

*Presented at the Annual Meeting, January 27, 2019*

## 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

# Peace

## Lutheran Church



**PEACELUTHERAN.COM**

5509 W. 41st St.

Sioux Falls, SD 57106

(605) 361-3683

Paul Stjernholm, Senior Pastor  
Chris Matson, Associate Pastor  
Renaë Boehmer, Associate Pastor  
Jonathan Vehar, Associate Pastor



# PASTOR PAUL STJERNHOLM



I am always amazed to look back over a whole year's worth of ministry and see what we have done together! As you read each of the reports that follow I think you will agree.

## Space and Building Usage

Peace continues to increase the scope and size of its ministry. More kids are registering for Sunday School and Wednesday School than we have room for, and our Confirmation program has increasingly larger classes and is bursting at the seams. We have tried various scheduling options to ease the strain, but it hasn't solved our wonderful problem of too many kids.

With that realization has come the dawning awareness that we might need more space in which to do ministry in the near future. The Church Council, as part of its five-year goal to address our space issues, convened a Space Visioning Task Force in the fall to explore different ways we could utilize our current space, and determine what kind of new spaces we most need. The Council will receive their recommendations sometime this spring.

## Personnel changes

This past year we said goodbye to our Director of Youth Ministry, **Kelsey Lyndoe**, as she discerned it was time to start a new chapter in her life. After a search process we brought on board **Katie Eul**, who most recently served on staff at First Lutheran in Brookings.

We also said goodbye to **Jim Ahrendt**, our Director of Senior Ministry and the catalyst that brought into existence our Transportation Ministry. Jim provided rich opportunities for our seniors through trips, retreats, and the monthly Potluck and Program. He also led the fund drive to purchase a curbside-loading van so that seniors could be transported to worship and to Friday morning Bible study. To fill his shoes we were pleased to bring on **Pat Steele** as our Director of Senior Ministry, and **Ron Stout** as our Transportation Ministry Coordinator.

Other transitions included **Maurine Pederson** stepping down as the Financial Secretary and **Judy Kirkman** taking her place. **Demetrius Washington** and **Alexander Witt** resigning as our Evening Custodians, and welcoming **Eric Smith**. And finally saying goodbye to **Jeff Panek** who was our part-time Daytime Custodian and Maintenance man.

We are grateful for the excellent work they did for us.

## Giving

Let me start by talking about our debt reduction! 32 months ago when we started our Debt Reduction Imagine Campaign, our mortgage stood at \$1,250,000. At the beginning of 2018 we had already paid it down to \$678,500, and now it sits at \$434,600. That's a reduction of over \$800,000 in a relatively short period of time. It is our hope that those who have been so generous and faithful in paying down that debt will continue to do so beyond the three-year Campaign until the debt is completely wiped out.

The congregation slightly exceeded its giving for ministry in 2017, and that was in addition to a major fund drive to raise money for the parking lot. \$73,000 was raised which was enough to seal the west lot and resurface half of the remaining lot. We ran out of time in the construction season, so we are setting our sights for this spring.

In addition to that appeal, our congregation also contributed \$17,000 to Necessities for Neighbors, and over \$6,000 to our Global Mission in Haiti.

But perhaps the biggest news was our congregation's response to the Statement of Intent appeal in November. Members indicated an intent to give over \$1,000,000 to the ministry in 2019... about two-thirds of the total budget. That has never happened before! Thank you to all who are so committed to the ministry of Peace Lutheran that we share in together!

## Thank You

It has been a joy and a privilege to work with such a dedicated staff, and it has been inspiring to work among the members of Peace Lutheran who have such a love of Jesus Christ and a desire to serve him in their lives. Thank you the opportunity you have given me as your pastor!





# PASTOR JONATHAN VEHAR



## *Today is the day the Lord has made...*

...let us rejoice and be glad in it." Often when I pray, I begin with these words from Psalm 118. They serve to remind me that whatever petition and prayer comes next is given knowing God's creating presence. These words also help to remind me that today is the day the Lord has given US. This is our day to be the church, God's people in the world sharing the hope, joy, and peace of Christ. What a wonderful thing for which to give thanks.

As I look back to 2018, it is with a sense of joy for all the places God has called us to be. As we reach out into the community, we embraced Faith Through Frames as a new way to connect with our neighbors. To see the smiling faces of families pick up their portraits, a celebration of their family, brings a tear to my eye. We've seen old ministries grow in new directions, such as a second Necessities for Neighbors site opening at First Lutheran in downtown Sioux Falls. Peace is a leader in gathering ministry partners around the table to ask where God is calling, and we are grateful for all of our congregations in Charis Ministry Partners.

But the true measure of these ministries isn't in the number of diapers given out, but in the stories of those who come. Over the summer I invited a few of the "regular" attendees to talk. I wanted to hear a piece of their story and the difference that N4N makes. One older gentlemen, Ibrahim, share a great deal of his story. An Iraqi immigrant, he spent years living in Texas as an engineer in the 1980s. After returning home to Iraq he found so much had changed. The effects of Saddam Hussein's presidency had taken their toll across the country, and the years immediately following his regime didn't make life much easier. Ibrahim's world became even more dangerous when his son started as a translator for the US Army.

Ibrahim and his family were relocated in South Dakota of all places. They have sought to rebuild a life here, but he would note that even the United States had changed a lot in the years he'd been gone. The life he once had as an engineer are gone, and there are greater financial hardships. But he described his reason for coming to Necessities for Neighbors as more than free toilet paper and laundry detergent, it is a place he connects with others. It's odd to think of a fellowship hall of a Lutheran church being the place where a man of the Muslim faith finds a sense of connection and belonging. But each month it happens, and each N4N I give thanks for what the Lord will make possible that day.

As 2019 kicks off, we again rejoice in where God is calling to live faithful today. I can't say for sure where we will be lead, but we look forward to:

- Fully integrating N4N with the 211 Helpline Network of Care,
- Working across all the Sioux area ELCA congregations for student led peer ministry,
- Continue to dig deeper into the ways that God calls us all to respond generously with our time, talents, and treasure.

So remember, *Today is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it!*

				
<b>103</b> St Dysmas Visits	<b>96</b> family portraits	<b>1136</b> boxes of Mac & Cheese for Food to You	<b>9156</b> \$ donated to Necessities for Neighbors	<b>countless</b> Hours spent serving in our community



*“From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.” John 1:16*

The gift of grace keeps flowing to us just as it did to those who walked with Jesus nearly 2,000 years ago. God is faithful and keeps providing the grace we need every day. As 2018 ends it’s appropriate to look back at the year to see what God has been up to in our midst. As a community of believers, we have been blessed by one another as we share in the goodness of God.

One way we are constantly encountering the grace of our Lord is in gathering for worship. Coming together around word and sacrament is at the heart of who we are. This year, because of the dedication of our musicians and many volunteers, we were able to maintain consistent worship times - even during the summer. A bi-monthly Service of Healing began in September, offering quiet, contemplative worship with the opportunity to light candles in prayer and laying on of hands with the anointing of oil. And I'm pleased to report that worship attendance at Christmas was record-breaking this year!

We've also taken steps this past year to improve the appearance of our worship space. Over the summer months, thanks to the generosity of Don and Dorothy Kauers, we installed granite tile in the chancel area of the sanctuary. This gift continues the sanctuary update project. We are still looking forward to the next piece of the plan, where a video system will be installed which will bring elements of worship (e.g. baptism, children’s messages) up close and accessible for everybody in worship, especially on Christmas and Easter when folks are seated outside of the sanctuary.

Another huge part of the year was a congregational effort to send over 50 high school-aged youth to the National Youth Gathering in Houston, Texas. It was quite an undertaking, and it took the whole congregation to make an opportunity like this possible! Thank



you for the ways you made it possible for our youth to experience Christ in a way that is just not possible in any other setting. Repeatedly, we heard from the youth who attended that the highlight of our time together was daily worship in the NRG Stadium, where we heard powerful messages of how God is showing up in people’s lives in amazing ways. Thank you to parents, adult leaders, and the congregation for pulling together to share God’s love with our youth in this way.

Whether we are in weekly worship or on the trip of a lifetime, God shows up and showers us with grace upon grace. It is truly an honor to be in mission and ministry with each of you. As we give thanks for 2018, let us also look forward to what God will be up to in 2019 and beyond.

Pastor Chris



# PASTOR RENAE BOEHMER



So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus Galatians 3:26-28

Jack Johnson sings, "**It's always better when we're together.**" Seems like that could be Peace's theme song. Not only is life better when those of us who call Peace our church home gather to worship, to care for each other, to serve our neighbors and to just enjoy one another's company - but it's even better *yet* when we are together with others in our community and in our world.

The story of 2018 involves a lot of being better together, especially when it comes to the world of **Caring and Connecting Ministries**:

It was a huge year for **Stephen Ministry**. Nineteen new Stephen Ministers were commissioned last year and they gathered for about 288 visits - talking about the joys and sorrows in life, sharing stories of grief, depression, anxiety, divorce, stress, memory loss and the final days of life. That's fifteen pairs of people coming together weekly to walk alongside one another, pray together, and love one another through the difficult times in life. Better together? For sure!

But Stephen Ministry isn't just at Peace Lutheran - it takes places in churches and living rooms all over. And, if Peace can do it well, we can definitely do it better when we join together with others. So Peace is part of the Local Area Network, joining together for training, continuing education and supervision with other congregations in the Sioux Falls area.

