



Shepherd
OF THE PRAIRIE
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Annual Report

January 29, 2017

*“Caring for God’s Children of all ages, by growing disciples
who make disciples.”*

Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church

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Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Annual Meeting

January 29, 2017

I. Call to Order

II. Quorum Call

III. Opening Prayer

IV. Looking Back

1. Approval of Minutes from January 24, 2016
2. Approval of Committee and Ministry Reports
3. Approval of 2016 Financial Reports
4. Recognition of Outgoing Council Member

- Jim Henley
- Mike McCann
- Bob McDuffee

V. Celebration of Ministry - Video

VI. Looking Ahead

1. Purpose Statement, Guiding Principles and Strategic Directions
2. Staffing Introductions
3. 500th Anniversary of the Reformation
4. Building Update

VII. Elections

1. Election of Audit Team Member
2. Election of Nominating Team
3. Election of Voting Members to the Northern IL Synod Assembly
4. Election of New Council Members

VIII. Approval of 2017 Budget

IX. Closing Prayer

X. Adjournment

Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Annual Meeting Minutes

January 24, 2016

Called to order – 11:58 AM

- Quorum required is 72. In attendance: 90+
- Teller – Mark Frendreis, Cliff Dungey
- Parliamentarian – Jessica Panella

Opening Prayer: Pastor Mark

Looking Back

- A motion to approve minutes from 2015 annual meeting was made by John Boehler, seconded by Donna Kelly. Voted on and approved.

Committee and Ministry Reports

- Motion to accept the ministry reports were made by Sandy Hupert. Seconded by Kathy Pizarro.
- Marian Messenbrink noted changes to ministry reports with where the year is showing as 2014 instead of 2015.
- Motion to approve amended Ministry Reports by Joanne Ward. Darlene Polzin seconded. Voted on and approved.

2015 Financial Reports

Financial updates provided by Jim Henley.

Building Fund

- We started 2015 with a loan balance of \$687,915.39 and ended the year with a balance of \$531,208.74 which resulted in a total principal reduction of \$156,706.69 for 2015.
- Additional principal reductions were made throughout the year while maintaining a minimum of 4 full monthly payments in reserve.
- While our past focus has been to pay this loan down as soon as feasible, now we are in planning stages for eventual expansion to further our Church's ministry efforts.

Balance Sheet

- We ended 2015 with a strong cash position. We have \$59,232.58 in unrestricted funds, \$40,319.48 in Restricted Funds, and \$85,844.43 in our Reserve Accounts.

Treasurer's Report (Income Statement)

- We finished 2015 with operating income exceeding operating expenses by \$14,846.77. We applied \$15,500.00 to our reserve accounts and plan to carry the remaining balance of \$14,846.77 forward into 2016 to allow for unexpected expenses or ministry opportunities. After accounting for the designation of reserve accounts, our 2015 year end reflects a balanced budget with above mentioned surplus. This positive difference for the year allowed us to fully fund \$15,500.00 to our provision accounts for 2015.
- Our Income Statement shows \$559,252.82 which reflects an increase in total income compared to \$532,815.16 collected in 2014. The finance team made a change in how we manage prepaid pledges in 2013. Prepaid pledges will be held as a liability on the balance sheet for the year end reports and then moved to income in the year it was intended. On the balance sheet we are carrying forward \$3,000.00 in prepaid pledges for 2016.

- Expenses for the year were under budget \$22,718.95. The primary reason for the significant drop in expenses was the reduction in hours in Staffing Ministry. Even though we had a slight overages in some of our ministry areas, the overage was not of sufficient size to offset the positive effect in the lowering of staffing costs.
- You may notice there are several categories that may have ended the year under budget, and others that were over budget. We continued to work on procedures to improve the accuracy of placing expenses in the proper categories. We have to congratulate our ministry team leaders, our staff, and Pastor Mark for managing and controlling expenses in a faithful fiduciary capacity. The Finance Committee was extremely diligent in questioning all expense categories and income projections.
- Motion to accept the 2015 Financial Reports by Donna Kelly. Seconded by John Boehler. Motion voted on and approved.

Outgoing Council Member Recognized

- Larry Newbanks

Celebration of Ministry – Video

Looking Ahead

- Purpose Statement, Guiding Principles and Strategic Directions
- Staffing Introductions
- January 11 Leadership Retreat Update

Election of Audit Team Member

- Bill Nesta
- Motion to elect Bill voted on and approved.

Election of 2016 Nominating Team

- Larry Newbanks, Carol Legel, Chuck Little, Brigitte Pelka, Donna Sorensen
- Motion to approve Nominating Team voted on and approved.

Election of Voting Members to the Northern Illinois Synod Assembly

- Jill Gilming and Brian Ott
- Motion to approve Jill and Brian as Voting Members of NI Synod Assembly voted on and approved.

Election of New Council Member

- Bud Hansen
- Motion to approve Adam Adams and Amy Brittain for a second term and Bud as a new council member voted on and approved.

2016 Budget Highlights

- Jim Henley provided 2016 budget comments and summary.
- Member contributions are calculated based on pledges received and historical giving patterns. The projected increase for 2016 is 2.8% above 2015 contributions.
- Expenses in 2015 were significantly lower than normal due to reduction in hours in Staffing Ministry.
- ELCA Northern Illinois Synod Mission is 10% of member contributions.
- Local Mission is 1% of member contributions. Does not include special offerings.
- Equipment Rental (Copy Machine Lease) has been adequately budgeted in 2015 and 2016.
- Human Resources successfully contracted with ADP for one year to review and update our employment policies and compliance. This process has been completed and we have reduced

this commitment to quarterly meetings with payroll processing included in package reducing our overall HR/Payroll processing charges.

- While we are showing a balanced budget for 2016, you must remember the actual income is dependent on pledges being met, our control of expense items, and mitigating factors we may not be able to control. Income may well exceed our expectations, as It did in 2015.
- Snow removal and lawn care have been separated in 2016 budget to allow better monitoring for these two expense items.
- There is also a Staffing for Growth line item for future ministry opportunities.
- Salary increases calculated at 3% for 2016.
- Stock option process for donation to church was discussed by Jim. He made It known that if there are any questions regarding the process, feel free to come talk to Jim or Michelle Rankin.

Questions from the floor:

- Sue Wehnes – Inquired if there was anything we could do to assist LSSI. Mission Team leader, Sandy Hupert, responded that she already has dollars set aside for LSSI and the split between missions will be decided.
- Rich Wille – Asked if the ADP line item is over budgeted. Jim let us know the switch to Church Windows has been considered in the budget.
- Rich Wille – What is the final member offering. Ralph Wehnes responded \$555k for 2015.
- Rich Wille – Flower income – budgeted \$2500 but the expenses were only \$2000. Jim: The flower bucket is a pass through account. Pat Fiorese stated the church does pay for some of the flowers that are not completely covered for the Christmas and Easter flowers.
- Sid Sorensen – Youth trips and retreats, what is budgeted for these line items. Greg Dowell responded that the youth trip funds are predominantly funded by fundraisers. Further options for funding will be discussed in the future.
- Donna Sorensen – Stated she thought that there should be some monies funded to support retreats.
- Joanne Ward – Green envelope for giving obsolete? Ralph Wehnes said they are still available.
- Alice Hallett – Series EE and HH Bonds still available to be donated? Jim said he cannot take direct donations to church; they need to be cashed first and then donated. If you are interested in donating IRA RMD monies to FIF please contact Jim Henley.
- Pat Fiorese – Asked to make correction for communion bread baking should reflect Judy Symbal.
- Ron Mudge – Do we share any specifics in regards to life insurance for Pastor Mark and his family? Comment about making sure he is taken care of by Frances Wilson.

A motion to approve the 2016 budget made by George Sebastian, seconded by Ferdie Kimmanau. Voted on and approved.

Pastor Mark closed with prayer.

Meeting adjourned – 12:51pm

Submitted by,

—*Mike McCann*

Pastor's Report to the Congregation

"I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd puts the sheep before himself, sacrifices himself if necessary. A hired man is not a real shepherd. The sheep mean nothing to him. He sees a wolf come and runs for it, leaving the sheep to be ravaged and scattered by the wolf. He's only in it for the money. The sheep don't matter to him.

"I am the Good Shepherd. I know my own sheep and my own sheep know me. In the same way, the Father knows me and I know the Father. I put the sheep before myself, sacrificing myself if necessary. You need to know that I have other sheep in addition to those in this pen. I need to gather and bring them, too. They'll also recognize my voice. Then it will be one flock, one Shepherd. This is why the Father loves me: because I freely lay down my life. And so I am free to take it up again. No one takes it from me. I lay it down of my own free will. I have the right to lay it down; I also have the right to take it up again. I received this authority personally from my Father."

John 10:11-18 The Message

Reshape us, good Lord, until we are truly Christ like. Make us passionate followers of Jesus, rather than passive supporters. Make Shepherd of the Prairie cells of radical discipleship. "then, in us, through us, and, if need be, despite us, let your kingdom come. Amen.

The reading above from John's Gospel is a message of hope for all. We hear about the good shepherd, the hired hand, the wolf, the fold and the sheep. We hear of things being threatened, scattered, and stolen.

Would it not be appropriate to use this piece of Scripture as our theme text for this year in this place we call Shepherd of the Prairie. What if we used this text as an example of what can happen in the church?

Every church of Jesus Christ runs the risk of a danger from the outside. Think of how many times the church has been under attack. The word "Christian" can be a stumbling block for many people who have bad experiences with the church, or the unchurched find it fascinating when it seems we cannot get along.

To people who have never been part of a church community, unfortunately, they are given many reasons to be skeptical, doubtful, and critical.

I get really disturbed when Hollywood tries to display what "Christians" are really like. Many times, I watch movies and I think, the Christians I know are not like that. They are normal, fun, intelligent, caring people and the world is given a partial view of who we are.

All of us have our own histories, stories and faith journeys of how we ended up in this community of faith, Shepherd of the Prairie. It is what makes us quite a unique place to step off and serve into this new year. Our presence matter to us as individuals, for our families and for the community we are called to serve.

Being the church in the world is a wonderful opportunity. Being the church means that our presence matters, that our first essential part of leadership is based on the example of Jesus Christ.

We are no longer bound by societal assumptions of who we are...who we are is reflected in the love we have been given through the power and presence of Jesus Christ!

Do you already know that you are a child of God and that you were saved through grace by the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ? If the answer is "yes," then I want to ask you this question, "How is your life a witness to others?"

What gives you peace, joy, purpose, meaning? We cannot receive these things on our own, but only through Jesus Christ! We are the evangelists to the people in our neighborhoods, communities, schools and workplaces.

500 years ago Martin Luther was saying similar things related to the church and its presence in the lives of the people, community and world. It will be our joy to celebrate 500 years of Reformation history this year and pray this will be a time for you to deepen your appreciation for our past to give meaning and purpose to our serving into the future.

What a wonderful blessing it is to serve Christ in and through this place. It is my privilege to work alongside of you in helping to bring God's Kingdom to bear in our community and beyond.

Please take time to read through this 2016 Annual Report. It reflects much of what God has done through us to serve his purpose of "Caring for God's Children by Growing Disciples, who make Disciples."

I am always hesitant to single out or speak specifically of any particular group or cause in the church. Every single item reflected in this booklet is a reflection of God's grace through us to the world.

I do pray for each of us that we might continue to grow as disciplined followers of Christ.

By understanding who we are and living our faith in our daily life, we become spokespersons for Christ. We do this not by shouting prayers off the rooftops, but by quietly being a presence, an encourager, a person of faith who people go to for support and strength.

I know of someone who runs a day care in her home and teaches the children who come into her home about faith, love, respect, manners, and sharing. The values she teaches become a living witness of Christ to these children who do not go to church. The children may not be in the church, but they know they are a child of God who is worthy of love and being loved.

We can have an influence in the world as a disciple of Jesus Christ in the world. I am so thankful for the many ways I see this happening in or (as the example above demonstrates) through the church.

Jesus says, "I lay my life down for the sheep." Jesus blesses all who love and serve in the name of Christ, but Jesus also has hope for those who do not yet know him. "I have other sheep who do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd."

A church in the world and a world in the church means that we get to figure out ways we can reach out as community within our community because we have received the love of Jesus Christ and extend it to others.

This may mean giving up something in order to be able to be available to share what we have been given. Jesus shares of his relationship with God the Father by saying,

"For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down by my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

Jesus laid down his life, his body as a sacrifice for all for the forgiveness of sin. As Jesus laid down his life, sin could no longer divide us from God, but we are restored in our relationship with God because of the love Jesus had for us.

Jesus has this same love for those who do not know him and it is up to us as individuals and as a church community to reach out beyond the boundaries of the church walls and be the church.

This is one of the continuing challenges that I see in our church today. What can we do and how to we better position ourselves as a church to reach people who have not yet come to know Christ as Savior and Lord? I would ask for your prayers on this ongoing spiritual directive. Let's dialogue and take seriously our Lord's command to "go, baptize and teach, into all the world. It all begins with you.

So I ask you to pray a prayer that continue to be meaningful to me in ministry.

*"Lord, what would you do through me to achieve your vision for Shepherd of the Prairie.
Help me discern a sacrifice that is meaningful and joyful."*

God's richest blessing to you as we continue our adventure of faith.

—*Pastor Mark*

Director of Adult Education

The earliest followers of Jesus “devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.” (Acts 2:42)

The four things mentioned here are considered to be absolutely vital for the church to be the church. They help to define who and why we are. As a community of faith, we are much more than simply a gathering of like-minded people. Instead we gather around the cross listening to apostolic teaching. We break the bread and drink from the cup. For the sake of the world, we pray. For if we as the church don’t, who will?

It’s the “apostolic teaching” that comprises the heart of adult education. It’s vital we pay close attention to that as it comes to us in a variety of shapes and colors. We inaugurated 2016 by reflecting on sacred words that shape our faith. During Lent, we offered a series titled *Death and Dying with Hope* and were blessed to hear from an attorney, a physician, someone from Hospice Care, and a funeral home director. The weeks after Easter brought us Paul’s love letter to the Philippians.

For 2016 and 2017, it was determined that we would focus on the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation—for a full year! This is in preparation for the actual celebration on October 29, 2017. We began by lifting up the Gospel of John and how it shaped Martin Luther’s faith and theology. Next we’ll see how the apostle Paul did the same thing through his life and letters. We’ll explore the five principles of Lutheran theology as well as other characters of the Reformation (Lutherans, Catholics, and other reformers.) During the season of Lent, we’ll spend time with Luther’s *Small Catechism*, both on Wednesday evenings and during adult education classes. Mary, mother of our Lord, and St. Augustine will receive special attention, as will art and music of the Reformation era. And, of course, we want to explore the Lutheran church today.

And, in the midst of it all, we’ll have an opportunity for a Lutheran/Catholic dialogue as we listen to our own Pastor Mark and Monsignor Steven Knox (formerly of St. Mary’s Catholic Church here in Huntley) have conversation and answer questions.

All this kicks off with a Reformation dinner and Luther movie on October 30, 2016.

