







# MISSION STATEMENT

## ***LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT***

***The mission of the Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit is to  
Live in Christ***

***Celebrate Christ***

***Help others to know Christ***

***Serve others as Christ served.***

### **CHURCH COUNCIL - 2017**

Terms end in January of the year indicated.

|                              |                    |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Daaron Dohler, President     | (Term ending 2018) |
| Luther Grafe, Vice President | (Term ending 2018) |
| Jan Schwanke, Secretary      | (Term ending 2018) |
| Denise Friedrich, Treasurer  |                    |
| Kari Davenport               | (Term ending 2019) |
| Kymm Brown                   | (Term ending 2019) |
| Dave Schroetter              | (Term ending 2020) |
| Larry Brady                  | (Term ending 2020) |
| Donna Williams               | (Term ending 2020) |
| Carol Duprey                 | (Term ending 2020) |
| Carol Greenhut               | (Term ending 2019) |
| Brittany Larson              | (Term ending 2019) |
| Mary Lou Gilliam             | (Term ending 2018) |

# **2018 Annual Congregational Meeting**

## **Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit**

### **AGENDA**

**Sunday, January 21, 2018**

- |     |  |   |
|-----|--|---|
| 1.  | Call to Order  | Daaron Dohler   |
| 2.  | Opening Devotions  | Pastor Linstrom   |
| 3.  | Adoption of Agenda (pages 4-5)   |   |
| 4.  | Acceptance of Minutes (pages 6-7)<br>January 22, 2017  |   |
| 5.  | Report of the Nominating Committee (page 8) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Appointment of Tellers</li><li>b. Introduction of Ballot</li><li>c. Nominations from the Floor</li><li>d. Vote</li></ul>  |   |
| 6.  | Pastor's Report (pages 9-10)   | Pastor Linstrom   |
| 8.  | President's Report (page 11)   | Daaron Dohler   |
| 9.  | Treasurer's Report (pages 12-13, 38-39)<br>Building Fund Report (pages 14-15)  | Denise Friedrich<br>Carol Greenhut  |
| 10. | Council Committee Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Christian Education (pages 16-17)</li><li>b. Church Growth (page 18)</li><li>c. Stewardship (page 19)</li><li>d. Long Range Planning (page 20)</li><li>e. Personnel (page 21)</li><li>f. Worship and Music (pages 22-23)</li><li>g. Human Needs (pages 24-26)</li><li>h. Property (page 27)</li><li>i. Finance (page 28)</li><li>j. CUFF (page 29)</li><li>k. Youth (pages 30-31)</li></ul> | Kari Davenport<br>Jan Schwanke<br>Donna Williams<br>Larry Brady<br>Luther Grafe<br>Carol Duprey<br>Mary Lou Gilliam<br>Dave Schroetter<br>Carol Greenhut<br>Kymm Brown<br>Brittany Larson |

- |   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| 11. Endowment (page 32-33)                            | Ken Rosko       |
| 12. Columbarium (page 34)                             | Nila Bilstad    |
| 13. WELCA Report (page 35)                            | Lynn Kasche     |
| 14. MOST Report (page 36)                             | Daaron Dohler   |
| 15. ExPOS (page 37)                                   | Tom Weglarz     |
| 16. 2018 Budget (page 38)                             | Larry Brady     |
| 17. Old Business                                      |                 |
| 18. New Business<br>Resolution on Internship (page 5) |                 |
| 19. Declaration of Election Results                   |                 |
| 20. Recognition of Council Members                    | Pastor Linstrom |
| 21. Adjournment                                       |                 |

## **RESOLUTION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE INTERSHIP PROGRAM**

The congregation council of the Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit moves that the congregation commit itself to participation in the internship program of our Evangelical Lutheran Church in America pastoral leadership program. Funding for support of this participation will be provided from the Endowment Fund and Operating Budget of the Congregation. The shared funding will be divided such that the congregation provides one quarter of the funds and Endowment Fund the balance as approved by the Endowment Committee.

*The availability of interns varies from year to year which means that our willingness to participate does not necessarily guarantee the assignment of an intern to our congregation.*

***Minutes of the 2017 Annual Congregational Meeting  
Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit  
(Including Reports from 2016)***

***Sunday, January 22, 2017***

1. **Call to Order:** President Brittany Larson called the meeting to order at 12 noon. A quorum was present. Devotions were led by Pastor Linstrom.
2. **Adoption of Agenda:** Fred Biederman moved that the agenda be adopted as presented. Wayne Giampietro seconded the motion, and the motion was passed on a voice vote.
3. **Acceptance of Minutes:** President Brittany Larson asked for a review of the January 24, 2016, Annual Meeting minutes. Wayne Giampietro moved and Larry Brady seconded that the minutes be approved as published. Motion passed.
4. **Report of the Nominating Committee:** Daaron Dohler presented nominees for Church Council on behalf of the nominating committee. Proposed were Larry Brady, Carol Duprey, Dave Schroetter, and Donna Williams. There being no additional nominations from the floor, Al Edwards moved, and Luther Grafe seconded, that nominations be closed and that the slate be adopted as presented. Motion passed by voice vote.
5. **Pastor's Report:** Members were directed to the Annual Report. Pr. Tim reported that there may be changes in staffing upcoming as our church's needs are assessed.
6. **President's Report:** Brittany directed members to the Annual Report.
7. **Treasurer's Report:** Denise Friedrich referred members to the Operating Statement and data in the annual report. Total operating expenses for 2016 were \$506,156, total income \$722, 238. Our balance was aided greatly by paying only one pastor from July through mid-November.
8. **Building Fund Report:** Carol Greenhut referred members to the published Building Fund Report. Dave Schroetter moved to accept the report, and Luther Grafe seconded, motion passed.
9. **Council Committee Reports:** Committee reports were noted as published in the report. Congregants were given the opportunity to ask questions or to comment. Wayne Giampietro moved, and Kymm Brown seconded, to accept the Council Committee Reports. Motion passed.
10. **Endowment Fund:** Ken Rosko moved that Endowment report be accepted as printed. The fund earned 7.8 % in the last year. Second by Al Edwards, motion passed.
11. **Columbarium Report:** Nancy Fencil moved that the report be accepted as printed. Wayne Giampietro seconded, motion passed

12. **WELCA Report:** Members were referred to the annual reports for WELCA, MOST, and ExPOS. Ron Stocks moved, and Wayne Giampietro seconded, that all 3 reports be accepted as printed. Motion passed.

13. **MOST Report**

14. **ExPOS Report**

15. **2017 Budget.** Council has moved for approval of the 2017 budget, Ken Rosko seconded, motion passed.

16. **Old Business:** None at this time

17. **New Business:**

**Internship Program** -Luther Grafe presented a resolution from Council to participate in the internship program. Second by Wayne Giampietro, motion passed.

18. **Declaration of Election Results:** The election was approved by voice vote at the beginning of the meeting. Newly-elected Council members are Larry Brady, Carol Duprey, Donna Williams, and Dave Schroetter. All were elected to three –year terms.

19. **Recognition of Retiring Council Members and Counters:** Kim McElhinny was thanked in absentia for serving on Council. Certificates were presented to Bill Neumann, Jean Gates, Ken & Sue Rosko, and Wayne & Mary Giampietro for many years of counting the offering after Sunday services.

20. **Adjournment:** The motion to adjourn was made by Al Edwards and seconded by Wayne Giampietro. Motion passed. The Congregation Meeting was adjourned at 12:18 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Schwanke, Secretary, Congregation Council

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

*The following individuals have indicated willingness to accept nomination to the Holy Spirit Church Council for the three-year terms beginning in February 2018. Vacancies on the council are filled by appointment until the next election when nominations are open for all positions. Additional nominations from the floor are accepted but should be made with the approval of the person being nominated.*

**Emmanuel Neela** is resident of Vernon hills, IL and has been a member of LCHS from 2015 and actively involved in other community activities. He is married to Ujwala and has two boys, who enjoy playing basketball and soccer, Joshua, 13 and Joseph, 8. They are a first generation migrant family and enjoy visiting new places and trying new food and cuisines. Emmanuel works at W.W. Grainger as senior software engineer, is excited and humbled to be part of LCHS church council in capacity of Human Needs representative and looks forward to serve the community and needy.

**Amy Steinberger** has been a member of Holy Spirit since 1995, while husband, Mike, has been a member since 1974! They have two boys, Jake (a junior at Iowa State) and Logan (a sophomore at Stevenson High School) and live in Lake Forest. Amy is an Account Exec Officer at Travelers Insurance in Naperville. This is Amy's second term on council – previously she was the CUFF chairman. She has also been involved in the sexuality workshop, WELCA, and assists in many CUFF events.

**Joe Labellarte** has been a member of HS since 1984 (married in HS church). He's married to Pam for 33 years, live in Mundelein and has 3 children: Liz- 30, David-27 and Michelle-24 and 2 grandchildren, Giovanni and Lydia, both newborn this year. Joe's been involved in various church roles through the years at HS: Sunday School teacher, Church Council member, MOST (organized various activities such as Church Golf outings), Befrienders and our church representative to COOL (past COOL Board President) just to name a few activities. He's worked in Information Technology field for various firms (American Hospital Supply Corp/Baxter, Household International, Encyclopedia Britannica and BMO/Harris Bank most recently) and now runs a small consulting business that does software IT consulting in Excel and Access and enjoys playing golf.

**Daaron Dohler** joined Holy Spirit in 2006 along with his wife Amy and their two daughters Katelyn (17) and Lora (13). The Dohlers live in Vernon Hills, and Daaron works at Takeda Pharmaceuticals in Deerfield. Daaron is actively involved in Holy Spirit including PADS volunteer, usher, greeter, and choir member. Daaron has served on the church council for the last three years and is looking forward to continuing this service.