Of course, caregiving takes place lots of places - and the hospital is an important one. This year, we added a **Lay Hospital Visitor** to our team who connects with people during their health challenges. And, it's true - we ARE better together.

We joined into new relationships with care facilities and senior living centers as well, offering monthly worship or devotional connections with a pastor at **SunnyCrest** (quarterly), **Grand Living and Good Sam Village**. Not only do we get to see Peace members, but we can share God's good news with all who join in.

As we care for others, we become more and more aware of the vast needs in our community - and we are inspired to ask for help in understanding those needs. We have entered into deep conversations with the folks involved in the **12-step programs** at Peace and are dreaming of ways to be active in fighting addiction alongside our neighbors. We've also noticed an increase in people in our area struggling with **mental illness**, so we began conversations for how we can work to be a source of hope for all in need. When we combine the knowledge of those who are in the midst of working with these concerns and those of us who know the power of God, we *definitely* are better together!

And what about inside our own walls? Well, an **Eagle Scout** joined with the prayer shawl team to create a beautiful display shelf for the **prayer shawls** that are given in love....and a different Eagle Scout worked with the Peace **library** to create new shelving for the computers.....and a third Eagle Scout began work on creating recreational activities for children and youth. Boy Scouts and Peace Lutheran *are* both better together!

People who love art joined together with people who love scripture to form our first **Bible Journaling** group. People who love scripture joined to engage in a weekly **Good Word Bible Study**.

**We truly are better together!** Just one question remains: Who will *you* come together with in 2019 to help change our community and world – to make sure *everyone* knows Jesus' love? Need some ideas? I'd love to help think of them, well, **TOGETHER!!!**

Peace and love – and here's to another great year **together!**

Pastor Renae

# CHURCH COUNCIL PRESIDENT



Dear Member of Peace,

Being called “President” of the Peace Council is still a name I am trying to grow into. I would like to thank Past President, Cassie Gusso, for her guidance over the last two years. She is an amazing testament to the Lord and her commitment to Peace over the years is second to none. I would also like to thank Pastor Paul for guiding the congregation and the council as we vision for what’s ahead.

We often talk about the kind of church we see ourselves as and I am convinced that we are and will continue to be a welcoming place where ALL are welcome. We work hard to welcome all, and it is reflected everyday at Peace by the amazing work that we are doing.

Our service to others is a very important part of our ministry here at Peace. In 2018, we continued Necessities for Neighbors and with the help of First Lutheran, opened a second site to serve those in need. Our members volunteered and brought items for the Food to You mobile food pantry, went on missions around the world and continue to support the Church on the Street ministry. These are just a few of the many ways we, as a congregation served those in need in 2018.

In July we sent 60+ youth and adults to the National Youth Gathering in Houston Texas. The youth and adult chaperones had a wonderful time in both worship and service while in Houston. The end of the gathering marked a new transition for the Youth Director position as Kelsey Lyndoe left her position as director. Katie Eul was hired onto the staff as Director of Youth Ministry in September and is busy working to create a new path in Youth Ministry with a focus on small group ministry.

Our elementary programs continued to thrive. Pam and Tamara have become experts in space management. Record numbers of children participated in

both Wednesday School and Sunday School. Our confirmation program continues to be a vital part of our programming. Other highlights include sending kids and families to our Lutherans Outdoors camps and a phenomenal Vacation Bible School week.

Peace Care, Kids World and the Peace Pre-School programs continue to thrive and serve the needs of the children in the programs.

I often hear people comment on the quality of worship at Peace. We are most definitely lucky to have both Jackie and Bob here at Peace. We appreciate their commitment to worship and music. We had record setting attendance on Christmas Eve, and I have no doubt that Jackie and Bob were a major reason why.

Pastors Paul, Chris, Renee and Jonathan take great care in leading our congregation in worship, but they do so much more to provide pastoral care to our members. Thank you, Pastors!

From a financial perspective we came up just short of our projections for income in 2018. The good news though is that we operated the entire year in the black. We managed our expenses and didn’t borrow ANY money to cover our costs. We had a successful summer campaign to address issues in our parking lot and our pledges for 2019 were a direct reflection of the hard work the stewardship team put in throughout the year.

As we look ahead our 2019 budget grew a modest amount. The growth of our budget is a direct reflection of the pledges we received. In 2018 the council set a five-year goal to start construction to expand our footprint here at Peace. Look for exciting news to come as we work to share with you the visions of our growing church!

Kind regards,

Matt Dreke - Church Council President



# 2018 ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

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2018 Annual Meeting  
Peace Lutheran Church  
January 28, 2018

President-Elect Matt Dreke called the meeting to order at 12:34 pm and noted that a quorum had been established. Pastor Paul led an opening prayer.

## Approval of 2017 Annual Meeting Minutes

Dale Gullickson made a motion to approve the minutes from last year's annual meeting. Motion seconded by Darrell Autio. The minutes were approved unanimously.

## 2016 Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Paul Hanson gave a report full of celebrations, including 1) Our mortgage went from a balance of \$941,254 to a balance of \$678,589 in 2017 and 2) Our endowment fund grew by nearly \$40,000 to a new balance of \$105,295 and 3) We did \$110,000 better than our approved budget for 2017, which included a planned \$80,000 deficit. He also fielded questions along with John Hilleson. Joe Bunkers made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and Dillon DeBoer seconded the motion. The report was approved unanimously.

## Election of Council Members

Rebel Hurd and Jason Domagalski are retiring from Church Council. Many thanks for their years of service. The nominating committee presented Linda Johnson and Dillon DeBoer for At Large positions and Morgan Siemers as youth representative. No additional nominations came from the floor. Candidates were elected.

**People of Peace video:** Bob Portice shared about the ministry going on in Confirmation.

## Election of Endowment Team Members

Brittany Elsasser has been serving on the Endowment Team as an appointment to fill a vacated term. She has been nominated for an additional term. No additional nominations from the floor. Candidate was elected.

## Election of Nomination Committee

Thank you to this year's nominating committee for their work. The nominating committee presented Pam Tetzlaff to serve on next year's team. An additional nomination of Doug Vogel was made from the floor. Candidates were elected.

**People of Peace video:** Barb Hegg shared about the Music Ministry at Peace.

## Pastor Reports:

Each pastor gave a hearty thank you to the congregation for the opportunity to serve and a few details about their individual work in 2017 and dreams for 2018. See individual reports.

## Old Business

No Old Business

**Video: Thank you for supporting Westside Lutheran.**

## New Business:

Treasurer Paul Hanson presented the 2018 budget and mission plan which totals \$1,499,544. This is an increase of approximately \$120,000 from last year. That amount was determined by the Statement of Intent cards received since November. Kristi Hoff motioned to approve the 2018 budget and Art Wesman seconded the motion. The budget was approved unanimously.

Pastor Chris closed the meeting with a prayer.  
The annual meeting was adjourned by Matt Dreke at 1:14 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rena Boehmer  
Church Council Secretary

# NEW MEMBERS



Anderson, Austin  
Anderson, Logan Michael  
Arnoldy, David  
Arnoldy, Heidi  
Baker, Danielle  
Baker, Kelly  
Baker, Lachlan Ray  
Baker, Laikyn Renee  
Baker, Lucca Ray  
Bentz, Julia Lynn  
Blind, Sierra Alicyn  
Block, Zach L.  
Bones, Berkley Marie  
Brandt, Graeson Lee  
Brenden, Marcie  
Brenden, Susan  
Brenner, Lisa Marie  
Brynjulson, Henrik  
Brynjulson, Oliver John  
Bunkers, Beckett Bradley  
Cahill, Monica  
Cahill, Tom  
Cain, Abbie  
Case, Kolsyn Dene  
Clark, Breya Lynn  
Colwill, Natalie Lorraine  
Cook, Eden Lilianna  
Cota, Debra  
Cota, Michael  
Crevier, Emma Jo  
Crum, Kevin Roy  
Darger, Sawyer Lee  
Deibert, Ella Rachel  
Deibert, Hadleigh Isabel  
Deibert, Maverick John  
Derrick, Kacee Jean  
Devlin, Andrew  
Devlin, Beau  
Devlin, Heidi  
Devlin, Michael  
Devries, Blake  
Eggers, Joan  
Ehresmann, Coleen  
Ehresmann, Curt  
Enstad, Collin  
Enstad, Debby

Enstad, Ryker Clinton  
Enstad, Spencer David  
Enstad, Taylor JoAnn  
Erikson, Porter James  
Eul, Kathryn L.  
Farnham, Janith  
Foster, Barry  
Foster, Dawn  
Goldammer, Emily Grace  
Gordon, Harold  
Gordon, Katrina  
Gordon, Samuel Robert  
Gossen, Bentley Vincent  
Gossen, Cole Christopher  
Grave, Marilyn  
Gustafson, Melissa  
Haala, Olivia Kay  
Haeder, Wanda  
Hansen, Adam  
Hansen, Jack Henry  
Hansen, Kyra  
Hansen, Lydia Rose  
Hauck, Addyson Rhea  
Hauck, Amanda  
Haugland, Justice Olivia  
Hawkins, Taliyah May  
Heckenlaible, Heidi  
Heckenlaible, Justin  
Heckenlaible, Trey Logan  
Heibult, Emmelia Faith  
Herrick, Lauren  
Hershman, Emmett Jay  
Hjelmstad, Terry  
Hoff, Sophie Teresa Mae  
Holtberg, Samuel Robert  
Hotchkin, Lula Ruth  
Jacobson, Carson D.  
Jacobson, Clayton  
Jacobson, Shuree  
Jensen, Gretchen  
Johnson, Presley  
Julson, Brooklynn Kay  
Julson, Bryleah Rae  
Keifer, Amy  
Keifer, Emmaline Mary  
Klavetter, Emil