In addition to all this Reformation hoopla, a new and exciting educational opportunity came as 30 participants (ages 16-90!) wrote devotions for Advent 2016. These devotional booklets will be available to the congregation along with Advent wreaths that can be purchased and used in the home.

It’s been a busy, fulfilling year to be part of SOTP’s ministry. Both our staff and congregation are a blessing to be sure. I am grateful to our God for allowing me to be in this place—a vital, congregation that does ministry so well!

—*Pastor Bill Waxenberg*

Director of Adult Education

Lay Ministry/New Member Coordinator

This year we hosted four New Member Gatherings; in February, May, August and October where we welcomed 70 Adults and 18 children into our family here at SOTP. These new members have become integral parts of the ministry here at SOTP and no longer seem to be new members, but old friends and partners.

This year we have started several new ministries. The first is a Grief Ministry which sends books to those members who are dealing with loss and grief due to the death of a loved one. Four booklets are sent during the first year which are very “in touch” with the grieving process and offer ideas on how to view the changes and stages as they are experienced. The second is a Caring Caller Ministry which contacts members after a hospitalization or illness to let them know they are cared about and to see if they have a need we can help to address. The third new ministry is Baptismal Care. Cards and information are sent to parents of newly baptized infants for the first three years welcoming them into our family here and with ideas for parents to use to celebrate that day. We have also begun a “Suppers With Luther” class to enable people who do not come from a Lutheran background or for whom Confirmation was a long time ago to learn about Luther and what we as ELCA Lutherans believe and practice.

In order to find ways to be more efficient we invited Ed Cuttle to take over the day to day running of our Church Windows membership data base. He and I worked together to ask members to go on line and complete the Ministry Interest form so we could set up ministry data bases. While only about half of our members did so, we were still able to begin to set up that data base. During the first quarter of 2016, we plan to ask each member to update their basic information (address, phone, cell phone, email, children’s birthdays etc) so we can make sure our church data base has all of the correct information.

As I look forward to this coming year, I pray that as we look forward to the changes in our facilities here at SOTP, we keep foremost in our sight our commitment to bring Christ and his kingdom to the people in our community as well as those within our membership. I also pray that we can all answer God’s call to work in partnership together as we continue to “grow disciples that make disciples”.

—*Donna Kelly*

Connections Facilitator

Youth and Family Ministry Annual Report

Shepherd of the Prairie's Youth and Family Ministries continue to hold to 5 basic principles:

1. Faith is formed by the power of the Holy Spirit through personal, trusted relationships.
2. The church is a living partnership between the ministry of the congregation and ministry of the home.
3. Where Christ is present in faith, the home is church, too.
4. Faith is caught more than it is taught.
5. If we want Christian children and youth, we need Christian adults.

Summary of 2016 Accomplishments

- 28 Students confirmed in Rite of Affirmation of Baptism
- 58 Students enrolled in Confirmation
- Continued using "Colaborate", a more engaging curriculum from Sparkhouse Publishing, part of Augsburg Fortress.
- Taught 6th and 7th grade students in sanctuary
- Taught 8th grade students in large Sunday School room
- Used every room in church (including sanctuary) for small groups
- 29 Confirmation participants attended 2016 Fall Confirmation Retreat at Lutheran Outdoors Ministries Center in Oregon, Illinois
- Re:refresh focused on Understanding the Bible as an ongoing narrative story and love story from God.
- Held Fall Family Night at Richardson Corn Maze
- Confirmation families attended our Feed My Starving Children day and packed 41,688 meals, enough to feed 115 kids for a year!
- Youth collected and packed 240 (a new record!) boxes for Operation Christmas Child
- 40 participants attended Creation Restoration 6.0. We explored Arches National Park, and served a youth ranch in Durango, Colorado.
- Trivia Night fundraiser for Creation Restoration 6.0 was a huge success!
- 28 students and 7 adults volunteered for Lifest, the three day Christian music festival in Osh Kosh, Wisconsin. Approximately 30,000 plastic bottles were recycled, saving our landfills.
- 140 young people attended Vacation Bible School with almost 80 volunteers to support.

Looking forward to in 2017

- Creation Restoration 7.0 mission trip in June to remove discarded tires from the Kentucky river.
- Planning for Trivia Night for Creation Restoration 7.0.
- Continuing our partnership with Lifest to handle their recycling.
- Confirming 22 8th grade students in Rite of Affirmation of Baptism
- Looking for additional volunteers to help lead our high school and engage more of our adults in ministry.
- Looking forward to including children and family ministries under the "youth" umbrella.

—*Greg Dowell*

Director of Youth & Family Ministries

Congregational Council Report

The Council, staff and key Ministry leaders met in January 2016 to review the Strategic Directions and establish preliminary goals for 2016. With this being such an exciting time at SOTP with the new building being the main focus of many of our attention, it is important to remember and take note of all the wonderful work that is being done around SOTP.

The following were the 4 Key Strategic Directions followed by specific goals we focused on this year:

Be a catalyst for creating community partnerships that care for people in need

Maintain contact and identify volunteer opportunities with Centegra leaders to investigate forming a partnership of religious congregations that can provide services to patients.

- Pastor Mark communicated with Centegra via email and volunteer needs to be addressed in May per Centegra
- Participated in Huntley Expo in September
- Green Trees volunteer opportunities occurred 10/1/16 and 10/8/16

Explore volunteer opportunities with Heritage Woods

- Exploring once per month worship service at location behind Heritage Woods
- Seeking volunteers for transportation for individuals from Heritage Woods to attend SOTP worship service

Increase visibility of Little Lambs Education Program

- Pastor and Little Lamb student meetings began March 2016
- End of year program: May 26th - Council president spoke to parents
- Lunch with Little Lambs and Pastor Mark occurred after year end program
- Little Lambs staff hired as church staff, not contract personnel

Promote the well-being of area children, youth and young adults through identification and facilitation of community programming

Continue to develop tutoring center

- Students received tutoring from 2 tutors
- Tutoring facilitator introduced tutoring program at confirmation

Expand Youth and Family Ministry Opportunities

- Praize Jamz led worship on Saturday April 23rd
- Youth/Family Ministry raised up
- Mobile Food Pantry date reserved for April 1, 2017

Active Christian Parenting

- Flyers distributed to VBS parents
- Will revisit in 2017

**Invite People into life-giving participation in the
community of faith**

Social Activities

- Picnic
- Trivia Night
- 3 Summer Potlucks
- 15th Anniversary of 1st worship at SOTP
- Reformation event: German dinner and Luther movie
- Richardson Corn Maze Family Night

**Encourage spiritual growth that changes lives and raises up leaders
for the church and the world**

Change lives and raise up leaders through small group opportunities.

- Summer Potlucks completed
- Small group training opportunity in February 2017
- Grief support group began

Shepherd of the Prairie does so many wonderful activities, not only for our own members, but for the entire Huntley community that it really all comes in to perspective when you take the time to look at everything we've accomplished throughout the year.

Respectfully Submitted,

—*Mike McCann*
Council President

2016 Building Team Report

Your SOTP Building Team:

- Pastor Mark Boster,
- Cliff Dungey; Council Liaison
- Mark Frendreis; Property Representative
- Deb Hansen; Building Team Chairman
- Bob Malm; Building for Mission Team
- Larry Newbanks; Building Team Chairman 2009
- Don Schneider; Finance Representative
- Joyce Shotick; Communication Leader

January: Groth Design Group and Shales McNutt collaborate on estimated building costs.

February: Conceptual Design trimmed and revised. Conceptual Budget presented by SMC. Worship Space becomes the priority and focus.

March 9th: **The Big Reveal** held for the congregation with GDG, SMC introducing Conceptual Drawings and the challenge to build Music/Education Wing. Devin Burg, MIF representative, introduces the SOTP Building Addition Finance Plan. Conceptual Drawings displayed in Crossroads along with Suggestion Box.

April: Building Team addresses questions from congregation and compiles booklet for review.

May: May 1st Building Team distributes booklet *Forward in Faith Q & A* to congregation. May 11th SOTP Congregation meets to approve proceeding with construction and related site work. Gift in Kind will be utilized.

June: Soil Boring Testing begins. Water Discharge Permit needed. **FORWARD** progress displayed in Crossroads. RFPs sent for acoustics, landscape, audio visual and Civil Engineering.

July: IEPA permit for storm water obtained. Top soil removal of Berm will utilize Gift in Kind. Parking Lot, Lighting and Landscape will be incorporated into building construction project, April 2017.

August: Preliminary meeting held with Village of Huntley. GDG and Pastor Mark begin dialogue.

September: Removal of Berm has begun. Craig Knoche & Assoc. hired as Civil Engineers. David McCallum hired as Landscape Architect. *Mission Moments* video series begins, directed by Mike Yndestad.

October: Detailed Design continues with GDG. Scott Riedel & Assoc. hired as Acoustical Consultants. Sound Planning hired as Audio Visual Consultants. Sub-Committees begin meeting with GDG & Building Team regarding: Acoustics, Sound & Video; Security; Colors & Materials; Furniture; Storage; Phone & Internet; and Maintenance. Sub-Committee members include: *Jane McMullen, Greg Dowell, Carol Roth, Donna Newbanks, Carol Waxenberg, Judie Symbal, Ralph Wehnes, Carol Bletz, Renae Greene, Barb Pagano, Jerry Christopherson, Chris Trodahl, Tom Polzin and Dennis Lilla.*

November: Letters of information regarding the 11/28/16 public hearing mailed to our surrounding neighbors. Village of Huntley Plan Commission unanimously agrees to accept the application requesting approval of proposed addition.

December: Finance advisory meets with Building Team. Sub-Committees again meet with GDG and Building Team. Village of Huntley Board Meeting, Meeting of the Whole unanimously approve SOTP Building addition Proposal.

Your SOTP Building Team continues to work to create a sanctuary that will exist within the range of the pledges so generously given by our members to the **Forward in Faith** and **FORWARD** campaign.

—*Deb Hansen*

Building Team Chairman

Year End Treasurer's Report

2016 Treasurer's Report

Jim Henley, Treasurer

Thanks to the faithful and generous support of this congregation, 2016 has been a very successful year financially for Shepherd of the Prairie.

General Fund:

We finished 2016 with Operating Income exceeding our budget by \$32,639.89 and though Expenses were slightly over budget by \$5,439.29 the result was a Surplus of \$27,600.60.

The General Fund now has \$86,433.18 in Unrestricted Funds, \$28,736.81 in Temporary Restricted Funds, \$119,353.95 in Reserves and \$10,872.00 in Endowment Funds. The Unrestricted Funds balance represents approximately two times our monthly expenses.

You will notice that though several individual categories of expense were over budget, the combination of increased income and reduced expenses in other categories resulted in this positive result. One notable area of savings was Payroll Processing Expense. The addition of Dave Shotick as our Accounting Administrator allowed us to process payroll and taxes in house and saved us over \$4,000.00. Thanks to our Staff, Ministry Team Leaders, and Pastor Mark for faithfully managing their expenses throughout the year.

Another significant accomplishment for 2016 was the ability to add a total of \$33,942.92 to our Reserves and to define our reserve needs for future years more accurately. We've also added a onetime reserve of \$6,000 to provide for the possibility that we **may** have a liability for prior year's taxes because of **potentially** underpaid taxes for a few 1099 contactors/employees. This is currently under review by the IRS and we are cautiously optimistic that there will be no such charges. Yet, it is our fiduciary responsibility to provide for this possibility.

Building Fund:

We began the year with a Building Fund balance of \$192,880.21. During the year we have received Income of \$762,672.81. Our Expenses of \$261,633.09 consisted of mortgage principal and interest, capital campaign expenses and \$192,170.47 of expenses associated with the design of our new building. We ended the year with a Building Fund Balance of \$693,919.93.

Early in 2016 we renegotiated our loan with MIF to allow us to reduce the mortgage payment and thus enable us to accumulate funds for the building expansion.

Our current Loan Balance has been reduced from \$531,208.74 at the beginning of the year to \$480,860.93 at year end.

Year End Treasurer's Report *(cont)*

2017 Budget:

We are presenting a Balanced Budget for 2017 based on estimated revenues of \$608,650 and of like expenses. The Finance Team and Church Council believe that this is a supportable budget with sufficient contingencies available if giving doesn't reach our goal. This budget was developed through extensive interviews and follow-up meetings with all Staff and Ministry Team Leaders. Income estimates are based on the results of our 2017 pledge results and are estimated to be consistent with what we experienced in 2016.

While we are presenting a balanced budget for 2017 we must remember that this is a best estimate that is dependent on pledges being met, the control of expenses and the possibility of unforeseen needs or events. All Leadership and Staff are encouraged to adhere to this budget. The Finance Team will carefully monitor income and expenses throughout the year.

Please see the footnotes to the attached 2017 budget for further information and explanation.

From your Treasurer and your Finance Team we thank the entire Congregation for your faithful and generous support of the mission of Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church.

