

2019

***ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
CONGREGATION COUNCIL***

St. John Lutheran Church



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

As children of God, we are a family
living out the Gospel of Jesus Christ
through worship, fellowship, and service.

2019 Annual Report
Table of Contents

	Page
Pastor Jason Pollington.....	3
Pastoral Acts.....	6
Church Council.....	7
Communications Committee.....	7
Sunday School.....	8
Stewardship Committee.....	9
Fellowship Committee.....	9
Evangelism Committee.....	10
Altar Guild.....	10
Worship and Music Committee.....	11
Youth/Luther League Committee.....	12
Cemetery Perpetual Care and Maintenance Fund.....	14
Women of the Church.....	15
Statistical Summary.....	16
Membership Report.....	17
Endowment Fund Report.....	18
Fund Balance	22
Giving Statement Recap.....	23
Proposed 2019 Budget.....	24
2019 SEMN Synod Ministry Report.....	27

Pastor's Report for 2019

***For as in one body we have many members,
and not all the members have the same function,
so we, who are many, are one body in Christ,
and individually we are members one of another. Romans 12:4-5***

Brothers and Sisters of St. John Lutheran,

I give thanks for our Church Council who has been entrusted with the stewardship and guidance of our congregation's needs. I give thanks for the staff of St. John Lutheran for this past year – Missy Gregor, Kathy Heyda, & Roman Jindra. I give thanks to Liz Vlasak who continues to help with our bookkeeping in setting up a sustainable system, so we are able get a clearer picture of possibilities we are given through our stewardship and the challenges we are facing. We give thanks for Sara Kuchinka, who has stepped into the role of Sunday School Superintendent, and those teachers and helpers who touch the lives of our children through music and education in our Sunday School offering. We are enriched by you and for your hearts for ministry. I give thanks for the all of you who serve on committees which are at work sharing the gospel of Christ in many ways. I give thanks for all of you because we are in ministry together and we benefit from the gifts that only you have been blessed with through the Holy Spirit.

Finally, I give thanks to my family – Megan, Preston, & Michael. Your ministry here continues to touch the lives of the members of this congregation and our community; and I am blessed to have you here with me.

Pastoral Acts for 2019

1 Baptisms (1 Child)

7 Confirmed - Affirmation of Baptisms

3 Weddings (3 Members)

12 Funerals (9 Members and 3 Non-Members)

Together in ministry this year:

Learning Together: Our Sunday School continues to support the foundation of our Christian faith thanks to teachers, volunteers, and children who see value in sharing their faith in the gospel of Christ. Together with the confirmation classes, we strive to affirm the promise spoken to us through our baptism. This year we have 23 active 7th and 8th Graders meeting on Wednesday nights, as well as, 12 9th Grade/Mentor pairs who are sharing their faith together. This is supported by you, the families, and non-related members of St. John. We offered a variety of adult educational opportunities from our study on the Book of Romans to our new weekly Daily Discipleship Bible Study on Wednesday mornings. Our Daily Discipleship Bible Study is a joy to me, because within it, we are gathered by the word of God, but also, connect in fellowship, join in care and prayer for the members of the congregation and community, and share faith in daily life. I look forward to more opportunities like this, so we have intentionally looked at ways to do this in the whole of the congregation through our First Sunday Forums where we talk about our ministry and offer opportunities for members to share and be heard.

Connecting Together: Whether it be making quilts, serving dinners, inviting a friend or family to join us for fellowship and worship, visiting over a cup of coffee with some treats, kicking off the program year on Rally Sunday, or weekly through our worship services, it is through these moments that we share life as the body of Christ here in this place.

Last year, I invited us to look ahead to three areas: stewardship, identity, and ministry together.

Stewardship

Our Stewardship Committee and our sub-committee of the Bell Tower Fundraising Committee were very active. We shared stories about what stewardship means, why we give, and the areas of ministry that we are active in now. We asked you to think or re-think your estimate of giving to the general budget and your pledge to the bell tower repair project. Now, we thank. Thank you to those who serve on these committees and you who gave to these two areas, as well as others (building fund, music fund, feed my sheep, etc.)! Thank you to those who share your time and talents here in many and various ways! Thank you, because we were able to:

- meet our budget,

- surpass \$100,000 in giving to the bell tower project

- cover our past carry over short fall from the previous year.

Through stewardship revival within our congregation after several years of dormancy, we focused on the importance of fixing the bell tower and giving to the general budget which supports the day to day ministry of St. John. So many more exciting possibilities lay ahead for St. John Lutheran as we continue to share in stewardship of our congregation and community together!

Identity

New picture directory is being completed

Review of membership

- Total Active Role of Membership should be completed this year

- Increased the number of family units by 84

- A few were from new members, others were members who had been taken off our membership without transferring, but the largest amount were young adults (21-35) who were still listed under their parents.

All members – active, inactive, and affiliated – are members of this body of Christ. Finding ways to invite members to share their gifts and participate in the life of our congregation is what we are called to do. I am excited about the possibilities this brings for evangelism, as well as, stewardship. Because one cannot do evangelism without stewardship or stewardship without evangelism.

Ministry Together

Hearing the request for some more variety in the music used within our worship services, we are adding 200 more songs through Song Select for our use.

Over this past year, we've looked at our mission statement which is where our mission is centered on Christ and our invitation to share this through all of the facets of St. John.

Through Feed My Sheep and the support for the food shelf, to name just a few, we have helped with the immediate need of members of our congregation with food cards, gas cards, and financial support.

Through our \$5000 (2.7% of our budget) in mission support to the Southeastern Minnesota Synod, we support our campus ministries, partner congregations in other countries, Lutheran World Relief, and the support of those who are called as candidates for ordination into ministry.

So now, I am inviting you to look forward to the year ahead, there are three areas I would like to lift up:

Visioning, Engaging, Growing

Visioning

What Is our ministry are we being called into now?

What Is our vision for what is yet to come?

How Can we move forward in fulfilling our call as a congregation AND making our vision a reality together?

Entering into a ministry review will help us to name some of our strengths and challenges together.

With this review, we can enter into strategic planning for living into our calling as a congregation and seeing our vision become reality.

Engaging

We have a wonderful resource in putting Thrivent Action Team Cards to work in education, service projects, outreach, and many other areas of ministry.

1 card can put \$250 to work – 20 cards \$5,000 – 50 cards \$12,500

Young Adult Ministry

We are looking for your input either privately or collaboratively about education, service, outreach, worship, and support. We look forward to the conversations ahead.

