St. Luke’s
Lutheran Church

Park Ridge, Illinois

2016
Annual Report
to the Congregation

January 29, 2017
Deciding Together Faithfully

“We are a faith community inspired by God’s love, welcoming all, courageously living Christ’s ministry for the world.”

(From St. Luke’s Vision Statement)

St. Luke’s Council, leaders, staff, and members seek to create a climate in which decisions are made in a manner that is faithful to the vision of “openness, acceptance, and trust.” Doing this, we live out who we are as a community of God’s people in our life together.

In pursuit of our goal to decide together faithfully, we are committed to the following guidelines for ourselves and others:

The decision making process is open and transparent, rather than covert and manipulative. “Openness, acceptance, and trust” are nurtured when decisions are made in the context of meetings rather than outside of that process. Leaders help facilitate an open and transparent climate in the decision-making process.

This process is governed by St. Luke’s Constitution, By-Laws, and Continuing Resolutions.

The ideas, opinions, and wisdom of all who wish to share them are respected. We commit ourselves to sharing and taking responsibility for our own opinions and ideas while listening to and learning from others, especially when we disagree. Opinions, ideas, and feelings are shared in a courteous, honest, and civil manner.

Honesty is practiced by all.

While keeping the larger picture of St. Luke’s ministry and mission in mind, we express our own opinions, advocating for them in the context of the community decision making process.

When consensus is not possible, disagreements regarding decisions, opinions, or ideas are honored and respected. We commit ourselves to open and honest disagreement in the context of community.

Personal disagreements and conflicts are dealt with in a direct, open, and respectful manner with the person(s) involved, and follow Constitutional procedures when appropriate.

Leaders recognize and affirm their roles as those who help create and maintain a healthy congregational climate in which we decide together faithfully as God’s people.

DTF TT, edit3, May 2006
This is the meeting at which any topic may be brought for consideration by the congregation. However, to help facilitate the meeting, if you would like anything added to the agenda, please provide that request in writing to Council President, Cindy Nommensen, by Wednesday, January 25, 2017.

Proposed amendments to the 2017 Spending Plan are also requested in writing prior to the start of the meeting, and preferably twenty-four hours in advance, so they can be projected on the screen when they are being discussed.
St. Luke’s is committed to knowing Christ and making Christ known. 
We strive to develop a Christian community that invites and values all people, that nurtures growth with God and each other, and that encourages openness, acceptance, trust and service to God and God’s community.

ST. LUKE’S LUTHERAN CHURCH
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
Sunday, January 29, 2017
12:15 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Slide Presentation with Opening Hymn “My Life Flows On In Endless Song” ELW 763
2. Appointment of Parliamentarian and Tellers
3. Determination of Quorum (10% of voting members)
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Reports of the Congregation Council, Staff, Committees and Cabinets
   a. Report of the Pastors
   b. Financial Management Team (FMT)
      iii. Recommendations of 2017 Spending Plan
   c. Congregation Council Report and Committee Reports
      i. Comments/ Questions on reports
   d. Nominating Committee
      i. Nominations from the Floor
      ii. Election
   e. Endowment Fund
   f. Resolutions
6. New Business and Items from the Floor
7. Recognition of Staff, Retiring Council Members and Cabinet Coordinators
8. President’s Closing Remarks
9. Pastor’s Closing Prayer
10. Adjournment
It is once more a privilege to have been invited by you into this community of faith. I was particularly moved by your vote of confidence at the beginning of 2016 to make my call among you permanent. I pray every morning that I can live up to the responsibility that you have entrusted to me.

One of the achievements of our first year together was creating a vision statement:

“We are a faith community inspired by God’s love, welcoming all, courageously living Christ’s ministry for the world.”

It was my hope last year….and my intention this year….that we use this vision statement in worship regularly to remind ourselves of our collective work in sharing of the love of Christ’s ministry to others. Some of our Assisting Ministers include it in their prayer petitions, I hope to expand this into other parts of our liturgy this year!

A year ago I shared how important it is for pastors to first listen to the members of the congregation before action has been taken. Pastor Alex and I have tried to continue to do that this year.

Certainly, a very significant thing that has been shared by many in the congregation has been to continue to address the $2.4 Million dollar debt of the congregation. We currently pay almost $180,000 in debt service (principal and interest) each year. This debt service is paid through reserve funds from bequests that have been received over the past several years that the Congregation Council wisely set aside for this purpose. Without those reserve funds, our staffing and programming would have been deeply impacted by this.

To address this indebtedness head-on, in May, we launched a stewardship program entitled, “Inspired by the Past – Courageously Serving the Future” Debt Reduction Appeal, led by the James Company of Milwaukee, WI. The goal of the appeal was to raise between $750,000 - 1,000,000 to reduce our indebtedness. At this writing we have received gifts and pledges of over $630,000. We are pleased with the generosity that has been shared in such a significant way. Thank you to the many families who have sacrificed to support the ministry of the congregation in this special way.

At the end of 2018 we will need to refinance the present loan through the Mission Investment Fund of the ELCA. At that time, we will owe $2.2 Million just through our normal pay down through our debt service. It is our hope and prayer that we can reduce that indebtedness by an addition $600,000 to an indebtedness of $1.6 Million. If we can do that, we will be able to reduce our debt service to approximately $120,000 a year beginning in 2019. It is our intention at that point to fold our debt service into the General Budget going forward.

The leadership of the congregation will continue to have to balance personnel needs versus financial expenditures in the coming years, and at this moment, we feel that finding savings in the personnel budget through staff attrition is the most important way to be fiscally responsible. As a position is vacated, we will ask existing staff, congregation members on a contract basis or volunteers to fill-in to keep the ministries in these vital areas strong.
We tried something new this year with the Cedar Street Celebration in August. It was a wonderful success from wonderful food, games for all ages, fellowship with members and guests from our neighborhood, and great entertainment. Through that outreach effort we forged stronger relationships with our neighbors and enabled people to experience St. Luke’s in a different venue than what happens on Sunday mornings!

We are excited to report that we received 34 new family units into St. Luke’s in 2016. We have begun the “Walk About” on selected Sunday mornings where children (up to 30 in December) had the opportunity to engage with the pastors during the sermon time outside of worship. Parents and children, alike, seem to like this new alternative!

Of course, it warms my heart that Sunday Night Suppers is such a centerpiece to the servant ministry of this congregation. Thank you to all who give so generously of their time to make this important ministry happen. Recently I was called by a leader of World Hunger at the ELCA offices. She called to thank St. Luke’s for being a national leader in the work of World Hunger through the ELCA. What a blessing it is to have this vision for compassion for the whole world.

Worship is the one place where all of St. Luke’s gathers to hear the Word of God proclaimed and receive the Sacrament of the Altar. Worship continues to be a place of centering and comfort, as well as a place that challenges us to be the “hands, eyes, feet and heart of Jesus” to the world. Advent Candlelight Lessons and Carols was so incredibly beautiful again this year. These services serve as an important reminder of the wonderful leadership of Anne Krentz Organ as our Music Director, and Melinda Ramseth Hoiland, as our Children’s Music Director, as well as the incredible musicians, vocal and instrumental, that make up this wonderful congregation.

Part of the strategic plan for 2016 was to explore an alternative worship experience. We asked Scott Grau to lead a conversation with our congregation about what alternative experiences might look like. Scott spent many hours with members, committees, the Worship Cabinet and Congregation Council. He made several specific recommendations to the Congregation Council that we will continue to implement in 2017.

We did have a few surprises in 2016 that have challenged us a bit…..a major sewer issue in the summer, and the discovery of a badly damaged roof have presented unique financial challenges. A very generous gift helped to pay for the sewer repair, while the roof financing is still being considered before it is brought before the congregation at a special meeting sometime in late winter or early spring.

In closing, I would like to thank everyone in this congregation for continuing to make the transition into St. Luke’s so very positive for Annette and me. We are blessed with so many wonderful people who do so many amazing things. We are truly a blessed congregation.

I want to thank the lay leadership of this congregation. We continue to have incredible leadership from our congregation council and executive committee. I want to thank Laure Mullaney, Todd Raeder and Craig Besler and Dave Duffy who have served faithfully on congregation council this year and who now will be stepping off. I also want to give a deep thank you to Cindy Nommensen, our President, who along with Clare English, Vice President, Dave Duffy, Secretary and Tom Anderson, Treasurer have made up the Executive committee for this past year. They are steady leaders who have offered their time, talents and treasures to secure a better future for St. Luke’s.
I thank all those who serve in leadership positions within the structure of St. Luke’s – Cabinet, Committee, organization, and task force members who make all the ministries of this place happen!
I want to thank our amazing staff at St. Luke’s: Anne Krentz Organ, Melinda Ramseth Hoiland, Susan Pinto, and Jim Schrop. These folks are wonderful professionals who give of themselves in many ways to provide leadership to the vital ministries of this church. To a person, they care so deeply about the integrity of the ministries that they perform. Thank you!!!

And finally, I thank my colleague Pastor Alex, I think that Pastor Alex and I have forged a close friendship, and continue to work together to make sure that St. Luke’s has the best pastoral leadership that each of us have to give. This congregation deserves that – and nothing less than that. Thank you Pastor Alex for your leadership, creativity, and friendship.

I am privileged to have been your pastor this year. I thank you for the faithfulness, courage, and resiliency that this congregation continues to demonstrate on a daily basis.

Sincerely,
Dick Johnson, Pastor – St. Luke’s Lutheran Church, Park Ridge, IL
I want to start by giving thanks to the amazing people I get to work with regularly here at St. Luke’s. Without the gifts of Pastor Johnson, Ms. Organ, Ms. Hoiland, Ms. Pinto, Ms. Lynch and Mr. Schrop, I would not be able to do my job. Without the gifts of our council and committee leads and volunteers, I would not be able to do my job, and without parents and congregation members committed to this church and especially to our youth and children, I would not be able to do my job. With all this, I will always consider myself blessed at St. Luke’s to learn from and work with the best on every level.

