aging building.

The Council continues to focus on fiscal responsibility in all aspects of Faith's finances in the interest of responsibly using your generous contributions to God's glory.

We maintained a watchful eye on our finances throughout 2018. With your faithful support, our giving almost matched the previous year, but we still ended the year with a \$6,628.91 deficit vs. the Mission Plan. The council will continue to carefully monitor and report to the congregation about our finances over the course of 2019.

On behalf of the council, thank you again for everything you have done to move Faith forward. 2019 holds a lot of promise for Faith. We have some very dedicated members and very promising plans to grow in God's blessings and broaden the impact of God's work. We are excited to see what God can do with our vision, faithfulness, gifts and talents.

Thank you. Please reach out to members of Council if you have any questions.

THE PAROCHIAL REPORT

MEMBERSHIP	BAPTIZED	CONFIRMED
Membership as of 12/31/2017	1582	1149
Members received from 1/1/2018-12/31/2018	25	37
Members removed from 1/1/2018-12/31/2018	124	73
Total Members 12/31/2018	1483	1113
 Associate Members	 20	 20
	1503	1133

MEMBERS RECEIVED:

BY BAPTISM - 14

Peyton Aufderheide	Lennox Berghorst	Reese Johnson	
Collins Kershner	Connor Kriese	Oaklee Ninow	Liam Olson
Lincoln Pederson	Charlie Peterson	Watson Peterson	
Gavin Rosendahl	Daxtyn Sandven	Jilonnie Scheevel	Elsie Strand

BY TRANSFER - 11

Ben & Erin Hoffman	Jeremy & Leah Pfeifer
Harper & Sullivan	Jack, Hudson, Caden
Bri Johnson	Bobbi Lohn

BY CONFIRMATION - 12

Ty Bisek	Ava Hanson	Charlie Hauer	Emily Hunt
Grace Lange	Nicholas McKenzie	Morgan Rolighed	Lili Sampson
Levi Streich	Mason Toutges	Megan Wessels	Hannah Williams

MEMBERS REMOVED:

BY TRANSFER - 17

Mike & Linda Bundy	Gary & Larae Mikkelson	John Nelson
Nichole Kolar	Laurel Mikkelson	Ron & Carol Prekker
Jace, Mahri, Malayna Kolar	Paul Mikkelson	Allison Ruter
Kathryn Lien		Brian Westre
Makenna Lien		

ASKED TO BE REMOVED - 3

2 Confirmed
1 Non Confirmed

REMOVED - 85

39 Confirmed
46 Not Confirmed

BY DEATH -13

Glenda Beck	Phyllis Bergman	Nancy Halvorson	Beverly Helgeson
Don Hoiseth	Alvin Iverson	Kent Kircher	Tom Lindemann
Darrel Schuetze	Mary Ann Sogge	Stanley Thompson	Vernon Thorstad
Esther Vorlicek			

MARRIAGES FROM 1/01/2018-12/31/2018

Michael & Lori Lind

Treasurer's Report

Attached are the Statement of Financial Positions (Balance Sheet), Designated Fund Balance Report and the summary of each funds incomes and expenses for 2018. The accounting firm, Anfinson Thompson & Co of Willmar, MN continues to provide the day to day accounting services for Faith.

The General 01 Fund represents the Faith Lutheran Mission Plan approved each year. General giving to Faith was steady year to year with a small decrease of \$377.98 from 2017. Net of un-deposited funds, accounts payable and payroll liabilities the general fund checkbook balance as of December 31, 2018 was \$9,144.89. 2018 general fund expenses were \$4,340.37 higher than 2017, but \$23,084.84 less than the 2018 mission plan. The \$12,000 slated for capital improvements was funded in 2018 as well. The ending 2018 balance on the mortgage was \$801,154.62.

The capital campaign was "officially" completed in 2016. However, gifts and pledges are still coming in and the fund will remain open as the columbarium will need to repay the capital campaign for the money fronted for its construction. All gifts, pledges and repayments into the capital campaign fund are now being directed to pay down principal debt on the mortgage.

If you have questions or would like detailed financial information, please contact me via phone or e-mail. It has been my pleasure to serve as treasurer for the past 3 plus years. Janet Novak has been appointed by council to fill my position.