Jim Henley, Treasurer

Don Schneider, Finance Team Chair

2016 Financial Reports

Shepherd of the Prairie - Huntley IL Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2016

Friday, January 6, 2017

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Account #	Account Name	YTD Balance	Period Activity	Previous Year Balance
Assets				
Current Assets				
1.100.000	Heartland Bank Checking	245,093.58	10,242.34	199,267.06
1.200.000	Mission Plus Building Fund Checking	693,919.93	34,465.61	192,880.21
1.250.000	HBTL/LPL Investment Account	302.36	(5,022.78)	2.36
	Total Current Assets	\$939,315.87	\$39,685.17	\$392,149.63
Fixed Assets				
1.300.000	Building & Grounds	1,980,000.00	0.00	1,980,000.00
	Total Fixed Assets	\$1,980,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,980,000.00
	Total Assets	\$2,919,315.87	\$39,685.17	\$2,372,149.63
Liabilities				
Current Liabilities				
2.000.000	Accounts Payable/Vendors	0.00	0.00	180.93
2.100.000	Prepaid Pledges	0.00	0.00	3,000.00
	Total Current Liabilities	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,180.93
Long Term Liabilities				
2.200.200	MIF Commercial Loan Payable	480,860.93	(4,142.91)	531,208.74
	Total Long Term Liabilities	\$480,860.93	(\$4,142.91)	\$531,208.74
	Total Liabilities	\$480,860.93	(\$4,142.91)	\$534,389.67
Fund Balances & Equity				
Unrestricted Fund Balances				
3.100.000	General Fund Balance	86,433.18	(21,137.15)	59,232.58
	Total Unrestricted Fund Balances	\$86,433.18	(\$21,137.15)	\$59,232.58
Temporary Restricted Fund Balances				
3.170.000	Special Services Fund Balance	7,082.52	2,501.00	1,443.00
3.175.000	Memorial Fund Balance	1,425.00	0.00	3,125.00
3.180.000	Grafton Food Pantry Fund Balance	320.00	(5.00)	190.00
3.200.000	Heifer Fund Balance	0.00	(728.32)	1,216.45
3.220.000	AV Ministry Fund Balance	0.00	253.71	(253.71)
3.225.000	Reformation 500 Balance	0.16	(853.90)	N/A
3.250.000	Good Samaritan Fund Balance	1,469.04	0.00	2,757.04
3.260.000	Evangelism/Outreach Fund Balance	377.01	100.00	1,300.01
3.300.000	Music Ministry Fund Balance			
3.330.000	Adult Music Ministry Fund Balance	3,271.41	(297.50)	3,694.63

2016 Financial Reports (cont)

Shepherd of the Prairie - Huntley IL Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2016

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Account #	Account Name	YTD Balance	Period Activity	Previous Year Balance
3.335.000	Bells Ministry Fund Balance	0.00	(967.11)	967.11
3.345.000	Childrens Music Ministry Fund Balance	754.00	0.00	754.00
	<i>Total Music Ministry Fund Balance</i>	<i>\$4,025.41</i>	<i>(\$1,264.61)</i>	<i>5,415.74</i>
3.350.000	Prairie Crafters Fund Balance	0.00	(8,226.80)	1,362.25
3.360.000	Miscellaneous Fund Balance	827.06	0.00	1,827.06
3.370.000	WELCA Fund Balance	264.01	0.00	264.01
3.400.000	<i>Youth Ministry Fund Balance</i>			
3.415.000	Youth Ministry Balance	(99.00)	27.00	2,836.13
3.417.000	Youth Mission Trips Balance	(1,877.00)	(1,500.00)	(9.02)
3.421.000	Youth Scholarship Balance	763.01	0.00	2,453.00
3.422.000	Operation Christmas Child Balance	345.76	70.00	381.76
3.423.000	Confirmation Retreat Fund Balance	(1,279.00)	575.00	(128.53)
	<i>Total Youth Ministry Fund Balance</i>	<i>(\$2,146.23)</i>	<i>(\$828.00)</i>	<i>5,533.34</i>
3.500.000	Little Lambs Fund Balance	8,310.46	326.39	9,395.30
3.600.000	Prayer Shawl Ministry Fund Balance	(15.32)	0.00	82.60
3.650.000	Quilters Ministry Fund Balance	806.78	(27.79)	670.48
3.700.000	Disaster Relief Fund Balance	220.91	0.00	220.91
3.750.000	Seminary Scholarship Fund Balance	5,770.00	0.00	5,770.00
	Total	\$28,736.81	(\$8,753.32)	\$40,319.48
	Total Temporary Restricted Fund Balances	\$28,736.81	(\$8,753.32)	\$40,319.48
Reserves				
3.950.000	Inreach Reserves Fund Balance	2,297.28	550.00	2,701.13
3.960.000	Outreach Reserves Fund Balance	9,063.67	750.00	8,313.67
3.970.000	Bldg & Grounds Reserves Balance	0.00	(29,508.14)	29,508.14
3.971.000	Roof Repairs/Replacement Reserves Balance	30,000.00	30,000.00	N/A
3.972.000	Playground Maintenance Reserves Balance	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00
3.973.000	Parking Lot Seal/Repair Reserves Balance	8,250.00	8,250.00	N/A
3.974.000	Lawn & Landscaping Reserves Balance	3,000.00	3,000.00	N/A
3.975.000	Building Maintenance Reserves Balance	10,000.00	(14,933.80)	24,933.80
3.976.000	Carpeting Crossroads/Hallways Reserves Balance	12,000.00	12,000.00	N/A
3.977.000	Carpeting MP Room/Classrooms Reserves Balance	10,000.00	10,000.00	N/A
3.978.000	Security Lock System Reserves Balance	10,000.00	10,000.00	N/A
3.980.000	Equipment Reserves Balance	6,000.00	(3,615.14)	10,211.80
3.981.000	Bells Maintenance Reserves Balance	1,367.11	1,367.11	N/A

2016 Financial Reports *(cont)*

Shepherd of the Prairie - Huntley IL Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2016

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Account #	Account Name	YTD Balance	Period Activity	Previous Year Balance
3.985.000	Sabbatical Reserves Balance	6,375.89	1,200.00	5,175.89
3.988.000	Payroll Tax Reserves Balance	6,000.00	6,000.00	N/A
	Total Reserves	\$119,353.95	\$35,060.03	\$85,844.43
<i>Permanently Restricted Funds</i>				
<i>Building Fund</i>				
3.125.000	Building Fund Balance	693,919.93	34,465.61	192,880.21
	Total Building Fund	\$693,919.93	\$34,465.61	\$192,880.21
3.940.000	Endowment Fund Balance	10,872.00	50.00	10,692.00
	Total Permanently Restricted Funds	\$704,791.93	\$34,515.61	\$203,572.21
3.130.000	Building & Grounds Equity	1,499,139.07	4,142.91	1,448,791.26
	Total Equity	\$1,499,139.07	\$4,142.91	\$1,448,791.26
	Total Fund Balances & Equity	\$2,438,454.94	\$43,828.08	\$1,837,759.96
	Total Liabilities and Fund Balances & Equity	\$2,919,315.87	\$39,685.17	\$2,372,149.63

If the accounts in the subtotals have changed or if ledger (marked with "**") and subsidiary account attributes have changed, Previous YTD totals may not represent a valid comparison.

2016 Financial Reports *(cont)*

Shepherd of the Prairie - Huntley IL Treasurer's Report as of December 2016 for General Fund

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Account #	Account Name	Period Activity	Monthly Budget	YTD Balance	Budget YTD	Annual Budget
Income						
4.100.000	Member Contributions	52,458.00	45,550.00	585,694.97*	546,600.00	546,600.00
4.150.000	Loose Plate and Growth	1,712.30	2,087.00	18,309.84	25,000.00	25,000.00
4.200.000	Miscellaneous Income	0.00	19.00	0.00	250.00	250.00
4.250.000	Flower Income	125.00	212.00	2,937.00*	2,500.00	2,500.00
4.300.000	Interest Income (Heartland Bank)	12.34	13.00	248.08*	200.00	200.00
Total Income		\$54,307.64	\$47,881.00	\$607,189.89*	\$574,550.00	\$574,550.00
Expenses						
Mission Ministry						
5.100.110	ELCA NI Synod	4,555.00	4,555.00	54,660.00	54,660.00	54,660.00
5.100.111	Good Samaritan	0.00		0.00		
5.100.112	Local Mission	441.40	450.00	5,472.34*	5,466.00	5,466.00
5.100.113	Mission Ministry - Other	0.00		0.00		
Mission Ministry		\$4,996.40	\$5,005.00	\$60,132.34*	\$60,126.00	\$60,126.00
Outreach Ministry						
5.150.100	Outreach Team	0.00	337.00	3,610.16	4,000.00	4,000.00
5.150.150	Advertising	20.00	212.00	2,323.10	2,500.00	2,500.00
5.150.250	Outreach Ministry - Other	0.00		0.00		
5.150.300	Lay Ministry Expenses	46.73	38.00	594.02*	500.00	500.00
Outreach Ministry		\$66.73	\$587.00	\$6,527.28	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00
Adult Education Ministry						
5.200.000	Adult Ed Books/Reimbursements	0.00	100.00	0.00	1,200.00	1,200.00
5.200.300	Adult Ed Curriculum	0.00	13.00	9.95	200.00	200.00
5.200.350	Retreats Expenses	0.00	12.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
5.200.400	Adult Ed - Other	0.00		150.00		
5.200.450	Home Devotional Guides	0.00	13.00	246.00*	200.00	200.00
Adult Education Ministry		\$0.00	\$138.00	\$405.95	\$1,700.00	\$1,700.00
Youth and Education Ministry						
5.250.100	Youth Resources	0.00	125.00	1,990.96*	1,500.00	1,500.00
5.250.150	Youth Curriculum	0.00	63.00	395.28	800.00	800.00
5.250.200	Trip Expenses	0.00		0.00		
5.250.250	Youth Retreats Expense	0.00		0.00		
5.250.275	Software/Subscriptions	239.37	212.00	3,026.05*	2,500.00	2,500.00
5.250.280	Confirmation Expenses	0.00	288.00	3,636.63*	3,500.00	3,500.00
5.250.285	Sunday School Expenses	604.62	125.00	1,687.76*	1,500.00	1,500.00

2016 Financial Reports (cont)

Shepherd of the Prairie - Huntley IL Treasurer's Report as of December 2016 for General Fund

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Account #	Account Name	Period Activity	Monthly Budget	YTD Balance	Budget YTD	Annual Budget
5.250.290	VBS Expenses	0.00	250.00	2,826.10	3,000.00	3,000.00
5.250.300	Other Youth Expenses	37.88	87.00	1,500.33*	1,000.00	1,000.00
	Youth and Education Ministry	\$881.87	\$1,150.00	\$15,063.11*	\$13,800.00	\$13,800.00
Music Ministry						
5.300.100	Choral Expenses	75.69	112.00	1,687.81*	1,300.00	1,300.00
5.300.150	2nd Service Music	0.00		0.00		
5.300.160	Saturday Service Organist	0.00		75.00		
5.300.161	Organ/Piano Supply	0.00	25.00	1,900.00*	300.00	300.00
5.300.175	Bells Expenses	36.88	112.00	676.28	1,300.00	1,300.00
5.300.200	Childrens Music Ministry Expense	0.00		0.00		
5.300.300	Adult Choir Music	0.00		0.00		
5.300.350	Band Expenses	472.18	337.00	5,465.57*	4,000.00	4,000.00
5.300.375	Youth Bell Choir	0.00		0.00		
5.300.400	Piano/Organ Maintenance	0.00	62.00	445.14	700.00	700.00
5.300.450	Bell Maintenance	0.00	25.00	0.00	300.00	300.00
5.300.500	Licensing Fees	0.00	69.00	830.99	850.00	850.00
5.300.550	Music Resources Expenses	0.00	31.00	244.53	350.00	350.00
	Music Ministry	\$584.75	\$773.00	\$11,325.32*	\$9,100.00	\$9,100.00
Worship Ministry						
5.350.100	Audio Visual Ministry	387.51	125.00	3,128.07*	1,500.00	1,500.00
5.350.150	Flowers	904.00	163.00	3,358.94*	2,000.00	2,000.00
5.350.200	Altar Guild	76.35	62.00	338.11	700.00	700.00
5.350.250	Pastoral Assistance	0.00	125.00	1,525.00*	1,500.00	1,500.00
5.350.300	Worship Supplies	0.00	57.00	64.82	750.00	750.00
5.350.350	Misc. Worship Expenses	19.99	38.00	446.98	500.00	500.00
	Worship Ministry	\$1,387.85	\$570.00	\$8,861.92*	\$6,950.00	\$6,950.00
Facilities						
5.400.100	Cleaning Service	990.00	685.00	7,480.00	8,220.00	8,220.00
5.400.150	Utilities	863.64	879.00	8,946.71	10,515.00	10,515.00
5.400.200	Waste Removal	138.43	250.00	1,877.15	3,000.00	3,000.00
5.400.250	Grounds Maintenance	0.00	688.00	6,376.20	8,300.00	8,300.00
5.400.255	Snow Removal	1,225.00	413.00	5,600.00*	5,000.00	5,000.00
5.400.300	Maint./Cleaning Supplies	44.19	62.00	470.52	700.00	700.00
5.400.350	Outside Contract Services	264.00	489.00	6,324.11*	5,890.00	5,890.00
5.400.400	Misc. Facilities expense	217.97	231.00	480.51	2,750.00	2,750.00

2016 Financial Reports (cont)

Shepherd of the Prairie - Huntley IL Treasurer's Report as of December 2016 for General Fund

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Account #	Account Name	Period Activity	Monthly Budget	YTD Balance	Budget YTD	Annual Budget
	Facilities	\$3,743.23	\$3,697.00	\$37,555.20	\$44,375.00	\$44,375.00
Office Expenses						
5.450.100	Office Supplies	51.07	250.00	2,394.42	3,000.00	3,000.00
5.450.150	Office Equipment	0.00	87.00	1,724.16*	1,000.00	1,000.00
5.450.200	Web/Software Expenses	296.81	375.00	4,500.23*	4,500.00	4,500.00
5.450.250	Telephone	136.40	163.00	2,138.53*	2,000.00	2,000.00
5.450.275	Wireless Phone	87.11	112.00	1,249.11	1,300.00	1,300.00
5.450.300	Postage	200.00	125.00	2,225.84*	1,500.00	1,500.00
5.450.350	Dues & Subscriptions	0.00	7.00	0.00	150.00	150.00
5.450.400	Equipment Rental	1,672.00	1,463.00	17,756.25*	17,600.00	17,600.00
5.450.450	Misc. Office Expenses	0.00	19.00	0.54	250.00	250.00
	Office Expenses	\$2,443.39	\$2,601.00	\$31,989.08*	\$31,300.00	\$31,300.00
Staffing Ministry						
5.500.100	Pastor Salary	4,943.88	4,942.00	59,122.88	59,326.00	59,326.00
5.500.150	Pastor Housing Allowance	2,666.74	2,663.00	32,000.00	32,000.00	32,000.00
5.500.200	Lay Ministry Coord.	1,723.96	1,717.00	20,637.32*	20,637.00	20,637.00
5.500.250	Youth Ministry Coord.	3,311.40	3,307.00	39,640.36*	39,640.00	39,640.00
5.500.300	Director of Music	3,255.90	3,248.00	38,975.98	38,976.00	38,976.00
5.500.350	Organist	1,649.34	1,649.00	19,744.04*	19,744.00	19,744.00
5.500.400	Tech. Support Manager	1,372.10	2,298.00	26,560.68	27,532.00	27,532.00
5.500.450	Office Manager	1,213.52	1,187.00	14,254.44	14,310.00	14,310.00
5.500.500	Director of Adult Education	2,031.86	2,107.00	24,323.14	25,229.00	25,229.00
5.500.525	AV Coordinator	636.54	634.00	7,619.94*	7,619.00	7,619.00
5.500.550	Continuing Education/Training	14.72	500.00	4,955.53	6,000.00	6,000.00
5.500.600	Staff Social Security	1,198.52	1,232.00	14,226.48	14,817.00	14,817.00
5.500.650	Pastor SS/Ins/Retirement	838.86	4,151.00	46,394.24	49,867.00	49,867.00
5.500.655	Staff Payroll Deductions	0.00		0.00		
5.500.675	Payroll Processing Expense	0.00	538.00	2,452.76	6,500.00	6,500.00
5.500.700	Misc. Staff expenses	0.00	87.00	619.56	1,000.00	1,000.00
5.500.725	Staffing for Growth	450.00	350.00	4,050.00	4,222.00	4,222.00
5.500.750	Pastor's Con't Ed.	0.00		0.00		
	Staffing Ministry	\$25,307.34	\$30,610.00	\$355,577.35	\$367,419.00	\$367,419.00
Other Church Expenses						
5.550.100	Scholarships	0.00		0.00		
5.550.110	Kitchen Supplies	259.22	87.00	1,045.26*	1,000.00	1,000.00