Invitation to participate

Helping inactive members share their gifts & join in fellowship and worship

Following-up with members who are living in other areas of the state to recognize their membership and show our support.

Hearing the needs of our community

Food insecurity

Affordable housing

Challenges facing dairy producers and farmers

Growing

Providing resources we can offer

Support for parents

Congregational education and fellowship

Fostering our identity in Christ and living out our baptismal promises in all that we do at St. John Lutheran

Engaging in meaningful and sometimes difficult conversation together

For me personally as a part of my continuing education for this, I will be participating in Continuous Growth Pathways offered through Gustavus Adolphus College (Please ask me about this. It is new!) and continuing to attend preaching workshops available in our area.

Paul reminds us, ***We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us (Romans 12:6).*** We often become very lax in letting one another know that we need each other. We are called into relationship with one another. Thank you for this ministry that we share, God help and guide us.

***Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty,
but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are.***

Romans 12:16

Peace of Christ,

Pr. Jason Pollington

St. John Lutheran Church Pastoral Acts 2019

Baptisms

Grayson Michael Corral	03/09/2019	Child/Member
------------------------	------------	--------------

Confirmation (Affirmation of Baptism)

Aliviya Charlotte Boyd	10/27/2019
Tayte Rose Domine	10/27/2019
Aubrey Jo Filter	10/27/2019
Devin Andrew Filter	10/27/2019
Jameson Robert Fonseca	10/27/2019
Lauren Paige Houn	10/27/2019
Hailey Josephine Kadrlik	10/27/2019

Weddings

Brandon Lee Van Houdt & Danielle Sandra Roemhildt	05/25/2019	NM/M
Luis Guillermo Ingram and Rebbecca Jean Barrington	07/20/2019	NM/M
Kyle Curtis Sargent and Courtney Rae Schnaith	09/14/2019	M/M

Funerals

Terrance "Terry" Francis David	01/29/2019	Non-Member
Harry Dietz	02/16/2019	Member
Gordon Felix Breuer	04/04/2019	Non-Member
Mary Lucille (Sunder) Kerkow	05/04/2019	Member
Darlene Martha (Kiewatt) Collier	05/07/2009	Member
Nancy Lee (Krueger) Vollmar	05/13/2019	Member
Dorothy Ann (Dietz) Denzer	05/25/2019	Member
Betty Marie (Kewatt) Braun	06/22/2019	Member
Wolodymr "Walter" Procenko	08/24/2018	Member
Blanche (Maxa) Sorenson	09/08/2019	Member
Alvin Fredrick August Winterfeldt	11/06/2019	Member
Ardys Leone (Ekbon) Peterson	12/27/2019	Non-Member

Interment

Mary Emily Steinhouse	06/08/2019	Member/St. John Cemetery
-----------------------	------------	--------------------------

Premarital Counseling

4 Couples	Members
1 Couples	Non-Members

St. John Lutheran Church Council Report for 2019

2019 was a very busy year for St. John Lutheran Church.

Late in the summer, Building Restoration Corporation began restoration work on our bell tower. As we fully expected, they found some structural issues that necessitated the temporary cessation of the ringing of the bell at the beginning of the church service. We were able to contract with Met-Con Companies, out of Faribault, to address these structural issues. As of the weekend of January 11th and 12th, we are, once again, able to ring the bell. We have also contacted Building Restoration Corporation to verify that we are on their calendar for them to complete their work in the Spring.

We are continuing to implement the recommendations that were made by the Audit Committee.

Missy continues to grow in her position in the church office.

We have begun a monthly First Sunday Forum, held during Fellowship Hour, to address the ministries of St. John Lutheran Church and any concerns the Council or individual congregation members may have. This has been very well received by the congregation. We have found that communication is key to the growth of our Church family.

The Stewardship Committee has been reorganized and has very active members.

We continue to support Pastor Jason as he implements his new and exciting ministries. He has begun a weekly Wednesday morning Bible study, which is well-attended, even in Pastor Jason's absence.

During 2020, we look forward to the following:

Finish the work on the bell tower!

Begin work to repair water damage in the Sanctuary.

Continue to support Pastor Jason in his ministry.

Have a balanced budget at the end of 2020.

Prepare for an audit by the Audit Committee.

Respectfully submitted by Carol Kiekow, Council President

Communications Committee

The communications committee is responsible for sharing information to the members of the congregation as well as public relations with the greater community. Work on the website was updated and improved. There is a Facebook page for the general congregation as well as the youth that has reached people well. Newsletters are more timely and the new envelope system is working well and saving money. Committee members are Missy Gregor, Pastor, Lisa Schroeder and me. We would love to have more members to better reach all members of the congregation in ways that help you keep connected. Please make our website one of your favorites:

www.montgomerymnelcalutherans.org and like us on Facebook!

Kathy Peterson

Sunday School Annual Report 2019

Year in Review - Highlights

Our Sunday School teachers are:

Preschool	Rachelle Kuball and Sarah Krocak
Kindergarten	Karen Vlasak and Candy Kadrlik
1 st & 2 nd	Liz Krocak and Maggie Grimm
3 rd & 4 th	Dawn Meier and Kristi Krenik
5 th & 6 th	Emily Hoefs and Madelyn Wehe
7 th – 9 th	Mark Wehe
Music	Hailey Kadrlik

Preschool through 4th grade classes have started using the SPARK curriculum and it's been well received. 5th and 6th grades continue to use CONNECT. Curriculum costs may be slightly elevated over the next couple years as we acquire the necessary teacher guides, however, we've made efforts to minimize costs by not purchasing the optional DVDs, additional teacher guides, etc.

September 2019: Rally Sunday was a great success! As in past years, Sunday School registration took place after the outdoor service/live music. Following registration, all teachers attended mandatory annual training.

December 2019: The Christmas program was held December 15th. A new, slightly-more-contemporary play was used and the kids really enjoyed it. All Sunday school age groups participated (approximately 70 students) and a number of students provided prelude music. Thank you to Emily Hoefs, Erin Krautkremer, Kathy Heyda, Hailey Kadrlik, and all the Sunday School teachers for making the program a success!

Goals for 2020: To continuing providing the teachers with the support and resources they need. Teachers have requested updated storage cabinets (the current cabinets are outdated and falling apart) and whiteboards (some of them show significant signs of use and are difficult to utilize and clean) and we're looking into some cost-effective options to meet these needs.

St. John is so fortunate to have so many people willing to dedicate their time and talent to make the youth programs and activities at St. John so successful. Thank you to ALL who've contributed in so many ways – your kindness is appreciated!