Don Carlson - Treasurer
(612) 743-8741 Cell
don.c@bushmillsethanol.com
don.c@bushmillsethanol.com

Faith Lutheran 2018 Annual Report Information

General Operation - Mission Plan Ministries - Fund 01

Income & Expense - General Fund as of 12/31/18

Total Income 2018	\$629,238.81
<u>Total Expenses 2018</u>	<u>\$635,435.13</u>
Excess Expense	-\$6,196.32

Designated Ministry Funds Savings - Fund 02

Ending Balance 2017	\$58,712.25
<u>Ending Balance 2018</u>	<u>\$45,658.24</u>
	-\$13,054.01

Praise & Play Preschool - Fund 03 (Jan 1, 2018 - Dec 31, 2018)

Year End December 31, 2017	-\$7,724.76
Income	\$57,862.73
<u>Expense</u>	<u>\$71,907.05</u>
	-\$21,769.08

Columbarium - Fund 05 - As of 12/31/18

Income	\$6,870.00
<u>Expense</u>	<u>\$1,064.39</u>
2018 Net Income	\$5,805.61
2018 Un-deposited Funds	-\$1,600.00
<u>2017 Fund Balance</u>	<u>-\$29,823.62</u>
Ending 2018 Fund Balance	-\$25,618.01

Capital Campaign - Fund CC - As of 12/31/18

Income	\$507,276.44
Capital Campaign Expense	-\$40,516.29
Mortgage Principal Payment	-\$268,000.00
Technology Improvements	-\$102,695.00
Columbarium	-\$17,001.00
<u>Link 10% Tithe</u>	<u>-\$4,346.30</u>
Ending 2017 Fund Balances	\$74,717.85

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
Schedule Of Assets, Liabilities And Net Assets By Fund
Modified Cash Basis
December 31, 2018

	1 General	2 Designated	3 Preschool	5 Columbarium	6 Capital Campaign	7 Endowment	TOTAL
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS							
Liabilities							
Current Liabilities							
Accounts Payable							
2150 · ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	\$ 12,313.74	\$ 1,097.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 13,410.74
Total Accounts Payable	12,313.74	1,097.00	-	-	-	-	13,410.74
Other Current Liabilities							
2160 · CURRENT PORTION-LTD	66,576.18	-	-	-	-	-	66,576.18
2200 · PAYROLL LIABILITIES	2,044.24	-	-	-	-	-	2,044.24
Total Other Current Liabilities	68,620.42	-	-	-	-	-	68,620.42
Total Current Liabilities	80,934.16	1,097.00	-	-	-	-	82,031.16
Long Term Liabilities							
2215 · CURRENT PORTION OF DEBT	(66,576.18)	-	-	-	-	-	(66,576.18)
2210 · MIF MORTGAGE 2717	800,154.62	-	-	-	-	-	800,154.62
Total Long Term Liabilities	733,578.44	-	-	-	-	-	733,578.44
Total Liabilities	814,512.60	1,097.00	-	-	-	-	815,609.60
Net Assets							
3001 · UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	3,658,633.22	-	-	-	-	-	3,658,633.22
31500 · TEMP. RESTRICTED NET ASSETS	-	45,658.24	(21,769.08)	(24,018.01)	74,717.85	191,990.64	266,579.64
31999 · RECLASS NET ASSETS	(71,338.67)	13,054.01	14,044.32	(5,805.61)	5,480.00	(22,191.99)	(66,757.94)
Net Income	71,338.67	(13,054.01)	(14,044.32)	5,805.61	(5,480.00)	22,191.99	66,757.94
Total Net Assets	3,658,633.22	45,658.24	(21,769.08)	(24,018.01)	74,717.85	191,990.64	3,925,212.86
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	\$ 4,473,145.82	\$ 46,755.24	\$ (21,769.08)	\$ (24,018.01)	\$ 74,717.85	\$ 191,990.64	\$ 4,740,822.46

Substantially all disclosures ordinarily included in modified cash basis financial statements are omitted, and no assurance is provided on these financial statements or supplementary information.