**Jan Schwanke** has been a member of the Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit for over 30 years. She and her husband, Scott, have 2 grown daughters, Beth and Lauren, both who were baptized and confirmed at Holy Spirit. They also have two grandchildren. Over the years, Jan has taught Sunday and Tuesday church school, coordinated Vacation Bible School, served on the Call Committees that called the Pastors Meyer and Pastor Tim, served as worship assistant, and volunteered for PADS. During the past 3 years on Council, she has served as youth and church growth liaison, and is currently secretary. Jan worked as a speech/language pathologist in the public schools for many years, and now provides private speech therapy part time.

## PASTORS' REPORT 2017

We have had a remarkable year at Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit! It is clear the Holy Spirit is active and living in the lives of our congregation's members for we continue to grow and reach out in mission and ministry in many incredible ways. And we look forward to the new opportunities that God has in store for us.

This year has unquestionably been a year of transition and change. The transition from two pastors to one concluded with Pastor Meyer's retirement in June, and the work of the Transition Team identified our most immediate needs, as a result of this transition, with an eye on our continued mission development. Under the leadership of Amy Dohler, the Transition Team identified our need to expand the responsibilities of the Office Manager Position and to create two new part-time positions to address our Youth and Children's ministries. As we began the process of filling these positions, we felt the hand of God at work in guiding our new staff members to us, and we give thanks for our new partners in ministry, with Laurie Papini as our new Office Manager, Colin Pilkington as our new Youth Director, and Jennifer Williams as our new Children's Ministry Director. It has been exciting to see the impact these new staff members have already made in their areas of ministry and we can anticipate many great things to come. And one more new face that has joined us this year is Vicar Dennis Waugh, who comes to us through the internship program of the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago, as we reconnected with our long history of training and developing future pastors.

Although change can be exciting, change can also be unsettling in many ways, and it can be challenging to trust what God may be doing, when things are different. Yet in our discernment, we can have confidence that God is in our midst, for scripture tells us that this is God's way, for God is always making things new! And God is challenging each of us to become a part of the new thing which God is doing.

It's been an incredible year, and there have been so many memorable moments during this past year, the benefit concert for Refugee One, the youth programs, confirmation, baptisms, funerals, new members joining, fellowship events, the questions from faithful believers in a Bible study or Sunday School class, worshipping together in song and prayer, we even celebrated the 500th anniversary of the Reformation of the Christian Church! But throughout this past year and all our time together, there is one Spirit that makes us whole, and one Spirit that binds us together. God has chosen this congregation to do some incredible things, things we can't even imagine yet, and if we live in the Spirit, and live in God's love and forgiveness, and live in the certainty that God is with us, and live in the power of what is possible for God through us, we will certainly have much to rejoice of in the coming year as well. Jesus reminds us, *"You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under a bushel basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."*

I am excited about the coming year at Holy Spirit, and feel privileged to be called to serve God and this great congregation. I pray that in everything we do, we give glory to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and that we continue to shine brightly throughout the New Year.

Grace and Peace be with you,

*Pastor Tim*

## MEMBERSHIP NOTES 2017

### Transferred or removed by request:

Jeanne Goslin

### Removed due to letter of intent: 0

### Removed due to inactivity: 0

### Removed by death:

Trudy Calef

Norman Schaefer

Arlene Heyward

Eva Roth

### Removed due to statistical correction: 0

### Received into membership by Baptism:

Colton Malone

Cameron Tejada

Church Shambrook

Logan Wittich

Inge Ohnona

Mason Beau Bettiker

### Received into membership by transfer and/or affirmation of faith:

Payton Adkisson

Caitlin Bittner

Conrad Dick

Lora Dohler

Kaitlyn Koblas

Brent Meilman

Andrew & Marjean Eastmond, Anrew

Jason & Allison Wyrwicz, Aidan, Annabel

### End of Year Statistics

|                                     | <u>2014</u> | <u>2015</u> | <u>2016</u> | <u>2017</u> |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Baptized Membership                 | 588         | 591         | 560*        | 566         |
| Confirmed Membership                | 519         | 526         | 496*        | 500         |
| Average Sunday Worship Attendance   | 140         | 130         | 131         | 119         |
| Average % of Membership Worshipping | 23.8%       | 22.0%       | 23.4%       | 21%         |

\* Numbers decreased due to response to letter of intent and removal of memberships due to inactivity.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2017

Happy New Year! I hope you all enjoyed a wonderful Christmas season, and that the story of Jesus's birth renewed your faith and refreshed your soul.

This Annual Report of the Congregation contains details of the many activities that occurred in and around Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit in 2017. This was a very busy year with some significant changes for our congregation. Here are a few of the important events WE experienced as a congregation:

- We celebrated Pastor Doug's 25 years of faithful service to LCHS and wished him well as he enters retirement
- We hired three new staff members, Laurie Papini, Jennifer Williams, and Colin Pilkington, to support and expand our ministry programs
- We welcomed Vicar Dennis Waugh to complete the internship portion of his seminary training
- We concluded the *Pray It Forward* building fund campaign with approximately 96% of pledges collected and initiated the *Vision 2020* campaign which will service our building mortgage for the next three years.

It was a privilege to serve as President of the Church Council in 2017. I would like to thank:

- \* Pastor Tim for his support, leadership and commitment to LCHS
- \* The members of the Congregational Council for their diligent efforts in leading our church
- \* The dedicated staff who go above and beyond in working to carry out our mission
- \* All members of LCHS for sharing their time, talents and treasures with us

I would especially like to thank the outgoing Council members for their years of volunteer service. Mary Lou Gilliam, Carol Greenhut, Denise Friedrich, and Luther Grafe have all faithfully served our church well. Thank You!

Many wonderful things happened at Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit in 2017. Let's continue to work together and strive to fulfill our mission *To Live in Christ, Celebrate Christ, Help others to know Christ, and Serve others as Christ served!*

Respectfully submitted,  
Daaron Dohler

# GENERAL FUND - OPERATING STATEMENT

## LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

### ANNUAL REPORT - YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 2017

|  | 2014             | 2015              | 2016             | 2017             | 2017             |
|--|------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
|  | <u>Actual</u>    | <u>Actual</u>     | <u>Actual</u>    | <u>Budget</u>    | <u>Actual</u>    |
| Balance forward/prepay   | \$24,000         | \$7,000           | \$5,184          | \$5,000          | \$65,965         |
| <b>INCOME (Operating Receipts):</b>  |                  |                   |                  |                  |                  |
| All Contributions (including prepay)   | \$476,546        | \$466,688         | \$473,063        | \$501,506        | \$522,313        |
| Other Income/Building Use, etc.  | \$57,755         | \$59,846          | \$60,594         | \$66,400         | \$72,016         |
| <b>TOTAL OPERATING INCOME</b>  | <b>\$534,301</b> | <b>\$526,534</b>  | <b>\$533,657</b> | <b>\$567,906</b> | <b>\$594,329</b> |
| <b>EXPENSES:</b>   |                  |                   |                  |                  |                  |
| Benevolence*   | \$55,000         | \$60,000          | \$60,000         | \$60,000         | \$60,000         |
| Office of the Pastor(s)  | \$257,128        | \$263,773         | \$230,559        | \$243,466        | \$233,813        |
| Administration   | \$10,648         | \$14,146          | \$12,479         | \$15,570         | \$13,879         |
| Christian Education  | \$4,429          | \$2,534           | \$2,784          | \$4,700          | \$4,350          |
| Church Growth  | \$1,115          | \$2,765           | \$2,598          | \$3,125          | \$2,755          |
| Human Needs  | \$0              | \$49              | \$193            | \$1,000          | \$0              |
| Property   | \$120,399        | \$111,610         | \$112,466        | \$131,350        | \$117,535        |
| Music  | \$6,156          | \$6,224           | \$1,957          | \$7,850          | \$6,741          |
| Youth  | \$802            | \$417             | \$408            | \$1,250          | \$1,088          |
| Stewardship  | \$1,191          | \$102             | \$2,455          | \$1,350          | \$1,233          |
| Worship  | \$4,971          | \$4,238           | \$5,408          | \$6,750          | \$5,844          |
| Personnel  | \$65,440         | \$76,036          | \$68,303         | \$72,690         | \$94,487         |
| Council/New Program/Intern   | \$9,298          | \$8,121           | \$6,546          | \$17,250         | \$6,407          |
| <b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>  | <b>\$536,627</b> | <b>\$541,013</b>  | <b>\$506,156</b> | <b>\$566,351</b> | <b>\$548,132</b> |
| <b>Operating Gain/(Deficit)**</b>  | <b>(\$2,326)</b> | <b>(\$14,479)</b> | <b>\$27,501</b>  | <b>\$1,555</b>   | <b>\$46,197</b>  |
| <p>* Benevolence does NOT include hunger offerings, designated "pass through" offerings or benevolence passed through from groups with the congregation (VBS, LYFE, WELCA, etc.)</p> |                  |                   |                  |                  |                  |
| <p>** The Operating Gain/(Deficit) for a given year reflects end-of-year prepay toward the following year.</p>   |                  |                   |                  |                  |                  |
| <p>Of particular note is 2017 Actual Income which includes \$65,965 of contribution prepay.</p>  |                  |                   |                  |                  |                  |
| <p><b>The 2017 net position of \$46,197 would have been a deficit without contribution prepay.</b></p>   |                  |                   |                  |                  |                  |

## **TREASURER'S REPORT 2017**

Thank you to the many volunteers and staff who work diligently all year long to ensure that our church financial records are timely and accurate.

Our Counters faithfully see that offerings are counted each week. Their work is “behind the scenes” but vital to our church finances. Thank you to Jeanne Nelson, Eileen Hoffman, and Jackie Murphy.

Laurie Papini, Paige Werner, and Nila Bilstad served as Office Manager this year. They prepared and mailed contribution statements and processed payroll.

Gloria Omohundro served as Financial Clerk this year. Gloria was responsible for data entry of all expense and income items, including contributions and prepared Accounts Payable checks. She also trained Laurie in the Contributions and Accounts Payable duties. Thank you to Gloria for your years of service.

Pastor Doug provided oversight to ensure that all procedures are followed in entering and reporting financial data, ending with the 2020 Building Fund campaign. Thank you to Pastor Doug for many years of service to Holy Spirit.

