

**St. Michael's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Roseville, Minnesota**

**Annual Congregational Meeting  
Sunday, January 28, 2018**

**Agenda**

- 12:00-12:30 p.m.      Congregational Meal and Conversation
- Table Grace
  - Introductions around tables & conversation
  - Childcare available
- 12:30-12:40 p.m.      Congregational Meeting Called to Order, Becky Sorlien, President  
Opening Prayer, Pr. Brad Froslee  
Recognition of Secretary for the meeting  
Constitution of a Quorum, David Yarusso, Secretary  
**Approval of Congregational Meeting Minutes:**  
**January 22, 2017 Minutes of Annual Meeting (Pg. 4-7)**  
**August 6, 2017 Minutes of Special Meeting of the Congregation (P.7)**
- 12:40-12:50 p.m.      Congregational Program Report  
*Highlights of the Year and Recognition of Committee Members,*  
Mike Gregory, Vice President  
**Receive the Congregational Program Report**
- 12:50-1:15 p.m.      Finance Committee & Treasurer's Report, Kim Chapman, Treasurer (Pg. 15-21)  
**Receive Congregation's Fiscal Report from January 1, 2017-December 31, 2017**  
**Budget Proposal for 2018 Fiscal Year (January 1, 2017-December 31, 2018) (Pg.22-23)**
- 1:15-1:30 p.m.      Report from the Constitution Committee  
**Updated St. Michael's Constitution & Bylaws** (*see documents provided*)
- 1:30-1:45 p.m.      Items from the Council or Congregation  
**Resolution to Repair Organ: The congregation approves up to \$18,000 for the repairs of the organ at St. Michael's by Dobson Organ Company to be paid for by special gifts and events and/or the Special Gifts Fund.**
- Update on Boiler, Brad Koland, Council Liaison to the Property Committee
- Any Additional New Business
- 1:45-1:50 p.m.      Congregational Elections  
**Presentation of Slate & Election of Council Members, Nominating Committee**  
**Presentation of Slate & Election of Voting Members to Synod Assembly, Nominating Committee**  
*Thanks to out-going Council Members.*  
*Thanks for the 2017 Nominating Committee*  
**Election of St. Michael's 2018 Nominating Committee**

*continued on next page*

1:50-1:55 p.m.	President's Report to the Congregation, Becky Sorlien (Pg. 8-9)
1:55-2:00 p.m.	Pastors' Reports to the Congregation, Pr. Brad Froslee and Pr. Ali Ferin (Pg. 10-14)
2:00 p.m.	Closing Prayer, Pr. Brad Froslee Adjourn, Becky Sorlien

**Upcoming Dates/Items of Note for the Congregation:**

February 11, 2:00-4:00 pm Celebrating Vision, Mission, and Values in Congregational Life

February 14 Ash Wednesday

February 21, 28 Congregational Soup Suppers & Lenten Worship Services  
March 7, 14, 21

End of February- Parental Leave for Pr. Ali  
End of May (approximately) *Pr. Jay Carlson will be assisting approximately 12 hrs./week*

## **Minutes of Annual Meeting January 22, 2017**

Pastor Brad opened with prayer.

Meeting called to order at 12:23 by Brad Koland.

About 90 people present. Quorum present.

### **Approval of minutes of 2016 Annual Meeting. Approved.**

President's report. Brad reviewed transition process since last year. Reminded us that we intend to work on Strategic Plan now that Pastor Brad is on board. Regarding finances, he mentioned that Pastor Roland had major hand in financial operation. We have had a lot of adjustment to learning how these financial operations work. This is partly motivation for adding Treasurer job description in Continuing Resolutions.

Pastor Ali's report. She is covering all 4 pastors who served us in 2016 (Roland, Rebecca, Ali, and Brad). Highlighted thanks part of report. Thanks to Council, committees, finance committee, Irmeli Moran. Thanks to staff. Thanks to Ben (sermon sounding board). Thanks to Roland and Rebecca. Thanks to Call Committee.

Pastor Brad asked that we all applaud Ali for all the work she has done.

Marta's report. No questions.

### **Motion to approve reports. Approved.**

Nominating committee report. See report for Council members whose terms are ending. Dennis S. moves to approve slate of nominees. Slate approved. Asked for volunteers for nominating committee. Hal Tiffany and Doug Schumacher volunteered for nominating committee.

#### **Finances:**

Brad reviewed Statement of Income and Expense. We are one three congregations in St. Paul synod that have continuously given benevolence to synod year after year.

Total income exceeded expenses for 2016 by \$10k but we need to pay attention to the fact that Northern Voices rent was moved into operating income for the first time. If we compare income without Northern Voices to expenses, we would have been negative \$30k.

Question: Do we know how much giving is electronic compared to envelopes. We are talking about changing the envelope system and maybe reducing the number of envelopes (maybe only special offerings) to those who give electronically or opt out.

Question about Northern Voices. Are they looking at new locations? We have lease with Northern Voices until August. We accounted for full year of income in budget. They may be looking for new facility. They got approval for charter school. It may be operated separately. They may consolidate both to new site.

Question about Northern Voices issue regarding lockdown. Is there need for us to include expenses for meeting their needs in our budget? Some of immediate needs have been taken care of. We had discussion about this and analyzed our lease agreement. We are in continued dialog. Northern Voices isn't the mission of St. Michael's. We can't do some of the things they wanted (such as locking entire building during the day) and stay consistent with our mission.

Question about what changed most year to year. We were below budgeted expense but income fell compared to previous year.

Move to proposed budget.

Notice increase in major maintenance item from \$7k to \$14k. Putting it into operating budget for more transparency.

Utilities gas. Last year we only used \$11k. Why budget \$20k? This was a mild year. We want to be prepared for it to be cold again. Brought it down based on natural gas prices but the expected usage is close to historical averages.

Anticipated income:

We are using actual pledges in income projection. Roland made some estimates on this. We have put in separate line item for giving beyond pledges. We put together proposals for where the money would come from to cover gap in income vs. expenses. These are the transfer lines.

Does the special gift fund include memorial gifts? No, they are separate accounts.

Motion will come later.

Reports of Committees and Treasurer reports.

**Motion to approve Reports of Committees and Treasurer report. Approved.**

Resolution of Thanks.

Brad read the printed 11 items and added one:

12. Thanks to Jennifer Mehmel who volunteered as treasurer for many years.

Special thanks to Irmeli. She became de-facto staff member. She spent a lot of time digging into finances. Round of applause.

Council appointed Kim Chapman as interim treasurer with intention to make her permanent treasurer at council meeting.

Proposal from Dennis to add thanks to Brad Koland for his leadership. Applause.

Special thanks to Lyle for work on property. Applause.

**Motion to approve the resolution of Thanks. Approved.**

Resolutions:

Secretary's note: In resolutions below, amendments made during the meeting are indicated by strikethrough of deleted portions and square brackets surrounding added portions.

**The congregation of St. Michael's Lutheran Church approves the budget for 2017 as presented and recommended by the Church Council.**

**Discussion:** It was noted that this includes authorizing the Council to use fund transfers as documented on p. 25.

**Resolution approved.**

**The congregation of St. Michael's Lutheran Church authorizes the Church Council to designate causes to which special offerings shall be given. Special offerings include plate collections for Christmas Eve, Easter, and other religious holidays.**

**Discussion:** Dave Yarusso brought up that Items 2 through 9 are Continuing Resolutions as defined by the Constitution. Kim says this wasn't meant to be continuing resolution. This is one year only operation. Dave P. says all we have are continuing resolutions. They do not expire unless modified by future resolution. Motion was made to amend to use only the first sentence.

**Amendment approved. Resolution approved as amended.**

**The Executive Committee will include the participation of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and all Pastors.**

**Resolution approved.**

**The Executive Committee will act as support for the pastoral staff and act as an advisory group to the pastoral staff and the Congregation Council.**

**Resolution approved.**

**The Congregation Council will select the investments of the congregation's assets in a conservative manner, keeping with the mission of the Congregation to contribute to the common good, and encouraging furtherance of the mission of the ELCA, Saint Paul Area Synod, and the congregation.**

**Resolution approved.**

**The Membership Roll will continue to be reviewed annually per the constitution C12.07. Removal for inactivity, subject to the recommendation of a pastor, will occur at least once every three years in accordance with by-law B1.04.08.**

**Discussion:** The referenced bylaw already specifies a careful procedure for not removing a member for inactivity without attempts to contact them. We don't actually have good data on member communion and giving to use as criteria. We rely largely on knowledge of the Pastor. This resolution is presented to set a target for frequency of careful consideration of removal for inactivity in order to keep roll current.

**Resolution approved.**

**All Congregation Meetings will be open to attendance by any individual [non-member] engaged in the life of the congregation themselves or through relationship with a member, and that individual will have voice without vote at the Congregation Meeting. Said participation is subject to the rules of order followed in the meeting.**

**Discussion:** This was brought forward to address the question that we have (and have had) many who have been active in the congregation who do not meet the requirements for voting membership. Examples include spouses who are members of another congregation or faith tradition and those who are unbaptized. Barb Yarusso made a motion to amend the resolution to change "individual" to "non-member." It was pointed out that, as written, none of us at the meeting would be able to vote.

**Amendment approved. Resolution approved as amended.**

**The duties of the Treasurer of St. Michael's include:**

**Serve as financial officer of the congregation for a 3-year term, and for no more than 2 successive terms.**

**Maintain proper controls, accounting, and reporting procedures.**

**Maintain, develop, and improve the reporting and monitoring techniques used to communicate the financial status of the congregation.**

**Attend monthly meetings of the Council and Finance Committees.**

**Provide oversight of the financial secretary duties and processes.**

**Oversee bookkeeping functions.**

**Oversee the monthly financial reports for the Council.**

**Confirm the required federal and state tax forms.**

**Monitor the cash position of the congregation and report monthly to the Finance Committee, Council President, and Pastors.**

**Invest and borrow available funds as directed by the Council.**

**Provide the congregation with financial information deemed appropriate by the Council.**

**Assist in the preparation of the annual budget for the Council.**

**Provide the annual report of the financial status of the congregation.**

**Assist with closing of the books for a yearly audit.**

**In partnership with Pastors, report on levels of giving to the Council and congregation.**

**Resolution approved.**

**The Congregation authorizes the Pastoral Staff, Executive Committee and the Congregation Council to designate the use of funds in the Special Gift Fund and Disaster Relief Fund according to the following authorization levels per expenditure:**

**Up to and including \$3,000 at the Pastor's discretion.**

**Up to and including \$5,000 at the Pastor's recommendation and with approval of the Executive Committee.**

**Up to and including \$10,000 through a continuing resolution of the Congregation Council.**

**Any gifts from this source above the authorized Council amount will be brought before the Congregation at a special meeting called for that purpose or at the next annual meeting of the congregation.**

**[Expenditures authorized through a or b above will be brought to the next Congregation Council meeting for documentation purposes.]**

**All authorized Pastors and Committee Members, guided by the mission of the Congregation, shall attempt to honor the donor's request.**

**Discussion:** Kim Chapman proposed an amendment to add the text in item "e" above.

**Amendment approved. Resolution approved as amended.**

New Business:

Updated St. Michael's Constitution to conform to 2016 ELCA model constitution required elements.

**Motion to approved updated constitution. Approved.**

**Replacement of Church Boiler:**

Lyle: "It's old." Can only find parts through recycle dealers. Lyle got boiler's license. "It's time for a replacement."

Dave Drache: Looked up nameplate on boiler. That model is not even on list of discontinued products.

Council recommends motion authorizing expenditure up to \$120,000 for boiler replacement with funds to come from reserve fund. There will be three competitive bids. Corporate Mechanical came in with bid of \$80,000 (without asbestos mitigation). Suggestion to look at recommendations of experts regarding system replacement. Are there other options? Doug from property committee. Member has home inspection company with specialist we can consult with.

Reserve fund has \$300,000 in it which is where we would take it from.

Support for bringing in expert. Consider geothermal, for example.

