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
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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, Jeff Eggert, by Wednesday, January 22, 2020.
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 26, 2020
12:15 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
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 Pastor, Pastor Johnson
   b. Report of Pastor Intern, Michael Busbey
   c. Financial Management Team (FMT)
      i. Financial Report, 2019
      ii. Financial Review Team, 2019
      iii. Recommendations of 2020 Spending Plan
   d. Congregation Council Report and Committee Reports
      i. Comments/Questions on reports
   e. Nominating Committee
      i. Nominations from the Floor
      ii. Election
   f. Endowment Fund
   g. Resolutions
6. New Business and Items from the Floor
   a. Approval of the Model Constitution for Congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America 2019
7. Recognition of Staff, Retiring Council Members and Cabinet Coordinators
8. President’s Closing Remarks
9. Pastor’s Closing Prayer
10. Adjournment
Today I am thankful. Thankful that I have had time to spend with St. Luke’s congregation over the past five years. It has been a journey with lots of challenges and opportunities – testing me in different ways – but also finding in real time the joy and resiliency of the Body of Christ when it is called to proclaim and serve in the community.

**Sunday Night Suppers**
This year we said good-bye to the Sunday Night Supper program at St. Luke’s. Like so many things in life – it was a particularly taxing ministry on those called to serve each and every Sunday night – without fail. There was exhaustion that was noticeable at times – wondering if or how we could do this ministry for another year. And yet, when the good people of Park Ridge Presbyterian and St. Mary’s Episcopal Church came forward to volunteer their buildings and expertise to this vital community program – it was sad to let something go that had such impact on the community and a place to serve for so many of our members and their families. Thank you to all those who so faithfully served in this ministry over the past six years – your ministry was so appreciated and needed by those you served in Jesus’ name.

**Conclusion of the Debt Reduction Program**
This year marked the end of our three year Debt Reduction Appeal at St. Luke’s. You have given 103% of what you pledged - $632,000. – over the past three years. Our indebtedness is now manageable – because of your amazing generosity! Thank you!

**Being an Intern Supervisor**
It has been a great year continuing to partner with Pastoral Intern Mike Busbey! He has brought his wonderful gifts of compassion and discernment to this congregation – while dealing with the joys and challenges of this full time position at the ELCA. He has been a blessing to this church during this transitional period.

**Saturday Evening Worship Services**
Saturday night worship has celebrated its first anniversary. We have cultivated a small, dedicated group of folk who enjoy worshipping on Saturday night. We would encourage others who are looking for a simpler liturgy to join us when you can on Saturday evenings! I thank our wonderful musicians who bring life to that service – Kyle Cartwright, Ethan Mellema, and Michele Harbeck Haley! A special thanks to Becky Cross for championing this service at the Worship and Music Cabinet – and demonstrating her commitment by playing on Saturday night until just recently.

**Civil Rights Pilgrimage Tour**
One of my joys of this past year was to travel with our High School Youth on their Civil Rights pilgrimage tour to some of the historic sites of the Civil Rights movement. I am continually moved by the faith and courage of Civil Rights activists through our land who stand again racial prejudice and injustice. Clearly this trip was life changing for me. After returning from the event – we had some adults in our congregation express an interest in doing the same pilgrimage – so this Fall, we will have a Civil Rights Pilgrimage trip to the south for adults – details to be shared in the very near future!!!
Finally – A Recommendation for Staffing Realignment
You will find as an addendum to the Annual Report, a special report from the Congregation Council of St. Luke’s. Within this report you will find that we are recommending some new directions in staffing in 2020. I would encourage you to read it thoroughly before the annual meeting – as we will be discussing and voting on the recommendations contained in the report at the Annual Meeting.

Thank you!
I am humbled by your generosity. I am humbled by the Time and Talents that represent hundreds of hours of volunteer time that you so graciously share with this congregation! Your in-kind contributions enable us to reach more and more people through your ministry! A special thanks to our President, Jeff Eggert, our Executive Board and Congregation Council who have worked very hard this year. A special thanks to Becky Cross, Jim Beyreis and Chuck Walker who have faithfully served on the Congregation Council this year. I am also privileged to work on a daily basis with a talented and dedicated staff. I thank Anne Krentz Organ, Susan Pinto, Melinda Ramseth Hoiland, Gerry Mears, Jim Schrop, and BethAnn Lynch. I also thank Pastor Chris Boerger (now retired), Pastor Elizabeth Palmer, and Pastor John Schumacher who have offered their gifts and skills in preaching, leading worship and visitation. Lastly – I thank my wife for her dedication to this ministry – through her own work – and through her supportive spirit of me on a daily basis!

Submitted by Pastor Richard W. Johnson
“If you could see the journey whole, you might never undertake it, might never dare the first step that propels you from the place you have known toward the place you know not.

Call it one of the mercies of the road: that we see it only by stages as it opens before us, as it comes into our keeping, step by single step.”

The words above are the opening of a blessing by Jan Richardson; a blessing which we have used in preparation to send missionaries of the ELCA into service and a blessing that Pastor Johnson read during his Epiphany sermon this January. These words speak into the depths of journey, of the unknown, and of reality. For us here at St. Luke’s Lutheran Church, the year of 2019 has been a year of journey and the unknown.

We started the year with the continuation of a hope and dream: to finish the latest campaign to reduce the principal on our loan and to be able to cover the mortgage through our general funds. And folks, we did it! We did it because of the generosity of saints present and saints eternal and this generosity provides us with stability and the opportunity for growth in the years to come.

We also started the year with the unknown future of the Sunday Night Supper program of the Park Ridge Ministerial Association. Over the last six years, we have hosted the community meal and have been a place of welcome for many in our community who are food insecure. This ending of a journey was bittersweet as we said goodbye to this program, while simultaneously continue to support this faithful ministry in its new home of Park Ridge Presbyterian Church.

Over this past year at St. Luke’s we have been graced with guest preachers: Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Pastor Elizabeth Palmer, Pastor Jaime Dubón, Pastor Ben Adams, and Claire Embil. We have also been able to say thank you and send off Bishop Wayne Miller, Bishop Chris Boerger and DeDe Boerger. St. Luke’s continues to be a space and community that welcomes and forms the gifts of so many individuals inside and outside of our church, myself included.

In this last year, you have given me an opportunity to grow as a leader: from leading worship and preaching, to providing pastoral care, to teaching confirmation alongside Gerry Mears, to participating in a variety of cabinet meetings, and so many other opportunities to be present. I am thankful for these meaningful experiences alongside so many of you at St. Luke’s.

I want to thank Pastor Johnson, Anne, Susan, Gerry, Melinda, Jim, and BethAnn, for their patient teaching and guidance over the last year. Working and ministering together with these faithful servants has been a true highlight for me this year. A tremendous thanks to my internship committee as they provide constructive feedback, support for me, and direction in my learning experience as an intern.

Finally, as we enter into 2020, I can only be filled with hope and comfort by the words of blessing written by Jan Richardson. While the journey of 2020 is unknown, we step together into this new stage, step by step.

Michael Busbey, Pastoral Intern

Property - Several changes were made to Church property in 2019:

- North parking lot was repaired, re-sealed and re-striped. South parking lot and parking spaces in front of the church were re-sealed and re-striped.
- Stairs in front of the primary doors leading to the church were repaired to fix crumbling concrete.
- Lighting throughout the building was changed to LED bulbs to reduce energy consumption.
- Kitchen updates were started. Completion is expected in early 2020.
- Video monitor was installed in the Atrium.

The council explored ways to rent out parts of our building to other organizations. This would provide needed revenue to St. Luke’s and leverage available space to organizations in need.

Worship – Saturday Worship started on January 5th. The council approved continuing this service through the end of December 2019. Attendance averaged between 20-23 people.

An Internship committee was formed to work with pastoral intern Michael Busbey. The committee provides feedback and receives reports from Michael on the work he is performing for our congregation.

Finance – Our mortgage liability decreased to $1.1 million in 2019 from $2.5 million in 2016. St. Luke’s monthly mortgage payment dropped by $5,142 during 2019. Both of these numbers are amazing and would not have been possible without the generosity of this congregation. The council thanks everyone who contributed to these efforts.

Programs – Sunday night suppers ended in May after hosting them for 5 years. The suppers are now being held at Park Ridge Presbyterian Church in a partnership with St. Mary’s Episcopal. A huge thank you to everyone who helped make these suppers a success throughout the years. Plans are underway to start a program to provide Supplemental Sunday Suppers beginning on Memorial Day running through the summer months.

Plans to resettle a second refugee family were postponed to 2020 due to unforeseen issues.

Thanks to All - The Congregational Council wishes to thank everyone who made St. Luke’s mission “God’s work – Our hands” a success. Foremost is our church staff who work hard every day in support of our ministries. We appreciate everyone who supports our worship, including worship leaders, musicians, greeters, altar guild, ushers, acolytes, stewards, at-home ministers, quilters and coffee hour helpers. St. Luke’s is also blessed with numerous volunteers who give freely of their time on church committees and cabinets. The council thanks all of you. Lastly, the council thanks the entire congregation for providing the financial and spiritual support to carry on the mission of St. Luke’s.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Eggert
Members who served on the committee in 2019 included Kathy Figler, Jim Henderson, Kathy Thornley and Pastor Johnson.

In 2019, St. Luke’s received $16,426.63 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 gifts from trusts or bequests that are managed separately 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 by letter.