Pastor Tim, Church Council, and the Finance Committee provided valuable input via e-mail and at meetings.

The Thrivent Choice program contributed \$274 in 2017 to our church's benevolences. Thank you to all Thrivent members who direct their Choice Dollars to our church.

Finally, a big thank you to Carol Greenhut, who again provided guidance and patience in 2017. Thank you for your years of service to LCHS. Go, 'Cats.

Respectfully submitted,  
Denise Friedrich

# BUILDING FUND APPEALS

## **2005 SPIRIT RISING FUND SUMMARY**

**May 15, 2005 to May 15, 2008**

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| Total Pledged to <i>Spirit Rising</i> Building Appeal<br>May 16, 2005 to May 15, 2008 | \$436,185 |
| Total appeal receipts<br>(We received 95.5% of our commitment goal)                   | \$416,614 |

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## **2008 SPIRIT RENEWED BUILDING FUND APPEAL**

**May 17, 2008 to May 15, 2011**

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| Total Pledged to <i>Spirit Renewed</i> Building Appeal<br>May 18, 2008 to May 15, 2011 | \$410,458 |
| Total appeal receipts<br>(We received 93.97% of our commitment goal)                   | \$385,731 |

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## **2011 SWITCHED-ON SPIRIT BUILDING FUND APPEAL**

**May 16, 2011 to May 15, 2014**

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| Total Pledged to <i>Switched-on Spirit</i> Building Appeal<br>May 16, 2011 to May 15, 2014 | \$406,267 |
| Total appeal receipts<br>(Final receipts totaled 93.4% of commitment goal)                 | \$383,173 |

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## **2014 PRAY IT FORWARD BUILDING FUND APPEAL**

**May 16, 2014 to May 13, 2017**

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| Total Pledged to <i>Pray It Forward</i> Building Appeal<br>May 16, 2014 to May 13, 2017 | \$421,195 |
| Total appeal receipts<br>(Receipts to date are 96.1% of commitment goal)                | \$404,771 |

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## **2020 VISION BUILDING FUND APPEAL**

**May 17, 2017 to May 16, 2020**

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| Total Pledged to <i>2020 Vision</i> Building Appeal<br>May 17, 2017 to May 16, 2020                                      | \$431,129 |
| Received by <i>2020 Vision</i> Building Appeal (May 17-December 31, 2017)<br>(Receipts to date are 58% of pledge amount) | \$251,203 |

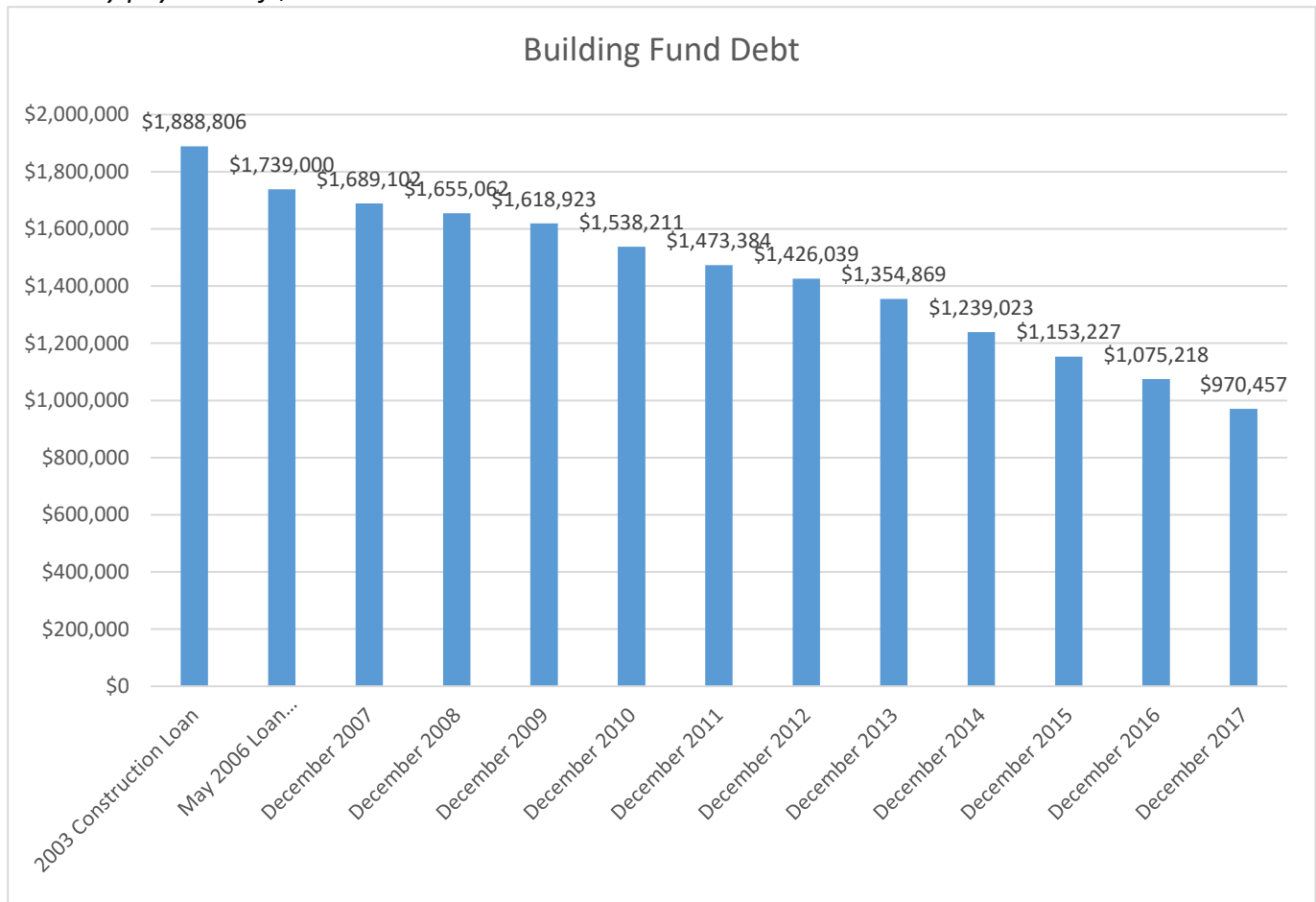
|   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| <b>Balance in Building Fund Year End 2017</b> | <b>\$176,899</b> |
| <b>Bank Financial (Year End 2017)</b>         | <b>\$173,067</b> |
| <b>Schwab (Year End 2017)</b>                 | <b>\$ 3,832</b>  |

#### **BUILDING FUND DEBT SUMMARY**

|   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| <b>2003 Final Construction Loan</b>           | <b>\$1,888,806</b> |
| <b>May 2006 Loan Refinanced at 6%</b>         | <b>\$1,739,000</b> |
| <b>January 2013 Loan Refinanced at 4.125%</b> | <b>\$1,421,964</b> |
| <b>Building Fund Debt Dec 31, 2017</b>        | <b>\$ 970,457</b>  |

*Refinancing of the current church debt was completed in January 2013. Current interest rate is 4.125% for seven year terms with maturity date of May 15, 2031. There is no prepayment penalty for principal reduction payments.*

*On June 20, 2017, a principal prepayment of \$50,000 was made and the loan was re-amortized to reduce our required monthly principal & interest payment. The loan continues with Thrivent Financial with a monthly payment of \$7859 due.*



# Christian Education 2017

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION** programs at Holy Spirit are integral in passing on the faith to our youth and adults. These programs are successful because of the volunteers who give their time and devotion to others, within our church and community.

## **FROLIC**

Frolic is a digital Christian Education program ministering to new parents and their baptized children under the age of three. Babies are enrolled in this program as soon as we learn of their date of birth or baptism. Parents receive age specific monthly eNewsletters to educate them regarding normal growth and development, activities to stimulate development as well as build a foundation of a God centered home. These newsletters are aimed at providing support to the parents' role as the most important people in their child's faith journey. At age 3, Frolic children "graduate" and are invited to join our three year old Sunday School class.

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Sunday School is held each Sunday (Sept-May) between services. Children between the ages of three and six (preschool to first grade) take part in engaging Bible-based lessons specially designed for their age and developmental levels. They attend Cherub Choir practice following their lesson. Children in second through sixth grade attend Bible-centered classes to help them grow in their Christian faith. Our Sunday school theme this year is "We are All on God's Team." Each Sunday we will have the opportunity to be filled with the words of scripture, stories from the Bible, and God's promises for our daily lives. Students will be challenged to discover what God is doing to fill their lives with moments of grace and hope.

**Sensational Sundays** allow children to learn about a topic in an engaging, interactive and cooperative manner. Students participate in a variety of hands-on service projects.

**Attendance** is recorded on a weekly basis.

## **CONFIRMATION**

Young people in grades 7 and 8 participate in Tuesday Confirmation classes. This is a special program designed to help youth grow in their knowledge of the Bible and the Christian faith (with special focus on our Lutheran traditions and identity). The program also provides an opportunity for service and the experience of other types of ministries in the greater church. The individualized learning format allows for flexible class schedules with clearly defined expectations and goals for the young people in their growth toward becoming Confirmed members of the Holy Spirit. Parents of Confirmation students are invited to lead our seventh and eighth graders on Sunday mornings, with specific curriculums to cover, which complement the regular Confirmation Tuesday class material. This year students explored faith and life issues such as World Religions, Media Madness, Worship, Seasons and the Symbols of the Church, Lutheran Identity and participated in the Sexuality workshop. Six students were confirmed in the spring.

### **TUESDAY LYFE (Lutheran Young Fellowship Experience)**

Tuesday LYFE is a special program offered for our second through sixth grade students. This enrichment program brings faith into the daily lives of our youth each Tuesday from 4-6pm. At the beginning of the year, new Director John Barrow provided fellowship and service opportunities. He moved away and then we welcomed Jennifer Williams, our new Children's Ministry Director. Bill Vaananen provides music experiences. The youth play games, sing songs and explore new ways to serve God. They created crafts which were sold at the Holiday Boutique. The funds will be used for a future service project. Other annual activities include: the LYFE Christmas Musical; the Epiphany party and Valentine's for seniors. The current year's LYFE enrollment is 12 youth.