## NEW MEMBERS CONTINUED

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Klavetter, Ethel  
Knapp, Molly Grace  
Konold, Doug  
Konold, Peggy  
Kress, Nicole  
Kreul, Dennis  
Kreul, Rhonda  
Krogstad, Luke Thomas  
Krugman, Mavis Kay  
Lachnit, Lily Ann  
Larson, Asher Lyle  
Larson, Dorothy  
Larson, Gordon  
Larson, Jameson Daniel  
Lohmeyer, Brady  
Lohmeyer, Brent  
Lohmeyer, London Victoria  
Lohmeyer, Melissa Ann  
Lubben, Staci  
Lundeen, Eric  
Lyngstad, Jenna  
Lyngstad, Tanner  
Lyngstad, Tucker  
Maine, Ellie Grace  
Merry, Amanda Louise  
Merry, David Grey  
Merry, Kaleb Ely Abram  
Miller, Jodi  
Miller, Juli  
Miller, Samuel  
Miller, Seth  
Miller, Simon  
Munce, Eleanor Kaye  
Mutziger, Carter Grayson  
Ness, Marjorie  
Nielsen, Alyssa  
Nielsen, Brooke  
Oberg, Bailey  
Odman, Cassie Jo  
Patzlaff, David  
Patzlaff, Deborah  
Person, Kray  
Peters, Alivia Jean  
Peterson, Brynlee Jean  
Pfaff, Leighton Lynn  
Pottratz, Harrison Lee

Raffoul-Reardon, Sarah  
Rans, Harper Jo  
Rasmussen, Lauren Joyce  
Reemtsma, Logan Scott  
Rehurek, Maddyn Marie  
Rhoda, Casey Scott  
Robinson, Bennett Micah  
Ruff, Emma Millie  
Schaefer, Amanda  
Schaefer, John  
Scheafer, Cormac Gray  
Schley, Elizabeth  
Schorzmann, Grayson  
Schreiner, Brynley  
Schreiner, Joseph  
Schreiner, Megan Paige  
Skadsen, Kennedy Rein  
Skyberg, Herson Darrin  
Smith, Keaton Kirby  
Snedeker, Natasha  
Spaethe, Carson Micheal  
Spaethe, Shane Micheal  
Sperle, Isaac Jay  
State, Jensyn Hadley  
Steen, Corbyn  
Stolsmark, Heather  
Tanis, Audden Paul  
Taylor, Bryan  
Tracy, Lillian Michelle  
Underberg, Weston Thomas  
Weidenbach, Audrey  
Wek, Anita  
Wendling, Bauer Jeffrey  
Wiseman, Keilani May

# BAPTISMS



Name	Baptized
Holtberg, Samuel Robert	1/6/2018
Erikson, Porter James	1/13/2018
Rasmussen, Lauren Joyce	1/13/2018
Robinson, Bennett Micah	1/13/2018
Blind, Sierra Alicyn	1/20/2018
Herrboldt, Isabel Grace	1/21/2018
Herrboldt-Anderson, Josie	1/21/2018
Baker, Lachlan Ray	1/28/2018
Brynjulson, Oliver John	2/4/2018
Larson, Jameson Daniel	2/10/2018
Deibert, Maverick John	2/17/2018
Underberg, Weston Thomas	2/24/2018
Darger, Sawyer Lee	2/25/2018
Rans, Harper Jo	2/25/2018
Hawkins, Taliyah May	3/4/2018
Smith, Keaton Kirby	3/4/2018
Skyberg, Herson Darrin	3/10/2018
Gossen, Bentley Vincent	3/24/2018
Wiseman, Keilani May	3/24/2018
Haugland, Justice Olivia	3/25/2018
Schreiner, Brynley Gwendolyn	3/31/2018
Cook, Eden Lilianna	4/7/2018
Heibult, Emmelia Faith	4/8/2018
Rehurek, Maddyn Marie	4/8/2018
Knapp, Molly Grace	4/21/2018
Maine, Ellie Grace	4/22/2018
Peterson, Brynlee Jean	4/22/2018
Sperle, Isaac Jay	4/28/2018
Deibert, Ella Rachel	5/5/2018
Deibert, Hadleigh Isabel	5/5/2018
Krogstad, Luke Thomas	5/5/2018
Gossen, Cole Christopher	5/12/2018
Derrick, Kacee Jean	5/19/2018
Gathje, Brooks Jeanne	5/19/2018
Lachnit, Lily Ann	5/19/2018
Hershman, Emmett Jay	5/27/2018
Case, Kolsyn Dene	6/9/2018
Brandt, Graeson Lee	6/10/2018
Mutziger, Carter Grayson	6/16/2018
Wendling, Bauer Jeffrey Lloyd	6/23/2018

Hauck, Addyson Rhea	6/24/2018
Tracy, Lillian Michelle	6/24/2018
Peters, Alivia Jean	6/30/2018
Crevier, Emma Jo	7/14/2018
Munce, Eleanor Kaye	7/14/2018
Pottratz, Harrison Lee	7/22/2018
Bentz, Julia Lynn	7/28/2018
Hansen, Lydia Rose	7/29/2018
Schorzmann, Grayson Joshua	7/29/2018
Ruff, Emma Millie	8/5/2018
Colwill, Natalie Lorraine	8/12/2018
Raffoul-Reardon, Sarah Celeene	8/26/2018
Hoff, Sophie Teresa Mae	9/9/2018
Scheafer, Cormac Gray	9/16/2018
Anderson, Austin Michael Lee	10/6/2018
Anderson, Logan Michael	10/6/2018
Larson, Asher Lyle	10/13/2018
Bunkers, Beckett Bradley	10/21/2018
Reemtsma, Logan Scott	10/21/2018
Clark, Brea Lynn	11/3/2018
Pfaff, Leighton Lynn	11/3/2018
Brynjulson, Henrik Avery Day	11/4/2018
Roach, Calvin Douglas	11/10/2018
Skadsen, Kennedy Rein	11/17/2018
State, Jensyn Hadley	11/17/2018
Hotchkin, Lula Ruth	11/18/2018
Tanis, Audden Paul	11/24/2018
Bones, Berkley Marie	11/25/2018
Spaethe, Carson Micheal	12/15/2018
Spaethe, Shane Micheal	12/15/2018

## MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

Beginning baptized membership:	4340
Baptized members received:	172
Baptized members removed:	453
Change:	-281
<b>Year-End Baptized Members:</b>	<b>4059</b>
Beginning confirmed members:	2966
Confirmed members received:	81
Baptized members confirmed:	64
Confirmed members removed:	320
Change:	-175
<b>Year-End Confirmed Members:</b>	<b>2791</b>



# FERN SWEARINGEN LIBRARY

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“But you, **beloved**, remember the words which were spoken before by the apostles  
of our Lord Jesus Christ” Jude 1:17

I have a book next to my bed that guides me to a verse for every circumstance in life. We turn to the Bible frequently.

Love thy neighbors (Matthew 22:34-40)- Thank you Peace Lutheran for being so supportive of the library over the years and the recent changes. If you have stepped into the library recently you will notice a change in color on the wall and moved book shelves. There are new chairs in the library for our friends to sit and read a good book. We could not do this without your patience and understanding and look forward to updates in paint and furniture. Volunteers have been working hard on making the library accessible and friendly for all who enter.

There is a season for everything (Ecclesiastes 3:1-8): One of the biggest changes in 2018 was the retirement of Fern Swearingen as the librarian. We are grateful for the decades of service she has given. A founding member of the congregation and of the library, the library ministry would not be what it is today without her. And as with any season of change, we are reflecting on what the future holds and where we can continue to grow upon what has come before. There are many dreams all to help grow the ministry of the library allowing us to support book clubs, story hours, and children’s and adult activities.

To read every word (Joshua 8:35): New books are always coming and there are still the oldies but goodies still in the library for you to enjoy. We have added a new collection to the shelves that includes the books from the Peace Lutheran Book Club; these books will be marked with a “book club sticker” making them easy to find. We have done a lot of “weeding” to make way for new books and help create a more hospitality atmosphere, so stop in and find a good book.

“Love thy Lord God with all your heart” (Luke 10:27): The Fern Swearingen Library is working to further the ministry of Peace Lutheran and to spread Christ love through reading,

We are always finding ways to remember the words that were spoken and shared to the Apostles. The words that speak to promise, hope and love and you can find some of those words in the comfort of the library.

Kara Vehar  
Librarian

# ENDOWMENT TEAM



The Peace Lutheran Church Endowment Fund was established as a means to provide funding for future Ministries that were beyond the scope of the regular ministry budget. Such ministries could possibly include: seminary debt reduction for rostered leaders, seminary scholarships, additional support to global ministries serving those in need, and ministry grants for developing new ministries. The possibilities are limitless. All gifts from the Endowment Fund are generated out of

the interest earned from the Fund, leaving the principal untouched. Gifts of any size are opportunities for givers to see their donation have endless benefits. The Endowment Committee feels compassionate about THE FUND being an ideal way for end-of-life estates to be give, in part or in full, whereby the returns earned on the principal will go to finance goals of Peace Lutheran Church in perpetuity. **WHAT A BLESSING!**

2018 was another memorable year. Significant donations were received and some funds were earned by projects of the committee. It is significant that the Endowment has approximately doubled in the last two years. End of year balance totaled \$134,471.00.

