



St. Peter's Lutheran Church
Northfield, Minnesota

Creating Community, Belonging to Christ, Serving the World



Outdoor Worship Service



Confirmation Bunk Bed Project

ANNUAL REPORT

2020



Sarah's House Parsonage Project



Several Successful Blood Drives



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

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January 31, 2021 Annual Meeting Agenda

- Call to Order
- Approval of agenda
- Devotions
- Message from the Pastor
- Message from the President
- Team/Board Reports
- Elections
- Financial Report–2021 Budget
- Old Business
- Adjourn

Zoom Meeting Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83097587354?pwd=T-VF6ZnZRRmNFaEgyRmU0a0Y0Z2Fidz09http://>

2020 Staff

- David Weeks, Pastor
- Julie Klock, Family & Faith Formation
- Mary Kay Bougie, Music Coordinator & Director
- Terra Wierson, Director of Communications
- Dennis McClintock, Financial Administrator

Thank you to everyone who submitted reports, articles, photos and other items for 2020!
To get your photos included, post them to facebook, either tag St. Peter's Lutheran or post right on the St. Peter's page. Or, of course, just send them to the church office, terrawilson@northfieldstp.org or pastordavidweeks@northfieldstp.org.

2020 Council

- Steve Hill, President
- Patrick Bougie, Vice President
- Tom Picha, Treasurer
- Amy Sillanpa, Secretary
- Claire Hill
- Bette Lee
- Sheryl Kleppe
- Naomi Ziegler





A MESSAGE FROM ELCA PRESIDING BISHOP ELIZABETH EATON

Dear friends in Christ,

This year has been a challenging one! The COVID-19 pandemic has changed the church and society. We have had to shift the ways we engage in ministry from a focus on in-person worship and meetings to livestream worship, virtual meetings and gatherings in the parking lot. We have had to shift to teaching children at home and working from home. We have not been able to travel to see friends or relatives or to celebrate life events. This has also been a time to address economic and social justice issues, to shift our thinking and our way of life.

In times such as this, our baptism in Christ makes a difference and makes us different. Like Christians before us, we recall that God is faithful to God's promises and God's people. We see that God enables us to connect with one another even when we are separated. Shifts in the world invite us to be innovative in how we do God's work and reach out to all ages in making disciples. We see that God is at work not only in our buildings but beyond them as well. We have found new ways to serve our neighbors and reach those in need.

As we experience this time of uncertainty, we sense something new emerging. In many places there are new strategies and renewed energy for ministry, often generated by emerging leaders. We have developed a framework to build on, and now is the time to engage in hard work together. As you do in your congregation, we want our collaborative efforts to be both faithfully thoughtful and sustainable. We want to build up the body of Christ today and for the future.

Looking across the church, I am grateful for your generous giving of time, talents and resources. Yes, God does continue to bless us! God will provide both relief from life's struggles and hope for a stronger church, God's church. We do not need to know how the future will unfold. As members in the body of Christ, we need only trust that God is with us and will provide.

Building up the body of Christ together,

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

"The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love." —Ephesians 4:11-16

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING OPENING LITURGY

LITANY

L. O God of all power and love ...

C. ... we give thanks for your unfailing presence.

L. O God of all power and love, we give thanks ...

C. ... for the hope you provide in times of uncertainty and loss.

L. O God of all power and love ...

C. ... we ask you to send your Holy Spirit to enkindle in us your holy fire.

L. O God of all power and love, we ask you ...

C. ... to revive us to live as Christ's body in the world.

L. O God of all power and love, we ask to be ...

C. ... a people who pray, worship, learn, break bread, share life, heal neighbors, bear good news, seek justice, rest and grow in the Spirit.

L. O God of all power and love, we ask you to be with us ...

C. ... wherever and however we gather. Unite us in common prayer and send us in common mission, that we and the whole creation might be restored and renewed, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Build Us Up, Lord

1 Build us up, Lord, build us up; set in
 2 Build us up, Lord, build us up; let our

us a strong foun - da - tion. Lead us to do your
 lives re - flect your glo - ry. Cast a - way all our

ho - ly will; form and shape your new cre - a - tion.
 doubts and fears; help us tell the world your sto - ry.

Build us up, Lord, build us up; as we
 Build us up, Lord, build us up; help us

guide and teach each oth - er, help us to share your love with the
 bear good fruit for you, Lord, give us vi - sion and keep us

world: ev - 'ry sis - ter, ev - 'ry broth - er.
 sure. Grant us faith that's stead - fast and true.

Refrain

Grow - ing in Christ, we plant seeds for the king - dom; we fol - low in
 faith what's be - gun! Lord, set in our hearts the pow'r of your
 word to spread the news of your Son!

Text: Mark Glaeser, b. 1956, and Donna Hanna, b. 1952
 Text © 2003 Augsburg Fortress

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In the early verses of Ephesians 4, the apostle Paul writes to the Christians in Ephesus, a city on the Aegean Sea at the mouth of a river and at the intersection of three trading routes. The letter was written about ten years after the church had started. During the early years of this congregation, Jews and Gentiles from several ethnicities and nationalities had come together to form “one body.” Paul was aware that they had done well and commended them for their faith and love.

The word “one” appears more than seven times in the first four verses. This reflects the importance Paul gave to being called into the “unity of Christ.” He wanted to note that, although many of the church members came from far off, there is “one Lord, one faith, one baptism.” This oneness reflects God’s gift of reconciliation in Christ.

A second emphasis from Paul was that, as believers, they were to “bear with one another in love.” This would require humility, gentleness and patience as each of them practiced their faith. It would require tolerance to “maintain unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.”

A third emphasis was that each person had been given gifts by God and that these gifts were given to increase the whole. Because the Ephesian church was a young congregation and its members were just beginning in their faith journey, their understandings were often tossed to and fro. But as they grew in faith, each person contributed to building up the body of Christ.

The fourth and final emphasis was that by “speaking the truth in love,” each person must grow into Christ. This means taking time to learn about one another and their gifts. Knowing these gifts, we can do God’s work both within and beyond the faith community. When there are decisions to make or relationships to reconcile, we know to begin with prayer and reflection, always desiring to speak the truth in love — not for our own benefit but for God’s glory, that we might become more complete.

As our members and friends gather today, whether face-to-face or online, we are reminded of our calling into “unity in Christ.” We come from many places and work in many contexts, and yet we recognize “one Lord, one faith, one baptism.”