### **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

VBS is an annual summer event that is always filled with excitement and learning. Young people from Preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> grade share a week of VBS in early August with hands-on learning as they grow in faith while having fun together. Older youth are invited to participate as helpers, guides and teacher's aides. Among the week's highlights are a special musical performance by those in VBS followed by an ice cream social for the whole family.

Kari Davenport directed this year's VBS program, "Rome: Paul & the Underground Church." We had 45 children enrolled who enjoyed learning about Paul and his quest to spread the word about God. Children visited Paul in prison and the ladies in the Underground church, played games, made crafts in the Marketplace and of course, ate snacks. Our VBS benevolence supported backpacks for RefugeOne. We raised enough money to buy more than 50 backpacks.

### **THE ADULT FORUM**

In between services on Sunday mornings, adults are welcome to participate in faith-based educational discussions with a small group and the pastor. Topics this year included a study in hospitality and being a welcoming church, "This We Believe: Historical & Spiritual Reflections on the Creeds," "How Lutherans Interpret the Bible," and "Freed in Christ: Race, Ethnicity & Culture." Participants also learned about PADS and Curt's Cafe. Adult Forum is open to all adults.

### **THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY**

On Thursday mornings during the school year and with special gatherings during the summer, participants apply scripture to their daily lives with Christian support. All are welcome to attend. This year's studies included sessions on the history of hymns, "Everyday Prayers (365 days to a Gospel centered faith)," a discussion of Luther at 500, "Discipleship," Epistles of 1 & 2 Peter, "Faith, Sexism & Justice," "Unfinished: Believing is Only the Beginning," and "A Morning Liturgy from the Iona Community."

### **LIBRARY**

Darlene Neumann directs the church library which continues to serve as a small group meeting place, while offering reference materials such as Bible maps and atlases, as well as introductory materials to other religions. Children's books continue to circulate well, providing support for religious education at home. Adult religious material (fiction and nonfiction) is also available.

Kari Davenport

## CHURCH GROWTH 2017

Our best avenue to church growth is YOU...each member of our Holy Spirit family. Every time you share your enthusiasm for our congregation with a friend or neighbor, you are part of the church growth committee. There is nothing more welcoming than a personal invitation: Please invite a friend or neighbor to church this year!

Our outreach in Christ's name to our communities takes many forms. We reach out through our Vacation Bible School and Tuesday LYFE programs that welcome children regardless of their religious affiliation. The many fellowship opportunities offered by our church also provide settings for informal contact with our greater community. Through service to others we invite our neighbors to discover the joy and value of sharing Christ's love and care with others. Our worship with its varied settings and outstanding musical offerings provides for meaningful time in praise and prayer.

During 2017 we continued our ministry of greeters and coffee hosts. Each Sunday morning when you enjoy a cup of hot coffee, you can thank a volunteer who has arrived at church early to set up the coffee service. We expanded our list of greeters for the 8:30 and 10:45 services, and now have over 16 families involved in this important ministry of warmly welcoming worshippers on Sunday morning. Additional volunteers are always welcome!

We are ending our contract with Welcome Wagon. Instead, we have subscribed to an online service which will provide us with the names and addresses of new community members. In this way, we can reach out to a greater geographical area and reach people beyond Lincolnshire, Deerfield, Riverwoods, and Bannockburn. A loyal group of people has helped address outreach postcards which were mailed out during the summer and shortly before Christmas.

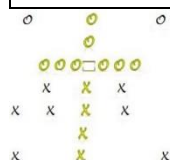
Our church growth committee reached out in the direction of hospitality this year. Volunteers provided a delicious reception for two new families in December. It was a lovely way to start off the Christmas season. A huge thank you to all who were involved in church growth and hospitality this year! We look forward to having more people involved during 2018.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jan Schwanke

## STEWARDSHIP 2017

*Pledged totals for previous years are the final total. Pledges for 2018 are still being received.*

|                       | 2013       | 2014      | 2015      | 2016      | 2017      | 2018      |
|-----------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Total Pledged         | \$ 335,616 | \$375,256 | \$341,290 | \$374,729 | \$356,461 | \$296,352 |
| Average Annual Pledge | \$4,661    | \$4,170   | \$4,807   | \$5,205   | \$5,570   | \$5292    |
| Number of Responses   | 72         | 90        | 71        | 72        | 64        | 56        |
| Pledges Increased     | 26         | 32        | 30        | 27        | 22        | 18        |
| Pledges Reduced       | 7          | 7         | 9         | 2         | 11        | 9         |
| New Pledges           | 9          | 20        | 8         | 14        | 5         | 6         |



### WE'RE ON GOD'S TEAM

*Like good stewards for the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.* — I Peter 4:10

The logo for this year's stewardship appeal was a football play diagram with a cross at the center, reinforcing the "team" theme and aligning with the Christian Education theme of being members of God's team. During Rally Day, church council and organization team leaders shared spirit, food, and messages about their ministries. Online versions of our Time and Talent surveys were made available for the first time as an alternative option to the paper booklets (the online version remains open on the LCHS website). The stewardship display table in the narthex shared "God's Team" bracelets and sport-themed candies as reminders of our participation on God's Team and allowed for many to re-visit memories or discover the many ways in which we as a congregation joyfully worship and work together to share our many blessings with each other and our community--as we aid the homeless by teaming up with PADS, welcome the stranger by supporting RefugeeOne through a benefit concert, feed the hungry with regular support. Our dedicated teammates help young Christians begin to learn the vocabulary of faith and challenge long time members to continue to grow and deepen their faith. We gathered Thanksgiving donations to share with neighbors in need. Over the course of our appeal we reflected on how we lift up the struggles and triumphs of so many in our community, how we nurture and strengthen the fellowship we share with one another, and how we as members of God's Team have received and been enriched by new teammates and leaders. We culminated our appeal on with a celebratory potluck lunch on Commitment Sunday, also marking Pastor Tim's 1-year anniversary and the congregation's 55th anniversary.

These opportunities to celebrate and share our abundant blessings and lift each other up are possible only through the gifts of time, energy, abilities, and dollars contributed by Holy Spirit members. Each of us is imbued with the power to be champions of God's love and grace. We are called to contribute our talents and various gifts from God to important mission opportunities and needs of our church. We give thanks for the many who renewed their commitment to our shared ministry by making pledges and completing their time and talent responses. To date we have received over \$296,352.49 in commitments. Based on previous years, we are hopeful of receiving another \$50,000 in commitments.

Donna Williams, Stewardship Chair

## **LONG RANGE PLANNING 2017**

In 2017 we completed the work using funds from the 2015 Front Yard Appeal. The parking lot was resurfaced, the parking lot lights were replaced, and the shed doors were replaced. There was also a controlled burn in the front to kill invasive plants that had taken hold in the area.

The church directory, which was started in 2016, was published and provided to the congregation in 2017. There was a delay, so photos of Pastor Tim and Maria could be included. The final product reflected the work of many volunteers and the photos of over 100 church families.

The 2020 Vision capital campaign was completed in the spring of 2017. This was the sixth triannual campaign since 2002 with the main goal of reducing our church mortgage. With the hard work of many volunteers and the generosity of the congregation we ended the 2020 Vision campaign with total pledges of \$431,128. Because of this and significant upfront gifting we have continued accelerated principle payments reducing our mortgage balance from a maximum of \$1,888,806 to \$970,457.

Looking forward to 2018, the technology committee was formed in 2017 and has been reviewing the use of technology at LCHS. In 2018 they will make recommendations to the council for changes and upgrades at the church.

Respectfully submitted,  
Larry Brady

## PERSONNEL COMMITTEE 2017

Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit is blessed to have:

**Brigid Cantagallo** – a talented musician who serves as our dedicated organist and choir accompanist.

**Mike Duffy** – who leads our adult choir, bell choir and other instrumental groups. And he plays a lot of instruments too!

**Bill Vaananen** - who leads our youth choir with energy and passion.

**Jim Koblas** - who was our Youth Communicator and worked to keep our youth informed and involved.

**Carmaline Spurrier** – who we see every Sunday with a smile on her face as she tends to the nursery during and between services.

**Paige Werner** - who kept the church office organized running very efficiently and effectively. Paige resigned at the end of June. THANK YOU for your commitment to LCHS!

**Gloria Omohundro** - who served as our financial secretary.

**Laurie Papini** – joined LCHS in June as our new Office Manager. Laurie is continuing to learn and expand the position. She is enjoying getting to know all of us. If you haven't met her, be sure to stop by and say hello!

**Colin Pilkington** – is our new Youth Director. Colin has quickly established a core group of LCHS high schoolers who meet weekly for group activities, a message and small group discussions.

**Jennifer Williams** – is our new Children's Ministry Director. Jennifer is leading Tuesday LYFE and oversees the Sunday School program. She has brought some creative ideas to LCHS.

**Dennis Waugh** - who became our Vicar in August and is scheduled to complete his Master of Divinity degree from LSTC this coming May. Vicar Dennis will be at LCHS until mid-August of 2018.

**Pastor Doug Meyer** - who served LCHS so faithfully and in so many ways for nearly 25 years and retired in June.

**Pastor Tim Linstrom** - who has served LCHS since November, 2016. Pastor Tim has been very instrumental as LCHS transitions from two Pastors to one.

Thank you for your commitment and faithful dedication and service to LCHS.

Respectfully submitted,  
Luther Grafe

## **WORSHIP & MUSIC 2017**

Worship and Music are central to the life of Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit. We are blessed with a talented and dedicated worship and music staff and so many parishioners who contribute to our mission on a continuing basis. Some of the ways our volunteers enhance our worship are as assisting ministers, hymn selectors, ushers, nursery helpers, acolytes, and with the Altar Guild. Many adults and children participate in the Music Ministry, through the Adult Choir, Bell Choir, LYFE Choir, Cherub Choir, Brass Ensemble, and as Instrumentalists.