Examples of programs the Fund sponsored or helped finance include:

- \* Subsidizing youth to attend National Youth Gathering
- \* Golf Tournament
- \* Campership scholarships
- \* Purchasing a church camera
- \* Rachel Kurtz concert
- \* Dave Ramsey Financial Peace University

Members of the committee serve for three-year staggered terms: 2018 members were: Dale Gullickson, chairman; Mark Schlueter, Secretary; Brittany Ellsasser, Treasurer; Nick Sershen; Tim Olson and Pastor Paul Stjernholm, ex officio.

The Committee wishes to thank all those who helped make this a memorable year for the Endowment.

Dale Gullickson, Chairman





# BUILDING AND ADMINISTRATION

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Here is a quick synopsis of the past year in regards to maintaining Peace Lutheran Church. This facility is utilized by several outside groups as well as internal missions and ministries. Maintaining this facility continues to get more expensive each year.

## Projects

- A good portion of the sidewalk on the South side of the property was removed and replaced per city code, along with several squares of sidewalk by the main entrance.
- Over the past year we have slowly been switching out our fluorescent lights to LED lighting. A majority of the office space and hallways have had this done and parking lot lights are slowly being replaced with LED's.
- During the spring and summer months, a fair amount of time working with different contractors about parking lot issues and solutions. A campaign was generated to fund repairs to the parking lot, with the understanding that the West side parking lot be resealed and have new markings painted on it, and the Eastern and Southern lots having about an inch of the old surface removed, a two inch layer of asphalt added, and new markings painted. This project is put on hold for 2018 and will be resumed in summer of 2019.

## Challenges

- The main structure is in good overall condition. One lingering issue is the sanctuary roof leaking whenever a heavy rain occurs during the year. These leaks are generally on the western part of the Sanctuary. Replacing all of the rubber roof materials and putting on new shingles in the past couple of years has not remedied the situation. I will keep working on trying to find a solution.
- The extra wet start to spring along with the heavy use of road salts along 41<sup>st</sup> Street created a poor stand of grass in the boulevard along the street. The boulevard was reseeded professionally and the results were not what I expected. The soil in the boulevard is too acidic and this is the reason for poor plant growth. I will continue to work on ways to improve the soil to improve overall appearances. The other landscaped areas held together fairly well with only a few plants needing replacing and several small areas of grass being reseeded.
- Now onto some mechanical equipment news. All of our HVAC equipment is serviced by Climate Systems. They are contracted to do filter changes and inspections of the equipment 3 times per year. This past year, we almost made it through the air conditioning phase before a com-

pressor on one unit and a complete A/C unit needed replacing. Other than having a circuit board, water circulating motor and pump rebuilt this past fall, the mechanical equipment is holding up.

- Some electrical issues have been occurring with the parking lot lights. Over the past several months, I have used Thompson Electric for trouble shooting and repairing the light poles. The circuit feeding a Southeastern light pole has been compromised. Therefore, at some point this spring or early summer, before the asphalt work on the parking lot, a portion of the parking lot will have to be dug up in order to replace the electrical lines to that pole.

## Future projects

- The garage is in need of replacing. The building has standing water in it after any rain event. This creates more wood rot to the structure and contributes to the rusting of the equipment stored in there. This will eventually raise the costs spent on equipment, service and repairs.
- Removing and replacing of another playground fence is on our wish list. The current one has posts that are rotting off and could become a safety hazard.
- Another future project would be the replacing of the old landscape edging along the East and South sides of the Church which has been damaged over the years.
- I also plan to get estimates to remove and replace the fascia and soffits on the Fellowship Hall. There is always a fair amount of painting to do along with fixing and patching walls.

I would like to end this note by sending out a "Big Thank You" to all of our contractors, volunteers, and to my custodial staff. I could not have done this without your help! The major contractors are as follows: Kempf Construction (snow removal), Thompson Electric (electrical), Climate Systems (HVAC), Jones Plumbing (plumbing), Roto-Rooter (plumbing blockages), Tru-Green (lawn fertilizer), Hillyard (janitorial supply), Aire-Master (janitorial supply) and other wholesale suppliers used for lighting and repair needs. If you get a chance please let these contractors know that they are appreciated!

I want to also say "Thank You" to the Peace Lutheran Church family, for giving me the opportunity to work for and serve this congregation. May 2019 be a year for the continual improvement to the visual and spiritual appeal of Peace Lutheran Church.

Dean Ebbinga, Facility Manager



**MISSION STATEMENT: Through our instruments and voices we gather to proclaim God's love.**

Worship at Peace is definitely the “work of the people”! There are hundreds of you that heard the call to serve in so many ways: singing, playing, reading at worship, ushering, serving or preparing communion, greeting, tending the Welcome Center or taking charge of the Coffee Corner. We offered 7 weekly worship opportunities throughout the school year and 6 during the summer. We even added a 6<sup>th</sup> service to our Christmas Eve schedule (experiencing a record attendance year) and started a bi-monthly **Service of Healing**, led by Pastor Chris Matson.

In addition to our usual traditional and contemporary services, we also offered opportunities to worship in varying music styles – Mariachi, Jazz (twice) and Polka. On Memorial weekend and Labor Day weekend, we offered our Hymn Sing services where the congregation chose the hymns to be sung. Our Wednesday evening services in the Sanctuary were blessed to have tons of youth involvement! Our 8<sup>th</sup> grade and 9<sup>th</sup> grade Confirmation classes each took a week to lead worship musically as well as with worship support. Confirmation small groups also took turns helping with ushering and other worship support each week.

A big thank you to our faithful Music Directors for their dedication in preparing our groups to offer their gifts in worship:

**Maurine Pederson** Adult Bells

**Nancy Crum** Adult Choir, Youth Bells, Handchimes

**Bob Levesque** Peace Brass, Peace Symphonic Band  
Spirit of Peace, Lifeline, Saved by Grace

**Darya Levesque** Jubilation and Celebration choirs

The volunteers who serve in these groups are so committed and they are very appreciated!

Besides their contributions to our worship services, our groups provided the following highlights:

“**First Light**” was the name of the Cantata presented by our Adult Choir. This year they sang as part of our regular Saturday worship service but moved from the 9:00 and 10:10 Sunday services to a concert format on a Sunday evening. They were joined by our Adult Bells and Peace Brass. A beautiful night of music indeed!

**Ring and Sing** Our Youth Bells, handchimes and members of the Adult choir went to nursing homes to bring some Christmas joy to residents.

**Peace Brass** played for all 5 of our Easter services and 2 of our Christmas Eve services. They were also invited the week after Easter to play for services at Eastside Lutheran.

**Jubilation and Celebration choirs** again assembled to lead one of our Saturday night services and provided all of the special music. They did the same at our 1:00 Christmas Eve service.

In June we were excited to see “**Solid Rock Café**” performed twice by some very enthusiastic and talented 2<sup>nd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders. Darya is very gifted at preparing these kids in just a few days to present a full length musical. Bravo kids!

**Spirit of Peace, Lifeline and Saved by Grace** continued leading our 3 contemporary services all year long. Their love of God and music are just the ingredients they needed to serve Peace in this way.

**High Impact** (our High School praise band) did lead worship in February at 11:20 and provided special music in March but it proved to be a little challenging to practice on a weekly basis due to very busy high school schedules. Currently, we are trying to provide opportunities to play/sing in smaller groups or as soloists.

Peace was honored to have some visiting musicians during the year. We had the **Sioux Empire Brass** play for one of our Lenten services, the **Legion Chorus** sang here in July and the **Sioux Emperians** sang here in August. We were especially pleased when we were approached by the South Dakota Symphony to host one of their Stained Glass Series concerts in November. The **Dakota String Quartet** had us mesmerized with their level of talent.

May this coming year be full of opportunities to continue to worship and serve our loving God!

Blessings -

Jackie Bailey, Director of Music and Worship



## COMMUNICATIONS

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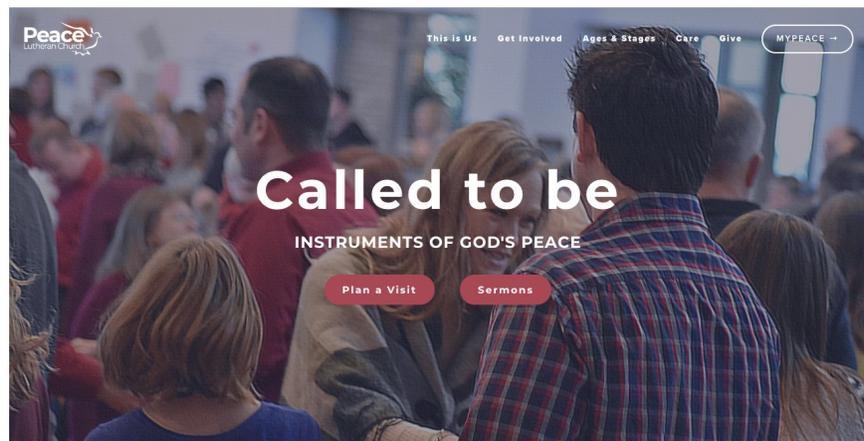
We continued to lay our path of growth for Communication in 2018! Always moving forward, we have continued plans to update and improve. Communication is a constantly developing tool; everyone finds his/her own way to get the information for which he/she is looking, making this area an exciting challenge. I have continued to run the ropes as needed and always research ways we can develop and grow. Bulletin and Newsletter improvements, complete website redesign, Facebook/Social Media development, and so on! We continue to see enjoyment over the Pieces of Peace short videos that showcase the weeks at Peace - it continues to be a staple part of offering in each of our Services. Cara Hetland continues to help with communication efforts by writing our featured stories in the Newsletters each month.