Whether new to a worshipping community or further along the journey, we realize that humility, gentleness and patience are required both in the good times and especially in times of uncertainty and struggle. God wants us to be more complete through our work. Christ provides the way. The Holy Spirit is with us for guidance and courage. Each of us has been given the gifts to be complete, and through our faithfulness we will grow stronger and work together as one body.

LET US PRAY: LORD, LET THE WORDS OF THE APOSTLE PAUL DWELL IN US DEEPLY. MAY WE EMBRACE THE RECONCILING POWER OF ONENESS WITH CHRIST. MAY THIS ONENESS GUIDE OUR CONGREGATION AS WE LIVE INTO THE NEW REALITIES OF THESE TIMES. AS WE MEET NEW PARTNERS IN MINISTRY, MAY WE TAKE TIME TO GET TO KNOW THEM WITH PATIENCE, HUMILITY AND LOVE. HELP US TO SEE HOW SHARING OUR GIFTS WILL MAKE YOUR WORK EASIER AND MORE FULFILLING WHILE BRINGING ALL OF US CLOSER TO CHRIST. MAY THE BLESSINGS YOU GIVE EACH DAY STRENGTHEN US TO A LIVING, DARING CONFIDENCE IN YOUR GRACE. AMEN.

A Message From Pastor David



Dear Sisters & Brothers in Christ:

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28

God transforms disasters into blessings. When Jesus died on the cross, his followers thought the gig was up. It had been exciting while it lasted, but Jesus was executed on the cross. Jesus had attracted large crowds of people hungry both physically and spiritually. I'm sure the disciples dreamed big as they considered the possibilities that the followers of Jesus could undertake, but then Jesus died. Little did they know that God would take this disaster and transform it.

The year 2020 began like every year--we were full of hope and enthusiasm. I went on sabbatical and you heard guest preachers Mark Rydberg, Janet & Howard White and other presenters who stirred your imagination. On March 8, Emily Carson, Assistant to the Bishop of the SE MN synod preached and led an adult form on stewardship. Momentum was building as you dreamed of opportunities and possibilities. That was the last Sunday we worshiped "in-person" until October. Little did we know that COVID would so define 2020.

On January 1, 2021, I heard and saw many people say "good riddance 2020." For many reasons, the year will be remembered negatively.

We have all missed out on events and activities on a personal level. Weddings were delayed or altered, funerals are still pending, family reunions will need to wait another year. Those of us who love to discover the world and learn through travel, had to stay home. In the church, we went online. No in-person worship, coffee & fellowship, Council meetings, Bible studies, confirmation, Sunday School, etc.

The pandemic forced us to do something we should have already been doing--go online. I returned early from sabbatical on March 21. Julie, Mary Kay, Terra, and the Church Council had quickly responded wisely, creatively and faithfully. Their quick thinking and hard work paid off for the remainder of the year as we worshiped through Facebook Live and met through Zoom.

We realized in April that we would continue broadcasting online after we can return to in-person worship, so we invested in better equipment. We started with a Samsung phone with no external microphone on a tripod. We now have three different cameras and we're wired into the sound system. Even after we can return to in-person worship, we will continue to offer online worship. With in-person only, the only time to worship is 9:00 a.m. on Sunday. With the online service available, people out of town for the weekend can worship at their convenience.

St. Peter's is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The word evangelical refers to the good news of Jesus. I have historically thought of evangelism rather narrowly--inviting people to worship with us and hopefully joining our congregation. Going online this year has caused me to think of evangelism differently. We are evangelical--we are sharing the good news of Jesus--with people

beyond our membership. Though they may never join as “members” of St. Peter’s Lutheran, they are part of our community.

Online worship has also helped me see stewardship differently. Instead of passing offering plates down the pews, I have thanked you for your ongoing support. As I have kept office hours, many of you faithfully bring your offerings, and behind your masks I can see that it is with joy and gratitude that you bring your checks to support the Gospel. Someday we will again sit in the pews, the ushers will pass the offering plates down the pews, and present your gifts to God. In the future, I intend to be better at saying “thank you” and naming ministries your gifts support.

It is strange to realize that it has been a full year since I have physically seen most of you. Though we have not been together physically, we remain connected as a community. I am grateful for the work of Julie Klock and the BeFriends who recruited additional people to create a phone tree--calling regularly our older members.

Adversity can also be an opportunity for growth and innovation. COVID has not dampened our enthusiasm for the Gospel, but has only whet our appetite for being a presence and force for good in our community.

While I am so ready to put 2020 and COVID behind me, I wonder what the “new normal” will be. Once we are able to return to in-person worship, will we? How much will we use Zoom in the future? Though 2020 will be remembered as the year we could not do many things, it has also provided us the opportunity to evaluate who we want to be and how we want to live. It has helped us see that our priorities are sometimes out of balance. I hope you have also learned new things about yourself and how you

can best serve Jesus in our world.

I am so incredibly blessed to serve the good saints of St. Peter’s Lutheran. Though 2020 presented us with never before seen challenges, you have responded with grace and faithfulness. I am so grateful for the staff I work with--Julie, Mary Kay, Terra, and Dennis. They have all taken on new roles, learned to do ministry differently, and faithfully gotten done what needs to be done.

Thank you for the opportunity to begin 2020 on sabbatical in New Zealand and Australia with my wife, Michon, and twenty St. Olaf students for a semester abroad. It was an incredible experience.

We begin every year, uncertain what the future holds, but perhaps we feel the uncertainty even more in 2021. Though it’s been a challenging year, I am hopeful as we worship a God who transforms all things for good.

Peace,
David



2020 Pastoral Records

Baptisms

1/19/2020. Lilly N. Paulson	9/13/2020. Theo P. Peterson
6/21/2020. Vaeda N. Robinson	9/13/2020. Luke A. Blocker
7/25/2020. Violet S. Weeks	10/11/2020. Isabel D. Vikla
8/9/2020. Veda M. Humann	

Weddings

Vincent Migliazzo & Mary Liebenstein8/22/2020

Funerals

Jeannette L. Iverson April 28, 1923 - January 20, 2020
Tina Knudsen June 22, 1931 - March 1, 2020
Elizabeth "Karen" Rasmussen July 8, 1950 - March 10, 2020
Andrew R. Juris February 23, 1987 - March 26, 2020
Richard Goetz July 7, 1929 - April 28, 2020
Thomas D. Brodin August 1, 1939 - September 20, 2020
Frank Ozmun May 12, 1931 - September 27, 2020
Linda Lou Ann Blaisdell February 21, 1941 - October 3, 2020
Ila G. Oleson December 1, 1922 - October 24-2020
James H. Stenstrom February 23, 1937 - November 19, 2020

Deaths with 2021 Funerals

Janet L. Gutzmann January 21, 1933 - March 26, 2020
Leslie V. Lundell December 27, 1933 - November 29, 2020
Earl B. Day January 22, 1929 - December 5, 2020

A Message from the President of the Congregation

by Steve Hill, Council President



Every year is different. We don't expect one year to be exactly like any other. We at St. Peter's knew that 2020 would be a different kind of challenge, because Pastor David and Michon would be in Australia on sabbatical leave until mid-May. But, a year ago, after months of discussion and planning, we were confident that we would be able to meet the challenges ahead of us in the upcoming year.