We have very committed leadership from our Pastor and our excellent music staff, as they guide our Music Ministry. Brigid Cantagallo is our organist, playing for all Worship and special Services and assisting all the other musicians. Mike Duffy directs the Adult Choir, Bell Choir, and the orchestra for festival/special services. He also leads the music for the Taize Services and provides music for the Monday Night Summer Services. Bill Vaananen continues to direct the LYFE Choir and the Children's Christmas Program; he writes the Christmas Program and composes the music the children sing. Patrick Cantagallo directs the Brass Ensemble and leads the annual Jazz Service. Darlene Neumann and Nancy Fencel, with the help of Abby Grafe, continue to lead the Cherub Choir. We are grateful to these wonderful musicians for their guidance.

We began January of 2017, with the Installation of Pastor Tim Linstrom, on January 15th. It was a Festive Service as we welcomed him as Pastor to our faith community. A special reception followed to welcome him and his family.

Early in February, the high school Youth Group led the 10:45 Worship Service, planning and participating in the service. The Cherub and LYFE Choirs provided music for the service.

Ash Wednesday on March 1st was observed with a Worship Service in the evening. Lenten Mid-Week Services followed, with the theme of "Change". A simple supper preceded the Vesper Services.

Holy Week Services were followed by joyous celebrations at the Easter Sunday Services. All the choirs and instrumentalists combined to provide beautiful music for these Festival Services.

Church Music Sunday was celebrated on June 4th. All the choirs and instrumentalists participated in this special service and were honored for their musical offerings.

Summer Services began the following Sunday, with one service at 9:30 AM. Monday Night Services in the woods also began for the Summer, then. The Adult Choir provided anthems twice a month during the Summer.

On June 11th, our congregation celebrated Pastor Doug's Ministry of more than 25 years at Holy Spirit.

A Festival Service in which all the choirs participated, was followed by a reception/farewell. We are grateful to Pastor Doug for his spirit-filled dedication to our faith community, for so many years. Our Worship schedule returned to two services on Sunday, September 10th. All the choirs resumed rehearsals and singing, ringing, and playing at our Worship Services.

This year our congregation, along with the rest of the Christian World, celebrated the 500th Anniversary of Martin Luther's Reformation. We began meeting in March, to plan events that would honor this occasion. As part of this observance, we have incorporated Heritage Hymns during Sunday Worship. We had a special Worship service and reception on Reformation Sunday, October 29th.

To commemorate the Reformation 500, we held a benefit concert at LCHS on October 15th.. All the proceeds of the freewill offering were sent to RefugeeOne in Chicago. Many people in the congregation contributed to the planning of the concert, "Many Voices, One Song". All of the Church choirs and instrumentalists performed; a video of Refugees being re-settled in the USA was also shown. We are hoping this concert was the first in a series of others to follow.

We gathered once again on Thanksgiving Day, to Praise God and give thanks for our many Blessings.

Taize Services were held on the first three Wednesdays of Advent. We are appreciative for the efforts of Mike Duffy, Brigid Cantagallo, Nancy Fencl, and Amy Dohler for providing the music for these reflective services.

The Children's Christmas Program, "No Room for a Refugee", was presented on December 17th. Once again, Mr. V. wrote and directed the play, with the LYFE and Cherub Choirs performing it. The story closely followed the Nativity Story but with Syrian Refugees seeking shelter and safety in Europe. The congregation very much enjoyed the program.

Three Candlelight Services were held on Christmas Eve, at 3:30 PM, 5 PM, and 11 PM. The Birth of Jesus was joyously celebrated with special music, the Word, and Sacrament. Nancy Fencl directed the Christmas Orchestra at the 5 PM Service, and the children all sang at that service. The Adult and Bell Choirs joined the Instrumentalists and the Preucil Family Strings for the 11 PM Service. It was a Blessed Night indeed, at our church.

We complete another year filled with the Word and beautiful music, grateful to God for the talented staff and members who are committed to the Worship and Music life of our congregation, and to our faithful and dedicated Pastor.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Carol Duprey

# HUMAN NEEDS 2017

## SUMMARY

In 2017, Holy Spirit participated in various activities that help us all to see caring for others as an important part of living out our Christian lives. This past year, our involvement included: PADS (Providing Advocacy, Dignity, and Shelter), COOL (Christian Outreach of Lutherans), two blood drives, and the ongoing work of the Caring Community.

## PADS

PADS Lake County is a community-based organization that provides trauma-informed support, resources, and shelter to individuals and families experiencing a housing crisis. Holy Spirit members serve PADS by staffing the PADS facility at Messiah Lutheran Church in Wauconda every second Saturday from October through April. We staff four shifts through the night, providing a warm safe place to sleep along with a hot dinner, breakfast, and a sack lunch for the following day. Holy Spirit members faithfully and generously contribute food each month that is used to prepare the meals and for that we are always thankful. We are grateful for all of the volunteers who have given their time and talents this past year to help those in need by serving at the PADS site each month. Site volunteers, along with youth volunteers from local Boy Scout Troop 78, prepare sleeping pads, welcome the guests, prepare and serve the meal as well as offer fellowship from 6:00 in the evening until 6:00 the next morning. It is truly a special time for both guests and volunteers. There is an ongoing need to welcome new volunteers from Holy Spirit to staff the PADS site and we encourage you to try out this important ministry. Special thanks to regular volunteers, without whom this effort would not be possible...and to our teens for heading up the SouperBowl of Caring in February. These industrious young people raised an amazing \$1340 to donate to PADS!

## COOL MINISTRIES (Food Pantry and Transitional Housing)

The COOL pantries in Waukegan and Ingleside assist families in need by supplying food for 12 meals to over 5,000 people per month. Regular collections of food from Holy Spirit are taken to COOL on a periodic basis. This year more than 25% of the gifts given during Holy Spirit hunger offerings each month was passed through to COOL. Larry Neumann from our congregation is the current president of the COOL Board. COOL operates at 811 Glen Flora, Waukegan. Our transitional housing presently has 10 units. This program helps families go from homelessness to self-sustained housing or even home ownership for the first time in their lives! Special donations for holiday food baskets were also very much appreciated this year. We were able to purchase 1100 baskets of food for holiday meals for the hungry. Your food and monetary gifts to COOL are vital in a time of continuing social service cuts in grants and other support.

### **ELIJAH'S PANTRY**

After many years of faithful service to its community, Elijah's Pantry has ceased operations. The portion of the monthly hunger offering originally designated for Elijah's Pantry was divided equally among four local food pantries: West Deerfield Township, Vernon Township, Libertyville Township, and The Greater Chicago Food Depository. In 2018 the Congregational Council will identify a new hunger-focused charitable organization to replace Elijah's Pantry.

### **BLOOD DRIVES**

Holy Spirit, working in conjunction with Life Source, hosted two blood drives this year that were held were in March (31 units) and October (16 units), raising a grand total of 47 units. Very special thanks to Jeff Henningson for coordinating this effort. We continue to draw donors from the community and hope that in 2018, our number will increase further. The 2018 dates are March 11 and October 22.

Thank you to all who "gave the gift of life"...and to Mary for once again providing brownies, which seem always to be the main attraction.

### **CARING COMMUNITY 2017**

*Will you let me be your servant,  
let me be as Christ to you?  
Pray that I may have the grace  
to let you be my servant, too.*

The Caring Community Group is focused on looking at the care of our own members within our church family at Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit. Members of this group include: Jeanne Nelson, Tom and Eileen Weglarz, Mary Lou Gilliam, Vicar Dennis Waugh, and Pastor Timothy Linstrom. The LCHS community continues to have many members who extend their care and gifts to others through prayer, meals, sharing, caring and being in community together to lighten each other's burdens as well as celebrate joys. Over the last year we have been very active and have:

**Continued weekly "prayer time."** We continue to grow as a people of prayer. Every Thursday from 9:30-10:00 a.m., members of LCHS gather to experience different ways of praying, both silent and aloud, and together through communal prayer we lift up those in our community in need of God's presence, direction, healing, or to offer praise and thanksgiving. We share leadership responsibilities that provide exposure to many kinds of prayer formats. Our regular attendees continue, but many times someone will come just one or two times. Information about LCHS Prayer Time is consistently communicated in the newsletters and bulletins. This year we have received many more direct requests for prayer concerns not just through the church office but also one-on-one requests made to regular Prayer Time attendees. This continues to be a very nurturing ministry for the members of LCHS.

**Coordinated “Sharing and Caring.”** We continue to reach out to those members of our congregation who may have a need during a specific time or circumstance in their life, working closely with the pastors to coordinate volunteer activities. Names of volunteers come from the annual time and talent sheets. Volunteers have eagerly responded to the requests and needs of our member for meals, serving at funerals as well as providing rides to church and for medical and other appointments. Formerly, Tom and Eileen Weglarz coordinated volunteers. While they still volunteer, we are seeking someone new to fill the coordinator’s position.

**Offered learning workshops.** On May 12th and 13th, we co-sponsored a Mental Health Workshop along with St. Philips in Glenview. Five members of our congregation attended this very informative meeting. In November of 2017, we held a workshop on how to pray. Pastor Tim Linstrom led the meeting and an interesting and inspiring exchange of ideas, questions, and personal anecdotes ensued.

A strength of LCHS continues to be its community and the ways in which we show our love, care, and concern for our own members. We have found that this community is faith-filled and full of compassion and concern. We are very aware that many people find it easier to be on the giving end of these ministries and indeed, God has called us to be servants. But this community is also here to help carry your burdens when you are in need. At times, needs can go unnoticed and left to chance or hurting individuals may not ask for assistance. We ask that as a caring community we each be diligent in noting the needs of our brothers and sisters. If you or someone you know would like to be contacted or if you would like to use your gifts of encouragement, compassion and support, contact the church office.