2016 Financial Reports *(cont)*

Shepherd of the Prairie - Huntley IL Treasurer's Report as of December 2016 for General Fund

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Account #	Account Name	Period Activity	Monthly Budget	YTD Balance	Budget YTD	Annual Budget
5.550.125	Church Events Expense	854.51		409.34		
5.550.150	Committee Expenses	0.00	163.00	1,258.07	2,000.00	2,000.00
5.550.175	Synod Assembly Expense	0.00	38.00	1,280.85*	500.00	500.00
5.550.200	Church Insurance	627.68	640.00	7,783.77*	7,680.00	7,680.00
5.550.250	Automobile Expense	253.80	413.00	5,061.62*	5,000.00	5,000.00
5.550.300	Human Resources	34.00	38.00	724.00*	500.00	500.00
5.550.350	Bank/Legal Expenses	61.10	38.00	1,045.91*	500.00	500.00
5.550.351	Stock Sale Costs	0.00		0.00		
5.550.400	Misc. Expenses	0.00	12.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
	Other Church Expenses	\$2,090.31	\$1,429.00	\$18,608.82*	\$17,280.00	\$17,280.00
<i>Providing for the Future</i>						
5.600.100	Provision for Outreach	750.00	57.00	750.00	750.00	750.00
5.600.150	Provision for Inreach	550.00	44.00	550.00	550.00	550.00
5.600.200	Provision for Equipment	(3,615.14)	87.00	(3,615.14)	1,000.00	1,000.00
5.600.210	Provision for Roof Repairs/Replacement	30,000.00		30,000.00		
5.600.220	Provision for Parking Lot Seal/Repair	8,250.00		8,250.00		
5.600.230	Provision for Lawn & Landscaping	3,000.00		3,000.00		
5.600.240	Provision for Security Lock System	10,000.00		10,000.00		
5.600.250	Provision for Building Maintenance	(14,933.80)	500.00	(14,933.80)	6,000.00	6,000.00
5.600.260	Provision for Carpeting Crossroads/Hallways	12,000.00		12,000.00		
5.600.270	Provision for Carpeting MP Room/Classrooms	10,000.00		10,000.00		
5.600.300	Provision for Bldg. & Grounds	(29,508.14)	500.00	(29,508.14)	6,000.00	6,000.00
5.600.310	Provision for Bells Maintenance	250.00		250.00		
5.600.350	Provision for Sabbatical	1,200.00	100.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00
5.600.400	Provision for Payroll Taxes	6,000.00		6,000.00		
	Providing for the Future	\$33,942.92	\$1,288.00	\$33,942.92*	\$15,500.00	\$15,500.00
	Total Expenses	\$75,444.79	\$47,848.00	\$579,989.29*	\$574,550.00	\$574,550.00
	Difference	(\$21,137.15)	\$33.00	\$27,200.60	\$0.00	\$0.00

* = Income/Expense exceeds amount budgeted to date

2016 Financial Reports *(cont)*

Shepherd of the Prairie - Huntley IL Detailed Fund Activity Report as of 12/31/2016

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Account #	Account Name	Current Activity	YTD Activity
3.125.000 Building Fund Balance			
	Beginning Fund Balance	659,454.32	192,880.21
<i>Income</i>			
4.160.000	Debt Reduction Donations	370.00	4,877.00
4.315.000	Forward in Faith Donations	85,884.80	600,439.16
4.320.000	FORWARD	30,518.98	153,651.44
4.700.000	Mission Plus Interest Income	430.84	3,705.21
	Total Income	<u>\$117,204.62</u>	<u>\$762,672.81</u>
<i>Expenses</i>			
5.125.000	Loan Principal Payments	3,777.91	45,840.81
5.126.000	Loan Interest Payments	1,495.09	18,125.19
5.127.000	Loan Principal only Payments	365.00	4,507.00
5.130.000	Capital Campaign Expenses	158.11	989.62
5.132.000	Architectural Expenses	52,209.10	151,030.53
5.136.000	Other Phase II Costs	24,733.80	41,139.94
	Total Expenses	<u>\$82,739.01</u>	<u>\$261,633.09</u>
	Ending Fund Balance	\$693,919.93	\$693,919.93
3.170.000 Special Services Fund Balance			
	Beginning Fund Balance	4,581.52	1,443.00
<i>Income</i>			
4.170.000	Special Services Donations	3,647.00	13,585.52
	Total Income	<u>\$3,647.00</u>	<u>\$13,585.52</u>
<i>Expenses</i>			
5.170.000	Special Services Expense	1,146.00	7,946.00
	Total Expenses	<u>\$1,146.00</u>	<u>\$7,946.00</u>
	Ending Fund Balance	\$7,082.52	\$7,082.52
3.175.000 Memorial Fund Balance			
	Beginning Fund Balance	1,425.00	3,125.00
<i>Income</i>			
4.175.000	Memorial Donations	0.00	1,945.00

2016 Financial Reports *(cont)*

Shepherd of the Prairie - Huntley IL Detailed Fund Activity Report as of 12/31/2016

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Account #	Account Name	Current Activity	YTD Activity
Total Income		<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$1,945.00</u>
<i>Expenses</i>			
5.175.000	Memorial Expense	0.00	3,645.00
Total Expenses		<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$3,645.00</u>
Ending Fund Balance		\$1,425.00	\$1,425.00
3.180.000 Grafton Food Pantry Fund Balance			
Beginning Fund Balance		325.00	190.00
<i>Income</i>			
4.190.000	Grafton Food Pantry Donations	320.00	3,313.00
Total Income		<u>\$320.00</u>	<u>\$3,313.00</u>
<i>Expenses</i>			
5.190.000	Grafton Food Pantry Expense	325.00	3,183.00
Total Expenses		<u>\$325.00</u>	<u>\$3,183.00</u>
Ending Fund Balance		\$320.00	\$320.00
3.200.000 Heifer Fund Balance			
Beginning Fund Balance		728.32	1,216.45
<i>Income</i>			
4.350.000	Heifer Income	0.00	11.87
Total Income		<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$11.87</u>
<i>Expenses</i>			
5.630.000	Heifer Expense	728.32	1,228.32
Total Expenses		<u>\$728.32</u>	<u>\$1,228.32</u>
Ending Fund Balance		\$0.00	\$0.00
3.220.000 AV Ministry Fund Balance			
Beginning Fund Balance		(253.71)	(253.71)
<i>Expenses</i>			
5.220.000	Av Ministry Fund Expenses	(253.71)	(253.71)
Total Expenses		<u>(\$253.71)</u>	<u>(\$253.71)</u>

2016 Financial Reports *(cont)*

Shepherd of the Prairie - Huntley IL Detailed Fund Activity Report as of 12/31/2016

Friday, January 6, 2017

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Account #	Account Name	Current Activity	YTD Activity
Ending Fund Balance		\$0.00	\$0.00
3.225.000	Reformation 500 Balance		
Beginning Fund Balance		854.06	0.00
<i>Income</i>			
4.225.000	Reformation 500 Income	0.00	2,245.00
Total Income		<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$2,245.00</u>
<i>Expenses</i>			
5.225.000	Reformation 500 Expense	853.90	2,244.84
Total Expenses		<u>\$853.90</u>	<u>\$2,244.84</u>
Ending Fund Balance		\$0.16	\$0.16
3.250.000	Good Samaritan Fund Balance		
Beginning Fund Balance		1,469.04	2,757.04
<i>Income</i>			
4.325.000	Good Samaritan Donations	0.00	525.00
Total Income		<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$525.00</u>
<i>Expenses</i>			
5.625.000	Good Samaritan Expense	0.00	1,813.00
Total Expenses		<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$1,813.00</u>
Ending Fund Balance		\$1,469.04	\$1,469.04
3.260.000	Evangelism/Outreach Fund Balance		
Beginning Fund Balance		277.01	1,300.01
<i>Income</i>			
4.260.000	Evangelism/Outreach Donations	100.00	1,015.00
4.260.100	LSSI Donations	0.00	130.00
4.260.110	ELCA World Hunger Donations	0.00	50.00
Total Income		<u>\$100.00</u>	<u>\$1,195.00</u>
<i>Expenses</i>			
<i>Outreach Ministry</i>			
5.260.000	Evangelism/Outreach Expense	0.00	2,118.00

2016 Financial Reports *(cont)*

Shepherd of the Prairie - Huntley IL Detailed Fund Activity Report as of 12/31/2016

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Account #	Account Name	Current Activity	YTD Activity
	Outreach Ministry	0.00	2,118.00
	Total Expenses	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$2,118.00</u>
	Ending Fund Balance	\$377.01	\$377.01
3.300.000	Music Ministry Fund Balance		
	Beginning Fund Balance	5,290.02	5,415.74
3.330.000	Adult Music Ministry Fund Balance		
	Beginning Sub Fund Balance	3,568.91	3,694.63
	<i>Income</i>		
4.330.000	Adult Music Ministry Donations	0.00	290.00
	Total Income	\$0.00	\$290.00
	<i>Expenses</i>		
5.330.000	Adult Music Ministry Expense	297.50	713.22
	Total Expenses	\$297.50	\$713.22
	Ending Sub Fund Balance	\$3,271.41	\$3,271.41
3.335.000	Bells Ministry Fund Balance Balance		
	Beginning Sub Fund Balance	967.11	967.11
	<i>Income</i>		
4.410.000	Bells Music Ministry Donations	150.00	150.00
	Total Income	\$150.00	\$150.00
	Journal Entry Debits	(1,117.11)	(1,117.11)
	Journal Entry Credits	0.00	0.00
	Total Journal Entries	<u>(\$1,117.11)</u>	<u>(\$1,117.11)</u>
	Ending Sub Fund Balance	\$0.00	\$0.00
3.345.000	Childrens Music Ministry Fund Balance		
	Beginning Sub Fund Balance	754.00	754.00
	Ending Sub Fund Balance	\$754.00	\$754.00
	Ending Fund Balance	\$4,025.41	\$4,025.41
3.350.000	Prairie Crafters Fund Balance		
	Beginning Fund Balance	8,226.80	1,362.25

2016 Financial Reports *(cont)*

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Account #	Account Name	Current Activity	YTD Activity
Income			
4.355.000	Prairie Crafters Income	272.00	9,901.05
	Total Income	<u>\$272.00</u>	<u>\$9,901.05</u>
Expenses			
5.355.000	Prairie Crafters Expense	8,498.80	11,263.30
	Total Expenses	<u>\$8,498.80</u>	<u>\$11,263.30</u>
	Ending Fund Balance	\$0.00	\$0.00
3.360.000	Miscellaneous Fund Balance		
	Beginning Fund Balance	827.06	1,827.06
Income			
4.360.000	Miscellaneous Fund Income	(6,000.00)	0.00
	Total Income	<u>(\$6,000.00)</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
Expenses			
5.360.000	Miscellaneous Fund Expense	(6,000.00)	1,000.00
	Total Expenses	<u>(\$6,000.00)</u>	<u>\$1,000.00</u>
	Ending Fund Balance	\$827.06	\$827.06
3.370.000	WELCA Fund Balance		
	Beginning Fund Balance	264.01	264.01
	Ending Fund Balance	\$264.01	\$264.01
3.400.000	Youth Ministry Fund Balance		
	Beginning Fund Balance	(1,318.23)	5,533.34
3.415.000	Youth Ministry Balance		
	Beginning Sub Fund Balance	(126.00)	2,836.13
Income			
4.415.100	Youth Ministry Income	0.00	(1,566.13)
	Total Income	\$0.00	(\$1,566.13)
Expenses			
5.415.100	Youth Ministry Expense	(27.00)	1,369.00
	Total Expenses	<u>(\$27.00)</u>	<u>\$1,369.00</u>

2016 Financial Reports *(cont)*

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Account #	Account Name	Current Activity	YTD Activity
Ending Sub Fund Balance		(\$99.00)	(\$99.00)
3.417.000	Youth Mission Trips Balance		
Beginning Sub Fund Balance		(377.00)	(9.02)
<i>Income</i>			
4.417.000	Youth Mission Trips Income	0.00	29,876.20
Total Income		\$0.00	\$29,876.20
<i>Expenses</i>			
5.417.000	Youth Mission Trips Expense	1,500.00	31,744.18
Total Expenses		\$1,500.00	\$31,744.18
Ending Sub Fund Balance		(\$1,877.00)	(\$1,877.00)
3.421.000	Youth Scholarship Balance		
Beginning Sub Fund Balance		763.01	2,453.00
<i>Expenses</i>			
5.421.000	Youth Scholarship Expense	0.00	1,689.99
Total Expenses		\$0.00	\$1,689.99
Ending Sub Fund Balance		\$763.01	\$763.01
3.422.000	Operation Christmas Child Balance		
Beginning Sub Fund Balance		275.76	381.76
<i>Income</i>			
4.418.000	Operation Christmas Child Income	70.00	189.00
Total Income		\$70.00	\$189.00
<i>Expenses</i>			
5.518.000	Operation Christmas Child Expense	0.00	225.00
Total Expenses		\$0.00	\$225.00
Ending Sub Fund Balance		\$345.76	\$345.76
3.423.000	Confirmation Retreat Fund Balance		
Beginning Sub Fund Balance		(1,854.00)	(128.53)
<i>Income</i>			
4.423.000	Confirmation Retreat Income	575.00	3,924.53
Total Income		\$575.00	\$3,924.53
<i>Expenses</i>			

2016 Financial Reports *(cont)*

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Account #	Account Name	Current Activity	YTD Activity
5.423.000	Confirmation Retreat Expense	0.00	5,075.00
	Total Expenses	\$0.00	\$5,075.00
	Ending Sub Fund Balance	(\$1,279.00)	(\$1,279.00)
	Ending Fund Balance	(\$2,146.23)	(\$2,146.23)
3.500.000	Little Lambs Fund Balance		
	Beginning Fund Balance	7,984.07	9,395.30
	<i>Income</i>		
4.500.100	Little Lambs Tuition	1,820.00	13,885.00
	Total Income	<u>\$1,820.00</u>	<u>\$13,885.00</u>
	<i>Expenses</i>		
5.700.100	Little Lambs Salary	1,476.42	14,270.63
5.700.110	Little Lambs Expenses	17.19	699.21
	Total Expenses	<u>\$1,493.61</u>	<u>\$14,969.84</u>
	Ending Fund Balance	\$8,310.46	\$8,310.46
3.600.000	Prayer Shawl Ministry Fund Balance		
	Beginning Fund Balance	(15.32)	82.60
	<i>Income</i>		
4.600.000	Prayer Shawl Ministry Donations	0.00	125.00
	Total Income	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$125.00</u>
	<i>Expenses</i>		
5.600.010	Prayer Shawl Ministry Expense	0.00	222.92
	Total Expenses	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$222.92</u>
	Ending Fund Balance	(\$15.32)	(\$15.32)
3.650.000	Quilters Ministry Fund Balance		
	Beginning Fund Balance	834.57	670.48
	<i>Income</i>		
4.650.000	Quilters Income & Donations	0.00	635.00
	Total Income	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$635.00</u>