Nobody saw this coming!

Worldwide pandemic and the economic chaos that followed, violent racial unrest that started in Minneapolis, a contentious election and so much more. 2020 was like no other.

In March, when first confronted with the prospects of not being able to worship or meet in-person, Pastor David was already in Australia. We needed people to step up and lead the congregation through this unprecedented time. Our staff did exactly that. Julie, Mary Kay, Terra and Richard and I'm sure others, worked tirelessly to continue worship services, now on Facebook, and providing services to the congregation. Upon his return, Pastor David has led us through this time with wisdom and grace. I have been impressed with how skillful and

resourceful this group has been. We owe these individuals a huge debt of gratitude for keeping the doors open, the lights on and for meeting the needs of the congregation.

Thank you also to the congregation for meeting the challenges, as well. "Attendance" at our Facebook worship services has been encouraging. Giving has kept pace with previous years. The work of this church has continued through these unfamiliar and fearful times.

We have not been able to worship in-person together since March, except for a few times this fall. In spite of that, we have found that even though separated physically, we could still be together. The pandemic has forced us to do things differently and that's not all bad. We have had to rethink how we do things and change. That process isn't over. We will continue to examine and adapt as we make our way through this. I think we have a chance to come out of this dark and challenging time a little better and stronger than we were before. Let us have faith that God will continue to guide us. Steve Hill.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.
Romans 15:13

Community Outreach

by Doris Welke

The Outreach Committee (Richard DeBeau and Doris Welke, Council member Sheryl Kleppe) wants the town of Northfield to know of the impact members of St. Peter's Church makes. If you are involved in an activity (ie: volunteer or other groups) in Northfield and you'd like people to know that you belong to this wonderful church, we have an opportunity for you. We have t-shirts and masks available for you. We have size Small to 3X t-shirts and medium and large masks. These are available to you for a free-will amount. The t-shirts are yours to keep if you like or you could bring them back. The masks can not be returned once you take one. Please do not return it.

If you'd like some of these items please contact me and I will make them available to you. My email is dkewelke@msn.com.



Our Parsonage - “Sarah’s House” by Sheryl Kleppe

I have been asked to update you on the use of the former parsonage property and its occupants. The remodel and **repurposing of our parsonage** was one of the larger projects for St. Peter’s in 2020.



- The **three-bedroom house will become home to three five to women at a time**. Each woman will be staying there for anywhere from six months to a year as they continue rebuilding their lives. The first woman has already lived in the home and has moved on to the next step in her personal journey. More women are anticipated following the holiday season as the word has gone out to treatment centers looking for placement for women seeking accommodations. This process has been slowed somewhat due to the Coronavirus pandemic but the director assures me that interest is strong both locally and in the tri-state area. As with any new venture, a slow start is to be expected and will increase over time.
- The women will be either currently employed or actively seeking employment.
- Each woman will be working with a case manager to learn new skills.
- The women must agree to random drug testing.
- St. Peter’s has signed a one-year lease with Sarah’s House for **rental of the property**. We are being compensated \$1100 per month. This amount was agreed upon to meet the needs of Sarah’s House as a non-profit and to meet St. Peter’s desire to utilize the property as a ministry opportunity. The lease will be renewed annually.
- Bette Lee has graciously agreed to be the liaison between the church and the house should any repairs need to be made.

Again, on behalf of the church council I want to **thank all of you for your abundant donations and support** for this effort to provide much needed housing to women attempting to rebuild their lives.

Music at St. Peter’s in 2020

by Mary Kay Bougie, Music Coordinator & Director

A recap of 2020 music happenings at St. Peter’s. 2020 started off as most New Year’s do at a church. Following all the Christmas festivities, January/February was quite low-key and quiet.

The bell choir continued working up two anthems for each month; the worship choir was singing twice a month on average; and the worship band was practicing for their monthly worship time.

By March, the Lenten season was underway. Music preparation would pick up on through Easter. The choir was beginning to rehearse an Easter cantata and extra music was planned for mid-week Lenten services.

And then, as you all experienced, worship as we knew it had to change abruptly and dramatically. Through all of these months of virtual worship in a pandemic, we have learned many things about music in worship. For the most part, worship has gone smoothly. But we are so looking forward to in-person worship again, where we can sing freely, stand next to one another without fear, and worship full-heartedly and soulfully. Since that is not in the near future, we are very thankful to those musicians who have stepped in to provide beautiful music at St. Peter’s. If you are a musician who has not yet, but would like to share your talent, please let me or the church office know.

We would like to specifically thank the following musicians who have helped during the pandemic: Jim Anderson, Bill and Mary Bleckwehl, Sandra Bremer, Jack Buendorf, , Richard Collman, Julia Daly, Kira DeMaris, Megan DeMaris, Nick DeMaris, Alaia Douah, Madeleine Douah, Marilyn Finneseth, Claire Hill, Steve Hill, Kris Johnson, Kennedy Larsen, Josie Lynn, Phil Olson, Ginny Paulson, Pete Pedersen, Mark Shaw, Nancy Solberg, Hannah Varley, Skip Wagner, and Michon Weeks.



Upgrading the Sanctuary

by Terra Wierson

It has been a long, and not so steady road to get to the point we are, technologically, in the sanctuary at St. Peter's. We are lucky, though, in this digital world, to have video broadcasting at our fingertips – especially when our first closed-door worship service came with only about 18 hours of notice. Our first few services were primitive to say the least using just my smart phone and a selfie stick tripod. Throughout the spring and summer months I was able to add a better sound quality and eventually better camera angles!

After that first mid-March on-line service and concerns of poor audio, I knew that using my cell phone and just the ambient sound was not going to cut it. The first step was to use a digital lavalier mic which was attached to the pulpit on one end (where the entire service was conducted for over a month) and my phone on the other. Finally, after a little trial and error the right little amplifier was discovered and the entire sanctuary's existing sound system could be plugged into my phone allowing us to use the space we have more appropriately. That little amplifier has been a mighty force, for it still provides the sound being broadcasted through the more sophisticated system we use today.