Motion to amend "and up to \$5000 to hire qualified consultant." We can do this already out of Special Gift fund but not out of reserve fund.

**Motion: "To authorize Congregation Council to spend up to \$125,000 for boiler replacement design and installation with funds to come from reserve fund." Amendment to drop to \$120,000. Amendment defeated. Motion as written above approved.**

Respectfully submitted February 6, 2017 by David Yarusso, Congregation Secretary.

## **Minutes of Special Congregational Meeting**

August 6, 2017

Pastor Brad opened with prayer.

Meeting called to order at 11:00 a.m. by Mike Gregory, Vice President.

About 75 people were present. Quorum present.

A motion was made and seconded to discuss the following:

**We, the congregation of St. Michael's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Roseville, Minnesota, in a specially called meeting on Sunday, August 6, 2017, authorize a loan secured by the assets of the congregation in an amount not to exceed \$25,000 (twenty-five thousand dollars) for the purpose of LED lighting upgrades, bulbs, and ballasts in the education and office wings.**

Discussion: Mike Gregory confirmed that we would receive the loan from Xcel Energy.

The motion as written above was made and seconded. **Unanimous approval.**

Pastor Ali closed with prayer.

Mike adjourned the meeting at 11:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Erica Crouch, Acting Secretary

August 6, 2017

## **St. Michael's Lutheran Church Church Council President's 2017 Annual Report to the Congregation**

Thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to serve as President of the Church Council. It seems that every year someone says that we are very blessed for the generous and talented people in the congregation, staff, and church council, but it is still true! This has been a congregation that continually and consistently steps forward when needs arise, and comes together to help and support one another when there are joys, sorrows and everything in between. I am truly grateful to be part of this church with all of you. It has been a great experience for me to serve as council president and with a new senior pastor.

Many thanks to all the leadership and participation from church council members who served in 2017: Patty Bales, John Breneman, Peter Breuch, Erica Crouch, Jessica Etten, Mike Gregory, Lenie Hermanson, Brad Koland, Carol Kriegler, Bev Sherwood, and Dave Yarusso. In addition, thanks to those who I had the privilege to serve with (pastors too) on the Executive Committee: Mike Gregory; Vice President, Kim Early Chapman; Treasurer, and Dave Yarusso; Secretary.

### **Staffing:**

**Pastor Brad Froslee** started this year in January. I learned quickly and became thankful for his positive leadership, anticipatory approach, and theology of welcoming the unwelcomed. **Pastor Ali Ferin** has seen it all in the many staff changes in the last few years and she is our rock! She took on changing responsibilities to keep us going strong. With her giving soul, dedication, and loyalty to the work of the church, I am very grateful. **Mary Gail Hadley** began as Office Administrator at St. Michael's in March. Her calm quiet efficiency has been vital to making the office run smoothly. Toward the end of this year, we said goodbye to **Marta Goldenman** as Associate Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries. We all thank Marta for serving for 18 years in this capacity and support her, Nate, Kaia, Austin, and Gavin as we continue to worship together. We wish Marta the best in her next position. Thanks also to **Brian Thompson** for his wonderful work with our youth. Thank you to our custodial staff **Fernando Garcia**, and the following people who served as weekend custodians or on special projects this year: **Patrick Gregg, Sam Koland, Owen Hamer, and Kye Smith**. St. Michael's is known for its music programs. We are grateful to the fantastic music leadership of **Karen Wilkerson, Jill Schendel, Tom Bartsch, Charlie Preis, Cory Bock, and Molly Raben**.

### **New Communications/Publications:**

There were a lot of communication pieces that were revised including a new website (thanks to Carol Kriegler and Kathy Enzler), new Logo (thanks again Carol!), new Sunday bulletins, a new format for *The Messenger*, and a new item, The Program Booklet. I know that the church staff and volunteers worked very hard on these things to present information to all of us in a clearer, easier-to-use manner. Thank you to everyone involved.

### **Executive Committee:**

This is the first full year of the Executive Committee which met each month halfway in between the monthly council meetings. This has been a great way to create a template agenda for the council meetings and anticipate future items as we try to discern the work of the church. Now that the meetings have been happening regularly, I firmly believe in their importance for staying on top of church business.

### **Constitution Updates:**

We owe a lot of thanks to all those that served on the Constitution Committee: Kim Early Chapman, Dave Yarusso, Brad Koland, Jane Doyle, Jennifer Mehmel, Joe Nosek, Pastors Brad Froslee and Ali Ferin in updating our constitution which will, among other things, be more in line with the synod and offers better descriptions for the church committees.

## Strategic Planning:

We have been fortunate to have Chuck Hansen and Patty Bales to lead us as we discover what a Strategic Plan would look like for us for the next 3-5 years—thank you Chuck and Patty! I was honored to serve on the committee for this work, too, with, Chuck, Patty, Mike Gregory, Pastors Brad and Ali. The final version was created with the help of Peter and Lee-Ann Breuch and is printed elsewhere in this Annual Report. Wherever you are in your level of support and/or volunteering in any church activities, I am excited for all of us to come together to the first-ever St. Michael's Strategic Planning kickoff event in February to begin to discover what this plan means for us.

## A Challenge for 2018

**Finances** – We are in a transition period and it makes sense that with that comes fluctuations in giving. We are hopeful that at the end of this year our pledges and loose offerings will be closer in line with our spending, but at the time of this writing, we will be utilizing the transition fund and some reserves for 2017; then we will be using some of the congregation's reserves to cover expenses for 2018. In addition, there will be the significant but necessary purchase of a boiler. This is not a time to panic, however, but to know staff, the Finance Committee, and church council will be examining all aspects of the budget and spending very closely, and if necessary, recommend whatever changes we need to make. Since we have a history of being a very benevolent congregation, we will have to determine where our priorities will be here vs. balancing the budget. As new members come in and we all help to continue the important work of the church, I believe we need be vigilant but optimistic in this transition period. The implementation of the Strategic Plan will also give clarity to the budget on what is important to us or not as much at this time.

## Strengths for 2018

We have many strengths at St. Michael's that will give us the ability to meet the challenges ahead which includes a fantastic staff and many caring people in the congregation who believe in an inclusive theology and the unconditional love of God. I will always remember the wonderful document "The Heart of St. Michael's" that was created a few years ago in anticipation for calling a new pastor. At the end after the paragraphs on Gather, Nurture, and Send, the last section is entitled "Grow" and from that, I will end my report with this quote:

"We have the opportunity to build on our strong theological foundation and our mission to gather, nurture, and send by exploring and adjusting models for ministry. This may lead us to re-envision how we accompany our changing neighborhood, interpret how our faith speaks to emerging realities in our context, discern who God is now calling us to be, and involve our neighbors with us in proclaiming Good News to displace despair and celebrate hope."

Respectfully submitted,  
Becky Sorlien, Church Council President 2017

## 2017 Council Members & Year Term Expires

Patty Bales—2020	Lenie Hermanson—2018
John Breneman—2020	Brad Koland—2019
Peter Breuch—2020	Carol Kriegler—2020
* Kim Chapman—non voting	Beverly Sherwood—2019
Erica Crouch—2018	*Rebecca Sorlien—2020
Jessica Etten—2019	* David Yarusso—2018
* Michael Gregory—2018	

\* indicates Executive Committee Member



## Pastor's Report 2017

In January 2018 we hear again in worship the stories and look to the ways that God is revealed and made known among the people. At the end of Epiphany we come to the story of Jesus' transfiguration and Peter's declaration that, "...it is good for us to be here."

Last year, the community at St. Michael's and I made significant transitions. After thirty-eight years with Pastor Roland Hayes and an interim with Pastor Rebecca Thurman, St. Michael's called a new pastor. After eight years at Calvary Lutheran in South Minneapolis, I was called from that ministry to serve among you. These transitions have been filled with life, learning, and change. It is my hope and prayer that after this first year we are mutually able to say, "It is good for us to be here." It is good to be in this place and time with a deep sense of God's presence among us. And, like the disciples, that moment in time then moves them into the world and ministry in new way.

I am mindful that when the disciple Peter made his declaration it was in the midst of wonder, excitement, hope, and even a little discomfort. I am certain that all of us have felt these emotions—and many more—over the past year. Still, we continue to look to God revealed and being in this place together.

As we look back at the journey and experiences of 2017, I would like to lift up some significant aspects.

### Operations

**The Church Council:** It has been a joy to get to know the members of the church council at St. Michael's. Many now serving were part of the team that introduced and welcomed Bill, Torin, and myself into the community last year. This year it has been gratifying to see their thoughtfulness in planning, in remembering and lifting up the rich history of St. Michael's, in thinking about who we are and who we are yet becoming. I give great thanks for the wisdom, joy, and commitment of this leadership team.

**The Constitution Committee:** In 2017 the Committee continued their very thorough review of St. Michael's Constitution and Bylaws. Today you receive and vote on numerous hours of labor and diligence. A great thanks to all, especially Dave Yarusso who formatted the document and kept the process moving.

**The Executive Committee:** This committee began coming into existence during Pastor Rebecca's tenure. Each congregation is encouraged to have the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and pastor(s) serve together to assist in planning, preparing for council, and connecting with the congregation. This year Rebecca Sorlien (President), Mike Gregory (Vice President), Dave Yarusso (Secretary), and Kim Chapman (Treasurer), along with Pastor Ali and I comprised the Executive Committee. I give great thanks for their dedication, planning, and comradery.

**The Finance and Stewardship Committees:** The Finance Committee has consistently reviewed the financials and worked on reviewing and strengthening the process of serving as teller. The committee also oversees our insurance review, work with the financial compilation (Audit Committee), and providing congregation members with quarterly statements through the church office. The Stewardship Committee had fun this year with the theme "The Joy of Giving" and continues to be an incredible team of creative hardworking folks.

**The Personnel & Administration Committee:** P&A began the year finalizing the details of my call and simultaneously working to hire a new Office Administrator. Soon after my arrival P&A hired Mary Gail Hadley as Office Administrator. Having worked several years ago with Mary Gail at Calvary Lutheran Church, I was delighted to see her come on board at St. Michael's. She has been a great gift. Last winter Lois Cooper also shared with myself and P&A that she felt it time for her to retire as Children's Choir Accompanist. We give great thanks for the faithful service Lois shared over the years. With Lois' stepping back we hired Molly Raben. While sad to see Lois retire, it has been a delight to welcome and get to know Molly in this position. P&A has

also been busy reviewing and updating the Personnel Handbook, creating a staff evaluation process, conducting exit interviews, and moving through staff transitions. This fall P&A worked with transition as Marta Goldenman stepped back from the Associate Director of Children's, Youth, and Family position after eighteen years of faithful service. We give great thanks to the P&A Committee and to all the staff who have served the congregation this year: Fernando Garcia, Patrick Gregg, Lyle Jacobson, Sam Koland, Owen Hamer, Karen Wilkerson, Jill Schendel, Tom Bartsch, Charlie Preis, Cory Bock, Lois Cooper, Molly Raben, Ruth Peterson, Mary Gail Hadley, Lisa Koland, Mary Nosek, Marta Goldenman, Brian Thompson, and Megan Long.

**The Property Committee:** St. Michael's is blessed to have an engaged and extremely capable group of folks serving on the Property Committee. This past year they have been willing to tackle issues (big and small) and to think about how we can continue to strengthen and take care of the gift of the building and grounds at St. Michael's. The three priorities I would lift up from this year have been accessibility, energy, and upkeep.

**Accessibility:** The team utilized the gift of an anonymous donor to put in handicap accessible doors around the church and then went on to build a ramp so that the altar area would be accessible to all. They continue to look at ways that we might make sure the building meets the needs of people of all ages, physical capabilities, and life experiences. **Energy:** Following the lead of the congregation, the Property Committee completed an energy audit through EnerChange. This work moved us to replace lighting in the education and office wing with LED lights for energy savings and better lighting. It also kept before us the on-going work on the boiler and how best to heat and cool the building. **Upkeep:** Whether it has been working on draining water away from the building, unclogging pipes, getting rid of mold in the Education storage room, replacing a toilet, inspecting the roof, replacing lights in the sanctuary, this committee has stepped up to do the work. A great thanks to all who serve on this team, especially to Neal Chapman as chair, Lyle Jacobson who coordinated efforts last winter and spring.