Some of the highlights include:

- Continuation of graphic designing, making announcements, logos, stories, etc. easier to read and more appealing to look at
- Complete redesign and development of our website - making it easy for anyone looking for a church to find what they need to know about Peace
- With help from a Peace member's graphic design skills and creativity, developed a new logo for Peace, to be implemented March of 2019
- Social media keeps growing. Facebook is now up to 1,650 followers and we've seen posts reach tens of thousands of people.
- Pieces of Peace videos continue...we've made it to 100 weeks of videos!
- Develop the layout and continuation of Peace new Daily Bread Devotions, sent out via Mailchimp every day
- Twelve newsletters filled with stories about the people that make Peace Lutheran great and the information you need to know.
- Communicating news that matters about Peace to the local press

This continues to be a great experience, intriguing opportunity to learn, and it's a highlight of mine to communicate everything to this engaged and warm congregation. 2019 is going to be an exciting adventure with big changes!

Dustin Pederson  
Director of Communications



# 2018 CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES



## Goals:

Our programs are built around the desire to help children experience God and clearly hear God's promises to them. By hearing God's story told in a variety of ways in Sunday school and worship, engaging in hands-on activities in small groups (sometimes with like-age peers and sometimes in inter-generational groups), and building relationships with others, God's love becomes more real to children.

What a great year we had incorporating God's story into children's lives this year! Sunday and Wednesday school is held each week during the school year for kids between 6 months of age and 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Between Sunday and Wednesday School, we teach God's story to about 500 children each week. We offer two sessions on Sunday mornings (9:00 and 10:10) and one session on Wednesday night (6:15). 2018 marked our 8<sup>th</sup> year of putting on a Children's Christmas Musical which includes 100 kids and many volunteers. We offer Vacation Bible School in the summer that incorporates children from the full-time child care program which amounts to 500+ participants and work with a couple different churches within the area to share supplies and decorations. We also offered a one-week summer day camp and music camp. It's noisy, fun, active and full of God's love around here!

We are in the second year of Family Sunday School entitled "Families Flourishing in Faith" aka F3. There are 5 families enrolled in this alternative to Sunday/Wednesday School and 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> grade Confirmation. We meet twice a month in the Fellowship Hall, share a snack together and learn about God's story in various ways. This is all about learning God's word as a family together.

Milestones are offered at least once each year between birth and 5<sup>th</sup> grade. These family events are a time to name God's promises, learn about specific aspects of our faith, engage in hands-on all-ages activities, and help parents to fulfill the promises they made to their children in baptism. These events include baptism, Bibles for 3 year olds and 4th graders, First Communion, Kindergarten Pizza Party, Two-year-old My Church, Starting Sunday school, Prayer Pillows, First Grade Ten Commandments, Third grade Apostle's Creed and more!

We continually welcome children at Peace into worship as members of the body of Christ. We do that by offering children's messages weekly, making story Bibles available in the sanctuary, encourage children to participate in offering with the Giving Jar, maintaining worship busy bags, and allowing children to artistically share their worship experience. We also know that summer maybe a difficult time for families to come to worship on a regular basis with vacations and other travel plans and this last summer we offered a "Take-Out" Sunday School option. We made packets available for lesson readings and activities for the summer months so you could still incorporate God wherever you were at any time.

A new addition to our program this year is the "Milestone Wall" in the sanctuary highlighting some of the work done of the kids who attend the milestone events. You will see this located on the south-east wall. Also in that same location is the addition of the "Pray Ground", a kid-friendly place for those under three to go and hang out without mom or dad having to leave the sanctuary and miss worship. Parents can sit in that back corner while their child plays and both parents and children can still listen to worship and be involved.

We have a monthly e-newsletter that goes out to families with children in 18 months – 5<sup>th</sup> grade. We have a Facebook page that we update daily, weekly, monthly etc. and we always have upcoming events and activities posted in the Children's Ministry hallway.

To proclaim God's promises to 500+ children, it requires hundreds of dedicated volunteers. We recruit, train, support and profusely thank everyone who shares their time and talents to pass along the faith to the next generation.

We also took part in some community outreach programs this year. Our fourth and fifth graders made tie blankets for Project Warm Up, and we collected quarters (around \$1000.00) for Church on the Street's Laundry with Love program. Our VBS program collected 80 cans of tuna as well as many packages of tuna helper for the Mobile Food Pantry.

With the offering money in the Giving Jar, we have been supporting an orphan in India, and we bought solar Bibles for the people in Haiti along with some soccer balls.

We feel blessed with the support of a congregation who values children and is involved in sharing the faith with the next generation. We welcome your involvement.

**Pam Tetzlaff , Director**

**Tamara Shaw, Assistant Director**

Christmas Musical



Sunday School Large Group Opening at 9:00 am





# CONFIRMATION MINISTRY

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Confirmation at Peace Lutheran Church begins in sixth grade and continues into the start of tenth grade when they are invited to affirm their Baptism during the Rite of Affirmation Services on Reformation Sunday. For the 2018-2019 school year, this has included 261 students 6<sup>th</sup> through 9<sup>th</sup> grade students, with 65 tenth graders affirming their faith this past fall.

The backbone of the Confirmation Ministry program continues to be the adult volunteers who willingly share their time, talents and faith. The team this year has been made up of 66 small group leaders (several who help with multiple groups!) and parents who chaperone activities. Many thanks to each of these people for helping to plant seeds of faith in our youth!

## Highlights from the program this year include:

- Bible Study – our 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders have focused their study on the Bible. Through storytelling, creative reflection and dialogue, sixth graders are discovering the overall biblical narrative. Through projects, our seventh graders are digging in deeper and exploring where to find things in the Bible.
- Small Catechism, Lutheran Theology and More – our 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade students dig into the small catechism and explore what it means to be a Lutheran; they also learn more about faithful stewardship, healthy relationships, and world religions.
- Building Relationships – in addition to connecting weekly with their confirmation small groups, students are encouraged to participate in the weekly youth group activities for high school students, monthly activities for middle school students, weekend retreats, and/or week-long summer camp or mission trip experiences..
- Leading or Assisting with Worship – both 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade students have an opportunity to lead a worship service. Whether it is reading scripture, doing power point, sharing the Children's sermon or leading music, the students have the opportunity to plan, prepare for and lead all of the service – a great chance to see first-hand what goes into planning worship! In addition, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade small groups each have an opportunity to assist with a worship service, and students are encourage to assist individually as well.
- Faith in Action – all students are encouraged to get involved in volunteer service opportunities. Whether it is serving a meal at The Banquet, assisting with Vacation Bible School or Necessities for Neighbors here at church, or connecting in some other way in the community, students are encouraged to try a variety of volunteer experiences.
- Guest Speakers – as part of our conversation on World Religions, 9<sup>th</sup> graders heard from both a representative from the Muslim Community Center here in Sioux Falls, and from a Roman Catholic monsignor.
- Life/Death Discussion/Tour – 10<sup>th</sup> graders and their parents participated in this conversation about creation/new life, life/choices/consequences and end of life/death. The conversation concluded with a tour of Miller Funeral Home, along with more end of life discussions.

Thank you again to the parents, pastors, congregation members and leaders who are helping to ensure that the promises made to our youth in their baptisms are realized!

In Christ,

Holly Marty

Director of Confirmation & Adult Ministries



2018 has been a year of great fun and transition for Youth Ministry at Peace. It began with Pastor Renae winning the honors of kissing a pig to raise money for students to attend the ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston, TX. Which 62 students and 10 adults made the trek, making Peace Lutheran the largest group from South Dakota to attend. The Gathering was a powerful way to see how the good news of Jesus changes everything. We said goodbye to Kelsey Lyndoe as Director of Youth

Ministry after 4 years of service at Peace and welcomed Katie Eul a few months later.

One story to share, in the weeks following the Youth Gathering, one of our students had a particularly bad day at work. She works at a nursing home and that morning as she went to attend to one of the residents, a resident who over the course of months had become a friend, died in her

arms. That night she came to youth group. Moments of life and death can be profound as we mourn and celebrate. But that night, what this student knew is that she needed community. It was her high and low for the day. And this is the power of youth ministry. The games, the adventures, the youth gatherings, are all a way to share a hope and faith, a way to connect to one another. So

that in those moments when we need each other, there is a place we know to go. It was a holy moment for our youth to hear and pray together that night, and a reminder of why Youth Ministry is so important.



AWAKEN WORSHIP  
SERVICES  
AVERAGES 15  
WORSHIPERS PER  
WEEK. MICHAEL  
LEFFRING JOINED  
OUR STAFF AS  
AWAKEN  
COORDINATOR.