If the total of memorials for an individual exceeds $500, the family is given the option of selecting a use for these funds, if they did not do so at the time that the funeral arrangements were made. The pastor can provide the family with a list of projects that could be fully or partially funded by these memorial funds. Special gifts are often designated by the donor as they are given. The final decision as to the use of memorials contributions and special gifts is made by the congregation council after consideration of the recommendation of the committee or the pastor. The use must be within the mission of the congregation.

After at least three months have passed, funds in accounts with totals under $500 are usually transferred to a miscellaneous memorial account. Funds from the miscellaneous account can be used to supplement the funds in an individual account as needed to support a larger project or to fund separate projects, again subject to the approval of the congregational council.

Memorial and special gift funds in 2019 provided or will provide money for:

- 2020 Memorial Ministries
- Building Fund
- Current Expenses
- Debt Reduction
- ELCA World Hunger
- Electrical Work and Lighting
- Landscaping
- Office Furniture
- “Posie Fund”
- Sanctuary Piano Tuning
- Small Group Ministries
- St. Luke’s Youth Ministries

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
2019 Review

Going into last year, we prepared the budget with an assumption consistent with past years, that our budgeted revenue would be equal to the general giving from the previous year. That has proven to be an effective strategy, as we have met or exceeded that number for many consecutive years. 2019 was unique, though, in that for the first time in the ten years since our building addition, we planned to pay our mortgage payments out of our monthly general giving. As a result, our 2019 budget included a deficit because our expenses, now including the mortgage payment, significantly exceeded our previous year’s income.

The $52,500 deficit was not proposing that we expected to lose $52,500 last year. It represented a challenge to the congregation and a stark reminder that if our general giving stayed flat, we would indeed be short by that amount. With our debt reduction campaign ending, the request was for members to convert a portion of their retired campaign pledge into general giving.

The response to this request was overwhelming! We ended 2019 with a $9,798 surplus of revenues over expenses. This was an outstanding stewardship example of which everyone should be proud!

This was accomplished without ignoring or deferring other necessary expenses. We maintained our programming budget, our 10% tithe of mission support to the larger church, and a variety of building maintenance and improvements. This was no small task. Although our surplus was smaller than in many other years, our history of taking good care of our physical plant means that we don’t have any urgent projects to fund this coming year.

2019 was a pivotal year for us financially that, by any set of metrics, can be deemed a success. We were able to achieve a goal that allows us to enter 2020 with a sense of confidence that we can continue to improve our financial viability.

2020 Spending Plan

We are delighted to report that there is no capital campaign on the horizon for 2020!

The 2020 Spending Plan (Schedule A) continues to be more straightforward as we are able to cover our expenses through general giving. There is no special accounting for campaign pledges, nor is there the concern of a budgeted deficit as in 2019. Our revenue amount from last year was sufficient to cover our budgeted expenses this year with some very minor adjustments.

The challenge for 2020 is fairly simple, and that is to maintain our “break-even” performance of 2019. If we can repeat that accomplishment, it will prove that last year was not an isolated occurrence and that we are truly able to sustain vitality. Ideally, that will result in some surplus dollars that will allow us to fund additional programs going into 2021.
Even with all of this good news, keep in mind that our mortgage loan balance is still over 1 million dollars. While our debt reduction campaign was successful in reducing our monthly payment, it is still a significant amount. All mortgage contributions that are received will go directly to our loan payments and are very much appreciated.

My appeal to you last year was to strive to give just a little bit more of your time, talents, and treasures. We don’t have a specific project goal to fund in 2020, so I would ask you to approach this year in the same way. Continuing our involvement in church activities and sustaining our giving trends are a powerful combination to keep our momentum rolling.

In this era of negative news stories describing membership decline and the closing of churches, St. Luke’s continues to be a special place. Although the focus of this report is financial, there is so much more to the story. We have been blessed to thrive in the midst of countless changes and obstacles. This is a testament to the faith and dedication of our members, both current and past. May God continue to bless us as we face the challenges ahead.

Sincerely,

Financial Management Team
Tom Anderson
Financial Management Team  
Schedule A  
Summary of 2020 Spending Plan  
Income & Expense

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Spending Plan 2019</th>
<th>Actual 2019 thru 12/31/2019</th>
<th>Anticipated 2020 Income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INCOME</td>
<td>$683,000</td>
<td>$730,024</td>
<td>$740,000</td>
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<td>EXPENSE BY CABINET</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEADERSHIP</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>$350</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>WORSHIP &amp; MUSIC</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>9,292</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAITH FORMATION &amp; LEARNING</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>4,335</td>
<td>10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>MEMBER CARE</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>665</td>
<td>2,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>CONGREGATIONAL LIFE</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>478</td>
<td>1,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>OUTREACH &amp; COMMUNITY SERVICE</td>
<td>80,100</td>
<td>80,000</td>
<td>80,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>OPERATIONS &amp; MANAGEMENT</td>
<td>130,000</td>
<td>135,409</td>
<td>134,000</td>
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<td>MORTGAGE EXPENSE</td>
<td>99,000</td>
<td>98,940</td>
<td>99,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>PERSONNEL</td>
<td>402,000</td>
<td>390,756</td>
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<td>TOTAL EXPENSES</td>
<td>$735,500</td>
<td>$720,225</td>
<td>$740,000</td>
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<td>Surplus/Deficit</td>
<td>$(52,500)</td>
<td>$9,799</td>
<td>$-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Restricted/Limited Funds</td>
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<td>$230,345</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Committees, Cabinets &amp; Teams Funds</td>
<td></td>
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<td>$110,838</td>
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<td>Total Memorials/Special Gifts/Bequests</td>
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<td>$80,362</td>
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<td>TOTAL DEDICATED ACCOUNTS</td>
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<td>$421,546</td>
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<td>NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT)</td>
<td></td>
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<td>$431,345</td>
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## Financial Management Team

**Schedule B**

**Balance Sheet**

*As of December 31, 2019*

### ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current Assets</td>
<td>11-00-01-02 Checking - Fifth Third Bank</td>
<td>$241,634.21</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11-00-01-03 Petty Cash</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11-00-01-04 Money Market - Fifth Third Bank</td>
<td>$162,950.11</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11-04-01-01 MIF MM Account 15401</td>
<td>$1,646.28</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11-04-04-01 MIF CD 149342 Maturity 4-15-22</td>
<td>$13,768.97</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11-06-04-01 MIF Mortgage Checking Transfer Acct</td>
<td>$13,587.51</td>
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<td><strong>Total Current Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$433,687.08</strong></td>
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<td>Property and Equipment</td>
<td>11-08-01-01 Church Building &amp; Lot</td>
<td>$11,931,641.00</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11-08-01-02 Parking Lots</td>
<td>$50,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11-08-01-03 Contents</td>
<td>$1,100,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Net Property and Equipment</strong></td>
<td><strong>$13,081,641.00</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$13,515,328.08</strong></td>
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</table>

### LIABILITIES and STOCKHOLDERS’ EQUITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current Liabilities</td>
<td>12-00-01-10 Federal Withholding Tax Payable</td>
<td>$1,932.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12-00-01-15 Illinois Withholding Tax Payable</td>
<td>$410.61</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12-06-01-02 Mortgage Payable 3.875%</td>
<td>$1,124,926.64</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total Current Liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,127,269.52</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Long-Term Liabilities</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total Long-Term Liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>$0.00</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,127,269.52</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Stockholders’ Equity</td>
<td>13-00-01-01 Congregational Equity</td>
<td>$10,492,444.31</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13-00-01-02 Accumulated Mortgage Principal</td>
<td>$1,464,270.05</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Net Income(Loss)</strong></td>
<td>$431,344.20</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Total Stockholders’ Equity</strong></td>
<td><strong>$12,388,058.56</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities and Stockholders’ Equity</strong></td>
<td><strong>$13,515,328.08</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
## Statement of Budgeted and Non-Budgeted Funds