**General Office & Administration:** This past year it has been great to work with Lisa Koland, Mary Nosek, and Mary Gail Hadley. Each has brought experience and gifts to the office at St. Michael's. Their work has supported reviewing and updating aspects of the bulletins and newsletters, creating the program booklet, work on the logo, website, and communications, coordinating Sign-up Genius and continuing to look at best ways for people to volunteer and engage with opportunities to serve, and making sure things run smoothly.

## Education

**The Education and Youth Committees:** Marta Goldenman, Brian Thompson, and Pastor Ali have overseen the vast majority of Education and youth activities, from Sunday School to the Senior High Mission Trip. It has been another full year for children and youth at St. Michael's. Some items to lift up from this year was the connection to Luther Crest Bible Camp and having fifteen children and youth attend camp there for a week this past summer. We also began partnering with other area congregations and community members for the summer Day camp. In the sanctuary you have likely noticed the Spark Story Bibles as one way for children to connect with scripture and worship. Additionally, children and youth have had opportunities to engage in worship through the pageant, serving as cantors, lectors, and assisting ministers. It has been a joy to get to know more of the youth through activities such as the pizza and sundae making event, dinners out, and teaching 9<sup>th</sup> grade confirmation and Senior High Sunday school.

**Adult Education:** While we don't officially have an Adult Education Committee, we have a great group of folks who plan out Religion in Life, learning about new speakers, inviting them, and hosting on Sunday mornings. Additionally, this year we continued the Thursday morning Bible studies (often with 12-16 people present), we restarted Monday Morning Ministries on the second Monday of each month, and have committed groups of readers/conversationalists at the Faith in Daily Life groups on Wednesdays.

## **Worship & Community Life**

**Worship:** This past year we have had the pastoral and music staff work to meet almost quarterly to plan out worship services, and debrief previous worship services. It is wonderful to meet and work with such gifted musicians. Additionally, I give great thanks to Marcia Tofte and all of the individuals who do altar and communion preparation, the bread bakers, ushers, assisting ministers, communion deacons, lectors, cantors, and acolytes.

**The Nurturing Relationships Committee:** Food and social events continued to be highlights at St. Michael's from the game night, to the Progressive dinner, to dinner groups, and the church picnic and the BBQ. We tried a few new things such as moving the church picnic to Monday night to coincide with an evening worship service, and adding a root beer and pretzel garden at the BBQ to commemorate the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation.

**The Welcome Team:** On my own behalf, thanks so much to Sue Thompson, Sue Jacobson, and Thor Wagstrom for serving on the welcome team. Sue and Sue organized welcome meals and coffees, which provided avenues to get to know many people at St. Michael's. Thanks also to all who hosted these events.

**The Social Ministry Committee and Journeying towards Justice Team:** Pastor Ali staffs much of the work done by Social Ministry and Journeying towards Justice. For me this past year provided ways to connect through volunteering at Loaves & Fishes, spending a day working at the Habitat for Humanity site, volunteering at Rezek House, and engaging in the congregational and synodical events on racial justice.

## **Personal Notes**

This year, alongside serving as pastor at St. Michael's, I have had the opportunity to serve as co-chair of the national board of Extraordinary Lutheran Ministries (ELM), participate in synod events, lead Bible studies at Augustana Apartments and Care Center, engage with faith-based community organizing through Isaiah, and remain active in a great pastoral peer group. Thank you for the support to connect in these ways.

I would also like to extend a great word of thanks to Pastor Ali. It is a joy to work together.

And finally, a word of thanks to Bill and Torin. I appreciate the incredible love and support...and the accountability to live my vocations as spouse, father, and pastor.

### ***It is truly good to be here!***

I love the Transfiguration story because Peter and the disciples are told to take what they have seen, experienced, and know and to take it out into the world.

It is my sense that in this coming year we will be taking our experiences of this past year to new places. And we will both uplifted and challenged.

Just as we approach the Transfiguration of Jesus, we recognize that not only do we celebrate God's presence in this one we proclaim as Christ, but we ourselves are transformed and changed so that we might be about God's ministry.

As the hymn proclaims, "How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we cannot remain; but since you bid us leave the mount, come with us to the plain."

We move onto our next journeys in ministry with the turning of the calendar page...and we vision towards what is yet to be, remembering all that has been.

In Thanksgiving,  
Pastor Brad Froslee

## 2017 Annual Report — Pastor Ali Ferin

*"We bless this year for all we learned,  
For all we loved and lost  
And for the quiet way it brought us  
Nearer to our invisible destination."*

*--John O'Donohue (To Bless The Space Between Us/Benedictus)*

I begin this year's annual report with a blessing, grateful to have found words that express my deepest gratitude for the ministry in 2017 and hopes for the years ahead. As is true for every year, 2017 has been a year of learning, love, and loss - but it has also been a year of great joy, excitement, and new possibility; all of which have allowed us to see more clearly how God is at work in our congregation and community.

2017 brought with it the beginning the Pastor Brad Froslee's ministry at St. Michael's. It has been a wonderful year of partnering with Pastor Brad and I am grateful for the opportunity to serve alongside him. His vibrant ministry and vision for the future has gifted me with renewed energy and excitement. Additionally, engaging in the call process was a significant learning experience for me and the entire congregation. I continue to lift prayers of thanksgiving for the members of the call committee, the MET, the welcome committee, and the church council, who dedicated their time and skills to ensuring that Pastor Brad's onboarding was successful!

I also give my praise and thanks to God for the many staff who fostered a year of rich ministry! Lisa Koland and Mary Nosek were a remarkable help as we were in the process of hiring our office administrator, Mary Gail Hadley. Mary Gail was hired in February and began her work in March. She brings great knowledge and experience to the office and it is a joy to work alongside her and welcome her to the St. Michael's community!

This year we also experienced a change in staffing in the Children, Youth, and Family position. With Marta Goldenman exploring new vocational opportunities, we welcome her into the pew as a beloved member of the congregation! Thank you to Marta for the 18 years of service to St. Michael's and for our nearly 4 years of ministry together. With Marta's departure from the Children, Youth, and Family position, Brian Thompson graciously took on greater responsibility in Sunday School and other youth events. His dedication, compassion, and skill are invaluable assets to St. Michael's! Cory Bock, Director of Children's Music, has also stepped into greater leadership in the Children's programming. The congregation is blessed by his faithful ministry with children and families!

Our music staff continues to shape our worship life with incredible music. A deep word of thanks is due to Karen Wilkerson, Tom Bartsch, Jill Schendel, Charlie Pries, and Cory Bock, who create meaningful worship experiences and learning opportunities through their gift of music. In 2017, our children's accompanist, Lois Cooper, retired from her ministry with the children. We are grateful for her years of commitment to the children's music program! With Lois' departure, we welcomed Molly Raben as the children's accompanist. Molly's musical skill and dedication to the children is evident and we are delighted to have her join us on staff!

Our facility continues to be in great condition in thanks to the work of Fernando Garcia. This year, Sam Koland and Owen Hamer joined the custodial support staff and we deeply appreciate their work on the weekends and with building projects! They are supported by an active and organized property committee, who help keep our church home in good working order! A special thank you to Lyle Jacobsen, who served on custodial staff during the interim period. His commitment and skill created a solid foundation for the property committee to function effectively. Neal Chapman continues to devote considerable time in maintaining the church building and leading the property committee with energy and urgency, to which we are incredibly grateful for!

My gratitude is only heightened when I think of the work of the various committees who drive the ministry of the church: The stewardship committee created yet another fabulous stewardship campaign. The nurturing relationships committee continues to create opportunities for fellowship and living out beloved traditions. The education committee supports our wonderful Sunday School teachers and helps us make decisions around upcoming events and curriculum. The youth committee has been faithfully engaged in big picture planning. The social ministry committee continues to discern how to serve with our community partners. The personnel and administration committee are a great support to the staff, especially during this year of transition. The executive

committee has provided guidance to Pastor Brad and I as we prepare for council meetings and manage other aspects of church life. A special thank you is in order to our church council officers who provided excellent leadership in 2017: Becky Sorlien, council president, Mike Gregory, council vice president, Dave Yarusso, council secretary, and Kim Chapman, council treasurer.

As I look back and bless this year in ministry, some particular moments of appreciation emerged for me:

- The work of the journeying toward justice team, who provide education events and opportunities as our congregation continues to learn more about racial justice.
- The new sanctuary ramp, installed by Ron Kuhn, Dennis Skovsted, Joel Bergstrom, and Neal Chapman, allowing for the altar and chancel area to be accessible.
- The installation of automatic doors to our building, making our space more accessible and welcoming, given by a generous donor.
- The creation of the green team, who led the LED lighting project, making us a more environmentally friendly congregation (with the additional benefit of long term cost savings!)
- The work of Carol Kriegler and Kathy Enzler, who led us in updating our communications plan to include a mobile friendly website and new logo. Great thanks is owed to Jason Elliot who faithfully managed our previous website!
- The skill, insight, and dedication from Terry Boehlke and Elli Moran who reorganized our church library and brought in new titles.
- The joy in women's ministry events such as the women's circles, the Christmas buffet, winter retreat, Zumba party, the summer patio series, and freezer meal party.
- The excitement and engagement from our young people on the mission trip, the youth slumber party, the urban immersion retreat, and confirmation mentor nights.
- The work of the religion in life committee, bringing in diverse speakers on a variety of important and relevant topics.
- The new ministry of St. Michael's being a site for the Keystone Mobile Food Shelf.
- The ability to attend the Festival of Homiletics, a conference that brings together thousands of preachers. I am grateful for the congregation's support in my ongoing learning!
- The profound privilege it is to walk alongside you in your faith journey; whether it is in your homes, hospital bedsides, in the pulpit, around the communion rail, or in conversation over coffee.

As I prepare for ministry in 2018 with hope and anticipation, I am mindful of opportunities that are already emerging for which I am excited for:

- The January confirmation retreat, focusing on healthy relationships and sexuality.
- The intergenerational trip to Holden Village in July.
- Our second year at Luther Crest Bible Camp for summer youth camp.
- Lenten worship, with a focus on our individual yet interconnected stories as people of faith.
- Continued work on our strategic planning process.
- Looking at the church signage inside the building to expand our welcome and hospitality efforts to visitors.
- The onboarding of a Children's, Youth, and Family interim and beginning the process to fill the Children's, Youth, and Family ministry position.

The blessing by John O'Donohue ends with a word of gratitude for how the year has led us closer to an *"invisible destination"*. In some ways, his words are fitting for our faith community... we do not know where God is leading us, nor do we know what the future has in store. However, if I could edit his words, they would read, *"promised destination,"* for as the prophet Jeremiah states, "For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope." (Jeremiah 29:11) Though we may not know exactly what the future holds, we trust that God's presence is with us!

To my St. Michael's family: it is a privilege to serve as your pastor. Yet my call to walk alongside you is made sweeter by the support of my family, especially my best friend and beloved husband, Ben. Thank you for being my partner in this beautiful life we've been blessed with.

Respectfully submitted,  
The Rev. Ali C. Ferin

## Finance Committee Report

St Michaels continues to be a generous congregation! This community amazes those of us on the Finance Committee.

The Finance Committee of St Michaels is charged with overseeing the financial affairs of the congregation. Not only are we tasked with assisting the staff with creating and managing the budget, but we also work to make recommendations for actions to take. For example, we make recommendations to the council on how to make use of our reserve funds until they are needed. We introduced to you last year a resolution to help guide us in those recommendations. We monitor income and expenses, keeping the council aware of the status of giving and spending. We help the committees by suggesting budgets for the next year. We help create policies for the future governance or in response to recommendations from the audit committee members.