MIDDLE SCHOOL FIRST FRIDAY IS A MONTHLY MEETING OF MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP. OUR SERVICE PROJECT IN DECEMBER PACKED OVER 100 TEEN KITS FOR CHURCH ON THE STREET TO HAND OUT TO TEENS IN NEED IN THE SIOUX FALLS AREA.





# SENIORS MINISTRY



October 29: No speaker, but enjoyed fellowship and getting to know each other better

November: **Flag Etiquette, a tribute to veterans, & update on the military cemetery located east of Sioux Falls; Ken Teunissen**

**Other Activities:**

Our seniors enjoyed a 2-day Retreat at Joy Ranch in August. In

*“For we are God’s masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, to do the good things he planned for us long ago.” Ephesians 2:10, NLT*

We are a very active group who have become a close knit family. Not only do we pray for one another, care for each other, we meet weekly for Bible Study on Fridays and enjoy a potluck and program on a monthly basis.

**2018 Potluck/Programs:**

January 29: **Drug & Community Update, Sheriff Mike Milstead**

February 26: **Haiti Mission Trip Report, Fred Peters**

March 26: **Church on the Street, Rebel Hurd, Mission Developer**

April 30: **India Mission Trip, Pastor Chris**

June 25: **You Might Have Cataracts, Bobbi Lower from Vance Thompson Vision**

July 30: **Sioux Falls School District Superintendent, Brian Maher**

August 27: **National Youth Rally, Houston TX, Pastor Chris, Youth & Chaperones**

September 24: **Ruth Epp, Retired Missionary to China, author & pianist**

December we made a trip to Nora General Store for a fun afternoon singing Christmas caroling followed by treats and apple cider.

**Birthday Cards** mailed every month to our members 62 and older.

**Transportation** is provided to our Sunday 10:10 service, Friday 10:00 Bible study, Wednesday services during Lent and Advent, and Christmas Eve. Medical visits are arranged with Project Car. We encourage our members to let us know if there are other transportation needs they would like.

I would like to thank **Jim Ahrendt** for his years of service and also welcome **Ron Stout**, our new Transportation Coordinator. Also, thank you to our Senior Planning Committee: **Jim & Ila Ahrendt, Chet & Mary Morben, Jolaine Gerlach, Darrell & Doris Autio, & Lenore Winkler.**

Pat Steele ,

Director of Senior Ministry



Peace Lutheran Preschool opened in January 1985. As of January 2019, we will be in our 34th year of operation.

- The preschool is an outreach ministry of Peace Lutheran Church. We strive to provide quality education for children ages 3-5 years. Those who are served include children of Peace, The Hope Coalition, other Lutheran churches, various denominations of faith and those with no church affiliation. The preschool is also privileged to serve 20 children from the Peace Care Day-care Program.
- The mission of our preschool is to nurture the child in areas of social-emotional, intellectual, physical and spiritual development.
- Through the preschool, children experience Bible stories, learn about God's love for them, and participate in many learning activities and field trips that engage them and prepare them for their adventures in kindergarten.
- This past year, we have again been privileged with our monthly visits from Pastor Chris for chapel time. The kids have enjoyed her enthusiasm and joy she brings to chapel time and the fun stories and songs she has done with them while teaching them about Jesus and God's love for them!



I feel extremely blessed to be able to not only teach the kiddos in our preschool family here at Peace in their first steps in their academic journey, but also to be able to share with them the immense love our Lord has for them and watch them grow

in their faith as well. Our program has been privileged to serve so many children in and around our community and I am honored to continue to provide those services to as many families as we can in the coming years. Shelley Bitz and Miranda Scholes continue to be amazing teachers and assets to our program!

Preschool Advisory Board Members were Lori Ollerich, Kristen Rhoades, Alison Haas, Amy Palmlund, Megan Nugetern, Bridget Story and Amy Stensland. The mem-

bers of the board have given advice on policies, scholarship awards, and tuition rates. They also helped sponsor the preschool's annual fundraiser at Pizza Ranch to raise money for new equipment and toys.

Peace Lutheran Church continues to provide the preschool with a wonderful place to educate, nurture and minister young children. Spaces used include the triple preschool classroom, the art room, Room I and the fellowship hall as our "gym."

Tuition rates for 2018:

3 half days a week- \$125 a month

2 half days a week- \$95 a month

Brief summary of finances for 2018:

## Income

Tuition: \$79,925.66

Registration Fees: \$5,316

Peace's Scholarship: \$855

Donations, fundraisers, and misc.: \$1,658.05

Total Income: \$87,864.45

## Expenses

Staff expenses (wages, FICA, pension/benefits, continuing education, and professional dues):

\$73,502.95

Supplies, equipment, toys, misc.: \$6,035.12

Contribution to Peace Lutheran: \$1,800

Total Expenses: \$81,458.61

*DeAnna Dreesman,*

Preschool Director





# PEACE C.A.R.E.

## Peace Care Daycare & Afterschool Program

Director: Tara Foley

**Program History/Information:** State Licensed since 1997

September 1996 – Present (Peace CARE Afterschool Program – School aged children)

September 2004 – Present (Peace CARE Daycare Program – Birth to Pre K children)

### Mission Statement:

Peace Care Afterschool Program provides care for children in school from age five to age twelve. Our promise is to provide a safe, enriching, and recreational program conducive to learning and social interaction structured to the children’s requests. We encourage children to pursue their interests and develop friendships, independence, and confidence. Peace Care provides a stimulating and loving environment for children to flourish in this challenging society by using their God-given gifts and talents. Peace C.A.R.E. maintains a qualified staff committed to the safety and care of each child.

Peace CARE Daycare is a quality, all day childcare facility available to children between Birth and 5 years old. The program provides professional care for children not yet in school. The center is sponsored by Peace Lutheran Church. The goals of Peace CARE Daycare are to provide a developmentally safe, positive experience for every child that is conducive to learning and social interaction with a structure. In addition, we aim to encourage children to pursue their interests and develop friendships, independence, and confidence. Peace CARE Daycare also desires to create, and maintain, a stimulating and loving environment

for children to flourish in this challenging society, using their God-given gifts and talents.

The staff is a group of trained professionals who promote respect and understanding for individual differences by main-

taining a caring environment that allows freedom of choice and exposure to new experiences.

### 2018 Accomplishments:

- \* Cared for approximately 135+ children through the year!
- \* We continue to maintain a consistent staff and keep our client turnover low!
- \* Continue to work with Food Ministries team to find a more economical means to purchasing food / use of kitchen
- \* Continued to include school-agers in a daytime Bible School and other faith based opportunities through Children’s Ministries!

### 2019 Goals:

- \* Continue to act as a “mentor program” for new programs in our community and local churches
- \* Dedicate funds for improving vehicles used in transporting the children of Peace!
- \* Continue to prioritize enrollment opportunities to our church membership first!

### 2018 Year End Budget:

#### Income:

Tuition and Fees.....	\$610,115
~Registrations	
~Activity fee	
~Interest Income	

#### Expenses:

Payroll.....	\$520,430
FICA	
Workman’s Comp	
ELCA Benefits,	
Training	
Program Expense.....	\$ 40,475
Children materials	
Food/snack	
Activities/Fieldtrips	
Preschool Services.....	\$ 17,715
Utilities.....	\$ 3,600
Building use	
Transportation.....	\$ 8,600
Office.....	\$ 6,776

Advertising (Phone, postage, copier, etc.)  
Office supply, (Computer related), Misc.





2018 was another good year for the small but determined Global Mission team. Nowhere was the determination more evident than in the team's effort to get to Haiti last January. Weather and airline schedules created a two day delay in the team's departure from Sioux Falls. Once they arrived, it was a whirlwind schedule that saw them compress 3 clinics at Jumelle, Verrettes and Lapena into the short time they were there. The days were hectic to say the least. But the team was still able to make it to the market and assemble "Friendship" bags to hand out to the most needy of the Jumelle community. Brian Beck likes to refer to this as our contribution to the Haitian social security system. Those traveling were Brian and Jordan Beck, Fred and Connie Peters, Maggie Schmidt, Molly Sundvold and Marilyn Jones.



To fund our efforts we continue to use tried and true methods for raising some extra cash. We've refined our cinnamon roll breakfast process to work with the space constraints we deal with on Sunday mornings by using mobile carts to sell from. The bake sale continues to be generously supported and the lefse "school" at Nyberg's Ace is a lot of fun for us and the people who attend.

We anticipate another year of challenges and excitement. We don't always know where God will lead our team, but we are willing participants in fulfilling the Great Commission to witness to His love and promise to the ends of the earth.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dan Elsasser  
Global Mission Team Member



In addition to this, the team (with the assistance of Peace donors and Helping Hands for Haiti) was able to identify a family in need and build a house for them. In the coming year, Helping Hands for Haiti is mounting an aggressive campaign to raise \$200,000 to help address the dire health and security situation in the area due to lack of adequate housing. Stay tuned for more details in 2019.



## WELCA (WOMEN OF PEACE)

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The Women of Peace had another incredible year! We want to thank everyone who participated in the activities. Officers for 2019 for the WELCA unit are Linda Jensen, Leader; Lynn Bethke, Treasurer; and Kathy Porter, Recorder. Any woman wanting to be added to the email list for WELCA updates can contact Linda—310-9865, or lindaajensen11@gmail.com. We have about 6 meetings a year on an “as needed” basis, and they are an opportunity to have some fellowship, help raise and disperse funds for good causes, and learn more about Peace Lutheran. All women are considered members and are welcome to come! There’s no minimum number of meetings you have to attend, and there are no dues.