### Budget Comparison

#### December 31, 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Actual 1 Month Ended</th>
<th>Budget 1 Month Ended</th>
<th>Variance</th>
<th>Pct</th>
<th>Actual 12 Months Ended</th>
<th>Budget 12 Months Ended</th>
<th>Variance</th>
<th>Pct</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CURRENT</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>139,135.55</td>
<td>80,767.17</td>
<td>58,368.38</td>
<td>72.27</td>
<td>702,954.28</td>
<td>659,228.00</td>
<td>43,726.28</td>
<td>6.53</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SPECIALS</strong></td>
<td>233.00</td>
<td>452.50</td>
<td>(219.50)</td>
<td>(48.51)</td>
<td>4,510.00</td>
<td>5,430.00</td>
<td>(920.00)</td>
<td>(16.94)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SEASONAL</strong></td>
<td>9,503.00</td>
<td>1,098.34</td>
<td>8,404.66</td>
<td>765.21</td>
<td>16,568.30</td>
<td>13,180.00</td>
<td>3,388.30</td>
<td>25.71</td>
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<td><strong>Income Subtotal</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>INTEREST INCOME</strong></td>
<td>180.19</td>
<td>200.01</td>
<td>(19.82)</td>
<td>(9.91)</td>
<td>3,229.11</td>
<td>2,400.05</td>
<td>829.06</td>
<td>34.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MEMORIAL MINISTRIES</strong></td>
<td>87.50</td>
<td>87.50</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>1,050.00</td>
<td>1,050.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>OTHER INCOME</strong></td>
<td>142.69</td>
<td>142.67</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.14</td>
<td>1,711.95</td>
<td>1,711.95</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BUDGET INCOME</strong></td>
<td>149,819.33</td>
<td>82,748.19</td>
<td>66,533.74</td>
<td>80.41</td>
<td>730,023.64</td>
<td>683,000.00</td>
<td>47,023.64</td>
<td>6.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LEADERSHIP</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>125.00</td>
<td>(125.00)</td>
<td>(100.00)</td>
<td>350.00</td>
<td>1,500.00</td>
<td>(1,150.00)</td>
<td>(76.67)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WORSHIP AND MUSIC CABINET</strong></td>
<td>1,409.49</td>
<td>833.32</td>
<td>576.17</td>
<td>68.14</td>
<td>9,291.88</td>
<td>10,000.00</td>
<td>(708.12)</td>
<td>(7.08)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FAITH FORM AND LEARN CABINET</strong></td>
<td>488.98</td>
<td>833.31</td>
<td>(344.33)</td>
<td>(41.32)</td>
<td>4,334.95</td>
<td>10,000.00</td>
<td>(5,665.05)</td>
<td>(56.65)</td>
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<td><strong>MEMBER CARE</strong></td>
<td>20.69</td>
<td>166.65</td>
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<td>664.96</td>
<td>2,000.00</td>
<td>(1,336.04)</td>
<td>(66.75)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CONGREGATIONAL LIFE</strong></td>
<td>477.83</td>
<td>75.00</td>
<td>402.83</td>
<td>537.11</td>
<td>477.83</td>
<td>900.00</td>
<td>(422.17)</td>
<td>(46.91)</td>
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<td><strong>OUTREACH/COMM SERV CABINET</strong></td>
<td>6,625.00</td>
<td>6,716.66</td>
<td>(91.66)</td>
<td>(1.36)</td>
<td>80,000.00</td>
<td>80,100.00</td>
<td>(100.00)</td>
<td>(0.12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>OPER AND MGT CABINET</strong></td>
<td>14,420.87</td>
<td>10,833.28</td>
<td>3,587.59</td>
<td>33.12</td>
<td>135,408.74</td>
<td>130,000.00</td>
<td>5,408.74</td>
<td>4.16</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MORTGAGE</strong></td>
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<td>8,250.00</td>
<td>(5.00)</td>
<td>(0.06)</td>
<td>98,940.00</td>
<td>99,000.00</td>
<td>(60.00)</td>
<td>(0.06)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PERSONNEL</strong></td>
<td>34,213.75</td>
<td>33,499.81</td>
<td>713.94</td>
<td>2.13</td>
<td>390,756.40</td>
<td>402,000.00</td>
<td>(11,243.60)</td>
<td>(2.80)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td>65,901.81</td>
<td>61,333.03</td>
<td>4,568.78</td>
<td>7.45</td>
<td>720,224.78</td>
<td>735,500.00</td>
<td>(15,275.24)</td>
<td>(2.08)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT)</strong></td>
<td>83,580.12</td>
<td>21,415.16</td>
<td>61,964.96</td>
<td>289.35</td>
<td>9,798.88</td>
<td>52,500.00</td>
<td>62,298.88</td>
<td>(118.66)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See Accountants' Compilation Report
# St. Luke's Ev. Lutheran Church

205 N. Prospect
Park Ridge, IL 60068

STATEMENT OF BUDGETED AND NON-BUDGETED FUNDS
Year to Year Comparison  
December 31, 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Actual 1 Month Ended</th>
<th>Actual 1 Month Ended</th>
<th>Variance</th>
<th>Pct</th>
<th>Actual 12 Months Ended</th>
<th>Actual 12 Months Ended</th>
<th>Variance</th>
<th>Pct</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CURRENT</td>
<td>139,135.55</td>
<td>116,001.66</td>
<td>23,133.89</td>
<td>19.94</td>
<td>702,954.28</td>
<td>597,953.99</td>
<td>105,000.29</td>
<td>17.56</td>
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<td>SPECIALS</td>
<td>233.00</td>
<td>186.00</td>
<td>47.00</td>
<td>25.27</td>
<td>4,610.00</td>
<td>5,402.00</td>
<td>(892.00)</td>
<td>(16.51)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEASONAL</td>
<td>9593.00</td>
<td>3555.00</td>
<td>5938.00</td>
<td>(167.31)</td>
<td>16568.30</td>
<td>13178.00</td>
<td>3390.30</td>
<td>(25.73)</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income Subtotal</td>
<td>148,871.55</td>
<td>119,742.66</td>
<td>29,128.99</td>
<td>24.33</td>
<td>724,032.58</td>
<td>616,533.99</td>
<td>107,498.59</td>
<td>17.44</td>
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<td>INTEREST INCOME</td>
<td>180.19</td>
<td>837.17</td>
<td>(656.98)</td>
<td>(76.48)</td>
<td>3,229.11</td>
<td>3,188.07</td>
<td>41.04</td>
<td>1.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEMORIAL MINISTRIES</td>
<td>87.50</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>1,050.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER INCOME</td>
<td>142.69</td>
<td>17,537.37</td>
<td>(17,394.68)</td>
<td>(99.19)</td>
<td>1,711.95</td>
<td>210,664.00</td>
<td>(208,952.05)</td>
<td>(99.19)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUDGET INCOME</td>
<td>149,281.93</td>
<td>138,117.20</td>
<td>11,164.73</td>
<td>6.08</td>
<td>730,023.64</td>
<td>830,386.06</td>
<td>(100,362.42)</td>
<td>(12.09)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEADERSHIP</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>350.00</td>
<td>1,570.81</td>
<td>(1,220.81)</td>
<td>(77.72)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WORSHIP AND MUSIC CABINET</td>
<td>1,406.49</td>
<td>1,206.08</td>
<td>203.41</td>
<td>16.87</td>
<td>9,291.88</td>
<td>9,403.31</td>
<td>(111.43)</td>
<td>(1.19)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAITH FORM AND LEARN CABINET</td>
<td>488.98</td>
<td>169.94</td>
<td>319.04</td>
<td>187.74</td>
<td>4,334.95</td>
<td>6,741.53</td>
<td>(2,406.58)</td>
<td>(35.70)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEMBER CARE</td>
<td>20.89</td>
<td>(489.81)</td>
<td>510.70</td>
<td>(104.26)</td>
<td>964.96</td>
<td>575.20</td>
<td>(389.76)</td>
<td>(1.52)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONGREGATIONAL LIFE</td>
<td>477.83</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>477.83</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>477.83</td>
<td>477.83</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OUTREACH COMM CABINET</td>
<td>6,625.00</td>
<td>5,415.35</td>
<td>1,209.65</td>
<td>22.31</td>
<td>80,000.00</td>
<td>70,576.47</td>
<td>9,423.53</td>
<td>13.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPER AND MGT CABINET</td>
<td>14,420.87</td>
<td>12,310.89</td>
<td>2,109.98</td>
<td>17.14</td>
<td>135,408.74</td>
<td>130,766.96</td>
<td>4,641.78</td>
<td>3.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MORTGAGE</td>
<td>8,245.00</td>
<td>43,387.00</td>
<td>(35,142.00)</td>
<td>(81.00)</td>
<td>98,940.00</td>
<td>220,644.00</td>
<td>(121,704.00)</td>
<td>(55.16)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERSONNEL</td>
<td>34,213.75</td>
<td>32,051.21</td>
<td>2,162.54</td>
<td>6.75</td>
<td>390,756.40</td>
<td>375,888.13</td>
<td>15,068.27</td>
<td>4.01</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL EXPENSES</td>
<td>65,901.81</td>
<td>94,051.66</td>
<td>(28,149.85)</td>
<td>(29.93)</td>
<td>720,234.76</td>
<td>819,087.41</td>
<td>(95,842.65)</td>
<td>(11.74)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT)</td>
<td>83,380.12</td>
<td>44,065.54</td>
<td>39,314.58</td>
<td>89.22</td>
<td>14,318.65</td>
<td>9,798.88</td>
<td>4,519.77</td>
<td>(31.57)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See Accountants' Compilation Report
Report of the Financial Review Committee
Treasurer’s Records
For the year ended December 31, 2019

On behalf of the Financial Review committee (the Committee) we are pleased to submit the following report because of our work on the records of St. Luke’s Evangelical Lutheran church for the year ended December 31, 2019.

The Committee generally found the books and records in good order and with sufficient supporting documentation, subject to the below comments. Our examination was not comprehensive enough to opine on the potential existence of any fraudulent activities or purposeful misrepresentations and should not be relied upon for those purposes.

**General Comments**

- The financial records were in extremely good order and the information was well organized which is appreciated.