During this first year with our new (Pastor Brad, it feels like we have known you for longer than that) Senior Pastor, we did feel some financial impacts. Fortunately, St Michaels continued to be the generous congregation we have always been. You responded greatly when you learned we were falling behind on pledges. In fact, this generous congregation carried that generosity forward into 2018 pledging.

In 2017, we maintained our church home – becoming more energy efficient. Thank you to the congregation for approving the small interest free loan for this project. In 2017 we continued our financial gifts to the many, many programs we have traditionally supported, including our gift to the synod. In 2017, we met all of our financial obligations.

While we still have a strong focus in carrying forward our benevolence giving, we may be entering a period where our operational expenses are increasing compared to our giving. This makes for some tough decisions as we move into 2018 and further.

The Finance Committee would like to thank all of the staff members for their work with the finances in 2017. Thank you to Lisa Koland – bookkeeper and Mary Gail Hadley – bookkeeper. Thank you to Pastors Ali and Brad for helping us dig in. Thank you to music and program staff for keeping on budget!

Lastly, the Finance Committee would like to thank all of the volunteers that help us manage the budget. A special thanks goes to Mary Christiansen – financial secretary, now retired!, Doug Helms and Alina Cramble – Audit Committee and all of the tellers – it was a tough year with transitions thank you for your patience, diligence and willingness to continue volunteering.

Submitted by Finance Committee  
Carol Kriegler – Council Member  
Hal Tiffany – Committee Member

Kim Chapman - Treasurer  
Eric Hockert – Committee Member

*Interesting (at least to the finance folks) trivia –  
In 1954 the budget was allocated in this way:*

*Benevolence – 5%*

*Property – 9%*

*Church Program – 19%*

*Staff Compensation – 67%*

**St. Michael's Evangelical Lutheran Church**

**Balance Sheet**

As of December 31, 2017

01/24/18

	Dec 31, 17	Dec 31, 16
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Checking/Savings		
10 · Checking	235,905.63	295,021.42
14 · Savings - Thrivent Money Market	169,184.24	169,179.61
18 · Mission Term Grand 94802	260,693.19	260,693.19
19 · Mission Term Select 30000168938	275,000.00	275,000.00
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	940,783.06	999,894.22
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	940,783.06	999,894.22
<b>Fixed Assets</b>		
25 · Church Building	1,274,444.16	1,274,444.16
26 · Church Land	20,518.41	20,518.41
27 · Furniture/Fixtures	201,119.86	201,119.86
28 · Improvements	393,695.34	393,695.34
29 · Organ	193,774.90	193,774.90
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	2,083,552.67	2,083,552.67
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>3,024,335.73</b>	<b>3,083,446.89</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>		
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Other Current Liabilities		
46 · Dedicated Funds		
500 · Memorial Funds	14,422.96	11,097.96
503 · Food Shelf	2,265.20	2,502.25
504 · Pastor's Discretionary Fund	2,619.83	1,587.12
505 · Befrienders	190.22	345.12
506 · Education Fund	634.44	1,067.80
508 · Youth Activities	75.64	10.00
510 · Flowers Fund	3,313.88	1,729.73
511 · Funeral Fund	684.27	1,108.60
514 · Adopt-A-Family	33.58	33.58
515 · Vacation Bible School	1,157.85	990.33
517 · Loaves & Fishes	1,141.74	2,366.89
520 · World Hunger	290.00	275.00
521 · Fellowship & Community Life	(468.09)	1,991.56
523 · Adult Activities	0.00	759.75
525 · Women's Retreat	472.60	750.00
527 · Reserve Fund	300,645.28	300,645.28
528 · Special Gift Fund	147,828.25	170,325.60
529 · Prepaid pledges	38,445.22	21,035.44
530 · Sandwich-Making	122.50	822.53
533 · Property Fund	0.00	1,000.00
544 · Christmas Offering	4,277.00	4,505.00
547 · LWR Coffee Fund	330.60	91.20
554 · DisasterRelief/Spec.Benevole...	25,949.33	30,179.33
562 · Habitat for Humanity	11,753.00	11,280.28
563 · Rezek House	7,862.95	4,750.58
564 · Lutheran Church Women	15,075.22	12,741.75
577 · Youth Mission Trip Support F...	86,397.04	85,609.01
579 · Building Repair Fund	1,499.09	8,847.15
580 · Yoga Devotion	64.80	0.00
581 · Sunday School Offerings	386.03	1,502.15

**St. Michael's Evangelical Lutheran Church**

01/24/18

**Balance Sheet**

As of December 31, 2017

	Dec 31, 17	Dec 31, 16
582 · Ministry Transition Fund	0.00	45,423.55
583 · Camp	2,320.63	3,528.18
<b>Total 46 · Dedicated Funds</b>	<b>669,791.06</b>	<b>728,902.72</b>
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	<b>669,791.06</b>	<b>728,902.72</b>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>669,791.06</b>	<b>728,902.72</b>
<b>Long Term Liabilities</b>		
52 · Thrivent Mortgage Loan	385,065.35	403,623.16
<b>Total Long Term Liabilities</b>	<b>385,065.35</b>	<b>403,623.16</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>1,054,856.41</b>	<b>1,132,525.88</b>
<b>Equity</b>		
55 · Opening Bal Equity	1,742,426.61	1,723,868.80
56 · Retained Earnings	227,052.21	216,257.37
Net Income	0.50	10,794.84
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>1,969,479.32</b>	<b>1,950,921.01</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>3,024,335.73</b>	<b>3,083,446.89</b>



01/17/18

**St. Michael's Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**Statement of Income and Expense**  
 December 2017

	Dec 17	Dec 16	Jan - Dec 17
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>			
<b>Income</b>			
61 · Checking Interest	4.61	6.85	73.81
63 · Current (Envelope)	78,089.57	55,063.36	657,961.41
65 · Initial Offering	0.00	40.00	400.00
67 · Loose Offering	335.00	3,479.08	11,506.00
68 · Mission Investment Interest	1,055.85	685.62	6,475.77
69 · Prepaid Pledges	0.00	0.00	6,000.00
70 · Savings Interest	0.00	0.00	4.63
76 · Thrivent Choice Dollars	8.00	721.00	536.00
77 · Northern Voices	3,690.00	3,690.00	44,280.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>83,183.03</b>	<b>63,685.91</b>	<b>727,237.62</b>
<b>Expense</b>			
<b>100 · STAFF COMPENSATION</b>			
<b>100.1 · PASTORAL COMPENSATION</b>			
101 · Senior Pastor's Salary			
101.2 · Pastor Thurman's Salary	0.00	4,667.00	0.00
101.3 · Pastor Froslee's Salary	3,514.58	0.00	41,237.74
<b>Total 101 · Senior Pastor's Salary</b>	<b>3,514.58</b>	<b>4,667.00</b>	<b>41,237.74</b>
102 · Senior Pastor's Housing			
102.2 · Pastor Thurman's Housing	0.00	2,000.00	0.00
102.3 · Pastor Froslee's Housing	2,916.66	0.00	34,999.92
<b>Total 102 · Senior Pastor's Housing</b>	<b>2,916.66</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>	<b>34,999.92</b>
104 · Senior Pastor's Mileage			
104.2 · Pastor Thurman's Mileage	0.00	458.00	0.00
104.3 · Pastor Froslee's Mileage	458.00	0.00	5,496.00
<b>Total 104 · Senior Pastor's Mileage</b>	<b>458.00</b>	<b>458.00</b>	<b>5,496.00</b>
105 · Senior Pastor's Pension & Ben.			
105.2 · Pastor Thurman's Pension & B...	0.00	1,047.00	0.00
105.3 · Pastor Froslee's Pension & Ben.	1,432.90	0.00	16,894.50
<b>Total 105 · Senior Pastor's Pension &amp; Ben.</b>	<b>1,432.90</b>	<b>1,047.00</b>	<b>16,894.50</b>
106 · Assoc. Pastor's Salary	2,500.00	1,755.84	30,000.00
107 · Assoc. Pastor's Housing	2,666.66	2,942.08	31,999.92
109 · Assoc. Pastor's Mileage	458.00	458.00	5,496.00
110 · Assoc. Pastor Pension & Ben.	1,060.17	1,615.62	12,722.04
<b>Total 100.1 · PASTORAL COMPENSATION</b>	<b>15,006.97</b>	<b>14,943.54</b>	<b>178,846.12</b>
<b>100.2 · ADMIN/CUSTODIAL COMPENSATION</b>			
116 · Office Adm. Salary	4,000.00	4,114.05	51,652.57
116.2 · Office Adm. Benefits	668.66	0.00	6,686.60
128 · Custodial Services	2,254.51	2,489.76	30,859.91
<b>Total 100.2 · ADMIN/CUSTODIAL COMPEN...</b>	<b>6,923.17</b>	<b>6,603.81</b>	<b>89,199.08</b>

01/17/18

# St. Michael's Evangelical Lutheran Church

## Statement of Income and Expense

December 2017

	Dec 17	Dec 16	Jan - Dec 17
<b>100.3 · MUSICIANS COMPENSATION</b>			
118 · Organist Salary	1,191.67	1,161.67	14,300.04
119 · Pianist Salary	1,282.83	1,162.50	15,029.32
120 · Adult Choir Dir. Salary	1,503.30	1,469.17	18,039.60
121.1 · Adult Bell Choir Director Salar	450.00	435.62	4,500.00
122.1 · Children's Music Director	1,042.10	1,016.46	12,505.20
123 · Children's Choir Acc. Sal.	288.75	375.83	3,927.00
124 · Substitute Organist	0.00	0.00	650.00
126 · Sub. Adult Choir Director	0.00	0.00	960.00
134 · Substitute Pianist	150.00	0.00	500.00
144 · Substitute Bell Choir Director	0.00	385.00	(260.00)
<b>Total 100.3 · MUSICIANS COMPENSATION</b>	<b>5,908.65</b>	<b>6,006.25</b>	<b>70,151.16</b>
<b>100.4 · CHILDREN,YOUTH,FAMILY COMP</b>			
125 · Youth Ed. Support Staffing	1,016.50	990.84	12,198.00
129 · Nursery Care	265.83	224.78	2,888.23
146 · Assoc.Dir.of Fam.Min. Salary	5,602.57	3,707.08	49,144.31
147 · Assoc.Dir.of Fam.Min. Mileage	50.00	50.00	600.00
148 · Assoc.Dir.of Fam.Min. Benefits	221.74	722.16	7,805.92
<b>Total 100.4 · CHILDREN,YOUTH,FAMILY C...</b>	<b>7,156.64</b>	<b>5,694.86</b>	<b>72,636.46</b>
<b>111 · CONTINUING EDUCATION</b>			
111.2 · Assoc. Past. Cont. Educ.	75.71	268.77	1,544.06
111.3 · Dir. Youth Cont. Educ.	0.00	0.00	266.68
111.4 · Pastor Froslee Cont. Educ.	97.56	0.00	1,508.39
111.6 · Assoc.Dir.of Fam.Min.Cont.Educ.	548.74	0.00	1,000.00
111 · CONTINUING EDUCATION - Other	0.00	0.00	581.43
<b>Total 111 · CONTINUING EDUCATION</b>	<b>722.01</b>	<b>268.77</b>	<b>4,900.56</b>
130 · P & A Contingency	0.00	0.00	553.35
131 · Worker's Compensation	919.00	0.00	4,928.00
132 · Social Security	2,273.75	2,276.07	27,031.84
133 · Misc. Business Expenses	273.24	169.98	1,540.09
100 · STAFF COMPENSATION - Other	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total 100 · STAFF COMPENSATION</b>	<b>39,183.43</b>	<b>35,963.28</b>	<b>449,786.66</b>
<b>200 · CHURCH PROGRAM</b>			
201 · Worship Supply			
237 · Lenten Service Expenses	0.00	0.00	1,600.00
201 · Worship Supply - Other	605.96	607.38	3,163.84
<b>Total 201 · Worship Supply</b>	<b>605.96</b>	<b>607.38</b>	<b>4,763.84</b>
202 · Office - Supplies	728.75	663.07	6,396.67
203 · Office - Postage	292.08	368.94	3,040.72
204 · Office - Printing	0.00	0.00	1,050.51
205 · Office - Equip. Maint.	425.50	942.93	6,719.48
206 · Office - Computer	107.49	203.70	3,618.05
207 · Education - Supplies	44.08	46.77	1,672.86
208 · Educ. - Curriculum	750.52	0.00	2,213.34
208.1 · Educ. - Teacher Appreciation	0.00	0.00	425.79
209 · Educ. - Religion In Life	300.00	300.00	3,300.00
210 · Educ. - Adult Education	150.00	29.29	922.72
211 · Educ. - Confirmation	0.00	0.00	2,389.67
212 · Educ. - VBS	0.00	0.00	146.52
213 · Educ. - Camp	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
214 · Nursery Supplies	0.00	12.59	49.03