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
Schedule Of Assets, Liabilities And Net Assets By Fund
Modified Cash Basis
December 31, 2018

	1 General	2 Designated	3 Preschool	5 Columbarium	6 Capital Campaign	7 Endowment	TOTAL
ASSETS							
Current Assets							
Checking/Savings							
1050 · GENERAL FUND CHECKING 350	\$ 22,007.87	\$ 14,137.86	\$ (21,769.08)	\$ (25,618.01)	\$ 74,717.85	\$ -	\$ 63,476.49
1060 · CAPITAL IMPRO MIF 7816	-	-	-	-	-	50,928.84	50,928.84
1080 · GEN ENDOW MIF 7077	-	-	-	-	-	22,046.62	22,046.62
1100 · EDUCAT ENDOW MIF 7750	-	-	-	-	-	25,113.22	25,113.22
1120 · RUTER ENDOW MIF 7774	-	-	-	-	-	9,384.61	9,384.61
1200 · DESIGNATED SAVINGS (4490)	-	32,522.38	-	-	-	-	32,522.38
Total Checking/Savings	22,007.87	46,660.24	(21,769.08)	(25,618.01)	74,717.85	107,473.29	203,472.16
Other Current Assets							
12000 · Undeposited Funds	1,495.00	95.00	-	1,600.00	-	-	3,190.00
Total Other Current Assets	1,495.00	95.00	-	1,600.00	-	-	3,190.00
Total Current Assets	23,502.87	46,755.24	(21,769.08)	(24,018.01)	74,717.85	107,473.29	206,662.16
Fixed Assets							
1710 · BLDG-310 MEDAYTO DRIVE	3,700,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	3,700,000.00
1720 · LAND-310 MEDAYTO DRIVE	214,753.00	-	-	-	-	-	214,753.00
1730 · FURNITURE/FIXTURES/EQUIPM	506,289.00	-	-	-	-	-	506,289.00
1740 · COMPUTER EQUIPMENT	28,600.95	-	-	-	-	-	28,600.95
Total Fixed Assets	4,449,642.95	-	-	-	-	-	4,449,642.95
Other Assets							
1140 · TERM INVEST MIF 1492.	-	-	-	-	-	84,517.35	84,517.35
Total Other Assets	-	-	-	-	-	84,517.35	84,517.35
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 4,473,145.82	\$ 46,755.24	\$ (21,769.08)	\$ (24,018.01)	\$ 74,717.85	\$ 191,990.64	\$ 4,740,822.46

Substantially all disclosures ordinarily included in modified cash basis financial statements are omitted, and no assurance is provided on these financial statements or supplementary information.

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
DESIGNATED FUND BALANCE
MODIFIED CASH BASIS
ONE MONTH AND YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2018**

Fund	Balance 12/31/2017	Current Month Receipts	Expenses	Receipts	Year-to-date Expenses	Transfers	Balance
Banners/Art/Stain Glass	\$411.16	\$ 105.00		\$ 4,210.00	\$ 2,207.70	\$ -	\$2,413.46
Bell Repair	2,137.75	500.00		500.00	3,662.06	-	(1,024.31)
Can Recycling	687.10	163.20		720.00	829.10	-	578.00
Children's Ministry	170.15					-	170.15
Choir	1,273.75			813.00	150.00	-	1,936.75
Concert Series/Choir Fund	1,977.18					-	1,977.18
ELW Hymnals	(27.09)			27.09			(0.00)
Faith Rebuilders	884.65					-	884.65
Family Promise	1,086.38	135.00		1,385.00	1,470.92	-	1,000.46
Flowers/Decorations	(0.00)					-	(0.00)
Food Shelf	-			2,978.00	2,081.00	-	897.00
Funeral Expense	21.72					-	21.72
GLBC Scholarships	459.70			803.00	425.00	-	837.70
GLLM			50.00	1,862.00	1,862.00		-
Habitat for Humanity	-		288.00	288.00	288.00	-	-
Life Insurance	0.40			703.50	703.30	-	0.60
Lutefisk Dinner	-	921.00	4,791.93	11,438.00	11,438.00	-	-
Memorials - Designated	561.00					-	561.00
Memorials - Undesignated	1,376.04	190.00		14,200.42	12,530.42	-	3,046.04
Merchandise		36.00		1,240.00	1,707.98		(467.98)
Mission Trip Fundraiser	0.00					-	0.00
Missionary for a Day	-	27.00	464.00	464.00	464.00	-	-
Mortgage Principle/CC	-	180.00	3,800.00	3,800.00	3,800.00	-	-
Noisy Offering	461.62	268.15		1,433.30	1,145.15	-	749.77
Non Mission Purchase	11.76					-	11.76
Outreach	(8.00)			506.70	155.66	-	343.04
Parking Lot Lights				20.00	281.00		(261.00)
Quilters	10.00	100.00	674.00	764.00	674.00	-	100.00
Sound System				4,932.00	9,456.98		(4,524.98)
Sunday School Offering	(37.07)	49.17		666.30	500.00	-	129.23
The Feast	5,856.82	3,004.92		13,957.42	19,209.72	-	604.52
The Link	-		140.00	2,140.00	2,140.00	-	-
The Lutheran	12.00			39.90	52.87	-	(0.97)
Tuesday's Table				-			-
VBS	978.00	384.32		4,158.00	5,136.00	-	-
World Hunger	-	50.00	155.00	155.00	155.00	-	-
Youth Account	40,328.27	8,701.68		18,127.76	23,453.21	-	35,002.82
Youth Fundraiser	-	79.00	3,669.14	4,496.00	4,496.00	-	-
Zimmerle Mission	-	50.00		560.00		-	560.00
Interest Income	78.96	2.76		32.67		-	111.63
Total	\$ 58,712.25	\$ 14,947.20	\$ 14,032.07	\$ 97,436.06	\$ 110,490.07	\$ -	\$ 45,658.24