Respectfully submitted, this 31st day of December 2019.
2019 Financial Review Committee

Marty Rink, Chair
Tom Mallin
Randy Hoffer
## Endowment Fund
### 2019 Annual Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization/Recipient</th>
<th>Distribution</th>
<th>Description/Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RefugeeOne</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>Benevolent mission; to fund high-need refugees being resettled in the U.S. during their first year in Chicago</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lutheran Social Services of Illinois</td>
<td>$4,500</td>
<td>Outreach into the community; the backpack project provides school supplies to high school foster children.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bread for the World</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>Benevolent mission; in support of advocacy work to end hunger both domestically and internationally.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carlson Community Services</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>Outreach into the community; an after school program for 60 children in elementary and middle schools. Located at 3938 W. Belle Plaine Ave. in Chicago, the program services children mostly from low-income families.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELCA Global Church Sponsorship</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
<td>ELCA benevolent mission; to supplement St. Luke’s spending plan for global missions. Grant to be used to fund 2 new missionaries in South Sudan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELCA’s AMMPARO (Accompany Migrant Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities) program</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>ELCA benevolent mission; in support of program that specifically addresses basic human rights and the safety of migrant families.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Cultural Arts Center at Tumaini University Makumira, Tanzania</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>Benevolent mission; provide funds for Tanzanian Cultural Arts Center’s capital expenses (Randy Stubbs, director)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concordia Place</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>ELCA benevolent mission and outreach into the community; in support of Concordia Lutheran Church’s scholarship program serving 350 children in its Early Childhood Program who are 6 weeks to 5 years of age.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casa Esperanza Project</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>Outreach into the community; funds in support of a shelter for homeless women and children at 8801 S. Saginaw Ave., in Chicago</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bethlehem Lutheran Church, New Orleans, LA</td>
<td>$1,850</td>
<td>ELCA benevolent mission; in support of the only historically African-American ELCA congregation in Louisiana post-Katrina. Congregation is midst of 3-year redevelopment process.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Distribution:** $15,850
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Nominating Committee</strong></th>
<th>2019 Annual Report</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Congregation Council to be Elected
**Term Expiring 2023**
- Ryan Stetler – 2nd Term
- Kathy Raeder – 2nd Term
- Tom Mallin – 1st Term
- Steve Jaracz – 1st Term

**Term Expiring 2021**
- Anne Paolone – 1st Term

### Incumbents
**Congregation Council**

**Terms Expiring 2021**
- Jeff Eggert – 1st Term
- Diane Barounis – 1st Term
- Carole Miserendino – 2nd Term

**Terms Expiring 2022**
- Rita Hoffer – 1st Term
- Lila Italia – 1st Term
- Philip Kline – 1st Term
- Carolyn Placko – 1st Term

### Youth Members
New youth representatives to be appointed by youth in 2020

### Nominating Committee to be Elected
**Term Expiring 2022**
- Jim Beyreis
- Gail Larson

**Term Expiring 2021**
- Clare English

### Human Resource Committee to be Elected
- Paula Zawojski
- Lee Schafer

### Human Resource Committee
- Dave Duffy
- Tim McCurry
- Becky Bork

### Endowment Committee to be Elected
**Term Expiring 2023**
- Heather O’Reilly – 1st Term

**Term Expiring 2021**
- Phil Kline – 1st Term Expiring 2021
- Janet Hoiberg – 1st Term Expiring 2022
Green Team
2019 Annual Report

The Green Team has worked for four years now to bring more sustainable practices to the operations of St. Luke’s. We welcome some new members in 2019, so if you are interested, please contact Cindy Grau at cgrau8@gmail.com.

Composting
We finished up the Sunday Night Supper Composting in May when St. Luke’s turned over hosting of the dinners to Park Ridge Presbyterian Church and its partners. We were pleased that the organizers at the new location enthusiastically decided to continue the composting program that we started.

West Lawn Project
A major 2019 project was the completion of the renovation of the garden beds on the west side of the building.

The garden border was redrawn to incorporate the rain garden and reduce the size of the bed. The plantings were upgraded by removing and recycling the ornamental grasses to other gardens, relocating the snowball Annabelle hydrangeas to a shadier site, removing dead or dying shrubs, and replenishing of the soil with a two inch layer of leaf mulch.

In late summer, the following native shrubs were added to complete the border.
- Southern bush honeysuckle (This is a non-invasive, native honeysuckle.)
- Indigo bush (We planted a cultivated native variety that is small and will not spread.)
- Oak leaf hydrangea, the only Illinois native hydrangea
- Red twig dogwood, named for its red stems in winter
- Blue Muffin Arrowwood viburnum, so named for its lovely blue berries
- Witherod viburnum, also with beautiful dark blue berries and great in wet spots

All of these shrubs are attractive to insects, honey bees, and butterflies. They are located in the back half of the border, from the rain garden to the parking lot.

In addition, we planted 6 yews to complete the background planting along the west foundation and re-sodded areas of the lawn that had been invaded heavily by dandelions and other weeds.

The perennial garden along Cedar Street remained largely the same in 2019. It was maintained by our Master Gardeners using accepted practices for native gardens. The appearance of the bump-out curb at the alley entrance was enhanced by installing a stone paving at the street end of the bump out where trucks occasionally overrun the curb.

Our garden was completed and maintained with memorial gifts and the volunteer help of the following: Ringers Landscaping, Sage Advice Landscape Design and owner Carol Becker, St. Luke’s Master Gardeners Cindy Grau and Jim Pearson, Jim Schrop, and the OMC.
Ongoing Lighting and Electrical Projects

In upgrading overall lighting to be more sustainable, the following was done in 2019:

- Installed occupancy sensors in Narthex rest room and ante room.
- Retrofitted atrium memorial window and accent lights with LED lamps and added light units to highlight exhibits on floor above entry stairs.
- Began installation of exterior wash lighting at northwest corner and north side of sanctuary building.

As part of the West Lawn project:

- Adjusted the placement of west lawn irrigation control boxes to match current grade, so that sodding of uneven places in the lawn could be completed.

2019 Faith in Place Green Team Summit

One of our members attended this event held at the Field Museum for congregations of all faiths throughout the state. Inspiring speakers and workshops filled the day. Faith in Place helped our Green Team get started and is still working with us today.

What’s Next?

In November, the Green Team held a visioning session, led by Dan Huntsha from Faith in Place. We will be sending out a survey to the congregation to get input on what green topics, projects or outings the congregation is interested in pursuing in the future.

Submitted by Carol Becker
Member Care Cabinet
2019 Annual Report

The Member Care Cabinet seeks to provide spiritual enrichment to members of St. Luke’s through various activities including home visits to the homebound and hospitalized, support of physical health, support for spiritual wellbeing through retreats, and assisting with continuing contact and encouragement in various ways.

The member care cabinet continued to meet monthly throughout 2019. The cabinet consists of Jim Beyreis (Cabinet Coordinator), Penny Boyer, Mary Rhoton, Jan Hanson, Michael Busbey and Pastor Johnson. Diane Barounis serves as the Congregation Council liaison to the cabinet. The Cabinet continues to extend an invitation to those interested in providing support to members of St. Luke’s to become involved with the Member Care Cabinet, either through participation in the monthly meetings of the Cabinet, or though participation in home communion visits or other Member Care activities and programs. The Cabinet meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM.

Special activities:
• A Women’s Retreat was held on November 9, 2019, with about 40 women in attendance. The retreat, arranged and organized by Diane Barounis provided spiritual insights, learning opportunities and fellowship, was highly regarded by those who attended. The Member Care cabinet is giving consideration to holding similar retreats in the future.
• On St. Luke, The Physician Sunday, October 20, 2019, the Member Care Cabinet sponsored flu shots provided on site during morning services by Walgreens. Approximately forty flu shots were administered, as well as a few pneumonia vaccinations.

Support Programs
• Home Visitors-Volunteers visit homebound members to deliver communion, devotional materials and fellowship.
• Card Ministry-Members meet to create amazing cards in support of world hunger. Some of these cards are sent to St. Luke’s members who have reached at least 75 years of age, as well as to those who are ill, have lost a loved one, or celebrating special occasions.
• Caregiving Support-The church supports older adults and their families as they navigate the challenges of aging, and the library at St. Luke’s offers many resources for adult children of aging parents as well as family caregivers. The Member Care Cabinet continues to seek ways to connect and re-connect older members of the congregation.
• Christmas Caroling - A group of members caroled again this year to older members in the community and in nursing homes.
• Flower Delivery Team-coordinated by Iris Henderson, delivers flowers used to grace worship services and other events to home bound members.
• Prayer Ministry-coordinated by Jean Igoe and Susan Pinto. Those who are seeking prayers can add names and concerns to a pew card placed in the offering plate, or call the church office.
• 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.
• Blood Pressure Team-Jan Beyreis, Cindy Nommensen as well as several alternates, provide blood pressure screening in the atrium, between services on the second Sunday of each month.
• Spirit Matters is a spiritual enrichment group that offers an opportunity for prayerful reflection and sharing with others around various topics related to one’s life of faith. Spirit Matters meets monthly and all are welcome to attend.

The Member Care cabinet looks forward to a strong ministry devoted to serving the members of St. Luke’s in 2020. The Cabinet welcomes all who are interested in serving through these ministries to join in the activities of the Member Care Cabinet, or to simply bring suggestions and concerns to the attention of the Cabinet. Finally, we thank all who shared their time and talents in 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Beyreis, Member Care Coordinator
Anne Krentz Organ - Director of Music Ministries
Annual Report 2019

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. I look forward to another year of singing, praying, and praising together with this congregation in 2020.

The art and craft of music composition continues to be a source of joy and fulfilment for me as I compose music for choirs, instrumentalists, and congregation for use at St. Luke’s and throughout the wider church.

In 2019 St. Luke’s began a Saturday evening worship service. I support this effort and provide resources and assistance as needed.