01/17/18

**St. Michael's Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**Statement of Income and Expense**  
December 2017

	Dec 17	Dec 16	Jan - Dec 17
216 · Youth	735.36	90.88	4,078.90
218 · Adult Choir Music	146.02	132.81	1,742.92
219 · Children's Choir Music	0.00	29.40	683.05
220 · Organist's Music	0.00	0.00	47.63
221 · Bell Choir Music	311.40	0.00	311.40
222 · Discretionary Music	325.00	700.00	3,655.95
223 · Social Ministry	0.00	0.00	1,624.71
224 · Befrienders	0.00	0.00	88.95
225 · Delegate Expense	0.00	0.00	350.00
226 · Stewardship	272.92	0.00	1,003.22
227 · Evangelism/Fellowship	297.19	0.00	812.16
228 · Fellowship Fund	76.99	127.20	460.01
229 · Organ/Piano Maintenance	1,436.53	1,213.97	2,396.53
233 · Pianist's Music	160.49	430.79	167.44
235 · Youth Musical	0.00	0.00	486.76
236 · Payroll Service	165.00	155.40	1,967.85
<b>Total 200 · CHURCH PROGRAM</b>	<b>7,331.28</b>	<b>6,055.12</b>	<b>57,586.68</b>
<b>300 · CHURCH PROP. &amp; MAINT.</b>			
301 · Church Maintenance	2,587.13	684.74	22,340.69
302 · Utilities - Gas	1,699.48	979.09	12,291.32
303 · Utilities - Electric	1,421.88	1,364.33	14,963.43
304 · Utilities - Water/Sewer	0.00	0.00	3,653.84
305 · Utilities - Phone	180.85	175.71	2,134.32
306 · Property Insurance	0.00	293.00	15,163.85
307 · Refuse Removal	158.65	145.87	1,919.28
308 · Janitorial Supplies	0.00	393.60	4,561.81
310 · Out. Loan Payments	3,399.00	3,399.00	40,788.00
312 · Major Maintenance	0.00	0.00	10,009.43
<b>Total 300 · CHURCH PROP. &amp; MAINT.</b>	<b>9,446.99</b>	<b>7,435.34</b>	<b>127,825.97</b>
<b>400 · BENEVOLENCES</b>			
401 · ELCA Synod	12,000.00	11,000.00	134,000.00
402 · St. Paul Council of Ch.	0.00	0.00	1,500.00
403 · Lutheran Social Services	0.00	0.00	5,000.00
404 · Camping and Youth Ministry	0.00	0.00	2,000.00
<b>Total 400 · BENEVOLENCES</b>	<b>12,000.00</b>	<b>11,000.00</b>	<b>142,500.00</b>
451 · Payroll Expenses	1.02	0.00	0.00
66900 · Reconciliation Discrepancies	0.00	0.00	(1.00)
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>67,962.72</b>	<b>60,453.74</b>	<b>777,698.31</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>15,220.31</b>	<b>3,232.17</b>	<b>(50,460.69)</b>
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>			
Other Income			
452 · Designated Fund Income	50,461.19	0.00	50,461.19
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>50,461.19</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>50,461.19</b>
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<b>50,461.19</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>50,461.19</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>65,681.50</b>	<b>3,232.17</b>	<b>0.50</b>

**Summary Gift Totals by Fund  
From 01/01/2017 to 12/31/2017**

<b>Fund Code</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>YTD *</b>
500 · Memorial Funds		13,802.96
503 · Food Shelf		2,265.20
504 · Pastor's Discretionary Fund		2,619.83
505 · Befrienders		190.22
506 · Education Fund		634.44
508 · Youth Activities		75.64
509 · Youth Mission Trip		0.00
510 · Flowers Fund		3,313.88
511 · Funeral Fund		684.27
514 · Adopt-A-Family		33.58
515 · Vacation Bible School		1,157.85
517 · Loaves & Fishes		1,141.74
520 · World Hunger		290.00
521 · Fellowship & Community Life		(468.09)
525 · Women's Retreat		472.60
527 · Reserve Fund		300,645.28
528 · Special Gift Fund		147,828.25
529 · Prepaid pledges		38,455.22
530 · Sandwich-Making		122.50
541 · Thanksgiving Offering		0.00
544 · Christmas Offering		4,277.00
547 · LWR Coffee Fund		330.60
554 · DisasterRelief/Spec.Benevolence		25,949.33
562 · Habitat for Humanity		11,753.00
563 · Rezek House		7,862.95
564 · Lutheran Church Women		15,075.22
577 · Youth Mission Trip Support Fund		86,397.04
579 · Building Repair Fund		1,499.09
580 · Yoga Devotion		64.80
581 · Sunday School Offerings		386.03
582 · Ministry Transition Fund		0.00
583 · Camp		2,320.63
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>669,791.06</b>

\* these amounts include contribution dollars and fund transfers

## 2018 Proposed Budget

### Income

63	Current (Envelope)	643,743.00
67	Loose Offering	15,000
72	Reserve Fund Transfer	55,607
72	Special Gift Fund Transfer	55,607
76	Thrivent Choice Dollars and Interest	7,500
77	Northern Voices	44,000

### Total Income

---

**821,457**

### Expense

#### 100 · STAFF COMPENSATION

100.1 · PASTORAL COMPENSATION	191,691.00
100.2 · ADMIN/CUSTODIAL COMPENSATION	85,699.00
100.3 · MUSICIANS COMPENSATION	73,995.00
100.4 · CHILDREN,YOUTH,FAMILY COMP	78,217.00
111 · CONTINUING EDUCATION	8,000.00
130 · P & A Contingency	2,500.00
131 · Worker's Compensation	5,000.00
132 · Social Security	28,305.00
133 · Misc. Business Expenses	2,000.00

#### Total 100 · STAFF COMPENSATION

---

475,407.00

#### 200 · CHURCH PROGRAM

201 · Worship Supply	4,000.00
202 · Office - Supplies	7,500.00
203 · Office - Postage	4,000.00
204 · Office - Printing	3,200.00
205 · Office - Equip. Maint.	7,000.00
206 · Office - Computer	4,000.00
207 · Education - Supplies	2,000.00
208 · Educ. - Curriculum	2,600.00
208.1 · Educ. - Teacher Appreciation	650.00
209 · Educ. - Religion In Life	5,400.00
210 · Educ. - Adult Education	1,000.00
211 · Educ. - Confirmation	4,000.00
212 · Educ. - VBS	1,250.00
213 · Educ. - Camp	1,500.00
214 · Nursery Supplies	300.00
216 · Youth	5,000.00
218 · Adult Choir Music	2,000.00
219 · Children's Choir Music	650.00
220 · Organist's Music	325.00
221 · Bell Choir Music	350.00
222 · Discretionary Music	4,000.00
223 · Social Ministry	2,000.00

## 2018 Proposed Budget—page two

224 · Befrienders	200.00
225 · Delegate Expense	700.00
226 · Stewardship	2,800.00
227 · Evangelism/Fellowship	2,500.00
228 · Fellowship Fund	2,000.00
229 · Organ/Piano Maintenance	2,000.00
233 · Pianist's Music	325.00
235 · Youth Musical	750.00
236 · Payroll Service	2,130.00
<b>Total 200 · CHURCH PROGRAM</b>	<b>76,130.00</b>
<b>300 · CHURCH PROP. &amp; MAINT.</b>	
301 · Church Maintenance	20,000.00
302 · Utilities - Gas	13,000.00
303 · Utilities - Electric	12,000.00
304 · Utilities - Water/Sewer	3,500.00
305 · Utilities - Phone	2,000.00
306 · Property Insurance	15,000.00
307 · Refuse Removal	1,600.00
308 · Janitorial Supplies	5,000.00
310 · Out. Loan Payments	45,320.00
312 · Major Maintenance	10,000.00
<b>Total 300 · CHURCH PROP. &amp; MAINT.</b>	<b>127,420.00</b>
<b>400 · BENEVOLENCES</b>	
401 · ELCA Synod	134,000.00
402 · St. Paul Council of Ch.	1,500.00
403 · Lutheran Social Services	5,000.00
404 · Camping & Youth Ministries	2,000.00
<b>Total 400 · BENEVOLENCES</b>	<b>142,500.00</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>821,457.00</b>

**Treasurer's Annual Review Report**  
**St. Michael's Lutheran Church**  
**January 17, 2018**

We have compiled the accompanying financial statements and supplemental schedules in accordance with statements on standards for accounting and review services issued by the American Institute of Certified Accountants. The financial statements have been prepared on the cash basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accounting principles.

A compilation is limited to presenting in the form of financial statements information that is the representation of the church. We have not audited or reviewed the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, do not express an opinion or any other form of assurance on them.

The church's policy is to prepare its financial statements on the basis of cash receipts and disbursements, consequently, certain revenue and the related assets are recognized when received rather than when earned, and certain expenses and the related liabilities are recognized when paid rather than when the obligation is incurred. Accordingly, the accompanying financial statements are not intended to present financial position and results of operations in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

An election has been made to omit substantially all of the disclosures ordinarily included in financial statements prepared on the cash basis of accounting. If such disclosures were included in the financial statements they might influence the user's conclusions about the church's assets, liabilities, fund balances, receipts and disbursements. Accordingly, these financial statements are not designed for those who are not informed about such matters.

Signed:  Date: 1-17-18  
Alina Cramble January 17, 2018

Signed:  Date: 1-17-18  
Chris Hughes January 17, 2018

## **Education Committee 2017 Annual Report**

The education committee oversees the Christian education for the children of St. Michael's from age two through 7<sup>th</sup> grade. This involves the coordination of all the details for the curriculum, events, and volunteers who serve as classroom leaders, workshop leaders, event chaperones, and shepherds.

### **Enrollment**

Enrollment in St. Michael's Sunday School program remains stable with an overall increase from 125 to 135 students registered, from the infant play group through 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

### **Leadership**

Marta Goldenman directed education programming until November 2017 for children and youth through 7<sup>th</sup> grade with the assistance of Brian Thompson. During 2017, the education committee included Suzanne Gregg, Jessica Ostendorf, Sarah Carrico and with Jessica Etten and Mike Gregory as council representatives.

### **Some Highlights of the Year**

The theme for the 2017 Sunday School program year is *Change Makers* utilizing workshop rotations and maker spaces.

This year, Marta spearheaded the infant play group using the *Frolic* curriculum to engage our youngest members and their families in experiential learning and community building.

We continue to sponsor a child through World Vision. We are currently sponsoring a child from the Dominican Republic!

In May we had a teacher appreciation celebration for our Sunday School teachers and their families.

In August, Bible Day Camp (VBS) was held in Partnership with Voyageurs Lutheran Ministries (VLM) with the theme of "Water". This year over ¾ of the children stayed all day.

A wonderful program, *Around the World in Search for the Meaning of Christmas* written by Rev. Brad Froslee, was presented on December 17 in both worship services.

### **A Word of Thanks**

Marta Goldenman was such a positive influence and doer relative to this committee. We want to certainly thank her for all of her energy, work and inspiration not only for this past year but for all of her dedicated years at St. Michaels. In addition, we want to especially thank Brian Thompson and Cory Bock who are dedicated, devoted leaders that have especially stepped up now with Marta's departure. St. Michael's has an excellent group of volunteers and staff that continue to educate and demonstrate their commitment to the Gospel and for the education of our children, young adults and the adult educational opportunities.