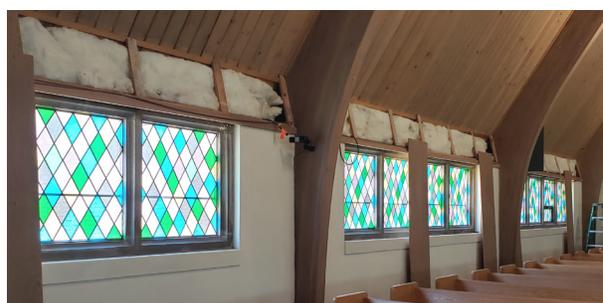
Fast forward a couple of months' worth of research, planning and funding, St. Peter's was able to purchase cameras, cabling, and other equipment needed to carry on with broadcasted services in a more permanent manner. Pastor David, backed by our council, made the decision early on that no matter how long we would be worshiping from home, the on-line broadcast portion must stay - which means it must work well. You can see me in the photo from last summer as I dug into both of the long walls of our sanctuary to install cabling which now runs from the front side cameras to the balcony, where the broadcasting laptop lives.

Long before the end of 2020, our church facebook page and website analytics showed new viewership has been on the up. To back this information, St. Peter's received letters, messages, cards, phone calls, e-mails and visits from people thanking us for holding our services on-line – not only from our dear members, but from perfect

strangers, too. We welcomed people from all over the country who joined in worship with us and it has truly been heartwarming.

Thank you to those who supported this project financially and spiritually. Thank you for just showing up on-line on Sunday mornings – whether you're at home or on vacation. Thank you for sharing our videos with family and friends. Thank you for being patient while I worked through unforeseen issues. Thank you to worship leaders for learning to do things differently. Thank you, Bill Bleckwehl and Michon Weeks for subbing from time to time, and our interns for taking on much of the video editing work around Christmas time! And... for anyone willing to give webcasting a try, I'm available for training volunteers for Sunday morning worship.

Respectfully submitted,
Terra Wierson



my little cell phone tripod before the cameras

Faith Formation Staff & Team Report:

by Julie Klock,
Director of Children and Family Faith Formation

2020 began with a bang: the flagship **confirmation** collaboration between St. Peter's, St. John's and Bethel launched the year with great excitement. Students from all three churches scattered across our 3 campuses for a different class each week. St. Peter's hosted 3 classes and we saw lots of new faces over the month. Although doing something so completely different created anxiety for some of our students, it energized others. We wrapped it up, determined to do it again in 2021. **Sunday School** and **Breakfast Club** resumed and we held a frosting-filled Sweet Treats **camp** which was filled with fun and laughter.

As February began, Pastor David left for **Sabbatical** and the snow began to fall creating many opportunities for decision making. Normal confirmation resumed. We held a **Mardi Gras breakfast**. **BeFrienders** attended a wonderful workshop on becoming Dementia Friends at St. John's. Ash Wednesday arrived and the **Church Council** held a planning retreat. Middle School students enjoyed the annual Romans & Christians event at St. John's.

March arrived with **Lenten** services, snow storms, time change, and . . . a pandemic. Spring Break started early and stretched on through Easter, Ascension and Pentecost. Vacation Bible School was cancelled in light of the uncertainties. **All spring Milestones were postponed**. Everything except worship was put on hold as we scrambled to figure out how to bring Faith Formation to our members.

We shut down Sunday School, Breakfast Club, and Confirmation for the remainder of the spring semester, still convinced that things would return to normal by fall. Over the summer

we brought **Backyard VBS** to our families and neighborhood. Intern Josie Lynn provided a weekly video music lesson to families. There were outdoor Middle School social and service **get-togethers** with St. John's and Bethel. Pastor David led a variety of **adult learning** options and Julie led a **book study** - all on Zoom.

Throughout the summer we planned to begin a socially distanced **worship service** for families that would be a hybrid worship and learning event. We delayed starting and followed the school calendar. Shortly after beginning, we determined that there would be no in-person component, and we would pre-record the event, and provide some additional activities by email. This model remained in place for the remainder of 2020. **Confirmation** class used a curriculum designed for Zoom teaching and building resilient faith. Intern Annalissa Lane brought **SPY** to Zoom, added some game nights, and ukulele lessons to high school students and other interested parties.

Along the way, we made videos for our Intergenerational **Christmas Program**, which ultimately served as our final worship service of the year. While we provided fewer opportunities to learn about God and our faith this year, **we certainly had many more opportunities to practice our faith** as we lived through it. Much of what we have learned will stay with us for many years to come. Many thanks to our interns, and Terra who responded to each **challenge** with **creativity, skill and hope**. Like a Victory Garden during World War II, our families have embraced Home-Grown faith, and church and home have provided mutual support throughout this difficult year. **God is in the midst!**

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Klock

2020 Photo Gallery



Breakfast Club



Maplelag Ski Retreat



Mardi Gras Breakfast



Sunday School Sings



Emily Carson visits



Easter



Blood Drives at St. Peter's



Supply Drive for Holy Trinity Lutheran, Mpls



LWR Quilts from our LUV Quilters



Boundry Waters Canoe Retreat



Janie Anderson's 90th Birthday



CAC Drive-in Concert at St. Peter's



Blessing of the Animals



Open Worship in October



Piano Duet Performance



Family Worship



Christmas

New Spirit Circle (normally meets on the second Thursday at 1:30 p.m.)

by Celena Witt, Treasurer

Opening Balance	\$9.15
Income	
Monthly Offerings	\$155.85
Total	\$165.00
Expenses	
CAC Food Shelf	\$65.00
Lutheran Bible Translators	\$100.00
Total	\$165.00
2020 Ending Balance	\$0

Account closed in April, 2020.



NINETY SIX school kits were assembled and sent to LWR in 2020!

Hannah Circle (normally meets on the second Tuesday at 9:30 a.m.)

by Nancy Solberg, Treasurer

Opening Balance	\$95.46
Income	
Offering from members	\$383.00
Total	\$478.46
Expenses	
Layette fabric	\$133.00
ELCA disaster relief	\$100.00
Community Action Center	\$100.00
Total	\$333.00
2020 Ending balance	\$145.46



The Hannah Circle was able to assemble and *donate 30 baby layettes* this year. That's UP by 4 from last year! Thank you to all who helped!