This year we have continued what we started last year with confirmation. We are blessed to have the consistent faces of Mr. Mears and Ms. Kohldorfer, as well as a new face teaching our 7th grade Ms. Cross. They have committed to being downstairs with 6-8 grades almost every Sunday morning through the program year. We occasionally meet Sunday nights to allow some time for our 7th and 8th graders to work with both pastors, eating together and having conversation. This year we have been walking through the Bible. This year Confirmation is on May 7.

We have been blessed in this last year to have another great trip following our National Youth Gathering in 2015. We went to Oaks, OK on a different mission of listening and cultural immersion. You can read more about it in the youth report, but I am thankful for the willingness of our youth to engage something with trust and commitment. In preparation, we met together and did some local service, as well as when we returned we presented to the congregation leading worship giving back what they learned, and giving thanks for the congregation’s support. This coming summer, we plan to go to Toronto working with an organization called Youthworks. The goal of this trip is to be hands on and lend our hands and feet to rebuilding and helping people get back on track, to partner with the city, meet other youth groups, and work hard!

This year we have been blessed by youth who have reached out to St. Luke’s in completing their Eagle Scout Project. Cole Simner, Jake Rink, and Luke Calahan have made improvements to our building. We have a newly landscaped area along the alley, a new adult education space in the lower level, and our hockey rink (lowest level) has been cleaned out and organized along with electronic excess removed from a room which could now be repurposed. This is an amazing gift and if you see any of these gentleman, please thank them for their gifts to this community.

In closing, my time at St. Luke’s has been aimed at working together, getting back on track, and diving into our community. We have continued to do great work with our Sunday Night Suppers, a ministry we are completing year four of and have committed to a fifth as well. When I think about this, I am reminded of the many opportunities to serve... in the Park Ridge Ministerial Association, Park Ridge Human Needs Taskforce, being a board member with Advocate Lutheran General, and being a part of the Metro Chicago Liturgy Team. And I can say confidently we have become a church without walls... a church with a space which seems to invite people in and empower them to dream. Yoga classes, music classes, bridge, quilting, book clubs, showers, parties, Arabic learning schools, concerts, meetings, and of course worship and education. As the list of things St. Luke’s does and can do continue, I am forever grateful to have been a part of such a forward thinking ministry. Thanks again, God Bless St. Luke’s and know you are always in my prayers.

Pastor Alex LaChapelle
In 2015, the Congregation Council developed a Vision Statement and a Strategic Plan to guide the congregation into the future. In 2016, the Council’s focus was to work on planning and executing events and processes to follow our Vision and achieve many of the goals of the Plan. The following report reveals the results of our efforts.

1. **Debt Reduction Campaign** - Our financial situation was and is a primary concern of the Congregation Council. It was determined that a campaign was needed to reduce the debt prior to refinancing the mortgage in 2018. A three year Debt Reduction Campaign, “Inspired by the Past - Courageously Serving the Future”, began in May, and we have received $630,000 in pledges and $200,000 in actual funds in 2016. We look forward to receiving more pledges and funds in the future as the Debt Reduction Campaign continues until 2018.

2. **Research and Implement an Alternative “family-focused” Worship Service** - At the end of 2015, surveys were completed by many members of the congregation. Worship and Music received excellent scores and comments on the surveys. A Task Force of the Worship & Music Cabinet was formed to gather information from Cabinets and Committees concerning retention of youth, especially post Confirmation through High School, and creating opportunities to involve more Youth in worship as active participants and leaders. The Confirmands led their Confirmation service with preaching, readings and serving Communion. Children led and participated in the Ash Wednesday service. Younger children were introduced to the successful “Walkabout”, a new experience during the sermon that provides stories and activities led by a Pastor and Melinda Hoiland. Children from age 5 to 18 participate in choirs and instrumental groups, enhancing the worship experience for all.

3. **Member Care Program** - The Member Care Cabinet has identified members who are shut-ins, residents of long-term care facilities or rehab, or who were patients in the hospital, making sure that home visitation/Communion was brought to them. Training sessions for the home visitors, whether new or experienced, have been held several times. Pastor Johnson and Pastor LaChapelle have made numerous visits to the hospital and home bound members each week. This fall, the Cabinet also offered a “Longest Night” service, and a service for those who are grieving the loss of a spouse. A Walgreens Flu Shot Clinic was hosted by Member Care during coffee hour October 6, 2016. Many positive comments have shown that the Cabinet is making a positive difference in the way St. Luke’s cares for it’s members.

4. **Expand Youth and Young Adult Programs** - The High School Youth had an exciting year with their trip to Oaks Indian Mission in Oklahoma in July. They learned of a different culture and expanded their social awareness, and led and shared their experiences during a Sunday worship service. They have participated in field trips learning about different religions, volunteered at the Food Depository, Feed My Children, and Sunday Night Suppers, held fund raising projects in planning for the next ELCA Youth Gathering, and planning for next year’s Mission Trip to Canada. The Middle School youth planned and led their Confirmation Service, participated in retreats, and continue to lead during worship by sharing their musical gifts.

5. **Create Communities of Interest within the Congregation** - The “Dinner for Eight” program was brought back this year (& will continue in 2016). The Cedar Street Celebration brought many members together, sharing fellowship and fun. A children’s book club was requested during the Community of Interest Fair, and is in development with lay leadership.
A new committee, the Revenue Committee, has been formed to develop ways in which the congregation can increase revenue to improve our financial situation.


   - The Cedar Street Celebration, a “block party” on Cedar that we hosted and which was a success, took place August 4th. The Police and Fire departments made appearances with their equipment, games and a bouncy house entertained children, food was served, and music serenaded us. The congregation had fun, and our neighbors, who were personally invited, were very happy that St. Luke’s is in their neighborhood.
   
   - St. Luke’s was a Crop Walk stop on October 16. Walkers were able to be refreshed at our location, and many saw us for the first time.
   
   - The Annual Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols was well attended by the community and the congregation.
   
   - A Lifeline Health Screening was held December 14 which drew people from the community, and to which our members were also invited.
   
   - Sunday Night Suppers continues to serve those of our neighbors who are hungry and lonely. The churches and organizations who volunteer to sponsor and serve the dinners have become very familiar with St. Luke’s and have mentioned how impressed they are with our ministries, church and congregation.
   
   - Hosting the annual Community Good Friday Service for Park Ridge

7. **Improve Volunteerism and our Committee Infrastructure** - A Cabinet and Committee quarterly meeting was established this year to improve communication between the varied groups. Many ideas are shared during the meetings. There has been discussion about one or two meeting nights each month instead of several. The objective would be to share ideas, and schedules with other Cabinets & Committees who are on the premises. This will begin in September 2017.

The Community of Interest Fair was well attended during the coffee hour September 18th. Many questions about volunteering or joining a Committee were asked. Several new committee members have already begun their work.

**Summary**

As 2016 began, the roof over Henderson Hall was damaged by the wind and plans are to have it replaced in spring of 2017. Council was faced with critical repairs to the south parking lot and a blocked drainage pipe which were completed. The new boiler’s installation was completed, and light bulbs were replaced with LED bulbs to save energy costs. Efforts to reduce the budget for 2017 and lowering benefit expenses were made. The Church Council has been diligent in addressing the financial situation. Forums were held and letters were sent to inform and explain our status as the year progressed. Financial numbers were published in the Bulletin and Messenger to keep everyone current.

It is with great thanksgiving that the congregation completed 2016 having funded our financial obligations. The Congregation Council is very grateful to our members for the confidence in and the financial support of St. Luke’s ministries, staff, building, and volunteers. You have overwhelmingly responded to the request for increased giving. The congregation has been very blessed, and it is inspiring to witness the support, for not only St. Luke’s, but for those in need locally and around the world. St. Luke’s believes in “God’s Work - Our Hands”.

Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia Nommensen, Council President
### WORKING FUND

**Balance, January 1, 2016** $391.11

**Receipts**
- Circle Offerings: General $838.00
- Thankoffering 320.00

**Total Receipts** $1,158.00

**Total, Working Fund** $1,549.11

**Disbursements**
- Women of the E.L.C.A., Thankoffer. $320.00
- “Love Gifts”
  - St. Luke’s General Fund 500.00
  - Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center 125.00
  - LSSI 150.00
  - The Night Ministry 125.00
  - Center of Concern 100.00

**Total Disbursements** ($1,320.00)

**Balance, December 31, 2016** $229.11

(Chase Bank, Checking)

**TOTAL ASSETS:**

Checking account: $229.11

---

Irene E. Jinks  
Treasurer

(Three Circle groups have contributed to regular offerings, as shown above, which are used for St. Luke’s WELCA projects, and to Thankofferings, which are sent directly to the Women of the ELCA Headquarters.)
Memorials and Special Gifts Committee
2016 Annual Report

Members who served on the committee in 2016 included Kathy Figler, Jim Henderson, Kathy Thornley and Pastor Johnson.

In 2016, St. Luke’s received $5,110 in memorial and special gift contributions. A report of memorials and special gifts is published in the All Saints Sunday bulletin. These figures do not include trusts and bequest gifts that are managed by the congregation council.

Thank you cards / tax receipts are sent to the donors. The family of those persons being remembered by memorial gifts and those individuals honored by special gifts are notified of the gifts to St. Luke’s.

If the total of memorials for an individual exceeds $500, the family is contacted to see if they have a preference regarding the use of the funds. This contact is usually made about three months after a death to allow all the memorial gifts to be received. A list of needs is provided for the family’s consideration. Special gifts are often designated when they are given. The final decision as to the use of memorials and special gifts is made by the congregation council upon recommendation of the committee. The use must be within the mission of the congregation.

Memorial and special gift funds in 2016 provided or will provide money for:

- 2017 Memorial Ministries
- Banquet Chairs
- Building Fund
- Debt Reduction
- Classroom Tables
- General Fund
- LED Lighting Fixtures and Lights for Exterior West Wall of Church
- Mortgage Payments
- Music Program
- Outreach
- Sanctuary Sconce Refurbishing
- “Shruti Box” Musical Instrument
- Youth Ministry

We are deeply grateful for the generosity of those who made memorial gifts and special gifts to St. Luke’s.