Respectfully submitted,

### **The Education Committee**

Mike Gregory, Council Representative

Jessica Etten, Council Representative

Suzanne Gregg, Committee Member

Sarah Carrico, Committee Member

Jessica Ostendorf, Committee Member



## **Nurturing Relationships 2017 Committee Report**

As part of updating the St. Michael's Constitution this year, a new name was created for this committee that better reflects the purpose—Community Life. The mission has been enhanced from “to welcome, nurture, and sustain relationships within St. Michael's and the greater community” to:

“reach out to the neighborhood and surrounding community through social events and activities, welcome visitors and new members into congregational life, offer opportunities for social engagement, interaction, and connection within the congregation, and foster connection with the Befrienders ministry and its service. In all things the committee will seek to promote a spirit of love, friendship, and concern.”

New members were welcomed this year in April and November with sponsors for all, corsages purchased, new photos taken, and a reception following the service. In addition, a new member lunch/class was added for the fall group which was held a week before to help with the transition as members of the St. Michael's community.

The 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Martin's Luther and the Reformation was a wonderful event with the “root beer garden” theme and Pastor Froslee graciously appearing as Martin Luther, as well as the entire Roseville Community Band performing for the event.

### **Other 2017 Activities included:**

February Potluck Chili and Games night

Continuation of Dinner Groups

Instant Church Directory continues to be the “in-house” pictorial directory

May Progressive Dinner

August church Picnic (held at a new time-slot of the last Monday service of the summer)

September Pig Roast and God's Work/Our Hands Sunday

November Thanksgiving Pie Reception

December Billy McLaughlin Concert Intermission Reception

The committee would like to thank everyone who volunteered for with all the events, activities, associated with this committee this year, including welcoming new members into the congregation as sponsors. It couldn't be done without you—thank you for a wonderful year!

Respectfully Submitted:

Bev Sherwood, Council Representative

Becky Sorlien, Council Representative

Grete Hansen, Committee Member

Mary Nosek, Committee Member

## Personnel & Administration Committee 2017 Annual Report

2017 was a successful year for the Personnel & Administration Committee (the "P&A Committee") having achieved all of its goals for 2017. Both Patty and I feel honored to serve as Council liaisons to the P&A Committee.

Operating under the direction of the Senior Pastor, the role of the P&A Committee is to oversee the hiring, determine and recommend appropriate compensation and facilitate an annual performance review of all employees. In addition the committee will provide oversight of the work of the church office and assist the pastor(s) and Congregation Council in the administration of the church.

In addition to assisting our pastors with the administration and management of St. Michael's staff, we wish to highlight the following items:

- Hiring and assisting with the on-boarding of a new office admin, Mary Gail Hadley;
- Assisting with the on-boarding of Molly Raben as pianist for the children's choirs (replacing Lois Cooper);
- New manager assimilation (particular thank you to Chuck Hanson for his time and skills to facilitate this session);
- Celebration's of Jill Schendel's 20 years of service to St. Michael's;
- Celebration of Marta Goldenman's 18 years of service to St. Michael's
- Substantial update of the employee handbook;
- Established clear expectations of confidentiality in working with employment matters (all members of the P&A Committee have signed confidentiality agreements);
- Creating and implementing a staff feedback process that includes dedicated staff liaisons; and
- Implementation and kick-off of employee review process.

The P&A Committee thanks the diligent, thoughtful, and purposeful work of St. Michael's pastoral and lay staff during 2017. The following individuals who were on St. Michael's staff during part or all of 2017: (in alphabetical order):

Tom Bartsch	Cory Bock	Lois Cooper
Pastor Ali Ferin	Pastor Brad Froslee	Fernando Garcia
Marta Goldenman	Patrick Gregg	Mary Gail Hadley
Owen Hamer	Lyle Jacobson	Lisa Koland
Sam Koland	Megan Long	Mary Nosek
Charlie Preis	Molly Raben	Jill Schendel
Brian Thompson	Karen Wilkerson	

We would like to thank the P&A committee members: **Jane Doyle, Dan Gregg, Chuck Hanson, Ruth Petersen, and Ray Singleton**. Each of these individuals brings a set of skills, knowledge and experience that has been critical to the success of the P&A Committee. We thank them for their dedication and time. We also thank **Pastor Brad Froslee and Pastor Ali Ferin** for their leadership.

The P&A Committee will be working with Pastors Froslee and Ferin to establish goals for 2018 in the coming weeks, including continuing to roll-out a formal employee review process and further defining administrative policies and procedures.

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Bales and Lenie Hermanson

## **2017 Report of the Property Committee**

Overall, our property committee and its talented volunteers achieved many objectives during 2017. Our goal is to utilize our built environment in support of our church's mission. These efforts included many daily and weekly mundane tasks, that no one will hopefully notice, to significant efforts that required the by-in of the congregation. Here are a few items worth highlighting:

- Making our worship space more accessible. Several projects were undertaken this year to help ensure that physical obstacles do not prohibit members and guest from fully engaging in worship. First, thanks to some gracious donors, we were able to undertake two projects. The first one was installing four automatic door openers, two at our main sanctuary doors and two at the doors facing the parking lot. The second project was a ramp to our alter in the sanctuary.
- Forming a Green Team. Our property committee created a focus group of individuals tasked with recommending energy saving improvements to the church. As expressed by our congregation in various forums, our congregation has a goal of lessening our environmental footprint from our operational activities. The first task of this Green Team was to review the energy audit report and make recommendations on efforts we could take. We implemented several energy saving recommendations. The most visible effort resulted in a special congregational meeting on August 6, where the congregation approved authorizing a loan for the purpose of LED lighting upgrades, bulbs, and ballasts in the education and office wings. This initial investment will reduce our energy consumption each year and ultimately pay for themselves.
- Addressing water infiltration issues. One of the first rules of dealing with water, is to keep it away from the building. You may have noticed the new downspouts that were added along with extensions to move roof runoff away from the foundation. Our Northern Voices partners noticed a musty smell in one of the offices, that also existed in our education storage room. A special team of Brian Thompson, Owen Hamer and Sam Koland did wonders in striping down the room solid surfaces and rebuilding wonderful spaces.

There were also a few items that we planned to execute this year, but ultimately decided to push these activities out. These items included: reroofing the courtyard room, replacing the boiler, and plastering/painting the sanctuary. We have several bids for reroofing the courtyard room and are ready to start this work with approval in 2018.

In January of 2017, the congregation authorized the Council to replace the boiler for our sanctuary, office and classroom space. Our property team drafted a request for proposal and sent it to several well qualified mechanical engineers. Of four engineers solicited, only one chose to bid. Unfortunately, their bid would have consumed up to ½ of our budgeted amount. Following this disappointment, we contacted a mechanical contractor and their in-house engineer. By late October, we received their bid for consideration. At this time, the property committee recommended that we wait until spring of 2018 to commence this work, and are soliciting additional proposals. The replacements will give us an increase in energy efficiency.

We had also planned to have the sanctuary wall plaster touched up and the walls painted. After spending time figuring out the details, it was determined that the costs would exceed our allocated budget. Accordingly, we advised the Council that we would like to address this work in 2019.

Thanks to everyone who commits their time and talents to the maintenance, safekeeping and physical improvements of our home. Many of you have spent countless hours in services. Key among those contributing their talents are the following members: Barry Eliason, Burle Gengenbach, Dave Drache, Doug Schumacher, Jim Meyerhoff, Lyle Jacobson, Nancy Suter, Ron Kuhn. George Beebe, Joel Bergstrom and Dennis Skovsted.

Respectfully submitted:

**Neal Chapman, Committee Chair**

**Brad Koland, Council Member**

## **Social Ministry 2017 Annual Report**

This year the Social Ministry Committee proposed an updated description of the Social Ministry Committee in St. Michael's Constitution. The proposed description of the Social Ministry Committee reads as follows in Chapter 13, Section C13.05.02.: "There shall be a Social Ministry Committee. This committee will identify needs in our community and propose programs and opportunities to extend Christian compassion to those in need of aid and support. It will provide opportunities for learning and advocacy related to social issues. It will foster relationships with community partners. It will enlist as many members of the congregation as possible. At least one Congregation Council member will serve on this committee."

Our committee met every other month. Members of the Social Ministry Committee included: Joe Nosek, Kathy Callinan, Sue Thompson, Lornell Brand, Cathy Vanous, Lisa Koland, Bettie Syverud, Mary Plath. Dave Yarusso and Erica Crouch served as the council representatives on the committee, and Ali Ferin chaired the committee.

Our congregation supported our community in 2017 through these special events:

- January: Rezek Welcome Home Shower
- April/May: Rezek House Yard Clean Up
- April-June: Habitat for Humanity Build
- March: MN March Food Share Drive for Keystone Food Shelf
- May: Diaper Drive for Naomi House residents
- August/September: Back to School Drive and God's Work Our Hands Day
- October/November: Winter Clothing Drive
- December: Christmas Gift Drive

Additionally, we continued to support the community through our ongoing social ministry activities in 2017. These activities included:

- Making sandwiches and delivering them to the Union Gospel Mission every month
- Organizing medical supplies for Global Health Ministries twice a month
- Making quilts and providing them to families and veterans twice a month
- Rolling bandages for Global Health Ministries twice a month
- Hosting dinners for Women Achieving New Directions (WAND) program participants quarterly
- Serving meals at Loaves and Fishes every other month
- Serving meals at Rezek House every month
- Delivering bread from Panera to Keystone Roseville Food Shelf or Union Gospel Mission
- Selling Fair Trade Products with proceeds going to our partner congregation in Cimiento, Guatemala

An exciting addition to our Social Ministry Activities this year included hosting Keystone's mobile food truck – a food shelf on wheels. The mobile food truck parks at St. Michael's every month and distributes food to families in our neighborhood. This ministry will continue in 2018, so we invite you to sign up to volunteer to help welcome guests and keep track of visitors!

We again had great success hosting the "God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday in September, with volunteers supporting various projects including building dressers and bookshelves for Habitat for Humanity, working at Rezek House, making sandwiches, bandage rolling, and making reusable bags for Keystone.

We also continued our work in helping build affordable housing with Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity through our partnership with the Holy Hammers consortium of congregations who collectively built a new home in Blaine. St. Michael's donated \$11,500 toward the building expenses. From St. Michaels, 65 volunteers donated over 430 hours of construction labor and provided lunch and snacks for construction workers on 5 days of the project. The project work extended from April to June and the home was occupied by the new homebuyers in early fall. The dedication will be held in spring 2018 upon completion of the last Habitat section of the development.

Respectfully submitted,

Erica Crouch, on behalf of the Committee

## Stewardship Committee 2017 Annual Report



**Website Facelift:** This year we took our website to the next level, providing one more meaningful way to connect with our community. Check us out at [www.stmichaelselca.com](http://www.stmichaelselca.com) !

**Offering Envelopes:** Our committee also tackled an assessment of our offering envelope options. As a result, 2018 offering envelopes will be mailed out quarterly, allowing us to print and mail only what we use, and to more effectively reach members who may have moved, or are away seasonally. Additionally, research shows that multiple mailings not only saves money, but results in an increase of overall giving.

**Joy of Giving:** This was the theme for this year's Stewardship drive, focusing on *why we give*, and showing more clearly how our financial gifts are used to carry out our mission.

### **Our 2017 Stewardship Team:**

- \* Carol Kriegler represented this team as a Council member. As always, her design expertise combined with her amazing creativity allowed us to produce a much-improved website experience as well as a fun and meaningful *Joy of Giving* booklet.
- \* Howard Coleman provided thoughtful input to this year's content and he once again provided leadership for the collation and mailing efforts.
- \* Kathy Enzler helped with website update, offering envelope cost/benefit analysis, and content for annual Stewardship drive.
- \* Pastors Ali Ferin and Brad Froslee provided great leadership to our team all year long.
- \* Mary Gail Hadley and Marta Goldenman provided support, input & editing skills.