2016 Financial Reports *(cont)*

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Account #	Account Name	Current Activity	YTD Activity
<hr/>			
<i>Expenses</i>			
5.650.000	Quilters Expenses	27.79	498.70
	Total Expenses	<u>\$27.79</u>	<u>\$498.70</u>
	Ending Fund Balance	\$806.78	\$806.78
3.700.000 Disaster Relief Fund Balance			
	Beginning Fund Balance	220.91	220.91
	Ending Fund Balance	\$220.91	\$220.91
3.750.000 Seminary Scholarship Fund Balance			
	Beginning Fund Balance	5,770.00	5,770.00
	Ending Fund Balance	\$5,770.00	\$5,770.00
3.940.000 Endowment Fund Balance			
	Beginning Fund Balance	10,822.00	10,692.00
<i>Income</i>			
4.940.000	Endowment Income	50.00	180.00
	Total Income	<u>\$50.00</u>	<u>\$180.00</u>
	Ending Fund Balance	\$10,872.00	\$10,872.00
3.950.000 Inreach Reserves Fund Balance			
	Beginning Fund Balance	1,747.28	2,701.13
<i>Expenses</i>			
5.950.000	Inreach Reserves Expense	0.00	953.85
	Total Expenses	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$953.85</u>
	Journal Entry Debits	0.00	0.00
	Journal Entry Credits	550.00	550.00
	Total Journal Entries	<u>\$550.00</u>	<u>\$550.00</u>
	Ending Fund Balance	\$2,297.28	\$2,297.28
3.960.000 Outreach Reserves Fund Balance			
	Beginning Fund Balance	8,313.67	8,313.67
	Journal Entry Debits	0.00	0.00
	Journal Entry Credits	750.00	750.00

2016 Financial Reports *(cont)*

Shepherd of the Prairie - Huntley IL Detailed Fund Activity Report as of 12/31/2016

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Account #	Account Name	Current Activity	YTD Activity
	Total Journal Entries	<u>\$750.00</u>	<u>\$750.00</u>
	Ending Fund Balance	\$9,063.67	\$9,063.67
3.970.000	Bldg & Grounds Reserves Balance		
	Beginning Fund Balance	29,508.14	29,508.14
	Journal Entry Debits	(35,508.14)	(35,508.14)
	Journal Entry Credits	6,000.00	6,000.00
	Total Journal Entries	<u>(\$29,508.14)</u>	<u>(\$29,508.14)</u>
	Ending Fund Balance	\$0.00	\$0.00
3.971.000	Roof Repairs/Replacement Reserves Balance		
	Beginning Fund Balance	0.00	0.00
	Journal Entry Debits	0.00	0.00
	Journal Entry Credits	30,000.00	30,000.00
	Total Journal Entries	<u>\$30,000.00</u>	<u>\$30,000.00</u>
	Ending Fund Balance	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
3.972.000	Playground Maintenance Reserves Balance		
	Beginning Fund Balance	5,000.00	5,000.00
	Ending Fund Balance	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
3.973.000	Parking Lot Seal/Repair Reserves Balance		
	Beginning Fund Balance	0.00	0.00
	Journal Entry Debits	0.00	0.00
	Journal Entry Credits	8,250.00	8,250.00
	Total Journal Entries	<u>\$8,250.00</u>	<u>\$8,250.00</u>
	Ending Fund Balance	\$8,250.00	\$8,250.00
3.974.000	Lawn & Landscaping Reserves Balance		
	Beginning Fund Balance	0.00	0.00
	Journal Entry Debits	0.00	0.00
	Journal Entry Credits	3,000.00	3,000.00
	Total Journal Entries	<u>\$3,000.00</u>	<u>\$3,000.00</u>
	Ending Fund Balance	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
3.975.000	Building Maintenance Reserves Balance		

2016 Financial Reports *(cont)*

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Account #	Account Name	Current Activity	YTD Activity
	Beginning Fund Balance	24,933.80	24,933.80
	Journal Entry Debits	(30,933.80)	(30,933.80)
	Journal Entry Credits	16,000.00	16,000.00
	Total Journal Entries	<u>(\$14,933.80)</u>	<u>(\$14,933.80)</u>
	Ending Fund Balance	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
3.976.000	Carpeting Crossroads/Hallways Reserves Balance		
	Beginning Fund Balance	0.00	0.00
	Journal Entry Debits	0.00	0.00
	Journal Entry Credits	12,000.00	12,000.00
	Total Journal Entries	<u>\$12,000.00</u>	<u>\$12,000.00</u>
	Ending Fund Balance	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00
3.977.000	Carpeting MP Room/Classrooms Reserves Balance		
	Beginning Fund Balance	0.00	0.00
	Journal Entry Debits	0.00	0.00
	Journal Entry Credits	10,000.00	10,000.00
	Total Journal Entries	<u>\$10,000.00</u>	<u>\$10,000.00</u>
	Ending Fund Balance	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
3.978.000	Security Lock System Reserves Balance		
	Beginning Fund Balance	0.00	0.00
	Journal Entry Debits	0.00	0.00
	Journal Entry Credits	10,000.00	10,000.00
	Total Journal Entries	<u>\$10,000.00</u>	<u>\$10,000.00</u>
	Ending Fund Balance	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
3.980.000	Equipment Reserves Balance		
	Beginning Fund Balance	9,615.14	10,211.80
	<i>Expenses</i>		
5.980.000	Equipment Reserves Expense	0.00	596.66
	Total Expenses	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$596.66</u>
	Journal Entry Debits	(10,615.14)	(10,615.14)
	Journal Entry Credits	7,000.00	7,000.00

2016 Financial Reports *(cont)*

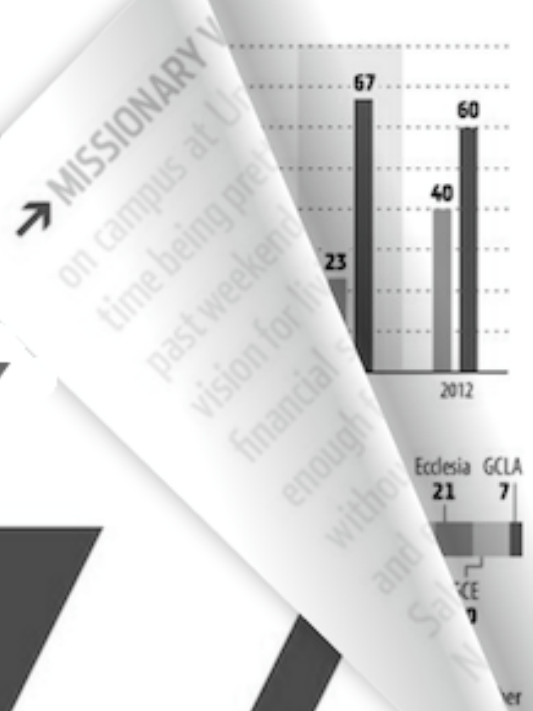
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Account #	Account Name	Current Activity	YTD Activity
		<hr/>	
	Total Journal Entries	<u>(\$3,615.14)</u>	<u>(\$3,615.14)</u>
	Ending Fund Balance	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
3.981.000	Bells Maintenance Reserves Balance		
	Beginning Fund Balance	0.00	0.00
	Journal Entry Debits	0.00	0.00
	Journal Entry Credits	1,367.11	1,367.11
	Total Journal Entries	<u>\$1,367.11</u>	<u>\$1,367.11</u>
	Ending Fund Balance	\$1,367.11	\$1,367.11
3.985.000	Sabbatical Reserves Balance		
	Beginning Fund Balance	5,175.89	5,175.89
	Journal Entry Debits	0.00	0.00
	Journal Entry Credits	1,200.00	1,200.00
	Total Journal Entries	<u>\$1,200.00</u>	<u>\$1,200.00</u>
	Ending Fund Balance	\$6,375.89	\$6,375.89
3.988.000	Payroll Tax Reserves Balance		
	Beginning Fund Balance	0.00	0.00
	Journal Entry Debits	0.00	0.00
	Journal Entry Credits	6,000.00	6,000.00
	Total Journal Entries	<u>\$6,000.00</u>	<u>\$6,000.00</u>
	Ending Fund Balance	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00

ANNUAL MINISTRY REPORTS



Children & Family Ministries

G.E.M.S. GIRLS CLUB

GEMS (Girls Everywhere Meeting the Savior) is a bible study/small group for 4th and 5th grade girls. We do a craft and lesson with them. This program has about nine girls this year. It is a good lead in to confirmation. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday from 6:30-8:00 p.m.

—*Barb Pagano*

LITTLE LAMBS

Our Little Lambs Early Learning Program is in our 8th year! We can't believe how much we have grown!!! In the upcoming year Jill Gillming, Jeni McCann, and Lisa Haasser will officially become staff members of Shepherd of the Prairie Church!!!

Last year we had our first "End of the Year Celebration" and it was a huge success!!! The students sang songs to their families and then everyone sat down and had a wonderful lunch together. We even had some special guests join us ;)

This year we started out our new year with an Open House. We had all the students and families come the Thursday night before we started school. It was nice to be able to meet and talk with the parents of the students that work full time and don't get to see our classroom in action.

The children love playing on the playground!!! Classes meet from 9:00 am – noon on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. During this time we enjoy circle time, math/language lessons, letter and letter sound recognition, Bible stories, crafts, music, snack, free play and more! These activities help children develop Kindergarten readiness skills, a love for Bible stories and the knowledge that God loves us all!

About Our Teachers

- **Jill Gillming:** Director and Lead Teacher, She graduated from Illinois State University with a degree in Education. She has worked in the Huntley school district as a teacher and an aide for Kindergartners with special needs. She was a Director of Education at a Sylvan Learning Center. Jill lives in Huntley with her husband and her two children. The Gillming family are charter members of Shepherd of the Prairie.
- **Jeni McCann:** Assistant Teacher, She has a bachelor's degree from Northern Illinois University in Computer Science. She is an active member of SOTP, helping with many of the children's choirs, playing flute often for worship services, and is a member of the adult Handbell choir, Prairie Ringers. Jeni and her husband have two daughters.
- **Lisa Haasser:** Teacher's Aid, She has a bachelor's degree from St. Ambrose University in Accounting and minors in Economics and **Business** Administration. She is an active member of her church, a Girl Scout and Cub leader and enjoys volunteering with her children's schools in varying capacities. Lisa and her husband live in Algonquin and have three children.

We will be starting early enrollment for the 2017-2018 school year in January. Children between the ages of 2 and 4 yrs. (by Sept. 1st) are accepted into our program. They do not need to be potty trained and do not need to be members of SOTP. Enrollment is limited, so, if you are interested in signing up your child, or, if you know someone who is, please contact us at littlelambs@sotpmail.com.

We see the smiling faces on our students and parents, every week, and feel the program has been a great success! With God's blessing, we'd like to see the program continue to grow!

—*Jill Gillming, Jeni McCann and Lisa Haasser*

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We had another wonderful year of Sunday School in 2016 at Shepherd of the Prairie. We are enjoying the opening and being able to start each Sunday by worshipping through music. It is wonderful to gather all the ages together in fellowship, worship and prayer. We are finding that the students enjoy time spent together. We take great pride in laying the groundwork for our young people that will help prepare them for future study and a life of service.

—*Mike Parmele*

Sunday School Director/VBS

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

This year we took 150 children on a CAVEQUEST! We turned the church into the *Cave of Wonders* and learned that “Jesus Gives us Hope”, “Jesus Gives us Courage”, Jesus Gives us Direction”, “Jesus Gives us Love”, and “Jesus Gives us Power”. We played games, sang songs, and walked on water. It was a wonderful week of high energy fun, fellowship, prayer and mostly bringing Jesus’s love to all of our children.

—*Mike Parmele*

Sunday School Director/VBS

Mission Ministries

MISSION TEAM

The Mission Team works toward accomplishing the goals of the church's mission statement, which is "Caring for God's children of all ages by growing disciples who make disciples." Our goal is to identify mission opportunities which encourage and equip SOTP members to actively make a difference in God's world."

We have been blessed to be entrusted with identifying and designating 1% of the Congregation's budget, as well as the special offerings of Lent, Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Together, SOTP has shared over \$14,000. The various recipients are listed below.

We have also taken to heart the ELCA's mission, "GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS". We thank YOU, for your participation. The starred ****charities, designate SOTP volunteer participation in addition to our financial support.

- Evangelical Lutheran Church of America
 - Stubbs Family Tanzania Missionary Support****
 - ELCA World Hunger
 - ELCA Disaster Relief Fund
 - Plaster House of Tanzania****
 - In Kind Offering Survival Packages
- Elgin Community Crisis Center
- Exodus Welcome to America Packs****
- Feed My Starving Children****
- Grafton Food Pantry****
- Green Tress Subsidized Housing****
- Habitat for Humanity Fox Valley& ReStore****
- Home of the Sparrow****
- Local Giving Tree****
- Lutheran Social Service of Illinois
- Lutheran World Relief Hurricane Mathew - Haiti
- Northern Illinois Food Bank****
- PADS****
- Pioneer Center for Human Services
- Senior Care Volunteers****
- Turning Point

If you have any charity with which you work, please let the Mission Team know. We look forward to hearing about any and all additional areas of involvement.

Mission Team Members: Mark Bittinger, Marlene Boehler, Jill Brown, Becky Hennessey, Carl Hupert, Steve Legel, Corrine Neukirch, Nancy Ottinger, Jules Pelka, Sharon Stangle, and Mary Trodahl

Respectfully submitted,

—*Sandy Hupert*
Mission Team Chair

GRAFTON FOOD PANTRY

“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you took me in.” —Matthew 25:35

This was an extraordinary year. Every month we collect food and money for the Grafton Food Pantry. Also this year we had our first annual Cereal & Souper weekend. For the first time ever we filled Alice's van completely and had to use another vehicle to deliver everything to the pantry. Thank you so very much for all your donations.

—Alice Hallett

PRAIRIE CRAFTERS

This year we took on new challenges. We sold our crafts at the Farmers Market once a month which was an interesting new experience. The Outreach Group made this possible by bringing our tables and tents each month and taking them back to church. We could not have earned over \$2,000.00 this summer without their faithful help.

Although our group is small in numbers we are working hard each week to help build our new sanctuary. This year we earned and gave toward our new building \$9,647.05 which brings our total over the past 13 years to \$98,380.10.

We are always looking for new ideas and would love your help this coming year. You don't know how to do crafts? We are willing to teach you how to be part of this group.

—Alice Hallett

PRAIRIE POINT QUILTERS

The quilters will be having their last meeting the 6th of December which will also be our Christmas Pot Luck.

It is with sincere gratitude that we voice our appreciation to Thrivent Financial for again giving us the money to buy our batting for the year, and just recently Thrivent has given us seed money to buy material for our quilts. They are such a blessing to us.

Thanks to you our congregation for your generous offering on our ‘Quarters for Quilts’ Sunday that helps to service our machines and buy some supplies. It truly makes a difference to have your support.

Thank you also Sew 'n' Sews who recently donated some of their extra material for our use.