Sara Kuchinka

2019 Stewardship Committee

The Stewardship committee has become very active and has done several things to reach out to all members. Members of the committee gave temple talks throughout the year to share why they give. Letters were sent out to encourage people in purposeful giving to support our Church and it's ministry and outreach. Our offerings have kept up with the 2019 budget. We asked the members of our congregation to fill out a estimate of giving for the general budget, and you responded. A large portion of our giving came in during our last few months, so thank you for your generous giving. Continuing to talk about stewardship and how we give will help alleviate some of our struggles and worry. Another area of stewardship has been to raise funds for the BELL TOWER. This committee has done and is planning more fundraisers-- not just donations. This helps by allowing the community to participate in the restoration of a beloved town landmark together with our members . We have also been communicating with the congregation that funds are needed for both the Bell Tower and the General Fund.

The online giving has continued to increase which helps smooth the cash flow over times like bad weather and summer slump. We continue to ask our members to use their THRIVENT action team cards where money can be donated to many of our activities. We also want to share with the congregation that stewardship is more than money- that sharing of time and talents is another way to be a vital part of the church's community.

We continue to be grateful to have Liz Vlasak do our accounting so we can see where our income really comes from and what our expenses are. The information is easier to understand and a better reflection of where we really stand in our budget and financials. We are looking for a few more people who would be willing to serve on this committee to help us as we continue to develop our stewardship program here at St. John. Current members of the Stewardship committee are Pastor Jason, Lisa Schroeder, Jacque Hartwig, Dave Scheffert and me. The bell tower committee includes Jacque and Gary Hartwig, Dave and Dorothy Scheffert, Steve and Anne Schroeder, Charles and Shirley Richter, Kevin Krohn, Cindy Zahratka, Dennis and Laurie Smith and Harry and Brenda Peterson.

Kathy Peterson

2019 Fellowship Report

This year our Fellowship team did receptions for the High School Seniors, the Potluck portion of Rally Sunday, and the reception for our Confirmands; in addition to Sunday coffee hours.

Serving this year: Rick Hanzlik, Ann & Steve Schroeder, Jim, Connie, Caleb and Jacob Cihak

Our goal is to nurture congregational growth – through various activities (and FOOD) designed to bring people together for fellowship.

Submitted by Anne Schroeder

Evangelism Committee Report 2019

The Evangelism committee has 2 service projects. One is to welcome new members to St John. This year we welcomed 5 new members on June 9th and 2 new families on November 17th. A welcome receptions were held in their honor following the morning service in the fellowship hall.

The other project is to send out Christmas packages to those currently serving and/or who have served in the military mainly from St. John.

This year 32 packages were packed. Christmas packages were sent out in December to soldiers who are from our congregation and currently serving both overseas and statewide. We also sent packages to other service men and women who were from our community when we received their names and addresses. We also included veterans who are in Traditions and the Harbor.

Once again, many people from St. John and organizations from the community were very generous with their donations to this service project.

Members of the Evangelism Committee are Cindy Zahratka, JoAnn Dawson, Dutch Dawson, and myself, Wendy Vargo

Respectfully Submitted,
Wendy Vargo

2019 Altar Guild Report

Altar Guild is a combination of talents and gifts of service coming together to prepare for and enhance worship for weekly services, baptisms, confirmation, funerals, weddings and other special occasions.

We welcomed the donation of a new Christmas tree this year, as well as monetary donations.

Members: Maridan Nesmoe, Cindy Zahratka, JoAnn Dawson, Kathy Derhaag, Carol Kiekow, Lisa Schroeder, Jeanne Anderson, Tammie Pan, Connie Cihak

Cindy Curtis, Mary Brahs, Wendy Vargo, Deb Jelinek helped with seasonal decorating and Jan Cotton is assisting with décor in the Fellowship Hall.

We welcome anyone who would like to join us – schedules can be flexible and shared!

Connie Cihak

-2019 Worship & Music Committee Annual Report

- Members of the Worship & Music Committee include Carol Kiekow, Kathy Derhaag, Kathy Heyda and Pastor Jason. Carol Kiekow is the council representative. The committee usually meets the first Saturday of the month to plan worship services. They serve at coffee hour once a month.
- Thanks to everyone involved with our music programs. Children in preschool through grade four gathered on Sunday mornings during the Sunday School year to learn songs about their faith. Rock'n the Church Choir is composed of children in grade 3 through grade 6. The Voices of St. John, Bells of St. John, vocalists and instrumentalists offered songs of praise at our worship services. Music makes the heart sing.
- Thanks to Diane DeWitte who continues as Saturday organist and accompanist for the Voices of St. John.
- During Lent, Pastor Jason focused his meditation on the liturgy of *"That You May Have Life"*. On Maundy Thursday ten fifth grade members received the Sacrament of Holy Communion. They were Brandon Grunow, Caleigh Hoefs, Claire Hoefs, Allen Krenik, Emily Kuchinka, William Larson, Morgan Meier, Ashlee Nelson, Triston Olson and Olivia Westerman. Isabelle Adamek and Stella Gregor received the Sacrament of Holy Communion in May. On Good Friday our thoughts were focused on Jesus' last day. On Easter Sunday we celebrated the resurrection.
- In order to blend new Christian music with the wealth of traditional hymns in our worship services, we purchased a CCLI Copyright License. With this license we can access a catalog of songs through SongSelect. SongSelect is a chord chart service that is common among houses of worship that use CCLI for displaying lyrics to their congregations. We started using songs from this service in May. It takes a lot of time and effort to bring new music into the life of our services. We hope you are enjoying the new music.
- On May 19th ten high school graduates were honored during the service.
- On June 9th we celebrated Pentecost. We recited the Apostles' Creed in six languages: Czech, English, German, Greek, Spanish and Swahili. The Altar Guild decorated our sanctuary with Pentecostal banners. The congregation was asked to wear RED as the energetic color for the day.
- On June 9th we welcomed 5 new members to St. John Lutheran: Laurie & Dennis Smith, Donna Mangan, Shari Claire, Teresa Breuer. We are blessed to have them join us together in ministry.
- On June 16th we celebrated Trinity Sunday. On this day we celebrated the name of God.
- On September 8th (Rally Sunday) we held our service indoors due to rain. Sunday school teachers were recognized and a potluck followed at the Hilltop Hall.
- The Confirmation/Reformation service was held on Sunday, October 27th. Seven students were confirmed: Aliviya Boyd, Tayte Domine, Aubrey Filter, Devin Filter, Jameson Fonseca, Lauren Houn, Hailey Kadrlik.
- On All Saints Sunday, November 3rd, we remembered ten members who died since last All Saints Sunday. We lit candles for these saints and invited worshipers to light candles of remembrance for other loved ones.
- On November 17th we welcomed 8 new members to St. John Lutheran: Jason & Hilary Birdsell and their children Mavrick & Paisley. We also welcomed Gothan and Lisa Krocak and their children Kaia and Logan. We are blessed to have them join us together in ministry.
- We were not able to celebrate our 7th Annual Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service on Tuesday, November 26th, due to inclement weather.
- On December 6th the organ pipes were tuned.
- On December 15th our Sunday school children sang songs and played instruments during their Christmas Program entitled "A Christmas to Believe".
- Christmas Eve services included special music from the Sunday school children at 3:00 p.m.; Rock'n the Church Choir at 5:00 p.m.; Bells of St. John and Voices of St. John at 10:00 p.m.
- Members from the congregation and other friends participated in the Angel Band on December 29th.
- We held 116 worship services in 2019.