Thank you to all who gave of yourself. Your time, talent, generosity, and love were needed and appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Lou Gilliam

## PROPERTY COMMITTEE 2017

The year 2017 was a year marked by light! One of the biggest lighting events was the replacement of the old parking lot lights with new LED lights for both energy savings as well as better lighting. It involved running updated electrical systems, new bases and posts, and the removal of all of the old materials. This has and will continue to allow people to admire our church both during the day and night.

Two additional lights were created this past year in the form of sub committees who are planning and doing work around the church:

- \* The B&P Committee was created to help survey the church on a regular basis both in and outside of the building and to identify potential projects/tasks that need to be addressed throughout the year. This is an attempt to be proactive rather than reactive to the church's needs.
- \* The Garden Team came to fruition after it was noticed that many people were wanting to give of themselves in an effort to keep all of our vegetation outside of the church beautiful. It is very easy to take for granted how stunning our property is and that it maintains itself, but this is definitely not the case. The garden committee will continue to use the gifts of some of our resident experts to plan and decide how to maintain our landscaping so that this continues to add to the beauty of LCHS.

Additional shining lights at LCHS during 2017 were the many church members who volunteered their time and talents to work both in and around the building and property. As we all know it takes many hands to address the various needs of our beautiful church in order to keep it running and staying in tip top shape. This small but mighty group worked on all sorts of smaller projects that are constantly popping up outside including cutting the grass (Al Edwards, Jeff Voermans, and Jess Brown!!!), maintaining the gardens (Janice Edwards, Chuck Heyward, Carmaline Spurrier, Lisa Falato, Nancy Fencil, Sandy Kalas, Joan Keyes!!!!), cutting down dead trees (Daaron Dohler and Pastor Tim!!), spreading wood chips and clearing away leaves and other debris from around the church (Mike Pedersen!), patching and staining, repairing gutters (Dave Engen!), eliminating wasp and hornet nests (Kari Davenport!), and many other jobs.

Indoor work is also being done constantly such as: painting the three church offices (Jean Gates!), Updating lighting inside the church and plumbing repairs (Arnie Bilstad and Ron Stocks!!), washing windows, replacing light bulbs, fixing leaks (Paul Saydak!), as well as other small projects that pop up from time to time.

It is unbelievable when you think of all the gifts given to the church, not only financially, but time and talent, as well. Without these generous gifts, the church would not continue to be the beautiful place that we all come home to. Please consider sharing your time and talent(s) this upcoming year to add to the beauty that is Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dave Schroetter

## **FINANCE REPORT 2017**

The Operating Fund ended the year in a positive position with income exceeding expenses by \$46,197. This was made possible by \$65,965 in prepayments of 2018 pledges. All budgeted benevolences for 2017 have been paid in full.

The Pray it Forward Building Fund appeal concluded in May 2017 with final receipts of \$404,771 representing 96.1% of the commitment goal. The 2020 Vision Building Fund appeal received pledges of \$431,129. In June 2017, a principal prepayment of \$50,000 was made and the mortgage with Thrivent Financial was re-amortized to reduce our required monthly principal and interest payment. The current balance as of the end of 2017 is \$970,457. The maturity date is May 15, 2031 and the interest rate is 4.125%. Currently the required monthly payment of principal and interest is \$7859. By the end of 2017, \$251,203 had been received by the appeal. The appeal costs were \$2436.

This year the Finance Committee completed initial work on a Financial Inventory of the church's accounts and important financial documents. Information concerning the accounts and documents have been gathered in a centrally available location. This information will be reviewed and updated annually. Thank you to the members of the Finance Committee: Arnie Bilstad, Larry Brady, Wayne Giampietro, Jackie Murphy, Ken Rosko and Julie Utterback. This committee reviews the church's financial records and provides valued insight over the church's financial state.

A big thank you to Denise Friedrich who as Church Treasurer has contributed many hours and much attention to detail this year. Counters Jeanne Nelson, Eileen Hoffman and Jackie Murphy take turns counting the monies received the preceding week and preparing the deposit. The information is entered by the Financial Clerk, Gloria Omohundro, into the church's financial record-keeping software. Gloria will be leaving this position in early 2018 and has been training Office Manager, Laurie Papini to take on these tasks. Thank you to Gloria for her years of service in this role.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Greenhut

## CUFF 2017

CUFF, or Christians United for Fellowship, has the sole mission of encouraging fellowship within our church community and beyond. There is an open invitation for all to join in fellowship opportunities—members and non-members. Not all fellowship activities at Holy Spirit are sponsored by CUFF, as the work of other groups within our congregation also strive to encourage fellowship and mutual community building. Thanks to the many church members who give of their time and talents to prepare meals, plan programs, and help with setup and/or cleanup for these events. These are the individuals whose willingness to offer their time and talents allow us to have such robust opportunities for fellowship. The following is a list of fellowship events, which occurred, in the past year:

**February:** The very popular wine tasting was held February 19. Thanks to the many people who provided the goodies that complimented the wine and the wonderful evening.

**March:** St. Patrick's Day was celebrated with our Corned Beef & Cabbage evening on March 11.

**April:** The Progressive Dinner was on April 16, where over 40 people enjoyed house hopping, great food, and even better fellowship.

**August:** Great fun was had by all at the church picnic on August 28. Many of us gathered for food, fun and fellowship. Of course, the softball game was played and once again, by the grace of God, and a very small margin, Pastor Doug's team was victorious. The games included the annual water balloon toss.

**September:** The very entertaining and delicious Beef & Lobster dinner was held September 17. This is an outstanding event where fabulous food is only surpassed by the wonderful fellowship that is shared throughout the evening.

**November:** On Sunday November 20 in conjunction with the awesome Jazz worship service, we had a noon potluck to celebrate the 54<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Church.

**December:** The annual Hanging of the Greens was held on December 3. The day started with the MOST men trekking up to Wisconsin to select and chop down the tree. Decorating the narthex and sanctuary began at 2:00 pm. Crafts for the little ones and appetizers were provided at the always festive event. The afternoon culminated with a short service of blessing of the tree and carols.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kymm Brown

## YOUTH 2017

Our high school youth, or Crossroads, participate in a variety of service projects and social events throughout the year. They are encouraged to bring friends who are not members of Holy Spirit to increase the fun and fellowship.

Jim Koblas continued to coordinate the teens' activities in the spring of 2017, and Colin Pilkington took over as Youth Director in July. The teens are in the process of raising money and planning for the ELCA Youth Gathering. Colin leads a weekly meeting with the teens on Sunday evenings.

**February** - Teens led our worship service and raised over \$1,340 for the SouperBowl of Caring. Teens served as ushers, communion deacons, and presented the sermon. Teens went on a retreat to Lutherdale.

**March** - The teens visited Feed My Starving Children and donated their time.

**May** - Youth and Confirmation breakfast to welcome 8th grade graduates.

**September** - The teens raised \$950 for the Ron Blank camp scholarship fund. The teens visited Feed My Starving Children and donated their time.

**October** - The teens helped sell walking tacos at the Fall Family Fest and raised \$300. The teens also attended a Corn Maze event.

**November** – The teens held a fundraiser at the Holiday Boutique.

**December** - The teens helped wrap presents for the Angel Tree and raised \$208. The teens again did a fabulous job decorating the church in the annual Hanging of the Greens day. The teens also repainted the youth room

Respectfully Submitted,  
Brittany Larson

My employment began July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017. I participated in Vacation Bible School as a part of storytelling (the role of Paul in jail) the first week of August. Crossroads Youth Ministry began in Mid-August, with weekly meeting spanning from August 13<sup>th</sup> through December 17<sup>th</sup>. Meetings were from 7:00-8:30pm, during which we played games, had a message, discussed the message in small groups, and shared the highs and lows of our weeks. Average attendance on Sunday nights was 6 students. We discussed such topics as Major Biblical Stories of the Old Testament and Questions the Students had about God.

We also met outside of Sunday nights at the Church several times throughout the semester. On September 22<sup>nd</sup>, a group of 14 students, friends, and chaperones participated in a Feed My Starving Children Packing Session. On October 1<sup>st</sup>, we held a car wash and raised around \$950 for church member Ron Blank to go to camp. On October 29<sup>th</sup>, a group of students and chaperones also went to the Kroll Harvest Farm Corn Maze. On December 2<sup>nd</sup>, during Hanging of the Greens, the students and I painted one of the walls of the youth room. They are incredibly happy with the results of the painting, and feel a sense of ownership to the room.

June 2018 is also the Triannual Youth Gathering. Planning for the Youth Gathering began in August with a research and interest meeting. We have a total of 9 students and 4 chaperones signed up for the 2018 Youth Gathering in Houston. We have done a few fundraisers over the course of the semester: we served food at the Fall Family Fest in late October, sold Framed photos at the Holiday Boutique, wrapped presents for the Angel Tree, and raised funds through the Benefit app. We have made good progress thus far towards our goal of bringing the cost down, and have several strong ideas to fundraise in 2018 to make the Youth Gathering affordable for everyone.

Colin Pilkington  
Director of Youth Ministry

## **Endowment Committee 2017**

The Endowment Fund was created to provide support for furthering the proclamation of the Gospel in programs and activities NOT included in the operating budget of the Holy Spirit Congregation. This is a “pass through” fund with no administrative costs. By its charter, the Holy Spirit Endowment Committee is appointed by the church council to administer the fund according to the Investment Policies set forth by the Holy Spirit Endowment Committee. The Fund’s basic goal is to maintain a minimum fund balance of \$100,000 from which awards may then be made to support a variety of education, mission and service programs.

During the past few years, the fund provided support for a variety of programs and individuals that were in keeping with the goals of the fund:

1. Funds have been provided to help sponsor our past ten intern pastors at Holy Spirit from the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago.
2. Scholarship support has been provided to enable qualified young people requesting help to attend the Lutheran Summer Music Camp, Travel Expenses to the National ELCA Teen Gathering, Leadership Lab and other church leadership training programs.
3. Scholarship support for Holy Spirit Seminarians.
4. Support for our young adults in foreign business and ministry work.
5. Support was provided for the Holy Spirit Driveway Improvement Program.
6. Financial support provided to Habitat for Humanity toward costs of housing construction in Lake County, IL.
7. Financial support to Holy Family Lutheran School’s capital appeal on Chicago’s West Side.