We would have no success without all the hard working and dedicated quilters who this year have made it possible to give quilts to World Relief, Turning Point, Exodus, Africa, sent with our parishioners, and two went to a seven-year-old cancer patient --- one for her and one for an auction.

I'm so thankful to be a part of helping others here and around the world through this wonderful quilting ministry.

—Nancy Morbeck & Donna Sorensen
Co-Chairs Prairie Point Quilters

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of all compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.” —2 Corinthians 1:3-4

We give comfort with our Prayer Shawls to those who are experiencing hard times (physically, emotionally or spiritually). We also give them for happy events such as the birth of a child. That is what the Prayer Shawl Ministry is all about.

We donate them to Hospice and to the Hospital where the Chaplains give them out to those in need of our prayers.

We gave out over 222 Prayer Shawls this year and 15 Baptism blankets. We meet the second Thursday of each month to knit, crochet and pray over each Prayer Shawl and Baptism Blanket. Come and join us. We will be happy to teach you if you don't know how to knit and/or crochet.

We are especially thankful to Thrivent and all who have donated money for yarn to keep our hands busy.

—Alice Hallett and Jeanne Henley

Worship Ministries

WORSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

Thank you to everyone who work to make our church services worshipful and spiritual. It is amazing the number of people working to make SOTP such a marvelous faith community.

—*Carolyn Cuttle*

Team Leader

Seasonal Decorators

Many time during the year -Lent, Easter, Thanksgiving, All Saints Day, Christmas – you will see special decorations around our Worship area. We have volunteers that help us create the special setting for these services:P

Kari Arndt Melissa Juergensen Barb Pagano
Judie Symbal Sandy Scalise Doreen Drinan

We thank the members/visitors of SOTP who generously purchase lilies for the Easter Season and Poinsettias for the Christmas Season. Your gift of flowers allow the decorators to enhance our Worship area with God's beauty.

—*Carolyn Cuttle*

Communion Bread Baking

Volunteers prepare Communion Bread for each worship service in 2016. The recipe used makes eight individual loaves. Saturday bakers prepare bread for three consecutive Saturday evening services as each Saturday service uses only two loaves. On Sunday, one baker will prepare the bread for both services. If additional bread is required, the remaining two Saturday loaves are used during the Sunday service.

Thanks to all who donate their time and talent to this ministry. If you are interested in being part of the team, contact Judie Symbal!!!

—*Carolyn Cuttle*

AUDIO-VISUAL

Shepherd of the Prairie A/V ministry exists to assist our congregation in worshipping with excellence and to support the other ministries of SOTP in their presentational needs.

Our Audio Visual Ministry continues to operate well, with few issues occurring. Typically, any hiccups in presentation or operation are remedied immediately.

Our continued use of our video mixer provides seamless transitions between lyrics, and live video shots.

We continue to capture video and produce it to our website for people to view when not able to attend services

- We continue to provide ongoing training during Thursday night rehearsals to any A/V volunteer who desires a little extra help in using our technology.
- To assist in proficiency, volunteers are on a schedule of operating every other week. This way, A/V volunteers can keep fresh and avoid forgetting what they need to do when operating the soundboard, video controls, camera, or video mixer.

Staffing Levels

- Presently, the ministry is supported by volunteers led by Greg Dowell.
- Members of the A/V Ministry include: Greg Dowell, Jim Rice, Tom Polzin, Tim Torkelson, Alan Torkelson, Brian Ott, Jack Ott, Josh Harding, Chris Swanson, Dan Wills and Dick Brush.
- Continually searching to for volunteers to grow the A/V ministry

—*Greg Dowell*

Director of Youth & Family Ministries

ALTAR GUILD

We are very fortunate to have wonderful members who take great care in preparing the Eucharist for all worship service. Guild members are trained in proper etiquette for set-up and take-down and cleaning of all the vessels. The Altar Guild has a budget each year. Supplies are purchased as needed - wine grape juice, gluten-free wafers, new robes for the assisting ministers and any new paraments or supplies as needed.

Membership in the Altar Guild is open to all members of SOTP. We would love to encourage all women and men to be a part of our membership.

Thank you to all who serve so faithfully on Altar Guild.

Respectfully submitted

—*Judie Symbal*

Chairperson

COMMUNION BREAD BAKING

Volunteers prepared Communion Bread for each worship service in 2016. The recipe used makes eight individual loaves. Saturday bakers prepare bread for three consecutive Saturday evening services as each Saturday service uses only two loaves on Saturday on Sunday, one baker will prepare the bread for both services. If additional bread is required, the remaining two Saturday loaves are used during the Sunday service.

Thanks to all who donate their time and talent to this ministry. Are you interested in being part of the team? Please call or e-mail me and I will schedule you to be part of the team.

Thank You ALL

—*Judie Symbal*

FAITH CHEST MINISTRY

SHEPHERD OF THE PRAIRIE Faith Chest Ministry provides a handmade personalized wooden chest for each person baptized into faith at our Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church.

The Faith Chest is intended to be a place where documents, mementos & keepsakes of one's journey to faith and adulthood can be stored.

The Faith Chest is presented by Pastor Mark to the parents at the conclusion of the Baptismal Ceremony.

Currently the Faith Chests are being handcrafted from red oak by Chris Trodahl. Please feel free to contact Chris Trodahl at 815-893-0641 if you have any questions about the Faith Chest Ministry

—*Chris Trodahl*

NURSERY CAREGIVERS

The nursery ministry provides care for young children during worship on Sunday mornings, and helps maintain a safe and clean environment for them. Our volunteers are so generous with their time and abilities, and I am grateful to work with all of them. If anyone is interested in serving as a nursery caregiver, please contact me.

—*Jen Powe*

WORSHIP GREETERS

After Pastor Mark, our greeters are the first smiling face each congregation member and guests see as they are welcomed into our Saturday and Sunday services. It is a gratifying ministry and those on our greeter list are always eager to serve. Our Sunday greeter list is extensive enough that each member might be called every second or third month. However, our Saturday list is small and further dwindles during the winter months when our 'snow birds' are gone, so new greeters are always welcome.

Respectfully Submitted,

—*Dolly Cardascio*

USHERS

As we come to a close this year of 2016 the Usher Ministry have continued to provide support for all services at SOTP.

While some occasions were joyous and in others we said goodbye to friends raised Triumphant to the Church. In either occasion, the Usher Ministry have continued to serve with consistency and facilitate services to the highest standards.

To highlight some accomplishments this past year the Usher Ministry collaborated to publish the first Usher Manual which detailed responsibilities, provided step-by-step instructions and consolidated contact info into a single source document.

For the coming year some of our goals include seeking additional ushers, expanding roles and responsibilities, and continuing to improve processes.

I wish to thank all of our Service Leads and Volunteers who continue to serve in the Usher Ministry and call Shepherd of the Prairie their home.

Sincerely,

—*Andrew L Szekely*
Lead Usher/ Coordinator

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

A year or two after becoming members of SOTP Pastor Mark asked me if I would be willing to take over the volunteer position to secure worship leaders for our Sunday services. I thought about it briefly and said YES!

Between Assisting Ministers, Communion Stewards and Readers it is my job to line up thirteen volunteers for each Sunday. When a month has five Sundays, that is 65 people who get to serve in our worship services. Does it take time? Most certainly! Do I like serving this way? Most definitely! You see, this congregation is amazing! The responses when I call are, "How can I help?" or "When do you need me?". We have a number of regulars who participate, and the list grows with each new member group!

I am so grateful and blessed to have such a wonderful "staff" from which to draw!

Thank you to each and every one who responds and cares whenever I call.

Peace,

—*Brigitte Pelka*
Worship Participants Coordinator

Music Ministries

SOTP MUSIC MINISTRY ANNUAL REPORT 2016

Cherub Choir **Ages 3-6** **Annette Boster, Director**

The Cherub choir is our very youngest music choir at Shepherd of the Prairie that meets on Wednesdays from 5:00-5:30pm. The Cherub choir is composed of children ranging from 3 years old through kindergarten. Our rehearsals have grown to be a time where children gather to grow their love for Jesus and to celebrate His unconditional love for them. They just happen to do it through singing, dancing and playing instruments.

Music ignites all areas of child development: intellectual, social and emotional, motor, language, and overall literacy. It helps the body and the mind work together. Exposing children to music during early development helps them learn and memorize the sounds and meanings of words. Dancing to music helps children build motor skills while allowing them to practice self-expression. Probably most importantly, music brings joy. We are always recruiting new cherubs! All are welcome!

Treasures and Blessings Choirs **Michael Waal, Director**

The Treasure's and Blessing's Choir continues to be a real joy in my work at SOTP. We currently have 5 members in Treasure's and 15 in Blessing's. We have presented music for worship each month beginning in September, with December being quite busy. We sang for the Children's Worship services in December, as well as at the early Christmas Eve service. The kids looked great, and sounded wonderful! We also sang with the Shepherd's Voices (adult choir) in Sept, and also for Reformation Sunday. In rehearsals we have been learning about Martin Luther, and learning some of his music, which we will continue to do during the coming year, as we celebrate the 500th ann. of the Reformation. My hope for the New Year is that we can increase our numbers as we continue to learn new music and sing for worship, broadening our faith. On a final note, I would like to thank the parents of all our children involved in music. We could not do it without your support and willingness.

Youth Band

These young people continue to lead worship several times a year on the 3rd Sunday of the month and are a joy to participate in worship with. Tyler Greene is leading this group from the piano and has done an excellent job! We have added several new members and are working hard to continue to serve with excellence.

The Jubilate Ringers **Beginning Handbells** **Denise James, Director**

Jubilate Ringers: Jubilate welcomed 5 players from Joy Ringers as well 3 new players to the group. The members this year total is 17. The children have been focusing on learning to read handbell music as a group as well as learning their individual parts. Most of the new players are partnered with a 'veteran' player so that they can get assistance on playing by being able to mimic their partner. The group has also been learning more than one song at a time with different tempos & time signatures to provide challenge and variety. They will continue to learn music reading as well as improving playing technique.

The Joy Ringers (Beginning Chimes) **Denise James**

Joy Ringers: Joy Ringers promoted 5 players to Jubilate Ringers from the last season. This season welcomed 3 new ringers, along with 3 returning ringers & 1 4th grade helper. The children have been learning correct technique, focusing primarily on chords while being accompanied by piano and also playing with the children's choirs. They will continue to focus on technique as well as learn music notes and value.

Jubellation Ringers Intermediate Bells, 6th - 7th grade Jane McMullen, Director

This group has 12 ringers, with space for a few more. The Jubellation Ringers have provided musical offerings throughout the year, and have also accompanied our Blessings vocal choir on occasion. There have been many ringers in this group who have been awesome subs for other groups when they needed it. This group currently has sent 4 ringers up to play with Spirit Ringers but they also continue to play with Jubellation. In order for a student to be successful in this group, we require better than basic music reading skills for each ringer. This group is a training ground for our Spirit ringers and young people will be moved when age and skill levels are appropriate.

Spirit Ringers Handbell Choir Youth/High School Bells Jane McMullen, Director

Our Spirit ringers have provided many musical offerings throughout the year thru June, in worship and will continue to have a great role in our worship services our group. In September, with the loss of 4 seniors to college, we have joined forces with the adult bells as we transition slowly back to our own group. These ringers have done an excellent job in Adult bells!!

A HEARTFELT thanks to all the parents, grandparents and friends of Spirit Ringers for all their help, generosity and support !!

Prairie Ringers Handbell Choir Jane McMullen, Director

The Prairie Ringers continue to help lead worship services at SOTP in 2016. We rehearse on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 – 8:30 pm, in the sanctuary, September through May. We have played every month and for Easter and Christmas services.

Rejoice Worship Band Jane McMullen, Director

We currently have two solid teams leading our contemporary worship service at 10:45am every Sunday. These teams work very hard to lead God's people in praise and worship, preparing 8 to 10 songs per Sunday. Many thanks to Tyler Greene for stepping up to take the lead at the piano!! We currently are being led by vocalists, piano, guitars, drums, keyboard/synthesizer with the addition of violin, flute, saxophone and other instruments on occasion. We continue to present and lead current contemporary music along with many "old faithfuls" in worship. We are always looking for more team members! Please prayerfully consider joining the band if you have the gift of singing or instrumental music. Contact Jane McMullen if interested.

Shepherd's Voices Adult Choir Jane McMullen, Director

The adult choir is currently averaging 25 to 30 members in size. We welcomed many new members this year. Thanks to all singers who have faithfully come to rehearsals and given their best. We have sung great music with and without vocal and instrumental soloists, and enjoyed good fellowship together. Please prayerfully consider joining us, we welcome all new members enthusiastically!!

Special thanks to Carolyn Cuttle for handling all correspondence to Choir and bells for me throughout the year! This help is just invaluable to me!!! Also, many thanks to Ed Cuttle for making a ramp to move the Bell tables, just the ticket, AWESOME!!

Organist Michael "Micky" Waal

Again, we are so blessed to have Micky with us. (Micky is "good as new" after 2 hip replacements in May and July.....PRAISE GOD!!) Not only is he a consummate worship leader on the organ and piano, but he is an extremely generous person with his time and many other talents. Micky remains the director of the Blessings and Treasures choirs this year which continues to be a real joy for the children's music ministry. It continues to be an honor and joy to work with such a talented and faithful person!

Music Librarians There are not enough words to properly thank Tammy Uteg (and her husband Arthur,...many times I have seen him carrying a laundry basket full of music to take home and sort) for the job she has done as music librarian. She has patiently sorted, filed, and documented mountains of music on a weekly basis. We could not do what we do without these awesome silent servants. Thanks so much Tammy and Arthur for all your efforts!! In the fall Doreen Drinnan took over filing the choir music as well . so thankful to have you Doreen!! We still are in great need of someone or a team to organize and file Handbell music.

What an incredible year! I am so thankful for the richness of our music programs at SOTP and excited to see where God will lead us in 2017. I am full of gratitude for all who have served and who continue in our mission to make Christ known and honor and praise God's Holy name.

With Respectful Submission,

—*Jane McMullen*

Director of Music and Worship

Fellowship Ministries

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNERS

We are on our third year of doing dinners on Wednesday nights. Our purpose is to allow families to enjoy spending time together with their church family, while eating a home cooked meal. Families are so busy with church, sports, work etc.; so one night a week they have one less thing to worry about. The first year we started out serving about 35 people. We now serve around 65 people. Dinner is from 5:30-6:15. We charge \$2 per person or \$10 for a family. This covers the cost of the meal. Brandi Lorenzo and Jenn Huston take turns each week cooking. We both enjoy serving and look forward to continuing this ministry next year

—*Jenn Huston*

BOWLING LEAGUE

The league is in its 7th season, and gives Church Members the opportunity to get together socially while doing something they like to do. We meet only once a month (the 3rd Friday) at our NEW LOCATION "BOWL-HI LANES" on the corner of RT. 47 & Algonquin Rd. in Huntley. We begin at 6:00 PM with practice warm up, and start at 6:15 PM SHARP.