Musical highlights of 2019 include working with a variety of singers and instrumentalists throughout the year, Holy Week and Easter services in the spring, the fall festival services of Reformation, All Saints, and Christ the King, and the 80th annual Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols on December 8.

**Regularly scheduled choirs:**
- The **Youth Choir** (grades 7-12) is comprised of 8 strong singers. It is a young group, with 4 seventh graders, 1 eighth grader, 2 sophomores and one HS senior. I look forward to building on this foundation in the coming years. They rehearse 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 16 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 together with the Sanctuary Choir.
- The **Adult Choirs** combined their talents to sing for several festival services: Easter Sunday, April 21; the Candlelight Service, December 8; Christmas Eve, December 24
- The **Celebration Ringers** (adults) includes 13 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** played on Easter Sunday, April 21; July 15; Reformation Sunday, October 27; the Candlelight Service, December 8; and Christmas Eve, using the talents of Jim Cross, Dave Ruth, Tim Anderson, Jake Burrows, trumpet; Emily Hayden Barbarigos, Peter Burrows, horn; Tom Anderson, Andrew Organ, Matthew Burrows, trombone; Tim Clark, timpani.
- **Youth Instrumentalists** played throughout the year: Peter Burrows, horn, March 10; Niki Petterson, trombone, February 10, March 10, September 15, November 24; Allison Paxhia, flute, March 10.
- **St. Luke’s Chamber Orchestra** played on Easter Sunday, April 21, for the Candlelight Service and for Christmas Eve. Instrumentalists in addition to the Brass Ensemble included: Lindsey Frank, Britta Hoiland, Kiersten Hoiland, Emily Keller, Mary Keller, Paul Organ, Lisa Ramsey, violin; Greta Ramsey, Lydia Pflanzer Ramsey, Soren Ramsey, viola; Brandon Huovie, Yvonne Kumon, Lisa Smith, cello; Melinda Hoiland, Meg Boyce, and Nancy Torre, flute; Anthony Dare, clarinet.
St. Luke’s outreach into the community through music:

- **Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols**, December 8
- **Good Friday noon service** for the **Park Ridge Ministerial Association**, April 19, featured the Montag Ensemble String Quartet playing Haydn’s *Seven Last Words*
- **Augsburg Fortress Music Clinic**, July 29-30, attracted church musicians from the Chicago area and neighboring states
- **Park Ridge Chorale** rehearse weekly in the choir room, held concerts April 13, July 21, December 14
- **Student String Recitals** of local music teacher Rhona Reagen, November 11, December 9
- **Chicago Bronze Handbell Choir** rents space for their regular Monday evening rehearsals
- **A Christmas Carol**, December 22, featured the 4Spiel String Quartet with Frank Babbit and Cheryl Wilson

Continuing Education:

- April 29-May 2—Attended the **Institute of Liturgical Studies** at Valparaiso University, IN
- June 24-27—Presented workshops and attended the ALCM biennial Conference in Portland, OR
- October 19—Presented a workshop and attended an ALCM one-day event in Valparaiso, IN

Additional Professional Activity:

- Played organ/piano for chapel services at the ELCA Headquarters: February 27, April 3, September 11, October 30
- Sang in the Schola at the **Institute of Liturgical Studies**, Valparaiso Univ., April 29-May 2
- Continued a six-year term of service on the Advisory Council for the **Institute of Liturgical Studies** at Valparaiso University. My term will be completed in 2023.
- Accepted a commission to write music for a new liturgical setting for an upcoming Hymnal Supplement to be published by Augsburg Fortress
- Completed a choral commission, *Give Thanks to God In Song*, a setting of Psalm 28:7, in honor of the retirement of Rev. Roland Jank, Jr., a pastor in Nebraska
- Completed an instrumental commission, three Thanksgiving pieces for clarinet, horn, and piano, to celebrate the 40th wedding anniversary of two musicians in Michigan

Respectfully submitted,
Anne Krentz Organ
Melinda Ramseth Hoiland—Director of Children’s Music and Education
2019 Annual Report

Children’s Music and Faith Formation continue to be strong ministries at St. Luke’s and involve people of all ages in choirs, a variety of musical ensembles, Sunday School and family events. It is a privilege to work with so many dedicated parents and enthusiastic children who display their love for God and for others through music, learning and service.

I have introduced a number of new initiatives that have been well-received: Adult Orff Ensemble, Little Lambs playgroup, Children and Family Planning Team and a private Facebook page for parents and teachers. In the new year we look forward to having a Midweek Dinner and Open Gym time for four weeks in late January and February.

CHILDREN’S MUSIC AND OTHER ENSEMBLES

- **Children’s Choir** (K-6th grade)—Young singers rehearse weekly to prepare anthems, hymns and liturgies in preparation for leading worship about once a month. Highlights include leading the Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday and Christmas Eve services and singing for the Candlelight service.
- **Orff Ensemble** (3rd-6th grade)—Children rehearse weekly to prepare pieces for worship, learn how to play together in an ensemble, improvise and share their creativity. I continue to arrange much of the music, often with the children’s help.
- **Recorder Consort** plays for worship six times a year.
- **Flute Choir**—youth and adults play for worship six times a year.
- **Adult Orff Ensemble** plays for worship six times a year. This group began in the fall of 2019 and is made up of people who have a variety of musical skills and experience levels. All are welcome!

CHILDREN’S FAITH FORMATION

- **Frolic and Little Lambs Playgroup**—Infant-Age 3
  ◊ Baptized infants are enrolled in the Frolic program. Parents receive monthly e-newsletters with faith formation and child development ideas for their child’s particular age, a baby’s Bible at age 1 and a baby’s Prayer Book at age 2.
  ◊ **Little Lambs Playgroup**—meets twice monthly for parents and children (ages 0-2) for a bible story, music, activities and play time, also with wonderful parent conversation and support.
- **Sunday School**—Age 2-Grade 5
  ◊ **2-year-olds** and parents attend monthly, informal Sunday School classes in the nursery, where they read a Bible story, do activities and play together. Thanks to Stacy Roth for leading these classes this past fall.
  ◊ **Preschool-5th grade**—Last spring, the average attendance was about 25 children, and this fall it was about 30 children, with 39 children participating in the Christmas program. Spring and fall sports conflicts on Sunday mornings play a major part in attendance. Thank you to over 20 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.
  ◊ **Children and Family Planning Team** helps plan a variety of events, about one per month and occasionally with a Parent Night Out, when parents can leave their children, and youth and adults provide games and activities for them to enjoy. This fall’s activities included Berry Picking, Pumpkin Carving and a Thankfulness Event.
  ◊ This year’s theme is “**We Are All God’s Children.**” The children decided that their 2019 spring offerings should go to Feed My Starving Children ($175) and ELCA World Hunger ($215). This fall, the offerings went to ELCA Disaster Response ($160), Feed My Starving Children ($150) and ELCA World Hunger/God’s Global Barnyard ($175). Thank you, children and parents, for your generosity!
◊ We continue to use the Augsburg Fortress Spark classroom curriculum for preschool-1st grade and rotation curriculum for 2nd-5th graders, with two rotations per story so the children learn via different learning styles. (Bible games, cooking, art and science)
◊ **First Communion** – Eleven children from 4 years old through 4th grade received their First Communion on April 18, with an interactive family dinner and class on April 4.
◊ We had four Family Sunday Schools, all well attended, offering opportunities for families to learn as well as participate in a service activity together with themes such as Miracles of Jesus, Jesus’ Transfiguration, tying fleece blankets for Lutheran World Federation, and Advent, when we made ornaments for our shut-ins.
◊ The Sunday School **2019 Spring End of Year Service Event** was filling 100 lunches for Uncle Pete’s Lunches in May and the **Christmas Pageant** on Dec. 15 involved all the Sunday School children with help from a wonderful team of parents.

**WORSHIP**
- We continue to involve children and families in worship, singing or providing music, ushering, reading lessons and serving as youth cantors. Children are involved leading worship on Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday (celebration of First Communion) and Christmas Eve.
- **Walkabouts**—Children leave worship twice a month toward the beginning of the service to learn more about the Gospel story or theme of the day with me or one of the pastors and return after the sermon. Adults also enjoy this time, as it gives them a chance to focus on the lessons and the sermon.
- **Nursery**—a faithful group of youth assist Iris Henderson in the nursery on Sunday mornings and at most special services, and each person receives a small stipend for their services.

**SPECIAL EVENTS and ACTIVITIES**
- **Holden Village Trip**—June 30-July 7—I organized and led a terrific group of 23 people.
- **Pet Blessing**—Sunday, July 14, for pets of members and neighbors in the community.
- **LSSI Backpacks**—Cindy Grau and I arranged for 144 backpacks to be filled in August.
- **Painting the Temple Room**—Thanks to the Rink family for helping with the painting in August, and to Carolyn Joosten, Gary Cartwright and Gail Larson for their design expertise.
- **Feed My Starving Children**—Nearly 40 people of all ages went to FMSC in Schaumburg on November 8 to pack meals for children around the world.
- **Lucia and Jul Fest**—On Dec. 14, nearly 100 people participated in this joint event sponsored by St. Luke’s and The American Daughters of Sweden, with a Lucia program, luncheon and children’s activities. Proceeds of $525 went to the National Youth Gathering 2021 fund.
- **Christmas Caroling to Shut-ins**—On Dec. 15, eleven people shared a potluck lunch and then visited shut-ins in the area.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Melinda Hoiland
Dir. of Children’s Music and Faith Formation
Youth Ministries
2019 Annual Report

As we say goodbye to 2019 I would like to offer my appreciation and thank you for all of the support for our youth this past year. It’s wonderful to see; from those who volunteer to teach, to the support for fundraisers and activities, for those mostly unnoticed moments when so many of you greet the youth, express interest in them, offer congratulations and encouragement to them and in so many ways make them feel a valued part of the community at St. Luke’s.