Rachel Circle (normally meets on the third Tuesday at 1:00 p.m.)

by Evonne Clay, Treasurer

Thrivent is providing funds, toward the Capital Projects Committee, for the update of the middle school room project.

Opening Balance	\$5.24
Income	
Monthly Offerings	\$671.78
Total	\$677.02
Expenses	
CAC/Food Shelf	\$200.00
Salvation Army	\$50.00
Sarah's House (former parsonage) . .	\$175.00
The Northfield Key	\$50.00
Kathy Ness (Nfld. Mask Makers) . . .	\$170.00
Misc.	\$25.00
Total	\$670.00
2020 Ending balance	\$7.02



LUV Quilters (normally meets on the first and third Fridays at 8:30 a.m.)

by Celena Witt, Treasurer

166 quilts were distributed in 2020 by the LUV Quilters:
Lutheran World Relief (LWR) - 70;
and Northfield's Operation Joy - 96.

Opening Balance	\$677.11
Income	
St. Peter's Danish Days	\$410.13
Iverson Memorial	\$1535.00
Total	\$2,622.24
Expenses	
Supplies	\$560.67
Hannah Circle	\$100.00
Lutheran World Relief Shipping	\$300.00
Total	\$943.68
2020 Ending Balance	\$1,661.57



SOLOS

(normally meets on the second Monday at 12:15 for lunch.)

by Phyllis Swanson

*For the full story notes, [click the digital version](#).

St. Peter's Solos Group members were getting lonesome to see each other, to have fun and to get some spiritual nourishment. So... co-leader Phyllis Swanson decided to clean her garage, sanitize it, rearrange furniture for social distancing, and turn one wall into a church sanctuary! So began St. Peter's Garage Church Fellowship! Next step: invite Solos, to come wearing a mask and bringing their own beverage, treat and hand sanitizer. The noun, Joy, became our theme.

How do you prepare a garage wall into a sanctuary? Hang a 6x4 mural of a gorgeous mountain scene with Romans 15:13 imprinted. We then placed a cloth from the Holy Land over a metal 3-shelf unit which became our altar and positioned Arnie Witt's Joy wooden statue in the corner. A small wooden cross made by Merlin Bauer was placed on the top shelf of the altar. An old cassette player became the piano, organ, instrumentalists and vocalists!

The Solos love to visit! Several attendees said they also loved the devotionals, music, guest presenters, writing greeting cards to others, prayer requests, and celebrating birthdays. ...We Solos have indeed felt lifted up even in our isolation, being inspired by Isaiah 40:31.



Lutheran Bible Translators Update

by Phyllis Swanson

The Wagner family serves with Lutheran Bible Translators in Sierra Leone, working alongside the Themne people in translation and scripture use! St. Peter's members have supported Josh, Ruthie, and family since 2013! In 2020 they returned to MN for a much needed medical leave for Ruthie. Their hearts are with witnessing in Sierra Leone and they are eager to return.

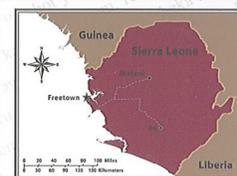
For Wagner updates on facebook go to: [facebook.com/groups/wagnerupdates](https://www.facebook.com/groups/wagnerupdates) or contact jrwagner@lbt.org.



JOSH & RUTHIE • ELIJAH, ISAIAH, JOSIAH, & ELIZABETH

Wagners Serving in Sierra Leone

Josh-Ruthie.Wagner@LBT.org • 612-208-7680 • Facebook "Wagner Updates"
Wagners c/o LBT, PO Box 789, Concordia, MO 64020 • <http://bit.ly/givewagners>



Lutheran bible translators
GOD'S WORD
 for every language

making God's Word accessible
 to those who do not yet have it
 in the language of their hearts

BGs (normally meets on the second Thursday at 8:00 a.m.)

The BGs, otherwise known as the Bucket Girls, gather once a month for about an hour to make sure our church kitchen is in good order. Members of the group wipe down the counters and cabinets, check through the refrigerator for items that may need to be discarded, make sure items are in the proper place, and clean the tables and chairs in Fellowship Hall. Our group has not met during the pandemic but will resume once our church family is able to come together for fellowship. If you are interested in joining this group, contact JoAnne Olson at 321-1350.



BeFrienders

by Julie Klock

This has been a busy year for our BeFrienders. As the year began they were prepared to take over some of Pastor David's visitation duties while he was on Sabbatical. Each of them took on a specific group or person to check in on. When COVID arrived in March, they added people to care for to their lists and carried on with phone visits. Along the way we have added a few folks from outside our St. Peter's community who were in need of a listening ear.

The BeFrienders met monthly; in person at the beginning of the year, and via Zoom thereafter. A variety of skills have been explored throughout the year, including giving care by telephone or other electronic means, taking care of self while caring for so many others, and validating accomplishments when you don't leave your home.

In December, the BeFrienders assisted with the Longest Night service.



**BEFRIENDER
MINISTRY**
A Listening Presence

St. Peter's contact person: Julie Klock, 507-645-8252 x204.

For more information about befriender ministry visit <https://befrienderministry.org>

Eve Circle

Normally meets 6:30 p.m. on the third Monday, January-May and September-December at Member homes or St. Peter's Fellowship Hall. Linda Rowan, Chairperson (507-581-6665)



Eve Circle alternates yearly studies between contemporary Christian books suggested by Julie and Bible studies offered in the ELCA *Gather* magazine. We have nine members in our group and new members are always welcome!

Our service focus has always been to contribute to a family in need of assistance within our community. With our yearly budget of \$500 in contributions from our circle members, we have again accomplished this project in the Christmas season by giving to two families within our community. Although we were not able to shop together, we collaborated as to where gift cards would come from. Due to Covid-19, we have continued with gathering on Zoom and look forward to when we can be together again in person.

Treasurer & Business Management

submitted by Tom Picha, Treasurer

Income Statement:

For 2020 the church ended the year with a \$25.6K surplus. In July we received a \$53.4K PPP (Payroll Protection Plan) grant/loan as part of the US government's COVID 19 relief package for small businesses. There is a high probability this will be a direct grant vs. a loan. Accordingly, we have filed a Loan Forgiveness Application with the SBA (Small Business Administration). The provisions of the PPP grant allowed for 2.5 months of average payroll expense from the last three quarters of 2019 and the first quarter of 2020. The allowable expenses, at the time we applied, were for payroll, benefits, utilities, and interest costs on debt. We expended the entire \$53.4K during 2020. We followed the guidance and the generally accepted accounting principles as provide by the AICPA in accounting for these transactions. In the income statement, the expenses were reduced (credits applied) as noted at the bottom part of the income statement. Without the aid of the PPP grant, we would have ended the year with a \$27.8K deficit compared to a planned breakeven for the year. This deficit of \$27.8K was only about \$6K more than the deficit incurred in 2019. Income-offerings were down \$19K from 2019. I give thanks that we have a very generous congregation, especially considering all that happened in 2020. With remote church services vs. in-person worship we were able to reduce our actual expense level compared to 2019 by \$13K. The main savings were in the form of lower building maintenance and utility costs.