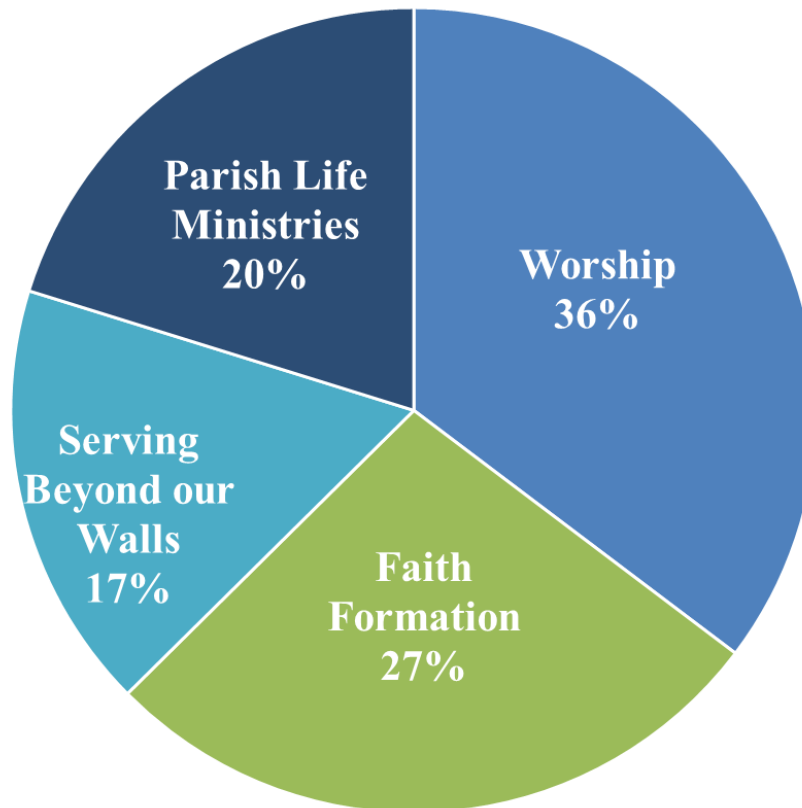
Faith's 2019 Narrative Mission Plan

All In at Faith

Proposed 2019 Mission Plan - \$702,110

Our Narrative Mission Plan will explore how the anticipated offerings will work to serve our congregation and community across four different areas: Worship, Faith Formation, Parish Life Ministries, and Serving Beyond Our Walls. Within each area we will provide a category definition, highlight moments from the past, and share how our ministry will grow moving forward.

Faith Lutheran Church Mission Plan



Worship

36% of Mission Plan = \$247,845

I will sing of your love and justice; to you, Lord, I will sing praise... Psalm 101:1

What's included in Worship?

Worship includes music, ushers, bulletins, hymnals, sound equipment, altar guild, and a significant amount of pastoral time so it's no surprise that it makes up the largest portion of our Mission Plan at 36%. Here at Faith, we take our music as part of worship pretty seriously, so a large portion of the plan will be used for new choir music, instruments, musicians, choir director, replacement hymnals, etc. Additionally, we need our space to be comfortable for worship, so about a third of our facility costs (mortgage, utilities, heat, air conditioning, etc.) are allocated to the time we spend in worship services. Worship provides us a time to

connect with God, learn more about his teachings, and understand the impact he can have on our everyday lives. Worship is where it all begins for us here at Faith so it makes sense that the largest portion of our plan is used for ministry.