Throughout the year there were several fundraising activities, I want to thank YOU, the members of the congregation, for your generous donations and participation in these activities:
- The Souper Bowl of Caring with proceeds donated to the Maine Township Pantry
- Waffle and Sausage Breakfast to benefit St. Baldrick’s
- Providing concessions during the Bottle Band performances. A huge thank you to the Bottle Band for offering this opportunity.
- Assisting at the Jul Fest in December.

Some of the funds and material donations were used to help make youth trips and activities possible, while others enabled the youth to participate in service to raise funds for causes to benefit others, to be part of “God’s work our Hands”.

In July a group of youth participated in a mission trip to learn about the Civil Rights movement in the US. It was an amazing journey that brought deeper exposure to the history of slavery, poverty, discrimination and privilege in our society. We also discovered that religious faith has often played an important part in inspiring individuals to step forward to do what they believe to be right. All those who took part felt challenged to look not just at history, but to where we are today and what they can do to help shape the world. It was an immensely emotional trip and gave all a lot to ponder.

To share our experiences and show our thanks, the youth hosted a presentation at Adult Forum in November. The room was very full, we thank all who attended for sharing this with us and for the wonderful feedback and compliments on the presentation. We also offer our thanks for the support that helped make this trip possible.

We have been very fortunate in having caring, dedicated individuals to help mentor our youth. I am very grateful and offer heartfelt thanks to those who give of themselves to spend time with the youth, namely:
- DeeDee Kohlndorfer, who continued her inspiring work of many years teaching the 6th grade class on Sunday mornings throughout the 2018–19 program year.
- Lisa Heim who brought her warmth and caring to her time with the 7th graders through the 2018-19 year.
- Emily and Kevin Hansen who volunteered to work with the 7th graders beginning in September providing their energy, support and perspective to the youth.
- Jessie Weber Weinke, Wayne Weinke and Kenny Kohlndorfer who continued to share their time and affection in guiding and empowering the high school youth.

The 7th and 8th grade students continued to meet with Pastor Michael Busbey and myself on a regular basis on Sunday evenings throughout the spring for a meal, fellowship and learning as they prepared for Confirmation. They worked with a curriculum, Manna and Mercy, learning about God’s relationship with his people, and how we might approach our world to share that caring and grace.
The 8th grade students worked hard planning for Confirmation. Each student authored a faith statement and chose a Bible verse as they approached the big day. They led the Confirmation Service in May, taking on most of the leadership roles and did a wonderful job!

With the new Sunday school year beginning in September, the 7th and 8th grade students began again meeting with Pastor Busbey and myself on Sunday evenings to share a meal and class time together. They have studied topics from the Catechism including: Word and Sacraments, Baptism, Communion, the 10 Commandments, Apostle’s Creed and The Lord’s Prayer. They have also had opportunities to engage in experiential learning, including a fall retreat to Lutherdale in Elkhorn, WI and volunteering at Feed My Starving Children.

The middle school youth continue to participate in worship in many ways: as acolytes, ushers, communion servers, readers, speakers and musical performers.

Youth events during the year included:
• Souper Bowl of Caring
• Ski Trip to Alpine Valley
• St. Patrick’s Day party
• Grace Place Dinner at South Loop Campus Ministry
• Mission Trip
• Feed My Starving Children
• Parent drop off nights, in which families left younger children in the care of youth.
• Periodic “Mixers” held with Edison Park, Messiah and Redeemer Lutheran churches. Each mixer has included a service component as well as time for fun, food and meeting youth from the other churches. Among other things, we learned about “Plarning”!
• Lock-ins at St. Luke’s, hide and seek has become a big favorite!

We are eager to see what experiences and opportunities await in 2020. We welcome suggestions and ideas for projects or events that the youth might be able to become involved in.

Respectfully,

Gerry Mears
Mission Statement: The Faith Formation & Learning Cabinet, FF&L, strives to strengthen the faith and knowledge of St. Luke’s members and friends by providing lifelong learning opportunities that will inspire, lead and guide all to be people of God living faithfully in the world.

Our Cabinet is comprised of four ministries: Children’s, Youth, Adult and Library. We interact with all generations through Sunday School, Confirmation classes, Youth and Adult Forums, Bible Study and much more. Guest speakers, Sunday School teachers and Shepherds and the Dokmo Library are also key elements of our ministries.

- Children’s Ministry, led by Melinda Hoiland, supports education and related activities for 2-year olds to 6th grade. The rotation format fosters variety along with more family or group Sunday School classes to learn and celebrate together.
- Adult Ministries, led by Pastor Richard Johnson, consists of the Sunday morning adult forums, and Wednesday evening book studies, touching on a variety of thought provoking topics.
- Gerry Mears continues to lead our Youth Ministry and remains committed to engaging them in events that involve other congregations and communities. He has co-led Confirmation Curriculum with Pastoral Intern, Michael Busby, and also accompanied Pastor Johnson on the Civil Rights Road Trip.
- Gail Larson leads the Library Ministry with a team that maintains the Dokmo Library with resources to support the diverse interest of the Congregation. Taking cues from Pastor Elizabeth Palmer, Pastor Johnson and our own members, this group selects relevant titles.
- Ingrid Henehan is a critical member of our cabinet, along with Council Members, Lila Italia and Anne Palone. They are our “eyes and ears” to ensure we meet member needs.

2019 offered events appealing to all generations to build a strong faith foundation. Our collective thanks to the Congregation for your ideas, feedback and continued support in 2020 and beyond.

Sincerely,

Aleli Estrada Scerba
Faith Formation & Learning Cabinet Coordinator

FF&L Cabinet 2019-2020:
Ingrid Henehan, Melinda Hoiland, Gail Larson, Gerry Mears, Anne Palone & Pastor Richard Johnson
The Library Team members are Janice Bennett, Barbara Burswold, Kathy Figler, Janice Jordan, and Gail Larson.

The 2019 “Warm Up With a Good Book” reading challenge was held from January 20 to February 17. 31 members participated, with 43 books checked out during the challenge. The winners of the reading drawing were Annabelle Keller, Charlie Kolz, and Brenna Houvie.

The Chicagoland Church Librarians Spring Workshop was held at St. Timothy’s Lutheran Church in Naperville on March 30, 2019. Gail Larson and Kathy Figler attended. The 2020 Workshop will be held at St. Lukes on March 21.

The annual Adopt-a-Book sale was held March 31 and April 7. The booklist was fulfilled by The BookBin in Northbrook. Members donated 38 new titles to our shelves! In addition, many members donated books from their personal collections throughout the year.

After weeding shelves throughout the year, the library team donated several boxes of books to SCARCE (School and Community Assistance for Recycling and Composting Education) in Glen Ellyn, a facility that provides books to educators.

Shelf reorganization and new shelf signs are making it easier to find books.

Read and Share featured a new book each week in the Messenger, the Community Happenings, and on display on the atrium book cart. The entire month’s recommendations were on display in the library.

Take the Story Home recommendations for Sunday school children and parents were posted in the parent newsletter, and displayed on the children’s shelves.

Bulletin board themes this year were Warm Up with a Good Book, We All Smile in the Same Language, Reading is your Window to the World, and Joy to the World.

This year, a new monthly feature “Did You Know?” was begun. Topics included current fiction/novels, memoirs and biographies, historical accounts of true events, multicultural fiction and non-fiction (adults), parenting on sensitive topics, special needs kids, celebrate God’s creation, creation care, multicultural books for children, the African American experience, reformation resources, not for kids only, and Advent/Christmas. Each list is available in the library.

The library wishes to continue meeting the needs of members in a variety of ways. Let us know what you are looking for. Come in anytime to browse and discover what your library has to offer. Our team meets the second Tuesday of the month at 10:00 am. Please join us!

Respectfully,
Gail Larson, for the Library Team
Operations & Management Cabinet
2019 Annual Report

During 2019 the OMC roster included the following members, Jeff Greve, Jim Henderson, James Hoffer, Tom Lynch, Ryan Stetler and Phil Stavrides. Pastor Johnson and Jim Schrop represented the staff. Chuck Walker and Ryan Stetler initially served as council liaisons, unfortunately Chuck was pulled away for work and Ryan was too valuable to merely be a liaison, so he was impressed into full service!

The year saw several accomplishments, mostly aligned with energy savings through lighting changes (to power saving LEDs). We also did some behind the scenes planning/pricing for the kitchen project. Here’s a short list of activities/services rendered this past year:

- Completed replacing lamps in the exterior fixtures along the west wall.
- Replaced exterior fixtures and lamps along the south wall.
- Priced renovation of the existing Sanctuary hanging fixtures. This work has not been pushed forward since the investigation showed that the existing wiring is in much better shape than expected (aka safer). The renovation is still on our wish list - with a higher level of lumens!
- Lamps were replaced at the south end of the sanctuary, for the St. Luke’s window.
- The conversion of ceiling lights in classrooms and other rooms to LED bulbs began in 2018 and completed this year.
- The north parking lot was rehabilitated – the catch basin was rebuilt, old asphalt removed and replaced and the lot re-striped. The south lot and Cedar street parking spaces received fresh seal coating and striping. As an added safety feature, the curb at the north exit door was demolished. Safety painting on the lot surface (for pedestrian zone) will be applied this coming spring.
- The electric lock failure at the Henderson Hall doors was investigated, found to be a function of the Fire Alarm system and was repaired.
- The basement Men’s and Women’s toilet room ceilings were removed and replaced. Painting will be completed in early 2020.
- We benefitted from several service projects over the year – most of which were relegated to cleaning and organizing – we are most appreciative!