Submitted by:
Pastor Richard Johnson, Convener
Iris Henderson, Recorder
Financial Management Team
2016 Annual Report

I am pleased to report that, thanks to the year-end generosity of our members, we have ended 2016 with an operating surplus. After entering the month of December with a deficit of over $100,000, our general fund contributions during the month increased our revenues to exceed our expenses by $4,955 (Schedule A). This is an incredible demonstration of the commitment of our congregation and should make us all proud to be a part of St. Luke’s.

Our balance sheet remains strong (Schedule B) with liquid assets of $780,744, deposited between various bank accounts and the Mission Investment Fund. We incurred some building expenses during the year with a boiler replacement ($100,000) and sewer repair in the parkway on Cedar ($35,000). Both of these repairs were paid from planned reserves and generous donations, and therefore did not negatively impact our budget. A good portion of those reserve funds were from the bequests that we received in 2015. Those gifts have been a tremendous support in the maintenance of our physical building and our overall financial health.

An upcoming building issue is our roof over Henderson Hall. This work has been postponed several times in favor of other projects, but it became apparent this past fall that it needs to be replaced. There are some variables as far as what it will cost, but we are planning for a $200,000 expense. We have funding for at least half of the project identified, but the source of $50,000 - $100,000 is yet to be determined. We are working with the Mission Investment Fund, our mortgage lender, to agree to terms of financing for the necessary funds as a last resort. Much of our cash on hand is designated to make mortgage payments and reduce the principal balance of the loan, so we have been adamant to not use any of those funds. This work is expected to be completed by Summer 2017, so further communication is forthcoming along with a special congregational meeting to approve that expense.

2017 Spending Plan

The spending plan summary (Schedule A) is a compilation of the budgeted income and expense categories. Those amounts were calculated to determine the operating surplus of $4,955 described above. Below the surplus line, the various non-budget account category totals are listed. These can be thought of as the church’s savings accounts, separate from the day-to-day budget activity and held in various ledger accounts in our financial reports. Most are designated for specific purposes as approved by the Congregation Council. The year-end balance in these accounts was $772,960.

Schedule A also outlines the 2017 Spending Plan. The revenue projections were derived conservatively to stay within the amount of 2016 revenues. In other words, if we continue to maintain and grow our annual giving, we should continue to see revenues exceed expenses.

While the expense budget is similarly conservative, we were able to meet budget requests submitted by the various cabinets for 2017. A few categories have been adjusted to increase our confidence that we’ll stay within our expense plan for this year.
Mortgage Loan

Here are some current numbers on our mortgage loan:

- $2,367,347 principal balance
- 3.75% interest rate
- $14,493 monthly payment

We are mid-way through our 3 year term of the loan before the rate and payment get reviewed again in October 2018. At that time, the rate will adjust to reflect the current market conditions and our payment will be recast to reflect the lower principal balance.

With that date in mind, let me say that we are right on course with the plan that we outlined at last year’s annual meeting. Mortgage payments continue to be paid out of our cash reserves. We have a balance of $306,045 in our mortgage fund, with $304,353 in payments remaining (21 months x $14,493). Our strategy was to make payments that way to allow us to maintain a balanced budget without the burden of the mortgage payments. That allows us to focus our special giving on the Debt Reduction Campaign.

Seven months into the campaign, our results are quite promising. We have received pledges of $635,000, with actual contributions to date of $200,000. While these numbers are impressive, there is much work left to be done. The challenge at the end of the campaign is that when our mortgage recalculates in 2018, we will have reduced our loan balance significantly enough to include our new (lower) loan payment in the annual budget. That is still a stretch goal, but be assured there are many teams working within the church to achieve that end. Our Debt Reduction Committee continues to support the campaign effort, while Expense and Revenue teams are meeting at least monthly to creatively move those numbers in the right direction.

We very much need the commitment that our members continue to provide. Add to that the leadership of our fine staff, and St. Luke’s is in a great position for continued growth and prosperity.

Respectfully submitted,

Financial Management Team
Tom Anderson, Chairman
Financial Management Team  
Schedule A  

Summary of 2017 Spending Plan  
Income & Expense  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Spending Plan 2016</th>
<th>Actual 2016 thru 12/31/2016</th>
<th>Anticipated 2017 Income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INCOME</td>
<td>$ 811,200</td>
<td>$ 834,475</td>
<td>$ 834,475</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXPENSE BY CABINET</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEADERSHIP</td>
<td>$ 950</td>
<td>$ 1,337</td>
<td>$ 1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WORSHIP &amp; MUSIC</td>
<td>$ 9,650</td>
<td>$ 7,712</td>
<td>$ 9,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUCATION &amp; LEARNING</td>
<td>$ 11,815</td>
<td>$ 10,839</td>
<td>$ 11,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEMBER CARE</td>
<td>$ 2,225</td>
<td>$ 1,263</td>
<td>$ 2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONGREGATIONAL LIFE</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OUTREACH &amp; COMMUNITY SERVICE</td>
<td>$ 62,200</td>
<td>$ 60,794</td>
<td>$ 62,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPERATIONS &amp; MANAGEMENT</td>
<td>$ 131,487</td>
<td>$ 137,071</td>
<td>$ 137,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MORTGAGE EXPENSE</td>
<td>$ 173,916</td>
<td>$ 173,916</td>
<td>$ 173,916</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERSONNEL</td>
<td>$ 418,977</td>
<td>$ 436,589</td>
<td>$ 436,309</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL EXPENSES</td>
<td>$ 811,200</td>
<td>$ 829,521</td>
<td>$ 834,475</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ 4,955</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Restricted/Limited Funds $ 582,931
Total Committees, Cabinets and Teams Funds $ 144,782
Total Memorials/Special Gifts Funds $ 45,246

TOTAL DEDICATED ACCOUNTS $ 772,960

NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT) $ 777,915
Financial Management Team
Schedule B
Statement of Assets, Liabilities and Equity
Income Tax Basis
As of December 31, 2016

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS:
11-00-01-02 Checking - MB $374,822.16
11-00-01-03 Petty Cash 100.00
11-04-01-01 MIF MM Account 15401 59,939.29
11-04-01-02 MIF Youth Account 6,952.13
11-04-04-01 MIF CD 149342 Maturity 4-15-18 13,060.37
11-06-04-01 MIF Mortgage Checking Transfer Acct 306,045.85
11-06-04-02 MIF Mortgage Capital Campaign Acct 19,824.25

Total Current Assets $780,744.05

SPECIAL FUNDS:

PROPERTY:
11-08-01-01 Church Building & Lot 11,931,641.00
11-08-01-02 Parking Lots 50,000.00
11-08-01-03 Contents 1,100,000.00

Net Property 13,081,641.00

TOTAL ASSETS $13,862,385.05

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

PAYABLES:
12-00-01-10 Federal Withholding Tax Payable $2,452.27
12-00-01-15 Illinois Withholding Tax Payable 377.72
12-06-01-02 Mortgage Payable 2,367,347.97

Total Payables $2,370,177.96

Total Liabilities 2,370,177.96

EQUITY:
13-00-01-01 Congregational Equity 10,485,161.00
13-00-01-02 Accumulated Mortgage Principal 229,132.03
Net Income (Loss) 777,914.06

Total Equity 11,492,207.09

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY $13,862,385.05
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial Management Team</th>
<th>Schedule C</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Statement of Funds Received

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>December 2016</th>
<th>December 2015</th>
<th>Year To-Date</th>
<th>Year To-Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>BUDGET INCOME:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Offerings</td>
<td>153,885</td>
<td>115,662</td>
<td>622,623</td>
<td>588,393</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>2,099</td>
<td>2,899</td>
<td>11,024</td>
<td>14,362</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seasonal</td>
<td>6,160</td>
<td>10,801</td>
<td>15,129</td>
<td>22,655</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL BUDGET INCOME:</strong></td>
<td>162,144</td>
<td>129,362</td>
<td>648,776</td>
<td>625,410</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **RESTRICTED ACCOUNTS** | | | | |
| Mortgage Reduction     | 12,920     | 5,646        | 44,013       | 35,094       |
| Principal Reduction    | 42,459     | 0            | 170,489      | 12,000       |
| **TOTAL INCOME:**      | 55,379     | 5,646        | 214,502      | 47,094       |

| **NON MINISTRY INCOME:** | | | | |
| Benevolences            |               |               |              |              |
| World Hunger            | 4,484        | 4,250         | 18,885       | 19,427       |
| Disaster Response       | 0            | 0             | 150          | 100          |
| Food Pantries           | 0            | 0             | 125          | 80           |
| Mount of Olives         | 0            | 10            | 20           | 120          |
| Other Benevolence       | 6,518        | 6866          | 12,108       | 14,760       |
| Memorials & Special Gifts| 3,044     | 525           | 5,164        | 12,736       |
| Bequests                | 0            | 0             | 32,085       | 509,642      |
| In/Out                  | 4,159        | 3,008         | 50,170       | 33,118       |
| Reimbursements          | 0            | 5481          | 1,296        | 6,906        |
| Interest Income         | 267          | 509           | 3,631        | 3,151        |
| Other Income            | 30,567       | 899           | 64,514       | 53,483       |
| **TOTAL NON BUDGET INCOME** | 49,039 | 21,548 | 188,148 | 653,523 |

**TOTAL FUNDS RECEIVED**

|                  | 266,562     | 156,556       | 1,051,426    | 1,326,027    |

- Number of Sundays - Period: 4
- Number of Sundays - Year: 52
- Total Budget Income: 162,144
- Budget for Period: 49,480
- Income Over (Under): 112,664
- Budget per Sunday/Annual (Revised): 12,370
- % of Budget Received: 327.79%
- Average Income Per Week: 40,536

Donald Nelson  
Financial Secretary
Report of the Financial Review Committee
Treasurer’s Records

The Financial Review Committee has examined the Treasurer’s and Assistant Treasurer’s books and records of expenses for the general operating and other funds of St. Luke’s Lutheran Church for the year ending December 31, 2016.