Highlights of Worship 2018

- Increased average worship attendance
- Installation of upgraded speakers to enhance worship in the sanctuary
- Outdoor Rally Sunday worship in the columbarium prayer garden
- Outdoor Feast Services
- Addition of electric keyboard to the Feast band
- Completion and installation of stained glass windows on the south wall of the sanctuary
- The Chancel choir shared their gifts in both an Easter and Christmas Cantata
- Worship services are now being shared on the Internet
- Bid farewell and Godspeed to Brian Jensen and welcomed Pat Nelsen as our new Feast Worship Coordinator.
- Praise and Play Preschool sang during the Feast Worship and performed a Christmas Program for parents and grandparent
- Shakers added to include children in making a joyful noise as we begin our worship
- 14 baptisms
- 12 young adults at Faith affirmed their faith on Reformation Sunday

Rally Sunday Worship In The Prayer Garden



We had a
great morning
at Faith!
Anna Haats



Celebrating Milestones of Faith



Looking Ahead

In 2019 we are looking forward to engaging more people in worship and sharing the good news of Jesus in creative and meaningful ways. We believe that worship is at the center of our lives together and that by providing a meaningful and engaging worship will lead people into deeper encounters with our gracious God.

Faith Formation

27% of Mission Plan = \$191,556

If you are pleased with me, teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find favor with you. Remember that this nation is your people... Exodus 33:13

What's included in Faith Formation?

Faith Formation focuses on the different programs provided to children and adults to dive deeper into God's word. Included in these programs are Sunday School, VBS, Confirmation, Preschool, Bible Studies, Faith on Tap, and The Feast programming. The dollars allocated to make these programs thrive are used for Sunday School activities such as arts and craft materials, Bibles, Confirmation curriculum, the majority of our Youth and Education Director's time, and a significant portion of pastoral time. Similar to worship, we need space to gather, study, and discuss, so about a third of our facility costs are allocated to these activities.

Faith formation is the second largest consumer of our pie chart, making up 27% of our Narrative Mission Plan, and subsequently, the second most important use of our funds and time to strengthen our relationship with God. Faith formation provides the foundation for our future; serving as the platform for many of our youth to learn about God's love, begin to have a relationship with Jesus, and to understand what it means to live as a Christian in our community. Faith formation also offers different ways for each of us to deepen our understanding of God's love and wrestle with life's hard questions when God's perfect love has to be applied to the imperfect world we live in. Given the importance of this ministry, it makes sense that a significant portion of our Narrative Mission Plan supports these programs.