This is a "Fun" league. There is no requirement to be a good bowler. Anyone who likes to bowl from High School to age 100, men & women, married or single are welcome.

Teams consist of 4 people, and we bowl 3 games. The cost is low, and is a great way to have some fun, get together with friends, make new friends, get some exercise, and ONLY commit to 1 night a month, from September thru May.

We are always looking to grow, and welcome members, new or old to join us as a regular or substitute bowler. Call me at (847) 659-1331, or you can E-Mail me at schmidtw12@comcast.net.

***Please note that this is the only SOTP ministry where if you can "SPARE" one evening a month, to "STRIKE" up new friendships, that can promise they won't laugh at you if you happen to land in the "GUTTER", but help you to get "ROLLING" down the "LANE" once more

—*Wayne Schmidt*
League Secretary

HELPING HANDS/FUNERAL MEALS

The Helping Hands funeral lunch ministry has grown since we implemented the Sign-Up Genius. The Sign-up Genius allows us to reach out to the entire congregation asking for help with food donations and help serving and with clean up. Once again this year we had back to back funerals which means cleaning up and resetting everything in just two days. The sign-up genius once again is such a big help so we don't need to keep asking the same people over and over to help with food donation, it also allows people to look at their calendars at their leisure rather than a snap yes or no from a phone call. Our last two funerals Joan Kimminau's and Sid Sorenson's were probably the largest in the history of Shepherd of the Prairie serving right at 200 people with plenty of food left thanks to generous people of SOTP. The funeral meal is a wonderful way for those going through the loss of a loved one to just be able to sit back and visit with family and friends,

—*Donna Newbanks*
Chairperson

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

The Men's Fellowship breakfast group meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 9:00 a.m. at Sammy's Bar & Grill, located on Rt. 47, north of Main St. All men are welcome to join us any time—it is a good way to meet some new people in a small group setting. We have no special topic of discussion, just food and fellowship, and enjoy the time together. New faces are always welcome at our table. So as we say goodbye to the old year and hello to the New Year, we hope to see you there.

.—*Ferdie Kimminau* *Chris Trodahl*
 Fellowship Coordinator **Assistant Coordinator**

Inreach Ministries

IN REACH COMMITTEE

Statement of Purpose: “A ministry of listening and caring in order to be present and to provide support and invitation for persons of SOTP to witness the presence of Jesus and to promote excellence in caring for God’s children who are served by this congregation.” In 2016, the In Reach Committee continued to support and expand a variety of ministry programs to fulfill the statement of purpose.

The Ministers of Communion from the Assembly ministry serves those who are unable to attend community worship; both those who are unable on a temporary basis as well as for an extended time. To date, seventeen Ministers of Communion have been commissioned following extensive training in the history of the program, how to conduct the Communion Service, and in ways to deal with challenging situations that could arise. Communion from the Assembly occurs on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month.

Stemming from the Strategic Direction, “Promote the wellbeing of area children, youth and young adults through identification and facilitation of community programming,” the In Reach committee took on the challenge of creating a tutoring center to address student needs. This ministry is headed by Athena Hart and Kasandra Graf.

A new ministry was established to contact members by phone after they have been ill or hospitalized, This ministry is headed by Lynn Broederdorf.

The In Reach committee had an eventful year, supporting all of our ministries. In the upcoming year, the In Reach committee hopes to grow in ministry programs as well as lift up a leader to serve the committee.

CARING CARD

With the help of Carol Kalbas, Judie Symbal, Carol Spiller and Alice Hallett, we made 28 confirmation and 14 baptismal banners in 2016. Carol Spiller designed the Confirmation and First Communion cards which were sent to each participant.

Our Ministry also sends cards to those who are ill, grieving, baptized, new members and high school graduates.

Holiday cards were also sent to 18 servicemen in the Armed Forces this year. Thanks to those who keep us informed of their change of address.

—Elaine Neukirch, Carol Kalbas, Judie Symbal, Carol Spiller, Alice Hallett

CARING CALLERS

Our new ministry Caring Callers is doing very well so far. My team consists of myself, my sister Bonnie Vanaria and Deb Hanson.

We each take a week and work off the Friday Flourish sent each Friday. If I get prayer requests from the Prayer Team, then we call those who are members of Shepherd of the Prairie.

The response we have gotten so far has been very positive and most really appreciate the call. Some we leave a message and try again, but if they don't answer we simply give them our name and tell them to call if we can be of any help at this time.

—Lynn Broederdorf

Outreach Ministry

The Outreach Ministry really focused on evangelism in 2016. As a result, the Huntley community has seen what a great church family we have as we work together to tell others about Jesus. When our members are out in our community we need to continue to invite people to our church by telling them to "come and see" our church. At church, we need to continue to make an effort to greet guests that come to visit. As in years past, we continue to encourage worshipers to notice the signs at the exits of our church that read, "You are now entering the mission field". We hope they will be a reminder to everyone as they leave our church to continue spreading the Love and the Good News of resurrection of Jesus. In an attempt to create more recognizable branding for SOTP moving forward we will be featuring reflex blue as our primary color for items that we purchase to help promote the church. This would include: giveaways, as well as display items for events that we participate in. This year we purchased 2 blue and white canopies with Shepherd of the Prairie branding to be used at outdoor community events that we participate in. We are also exploring the option of purchasing matching blue table cloths that would also display the church logo on them. Fall Fest, in September, was our biggest event support this year. We had our new canopies on display providing carnival style games and giveaways again this year. We had two booth spaces where the SOTP Crafters displayed and sold crafts for the church in one space and in the other space we featured games including a quarterback toss which was very popular. Prizes were distributed featuring the Shepherd of the Prairie logo as well as information about our church for booth visitors. We encourage all members to consider helping to host the booth next year.

Throughout the year, the outreach ministry partnered with the crafters to support the booth set up for the crafters at the Farmers Market in downtown Huntley on selected dates as well as the craft show at Leggee Elementary school. The outreach team also organized the Shepherd of the Prairie booth at the Huntley Expo in the spring featuring a larger end cap booth with a spinning prize wheel game and crafts made by our SOTP crafters, which was well received. Our booth volunteers handed out prizes and information about the fellowship and ministries of our church. We created a new "Welcome" flyer that included an overview of the ministry of Shepherd of the Prairie, while also including basic information of our location and worship days and times. This new flyer along with supplemental information about upcoming events at the church are currently being handed out at all of the events that the outreach committee participates in within the Huntley community as well as events that are supported by other ministries at the church, when possible. The outreach committee will continue to work closely with the crafters and we will be helping with table and tent set up for craft shows. We will supply the crafters with items promoting the church as well as half sheet advertisements for upcoming events that can be handed out during the craft shows.

With help from the members of SOTP, we assembled a float for the Huntley Memorial Day Parade. We presented each outreach team member and each parade participant from our church with a white t-shirt. On the front of the shirt was our updated Shepherd of the Prairie logo as well as our church name and on the back of the shirt was our church mission statement. We featured a LIVE praise band on our float with a supporting audio system. In doing so, we created a mobile concert and handed out Bibles and cups along with promotional Shepard of the Prairie materials, as we shared our Love for Jesus by inviting the community to attend Vacation Bible School over the summer. Our presentation was praised by the Huntley Chamber of Commerce and SOTP was invited to other community parades. These events were great opportunities for our church family to work together to spread the Good News of Jesus' Love to our community. We are considering participating in the

Sunset parade next year. In 2017 we will continue advertising some SOTP events in local papers with the help of the office staff. We will once again be utilizing opportunities with papers that provide free listings and announcements for the community. New giveaways will be distributed through the Huntley new resident totes as well as other events in 2017. The Shepherd of the Prairie outreach ministry will continue participating in Huntley annual events supported by members of the church.

This year at the welcome center we counted over 50 completed membership cards for 2016. Out of those, over half became members. In 2016, at Christmas we handed out a Martin Luther Christmas Tree Ornament to every family at our holiday services. We will continue to provide welcome mugs to all visitors at our regular service times.

Overall the Shepherd of the Prairie outreach ministry was more amply supported in 2016 but the ministry is currently in need of more planners and volunteers to support the events that SOTP participates in with the Huntley community. Please consider joining this important community ministry.

Thank you to all who have supported the SOTP outreach ministry and very special thanks to our core Outreach Ministry Members: Melissa Juergensen, Lanita Palermo, Brian Rojas and Adam Adams.

—*Mike Yndestad*

Outreach Chairman

Property Ministries

The property team is made up of a dedicated core group of individuals who work behind the scenes to provide each of us a clean, safe facility to meet and worship. When you arrive and the snow is plowed, *that's your property team*, when you arrive and the grounds are well maintained, *that's your property team*. When the A/C is on during the summer months or the building is nice and warm in the winter months, *that's your property team*. From the snow to a clogged toilet, from a broken lock to a burned out light, *that's your property team*.

We are always looking for more members—if interested please call Jerry Christopherson (Cell 630-730-0558) or leave your name at the office and we will get back to you.

God Bless,

—*Jerry Christopherson*
Chairman, Property Team

Administrative Support Ministries

SPECIAL GIFTS & MEMORIALS

The purpose of this committee is to record and acknowledge all gifts received from members and friends of SOTP. Unless otherwise specified all monies received are allocated to the Forward in Faith (building fund). Family wishes for other purposes will be considered. Gifts may be made to SOTP in memory of loved ones; in celebration of a special occasion; or to honor individuals.

In 2016 the church received memorials for our FIF and FORWARD accounts and the Endowment account. The totals were over \$6,500.

The memorials were given in loving memory of the following:

John Panella	Donald Brandt	Ron Fucela
Zigrida Bekeris	Helen Koerner	Martin Adams
Don Wiek	Grace Barr	Robert Larson
Julia Henderson	Faythe Kalkwart	Steve Arneson
Betty Schule	Dan Brown	Don & Olga Erickson
Joan Kimminau	Sid Sorensen	Margaret Hagemo
Pierce Cordle		

In celebration of Harry & Donna Reynolds 50th wedding anniversary.

—*Susan Wehnes & Renae Greene*
Special Gifts and Memorials Committee

MUTUAL MINISTRY

Mutual Ministry is a small group of people who meet regularly with the Pastor Mark to provide a safe and confidential environment for him to share new ideas, blessings and concerns he may have about his ministry at SOTP. This group also supports the pastor by making sure he has good work and family balance, he takes his vacation and is attending continuing education opportunities.

Mutual Ministry also helps Pastor Mark establish meaningful goals at the beginning of each year. To do this, each year Mutual Ministry prepares and distributes a survey to the staff and the congregation on the pastor's performance which is used as his annual performance evaluation.

This year the results were very similar to those in years past:

Every member of the congregation with an email address on file was sent a link to the "survey" to complete. This year it was easier to take on smart phones.

72 responses were received

The congregation was asked to rate the pastor in several categories on a scale of 1 to 5 (5 being the best). The following list ranks the categories by the percentages of respondents who reported a score of 5. The value in parenthesis is the percentages of respondents who reported either 4 or 5.

- *Evangelism* - 90.3% (100%)
- *Teaching and Spiritual Motivation* - 87.5% (100%)
- *Pastoral Care* - 86.1% (100%)
 - ⇒ *Preaching and Worship* - 80.6% (98.6%)
 - ⇒ *Interpersonal Skills* - 80.6% (98.6%)
 - ⇒ *Communication* - 73.6% (98.6%)
 - ⇒ *Leadership and Planning* - 69.4% (98.6%)
 - ⇒ *Equipping* - 69.4% (95.8%)
 - ⇒ *Supervision/Staff Management* - 65.3% (91.6%)
- *Overall Performance* - 80.6% (100%)

Comments were constructive and the general feeling is Pastor Mark is doing a great job for us and the growth of our church. We appreciate those who took the time to complete the evaluation.

Mutual Ministry members are always available throughout the year to receive feedback and comments from the congregation specifically about the Pastor Mark or his ministry. The Mutual Ministry team consists of four members and a Council Liaison. The current team members are Rob Deblieck, Cliff Dungey (Council Liaison), Jessica Panella (Chair), Kathy Pizarro and Charlie Powe.

If there are any questions about this group please contact one of the representatives or Pastor Mark.

Prayerfully submitted,

—*Jessica Panella*

NEWSLETTER ASSEMBLY

Twelve issues of the SOTP Newsletter went out this year to church members and friends. Many go by email, but for those who prefer, copies are sent by post office, The latter are printed in the church office and assembled by volunteers usually on the last Friday of each month. . If you are interested in being a part of the assembly team, please call the church office.. Thanks to all volunteers in the past year and upcoming year in this much-needed ministry for keeping people informed.

Congregation Support Ministries

HUMAN RESOURCES

2016 was another active season for our Human Resource Committee. Changes were made to the employee handbook to keep abreast of new Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) and State and Federal labor law changes. These changes impact all businesses and their employees, including churches and other non-profit organizations. With the Congregational Council's help, we are now in compliance with all rules and regulations. We have also integrated the members of Little Lambs into the family of Shepherd of the Prairie employees. The Finance Committee deemed this necessary for federal tax purposes. Job postings, interviews and hires were done according to the policy and procedures adopted by the Shepherd of the Prairie congregational council. We welcome Jill, Jeni and Lisa to our staff and appreciate all the hard work they have already done in this important program for our church.

—*John Boehler*

Human Resource Chair

FINANCE TEAM

The Finance Team is responsible for overseeing the day to day and month to month financial activities of the church. The 2016 Team members were Don Schneider, Devin Burg, Ralph Bergstrom, Rich Juergensen, our Church Treasurer Jim Henley who acts as our liaison to Council, and Dave Shotick our Accounting Administrator. Cheryl Adams will be joining our team in January 2017.

The Finance Team monitors financial activities throughout the month and meets monthly to review all financial reports. We report monthly to the Church Council with our analysis of the church's financial position as well as with any recommendations that we think appropriate. We are responsible for the preparation of the church's annual budget and the monitoring of our actual financial activities against that budget.

In addition to the above we are responsible for managing the church's building fund, periodically reviewing the church's insurance coverage and policies, reviewing contracts for services, being alert to compliance issues, and assisting with an audit of the church's accounting records.

In 2016 Dave Shotick was appointed Accounting Administrator. In this position Dave is responsible for all accounting functions including Accounts Payable and Payroll. This move allowed us to eliminate external payroll/tax filing costs and freed our Office Manager for more administrative related tasks.

In 2016 the Team worked with the ELCA Mission Investment Fund (MIF) to restructure our existing building loan and to secure preliminary approval for a \$3.5M loan for our new construction project.

Other 2016 activities included renegotiation of our copy machine contract resulting in a new copy machine at a savings of \$5,000/year, replacement of our telephone system/service at a savings of over \$1,300/year and, in coordination with the Facilities Team, we have re-allocated our building related reserves to more clearly define and appropriate funds for our future needs.

You will find our 2016 Financial Reports and 2017 Budget enclosed elsewhere in this Annual Report.