Looking forward to 2020 we anticipate a major project to upgrade the main kitchen from its present status as a warming kitchen to a full cooking kitchen.

Respectfully submitted,
Operations and Management Cabinet
Outreach and Community Service  
2019 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 Outreach and Community Service Cabinet supports St. Luke’s members who work to serve and connect with our local and global communities. As you can see from the reports below and in separate reports from groups that fall under our umbrella, St. Luke’s members did a lot of great work in 2019.

As we look to 2020, one goal for our cabinet will be to add a few new names to our roster. The size of our group is down from a year ago, and all groups benefit from some amount of “churn” in their membership — new people bring fresh ideas, renewed energy, and new perspectives. If you think you’d be interested in serving on our cabinet or any of the groups we support, please reach out.

OUTREACH:

Our cabinet works to connect St. Luke’s with the world outside our doors. This means reaching out and making connections in our local and global community, but it also means welcoming people from outside the church into our congregation.

Welcoming visitors and new members

• Outreach Visitors team: Because we are a welcoming congregation, when someone visits St. Luke’s for the first time and expresses an interest in learning more about the congregation, a member of the Outreach Visitors Team uses the information they have supplied (address, phone numbers, and emails) to make direct contact with them. We encourage new visitors to sign our guest book or complete a yellow card which is found in the pew racks. We count on all members to be on the lookout for new faces and encourage them to provide information that will make our follow-up possible.

• New member inductions: As needed throughout the year, our cabinet hosts informational lunches for visitors who are interested in joining St. Luke’s, and we welcome them with flowers and welcome packets during special new-member induction services. In 2019, we welcomed over 30 new members at induction services in August and November.

Social gatherings

• Oktoberfest celebration: We hosted our fourth Oktoberfest celebration on September 29. Diana Tomaska took on the responsibility for this event, and boy did she run with it: In addition to handling the planning, she cooked most of the food herself — and it was amazing! A number of helpers were on hand before, during and after Sept. 29th to support Diane in her leadership. As in previous years, the event featured a live accordionist playing authentic German music, and homebrewers in the congregation provided libations. Attendance was right at the limit of what we could accommodate in Henderson Hall. Overall, it was a very successful event.
COMMUNITY SERVICE:

Helping others in our local and global communities is a critical part of our Christian mission. St. Luke’s has several active groups that do a lot of important work to serve others.

Sunday Night Suppers: After hosting the Sunday Night Suppers program for six years, we have passed on the responsibility for this community ministry to another group: It is now organized and hosted by Park Ridge Presbyterian Church and St. Mary’s Episcopal Church. The program continues to be a shared effort, as local groups — including volunteers from St. Luke’s — sign up to help each week.

We’d like to give a loud thank-you to the St. Luke’s members who kept this program going for the six strong years we hosted it: Janet Hoiberg, Gail Larson, Cindy Nommensen, Cindy Spiegel, and Jan Beyreis were instrumental in planning and overseeing the suppers each week. Thanks as well to all our members who volunteered their time at these events.

Social Ministry: This team, led by Ken Schoy, organizes fundraisers and events throughout the year to support various local ministries. See their report for details.

Global Links: This team, led by Sue Weber, fosters awareness of and participation in God’s global mission at home and around the world. See their report for details.

Respectfully submitted by Jeff Mohl, Cabinet Coordinator

Cabinet members: Claire Buettner, Rita Hoffer, Carolynn Joesten, Jeff Mohl (coordinator), Julie Rooney
Mission
Social Ministry initiates and/or evaluates requests for social action, recommends appropriate action for St. Luke's and coordinates these activities.

Committee Members: Chris Dentamaro, Diane Erickson, Jean Igoe, Pastor Johnson, Todd Raeder, Cheryl Ryback, and Ken Schoy. Jason and Peter Burrows, Bruce Erickson, John Nommensen, and members of the Outreach Committee help out.

- **First Sunday, Food Sunday:** On a weekly basis, non-perishable food items are donated by the congregation and delivered to the Maine Township Pantry in Park Ridge.
- **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 street people in Chicagoland.
- **Forty-Something For Lent:** Three SUV’s and two cars all completely jammed with food were required to bring the food to the Maine Township Food Pantry on Palm Sunday, April 14. Also, $820 was given. There was a spring snowstorm but we only had to drive 10 blocks.
- **Blood Drive:** The Blood Drive took place on May 6. There were 26 people who tried to give blood and 24 were accepted. A vital difference in life. Thank you.
- **Lutheran World Relief:** Women at St. Luke’s make quilts for distribution to needy people throughout the world. Sixteen quilts were taken to Messiah Lutheran Church for transport.
- **Niles/Park Ridge Crop Walk:** The Niles/Park Ridge Crop walk took place on October 20 with United Methodist Church in Park Ridge as the host church. We had 205 people walk from several churches earning around $42,250. St. Luke’s had 12 walkers and $4,255. 75% goes to world hunger projects and 25% stays local.
- **Thanksgiving Turkey Drive:** On November 24, we collected and purchased 135 turkeys and delivered them all to the Open Arms Food Pantry in Logan Square using 3 SUV’s and two cars.
- **Additional Revenue to OAM (Open Arms Ministry of New Community Covenant):** $820 earned from 40 Items for Lent and $1000 from Discretionary Fund.
- **Christmas Card Tree:** Instead of sending Christmas cards to all their St. Luke’s friends, members are asked to send only one card with a donation. The cards are hung on the tree and the money collected ($1,285) is used for the Park Ridge food voucher program.

Thanks to the congregation of St. Luke’s for their generosity in supporting all our programs in 2019 and in past years. These ministries help many people.

Respectfully submitted by Ken Schoy
Global Links Team
2019 Annual Report

From Education to Participation in God’s Global Mission

**ELCA World Hunger Appeal.** St. Luke’s 2019 ELCA World Hunger Appeal goal of $26,000 was marvelously surpassed in 2019 with a final tally of $32,858. **WOW!!** This year’s contribution is the highest St. Luke’s has recorded in the last 10 years of tracking our annual donations.

**Thanks be to God for the contributions of so many, including:**

- The St. Luke’s Card Ministry team who continue to donate materials and their time to construct handmade greeting cards, bookmarks, and Christmas tags available year-round to the congregation for their needs;
- Ruth Rusch’s sewing talents in providing adorable dolls with variable-themed dresses available to our members;
- Linda Catalano for her consistent reminders written in the weekly Messenger to remind us all of the need for contributions to this worthwhile effort on a continuous basis;
- The efforts put into the annual Good Gifts Fair by our team members;
- The support we receive from Rev. Dan Rift, Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, and so many others at ELCA Headquarters in reminding us of the tremendous value of this work; and
- Most importantly, the amazing generosity of spirit and resources from all of you, who consistently put St. Luke’s in the top 10 contributors, nationwide, to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal.

Thank you to all!

**Fair Trade Coffee, Tea, Chocolate & Olive Oil.** Barb Burswold’s commitment to the management of St. Luke’s fair trade coffee, tea, chocolate and olive oil sales, with all proceeds benefiting the first line merchants, continues to provide easy access to these products for our congregation year round.

**Volunteer Opportunities.** **ELCA World Hunger Headquarters** – Linda Catalano and Janet Hoiberg continued to volunteer at ELCA Headquarters with the World Hunger group twice a month.

**Adult Education Participation.** Our team encouraged or participated in the following adult education opportunities at St. Luke’s:

- **Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM) Speakers** – Mae Helen Jackson & Haley Toresdahl shared both their first-hand learning experiences from their own participation in the program in 2014 and 2015 in South Africa and Cambodia and informative details about the process for young adults to become a part of the program. Their perspectives as to how “accompaniment” occurred in their experiences, as well as how they each dealt with assumptions about the U.S. proved to be very insightful.
- **Bread for the World Offering of Letters: Better Nutrition, Better Tomorrow** – Forums were held in the spring and fall to learn about the importance of “The First 1000 Days” in a child’s development (the period from pregnancy through a child’s 2nd birthday) when good nutrition, both maternal and child, is critical for healthy development. Even short bouts of malnutrition during this critical period can lead to “stunting” which can have permanent, negative impacts in a child’s development and their ability to become a contributing member of their community. Bread for the World letter writing campaigns to our Congress members advocating for increased attention to nutrition in our legislative efforts followed.
• **Kris Halyards of The Harbour** – Kris Halyards shared details about this not-for-profit organization headquartered in Park Ridge that works with girls ages 12-18 who are struggling with home life. The organization runs a small house in Des Plaines that can accommodate 8 girls at a time. They provide a short-term housing solution while working with girls to integrate them back into home life. If it does not work for them to return to their source home, they move into the foster care system. For 18- to 21-year-olds, The Harbour has another housing facility in Schaumburg that allows residents to stay up to 3 years while working toward learning to live independently. The Harbour works closely with these young girls, coordinating with many other service agencies, to provide resources and assist youth in finding their way to successful independence.