The examination included such tests and examinations as considered appropriate by the Committee for these circumstances.

In our opinion, the statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements prepared from these records fairly presents the transactions for the year ending December 31, 2016.

Respectfully submitted this 17th day of January, 2017.

THE FINANCIAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

Brian Scerba, Chair
Scott Grau
Marty Rink
The primary purpose of the Endowment Fund is to enhance the congregation’s outreach, mission support and evangelism. Neither the income nor principle of the Fund shall be used for normal operating budget of this congregation.

The Endowment Fund is marketed in the Messenger as well as on St. Luke’s website. We encourage our members to submit requests for organizations who would benefit from our fund.

On March 8, 2016, the Church Council approved the following disbursements in the amount of $25,165. We were able to contribute:

- $2215 to St. Luke’s Debt Reduction Campaign to pay down the mortgage
- $3000 to St. Luke’s Youth to offset costs for the Immersion Trip to Oak Indian Mission.
- $800 to Worship and Music for Good Friday Noon Service musicians.
- $2550 to Outreach for the support of the LSSI Backpack project
- $500 to Outreach for the support of the Park Ridge Human Needs Task Force
- $1,100 to Outreach for printing costs of the updated St. Luke’s brochure used for visitors and potential members
- $3000 to Outreach for support of the Sunday Night Supper Program at St. Luke’s
- $1000 to Outreach to work with the homeless
- $4000 to support RefugeeOne for high need refugees for their first year in the USA.
- $500 to Global Links for the Annual Membership fee for Bread for the World as a covenant church
- $3500 to Global Links for ELCA Missionary Support
- $1,000 to South Loop Campus Ministry working with three college systems
- $500 to Carlson Community Service for the support of The Magic After School Place program
- $500 to Concordia Place for the support of their Scholarship Fund to provide early childhood education to low income families
- $1,000 to ELCA for student scholarships for the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians Regional Conferences

Thank you for the opportunity to share what the Endowment Fund Trustees have been working on this past year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Endowment Fund Committee
Nominating Committee
2016 Annual Report

Congregation Council to be Elected
Term Expiring 2020
- Jim Beyreis (2nd Term)
- Kathy Raeder (1st Term)
- Ryan Stetler (1st Term)
- Chuck Walker (1st Term)

Congregation Council to be Elected
Term Expiring 2019
- Anita Paxhia (1st Term)

Congregation Council to be Elected
Term Expiring 2018
- Becky Cross (1st Term)
- Carole Miserendino (1st Term)

Incumbents

Church Council
Council Terms Expiring 2019
- Rob Keller - 1st Term
- Clare English - 2nd Term
- Lindsey Frank - 1st Term

Council Terms Expiring 2018
- Jeff Bork - 2nd Term
- Cynthia Nommensen - 2nd Term

Youth Members
- Claire Embil
- Allison Paxhia

Officer of the Congregation to be Elected
- Tom Anderson, Treasurer

Nominating Committee to be Elected
Term Expiring 2019
- Todd Raeder (1st Term)

Nominating Committee
- Jon Tice - 1st Term Expiring 2018
- Liam Carolan - 1st Term Expiring 2018

Human Resources Committee to be Elected
- Terry Hendrickson (1st Term)

Human Resources Committee
- David Duffy
- Tim McCurry
- Pam Parkos

Endowment Committee to be Elected
Term Expiring 2020
- Paul Milner (2nd Term)

Endowment Committee
- Julie Russell - 1st Term Expiring 2018
- Aleli Scerba - 1st Term Expiring 2019
Committee Members during 2016

- Clare English, Chair and Council Liaison
- David Duffy
- Pam Parkos
- Tim McCurry
- Richard Johnson, Pastor

Project for 2016:

Reviewed the current benefit offering through Portico and moved to the Silver plus plan as part of the expense reduction effort.

The committee also looked at other ways that we can reduce costs in year to come.

I would like to thank the members of the HR Committee for their hard work and for the care that they bring to each decision. They are a dedicated group, who take their responsibility seriously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Clare English
A devoted and consistent member care cabinet met monthly throughout 2016. The cabinet consists of Diane Barounis, Jim Beyreis, Penny Boyer, Barbara Gartner, Karen Mears, Mary Rhoton, Julie Russell, Todd Raeder (cabinet liaison) and Pastor Johnson. The cabinet continues to determine how to best serve our members. We depend on the time and talents of many volunteer members to carry out the many ministries of St. Luke’s.

A Member Care google doc was created and revised to track homebound members and services provided.

Support Programs:
- Card Ministry-Members meet to create amazing cards in support of world hunger. Cards are sent to members (including those who are 75+) to celebrate various occasions.
- Caregiving Support-The library at St. Luke’s offers many resources for adult children of aging parents as well as family caregivers. The Member Care cabinet plans to continue to serve this group with resource materials and possible support groups.
- Christmas Caroling-A group of members caroled again this year to older members and delivered flowers to members living in nursing homes and in the community.
- Flower Delivery Team-coordinated by Iris Henderson
- Home Visitors-Volunteers visit homebound members to deliver communion, devotional materials and fellowship. Home communion visitors met twice during 2016.
- Prayer Ministry-coordinated by Jean Igoe
- Prayer Shawl Ministry-coordinated by Louise Lombardi. Prayer shawls are given to members who are homebound, hospitalized, grieving, and newly-baptized, as well as seniors graduating from high school.

Support for a Healthy Congregation:
- Blood Pressure Team-coordinated by Cindy Nommensen
- Flu Shot Clinic-Sponsored by Walgreens, flu shots were offered to members between services on 10/13/2016.
- Life Line Screening-Members were given the opportunity to participate in a screening to determine risk of stroke, cardiovascular disease and of other chronic conditions. This event was held on 12/14/2016.
Spiritual Development

- As in past years, devotional resources were made available to the congregation. The Splash! Monthly newsletter mailings are sent to parents of children up to three years old. These materials provide guidance on child and faith development. Books re: marriage and materials for those baptized as children and adults are also available.

- The Spirit Matters group met monthly throughout 2016 and continues to draw new members for reflection, prayer and scripture.

Bereavement Support

- A spousal loss luncheon was held on 11/6/2016 between services. After the meal Diane Barounis led an enriching program for the participants. We look forward to periodic adult forums covering topics related to bereavement.

The Member Care cabinet looks forward to a strong ministry devoted to serving the members of St. Luke’s in 2017. We welcome all who are interested in serving through these ministries and look for new ideas for additional programs. Finally, we thank all who shared their time and talents through their service to the programs of Member Care in 2016.

Report submitted by Julie Russell
I am grateful for the opportunity to have served another year as the Director of Music Ministries at St. Luke's, where worship and music play a vital role in the life of the congregation. Musical highlights of the year include Holy Week and Easter services in late March, St. Luke’s “Music Sunday” on October 16, and the 77th annual Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols on December 4. I look forward to another year of singing, praying, and praising together with this congregation in 2017.

Regularly scheduled choirs:
- **The Youth Choir** (grades 7-12), a group of 13 singers, rehearses on Wednesday evenings during the school year, leading worship twice per month, alternating between the 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. services.
- **The Sanctuary Choir** (adults) includes 21 singers. They lead worship twice per month at the 8:30 a.m. service and practice from 9:45-10:30 a.m. on the Sundays that they sing.
- **The Chamber Choir** (adults) a group of 11 singers, rehearses on Sunday mornings at 9:45 a.m. prior to leading worship at the 11:00 a.m. service. Most rehearsals are held in conjunction with the Sanctuary Choir.
- **The Adult Choirs** combined their talents to sing for special festival occasions: Ash Wednesday, February 10; Easter Sunday, March 27; Music Sunday, October 16; Reformation Sunday, October 30; Candlelight Service, December 4; Christmas Eve, December 24
- **The Celebration Ringers** (adults) includes 14 handbell players. They practice on Wednesdays from 8:00-9:00 p.m. and play for worship on average once per month.

Additional musical ensembles have enhanced our worship services during the past year. See report by the Director of Children's Music, Melinda Hoiland, for additional listings:
- **The Requiem Choir** provides choral leadership for funeral and memorial services at St. Luke's. This choir provides an important ministry to bereaved families. I am thankful for the singers who generously and graciously offer their time and talents.
- **The Brass Ensemble** plays occasionally for festivals, using the talents of Jim Cross, Dave Ruth, Tim Anderson, trumpet; Emily Hayden Barbarigos, horn; Tom Anderson, Andrew Organ, trombone.
- **The Youth Brass Ensemble** played on February 28, April 10, June 12, August 21, and October 2: Jake Burrows and Matthew Ruth, trumpet; Peter Burrows, horn; Matthew Burrows, baritone.
- **St. Luke’s Orchestra** enhanced our festival worship services on Easter Sunday, March 27; Reformation Sunday, October 30; and played for the Candlelight Service and for Christmas Eve. Instrumentalists included: Lindsey Dalessandro Frank, Britta Hoiland, Kiersten Hoiland, Paul Organ, Lisa Ramsey, Lydia Ramsey, violin; Daniel Hoiland, Greta Ramsey, viola; Barbara Burswold, cello; Caitlin Cuthbertson, Melinda Hoiland, Csilla Megyeri, and Nancy Torre, flute; Tim Anderson, Jim Cross, Dave Ruth, Matthew Ruth, trumpet; Emily Hayden Barbarigos, horn; Tom Anderson, Andrew Organ, trombone; Tim Clark and Ben Heim, timpani.
St. Luke’s outreach into the community through music:

- The **St. Luke’s Bottle Band** held benefit concerts in Henderson Hall on June 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12
- The **Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols** on December 4 reached many members and guests
- The **Chicago Bronze Handbell Choir** rents space for their regular Monday evening rehearsals
- The Chicago area **Music That Makes Community** singing group met on January 14, April 21, and October 20
- The **Park Ridge Chorale** held concerts on April 16, July 23, and December 10
- The **Maine South Chamber Music Concert** was held on April 18
- The **Chicago Camerata** held a concert on May 1
- The **Good Friday** noon service for the **Park Ridge Ministerial Association** was held on March 25, featuring the Montag Ensemble String Quartet
- **Kindermusik** classes taught in our building on Tuesday mornings attract young families
- Ethan Mellema’s **Graduation Piano Recital** on July 10 was well attended by the community
- A **Holiday String Concert** was held on December 11 by local music teacher Rhona Reagen
- The **Longest Night** service was held here on December 21, together with **Edison Park Lutheran Church** and **St. Mary’s Episcopal Church**