The **Sunrise Ladies Bible Study** (every Wed. morning at 6:30 am at the 41st & I29 Perkins), the **Hannah Circle Bible Study** (3rd Thursday of the month at 2 pm in the Shalom Room), and the **Ruth Circle Bible Study** (3rd Thursday 9:30 am in the Shalom Room) continue to provide fellowship and opportunities to grow in faith. Please pick up a Women’s Ministries Booklet at the Welcome Center to get the contact names and numbers to join any of these groups---they would love to have you!

WELCA sponsored a great women’s Saturday morning retreat in November (the Spring Retreat was snowed out). We also sponsored the annual **Advent Supper** Dec. 9, where we collected many Christmas gifts and funds for haircuts for the residents at the nearby Good Samaritan Village. The **Prayer Shawl** group made 206 shawls for those needing comfort---more than last year! The **Quilting** group was also very busy, making 185 warm quilts that were distributed to LWR (118) Children’s Inn (26) the Furniture Mission (5), the Church on the Street (20) and the Veteran’s Outreach Center (16). The annual Quilt Sale event raised \$1,856 this year, providing funds to make more quilts. The **Funeral Committee** served 22 funerals during 2018, assisting families as they send their loved ones on their final journey. Other activities include **Prayer Chains, Wedding Coordination, Altar Guild, Peaceful Stampers,** and **Elizabeth Ministry**. The Women’s Ministries booklet has contact information if you want to learn more about a particular group.

WELCA had a Love Offering in February and another one in September. Both were successful, raising funds that are used to support local charities as well as ministries here at Peace. The funds were supplemented by many \$250 Thrivent Action Teams applied for by WELCA members, providing thousands more in donations. Because of the generous support from the congregation, Peace WELCA was able to support the following organizations projects in 2018: \*Good Samaritan Village Hair Cuts and Christmas gifts \*Veteran’s Outreach Center \*Church on the Street \*Winter wear and other items for local school kids \*Heartland Ephphatha, a ministry for the deaf located at Peace \*Food to You Mobile Food Pantry \*Pueblo de Dios Vacation Bible School \*Peace Library for supplies and books \*Peace Vacation Bible School \*Peace Youth attending the 2018 National Youth Gathering in Houston \*Peace Youth attending Summer Camp \*Peace Families Christmas Gifts \*Necessities for Neighbors \*Peace Fall Women’s Retreat \*Peace Women’s Advent Supper , Shetek Bible Camp, St. Dymas, Family Connection, Family Visitation Center, and Bethany Lutheran Nursing Home in SF for Christmas gifts for residents. WELCA also headed up collections of items or additional funds for the projects marked by an asterisk. Thank you to the congregation, the women of WELCA, and others who gave generously to support these causes! Please join us at our March meeting to help distribute funds to other great charities and Peace programs!

Submitted by Peace Women of the ELCA.

# CHARIS MINISTRY PARTNERS



Charis Ministry Partner Congregations

**Augustana**, Our Savior's, **East Side**, **Messiah New Hope**, **First**, Peace, Gloria Dei, Renner, Grace, Spirit of Joy, Holy Cross, **St. John**, and Westside Lutheran (Host sights are in **bold**.)

**Charis Ministry Partners is a public non-profit organization serving neighbors in need in the Sioux Falls area.** All three ministries continue by support of the Partner churches. Each church has a board member representative to oversee this unique shared servant ministry. Todd Smith is the Food to You Coordinator and Dan Paulson serves as the representative to the community and partner churches.

**The Food to You Mobile Food Pantry** has provided 25-35 lb. of groceries and hygiene items to an average of 90 families each week. During 2018 **4,333 households were served, with 790 of them (18%) being newcomers. 65 to 75% of the families served included children and 10-20% include senior citizens.**

Charis Ministry Partner congregations, businesses, service groups, student group, local school staff, and friends all served and sponsored.

POET brought fresh produce from their community garden, each Thursday in July-September.

The Bread Break ministry of Messiah New Hope continues to bring fresh baked goods every week.

Donations come from Panera Bread, Breadico, Breadsmith Bread, and Einstein Bagels.

Because Feeding South Dakota supplies us with produce, breads, pastries, and assorted frozen foods at a very good rate, we served **over 125,000 pounds** of product, not including those items donated by the Partner churches and outside sources.

In 2019 First Lutheran Church will host 4 distributions, September to December.

**The Necessities for Neighbors** ministry provides necessity items for families in need. Through generous donations of money, equipment and products families were served. Being in September a second location was opened up for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at First Lutheran Church. Guests receive household products including laundry soap, diapers, feminine hygiene products, and toilet paper.

Thanks to all the congregations help with financial or product donation and serving at distributions. All churches are encouraged to sponsor a distribution during the year. Please contact Jackie Bailey at Peace or Jeff at First Lutheran to discuss a sponsorship.

**Healthy Rides**, the medical transportation ministry, furnishes rides in partnership with Project Car to health-related appointments for those in need. An average of 55 round trip rides each month.

Recipients of this service are referred by agencies and clinics as well as congregations. Volunteer drivers for Project CAR are always needed.

**Thank You** to all Charis Ministry Partner congregations and their members.

East Side Lutheran Church for providing office and storage space.

Peace Lutheran for handling Charis' personnel financial services.

Together we work to fulfill Christ's commandment to *love our neighbors as we love ourselves*. May God bless Charis Ministry, and members, and all those we will serve throughout 2019.

Todd Smith Coordinator of Food to You Carol Dreke, Messiah New Hope Lutheran Church  
Dan Paulson Director, Charis Ministry Partners President, Charis Ministry Partners Board



# 2018



### MISSION

To walk alongside those struggling with homelessness and poverty while being the church together in the community.

### LAUNDRY WITH LOVE

Gathering together in a local laundromat, twice a month, we provide laundry with love, in hopes that folks might redirect their funds to feed and house their families.

We meet people where they are at.

As your sister ministry, out on the streets, we thank you!

**Thank God from Whom all Blessings Flow!**



### 2018 BY THE NUMBERS

#### PARTNER CONGREGATIONS

**32 + Youth/Service groups**

#### ECUMENICAL PARTNERS

**6**

#### VOLUNTEERS

**400+**

#### JOINING IN WORSHIP

**125-300**

#### STREET MINISTRY

**30-90 (weekly)**

#### VISITS TO NEWLY HOUSED

**122**

#### LOADS OF DIGNITY

**700+**

#### PRAYER REQUESTS RECEIVED AND LIFTED UP

**934**

Respectfully Submitted,

Rebel Hurd

Rebel@churchonthestreetsf.org

605-759-7869

www.churchonthestreetsf.org

*Comment from the Street: "You Saw Me", Diana*



Heartland Ephphatha Ministries (HEM) is the ministry that serves the Deaf and Hard of Hearing in the South Dakota Synod that is housed right here at Peace Lutheran Church. 2018 was another fruitful year for our group as we welcomed new members, celebrated worship, had fellowship activities and served our neighbors.

Our biggest event was sending eight members to Las Vegas for the biannual Evangelical Lutheran Deaf Association (ELDA) conference. Four of our members are part of the national board. It was great to see old friends and meet new ones while exploring our faith and sharing ideas.

In October we hosted our annual Deaf Awareness Sunday at Peace Lutheran Church. This year we invited the only deaf pastor in the ELCA to preach and lead a Bible study. Beth Lockard of West Chester, PA gave a message to all about how we do not gain eternal life by following rules. The message was warmly received and appreciated.

HEM also rolled up their sleeves and helped serve at Necessities for Neighbors, Food to You and the Banquet this year. We continue to strive to make Christ known in the deaf community.

We also offered American Sign Language classes to the community to help facilitate more conversation between the hearing world and the deaf world. Angela Koterwski is our instructor and continues to teach ASL 1, and ASL 2 classes at Peace Lutheran.

Thanks to all who have prayed and financially supported our ministry last year.