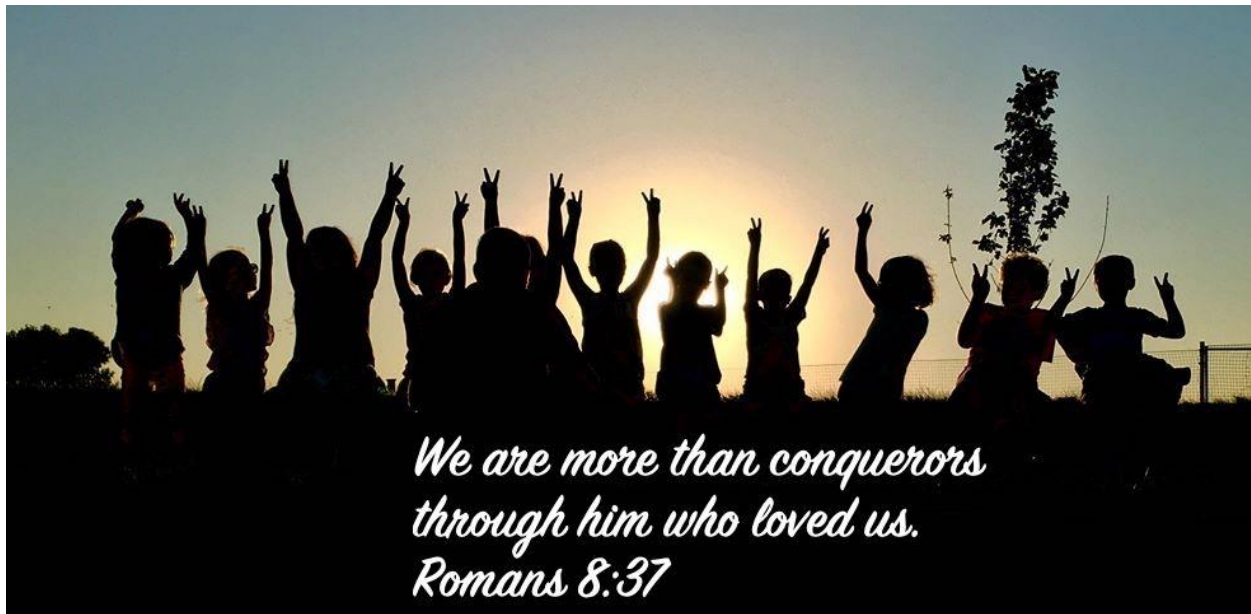
Highlights of Faith Formation 2018

- VBS Day Camp at Green Lake Bible Camp! Over 110 Day Campers (between Faith and Peace) attended!
- 13 youth joined Pastors Seyward and Todd, and Interim Youth Director Hannah Nelsen at the ELCA National Youth Gathering in Houston.
- Said farewell and Godspeed to Hannah Nelsen and Welcomed Children, Youth and Family Ministries Director James Lucas to Faith.
- Increased lay led Bible Studies during the Feast Adult Education Hour
- New Men's Tuesday Morning Bible Study "Guys on the Go"
- More Faith Families attended Faith Family Camp At Camp House in Brimson, MN
- New Youth Group meets on Sunday Evenings
- Equipping and Engaging High School Youth in leading The Feast "Seeds and Sprouts" ministry

Faith At Camp House



Our Children In Action



Looking Ahead

In 2019 Faith will strive to continue to provide quality Faith formation opportunities for people across the generations of our congregation. By investing in learning, we deepen our discipleship and help shape the faith of each passing generation.

Parish Life Ministries

20% of Mission Plan = \$141,844

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another... John 13:34

What's included in Parish Life Ministries?

Parish Life Ministries focuses on fostering the sense of community we have built here at Faith and it includes services such as coffee and fellowship, Faith Partners, funerals, columbarium, hobby nights, quilters, and new member classes. One fifth of our Narrative Mission Plan will be used to support these events by providing the funds for coffee, treats, meals, welcome center materials, and advertising. Space to host these events is a necessity; a portion of our facility cost will be allocated here.

While Parish Life Ministries is very important to developing the sense of community and belonging felt here at Faith, many of these activities rely much more heavily on the gift of time rather than dollars from our members and that is reflected in the smaller percentage of our Narrative Mission Plan. While money is needed to support many of the activities, community is really developed through the volunteer hours of members, preparing coffee on Sundays, making meals for funerals, or visiting members who are homebound.

Highlights of Parish Life Ministries 2018

- Faith introduces new Logo and marketing plan including new Faith T-Shirts
- Addition of Marge Erickson as Faith Volunteer Coordinator
- Establishment of Coffee serving teams
- Feast meals lead to making better connections with one another
- Revising Faiths visitation ministries
- Stained glass window project brings many together
- 13 families served at a time of grief in our funeral ministry
- Rally Sunday with bounce house and picnic

Many Hands Bring Beauty To Light



New T-Shirts Are A Hit!



Looking Ahead

In 2019, we will continue to support the efforts that build community here at Faith. We hope to grow participation and engagement of members using social media and technology to develop a deeper awareness of our ministry. We hope to grow the opportunities for members to share more meals together and to hopefully eliminate cost as a barrier to joining in that meal.

Serving Beyond Our Walls 17% of Mission Plan = \$120,865

And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him... Colossians 3:17

What's included in Serving Beyond Our Walls?

Serving Beyond our Walls includes the activities and services provided to both members and non-members alike in effort to share God's love in the community and world we live in. These activities include quilters, community garden, bounty cart, support of our Missionaries, the Link, non-member funerals, Bethesda, Glen Oakes, Just for Kix, our ELCA partnership, etc. This area makes up the smallest percentage of our Mission Plan, 17%, as many of these activities are fueled more by volunteer hours. Much of the funds used for serving beyond our walls are dollars that are given away to support the ELCA, and other charities in our community that we see as partners in serving our community.

While Serving Beyond our Walls does make up the smallest piece of the pie, the impact we have on our community and our world is significant. This area helps us to live God's word and share his love outside of our church membership. Through this ministry we both positively impact the world around us and frequently gain a closer relationship with God.