In the coming year, the Holy Spirit Endowment Committee has already approved the continued funding of the internship program at Holy Spirit as we transition towards sharing these costs with the congregation as an expression of our church’s commitment to helping prepare future pastors for service to the church. It is anticipated that scholarship support will also again be made available for qualified young people to participate in the music and leadership training programs of our church.

Donations to the Holy Spirit Endowment Fund are one of the best ways to ensure that the goals, visions and needs of the congregation will continue to be addressed in the coming years. Supporting the Holy Spirit Endowment Fund offers each member of the congregation a chance to demonstrate true financial responsibility and appreciation of God’s many gifts by sharing what blessings we have received with future generations.

Current members of the Endowment Committee serving staggered terms of three years each are:

Ken Rosko, Chairman

David Johnson, Financial Secretary

Arnie Bilstad

Werner Briske

Marshall Calef

Jackie Murphy

The Pastor serves as an ex-officio member of the committee

# ENDOWMENT FUND FINANCIAL REPORT

## 2017 Financial Summary

### Balance in Endowment Accounts beginning of 2017

|                |              |                     |
|----------------|--------------|---------------------|
| Bank Financial | \$2,696.16   |                     |
| Schwab         | \$125,533.68 |                     |
| <b>Total:</b>  |              | <b>\$128,229.84</b> |

### Disbursements during 2017

|                         |            |                   |
|-------------------------|------------|-------------------|
| Vicar Salary (4 months) | \$4,800.00 |                   |
| Seminarian Expense      | \$1,125.00 |                   |
| <b>Total:</b>           |            | <b>\$5,925.00</b> |

### Contributions and Gains during 2017

|                             |             |                    |
|-----------------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| Contributions during 2017   | \$6,030.00  |                    |
| Gains on Financial Accounts | \$24,080.52 |                    |
| <b>Total:</b>               |             | <b>\$30,110.52</b> |

Calculated Year end Balance **\$152,415.36**

### Balance in Endowment Accounts end of 2017

|                |              |                     |
|----------------|--------------|---------------------|
| Bank Financial | \$11,135.82  |                     |
| Schwab         | \$141,279.54 |                     |
| <b>Total:</b>  |              | <b>\$152,415.36</b> |

## **CIRCLE OF HOPE COLUMBARIUM AND GARTH ANNUAL REPORT 2017**

The Circle of Hope Columbarium and Garth serves as a final resting place for the cremated remains of members of our church and their families. The surrounding Memorial Garden provides beauty and inspiration for visitors to the Columbarium and Holy Spirit Church, while also memorializing and honoring loved ones.

Three members of Holy Spirit Church serve as Trustees of the Columbarium and Garth, in consultation with the Pastors and under the supervision of the Church Council. The current Trustees are: Nila Bilstad, Nancy Fencl, and Scott Schwanke. Information about niche purchases can be obtained from the Trustees, as well as from an informational display in the narthex.

This year the Columbarium received the cherished remains of David & B. Verlaine Riek, Trudy Calef, and Arlene Heyward. Two names were also added to the memorial plaque. Four niches were purchased this year.

Donations for plant purchases are applied according to the best judgment of the Trustees. For smaller plants, the Trustees perform the plantings themselves, thus saving planting costs and allowing for the purchase of more plants per donation. Anyone wanting to help in the plantings is certainly welcome. There will be new plantings in the spring from a memorial gift given this year. Certain donation levels qualify for memorial nameplate purchases. All memorial gifts of any amount are gratefully received and are recorded in a special book giving thanks to God for the lives lived and the memories celebrated.

Respectfully submitted,  
The Trustees of the Circle of Hope Columbarium and Garth

### **FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2017**

|  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| <b>BEGINNING CASH ON HAND (1/1/17)</b> | <b>\$36,901.92</b> |
| <b>ENDING CASH ON HAND (12/31/17)</b>  | <b>\$43,703.65</b> |

**MAINTENANCE FUND:** Every niche purchase or payment for distribution of ashes includes a donation for continuing maintenance of the Columbarium. The maintenance fund currently stands at \$32,009.87 (trust principal plus interest earned). Although the maintenance fund amount is included in the listing of ending cash on hand for bookkeeping purposes, it is considered to be a separate fund and subject to different rules than available cash proceeds. Maintenance materials and labor are currently donated, leaving the maintenance fund intact. Available cash proceeds other than interest earned on the maintenance trust are \$11,693.78 (ending cash on hand minus maintenance trust fund).

## WELCA - Women of the ELCA - 2017

WELCA has traditionally been a valuable ministry in the church. It provides an opportunity for women to gather for friendship, in faith and for service. Lynn Kasche has served in the leadership position for the last two years.

Some of the activities of the past year 2017:

In June, we welcomed the children of Lutheran Day Nursery School for a day of fun. The students met us at Ryerson Conservation to learn about barn animals. Then they came back to church for lunch and some playtime on the playground.

In November, we held the annual holiday boutique. Special thanks to Katie Bittner for heading up the boutique crafters, Trudy Bettiker for the vendor luncheon, Kari Davenport for organizing the bake sale room and the many people who helped with set up and clean up!

In December, we adorned the Angel Tree with the names of the children from Lutheran Day Preschool and Winthrop Harbor Preschool. Special thanks to Kari Davenport for spearheading this event. The children were very excited to see all the gifts! We also hosted an informal "white elephant" gift exchange/wine/appetizer evening" in the narthex. We enjoyed great conversation and laughs, good company of 8-10 of the women and a good prelude to celebrating Christmas!

NEW – Started in Fall 2017! The first Thursday of every month, we meet at Sullivan's on Milwaukee in Lincolnshire for "happy hour" starting at 6:00pm (for continued fellowship and interpersonal connection). This event will continue in 2018.

This year's Holiday Boutique netted \$4,680.

List of benevolences sent out by WELCA for 2017:

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| Lutheran Outdoor Ministries, Erika Meyer Scholarship 2017 | \$ 300.00  |
| LOM Erika Meyer 2018                                      | \$ 300.00  |
| Refugee One:  | \$1,000.00 |
| Open Arms aka Elijah Pantry                               | \$ 500.00  |
| COOL  | \$ 500.00  |
| Holy Family Ministries                                    | \$ 200.00  |
| Luth Day Nursery  | \$ 500.00  |
| LSSI Pris Min   | \$ 400.00  |
| Luth Outdoor Min.   | \$ 300.00  |
| Lutherdale Bible Camp                                     | \$ 300.00  |
| PADS  | \$1,000.00 |
| Women of the ELCA   | \$ 50.00   |
| Total:  | \$5,350.00 |

## **MOST - Men of Spirit Together 2017**

The MOST group went through a transition in 2017 when two of our charter members moved out of our church community and on to new phases of their lives. Pastor Doug retired after 25 years of ministry at Holy Spirit, and long-time MOST leader Vic Larson and his wonderful wife, Jeanne, retired to sunny Florida (although the sun was hard to find while Hurricane Irma was blowing through their neighborhood.) Vic did a great job for many years organizing MOST events and keeping the group informed about upcoming activities. We wish Pastor Doug and Vic all the best, and as Vic wrote in last year's report, once a MOST member, always a MOST member.

Despite our year of transition, the MOST team was still actively involved around the church throughout the year. Led by Dave Schroetter, the men helped with several church work days and many other day-to-day maintenance activities around the building. The men also helped with several CUFF events including Corned Beef & Cabbage and Beef & Lobster.

And of course the men hauled down another beautiful Christmas tree from the North Woods and decorated it as part of the Hanging of the Greens celebration. This year's tree didn't require a block and tackle to stand it up, but it's another beautiful symbol of Christmas and the renewal of Christ's birth.

Finally, the MOST group is happy to welcome Bernie Kasche as our new fearless leader. Bernie will help revitalize the group and plan events in 2018. Bernie's wife, Lynn, is leading the WELCA group, so could some coordinated activities happen in the future? Stay tuned....

Respectfully submitted,  
Daaron Dohler

## **EXPERIENCED PEOPLE OF THE SPIRIT - ExPOS YEAR END REPORT 2017**

ExPOS began on January 2011. It is an active group of approximately 15 members meeting the second Tuesday of every month at 10:30am. When the meeting is at the church, we meet in room six and the members bring a bag lunch and at noon we have lunch and fellowship with the Pastors and staff members. Our mission statement is to promote the understanding, the enjoyment and fulfillment of our aging congregation through adherence to the mission of our Church to live, to celebrate and to serve as Christ served.

We started in January planning our events for the year and sharing our Christmas joys with friends and family.

Valentine Brunch was celebrated at church by the fireplace on February 14th at noon. Everyone shared a dish and we were entertained by Ruth and Steve Jackson, friends of the Heywards. It was a wonderful day of fellowship, great food and great entertainment.

The event for March and November was a volunteer opportunity. We packaged food for the "Feed My Starving Children" organization. This was a rewarding experience for all who were able to volunteer.

The event for April was a visit to the Volo Antique Auto Museum located in Volo, Illinois. There was a lot to see and everyone enjoyed the day.

We were planning to go to Ryerson Conservation Area in May but because of the weather, we postponed the event until June where we gathered at church to hear a Nature Presentation on Landscape for Wildlife presented by a representative from Lake County Forest Preserves. Afterwards we had a luncheon to thank Arlene and Chuck Heyward for leading and planning events for the ExPOS.

We gathered in September where Tom Weglarz announced that he accepted the position as ExPOS Coordinator. We continued the meeting with an open prayer and sharing our summer experiences. We discussed upcoming events and decided that since October 8th-14th was Fire Prevention Week that we would invite Vicar Dennis Waugh to give a presentation on fire safety.

In November it was with deep sadness that we bid farewell to our dear friend Arlene Heyward when she was called home to be with Our Lord and Savior. The ExPOS decided to have a living memorial for Arlene. A shrub called "Tiger Eyes" will be planted in the Columbarium Garden in the spring and Arlene's name will be added to the Memorium Plaque.