Kathy Heyda, Organist/Music Director

2019 Annual report of the Luther League Committee

Members of the Luther League Committee during the 2018 year: Missy Gregor, Dawn Anderson, Karen Vlasak, Becki Lundquist, and Anne Schroeder.

Events

After School Youth Group— We meet after school on the first Wednesday of every month during the school year. Some of our activities included picking one word resolutions for the year, Valentines day party, learning about lent, Easter basket stuffing for our home bound members, packing Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes and decorating Christmas cookies for our homebound members.

Mount Kato Ski Trip— We had to cancel our first scheduled trip due to a snow storm! The weather was great for our March trip!

Easter Egg Hunt—We had a Little League Easter Egg Hunt and party. A group of younger kids joined us. We talked about Palm Sunday and Easter, hunted for Easter eggs and made super cute bunny cupcakes.

Graduation Sunday— On June 6th we celebrated our Youth Leagues Senior Class. The graduates were recognized during the worship service and a reception in the honor was held afterward. We had a pancake breakfast to raise money for our scholarship fund and awarded 2 scholarships this year!

Kolacky Days Parade— Anne and Steve Schroeder brought out their fire truck for us to ride in the parade and we tossed candy to the parade goers

Pumpkin Decorating Party—We met after the Sunday School hour and decorated our pumpkins, had lunch and played bingo. Slime was the favorite bingo prize again this year!

Torchlight Parade— We met at church and made hot chocolate to go before heading to the Schroeder's fire truck. The adults handed out candy on the ground and the kids waved to the crowd on the top of truck!

Christmas Party— We gathered for a Christmas party on December 8th. We sang Christmas carols at Traditions, had lunch and decorated Christmas cookie for dessert.

The Mission Trip

A group of 25, half being youth, donated their time and talents to serve people in the Anchorage and Wasilla area of Alaska for a week at the end of May. We partnered with a local Mission Trip group, Praying Pelican Missions, for this trip. It was an incredible experience and we are looking forward to planning the next trip soon.

Becca's closet

Becca's Closet in a non-profit organization that collects prom dresses and enables girls who can't afford to buy a dress to attend their formals and prom. The chapter at St. John Lutheran Church is the only chapter in Minnesota. Girls from all over the state are welcome to donate and attend our open closet hours where girls can come try on and pick out the dress that works for them. We have a great variety of sizes and styles. Find us on Facebook at *Montgomery Area Becca's Closet*.

2019 Annual report of the Luther League Committee

Fundraising

We offer a variety of fundraising events to help keep costs of events low. Fundraisers this year included the Valentines Spaghetti Dinner, Pancake Breakfast, Spring flower sale, Flamingo Flocking, Puffin's sale, Butter Braid sale, July Kolacky Day pageant concessions, cleaning the Pioneer Power Threshers kitchen in April and August, the Poinsettia and Easter lily sale. We have an ongoing European Roasterie Coffee fundraiser.

We created a family account system to allow families to fundraise in advance for our activities. We are hoping this enables families to offset the cost of our more expensive activities such as the Mission trips.

We started a Script fundraising program this fall. This program gives a percentage of the cost of a prepaid gift card back to St John. This fundraiser can be used to fund family accounts or be directed to the Church General Fund or the Bell Tower Fund.

We also started partnering with Adam Sery and his Hands of the Kingdom non profit organization. Through this organization we can work at venues such as Target Field, Allianz stadium and US Bank stadium for various events. Funds made at these events can be directed to a family account or the Bell Tower Fund.

It was a fun and productive year for the Luther League Committee and we look forward to the new year and all the opportunities it will bring to attain our mission:

To build and inspire a new generation of Christian Youth...alive in their faith, strong in their beliefs, and committed to reaching others for Jesus Christ.

Missy Gregor

St. John Lutheran Church Cemetery
Perpetual Care and Maintenance Fund

Checking on Hand 1/1/2019	\$7,679.26
---------------------------	------------

Income/Contributions

Perpetual Care (Lot Sales)	
Wayne Svoboda	\$250.00
Darlene Richter	\$400.00
 Interest on CD's	\$422.44
Maturing CD's	\$65,635.00
Total	\$74,386.70

Disbursements

Lawn Maintenance	(\$2,300.00)
Cornerstone Bank (CD's)	(\$46,585.00)
Frandsen Bank (CD's)	(\$19,375.00)
Total	(\$68,260.00)

Assets on Hand 1/1/2020

Checking	\$6,126.70
CD's	\$65,960.00

Special Thanks

Glenn Kerkow for his many years of service on the cemetery board.
Dale Huber for his continued support on the maintenance of the cemetery.
Doug Filzen for a job well done on maintaining the lawn at the cemetery.

Jim Cihak, Chairman

Gary Hartwig, Treasurer

Members: Dave Scheffert, Jim Heyda and Steve Schroeder

2019 Women of the Church Annual Report

In 2019 a total of 96 quilts were donated to Lutheran World Relief, with a few given to the Peace Center in New Prague. Six of the 96 quilts were donated for the Bell Tower Fund. In addition, there were 53 quilts made outside of the quilting workdays and of those 45 were sent to Alaska with the remaining given to Ruth's House and Lutheran Social Services.

We also shipped off 81 layettes, 47 school kits, 61 personal care kits to Lutheran World Relief and 31 layettes to Liberia.

Thank you to all who headed up the various projects and to all the workers. A big Thank You to the men who head the funeral committee.