Balance Sheet:

As of the end of 2020 the church still has a decent balance sheet and financial position with cash reserves between checking and savings accounts of \$118.5K. The dedicated account balance was basically the same as in 2019 at \$80K. This left us with a general operating balance at year-end of \$38.9K compared with \$12.4K at the end of 2019. The PPP grant/loan will be listed on the balance sheet as a short term liability until we receive the grant/loan forgiveness from the SBA. The church also has low long term debt, with the mortgage balance on the church ending the year at \$101.4K.

Capital and Facility Expenses:

As promised and planned, there were no major expenditures on capital projects for the year. We do have a capital projects planning team that has been meeting periodically. A review of potential and future capital projects is reviewed at Church Council as well on a monthly basis. The largest things on the horizon are:

- In January 2021 the church received a \$120K settlement from our insurance company on a casualty loss from hail and wind damage to the roofs on church buildings during a storm that occurred in August of 2020. This covers all the shingled roofs (main church, parsonage, and garage) and some of the metal perimeter roof capping on the flat roof section. We also have some damage in the flat roof above the middle school room on the exterior and interior of the building. The insurance company only included a small amount in the settlement to fix the interior water damage on the ceiling and wall. We will be having ongoing discussions and negotiations with the insurance company on this section of the roof.
- A remodeling in the church narthex. This project is early in the discussion stages by the capital project team. The pace of how this moves will hinge on how the negotiations go with the insurance company on the repair of the flat roof section and middle school room mentioned above.
- A "facelift" of the sacristy area is in progress. This is relatively low cost project that will nicely modernize the look in this area, which is now circa late 1950's.

2020 Budget:

For 2021, the council is recommending a budget with a deficit of \$12.1K, a reduction in the deficit compared to last year of \$16K. The budgeted income assumes an increase in offerings of 2% over that what we received in 2020, or about a \$7K increase. The parsonage is now rented out to Ruth's House. Assuming that it is rented for the whole year, it will provide another \$4K in income. On the expense side, the budget

assumption is that we will reduce expenses from last year by \$3.6K, or about 1%. It is expected that with COVID 19 still lingering for most of 2021, we will be able to continue to reduce expenses for facility maintenance and supplies. We also assumed a \$2K reduction in what we send to the SE Minnesota Synod. For salaries and benefits we planned a \$1% increase over last year, about a \$3K increase in cost from 2020. The SBA has a launch of round two of the PPP grant/loans starting in the middle of January. Round two of the PPP has a few more restrictions than round one. The main one being that you have to have a quarter in 2020 that has 25% less revenue, than the same quarter in 2019. We do not meet this qualification.

I would like to thank Pastor Dave, Church Council, and especially Dennis McClintock for their support and Guidance this past year. - Tom

St. Peter's Missional Budget

submitted by Pastor David Weeks

Worship & Music

Worship--confessing our sins and receiving forgiveness, singing, hearing God's Word in scripture, sermons, and prayers, and offering ourselves is central to our Christian faith. For most of 2020, we had to be church differently than ever before and we will begin 2021 worshipping online. We do not know when we will be able to return to in-person worship, but when we do it will likely begin with masks and physical distancing from each other. We worship with a variety of styles and formats--organ, piano, keyboard, guitar, percussion, bells, and vocalists feed our souls. We are both an inviting and welcoming community, and using digital media, we are sharing the Good News of Jesus far beyond Northfield. **\$175,000**

Faith Formation (Education)

Though we cannot provide Christian education in ways we have done for generations, we have adapted. Our Sunday School meets online at 10:00 on Sunday mornings for a hybrid worship which includes scripture, meditations, and music. Until we can gather safely in-person, we will continue with this model. Our Confirmation ministry is done on Zoom. We began 2021 again offering a "J-term" with St. John's, Bethel, and the United Church of Christ churches. Our St. Olaf intern, Annalissa, meets with our high school students online, and Pastor David offers a weekly Bible study and periodic Faith on Tap sessions. Our women's circles also provide opportunities to grow in faith as well as support for one another. We look forward to the day when we can again gather in one another's presence to study God's Word. **\$115,000**

Christian Service & Witness

The Church does not exist to care for itself, but to serve the world. In 2020, you responded generously to support the ministry of Holy Trinity in Minneapolis following the riots and destruction. We deliver Meals on Wheels twice a year for 2-week blocks each time, and we look forward to returning to serve at Sharing & Caring Hands in Minneapolis. Twice a year we clean a two-mile section of Highway 246 and we support the Community Action Center's food shelf and Operation Joy. Our quilters send quilts and we send backpacks and health kits to Lutheran World Relief. In 2021, you can expect to see new opportunities to support the work of Habitat for Humanity in the Northfield area. **\$60,000**

Christian Care & Fellowship

We presently have 7 BeFriender ministers. It is our practice to offer a BeFriender to all in our congregation after a death in the family. BeFrienders are listening ears to people in many circumstances. The pandemic inspired us to create a phone tree of a dozen people calling our shut-ins and older members. I'm hopeful that this ministry will continue even after the pandemic is behind us. Though not organized by any ministry team, many people make phone calls and run errands for one another as they live their calling to serve our neighbor. Our funeral teams provide vital Christian care as families gather for a meal to mourn and remember their beloved. The Christian faith is lived in community. We are the body of Christ, called to love and be loved by one another. **\$50,000**

2020 Financial Summary

Income Statement (Statement of Financial Activities) :