Continuing Education:

- April 4-6  Attended the **Institute of Liturgical Studies** at Valparaiso University, IN
- July 26-28  Attended the ALCM Region 3 Conference in Hyde Park, IL
- October 24-25  Attended Concordia University’s **Lectures in Church Music**, River Forest, IL

Additional Professional Activity:

- Continued in the role of President of the **Association of Lutheran Church Musicians** (ALCM) begun in July of 2013, becoming past-president in September of 2016. My service on the board of directors will end in August of 2017.
- Served as choir director for the Schola at the **Institute of Liturgical Studies**, Valparaiso University, April 4-6
- Expanded my list of published compositions: two new choral compositions (Hope Publishing Company, MorningStar Music) and a book of piano arrangements of chorale tunes (Augsburg Fortress Publisher)
- Participated in a worship planning session for the 2017 Institute of Liturgical Studies at Valparaiso University, for which I will once again serve as the choir director

Looking ahead to the coming year, we continue to think imaginatively about how to incorporate peoples’ musical gifts and talents into our worship life. We have a solid base for our music ministry with choirs and instrumental ensembles. We also want to offer new avenues of participation that will bring more people into the music ministry at St. Luke’s. Seasonal choir commitments and other short term musical commitments will present additional opportunities for involvement.

Respectfully submitted,
Anne Krentz Organ
Children’s Music and Faith Formation continue to be strong and vibrant aspects of St. Luke’s, involving a variety of ages and groups of people throughout the congregation as they share their gifts and give of their time and talents. It is indeed a privilege to work with so many dedicated families that bring our programs to life and encourage faith, growth and service for all ages.

CHILDREN’S MUSIC

- **Children’s Choir (K-6th grade)** – 9 dedicated singers rehearse weekly to prepare anthems, hymns and liturgies in preparation for leading worship about once a month. Highlights include leading the Ash Wednesday and Christmas Eve services, singing for the Candlelight service, Music Sunday and other special services.
- **Orff Ensemble (3rd-6th grade)** - 10 committed children rehearse weekly to prepare pieces for worship, learn how to play together in an ensemble, explore, improvise and share their own creativity. I continue to arrange much of the music, often with the children’s help.
- **Recorder Consort** involves 4-7 youth and adults and plays for worship six times a year.
- **Flute Choir** involves about 16 youth and adults and plays for worship six times a year.
- Camp Allegro was cancelled due to low registrations.

CHILDREN’S FAITH FORMATION

- **Splash and Frolic – Infant-Age 3**
  
  Each of our baptized infants have been enrolled in the Splash program, for which we send out monthly newsletters, a baby’s Bible at age 1 and a baby’s Prayer Book at age 2. This year we also added an online program called Frolic, which sends monthly online e-newsletters to parents with faith formation and child development ideas for their particular age.
- **Sunday School - Age 2 – Grade 5**
  
  ◊ We offer monthly Sunday School classes for 2-year-olds and parents in the nursery, where they read a bible story, sing, do activities and play together.
  ◊ A group of parents with very young children meets throughout the year for family activities and playtime. Parents sometimes meet together on Sunday mornings during the Education Hour.
  ◊ This fall, the average attendance was about 35 children, compared to last spring, when attendance averaged 25. We have welcomed new families who are getting involved and attending regularly. A special thanks to 30 youth and adult volunteer teachers and shepherds who give of their time and energy to help enrich and encourage the children’s faith formation throughout the year.
  ◊ We had 4 Family Sunday Schools – 2 in the spring and 2 in the fall – which were well attended, offering opportunities for families to learn together. This fall we made gifts for the Sunday Night Supper guests.
  ◊ Last spring’s offerings were sent to Oaks Indian Mission ($660), where our youth visited during the summer. This year’s theme is “Bring Forth the Kingdom of God.” The fall offerings went to Feed My Starving Children ($76), RefugeeOne ($150) and ELCA World Hunger/God’s Global Barnyard from Nov.-Dec. ($370). The children and congregation also collected a carload of kitchen items during the summer
and outerwear for RefugeeOne during the fall.

- We continue to use the Augsburg Fortress Spark classroom curriculum for preschool-1st grade, this year following the Lectionary, the same Gospel lesson read in worship that day. Also we continue the Spark rotation curriculum for 2nd-5th graders, with 2 rotations per story so the children learn the story from at least two different perspectives via different learning styles. (Bible games, cooking and art)
- The Sunday School Spring Milestone Program on May 8 and Christmas Pageant on Dec. 18 involved all the Sunday School children and many parents and youth.
- Walkabout – Children leave worship once a month (or more) after the Children’s Message and return during the Hymn of the Day to learn more about the Gospel story or theme of the day with one of the pastors, myself or another person. Kids love it and adults do too, as it gives them a chance to focus on the lessons and the sermon.

- Family Vacation Bible School - in collaboration with First United Methodist Church of Park Ridge, was cancelled due to low registrations.

SPECIAL EVENTS
- Bike Events – Bike or Walk to Church on May 22. Summer Bike Ride on June 11, Fall Bike Ride on Sept. 17.
- Pet Blessing -- Sunday, July 10, for pets of members and neighbors in the community.
- Feed My Starving Children – Nearly 30 people of all ages went to FMSC in Schaumburg on Sept. 30 to pack meals for children around the world.
- Lefse making – Nov. 19 – about 10 people of all ages made Norwegian lefse in Henderson Hall.
- Christmas Caroling to Shut-ins – Dec. 11 – 7 people shared a potluck lunch and then visited shut-ins in the area.

CONTINUING EDUCATION
- I have participated in a number of webinars pertaining to various faith formation and children’s choir topics, sponsored by Vibrant Faith, Group Publishing and Choristers Guild.

LOOKING FORWARD
- Over the summer I met with over 15 parents of families with children of varying ages to discuss what they appreciated about St. Luke’s children and family programs and offer suggestions for the future. I received lots of positive feedback as well as some wonderful and creative ideas for family programs and service opportunities.
- I look forward to working with Anne and the pastors to involve more families in worship, as readers, music participants, and to also continue the Walkabout for kids during worship.

Respectfully submitted,

Melinda Hoiland
Dir. of Children’s Music and Faith Formation
Youth Ministries
2016 Annual Report

- Waffle and Sausage Breakfast (February & May)
- Bottle Band Fundraiser (June)
- Oklahoma (July)
- Room Redecoration (November)
- Butter Braid Fundraiser and Cookie Walk (December)
- Canada (2017)

Waffle and Sausage Breakfast:
This breakfast, a first fundraising opportunity for Oklahoma, and for St. Luke’s was incredibly successful. We since have held two other breakfasts after our first in February. Serving breakfasts allows us to work together as a team and be more visible to the greater congregation.

Bottle Band Fundraiser:
The St. Luke’s Bottle Band was kind enough to allow us to sell concessions at their five concerts in May and gave us all the proceeds of a dress rehearsal. The money from these sales helped us pay for the costs of the vans we needed to travel to and from Oaks, Oklahoma. The fundraiser also gave us the space to work together, getting to know each other better before embarking on this immersion journey.

Oklahoma:
19 youth and 7 chaperones traveled ten hours to Oaks, Oklahoma in the heart of the Cherokee Nation to be immersed in Cherokee culture. We stayed at the Oaks Indian Mission which is one of the ELCA’s oldest ministries. During our trip we learned about our country’s history in a way most of us had never heard before. We met Oaks natives, weaved baskets, and saw buffalo up close. We experienced a new kind of service. We learned the importance of listening in order to be better advocates for our siblings in Christ wherever and whoever they may be.

Room Redecoration:
This fall the youth group decided it was time to take more ownership of our space. We felt like the space where we laugh, love, and worship needed to match the vibrant and creative minds that occupy it. It is a work in progress, the painting is done and now we must consider how else we can use the space.
Butter Braid Fundraiser:
This winter we chose to sell Butter Braids as an alternative for Kringles. The proceeds from this sale will help offset travel costs for our mission trip in 2017 to Toronto, Canada. We also combined the pick-up with a Cookie Walk to raise more money and celebrate the holidays.

Canada:
During the week of July 22-28, we will be working in Toronto with over a hundred other youth through an organization called YouthWorks. We will partner with local churches to complete physical projects like painting, yard work, and cleaning.

Ultimately, 2016 was a fantastic year for St Luke’s Youth Ministry. I feel like we connected better as a group, making new friends and strengthening old bonds. We learned about: each other, ourselves, and most importantly our faith. I’d like to extend a thank you to the entire congregation. Without your support and guidance we wouldn’t have been able to accomplish so much. For me, this youth group is life giving. I know I have a community of people in my corner no matter what. Being a part of this space keeps me grounded yet still lets me grow. Thank you so much!

Claire Embil (Council Youth Representative)
The Faith Formation & Learning Cabinet (FF&L) enjoyed a productive year in 2016. This is a small, but dedicated team comprised of Ingrid Henehan, Melinda Hoiland, Gail Larson, Liam Carolan, Jeff Bork, Gerry Mears, Associate Pastor Alex LaChapelle and Pastor Richard Johnson.