In December we finished off our year at the Italian Kitchen in Deerfield with a wonderful luncheon. We all enjoyed the food and the opportunity to get better acquainted with Vicar Dennis Waugh and Office Manager, Laurie Papini.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Tom Weglarz, ExPOS Coordinator

**LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**  
***Proposed 2018 BUDGET recommended by the Church Council***  
***to the Congregational Meeting January 21, 2018***

**Balance Forward/Prepaid Pledges** **\$65,965**

| <u><b>INCOME:</b></u> | <u><b>2017 Budget</b></u> | <u><b>2017 Actual</b></u> | <u><b>2018 Proposed</b></u> |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|

|                                   |           |           |           |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Contributions (pledged and other) | \$501,506 | \$515,313 | \$396,352 |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|

|                            |                  |                  |                  |
|----------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>OFFERINGS SUB-TOTAL</b> | <b>\$501,506</b> | <b>\$515,313</b> | <b>\$396,352</b> |
|----------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|

|  |          |          |          |
|--|----------|----------|----------|
| Other Income (LCNS, Building Use, Misc.) | \$66,400 | \$72,016 | \$68,000 |
|--|----------|----------|----------|

|                              |                  |                  |                  |
|------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE</b> | <b>\$567,906</b> | <b>\$587,329</b> | <b>\$464,352</b> |
|------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|

**EXPENSES:**

Benevolence (Not including Hunger):

|  |          |          |          |
|--|----------|----------|----------|
| Metro Chicago Synod ELCA                 | \$55,000 | \$55,000 | \$52,000 |
| Mission Partnership with Sagrado Corazon | \$3,000  | \$3,000  | \$3,000  |
| Refugee One                              | \$1,000  | \$1,000  | \$1,000  |
| LSSI                                     | \$1,000  | \$1,000  | \$1,000  |

Office of the Pastors:

|                                      |           |           |          |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Salaries & Housing                   | \$143,058 | \$143,061 | \$86,000 |
| Synod Medical/Pension/Soc.Sec.       | \$87,858  | \$84,467  | \$48,374 |
| Reimbursed (Auto, Prof Exp, Cont Ed) | \$12,550  | \$6,285   | \$6,350  |

|                            |           |           |           |
|----------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Office Administration      | \$15,570  | \$13,879  | \$16,870  |
| Christian Education        | \$4,700   | \$4,350   | \$4,700   |
| Church Growth              | \$3,125   | \$2,755   | \$2,000   |
| Human Needs                | \$1,000   | \$0       | \$1,000   |
| Property                   | \$131,350 | \$117,535 | \$140,850 |
| Music                      | \$7,850   | \$6,741   | \$7,850   |
| Youth                      | \$1,250   | \$1,088   | \$2,500   |
| Stewardship                | \$1,350   | \$1,233   | \$1,350   |
| Worship                    | \$6,750   | \$5,844   | \$6,750   |
| Personnel                  | \$72,690  | \$94,487  | \$125,982 |
| Council/New Program/Intern | \$17,250  | \$6,407   | \$8,750   |

|                                 |                  |                  |                  |
|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b> | <b>\$566,351</b> | <b>\$548,132</b> | <b>\$516,326</b> |
|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|

|                          |                |                 |                   |
|--------------------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| <b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b> | <b>\$1,555</b> | <b>\$39,197</b> | <b>(\$51,974)</b> |
|--------------------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|

## STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2017

| <u>ASSETS</u>                             |                    | <u>LIABILITIES</u>            |                    |
|---|--------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Operating Fund Cash                       | \$115,000          | CUFF Fund                     | 0                  |
|   |                    | Memorial Fund (Restricted)    | \$12,515           |
|   |                    | In-Out Fund (Restricted Uses) | \$13,371           |
|   |                    | Credit Line Payable           | \$0                |
| Building Fund                             | \$176,899          | Mortgage Loan                 | \$970,457          |
| Endowment Fund (Restricted)               | \$152,415          | Endowment Fund (Restricted)   | \$152,415          |
| Parsonage Fund                            | \$24,760           |                               |                    |
| Church Building                           | \$2,650,000        |                               |                    |
| (2003 estimated value after construction) |                    |                               |                    |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>                       | <b>\$3,119,074</b> | <b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>      | <b>\$1,148,758</b> |

### Report of the Financial Review Committee

The Financial Review Committee met with the Church Treasurer (Denise Friedrich) to review the procedures of the Church regarding financial matters and the financial records of the Church and to review the procedures regarding the Building Fund and Endowment Fund accounts. The Financial Review Committee has concluded that appropriate controls are in place regarding the collection and deposit of funds received by the Church into the appropriate accounts. The Committee is also of the opinion that the Church follows reasonable procedures to track and approve the expenditure of funds and sees to it that all expenditures are charged to the appropriate budget accounts.

The Committee reviewed the financial records and funds expended and concluded that the officers of the Church are following proper procedures in reconciling the income and expenditure of funds with the statement of accounts received from the Church's bank. The Committee further finds that the Treasurer maintains the proper records in the proper format. A review of actual checks written during the year indicates the income and expenditures of the Church are properly and appropriately posted to the financial records maintained by the Treasurer, which records accurately reflect the financial condition of the Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit.

Dated: January 9, 2018

Financial Review Committee:

Carol Greenhut, Chair

Arnie Bilstad, Larry Brady, Wayne Giampietro, Jackie Murphy, Kenneth Rosko, Julie Utterback

# Milestones 2017

## January

Annual Meeting



## February

EXPOS celebrate Valentines Day.

Wine Tasting

Mardi Gras is as fun as ever!

Lenten mid-week services

Souper Bowl of Caring



## March

Blood Drive

Fun, food & fellowship at annual Corned Beef Dinner.

EXPOS package meals at Feed My Starving Children.



## April

“Ladies Night Out” for WELCA at Studio Beads in Deerfield

Expos visit Volo Auto Museum & Antique Malls

PADS ends successful season of helping others.

Holy Week and Easter promise new life.

## May

High Schoolers welcome new eighth graders at a brunch outing.

Six are Confirmed on May 14<sup>th</sup>



## June

Music Sunday Celebration

Rummage Sale

Monday night *Worship in the Woods* begins.

Lutheran Day Nursery children enjoy Ryerson, the playground and hot dogs.

Church Picnic

Pastor Doug retires



## July

Monday *Worship in the Woods* continues.

New staff are installed.



## August

"Rome" Vacation Bible School involved children, teens and adults raising over \$1200 for backpacks for RefugeeOne.

LCHS Golf Outing

## September

Rally Day

Another amazing Beef and Lobster event.

Sunday School, LYFE & Adult Forum kick off.

Bible Studies start.



## October

27 quilts are blessed and sent to Lutheran World Relief.

Annual Blood Drive

Fall Family Fest featuring Trunk or Treating

RefugeeOne Concert

500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation

Youth carwash raises funds for Ron Blank.



## November

WELCA Holiday Boutique—LYFE has their table too.

EXPOS volunteer at Feed My Starving Children.



## December

Hanging of the Greens brings families together to decorate for Christmas.

Fun at Gingerbread Jamboree.

Advent wreath family event.

Mid-week Advent Taize services provides time for quiet reflection.

WELCA White Elephant Gift Exchange.

Expo's Christmas luncheon at Italian Kitchen.

LYFE Christmas program.

The Angel Tree provides gifts for 70 children in need.

Christmas sing-a-long and a birthday cake for Jesus.

Christmas Eve services with the Christmas orchestra, choirs, bells, strings, brass and winds.



## HOLY SPIRIT BENEVOLENCE LIST 2017

*The following is a list of funds committed for 2017 benevolences, ministries and needs beyond our doors.*

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Metropolitan Chicago Synod  | \$55,000 |
| Refugee One (through WELCA)   | \$1,000  |
| Mission Partnership with Sagrado Corazon, Waukegan                                      | \$3,000  |
| Lutheran Social Services of Illinois  | \$1,000  |
| <b>Hunger Offerings</b>   |          |
| COOL Pantry in Waukegan   | \$5,888  |
| Elijah's Pantry in Chicago (Stopped operation in July 2016)                             | \$2,020  |
| ELCA Hunger/Disaster Relief   | \$14,461 |
| *Greater Chicagoland Food Pantry  | \$2,172  |
| *Libertyville Township Food Pantry  | \$2,172  |
| *West Deerfield Township Food Pantry  | \$2,172  |
| *Vernon Township Food Pantry  | \$2,172  |
| *one-time assignment of 25% Elijah's Pantry allocation since 6/2016; 2018 recipient TBD |          |
| <b>Endowment Fund</b>   |          |
| Partial funding of Intern   | \$4,800  |
| Seminarian Expense  | \$1,125  |
| <b>WELCA (Women), MOST (Men), ToST (Hi Teens), Designated Gifts</b>                     |          |
| Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI) Prison Ministry                             | \$400    |
| Holy Family Ministries  | \$200    |
| Lutheran Day Nursery  | \$500    |
| Women of the ELCA   | \$50     |
| Lutheran Outdoor Ministry Center  | \$300    |
| Erika Meyer Camper Scholarship at LOMC  | \$600    |
| Lutherdale Bible Camp   | \$300    |
| WELCA to PADS   | \$1,000  |
| WELCA to COOL Food Pantry and Transitional Housing, Waukegan                            | \$500    |
| WELCA to Elijah's Pantry, Chicago   | \$500    |
| WELCA to Casa JoJo Corazon de Nina, Mexico  | \$1,200  |
| WELCA support for Refugee One co-sponsor  | \$1,000  |
| <b>Vacation Bible School for RefugeeOne Back to School Backpacks</b>                    | \$1,443  |
| <b>RefugeeOne Benefit Concert</b>   | \$3,271  |

**Gifts in Kind:** Included meals prepared at PADS with staffing at all shifts once each month; thousands of pounds of groceries to COOL Pantry in Waukegan; over 47 units of blood donated; 20 Thanksgiving food baskets for the hungry; 70 children received Christmas gifts through the Angel Tree.