*NOTE: Many people contributed photos for our Joy of Cooking booklet! Thank you.  
Please keep taking photos of church events and pass them along to the office;  
we love being able to draw from a variety of photos to help communicate our St. Michael's story.*

For 2018, 135 pledges came in as of 1/8/2018 versus 150 pledges in 2017. Our 2018 pledges totaled \$ 11,321.98 per week or \$588,742.90 per year, an increase of \$10,439.90 from 2017.

58 pledges increased by a total of \$ 30,977.50  
22 pledges had no change  
44 pledges decreased by a total of \$6,304.16  
11 new pledges came in totaling \$ 46,419.56  
25 pledges ended or are yet to be recorded, totaling \$ 48,660.50

Thank you, members! We look forward to another year of *Joyful Giving*.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kathy Enzler on behalf of the 2017 Stewardship Committee

Over the years, St. Michael's has provided a bold witness of God's love to those in our community and around the world. Your faithful stewardship in 2017 continued our history of generosity and brought to life our 2018 Stewardship theme: **The Joy of Giving!** Our congregation knows full well how generosity can cultivate joy for both the giver and the receiver.

The following reflects the various ministries that our congregation has supported in the past year, meeting the needs of a hungry and hurting world, all to the Glory of God.

**We gave \$134,000** to care for people and the larger church through the ministries and agencies of the St. Paul Area Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

**We gave \$20,300** from the Disaster Relief Fund to provide aid for natural disasters such as Hurricane Harvey, Hurricane Maria, Hurricane Irma, flooding in the Carolinas, and in support of Lutheran World Relief, Bread for the World, and Lutheran Mideast Development.

**We gave \$1,500** to the St. Paul Council of Churches that helped provided funding for their work in ministries that address poverty such as Project Home, and interfaith dialogue such as Interfaith Youth Connection, and SPIN Interfaith Network.

**We gave \$5,000** to Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota to support the important ministries they provide that touch people's lives in time of need such as services for refugees, financial counseling, adoption services, foster care, behavioral health services, etc.

**We gave \$12,500** to Holy Hammers, a consortium of churches, which, through Habitat for Humanity, built a home in St. Paul. St. Michael's members donated hundreds of volunteer hours to build the home for an immigrant family from Somalia.

**We gave \$4,800.00** to Rezek House, a transitional youth shelter in St. Paul. St. Michael's also provided volunteer hours in yard clean up, apartment cleaning and fixing, and provided monthly community meals.

**We gave \$800** to the Roseville Area Meals on Wheels program

**We gave \$3,000** to support church starts in the St. Paul Area Synod

**We gave \$300** to the Roseville Area Angel Fund that supports crisis assistance to our community through Keystone Social Services

**We gave \$6,995** in groceries and donations to Keystone, the local food shelf, including hundreds of pounds of rescued re-packaged bread from Panera bakery

**We gave \$500** to the 2017 Overcoming Racism Conference at Metropolitan State University

**We gave \$360** to World Vision and \$300 to the Tree Trust from our youngest members of the church who gave through the Sunday School Offering

**We gave \$1,000** to Lutheran Campus Ministry raised by the annual Bazaar

**We gave \$2,060** to buy food for the Loaves and Fishes meal which served over 1,000 people a hot, nutritious meal

**We gave \$2,875** to World Hunger to help feed hungry people through the ELCA World Hunger appeal

**We gave \$4,812** from the Pastor's Discretionary Fund and special gift fund which was used to help people struggling with a variety of needs such as rental assistance

*Continued on next page*

**We gave \$1,200** to Global Health Ministries and hundreds of hours of volunteer work to send medical supplies to those in need around the globe

**We gave \$180** for nutritional supplies to an orphanage in Jamaica where a group from St. Michael's traveled for a week of service

**We gave \$2,000** to support the ministry of Lake Wapogasset Lutheran Bible Camps

**We gave \$500** to provide support for our partner congregation in Cimiento, Guatemala

**We gave \$1,000** to build dressers on God's Work Our Hands Day for Bridging, a local furniture bank where low-income families transitioning out of homelessness can "shop" for furniture and household goods.

**We gave \$850** in new microloans through Kiva to help individuals around the world build businesses that will help support their families and communities. To date, St. Michael's has given \$7,850 in microloans

**We gave \$627** of bread and supplies to make over 4,000 sandwiches to the Union Gospel Mission to be distributed to clients and day workers. A St. Michael's member generously donates the meat for the sandwiches each month!

**We gave** thousands of dollars in supplies, gifts, and gift cards for collection drives such as the School Supply Drive, the Diaper Drive, the Winter Clothing Drive, the Christmas Gift Drive and the Rezek Welcome Home Shower

**We sent** 18 senior high youth and 5 adults on a mission trip to Rocky Boy Reservation in Montana. The youth experienced life on the reservation, served in a school day program, completed yard and building work for community and the Lutheran Church on the reservation, and explored the beauty and history of Montana. A generous member of St. Michael's donated funds to cover \$9,180 of trip expenses!

**We provided** dozens of quilts created by members of the congregation to Veterans' Administration facilities and sent rolled bandages and medical supplies around the world through volunteer efforts at Global Health Ministries

**We welcomed** into our church home Northern Voices School for Deaf Children and dozens other groups to host ACA meetings, concerts, banquets, and educational programs to foster peace and justice

We give thanks to your generous and faithful stewardship in 2016! We gave over \$216,639 to make our compassion tangible and show love to our neighbors in need. May we continue our commitment to serve others, living out the joy that comes from giving!

With deep gratitude,  
Pastor Brad & Pastor Ali



## **2017 Youth Committee Report**

The dynamic youth program at St. Michael's exists because of the extensive support from the entire community, and I wanted to honor all who have helped:

**Youth:** The youth program builds on the questions and interests you bring to it, and we thank you for your participation and energy. It's exciting to see you become more involved in the life and leadership of the church.

**Parents:** While your children are the ones participating in the activities, you are also involved (whether it's chaperoning, providing snacks, or just getting them to church). But without you and your decision to make the youth program at St. Michael's a priority, the effort wouldn't exist. Your lives are busy - thank you for making space for this program.

**Volunteers and donors:** It truly takes a village. Without those who donate their time and/or their funding, several youth activities would not have happened this past year. A special thank you to Donna Carlson and Mike Krachmer for agreeing to be part of the youth committee.

**Marta and Brian:** You both have given many more hours than what you likely expect to the youth program - and it shows. Thank you for your years of dedication and partnership. Having two people so dedicated to the growth of our children is a blessing.

**Brad and Ali:** The not-quite-a-year-old team of Pastors Brad and Ali has given our youth a pair of leaders who are excited to work with them in their faith journey. For the many events, the many confirmation classes, and the many hours spent together, thank you.

The largest impact to the youth program is the departure of Marta Goldenman. After 18 years in this capacity, Marta decided in late 2017 to leave the position. The youth - from kindergarten to high school - helped to honor her years of work with a celebration on December 10.

Pastors Brad and Ali are working with Interserv, an interim youth ministry organization, to find a solution that meets the goals of the youth and education programs, yet in line with budget and the church's mission and vision. The current plan is to bring a person on for 30 hours per week to provide youth and education programming, and assist our committees and pastors in looking holistically at the children, youth, and family position description. We hope to begin the hiring process for a permanent hire in spring/summer of 2018.

Our youth have wonderful opportunities for development and exploration of their faith and themselves both in and beyond our church. With new leadership and a new solution on the horizon, I look forward to seeing what the next year brings.

Respectfully submitted,  
Peter Breuch Youth Committee Council Representative

## **2016-17 Annual Report**

### **Luther Crest Bible Camp Association**

People of the Luther Crest Bible Camp Association, you are a part of a great network of believers, engaged in making certain that Christ is known in our communities and around the world. As we learned in 2017, the Holy Spirit is the LIVING WATER that continues to flow in and through us for the good work we do in the name of Christ! Luther Crest is a mission of Christ in West Central Minnesota. Luther Crest is guided by a Philosophy of being, Passionate, Authentic and Accommodating in all that we do. Luther Crest engages in a vision of for everyone to know the love of Christ. Luther Crest is purposeful in strengthening the faith of all people, equipping the with spiritual armor, and inspiring each person with new courage, and living as stewards in God's creation and community. Luther Crest mission we share with you today is to inspire faith, stewardship and community in God's Creation. Through our shared values including Faith Formation, Community and Acceptance we build relationships for all ages. We are thankful for all of the support through your prayers, gifts, time spent and encouragement! As we move forward into the coming year, be ready and willing as you are invited to build a deeper relationship with Luther Crest.

God's Peace to you!

David Holtz, Executive Director

Greg Tvrdik, Board President

### **Highlights from 2016-17**

- ◆ 1210 Guests On Site
- ◆ 1270 Guests Off Site Day Camps
- ◆ 27 Off Site Day Camp Locations
- ◆ New Dining Hall—Chapel—Cabins—Green Space
- ◆ 5407 people worshiped at Calvary at the Lake Summer 2017
- ◆ Successful Audit for 2016-17 Financials
- ◆ Over 60 summer staff led our summer ministries—highest in our history
- ◆ Welcomed 4 new year round staff to Luther Crest
- ◆ Board and Staff engaged in strategy planning and Strength Finders Training
- ◆ Supplied ministry support to Pilgrim Point Camp
- ◆ Closed on two pieces of land adjacent to our Lake Shore, MN property
- ◆ Successful special event planning at the Golf Scramble, Holiday Bake Sale and Marketplace



# Lake Wapogasset Lutheran Bible Camp, Inc.

Wapo • Ox Lake • Luther Dell • Wilderness Canoe Base  
738 Hickory Point Lane Amery WI 54001 715.268.8434 campwapo.org

## Congregational Report 2017

**Thank you for being an Association Member Church!** We cherish our role as an extension of the ministry that happens in your congregation. We are thankful for your partnership and support in 2017, and look forward to ministry opportunities in the coming year.

"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever." 1 Chron 16:34. God is good, and we have many reasons to be grateful. This past year was full of blessings and good challenges.

### With grateful hearts, we lift up:

- **Board of Directors** Our Board now has a full year of new governance under their belts. This new format has allowed our organization to make many decisions from a strong position. We thank our board and committee members for their commitment to this ministry.
- **Financial Gifts** We've had a very strong financial gift year. We are grateful for people who believe in this ministry, and who feel called to support our operating costs, and campership programs.
- **New Staff** We welcomed the following people to our team in 2017. Becky Martin, Nate Berkas, James Dudgeon, Lindsey Evenson, Kari Anderson, and Micaella Petrich. We are proud of our staff team, and the ways they diligently tend to and care for this ministry.
- **Summer Campers** Our sites were bursting with so many campers! We had so much fun as we experienced a week centered around our "Fearless" theme. We are grateful for a safe summer that welcomed around 6,000 youth and family campers at Ox Lake, Wilderness Canoe Base and Wapo.
- **Our Guests** Folks who come to Memorial Day pancakes, boat-in worship, dinner theaters, retreats, the Giant Paddle, Wapo golf tournament, and many more events. We couldn't do it without you! Thanks for coming to camp and for all of the ways you uplift and support this ministry.
- **A New Cabin** We built a new cabin at Ox Lake. It is a beautiful space with an amazing view! We are excitedly planning for more infrastructure work and improvements at this growing site.
- **Additional Canoes** were purchased at Wilderness this year, in order to accommodate all of our summer guests.

### We look ahead with eager anticipation and a sure sense of hope

- We have placed our Luther Dell site on the market. Please join us in prayer as we seek a buyer who will make good use of that beautiful site.
- Our theme for the 2018 summer season is "Together, Created for Community". Hebrews 10:24 instructs us to "consider how to spur one another on toward love and good deeds". We are excited for the conversations that will occur around this theme. The world will benefit if we heed this advice!
- Sharon Olson, who has worked in our accounting office for over 27 years, will be retiring in March, 2018. We are excited for Sharon as she moves into this exciting stage in her life, but we will miss her diligence and expertise.