In keeping with the Strategic Plan put into motion in February 2016, each Ministry introduced new, or revamped, initiatives that would support targeted groups as well the overall congregation’s priorities. Highlights of some the past year’s achievements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program/Event</th>
<th>Ministry</th>
<th>Family Focused Worship</th>
<th>Expand Youth &amp; Young Adult Programs</th>
<th>Create Communities of Interest</th>
<th>Raise Profile w/in Local Community</th>
<th>Improve Volunteerism</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-School Parent Group</td>
<td>Children</td>
<td></td>
<td>•</td>
<td>•</td>
<td>•</td>
<td>•</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Sunday School</td>
<td>Children &amp; Youth</td>
<td></td>
<td>•</td>
<td>•</td>
<td>•</td>
<td>•</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Missions &amp; Retreats</td>
<td>Youth</td>
<td></td>
<td>•</td>
<td>•</td>
<td>•</td>
<td>•</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waffles &amp; Sausage Breakfast</td>
<td>Youth</td>
<td></td>
<td>•</td>
<td>•</td>
<td>•</td>
<td>•</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Park Ridge Youth Alliance</td>
<td>Youth</td>
<td></td>
<td>•</td>
<td>•</td>
<td>•</td>
<td>•</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contemporary Topics &amp; Speakers Adult Forum</td>
<td>Adult</td>
<td></td>
<td>•</td>
<td>•</td>
<td>•</td>
<td>•</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cedar Street Block Party</td>
<td>All</td>
<td></td>
<td>•</td>
<td>•</td>
<td>•</td>
<td>•</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please refer to subsequent sections for what our ministries have delivered in 2016.

As we embark on the New Year of 2017, our Cabinet remains committed to explore and implement programs and events that are interesting, sustainable and fun. We appreciate everyone’s support which keeps us motivated and engaged to pave the way of our faith journey.

All the best,
Aleli Estrada Scerba
Faith Formation & Learning Cabinet Coordinator

2016-2017 Members:
Jeff Bork, Melinda Hoiland, Aleli Scerba, Coordinator
Liam Carolan, Gail Larson, Pr. Richard Johnson, Ingrid Henehan
Gerry Mears, Assoc. Pr. Alex LaChapelle
The Library Team members are: Janice Bennett, Barbara Burswold, Kathy Figler, Janice Jordan, Gail Larson

The Winter Reading Challenge was held between Jan. 28-Feb. 14. The 4 week/1 book challenge had 25 participants. The 3 winners were adult- Tonya Warren, prek-1st grade – Elena Birdwell, gr. 2-6 Tina Paxhia.

Take the Story Home recommendations were continued, with books following the Sunday School curriculum. Read and Share items were presented in the Messenger and Community Happenings following weekly themes. The book cart featured those books in the atrium, and in the library in the summer months.

The library bulletin board themes were “Wishing for New Treasures”, “You Can Borrow a Book, but you Get to Keep the Ideas”, “Have you Found St. Luke's Library?”, “Catch a Dream – Read a Book”, and “Season’s Readings”.

Several new books were acquired this year, from members and friends, including the Dokmo Family, - longtime friends of the library. We continue to welcome appropriate donations of gently used items, including best-sellers, and compatible with the selection Policy, as well as gifts from our wish-list. The wish-list is posted online and in the library. The Adopt-a-Book program continues throughout the year as an opportunity to celebrate or remember a loved one.

The first annual Spring Clean up Day was held in May. Several members joined the team to dust and polish every item in the library. The library team again participated in the St Luke’s Communities of Interest Fair in September.

The library is ever evolving in its arrangement of furnishings to make resources more accessible. A new bookcase with top lighting was added for a new display area. As a result of a request for improved space and visibility, the library’s expansion plan was begun to increase space, allow for more shelving, a work space and study area. Many thanks to Norm Maske, Jim Schrop and the Operations and Management Team for their many volunteer hours to make this project possible.

YOU are most welcome to join in the work of maintaining and improving Dokmo Library. If you love to read, organize, or just have fun, you will find this opportunity very rewarding.

Gail Larson, chairperson
St. Luke’s Library Team
Committee Members: Dennis Diana, Chair; Tom Lynch, Jim Henderson, Norm Maske, Phil Stavrides, Rob Keller, Council Liaison; Alia Birdwell, Jeff Greve, Jim Schrop, Staff; Kevin Goll, Romeo D’Orazio and Pastor Johnson, Staff.

The following projects have been completed in 2016 which were completed or overseen by the Operations and Management Cabinet. Some of these projects were completed by vendors, while others were completed by OMC members or other members of the congregation. We express our deepest thanks to Jim Pearson who did oversight on Cole Simner’s project, Gary Cartwright who managed the bathroom project; and Pastor Alex who oversaw Jake Rink and Luke Calahan’s project. A huge thank you to the OMC members who have done a wonderful job of keeping our building in excellent condition!!!

Projects Completed in 2016:

- Completion of the Sound System for Worship Area and the Addition of 2 portable sound systems for Henderson Hall and Confirmation area;
- Installation of the New Boiler System
- Lighting program to change over from incandescent and florescent lighting to LED wherever possible
- Major Sewer Repair to the South Parking Lot
- Preparation of Roof Bidding for Roof Replacement over Henderson Hall
- Completion of the Renovation of Bathroom off of the Narthex in Worship area
- Installation of on-demand water heater in Sacristy
- Oversaw Eagle Scout Projects for Renovation of LL52 and 53 into new Adult Education Room – Jake Rink Eagle project
- Oversaw Eagle Scout Project for Cleaning up the Lower Level Storage Area and aging computer lounge – Luke Calahan Eagle Project
- Oversaw Eagle Scout Project for Landscaping East Parking Island, adjacent to building – Cole Simner Eagle Project
- Began the Renovation and Expansion of the Church Library
- Added shelving and counter top back into the Robe Room (2nd Sacristy)
- Painting and expanding of the Youth Lounge;

In addition, the ongoing upkeep and landscaping issues have been cared for by our master gardener crew: Carol Becker, Jim Pearson, Jim Beyreis and Cindy Grau.

We are hoping to have the roof completed in early May. Other issues that have been put on hold at this time because of financial constraints are: the kitchen and the parking lots.

If you would like to serve on this cabinet – please see Pastor Johnson or any of the cabinet members.

Submitted by
Dennis Diana
Outreach and Community Service
2016 Annual Report

Cabinet Mission Statement: Inspire and motivate our members to share their stories of God’s love with others and serve human needs here and around the world.

The members of the Outreach and Community Service Cabinet serving from time to time during 2016 were DeDe Boerger, Claire Buettner, Becky Cross (council liaison) Jeff Mohl, Laure Mullaney (counsel liaison until resignation), Cindy Nommensen, Robert Trownsell, Carolynn Joesten, Pastor Richard Johnson and John English.

Welcoming Events for Potential New Members. We hosted two luncheons for potential new members, one on May 22, 2016 and another on September 25. The congregation formally received thirty nine family units as new members during 2016.

Cedar Street Celebration. As part of the Congregation Council’s strategic plan, we held a special event to reach out to the wider Park Ridge community. We invited all of our neighbors to a Cedar Street Celebration held on August 4, 2016. Many of our neighbors and our members accepted the invitation. We provided food, beverages, games and bouncy houses for the kids. Fingers of Lightning, a local band, provided music. Greg Lewis and Mike Paxhia are members of the band. We thank all who volunteered to help with this event with particular thanks to Cindy Nommensen and Pastor Johnson. We also thank the Park Ridge Presbyterian Church for the loan of their large grill. A family that attended the event started to attend Sunday services.

Sunday Night Supper Continues. St. Luke’s originally agreed to host Sunday Night Suppers for a period of two years (September 2013 – May 2015). The current leadership team has agreed to continue St. Luke’s role in this ministry through May 2018.

We thank the current leadership of this important ministry. Janet Hoiberg is the person who manages and deals with the outside groups that provide the cooked meals. Gail Larson, Cindy Nommensen, Cindy Spiegel and Jan Beyreis manage the other aspects of this ministry.

As a reminder, Sunday Night Suppers is a ministry that involves several local congregations, public interest organizations and businesses and which provides a meal to anyone who appears and wants to be fed. Each Sunday night, a congregation or other organization delivers cooked meals to St. Luke’s and helps to serve the food to our guests. St. Luke’s provides the location for the dinner and volunteers to run the program. Each Sunday morning, Whole Foods provides day old baked goods and other goods to distribute to our guests. The suppers operate from September through May.

Hands On Relationship with LSSI Continues. We again helped Lutheran Social Services of Illinois provide “back to school” backpacks for children in the foster care program. Each backpack held important school supplies. Our congregation provided 144 backpacks at a cost of $5,132.50. The Endowment Fund provided $2,550.00 of these funds. We thank all of our volunteers who helped put together the backpacks and give special thanks to Cindy Grau who again stepped up to find volunteers and manage the process.

Importance of Mission Support. A priority is to keep watch on the level of St. Luke’s support for the Synod and Churchwide. We need to remember that St. Luke’s support of the Synod and Churchwide extends our mission beyond our walls and that St. Luke’s directly benefits from our contributions to Mission Support.
**Lutheran Living Magazine.** Members who want to receive *Lutheran Living Magazine* (formerly *The Lutheran*) are asked to make a small contribution to pay for the member’s subscription. The Spending Plan allocates money to pay for an annual subscription for each new member. Our subscription now runs from June – May. We encourage members who want to continue to receive *Lutheran Living* to make the special donation to pay for their subscriptions. This publication is our window to Lutheran life outside of our Congregation.

**Memorial Day Parade.** St. Luke’s members again participated in the Park Ridge Memorial Day parade pushing shopping carts to highlight the needs of the Maine Township Food Pantry and to accept gifts of food for the pantry.

**Hospitality - Be a Greeter.** As part of St. Luke’s culture of hospitality, greeters welcome visitors and our members every Sunday morning. Greeters are located at the entrance to the atrium and at the entrance to the sanctuary. Be a greeter. You can talk to your friends, meet other members and welcome visitors.

**Community Service Teams.** The Outreach and Community Service Cabinet also works with several Community Service Teams.

- **The Outreach Visitor Team** is designed to approach people who have visited St. Luke’s. On a rotating basis, congregation members call on first-time visitors and bring a gift of bread to make a first contact with the congregation more meaningful.

- **The Social Ministry Team**, currently guided by Ken Schoy, sponsors: the Christmas Card Tree project, which this year provides funds for our human needs assistance; a blood drive; 40 items for Lent for Elijah’s Pantry; a quilt drive to give quilts to people in need; the Crop Walk; a turkey drive to provide turkeys to Elijah’s Pantry; and other opportunities for local giving.