Respectfully submitted,

—*Don Schneider*

Finance Team Chairman

STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship Team: Kathy Dahl, Warren Brody, Darren Walloch, Curt Gerald, & Ralph Wehnes.
Council Liaison: Matt Greene

We met periodically throughout 2016. One of the things we are still working on is revising some of the requirements and rules regarding the Endowment Fund. We are also encouraging more members to use the electronic transfer of their offerings. We presently have 73 households that have signed up to use Simply Giving. We were able to order our 2017 offering envelopes at a savings of over \$200.00 compared to 2016. We also worked with Pastor Mark to schedule events leading up the 2017 pledge drive.

I want to thank the 15 members that have volunteered to be offering counters. They spend 1-2 hours each week to make sure our contributions are counted and deposited in the bank. I also want to thank our contributions secretaries, Susie & Renae that post our offerings to the correct accounts. And last but not least, our thanks to Dennis Lilla for keeping our envelope list and recording documents current.

Effective January 1, 2017, Curt Gerald will take over as Stewardship Team leader.

Respectfully submitted,

—*Ralph Wehnes*

Stewardship Committee Chairman

2017 Nominating Committee Report

2016 NOMINATING TEAM MEMBERS

- Carol Legel
- Chuck Little
- Larry Newbanks
- Donna Sorensen
- Brigitte Pelka

COUNCIL NOMINEES *(to be elected to serve a three year term ending January 2020)*

- Sherri Ott
- Nancy Ottinger
- Dan Wentzloff

2017 NOMINATING COMMITTEE *(Outgoing council members, plus 3-4 additional)*

(outgoing council members)

- Jim Henley
- Mike McCann
- Bob McDuffee

- Kara Burg
- Jodi Dowell
- Melissa Juergensen

AUDIT TEAM *(2 to be elected)*

- Larry Newbanks
- Jules Pelka

SYNOD ASSEMBLY VOTING MEMBERS *(1 female and 1 male to be elected, not from the same family) Synod Assembly to be held on June 16 and 17, 2017 at Augustana College, Rock Island, IL*

- Female – Tiffanie Young
- Male – Neal Mejdrich

CURRENT COUNCIL MEMBERS AND TERMS

Ending Term	1 Year Remaining In Term	2 Years Remaining In Term
Jim Henley (1)	Marlene Boehler (1)	Adam Adams (2)
Mike McCann (2)	Cliff Dungey (1)	Amy Brittain (2)
Bob McDuffee (2)	Matt Greene (1)	Bud Hanson (1)

The number next to members name indicates current term of service.

The length of council terms are three years and members are eligible to serve 2 consecutive terms.

2017 Budget

Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church 2017 Budget

Acct. No.	Account Name	2016 Budget	2016 Actual	2017 Budget
Income				
4.100.000	Member Contributions ¹	546,600.00	585,694.97	586,000.00
4.150.000	Loose Plate & Growth	25,000.00	18,309.84	20,000.00
4.200.000	Miscellaneous Income	250.00	-	-
4.250.000	Flower Income	2,500.00	2,937.00	2,500.00
4.300.000	Interest Income	200.00	248.08	150.00
	Total Income	\$ 574,550.00	\$ 607,189.89	\$ 608,650.00
Expenses				
	Mission Ministry			
5.100.110	ELCA N. Illinois Synod ²	54,660.00	54,660.00	58,600.00
5.100.111	Good Samaritan		-	-
5.100.112	Local Mission ³	5,466.00	5,472.34	5,860.00
5.100.113	Mission Ministry - Other		-	-
	Total Misson Ministry	\$ 60,126.00	\$ 60,132.34	\$ 64,460.00
	Outreach Ministry			
5.150.100	Outreach Team	4,000.00	3,610.16	8,000.00
5.150.150	Advertising	2,500.00	2,323.10	2,500.00
5.150.250	Miscellaneous Outreach	-	-	-
5.150.300	Lay Ministry Expenses	500.00	594.02	500.00
	Total Outreach Ministry	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 6,527.28	\$ 11,000.00
	Adult Education Ministry			
5.200.000	Adult Ed Books/Reimbursement	1,200.00	-	
5.200.300	Adult Ed Curriculum	200.00	9.95	1,000.00
5.200.350	Retreat Expense	100.00	-	100.00
5.200.400	Other Adult Education	-	150.00	-
5.200.450	Home Devotional Guides	200.00	246.00	200.00
	Total Adult Education	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 405.95	\$ 1,300.00
	Youth Education Ministry			
5.250.100	Youth Resources	1,500.00	1,990.96	1,500.00
5.250.150	Youth Curriculum	800.00	395.28	500.00
5.250.200	Youth Trip Expenses	-	-	3,000.00
5.250.250	Youth Retreats Expense	-	-	1,000.00
5.250.275	Software/ Subscriptions	2,500.00	3,026.05	2,500.00
5.250.280	Confirmation Expenses	3,500.00	3,636.63	4,200.00
5.250.285	Sunday School Expenses	1,500.00	1,687.76	1,500.00
5.250.290	VBS Expenses	3,000.00	2,826.10	3,000.00
5.250.300	Other Youth Expenses	1,000.00	1,500.33	1,046.00
5.???.	Children & Family Service	-	-	3,000.00
	Total Youth Education	\$ 13,800.00	\$ 15,063.11	\$ 21,246.00

2017 Budget (cont)

Acct. No.	Account Name	2016 Budget	2016 Actual	2017 Budget
	Music Ministry			
5.300.100	Choral Expenses	1,300.00	1,687.81	1,100.00
5.300.161	Organ/Piano Supply	300.00	1,975.00	900.00
5.300.175	Bells Expenses	1,300.00	676.28	1,300.00
5.300.350	Band Expenses	4,000.00	5,465.57	5,000.00
5.300.400	Piano/Organ Maintenance	700.00	445.14	800.00
5.300.450	Bell Maintenance	300.00	-	300.00
5.300.500	Licensing Fees	850.00	830.99	850.00
5.300.550	Music Resources Expense	350.00	244.53	400.00
	Total Music Ministry	\$ 9,100.00	\$ 11,325.32	10,650.00
	Worship Ministry			
5.350.100	Audio Visual Ministry	1,500.00	3,128.07	1,500.00
5.350.150	Flowers	2,000.00	3,358.94	2,300.00
5.350.200	Altar Guild	700.00	338.11	700.00
5.350.250	Pastoral Assistance	1,500.00	1,525.00	2,000.00
5.350.300	Worship Supplies	750.00	64.82	750.00
5.350.350	Misc. Worship Expense	500.00	446.98	600.00
	Total Worship Ministry	\$ 6,950.00	\$ 8,861.92	\$ 7,850.00
	Office Expenses			
5.450.100	Office Supplies	3,000.00	2,394.42	3,000.00
5.450.150	Office Equipment	1,000.00	1,724.16	1,000.00
5.450.200	Web/Software Expense	4,500.00	4,500.23	4,300.00
5.450.250	Telephone	2,000.00	2,138.53	1,000.00
5.450.275	Wireless Phone	1,300.00	1,249.11	1,700.00
5.450.300	Postage	1,500.00	2,225.84	2,000.00
5.450.350	Dues & Subscriptions	150.00	-	150.00
5.450.400	Equipment Rental ⁴	17,600.00	17,756.25	14,400.00
5.450.450	Misc. Office Expense	250.00	0.54	250.00
	Total Office Expense	\$ 31,300.00	\$ 31,989.08	\$ 27,800.00
	Staffing Ministry ⁵			
5.500.100	Pastor Salary	59,326.00	59,122.88	61,838.00
5.500.150	Pastor Housing allowance	32,000.00	32,000.00	32,000.00
5.500.200	Lay Ministry Coordinator	20,637.00	20,637.32	21,256.00
5.500.250	Youth Ministry Coordinator	39,640.00	39,640.36	40,829.00
5.500.300	Director of Music	38,976.00	38,975.98	40,145.00
5.500.350	Organist	19,744.00	19,744.04	20,336.00
5.500.400	Technical Support Manager	27,532.00	26,560.68	28,349.00
5.500.450	Office Manager/ AP Admin.	14,310.00	14,254.44	13,602.00
5.500.500	Director of Adult Education	25,229.00	24,323.14	25,052.00
5.500.525	Audio Visual Coordinator	7,619.00	7,619.94	7,849.00
5.500.550	Staff Training/Continuing Ed.	6,000.00	4,955.53	7,000.00
5.500.600	Staff Social Security	14,817.00	14,226.48	14,671.00
5.500.650	Pastor Insurance & Soc. Sec.	49,867.00	46,394.24	51,038.00
5.500.675	ADP Payroll/HR Services ⁶	6,500.00	2,452.76	-
5.500.700	Misc. Staff Expense	1,000.00	619.56	1,000.00

2017 Budget (cont)

Acct. No.	Account Name	2016 Budget	2016 Actual	2017 Budget
5.500.475	Staffing for Growth ⁷		4,050.00	8,920.00
5.500.725	Accounting Administrator	4,222.00	-	5,549.00
	Total Staffing Ministry	367,419.00	\$ 355,577.35	379,434.00
	Facilities			
5.400.100	Cleaning Services	8,220.00	7,480.00	8,000.00
5.400.150	Utilities	10,515.00	8,946.71	8,900.00
5.400.200	Waste Removal	3,000.00	1,877.15	1,800.00
5.400.250	Grounds Maintenance	8,300.00	6,376.20	5,700.00
5.400.255	Snow Removal	5,000.00	5,600.00	6,000.00
5.400.300	Maint./Cleaning Supplies	700.00	470.52	800.00
5.400.350	Contract Services	5,890.00	6,324.11	12,000.00
5.400.400	Misc. Facilities Expens	2,750.00	480.51	3,750.00
	Total Facilities	\$ 44,375.00	\$ 37,555.20	\$ 46,950.00
	Other Church Expenses			
5.550.100	Scholarships		-	-
5.550.110	Kitchen Supplies	1,000.00	1,045.26	1,000.00
5.550.125	Church Events Expense	-	409.34	1,500.00
5.550.150	Committee Expenses	2,000.00	1,258.07	1,500.00
5.550.200	Church Insurance	7,680.00	7,783.77	7,560.00
5.550.250	Automobile Expense	5,000.00	5,061.62	5,000.00
5.550.300	Human Resources	500.00	724.00	1,000.00
5.550.350	Bank/Legal Expenses	500.00	1,045.91	800.00
5.550.175	Synod Assembly Expense	500.00	1,280.85	800.00
5.550.400	Misc. Expenses	100.00	-	100.00
	Total Other Expenses	\$ 17,280.00	\$ 18,608.82	\$ 19,260.00
	Providing for the Future ⁸			
5.600.100	Provision for Outreach	750.00	750.00	1,000.00
5.600.150	Provision for Inreach	550.00	550.00	750.00
5.600.200	Provision for Equipment	1,000.00	(3,615.14)	2,000.00
5.600.210	Provision for Roof Repairs	-	30,000.00	3,000.00
5.600.220	Provision for Parking Lot	-	8,250.00	2,550.00
5.600.230	Provison for Lawn/Landscape	-	3,000.00	2,750.00
5.600.240	Provision for Security Locks	-	10,000.00	-
5.600.250	Provision for Building Maint.	6,000.00	(14,933.80)	1,000.00
5.600.260	Provision for Carpeting Crossroads	-	12,000.00	1,200.00
5.600.270	Provision for Carpeting M/P Room	-	10,000.00	3,000.00
5.600.300	Provision for Bldg/Grounds	6,000.00	(29,508.14)	-
6.600.310	Provision for Bells Maint.	-	250.00	250.00
5.600.350	Provision for Sabatical	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00
5.600.400	Provision for Payroll Taxes	-	6,000.00	-
	Total Future Provisions	15,500.00	33,942.92	\$ 18,700.00
	Total Expenses	\$ 574,550.00	\$ 579,989.29	\$ 608,650.00
	Surplus or (Deficit)	\$ -	\$ 27,200.60	\$ -

2017 Budget (cont)

Footnotes to 2017 Budget

1. Based on the results of our 2017 General Fund Pledges we anticipate that Member Contributions will be essentially the same as in 2016.
2. ELCA Northern Illinois Synod Mission is 10% of member contributions.
3. Local Mission is 1% of member contributions. This does not include special offerings.
4. We contracted for a new copy machine in late 2016 at a reduced monthly cost.
5. Staffing Ministry Expenses reflect a 3% increase to all salaries.
6. As we are now processing Payroll and Taxes in house we saved \$4,047.24 in 2016 and will incur no cost for these services in 2017.
7. The Staffing for Growth budget will provide funds for future ministry opportunities.
8. We have re-allocated our building related reserves to more clearly define and appropriate funds for our future needs. Please see the chart below for more detail.

Shepherd of the Prairie - Reallocation of Reserve Accounts - 12/31/2016					
	Beginning Balance	Amount Added	Amount Reallocated	Ending Balance	2017 Budget
Inreach Reserves	2,297.28			2,297.28	750.00
Outreach Reserves	9,063.67			9,063.67	1,000.00
Playground Reserves	5,000.00			5,000.00	-
Sabbatical Reserves	6,375.89			6,375.89	1,200.00
Bells Maintenance	1,367.11			1,367.11	250.00
Payroll Tax Reserves	6,000.00			6,000.00	-
Equipment Reserves	10,615.14		(4,615.14)	6,000.00	2,000.00
Bldg & Grounds Reserves (Now Inactive)	35,508.14		(35,508.14)	-	-
Maintenance Reserves (Now Inactive)	30,933.80		(30,933.80)	-	-
Roof Repairs/Replacement (New Account)	-		30,000.00	30,000.00	3,000.00
Parking Lot Seal/Repair (New Account)	-		8,250.00	8,250.00	2,550.00
Lawn & Landscaping (New Account)	-		3,000.00	3,000.00	2,750.00
Carpeting Crossroads/Hallways (New Account)	-	12,192.92	(192.92)	12,000.00	1,200.00
Carpeting MP Room/Classrooms (New Account)	-		10,000.00	10,000.00	3,000.00
Building Maintenance (New Account)	-		10,000.00	10,000.00	1,000.00
Security Lock System (New Account)	-		10,000.00	10,000.00	-
Total	\$ 107,161.03	\$ 12,192.92	\$ -	\$ 119,353.95	\$ 18,700.00
Description of Accounts:					
Roof Repairs/Replacement - Based on 20 year life. Goal of \$60,000 by 2027.					
Parking Lot Seal/Repair - Goal of \$8,250 every 3 years. Next needed in 2019.					
Lawn & Landscaping - Includes mulch plus landscaping repair/replacement. Goal of \$8,250 every 3 years. Next needed in 2019.					
Carpeting Crossroads/Hallways - Goal of \$12,000 by 2017.					
Carpeting MP Room (old Sanctuary) and classrooms. Goal of \$25,000 by 2021.					
Building Maintenance - Includes Routine Electrical/Mechanical/Carpentry/Painting. Goal of \$10,000, replenished annually.					
Security Lock System - Currently \$6,404. Goal ?					
Equipment Reserves - To repair/replace moveable equipment such as computers, printers, A/V Equipment, office equipment.					