We consider it a joy and privilege to walk alongside people of all ages who come away to camp in order to see, hear and experience stories of Jesus and fellowship with one another. **We hope to see you at one of our places this year!**





## Bishop Lull's Annual Report to Congregations

January 2018

*Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.' Matthew 9:35-38*

Dear Partners in Ministry,

On Christmas Eve more than 400 persons gathered for worship at Luther Seminary. All belong to the newly launched African National Ministry mission start, led by Pastor Gilo Agwa, and co-sponsored with the Presbytery of the Twin Cities, our Presbyterian counterparts. These women, men, and children are Anuak immigrants, who have moved to Minnesota to flee the tribal violence directed against them in Ethiopia and South Sudan. In their homeland they were members of the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus, which shares a Lutheran and Reformed identity. Here, they are part of one of our newest mission starts as a synod. Their joyous celebration of Christ's birth reflects the new hope that God raises up for people again and again across the globe.



2017 was a year for remembering and highlighting our common witness with other Christians. There were many poignant observances of the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation. In congregations and schools, Martin Luther emerged as a lively and contemporary witness to the centrality of grace in our lives of faith and the call to recognize God's active presence in our world today. The Saint Paul Area Synod joined the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis and the Minneapolis Area Synod to inaugurate this observance with a Service of Common Prayer on January 22nd. This quincentenary concludes with a similar service of Evening Prayer at the Cathedral of St. Paul on Sunday, January 21, 2018 at 7:00 pm. In between these two services there have been lectures and art exhibits, renewed interest in the writings of Luther, and much good music.

God continues to call us into a plentiful harvest. This past year, five persons were ordained as pastors and one new deacon was consecrated in this synod. They include Pastor Peter Christ, senior pastor at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Roseville; Pastor Wendy Steger, associate pastor at Shepherd of the Valley in Apple Valley; Pastor Erik Doughty, chaplain at Southview Acres Senior Residence and St. Paul-Reformation Lutheran Church in Saint Paul; Pastor Janet Karvonen-Montgomery, associate pastor at Incarnation Lutheran Church in Shoreview; and Pastor Maggie Novak, pastor at Bethesda in Inver Grove Heights. Deacon Abby Matter was consecrated and serves at Roseville Lutheran Church in Roseville.

Much of the synod staff's time is invested in the vocational formation of candidates, who desire to serve the church as pastors or deacons. In 2017 there were 37 candidates in the Saint Paul Area Synod. In addition, the synod works with call committees during times of pastoral transition. This includes mentoring the teams that create the Mission Site Profile for the congregation, orienting and supporting the call committee with names of

prospective candidates for the vacancy, and overseeing the work and pool of interim pastors who serve in times of transition. During 2017, 19 call processes were completed with 25-30 vacancies at any given time.

During 2017 three communities of faith completed a time of discernment with the synod and reached the decision to close. This is some of the most serious work we do as a synod for such a decision is not an inconsequential matter for carrying forward God's call for us to be about God's harvest. Services of Holy Closure were held for Pueblo de Fe (a mission start) on July 23; for North Emanuel in Saint Paul (a 126 -year old congregation) on September 17; and for Light of the World in Lakeville (a 10 -year old congregation) on October 14. Members, as well as financial legacies, from these faith communities continue to enrich other congregations within this synod. In a sense, the Spirit has replanted those laborers into other contexts for witness and service.

Renewing congregations and reequipping leaders (rostered and lay) remain the key programmatic priorities in our synod budget. In 2017, eight congregations participated in the structured program known as A Year of Renewal. They include Family of Christ, Lakeville; Luther Memorial, South Saint Paul; Holy Cross, Oakdale; Saint Anthony Park, Saint Paul; St. Stephen the Martyr, White Bear Lake; Atonement, New Brighton; Lakeville, Maplewood; and Zion, Cottage Grove.

In addition, many congregations worked with members of the synod staff on shared ministry endeavors, vitality surveys, racial justice projects and skill-building for carrying the good news of Jesus into the communities in which we live and work. In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus assures the disciples that God's harvest is plentiful. Then as now, the task for disciples is often that of preparing to be a faithful laborer in God's work.

On a personal note, it was a privilege for me to represent this synod at the consecration and installation of Bishop Blaston Gaville as the new bishop of the Iringa Diocese in the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania in June. Like our sisters and brothers in our other companion synod in Guatemala, the testimony of Christians in these global setting is inspiring and clear. From mountain villages to city churches, I was reminded that God is in charge and that the life of faith brings joy and hope amid the challenges of daily life.

For the staff of the synod, 2017 has been a year of continuity. What we are able to do together as a synod of 112 congregations and mission starts is enhanced and amplified by the talent of those who serve as your synod staff. They include Michael Gold, office assistant; Alicia Rodriguez, office manager; Chloe Ahlf, communications coordinator; Greg Triplett, financial administrator; Joe Lees, assistant to the bishop for vital congregations, vital partnerships; Justin Grimm, director for evangelical mission and assistant to the bishop for next generation ministries; Krista Lind, assistant to the bishop for vocational formation; Anna Marsh, executive assistant to the bishop; Peter Harrits, director of Bega Kwa Bega and assistant to the bishop; and Tom Jenkins, stewardship coordinator (part-time). I know you join me in thanking them for all they do.

Always at year's end it is a gift and a joy to look back at all that God has accomplished in and through us. I am grateful for your prayers and your confidence in our common work.

Yours in God's service –



Bishop Patricia Lull

# GUSTAVUS

GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS COLLEGE

## • ANNUAL REPORT FROM GUSTAVUS CHURCH RELATIONS — DECEMBER 2017 •

Greetings to you from your partners in ministry at Gustavus Adolphus College! The College community has been looking forward, dreaming big and thinking strategically. In alignment with our mission and core values, we are guided by a bold vision: *Gustavus equips students to lead purposeful lives and to act on the great challenges of our time through an innovative liberal arts education of recognized excellence.*

As our mission partner, you can contribute to the way we live into this vision. The network of institutions and relationships which holds our Lutheran congregations, synods, camps, colleges, seminaries, and social agencies together plays a vital role in nourishing and advancing our collective and important contribution to the world. We all make a greater impact because of this diverse network to which we belong.

Many years ago Gustavus established the Gustavus Adolphus College Association of Congregations as way of living our Lutheran identity and to create a tangible structure through which we might serve the wider Lutheran church. The Gustavus Association of Congregations network of congregations continues to thrive, energized by the John D. and Ruth Hogenson-Rutford Endowment for Church Relations at Gustavus.

As you gather for congregation annual meetings and synod assemblies, we hope you are inspired by the reminder of the many others who walk along side you in mission. We are blessed to be able to share numerous resources with your congregation. Thank you to the many of you who have made good use of our church and college ministry partnership.

### MARK YOUR 2018 CALENDARS AND JOIN US FOR THESE SPECIAL EVENTS:

- **STEP UP — MARCH 8, 2018**, a leadership development resource for high school youth. Students will be introduced to college level concepts of leadership that will help them develop a stronger personal plan for continuing to grow as a leader. For more information: [www.gustavus.edu/churchrelations/stepup](http://www.gustavus.edu/churchrelations/stepup)
- **Annual Gustavus Faith Conference**  
**and Association of Congregations Business Meeting Luncheon — APRIL 21, 2018**  
The theme for the 2018 conference is “*Doubt & Difference: Finding Faith through Authentic Engagement.*” Dr. Jacqueline A. Bussie, Professor of Religion and Director of the Forum on Faith and Life at Concordia College is the featured speaker. The Annual Business Meeting of Gustavus Adolphus College Association of Congregations will take place during the luncheon meeting. For more information: [www.gustavus.edu/faithconference](http://www.gustavus.edu/faithconference)
- **MAYDAY! Peace Conference—MAY 2, 2018** “*Mighty Be Our Powers: Gender, Justice, and Peacebuilding*” with featured speaker Nobel Peace Prize winner Leymah Gbowee.
- **The Gustavus Academy for Faith, Science, and Ethics — JULY 14-30, 2018**, an exciting resource for high school youth interested in exploring creative alliances between faith and science. The theme for the 2018 Academy is “*Land and Identity: How our Food and Microbiomes Change Who We Are.*” For more information and to nominate a high school student: [www.gustavus.edu/chaplain/academy](http://www.gustavus.edu/chaplain/academy)
- **Annual Nobel Conference®—OCTOBER 2-3, 2018** “*Living Soil: A Universe Underfoot*”
- **Christmas in Christ Chapel—NOVEMBER 30 – DECEMBER 2, 2018**

For more information about these events and the many resources we offer congregations, please contact the Office of Church Relations or visit us on-line at: [www.gustavus.edu/churchrelations](http://www.gustavus.edu/churchrelations). Thank you for your partnership and prayers!

Rev. Grady St. Dennis  
College Chaplain/Director of Church Relations

### MAKE YOUR LIFE COUNT

---

Office of Church Relations | DIRECT 507-933-7001 | FAX 507-933-6337 | [church-relations@gustavus.edu](mailto:church-relations@gustavus.edu)  
800 West College Avenue | St. Peter, Minnesota 56082-1498 | 507-933-8000 | [gustavus.edu](http://gustavus.edu)

## **Council Approval of Membership Changes for Calendar Year 2017**

### **Removal from Membership**

#### **Deaths in 2017**

Dorothy Hansen	John Leaders
Laurene Boerem	Louise Johnson
Marjorie Colbert	Keith Johnson
Richard Maki	Margaret Bertelsen

**Total Removed by death: 8**

#### **Removed from Membership (transfer to another congregation)**

Walter Schmidt	Sara Hjelmeland
Shelley Bilotta	Molly Hjelmeland
Gabrielle Bilotta	Simon Hjelmeland
Patricia Fasching	Jonathan Yee
Myron Bjornstad	Rachel Yee
Stacy Bjornstad	Jasmine Yee
Kristopher Hjelmeland	Brandon Yee
Sara Hjelmeland	Caleb Yee

**Total Removed by Transfer: 16**

#### **Reversed duplicate removal from Membership from 2016**

Melinda Rostal	Pamela Rostal
William Rostal	Scott Rostal

**Total adjustment to total: + 4**

**Total removal from Membership: 20**

### **Additions in Membership**

#### **Baptisms in 2017**

Quinn Brawley	Matthew Crouch
Carson Eickelberg	Annika Crouch
Reegan Cairl	

**Total members received in baptism: 5**

#### **New Members in 2017**

Brad Froslee	Jon Strupp
Bill O'Connor	Ginger Fairchild
Torin Froslee	Teagan Fairchild
Lois Ecklund	John Fairchild-Ehm
Norman Ecklund	Audrey Fairchild-Ehm
Brian Ingvaldstad	Jeremy Stahl
Carolyn Ingvaldstad	Kate Stahl
Victor Ingvaldstad	Natalia Stahl
Grant Ingvaldstad	Carter Stahl
Ronald Dishneau	
Colleen Dishneau	

**Total members received: 20**

**Total New Members in 2017: 25**

#### **Membership Adjustment**

**Change in membership in 2017: + 5**

**St. Michael's Nominating Committee  
Report to the Congregation and Nominees for 2018**

**Church Council**

***Nominated to serve a three-year term:***

Brian Cihacek  
Erica Crouch  
Lenie Hermanson  
Mary Nosek

***Nominated to serve a one-year term:***

Dan Gregg  
Bettie Syverud

**Congregational Voting Members to Synod Assembly**

***Nominated to attend Synod Conference Assembly (February 24) at St. Michael's and Synod Assembly  
May 18-19 at St. Andrew's in Mahtomedi***

Kim Chapman (lay female voting member)  
Dennis Skovsted (lay male voting member)

**Delegates to Gustavus Adolphus College Association of Congregations**

***Nominated to serve as delegates to the annual meeting at Gustavus on Saturday, April 21***

Ellie Moran  
Barb Yarusso

Respectfully submitted by the Nominating Committee,  
Doug Schumacher  
Hal Tiffany  
Dave Yarusso