The Mitten Tree this year brought in 35 hats, 73 pairs of gloves, and 10 scarves. The items were donated to Le Sueur County Santa Anonymous.

Charitable Donations made this year: Lutheran Social Services, Lutheran Campus Ministry, CADA (Committee Against Domestic Abuse), Ruth's House (Women's Shelter), Uganda Mission, Local Food Shelf, Feed My Sheep and the St. John Lutheran Church Bell Tower Fund.

We pray our stewardship in 2020 will be as successful.

God Bless,
Kathy Derhaag & Renee Pribyl

2019 Financial Statement

Income: Fundraiser Fall Breakfast	3,449.00
Hall Use for funeral luncheons	950.00
Donation from Teig Family in honor of their anniversary	100.00
Coffee Hours (5)	268.00
Miscellaneous	<u>194.00</u>
	\$4,961.00
Expenses: Coffee expenses (incl. coffee, filters & maintenance)	\$764.45
Quilt batting*	288.88
Layettes (incl. soap, Vaseline)	146.73
School Kits	203.61
Personal Care Kits	82.28
Sunday School Teacher Appreciation Gift Cards	260.00
Ash Wednesday Soup Supper food	112.64
Fall Fundraiser Expenses* (food, paper products, ads)	277.42
Funeral food & kitchen supplies	385.66
Miscellaneous	87.06
Food Shelf Donation	200.00
Feed My Sheep (incl. 2 grocery store gift cards)	290.00
Charitable Gifts	975.00
Bell Tower Fund	<u>2,000.00</u>
	\$6,073.73
Ash Wednesday Soup Supper – all \$ went to Bell Tower Fund	352.00

*Thrivent Action Team \$250 gift cards were used for the Fall fundraiser to purchase food and paper products and to purchase quilt batting.

STATISTICAL REPORT 2019

BAPTIZED MEMBERSHIP

ST JOHN

Beginning of the year	756
Gain by baptism	1
Gain by affirmation of faith, reactivation	3
Gain by transfer, other	13
Loss by transfer, etc	6
Loss by death	11
Net gain (loss)	<u>+0</u>
Present Baptized Membership	756

CONFIRMED MEMBERSHIP

Beginning of the year	581
Gained by confirmation	7
Gain by affirmation of faith, reactivation	3
Gained by transfer, etc.	9
Loss by transfer etc..	5
Loss by death	11
Net gain (loss)	<u>+3</u>
Present Confirmed Membership	584

FAMILY UNITS

Beginning of the year	298
Gain	9
Loss	11
Net gain (loss)	<u>-2</u>
Present Family Units	296

OFFICIAL ACTS

Baptisms	
Member Child	1
Member Adult	
Non-Members	
Confirmations	7
Marriages	
Members	3
Non-Members	
Funerals	
Members	9
Non-Members	3

Membership Increase

Baptism (B)

Grayson Michael Corral	B	03/09/2019
------------------------	---	------------

Transfer (B C F)

Donna Marie Mangan	BCF	02/11/2019
Dennis Smith	BCF	02/11/2019
Laurie Smith	BC	02/11/2019
Sharon "Shari" Marie Claire	BCF	02/2019
Tereasa Ann Brueuer	BCF	04/2019
Ron Procenko	BCF	07/31/2019
Steve Procenko	BCF	07/31/2019
Wolodymyr "Walter" Procenko	BCF	07/31/2019
Jason Birdsell	BCF	09/13/2019
Hilary Birdsell	BC	09/13/2019
Mavrick Birdsell	B	09/13/2019
Paisley Birdsell	B	09/13/2019
Gothan Krocak	BCF	11/19/2019
Lisa Krocak	BC	11/19/2019
Kaia Krocak	B	11/19/2019
Logan Krocak	B	11/19/2019

Affirmation

Other (B)

Confirmed (C) 10/27/2019

Aliviya Charlotte Boyd	C
Tayte Rose Domine	C
Aubrey Jo Filter	C
Devin Andrew Filter	C
Jameson Robert Fonseca	C
Lauren Paige Houn	C
Hailey Josephine Kadrlik	C

*Due to some of the young adults that were still listed under their parent's family unit, we have been separating them into their own individual family units. Next year's numbers will reflect these changes, as well as, some members who had been dropped off membership without transferring to another congregations.

Membership Decrease

Death (B C F)

Harry Dietz	BCF	02/03/2019
Marry Lucille Kerkow	BC	04/29/2019
Darlene Martha Collier	BCF	04/29/2019
Nancy Lee Vollmar	BC	05/08/2019
Dorothy Ann Denzer	BCF	05/20/2019
Merlyn Robert Duenow	BCF	06/02/2019
Betty Marie (Kewatt) Braun	BCF	06/17/2019
Wolodymyr "Walter" Procenko	BCF	08/17/2019
Blanche (Maxa) Sorenson	BCF	08/25/2019
Alvin Fredrick August Winterfeldt	BCF	11/02/2019
Glenn Louis Kerkow	BCF	12/25/2019

Transfer

Dawn Krautkremer	BCF	03/19/2019
Grace Krautkremer	BC	03/19/2019
Emily Krautkremer	BC	03/19/2019
James Krautkremer	B	03/19/2019
Larry Edel	BCF	12/05/2019
Pam Edel	BC	12/05/2019

Other

Endowment Fund Report 2019

St. John Lutheran Church

The Endowment Fund invests permanent funds that have been donated to the church. The interest is only used for the purpose specified by the donor. If no specific purpose was designated, the Council makes a determination as to the use of the interest. Historically, earnings have been used to support youth activities and a youth director. Other existing funds are the World Mission Fund (which contributed to the recent Alaskan Mission Trip) and a Catastrophic Illness Fund.