• **The Text of “Forgotten Luther II”** -- Pr. Johnson led a Wednesday evening study program on the book of essays focused on Martin Luther, “Forgotten Luther II.”

**Travel.** 23 St. Luke’s members, friends, and family participated in a week-long visit to Holden Village in early July. Photos and information about the many cross-generational opportunities for healthy activity, relaxation, learning, creativity, contemplation and hilarity in the Village were shared with the congregation in November, 2019.

**ELCA Missionary Support.** In 2019 St. Luke’s began support of two new missionaries in South Sudan, Rev. Mawien Ariik and Rev. Wal Luot Reat, in addition to continuing support for Pr. Alex LaChapelle’s work in Africa.

**Mawien & Wal:**

Both were refugees of South Sudan in the group the U.S. knew as the Lost Boys of Sudan. (Wikipedia summary: The Lost Boys of Sudan was the name given to a group of over 20,000 boys of the Nuer and Dinka ethnic groups. These boys were displaced or orphaned during the Second Sudanese Civil War (1987–2005) in which about 2 million were killed and others were severely affected.)

Upon their resettlement in the U.S., the two young men joined the ELCA Lutheran Church and eventually pursued seminary in the Twin Cities, MN, area, both becoming ordained pastors.

Both men decided in 2018 to serve the church by returning to their country as missionaries to establish, and then grow, the Lutheran church. They are both trained as preachers.

Their story is particularly interesting because each is a member of a different ethnic group—one is Nuer and one is Dinka. They are working across that perceived divide to join together and share the message that we can all be brothers and sisters under Christ, in peace.

Wal is working on the border of Ethiopia in refugee clinics and Mawien is working in the Reconciliation Lutheran Church, Community Center and Mary Health Care Clinic, in the Referendum Area of Yuba, South Sudan.

ELCA worked with the Episcopal church in South Sudan and determined that one of the best ways to serve the needs of the community was by having a physical building constructed to provide various services. The Reconciliation Center had its formal ribbon cutting in November 2018. The first Sunday of church services, they had over 1500 individuals in attendance, 500 of which were children. They continue to have over 1,000 worshiping congregants. The center provides vocational training, such as sewing classes, and the clinic served over 700 women in its first week.

**Pr. Alex LaChapelle:** Pr. Alex completed his role in South Africa as country coordinator for the YAGM program, moving to a new role in September based in Kenya as pastor for the Nairobi International Lutheran Congregation as part of the Kenya Evangelical Lutheran Church.
RefugeeOne. Thank you to all of our members who continue to contribute to the quarterly donation events we publicize and deliver to RefugeeOne.

St. Luke’s Endowment Fund Grants. 2019 St. Luke’s Endowment Fund Grants requested by the Global Links Team supported the following:

- $3,000 = Missionary support to supplement budgeted amounts received to increase our support from 2 to 3 missionaries
- $1,000 = ELCA’s AMMPARO program
- $1,000 = Cultural Arts Centre (CAC) at Tumaini University, Makumira, Tanzania (Randy Stubbs)
- $500 = St. Luke’s Bread for the World annual membership

Thank you for your continuous support of all of these endeavors.

Our meetings occur on the 3rd Tuesday of every month, beginning at 7:15 p.m. Please consider joining us, or if you are unable to join us for monthly meetings but have a special interest for which we might assist, please let any of our members know of your interest. New ideas and projects energize us!

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Weber, Chair

Members:
Claire Buettner, Barb Burswold, Michael Busbey, Carolyn Callahan, Linda Catalano, Janet Hoiberg, Melinda Hoiland, Dee Dee KohlIndorfer, Gail Larson, Sue Weber
The Congregational Life Cabinet works to facilitate events and programming that bring the congregation and community together to strengthen existing relationships and build new ones.

Although in 2019 the Cabinet did not actively exist, St. Luke’s offered many important ways that members connected to one another. It’s our goal for 2020 to build an active cabinet to add to what we’re already doing.

Submitted by,
Carolyn Schaefer Placko

The St. Luke’s Bottle Band
2019 Annual Report

The Bottle Band had a great year entertaining people from Schaumburg to Park Ridge! (Actually just in Schaumburg and Park Ridge). We performed as part of The Prairie Lakes concert series in their beautiful auditorium in Schaumburg. We enjoyed performing on a large stage with a professional sound and light man.

After rehearsing almost every Friday night starting in January, we performed two big weekends at St. Luke’s celebrating the band’s 40th anniversary. Many of us are still recovering....... 

Our financial statement:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash balance as of January 1, 2019</td>
<td>$4,574</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memorials, flowers, supplies</td>
<td>-$494</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schaumburg Show</td>
<td>$2,235</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Luke’s Show</td>
<td>$10,639</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash balance as of December 31, 2019</td>
<td>$16,684</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Respectfully submitted by Kyle Cartwright
AKA BettySueLou Phleming
# Congregational Membership Statistics for 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baptisms</td>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Members</td>
<td>34</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weddings/Blessings</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funerals</td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfers out</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Removed by own request</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Removed by inactivity</td>
<td>45</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baptized</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confirmed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Membership end of 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Baptized</th>
<th>Confirmed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1137</td>
<td>837</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Members received during 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Baptized</th>
<th>Confirmed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. By baptism/children</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. By adult baptism</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. By affirmation of faith</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. By transfer</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. From other sources/statistical adjustment</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Associate members</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j. Reinstated into active member status</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k. <strong>Total members received this year</strong></td>
<td><strong>50</strong></td>
<td><strong>24</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Baptized members who were confirmed in 2019

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTALS**

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>871</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Members removed during 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Baptized</th>
<th>Confirmed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. By death</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. By transfer</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. For other reasons/statistical adjustment</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Dropped per own request</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Placed on inactive status</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. <strong>Total members removed this year</strong></td>
<td><strong>65</strong></td>
<td><strong>45</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Membership, end of December 2019

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>826</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. **TOTAL ACTIVE PARTICIPATION**

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>826</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** (per Shepherd’s Staff – 1,126 active members, 828 confirmed members)

Due to program limitations, Shepherd’s Staff will always show 4 more than actual baptized members, 2 more than actual confirmed members

Report prepared by Susan Pinto, Administrative Assistant
Resolutions
Annual Meeting - January 26, 2020

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 2019, 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 2020.

That we thank each person who served our Congregation this past year as a member of our staff, namely: Lead Pastor Richard Johnson, Pastoral Intern Michael Busbey, Anne Krentz Organ, Melinda Hoiland, Susan Pinto, BethAnn Lynch, Gerry Mears and Jim Schrop.

That we thank each person who served our Congregation as a volunteer during 2019, 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 and Operations and Management.

That we offer our thanks to God for those persons who have been baptized during 2019, namely: Liberty Bauernschmidt, Alex Birdwell, Louis Birdwell, Alana Braun, Lisa Chereches, Briella Gimino, Jordyn Guttilla, Alyssa Lawson, Luna Lipsey, Aiden Michelini, Andrew Michels, Lena Owen, Josephine Owens and Theodore Weinke.

That we offer our thanks to God for those persons who have made their First Communion during 2019, namely: Augustus Bunge, Raymond Bunge, Isabella Frapolli, Charlotte Houvie, Samantha Metoyer, Sarah Metoyer, Allison O’Brien, Jacob O’Brien, John Paolone, Emma Stelter and Malcolm Stelter.

That we offer our thanks to God for those youth who affirmed their baptism, namely the 2019 Confirmation Class: Jacob Birkett, Devin Clarke, Niamh Duffy, Emily Keller, Gianna Messina, Katarina Miller, Christina Paxhia, Grace Placko, Morgan Timmons and Tyrone Walker.

That we offer our thanks to God for the lives of those members who passed from this life during 2019 namely: Janice Berg, Robert Douglass, Edward Grendahl, Earle Griebler, Joanne Griebler, Louis Kautz, Iris Olsson, Donald Scheunemann, Judy Smith, Virginia Stone, Lawrence Vander Meulen and Beatrice Westrich.
That we offer our thanks to God for those persons who joined our Congregation by baptism, affirmation of faith, transfer or were reinstated during 2019 namely: Liberty Bauernschmidt, Cherlyne Beck, Louis Birdwell, Jacob Birkett, Alana Braun, Gus Bunge, Jacog Bunge, Raymond Bunge, Tony Capicchioni, Phyllis Cavanaugh, Lisa Chereches, Alyssa Cooper, Jennifer Cooper, Nathan Cooper, Ruth Dambrosio, Katie Daoud, Peter Daoud, Elisabeth Deike, Katherine Deike, Samuel Deike, Briella Gimino, Jordyn Guttilla, Mark Halfpenny, Alyssa Lawson, Luna Lipsey, Judy MacPherson Schumacher, Karen Marbach, Aiden Michelini, Andrew Michels, Lena Owen, Josephine Owens, Brian Pederson, Ella Pederson, Luke Pederson, Renny Pederson, Jean Schneller, John Schumacher, Jodi Slattery, Chris Stelter, Jack Stelter, Samuel Stelter, Wendy Stelter, Donna Strand, Wendy VanKeulen, Theodore Weinke, Kathy Witcraft and Brad Wohlgemuth.

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.

Submitted by Susan Pinto,
Administrative Assistant
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.