- **The Global Links Team**, coordinated by Sue Weber, fosters awareness of and participation in God’s global mission, at home and around the world. See their report for details.

- **Mission Support and Education** is responsible to help the congregation understand the importance of the larger church in the life of the congregation. The congregation is one level of church membership, with the congregation belonging to and supporting a synod at a state or regional level and a churchwide effort on a national level.

- **Human Needs Assistance** is another of St. Luke’s responses to needs of individuals and organizations in our community. We regularly gave vouchers for food and gas to individuals who came to our doors. St. Luke’s also works with other Park Ridge congregations and social welfare agencies to approach human needs on a city-wide basis by sending a representative to *The Park Ridge Human Needs Task Force Steering Committee*.

Respectfully submitted by John English
Social Ministry
2016 Annual Report

Mission:
Social Ministry initiates and/or evaluates requests for social action, recommends appropriate action for St. Luke's and coordinates these activities.

Committee Members:
Diane Erickson, Chris Figler, Jean Igoe, Pastor Johnson, Todd Raeder, Cheryl Ryback, Ken Schoy and Lois Shaw. Jason and Peter Burrows, John Nommensen and Cole Ponsi help out as needed

First Sunday, Food Sunday
On a weekly basis, non-perishable food items were donated by the congregation and delivered to the Maine Township Pantry in Park Ridge or Elijah's Pantry in Logan Square. This year Elijah's Pantry in Logan Square closed after at least 40 years of operation because St. Luke's Church in Logan Square closed. It had existed for over a hundred years. The New Community Covenant Church took over and created the Open Arms Food Pantry which we at St. Luke's will support.

2nd Sunday, Sock Sunday
On a monthly basis, fresh white socks donated by the congregation are delivered to the Night Ministry which in turn gives them to homeless people in Chicagoland.

Blood Drive
The Blood Drive took place on May 2. There were 35 people who tried to give blood and 27 were accepted with 3 giving twice. A vital difference in life. Thank you.

Forty-Something For Lent
Two SUV's and three cars all completely jammed with food were required to bring the food to Elijah's Pantry in Chicago on Palm Sunday, March 20. Also, $905 was given. This was the last event for the Elijah's Pantry before it closed down.

Lutheran World Relief Quilts
In October eight boxes with twenty six quilts were taken to Messiah Lutheran to be sent to Lutheran World Relief and distributed to places in need throughout the world. Alice Kolar and Angie Krause and the quilt team create these beautiful quilts.

Fundraiser for Open Arms Food Pantry
This year we did not have time to prepare a fundraiser because it was between the time that Elijah's Pantry ceased to exist and the creation of the Open Arms Food Pantry.

Niles/Park Ridge Crop Walk
The Niles/Park Ridge Crop Walk took place on October 16 with the Park Ridge Community Church as the host church. St. Luke's was a rest stop. One hundred and sixty one people from several churches participated in the walk. St. Luke's had 10 walkers earning $3,885 of the approximately $35,500 total. 75% of the money goes to world hunger projects and 25% stays local.

Thanksgiving Turkey Drive
On November 20, we collected and purchased a record 154 turkeys and delivered them to the Open Arms Food Pantry in 3 SUV's and two cars.

Christmas Activities
Some members purchased animals for the ELCA World Hunger project.

Christmas Card Tree
This is a project where members can send one card to St Luke's for fellow members to see on our Christmas tree in the Atrium. The money donated with the cards will again go to the St. Luke's food voucher program to help hungry people who come to the door. $1,250 was raised so far.

Thanks to the congregation of St. Luke's for their generosity in supporting all our programs in 2016 and in past years. These ministries help many people.

Respectfully submitted by Ken Schoy
Global Links Team  
2016 Annual Report

**Restore & Renew/Adult Forum Programs.** The team sponsored guest speakers throughout the year for St. Luke’s Restore & Renew program including:

- **January** -- Chicago Coalition for the Homeless. Two guest speakers shared details about CCH’s programs that focus on providing assistance in the Chicago community on advocacy issues related to Chicago’s homeless, including high school youth.

- **March** -- Robin Brown, Assistant Director for ELCA World Hunger, shared general information about ELCA World Hunger programs and operations.

- **September & October** -- Kimmy Kohlndorfer, Registered Nurse, shared insights on the importance of good nutrition for mothers and babies. The following week, St. Luke’s members wrote over 100 letters to legislators in support of Bread for the World’s “Survive and Thrive” Offering of Letters campaign.

- **October & November** -- Dr. Ryan Cumming, Director for Hunger Education at ELCA World Hunger, provided two sessions on Martin Luther’s teachings and how valuable those teachings continue to be in current day. He is one of the co-authors of the book *The Forgotten Luther: Reclaiming the Social-Economic Dimension of the Reformation,* which can be found in the St. Luke’s library.

**ELCA World Hunger Appeal.** Through the generous contributions from our congregation members, St. Luke’s was able to celebrate an amazing donation of $30,345 to ELCA World Hunger for the calendar year 2015. Our goal for that year had been $23,000. In 2016, we pushed our target up to $27,000, and, again, have reason to celebrate!! At the time of writing this report, the funds contributed by St. Luke’s members is estimated at just a little over **$28,000**, with final accounting yet to be confirmed. In a tough financial year for our congregation, it’s amazing the support we continue to receive for those in our local and global communities. Thank you to all who assisted in achieving this goal!

Our annual Good Gifts Fair occurs in the first two weeks of December each year. The Fair helps to remind us of the numerous areas benefiting from these gifts. More than 90% of the proceeds go directly to the projects including:

- **Growing the Church**: Starting a new congregation in the ELCA, starting a new congregation overseas, sending a young adult to serve overseas, sending an emerging international female leader to an ELCA college, renewing a congregation in the ELCA, sending a future leader to seminary, Bibles for the growing church

- **Health Care**: Mosquito nets, food for a child orphaned by HIV and AIDS, training a community health care team, health care for a child, vaccinations for a child, stocking a health care clinic

- **Help at Home**: Warm meals at a soup kitchen, stocking a backpack with food for children over the weekend, basic necessities (groceries, blankets, new clothes and toiletries)

- **International Emergencies**: Feeding a refugee family, survival supplies, blankets

- **Women and Children**: Starting small businesses, sending a little girl to school, school supplies, energy-saving cook stoves

- **Agriculture**: Community vegetable gardens, farming tools & training, fruit-tree seedlings

- **Water**: Water purification tables, irrigation canals, simple water wells, long-drop latrines

- **God’s Global Barnyard**: Pigs, chicks, goats, honey bees, oxen & plow, cows, fish, sheep
**St. Luke’s Card Ministry.** We are ever grateful for the beautiful greeting cards handmade by the St. Luke’s Card Ministry group and their agreement to sell the cards, with all proceeds going toward St. Luke’s World Hunger Appeal goal. Additionally, Ruth Rusch, has continued to provide homemade children’s dolls and clothing for the same purpose. Not only are we consistently impressed with the new creative ideas brought to the table, but are thankful for the gift they provide to world hunger. Thank you to all!

**ELCA World Hunger Leaders’ Gathering.** The biannual ELCA national meeting of world hunger leaders was held in Chicago in July, with St. Luke’s as the host location for 2 out of the 4 days’ events. When not attending the classes and events offered, 9 of our GL Team members were assisting with room set-up, refreshments, and showing off our lovely building. We shared ideas, learned about others’ great ideas, and heard from Bishops Eaton and Miller. It was a marvelously invigorating session of hope.

**Winter Farmers’ Markets.** 2016 saw St. Luke’s host its 5th and 6th indoor Winter Farmer’s Markets. The first occurred January 23, 2016, and the second, for the current winter season, occurred in the fall on November 17, 2016. The vendors are always grateful for this opportunity at St. Luke’s and appreciate the amazing volunteers we have for the day to assist them with set-up and take-down. We selected a November market date for the 2016-17 winter season and were pleased to see the opportunity for fresh produce available at that time instead of our standard January date. Don’t forget to check out Faith in Place’s website (www.faithinplace.org) for the indoor farmer’s market schedule continuing from January-March 2017 for the winter season.

**Greater Chicago Food Depository (“GCFD”).** In mid-February, the GL Team arranged a volunteer event at the GCFD. Thirteen people made a Saturday morning trek to the warehouse in Chicago and had fun packing potatoes. St. Luke’s was also able to provide a monetary donation, resulting from a 2015 Endowment Fund Grant received by the GL Team, which will provide 4,500 meals to those in need. Additionally, we learned that GCFD has a program established to allow a food pantry of choice to receive dollar credits, per volunteer, to use for purchase of food from GCFD. For the time spent volunteering, a $15 per person credit was designated to Open Arms Food Pantry (formerly Elijah’s Food Pantry) in Logan Square. The GL Team plans to organize more volunteer events at GCFD in 2017.


Our team was honored by a visit from Randy Stubbs in February. Randy described his work at Tumaini University, Makumira, Tanzania. Eleven years ago, Randy and his wife, Carol, established a culturally-focused music program at the University where one had not previously existed. Now their work has led to a capital project to build a new Cultural Arts Centre (“CAC”) to preserve and promote the unique cultural heritage of music and dance in Northern Tanzania. Randy requested and received a grant of land from the University for the CAC. He also was able to win European Union (“EU”) grant funding. The EU grant, expiring February 2017, requires additional non-grant support to receive the full benefit of the EU funding. The project is amazing in its scope. Over the year, progress on the Centre has been detailed at the CAC website (www.cac.ac.tz), and includes photos of hand dug foundations. The CAC will provide a permanent center for research, documentation, preservation and promotion of Tanzanian music and dance culture. It will organize and promote regular paid live performances of Tanzanian traditional music and dance. The CAC will also provide opportunities for communities and school age children to experience and learn about traditional
music/dance/instruments, and develop income-generating activities related to traditional music/dance/instruments for local and international audiences.