Ralph Hendrickson, a longtime chairman of the group, resigned in late 2018 due to health concerns. His steadfast dedication and stewardship to the committee for decades was commendable. The open position was filled by Marc Peterson. With reorganization, Mark Brahs became the chairman, and Dan Hardel continues as secretary, treasurer. Members of the committee are; Glen Kerkow, Charles Richter, Jim Blum, Marvin Jakes Sr. and Troy Domine. The committee invests funds in financial vehicles that have little risk of loss of principal, mainly FDIC insured Certificates of Deposit in area banks, ELCA Mission Accounts, as well as some Annuities. The current low interest rate environment presents challenges to the committee as it seeks to attain returns that meet financial expectations. Following is a breakdown of the fund:

	Year End 2018	Year End 2019
ASSETS		
2019 Richter Fund Investments and Checking Account	350,000.00	350,000.00
Westerman Trust for World Missions	28,067.36	28,067.36
Grace Kalina Fund for Youth	30,676.17	30,676.17
Leona Halek Trust for Youth	20,000.00	20,000.00
Arnold Ehmke Fund for Youth	1,028.58	1,028.58
Koschade Catastrophic Illness Fund	11,202.83	11,401.39
Fund in checking available for current obligations	<u>10,701.81</u>	<u>8,412.79</u>
TOTAL	<u>451,676.75</u>	<u>449,586.29</u>
Income Statement		
Interest Received -All Funds	7,779.47	7,910.98
Interest Credited (Compounded)	201.17	198.56
Transferred to Church for youth ministry	(9,000.00)	(9,000.00)
Paid out of World Mission Fund		(1,200.00)
Net Fund Change	(1,019.36)	(2,090.46)
RECONCILMENT		
Equity Beginning Period	452,696.11	451,676.75
Net Fund Change	<u>(1,019.36)</u>	<u>(2,090.46)</u>
Equity End of Period	<u>451,676.75</u>	<u>449,586.29</u>

Please consider the endowment fund in your giving plans. If you have questions, please contact myself or a committee member.

Mark Brahs DDS, Chair

Endowment Fund Report 2019

Balance Sheet and Income Statement

(Cash Basis)	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Assets Cash in Bank Checking	26,480.84	26,002.53	23,809.92	22,589.39	8,412.79
Investments in Richter Fund	340,000.00	340,000.00	340,000.00	340,000.00	350,000.00
Westerman Fund	28,067.36	28,067.36	28,067.36	28,067.36	28,067.36
Kalina Fund	30,650.00	30,650.00	30,676.17	30,676.17	30,676.17
Halek Fund	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00
Koschade Catastrophic Fund	9,741.24	9,939.07	10,142.66	10,343.83	11,401.39
Ehmke Fund					1,028.58
Total Cash and Investments	454,939.44	454,658.96	452,696.11	451,676.75	449,586.29
Note Receivable					
TOTAL ASSETS	454,939.44	454,658.96	452,696.11	451,676.75	449,586.29

Liabilities and Equity

Liabilities					
Equity	454,939.44	454,658.96	452,696.11	451,676.75	449,586.29
Total Liabilities and Equity	454,939.44	454,658.96	452,696.11	451,676.75	449,586.29

Income Statement

Interest Received -All Funds	9,781.74	8,521.69	8,487.39	7,779.47	7,910.98
Interest Received (Compounded)	143.86	197.83	229.76	201.17	198.56
Transferred to Youth Ministry	(9,076.00)	(9,000.00)	(9,000.00)	(9,000.00)	(9,000.00)
Paid to World Missions			(1,680.00)		(1,200.00)
Expenses of fund					
Paid out of Catastrophic Illness Fund					
Net Income	849.60	(280.48)	(1,962.85)	(1,019.36)	(2,090.46)
Donations Rcvd - Catastrophic Fund					
Net Fund Change	849.60	(280.48)	(1,962.85)	(1,019.36)	278.60

Reconcilement

Equity Beginning Period	454,939.44	454,658.96	454,378.48	452,696.11	451,676.75
Net Fund Change	849.60	(280.48)	(1,962.85)	(1,019.36)	(2,090.46)
Equity End of Period	455,789.04	454,378.48	452,415.63	451,676.75	449,586.29

Endowment Fund Report 2019
St. John Lutheran Church Montgomery, MN

Close of Business 12-31-2019

List of Investments

CD#	Invested In	Amount	Purchase Date	Maturity	Rate	Interest Paid
<u>Richter Fund</u>						
63492	Reliance Annuity	70,000.00	3/29/10	9/28/18	2.10%	
40377	Frandsen Bank & Trust	100,000.00	12/31/10	10/31/21	1.75%	
63939	FNB - Le Center	100,000.00	7/12/08	11/14/19	1.75%	
3000027855	ELCA Mission Fund	70,000.00	1/3/12	12/17/19	2.10%	
274-20479-1-9	Edward Jones	9,838.99	6/7/19	1/13/22	2.14%	
	<u>Portion of Checking</u>	<u>161.01</u>				0.00%
	TOTAL Richter Fund	350,000.00				
<u>Westerman Trust - World Missions</u>						
30000278703	ELCA Mission Fund	28,067.36	1/31/12	1/31/24	2.23%	
<u>Koschade Catastrophic Illness Fund</u>						
1031	ELCA Investment Fund	2,791.82	9/24/04	9/25/23	3.21%	
	Compounded Interest	<u>2,184.65</u>				
		4,976.47				
6745	Mission Inv Fund	5,565.92	3/14/14	3/14/22	1.84%	
	<u>Portion of Checking</u>	<u>859.00</u>				
	Total Koschade Fund	11,401.39				
<u>Grace Kalina Youth Fund</u>						
00AA11870	The Standard Annuity	30,676.17	12/17/14	12/17/19	2.25%	
<u>Leona Halek Trust - Youth</u>						
30000201605	ELCA Investment Fund	20,000.00	2/17/12	2/17/20	1.44%	
<u>Arnold Ehmke Fund</u>						
	Portion of Checking	1,028.58				0.00%
<u>Checking Account (Net Endowment)</u>		8,412.79	(see table below)			
	TOTAL ALL FUNDS	449,586.29				
<u>Endowment Checking #9548</u>		10,461.38 Ending Balance				
		<u>2,048.59 Less Funds Held for Endowment</u>				
		8,412.79 Cash available for operations				

Endowment Fund Report 2019

Income Projections - 2020

Youth	Amount	Rate	Yield
63492 Reliance Annuity	70,000.00	2.10%	1,470.00
40377 Frandsen Bank & Trust	100,000.00	1.75%	1,750.00
60939 FNB - LeCenter	100,000.00	2.25%	2,250.00
30000278555 ELCA Mission Fund	70,000.00	2.10%	1,470.00
63491 The Standard Annuity	30,676.17	2.25%	690.21
30000201605 ELCA Mission Fund	20,000.00	1.44%	288.00
Ehmke Portion - Checking	1,028.58	0.00%	
Edward Jones	10,000.00	2.14%	214.00
TOTAL Youth	401,704.75		8,132.21

Koschade Fund

1031 ELCA	4,976.47	3.21%	159.74
Koschade Portion - Checking	859.00	0.00%	
Mission Inv Fund	5,565.92	1.84%	102.41
Total Koschade Fund	11,401.39		159.74