	2019 Actual	2020 Actual	2020 Budget	Proposed 2021 Budget
Income :	\$ 382,948	\$ 363,820	\$ 415,709	\$ 375,102
Expenses :				
Worship	\$ 12,375	\$ 9,059	\$ 13,250	\$ 8,150
Education	\$ 3,882	\$ 2,577	\$ 3,300	\$ 2,500
Benevolence/Missions	\$ 14,801	\$ 13,775	\$ 14,808	\$ 11,500
Administration	\$ 17,743	\$ 18,985	\$ 17,475	\$ 17,870
Witness	\$ 2,227	\$ 1,502	\$ 1,795	\$ 500
Stewardship	\$ 766	\$ 799	\$ 900	\$ 800
Congregational Life	\$ 2,600	\$ 1,129	\$ 2,650	\$ 950
Salaries/Benefits	\$ 264,391	\$ 224,392	\$ 272,855	\$ 277,927
Building/Grounds/Maint..	\$ 38,935	\$ 26,488	\$ 41,270	\$ 24,718
Utilities	\$ 21,552	\$ 13,586	\$ 22,156	\$ 16,457
Interest & Mortgage	\$ 25,209	\$ 25,972	\$ 25,250	\$ 25,849
Total Expenses	\$ 404,481	\$ 338,264	\$ 415,709	\$ 387,221
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ (21,533)	\$ 25,556	\$ -	\$ (12,119)
PPP Grant Expense Offset/Credits:				
Salaries & Benefits		\$ 50,597		
Utilities		\$ 1,991		
Interest Expense		\$ 812		
Total PPP Grant \$		\$ 53,400		
Net Surplus/(Deficit) - Without PPP Credits		\$ (27,844)		

Balance Sheet (Statement of Financial Position - Key Accounts):

Account Type	At 12/31/19	At 12/31/20
Checking Accounts	\$ 49,711	\$ 75,372
Savings Account	\$ 43,147	\$ 43,167
Total Cash Accounts	\$ 92,858	\$ 118,539
Dedicated Accounts	\$ 80,441	\$ 79,656
Gen. Fund Operating Balance	\$ 12,417	\$ 38,883
Mortgage Balance	\$ 120,382	\$ 101,393

Mission Endowment Fund 2020 Report

Balances as of 12/31/2020

**12/31/20 TREASURERS REPORT - (Dec Est)
ST. PETER'S MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND**

**STATEMENT OF FUND ACTIVITY
FOR PERIOD 01/01/20 - 12/31/20**

Beginning Fund Balance 01/01/20		\$287,496.00
Plus:		
Cash Contributions		-
Market Value Change - ELCA Endowment Fund		7,823.36
Income:		
Interest Income - ELCA Mission Plus Account	251.98	
Dividends - ELCA Endowment Fund	10,254.04	
		<u>10,506.02</u>
Less Cash Distributions:		
Capital Improvement Fund	(2,000.00)	
		<u>(2,000.00)</u>
Ending Fund Balance 12/31/20		<u><u>\$303,825.38</u></u>

FUND BALANCES BY INVESTMENT

		12/31/2019 Balance	12/31/2020 Balance
ASSETS			
Cash And Bank Accounts			
ELCA Mission Plus		19,696.56	30,202.58
TOTAL Cash And Bank Accounts		<u>19,696.56</u>	<u>30,202.58</u>
Invesments			
ELCA Endowment Fund		279,433.44	287,256.80
TOTAL Investments		<u>279,433.44</u>	<u>287,256.80</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u><u>299,130.00</u></u>	<u><u>317,459.38</u></u>
LIABILITIES			
Capital Improvement Fund		11,634.00	13,634.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>11,634.00</u>	<u>13,634.00</u>
NET		<u><u>287,496.00</u></u>	<u><u>303,825.38</u></u>



Welcome to the new year! Many of us are entering 2021 full of hope; 2020 was a year of unexpected challenges. There were disappointments: canceling our 2020 Synod Assembly ranks among them, as I was so looking forward to gathering with all of you. There were steep learning curves: moving worship and gatherings to digital platforms. There were radical adjustments: finding new ways to connect when in-person visits were unsafe, learning to work from home while caring for those who depend on us, to name a few.

Yet, as I reflect on 2020, I am filled with deep gratitude. In the face of a quickly and constantly changing reality, the Southeastern Minnesota Synod rose to the occasion. You learned to worship in new ways. You reinvented confirmation, Sunday school, and adult education. You found new, primarily outdoor, spaces to gather in. You found ways to continue your outreach to your communities and beyond. You proclaimed the gospel with grace and fervent hope.

It has not always been easy. There have been moments of tension, fear, and uncertainty. There have also been moments of joy, creativity, and sacred spaces.

As I reflect on 2020 and look forward to 2021, I am immensely grateful to be called to serve among you. As we look to another year of ministry, I pray we will continue to be full of grace, truth, courage, and hope. I pray that the lessons we have learned will continue to shape and inform us. I pray we will remain open to the work of the Holy Spirit, and I trust, by God's grace, we will continue to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Thank you, dear church, for your tenacity and generosity. Thanks be to God for God's faithfulness in all things.

Our work continues. If you have not yet taken space for deep Sabbath rest – please do so (and ensure the people around you do too!). No matter what our new year brings, our call to proclaim the gospel remains. May God gift us with all we need to share this Good News!

In Christ,

Bishop Regina Hassanally

Southeastern Minnesota Synod ELCA | www.semnsynod.org

As you gather, the following questions are frequently asked about giving and the work of the church. These may be helpful as your congregation engages in conversation about how to grow and thrive in the future.

What is missional giving?

One way individuals and congregations participate in missional giving is when their financial contributions, often called offerings or tithes, to and through their congregation, or other charitable organizations, are intended to do God's work in the world. We believe this work can be done faithfully through ELCA ministries.

Why give?

For some the answer is God first gave to us, thus through our life we have an opportunity to share God's generosity with others. This understanding demonstrates giving is a spiritual issue, not a financial one. For other Lutherans, the answer is also an identity issue. We are faithful Lutherans and this is what we do – share with others. This is not an individual experience only, for we are church together, and through our unified giving we do God's work.

Who gives?

All are invited to give as God has blessed them and as the Spirit moves them.

What to give?

As the apostle Paul wrote of the Christians in Macedonia, "They first gave themselves to the Lord." Through baptism, confirmation and our confessional statements, each person first gives of themselves to God. Within each person's faith walk, they are asked to give of their time, talents and resources. This can take many forms.

How much to give?

We teach to grow toward a tithe (10 percent of household income), to a tithe and beyond a tithe as God has blessed you. This may also apply to one's time.

When to give?

Individuals and congregations are encouraged to give regularly. The practice of "first fruits" giving, sharing a portion of God's blessings when they are received, is encouraged. This may be weekly, monthly or quarterly. There are also times for special giving. This is often in response to specific needs or opportunities. There are also times for planned gifts. This is often for major projects or at the end of life. All these forms of giving are encouraged.

Where to give?