Highlights of Serving Beyond Our Walls 2018

- 11 delicious Tuesday's Table Meals shared with our neighbors
- Trunk or Treat Confirmation Service Project
- Operation Christmas Child – almost 100 boxes packed and shipped!
- Quilts made and distributed locally and globally
- Food Packing for the Wildcat Backpack program
- Added new beds for Family Promise

Across The Generations We Serve Our Neighbors

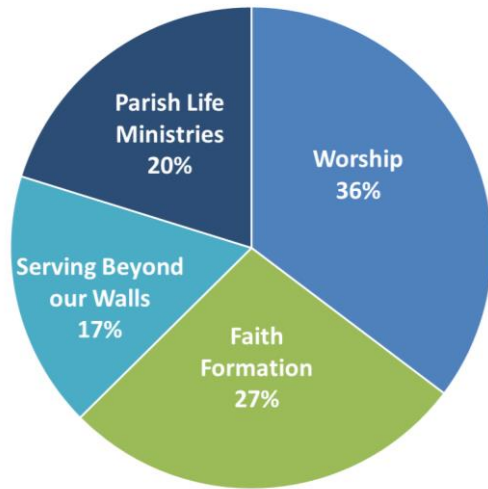


Looking Ahead

In 2019, we will continue the wonderful community based ministries that have made Faith a good neighbor in the Spicer New London area. We look forward to expanding the reach of Faith with a summer middle school mission trip and by being an active and engaged congregation that loves God and our neighbors.

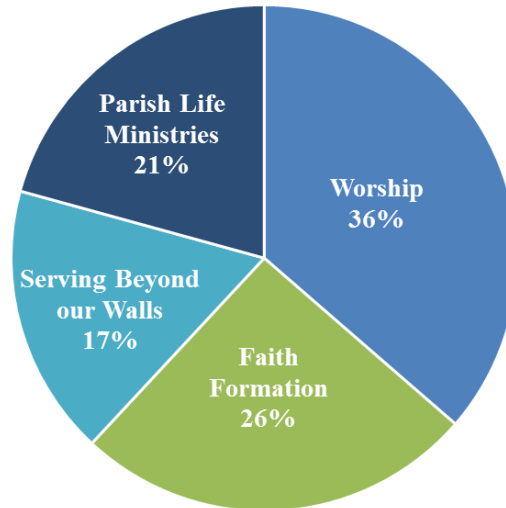
How Do We Compare?

Faith Lutheran Church Mission Plan



2019

Faith Lutheran Church Mission Plan



2018

Our budget for 2019 is allocated very similarly as the 2018 budget was. We see a small shift from parish life ministries to faith formation.

Our Budget is Seeing Significant Growth and We're Asking All of You to Go All In At Faith – What is Causing this Growth?

The activities already built into our mission plan are good. As a church, we are active in developing ways to grow more in our faith and developing venues to live out our faith. Good things will happen at our church next year, even if we don't increase our giving. However, our church has the potential to do great things! The Mission Resource Team here at Faith, with the guidance from the Church Council has put together 3 areas that would allow us to do more in living out our mission, if we raise an additional \$45,000. Going All In will allow for us to do some big things in 2019. Over the next year we have goal to increase giving by \$45,000. Here's what we plan to do with the additional revenue:

1. All In for our YOUTH - \$20,000
 - Support James! We're fully staffed for the first time in a year, we want to ensure the success of our Children, Youth, and Family Ministry programs
 - Invigorate – High School Youth Group
 - Explore – High School Experience Trip
 - Serve – Middle School Mission Trip
 - Invest – Provide scholarships for bible camp and pre-school

2. All In for our CHURCH - \$15,000

- Foster – Build our sense of community and boost participation through the addition of small group ministry;
- Fund – Provide scholarships for members of our church to attend Camp House
- Revitalize – Renew our visitation ministry
- Maintain – Our building is a central hub for many of our activities. Repair projects are in our annual budget this year; these projects are no longer optional, but essential to maintaining our space

3. All In for our COMMUNITY- \$10,000

- Give – Begin the tradition of an annual day of service
- Feed – Assist the hungry through our continued support of Tuesday's Table, Wildcat Backpack Program, food shelf collections, etc
- Grief support – Our church offers funeral services for several community members without a church home
- Provide – Being a host church to provide temporary housing to those in the Family Promise program