Westerman Trust - World Mission

278703 ELCA Investment Fund	28,067.36	2.23%	625.90
Total Westerman Fund	28,067.36		

Available for current obligations (Checking) = \$8,412.79

Total of all Funds = \$449,586.29

Total Forecasted Income = \$8,917.86

(projections based on current rates, rates subject to changes upon renewal or changes in principal)

Fund Balance

FUND ACCOUNTS

Account Name	Actual 2019	Actual 2018	Actual 2017
Funds Income			
Restoration Funds Receipts	\$ 5,310.24	\$ 3,803.01	\$ 8,584.28
Bell Tower Fund	\$ 97,063.72	\$ 10,681.35	
Music Fund Receipts	\$ 850.48	\$ 879.09	\$ 317.61
Memorial Fund Receipts	\$ 645.64	\$ 1,547.32	\$ 130.39
Restricted Fund Receipts	\$ 1,110.56	\$ 8,299.66	\$ 4,804.82
Feed My Sheep	\$ 1,627.22	\$ 5,663.40	\$ 2,341.29
Endowment Request Checking	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 9,000.00
Total Income	\$ 115,607.86	\$ 39,873.83	\$ 25,178.39
Funds Expense			
Restoration Expense	\$ 10,469.50	\$ 18,083.15	\$ 7,244.00
Bell Tower Fund Expense	\$ 30,346.00		
Special Music Fund Expense	\$ 1,507.13	\$ 1,266.43	\$ 123.24
Memorial Fund Request		\$ 917.30	
Restricted Fund Special Des	\$ 1,410.39	\$ 8,132.84	\$ 3,662.39
Feed my Sheep Expense	\$ 2,875.00	\$ 5,206.99	\$ 800.00
Endowment Expense	\$ 8,030.58	\$ 5,377.24	\$ 8,466.60
Total Expense	\$ 54,638.60	\$ 38,983.95	\$ 20,296.23

Fund Balance December 2019

Restoration Fund	\$ 25,473.29
Bell Tower Fund	\$ 77,399.07
Music Fund	\$ 3,058.17
Memorial Fund	\$ 6,076.04
Restricted Fund	\$ 5,887.07
Feed My Sheep	\$ 749.92
Endowment Fund	\$ 23,098.43
	\$ 141,741.99

2019 Giving Statement Recap

GENERAL FUND ONLY

Amount	2019	2018	2017
\$0.00 - \$0.99		-	-
\$1.00-\$249.99	76	61	72
\$250.00-\$499.99	35	35	34
\$500.00-\$999.99	32	35	38
\$1,000.00 - \$1,499.99	18	21	17
\$1,500.00 - \$1,999.99	16	15	13
\$2,000.00-\$2,999.99	12	6	8
\$3,000.00 - \$3,999.99	5	3	2
\$4,000.00 - \$4,999.99	3	5	5
\$5,000.00-\$5,999.99	3	3	2
\$6,000.00- \$9,999.00	2	1	2
> \$10,000.00	1	0	0
	203	185	193

GENERAL FUND ONLY

Monthly Giving 2019	2019	2018	2017
January	\$ 11,411.73	\$ 12,283.94	\$ 12,748.30
February	\$ 10,843.00	\$ 13,370.91	\$ 11,872.30
March	\$ 17,219.37	\$ 14,944.13	\$ 13,997.30
April	\$ 17,113.15	\$ 15,717.78	\$ 17,526.55
May	\$ 13,523.55	\$ 11,267.05	\$ 10,692.55
June	\$ 13,624.65	\$ 9,608.50	\$ 9,969.55
July	\$ 12,919.05	\$ 11,781.38	\$ 11,590.55
August	\$ 12,920.50	\$ 11,936.26	\$ 10,876.08
September	\$ 15,021.85	\$ 13,998.80	\$ 12,923.90
October	\$ 14,594.24	\$ 12,168.46	\$ 15,706.28
November	\$ 14,251.70	\$ 12,770.55	\$ 11,937.95
December	\$ 50,121.56	\$ 24,847.99	\$ 32,351.65
	\$ 203,564.35	\$ 164,695.75	\$ 172,192.96

St. John Lutheran Church - Montgomery MN

Presentation Budget Report 2019

Account Name	Budget 2020	Actual 2019	Budget 2019	over/under \$ 2,019.00	Actual 2018	Budget 2018
Income						
Offering Envelopes	\$ 180,114.00	\$ 203,564.35	\$ 179,766.00	\$ 23,798.35	\$ 165,547.35	\$ 181,646.00
Sunday School Offering	\$ 500.00	\$ 361.13	\$ 500.00	\$ (138.87)	\$ 594.06	\$ -
Rental Fees	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 550.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ (450.00)	\$ 650.00	\$ 1,000.00
Misc. Income	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ (500.00)	\$ 62.35	\$ 500.00
Thrivent Choice	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,508.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 508.00	\$ 1,925.00	\$ 2,000.00
Bulletin Advertisement	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,420.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 420.00	\$ 4,120.00	\$ 3,000.00
Totals	\$ 186,714.00	\$ 210,403.48	\$ 186,766.00	\$ 23,637.48	\$ 172,898.76	\$ 188,146.00

Expenses

Pastor Salaries	\$ 46,350.00	\$ 45,850.08	\$ 45,850.00	\$ 0.08	\$ 45,745.58	\$ 45,850.00
Pastor Pension	\$ 6,598.00	\$ 6,597.48	\$ 6,598.00	\$ (0.52)	\$ 6,597.48	\$ 6,598.00
Pastor Health- Other Benefit	\$ 34,176.00	\$ 32,658.46	\$ 32,658.00	\$ 0.46	\$ 30,681.38	\$ 30,678.00
Pastor Social Security	\$ 4,900.00	\$ 4,900.08	\$ 4,900.00	\$ 0.08	\$ 4,900.08	\$ 4,900.00
Pastor Housing Equity	\$ 1,050.00	\$ 1,053.60	\$ 1,050.00	\$ 3.60	\$ 1,050.38	\$ 1,050.00
Pastor Student Loan *		\$ -		\$ -	\$ 300.00	\$ -
Custodian Salary	\$ 9,600.00	\$ 9,635.96	\$ 9,360.00	\$ 275.96	\$ 12,872.26	\$ 12,500.00
Music Director Salary	\$ 4,450.00	\$ 4,449.96	\$ 4,450.00	\$ (0.04)	\$ 4,449.96	\$ 4,450.00
Music Directory Continue Ed	\$ 300.00	\$ 287.47	\$ 300.00	\$ (12.53)	\$ 278.49	\$ 300.00
Organist Salary	\$ 6,200.00	\$ 5,818.56	\$ 6,400.00	\$ (581.44)	\$ 6,045.84	\$ 9,080.00
Backup Organist	\$ 3,300.00	\$ 3,578.56	\$ 3,360.00	\$ 218.56	\$ 3,134.88	\$ 600.00
Clerical Secretary Salary	\$ 13,000.00	\$ 11,430.41	\$ 13,000.00	\$ (1,569.59)	\$ 10,112.33	\$ 13,000.00
EE Social Security	\$ 3,200.00	\$ 3,172.05	\$ 4,600.00	\$ (1,427.95)	\$ 3,167.91	\$ 4,600.00
Pastor Car Mileage	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 2,092.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 592.00	\$ 1,334.23	\$ 1,500.00
Pastor Continuing Education	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 195.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ (805.00)	\$ 10.00	\$ 1,000.00