Most supporters of the ELCA do the majority of their giving to and through their congregation. When growing toward and beyond a tithe, giving to all charitable organizations is considered.

How to give?

All regular giving received by ELCA congregations is considered undesignated. This means the dollars received can be used as determined by a missional budget or expense plan approved by a quorum of the membership and as managed by elected leaders. An increasing percentage of total giving to congregations is being designated for specific purposes. While we appreciate and celebrate all giving and respect the wishes of the donor, we also trust members and elected leaders to make financial decisions that support God's work in and beyond the local community, both in the present and for the future.

What is Mission Support?

This is the portion of your congregation's regular financial offering that is shared with your synod. The synod then shares a percentage for God's work that we do together through our ELCA churchwide organizations, both domestically and globally.

St. Peter's Lutheran Church Annual Meeting Minutes
January 26, 2020

St. Peter's Mission Statement: Believe, Belong, Become

*To express God's love and grace in building a community where people **believe** in God, **belong** to Christ, and **become** disciples who serve in day to day living.*

Meeting called to order by President Steve Hill at 10:34am

Agenda – motion to approve the agenda made by Lorraine Rovig, seconded by Jolene Manzy, motion carried

Minutes – motion to approve the 2019 minutes made by Ginny Paulson, seconded by Jolene Manzy, motion carried

Devotion led by Pastor David Weeks

Message by President Steve Hill

- Hill thanked everyone at St. Peters for helping to make our church successful - the staff (Pastor David Weeks, Julie Klock, Mary Kay Bougie, Terra Wierson, & Dennis McClinock), the Church Council (Steve Hill, Patrick Bougie, Tom Picha, Amy Sillanpa, Claire Hill, Bette Lee, Sheryl Kleppe, Naomi Ziegler (Sept 2019-current), Beth Eaves (stepped down July 2019), all who have served or volunteered in some way at St. Peters, and the congregation.
- Hill gave a Capital projects committee update: the group brainstormed projects that are needed and have been prioritizing these projects. Currently focusing on:
 - Updating the upstairs area: Middle school room, lighting, lower the ceiling and do asbestos abatement, roof repairs
 - Bell tower insulation
 - Parsonage: getting the parsonage ready to be used by either Ruth's House or CAC to help people in the community

Message by Pastor David Weeks

- Pastor Weeks gave an update about his planned sabbatical for February 1 – May 22:
 - Pastor Weeks thanked the congregation for giving him a sabbatical opportunity to travel to New Zealand and Australia with his wife Michon and a group of twenty St. Olaf students on a study abroad trip.
 - Pastor Weeks believes the staff, council and the congregation will do well while he is away. He is grateful to be Pastor at St. Peters Church.
 - Terra has their itinerary for while traveling – he is not planning to put anything out on social media – will share about his trip when they return.
 - Provided opportunity to ask any questions

Team/Board Reports

- Peter Scheffert gave an update about the Northfield Retirement Community (NRC) – Peter serves on that board, representing St. Peters Church – his term will be ending soon. NRC celebrated 50 years this year. 2019 was a strong financial year for NRC thanks to some investments they made. There are some challenges ahead with NRC. NRC added a number of services over the years (assisted living, etc), and last year legislature passed law that those services need to be regulated so there will be additional costs ahead. The board is working on that. NRC’s annual meeting is April 26 – St. Peters can have up to 4 representatives there; let Peter know if you are interested in being a delegate for the meeting. NRC appreciates the financial commitment St. Peters has made to support NRC.
- No other team/board reports

Elections

- On the ballot:
 - new member of the mission endowment committee (3 year term) – nomination for Dottie Scharber
 - Church Council positions
 - 2 Member at Large positions (2 year term) - Sheryl Kleppe and Bette Lee running for another term; no other nominations
 - Vice President (2 year term) – Patrick Bougie running for another term; no other nominations
 - President (2 year term) – Steve Hill running for another term; no other nominations
- Motion made to pass an unanimous ballot by Peter Scheffert, seconded by Julie Klock, motion carried

Financial Report – 2020 Budget – by Tom Picha, Treasurer

- Church financial report was given by Picha (see page 23 of the 2019 annual report). We are under budget by \$17,000.
 - Biggest expense was \$32,000 to remodel the new bathrooms.
 - \$5000 was budgeted for updates to the parsonage
- We have a strong balance sheet but we need to get out of the deficit mode. Our goal is to balance the budget and get off the deficit track – need another \$32,000 of income – 8.6% increase.
- We need more pledge cards turned in – even if members are on automatic giving (vanco), please submit a pledge card – goal 70% return; we will provide a pledge update in 30 days.
- We need a 8.6% increase in giving to make our break-even budget.
- We are going to need a higher percentage increase in giving from our larger donors to meet this goal.
- We need more people to sign up for automated giving – forms available at the welcome desk.
- We will be tracking actual contributions to goal on a monthly and YTD basis and will communicate where we are at to make our goal.
- Picha made a motion to approve the 2020 budget of \$415,709; Ginny Paulson seconded; motion is carried.

Old Business

- No old business

New Business

- **Mission Endowment Fund**
 - Mission endowment fund (see pg 20 of the 2019 annual report) - the purpose of this fund is to take the income the fund makes and provide outreach and mission; also use for capital projects.
 - Eldon Hill: updated the mission endowment fund bylaws – requested to go to 6 members instead of 5. Eldon made a motion to accept new bylaws, Sheryl Kleppe seconded, motion carried.
 - Phyllis Swanson thanked the members of mission endowment fund for sending \$1000 to the Wagners family to support them in their mission (Phyllis had requested this). She encourages others to support their mission (see page 18 of the 2019 annual report).
- **Pastor coverage:** Shirley Shaft asked how the costs of the fill in pastors will be covered during Pastor Week’s sabbatical - the church received a grant to help cover this expense.
- **Choice Dollars from Thrivent:** Janie Anderson reminded everyone to designate their Choice Dollars from Thrivent. She encourages people to designate those to St. Peters or another place of their choice. If this is not designated, Choice Dollars will go back to Thrivent.

Motion made to adjourn by Shirley Shaft, seconded Janie Anderson, the Annual Meeting adjourned at 11:38am.

Minutes by Amy Sillanpa, Church Council Secretary

2020 Annual Meeting Notes:



St. Peter's Lutheran Church
Northfield, Minnesota

418 Sumner Street E | Northfield, MN 55057 | 507-645-8252

www.northfieldstp.org | www.facebook.com/northfieldstp

Creating Community, Belonging to Christ, Serving the World