With excitement and encouragement for Kevin Jacobson, St. Luke’s learned this fall that Kevin has moved out of his role in ELCA Global Mission service in Suriname to a stateside job with Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services. Over the course of Kevin’s 9 years of service in Suriname, he molded and assisted new leaders while they prepared themselves to take the reins of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Suriname (“ELKS”) to new heights. Included in the group of new leaders is Urwin Holband who visited us this summer while completing his seminary residency at Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church, Arlington Heights. Urwin was ordained in November, 2016, and will be one of the new leaders for ELKS, along with others Kevin has guided throughout his service.

RefugeeOne. LaDonna Taylor shared an interest in RefugeeOne with the GL Team early this year, and, through work done with the pastors of St. Luke’s and the Church Council, obtained approval for RefugeeOne to become the “Beyond–Our-Walls” recipient of St. Luke’s 2016-19 capital campaign. LaDonna has assembled a subcommittee that will be working on the use of funds raised through the campaign to assist in supporting placement of refugee families in the Chicago area. As the project moves ahead, the GL Team will be an active participant in providing support throughout this longer-term congregational project.

Lutheran Advocacy Day. Seven members of the GL Team traveled to Springfield, IL, in April to participate in training and advocacy events for Lutheran Advocacy Day. The focus of the day was to encourage movement on the State of Illinois budget standstill. Valuable lessons were learned through the education process provided, as well as in direct meetings with our local legislators during the day-long event.

St. Luke’s Endowment Fund Grants. 2016 St. Luke’s Endowment Fund Grants requested by the GL Team accomplished the following:

- **ELCA Mission Support.** To assist with challenging budget issues in 2016, the GL Team was asked to shift its request for funding ELCA Missionary support to the Endowment Fund rather than through the St. Luke’s budget. We were granted the funds to support both the Stubbs and Kevin Jacobson through 2016.

- **Chicago Coalition for the Homeless.** A donation was made to CCH for their birth certificate program, which supports expenses related to obtaining birth certificates for undocumented youth to provide them access to employment and social services.

- **Bread for the World.** It was learned that St. Luke’s membership in Bread for the World, the national advocacy group working in Washington, DC, on both national and international hunger matters, had lapsed. A grant provided renewal of St. Luke’s membership in this organization for 2016.

Fair Trade Coffee, Tea, and Chocolate. Barb Burswold, with the assistance of Chris Figler before his move out of the area, continues to host monthly sales of fair trade coffee, tea and chocolate at St. Luke’s. No portion of the cost of the sale is retained by St. Luke’s. All sales benefit small farmers in Africa and Latin America. Assistance for these monthly sale dates is always welcome. If you have an interest, please let Barb know.
**International Travel.** Five St. Luke’s members will be traveling to Hong Kong, Sabah-East Malaysia, and Singapore for 18 days in February 2017. The group has already made contact with the bishops of the Lutheran churches in Sabah and Singapore. They have graciously agreed to host the visits and provide educational opportunities for our travelers. Follow-up will be shared with the congregation upon return.

We would like to express our gratitude to ALL members of St. Luke’s for their support of all of these exciting programs throughout the year and to encourage any individual to join us at our monthly meetings. Please let us know if you have interest in a specific project. We would welcome new insights and ideas as we all work toward achieving great things through our St. Luke’s community.

**Members**
Sue Weber (chair), Barb Burswold, Claire Buettner, Carolyn Callahan, Linda Catalano, Kathy Figler, Janet Hoiberg, Melinda Hoiland, Dee Dee Kohlinder, Alex LaChapelle, Gail Larson, LaDonna Taylor

*Report submitted by Sue Weber*
The St. Luke’s Bottle Band
2016 Annual Report

The infamous St. Luke's Bottle band performed *Bottle Wars- The Farce Awakens* for 2 big weekends this past June. We were excited to welcome our newest Bottle Band member- Pastor Alex, who made quite a name for himself portraying Oprah Winfrey AND a cow. ( playing in the band offers opportunities to play a great variety of characters!).
The band also performed at St. Paul's Lutheran church in Villa Park as part of their 75th anniversary celebration. You are very welcome for the very short report!

BettySueLou Phlegming (aka Kyle Cartwright)

2016 ST LUKES BOTTLEBAND STATEMENT

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BEGINNING CASH</td>
<td>$  8,588</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROAD SHOWS NET OF EXPENSE</td>
<td>$  1,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IN HOUSE SHOW SALES</td>
<td>$ 14,868</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXPENSES</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HONORARIUM</td>
<td>$  2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER EXPENSES</td>
<td>2,347</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL EXPENSE</td>
<td>4,347</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NET IN HOUSE SHOW</td>
<td>10,521</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NET SHOW INCOME/ INCREASE TO CASH</td>
<td>11,871</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DECREASE TO CASH-DONATION</td>
<td>(100)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENDING CASH</td>
<td>$ 20,359</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

YOGA Class
2016 Annual Report

In April, St. Luke’s started hosting yoga classes twice a week. Dawn Christiansen, Certified Yoga Teacher and St. Luke’s member has donated her time and expertise to this new St. Luke’s program. Almost $4,000 for calendar year 2016 has been donated to the debt reduction fund.

The classes meet on Tuesdays from 7—8:15 pm and on Thursdays from 11 am—12:15 pm. These classes are offered to St. Luke’s members, and to the community as well. The suggested donation is $5.00 per class, payable at the door. Class size continues to grow.

Yoga offers many benefits including stress reduction, lowered blood pressure, improved posture, mental clarity, serenity and much more.

To meet the needs of the students, we are currently expanding services to bring workshops for further learning opportunities.
## Congregational Membership Statistics for 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Type</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baptisms</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weddings/Blessings</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funerals</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Members</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfers</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Removed by own request</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Removed by inactivity</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Baptized</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Confirmed</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. **Membership end of 2015**
   - Baptized: 1084
   - Confirmed: 880

2. **Members received during 2016**
   - a. By baptism/children: 19
   - b. By adult baptism: 0
   - c. By affirmation of faith: 27
   - d. By transfer: 9
   - h. From other sources/statistical adjustment: 11
   - i. Associate members: 0
   - j. Reinstated into active member status: 2
   - k. **Total members received this year**: 68

3. **Baptized members who were confirmed in 2016**
   - Total: 10

   **TOTALS**: 1152, 922

4. **Members removed during 2016**
   - a. By death: 13
   - b. By transfer: 4
   - d. For other reasons/statistical adjustment: 1
   - e. Dropped per own request: 5
   - f. Placed on inactive status: 0
   - g. **Total members removed this year**: 23

5. **Membership, end of December 2016**
   - Total: 1129

6. **TOTAL ACTIVE PARTICIPATION**
   - Total: 1129

   **(per Shepherd’s Staff – 1,133 active members)**

   Due to program limitations, Shepherd’s Staff will always show 4 more than actual baptized members.
Resolutions
Annual Meeting - January 29, 2017

Be it Resolved:

That we express our thanks and praise to our loving God for the countless blessings that have been bestowed upon us during 2016, and for granting our Congregation the ability and resources to do God’s work with our hands.

That we pray to our loving God for the strength and commitment to continue the Lord’s work in 2017.

That we thank each person who served our Congregation this past year as a member of our staff, namely:

  Lead Pastor Richard Johnson, Associate Pastor Alex LaChapelle,
  Anne Krentz Organ, Melinda Hoiland, Susan Pinto, BethAnn Lynch and Jim Schrop.

That we thank each person who served our Congregation as a volunteer during 2016, including the members of the Congregation Council, Cabinets, Committees, Working Teams and Task Teams related to Church Leadership, Worship and Music, Education and Learning, Member Care, Outreach and Community Service, Operations and Management.

That we offer our thanks to God for those persons who have been baptized during 2016, namely:


That we offer our thanks to God for those persons who have made their First Communion during 2016, namely:


That we offer our thanks to God for those youth who affirmed their baptism, namely the 2016 Confirmation Class: Michael Besler, Madelyn Bugai, Peter Burrows, Austin Clarke, Chloe Knieling, Peter Messina, Greta Miller, Haley Petterson, Laura Pomilia and Emily Spiegel.

That we offer our thanks to God for the lives of those members who passed from this life during 2016 namely: Frine Anderson, Dorothy Fajnor, Linnea Falcinelli, Donna Hendrickson, Stephan Kolar, William Michelini, Edgar and Nancy Muenzer, Burton Olsson, Dolores Rinaldi, Robert Schermerhorn, Betty Ann Weber and Rick Wise.
That we offer our thanks to God for those persons who joined our Congregation by baptism, affirmation of faith, transfer or were reinstated during 2016 namely:

That a number of members transferred to other ELCA congregations.

That a number of people were dropped from active membership per their own request.

That a statistical adjustment has been made in the annual report to the ELCA to ensure that the number of active members reported matches the number of names for active members in St. Luke’s Shepherd’s Staff database.

That the Congregation Secretary is authorized to make typographic, spelling, and grammatical corrections to the minutes of this Annual Meeting of the Congregation.

That the Congregation Council is authorized to review and approve the minutes of this Annual Meeting of the Congregation at its next regularly scheduled meeting.
Mission Statement (adopted 1982)

We, the members of St. Luke’s Evangelical Lutheran Church, are a congregation of people who believe in Jesus Christ. We are committed to glorifying God through worship and acting as His disciples by learning about our role in His kingdom on earth.

We are committed to changing lives through the Holy Spirit by the witness we make to those we meet in our daily lives and the service we render to the oppressed people of the world. We support and strengthen one another through Christian fellowship and by sharing the Good News that Jesus Christ is our personal Savior.

Vision Statement (adopted 2003, revised and adopted 2015)

“We are a faith community inspired by God’s love, welcoming all, courageously living Christ’s ministry for the world.”

Statement of Welcome (adopted 2004)

St. Luke’s, as a community of the people of God, affirms its intention to openly welcome and value every person who comes to our church regardless of race, national and ethnic origin, age, physical, mental and emotional condition or capacity, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, economic situation or addiction.

We affirm that we are all unique individuals created by God, in need of God’s forgiveness, and worthy of God’s love and mercy.

All persons named and unnamed above are welcome within the membership of our congregation upon making the same affirmation of faith that all other members make.