St. John Lutheran Church - Montgomery MN Presentation Budget Report 2019

Pulpit Supply	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,020.40	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 20.40	\$ 1,232.18	\$ 1,000.00
Parsonage Utilites	\$ 6,200.00	\$ -	\$ 6,500.00	\$ (6,500.00)	\$ -	\$ 6,500.00
Parsonage Telephone		\$ 911.26		\$ 911.26	\$ 874.55	\$ -
Parsonage Gas		\$ 1,479.44		\$ 1,479.44	\$ 1,533.45	
Parsonage Water		\$ 2,241.31		\$ 2,241.31	\$ 1,689.60	
Parsonage Electric		\$ 1,517.77		\$ 1,517.77	\$ 1,916.53	
Parsonage Maintenance	\$ 250.00	\$ 7.99	\$ 250.00	\$ (242.01)	\$ 215.09	\$ -
Church Utilities	\$ 12,500.00	\$ -	\$ 12,000.00	\$ (12,000.00)	\$ -	\$ 12,000.00
Church Telephone		\$ 3,338.46		\$ 3,338.46	\$ 3,277.63	
Church Gas		\$ 2,600.21		\$ 2,600.21	\$ 2,767.80	
Church Water		\$ 1,741.13		\$ 1,741.13	\$ 1,350.22	
Church Waste		\$ 1,829.42		\$ 1,829.42	\$ 1,655.88	
Church Electric		\$ 3,580.23		\$ 3,580.23	\$ 4,381.64	
Lawn Mowing/Snow Removal	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 5,130.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,630.00	\$ 3,305.00	\$ 2,500.00
Church Maintenance	\$ 250.00	\$ 914.81	\$ 250.00	\$ 664.81	\$ 293.35	\$ -
Insurance	\$ 11,500.00	\$ 11,903.72	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 903.72	\$ 10,053.28	\$ 10,500.00
Worship Supplement-Publications	\$ 750.00	\$ 687.76	\$ 1,200.00	\$ (512.24)	\$ 1,071.38	\$ 1,200.00
Office Supplies	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,021.45	\$ 1,500.00	\$ (478.55)	\$ 1,392.53	\$ 1,500.00
Postage	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 961.49	\$ 1,000.00	\$ (38.51)	\$ 876.87	\$ 1,100.00
Music Supplies	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	\$ -	\$ 321.66	\$ 500.00
Building Supplies	\$ 600.00	\$ 854.65	\$ 600.00	\$ 254.65	\$ 871.08	\$ 500.00
Security Contract	\$ 240.00	\$ 240.00	\$ 240.00	\$ -	\$ 240.00	\$ 240.00
Copy Machine	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 986.49	\$ 1,200.00	\$ (213.51)	\$ 1,530.92	\$ 1,200.00
Misc. Contract	\$ 1,900.00	\$ 1,868.63	\$ 1,900.00	\$ (31.37)	\$ 1,684.14	\$ 1,700.00
Fee online Giving	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,373.98	\$ 850.00	\$ 523.98	\$ 897.74	\$ 850.00
Bank Charges	\$ 300.00	\$ 296.68	\$ 300.00	\$ (3.32)	\$ 270.86	\$ -
Sunday School Education	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 2,391.32	\$ 2,500.00	\$ (108.68)	\$ 1,682.27	\$ 2,500.00
VBS Education *	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 478.07	
Adult Education *	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 49.99	\$ -

St. John Lutheran Church - Montgomery MN Presentation Budget Report 2019

Confirmation Education	\$	300.00	\$	389.06	\$	300.00	\$	89.06	\$	455.11	\$	250.00
Misc. Expense	\$	200.00	\$	173.94	\$	250.00	\$	(76.06)	\$	426.27	\$	250.00
Synod Conference	\$	1,000.00	\$	1,135.97	\$	1,000.00	\$	135.97	\$	909.08	\$	1,000.00
Benev. Fund. S.E. MN												
Synod	\$	5,000.00	\$	5,000.00	\$	5,000.00			\$	5,000.00	\$	5,000.00
Misc Expense												
Total Expense	\$	186,714.00	\$	187,717.24	\$	186,766.00	\$	951.24	\$	183,384.97	\$	186,396.00
				\$ 22,686.24						\$ (10,486.21)		

2019 SOUTHEASTERN MINNESOTA SYNOD MINISTRY REPORT

In the first few months as your bishop, two priorities have emerged:

**To develop and deepen relationships with congregations and leaders.
To evaluate and adjust administrative processes as necessary.**

The first sparked a new two-pronged initiative called Ministry Together. The first prong includes intentional meetings with pastors and deacons on three days each month, providing one-on-one conversation and prayer.

The second prong is all about our presence in congregations. I and the synod staff have already been present with over 85 congregations since my term began in September. This intentionality will continue throughout the new year.

As I meet with leaders and visit congregations, there are three main questions our discussion revolves around:

- 1. What is going well?**
- 2. What are your challenges?**
- 3. How can the synod staff support you?**

These mutual questions are paving the way for discerning together what new places the Spirit is inviting us into and how to best live into our identity as the People of God in this time and place. We will explore this in depth at our Synod Assembly in May as we gather around the theme *Poured Out* based on *Joel 2:28-29*:

"I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. Even on the male and female slaves, in those days, I will pour out my spirit."

In 2020, we will continue our focus to develop and deepen relationships and refine our administrative processes to best support our ministry together.

Bishop Regina Hassanally

Southeastern Minnesota Synod ELCA | www.semnsynod.org