God's Peace

Jason and Sarah Andera, Heartland Ephphatha Ministry





## CURRENT MORTGAGE

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### 2018 SUMMARY OF ACCOUNT CURRENT MORTGAGE

	Jan 2018 Beginning Balance	Dec 2018 Ending Balance
Cash:		
Current Mortgage Fund:	\$39,785.79	\$26,500.84
<b>Totals:</b>	<b><u>\$39,785.79</u></b>	<b><u>\$26,500.84</u></b>
	Receipts for 2018	Expenses for 2018
Interest Income:	\$13.05	
Offering Envelopes:		\$413.78
Current Mortgage& Imagine Offering:	\$258,491.00	
		\$0.00
Mortgage Payment Thrivent:		\$243,964.95
Interest on Mortgage		\$27,815.05
<b>Totals:</b>	<b><u>\$258,504.05</u></b>	<b><u>\$272,193.78</u></b>

**Thrivent Loan Balance: \$941,254.46 12/31/2016**

**Thrivent Loan Balance: \$678,589.49 12/31/2017**

**Thrivent Loan Balance: \$434,624.54 12/31/2018**

# INCOME-EXPENSES



Peace Lutheran Church 2018 Annual Report

## INCOME\_EXPENSES

	2018 Budget	2018 Actual	2019 Budget
<b>General Income</b>			
Regular Envelopes	\$ 810,124.25	\$ 678,947.16	\$ 840,000.00
First Fruits	\$ 580,000.00	\$ 569,526.77	\$ 580,000.00
Loose Offering	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 54,895.08	\$ 50,000.00
Initial Offering	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 747.00	\$ 1,000.00
Seasonal Offering	\$ 22,000.00	\$ 27,897.91	\$ 22,000.00
Interest Income	\$ 220.00	\$ 345.36	\$ 315.00
Awaken Offering	\$ 200.00	\$ 68.58	\$ 400.00
Offsetting Income	\$ 36,000.00	\$ 34,011.36	\$ 39,435.00
<b>Total General Income:</b>	\$ 1,499,544.25	\$ 1,366,439.22	\$ 1,533,150.00
<b>Benevolences</b>	<b>2018 Budget</b>	<b>2018 Actual</b>	<b>2019 Budget</b>
Mission Partners			
St Dysmas Reentry Team	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00
Pueblo de Dios Lutheran	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 1,625.00	\$ 2,500.00
Congregations in Solidarity	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,250.00
St. Dysmas Reentry Initiative	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00
Marty's Mug	\$ 750.00	\$ -	\$ -
St. Dysmas Holiday Meals	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 882.50	\$ 500.00
St. Dysmas Lutheran Undesignated	\$ 1,425.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,425.00
Church on the Street	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Table of Grace	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,000.00
Westside Lutheran	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 2,300.00	\$ 5,000.00
Augustana Lutheran	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 1,100.00
Domestic Poverty Ministries			
Community Outreach	\$ 2,600.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 2,600.00
Needy Families	\$ 1,860.00	\$ 2,847.70	\$ 1,860.00
Charis Ministry	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 440.24	\$ 1,000.00
Lutheran Social Services	\$ 850.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 850.00
St Francis House	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,200.00
Kid's Against Hunger	\$ 900.00	\$ -	\$ 900.00
Food to You Mobile Food Pantry	\$ 2,050.00	\$ 1,097.25	\$ 2,050.00
The Banquet	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 1,086.93	\$ 1,100.00
Necessities for Neighbors	\$ 400.00	\$ 369.78	\$ 400.00
Ayuda	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Educational			
Shetek Bible Camp	\$ 225.00	\$ -	\$ 225.00
Lutheran Outdoors	\$ 1,625.00	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 1,625.00
Lutheran Campus Ministry	\$ 500.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 500.00
PreSchool Scholarships	\$ 900.00	\$ 855.00	\$ 900.00
Camp Counselor Scholarhips	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00
Seminary Scholarships	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 1,250.00
Augustana PACT	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 1,600.00
South Dakota Synod			
Mission Support - SDS	\$ 84,371.25	\$ 62,500.00	\$ 88,305.33
Crossroads Conference Dues	\$ 300.00	\$ 291.60	\$ 300.00
God's Work Our Hands			
GWOH Seed Money	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 850.88	\$ 1,000.00
World Missions			
World Hunger(SD Synod)	\$ 2,525.00	\$ -	\$ 2,525.00
Global Missions	\$ 4,495.00	\$ 4,495.00	\$ 4,495.00
Missionary Support to Columbia	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total:</b>	\$ 132,026.25	\$ 88,491.88	\$ 137,460.33

\*This does not include \$17,000 given by members to Necessities to Neighbors.



## INCOME-EXPENSES CONTINUED

	2018 Budget		2018 Actual		2019 Budget
<b>Staff Expense:</b>					
Pastoral Staff	\$ 404,202.00	\$	402,408.28	\$	417,600.81
Support Staff	\$ 646,976.00	\$	601,818.61	\$	643,688.86
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 1,051,178.00</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,004,226.89</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,061,289.67</b>
<b>Office Expense</b>	<b>2018 Budget</b>		<b>2018 Actual</b>		<b>2019 Budget</b>
Office Supplies	\$ 6,400.00	\$	5,836.81	\$	6,400.00
Postage	\$ 5,000.00	\$	4,723.78	\$	5,000.00
Hospitality	\$ 4,000.00	\$	2,182.71	\$	4,000.00
Employee Appreciation	\$ -	\$	-	\$	1,000.00
Peace Newsletter	\$ 600.00	\$	147.00	\$	300.00
Software Subscription Services	\$ 12,000.00	\$	10,926.86	\$	16,000.00
Computer IT Support	\$ 13,500.00	\$	13,454.01	\$	13,500.00
General Fund Envelopes	\$ 1,000.00	\$	1,000.00	\$	1,000.00
Synod Assembly Fees	\$ 3,000.00	\$	1,269.80	\$	3,000.00
Leadership Development	\$ 1,000.00	\$	1,435.64	\$	1,000.00
Communications - Social Media	\$ 600.00	\$	1,336.07	\$	1,800.00
Advertising Expense	\$ 2,700.00	\$	2,575.22	\$	2,800.00
Bank Charges	\$ 2,400.00	\$	2,974.85	\$	3,200.00
Copier Support	\$ 9,000.00	\$	10,940.95	\$	12,000.00
Faith Chest Expense	\$ 5,000.00	\$	4,312.50	\$	5,000.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 66,200.00</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>63,116.20</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>76,000.00</b>
<b>Program Expense:</b>					
Music Ministry	\$ 14,100.00	\$	13,468.57	\$	15,350.00
Children Ministry	\$ 33,600.00	\$	30,163.16	\$	41,100.00
Youth Ministry	\$ 14,500.00	\$	14,343.92	\$	9,000.00
Confirmation Ministry	\$ 5,750.00	\$	5,146.27	\$	5,750.00
Adult Ministry	\$ 2,800.00	\$	2,009.66	\$	2,800.00
Senior Adult Ministry	\$ 2,100.00	\$	5,115.43	\$	5,500.00
Connecting Ministry	\$ 7,650.00	\$	662.76	\$	7,650.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 80,500.00</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>70,909.77</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>87,150.00</b>
Stewardship Expense	\$ 3,500.00	\$	4,106.41	\$	4,000.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 3,500.00</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>4,106.41</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>4,000.00</b>
Library Expense	\$ 2,000.00	\$	1,866.77	\$	2,000.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 2,000.00</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,866.77</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>
Utilities	\$ 56,550.00	\$	55,097.83	\$	57,850.00
Insurance	\$ 28,000.00	\$	25,182.24	\$	28,000.00
Property Maintenance/Expense	\$ 35,000.00	\$	31,562.66	\$	35,000.00
Snow Removal	\$ 10,000.00	\$	8,868.60	\$	11,000.00
Building/Property Supplies Expense	\$ 12,500.00	\$	11,015.63	\$	12,500.00
Frontage/Real Estate Taxes	\$ 3,000.00	\$	3,082.16	\$	3,400.00
Van Repairs	\$ 1,780.00	\$	-	\$	-
Investing in our Facilities	\$ 6,310.00	\$	-	\$	6,500.00
Capital Improvement Fund	\$ 6,000.00	\$	-	\$	6,000.00
Lawn Care	\$ 5,000.00	\$	1,009.30	\$	5,000.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 164,140.00</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>135,818.42</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>165,250.00</b>
Miscellaneous/Extraordinary Expenses	\$ -				
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ -</b>				
<b>Grand Total Expenses:</b>	<b>\$ 1,499,544.25</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,368,536.34</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,533,150.00</b>
<b>Net Operating Total:</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>(2,097.12)</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>-</b>

# INCOME-EXPENSES CONTINUED



<b>Offsetting Income</b>	<b>2018 Budget</b>	<b>2018 Actual</b>	<b>2019 Budget</b>
Facility Usage	\$5,000.00	\$4,670.00	\$5,000.00
Thrivent Choice Dollars	\$5,000.00	\$6,612.00	\$7,000.00
Faith Chest Income	\$1,200.00	\$525.00	\$1,000.00
Faith & Family Income	\$1,200.00	\$1,285.16	\$1,200.00
Sunday School Income	\$2,400.00	\$1,865.86	\$2,400.00
Vacation Bible School	\$8,670.00	\$6,140.50	\$8,670.00
Coffee Corner	\$0.00	\$587.84	\$0.00
PreSchool - Space Rental	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00
Childcare Space Rental	\$3,600.00	\$3,600.00	\$3,600.00
PeaceCare PreSchool Work Comp	\$3,360.00	\$3,360.00	\$3,360.00
Misc. Income	\$3,420.00	\$140.00	\$3,420.00
Senior Ministry Income	\$350.00	\$3,425.00	\$1,985.00
<b>Total Offsetting Income:</b>	<b>\$36,000.00</b>	<b>\$34,011.36</b>	<b>\$39,435.00</b>



## 2018 SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS

### 2018 Summary of Accounts

	Dec 2017 Ending Balance	Dec 2018 Ending Balance
<b>CASH:</b>		
General Fund Checking	\$ 33,612.70	\$ 22,002.52
Peace Lutheran Endowment Fund	\$ 105,295.84	\$ 120,317.11
Business Savings Account	\$ 1,241.68	\$ 1,342.56
<b>Sub total:</b>	<b>\$ 140,150.22</b>	<b>\$ 143,662.19</b>
Special Funds	\$ 154,051.98	\$ 218,182.26
Current Mortgage Fund	\$ 39,785.79	\$ 26,500.81
Petty Cash Fund	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>\$ 334,087.99</b>	<b>\$ 388,445.26</b>

	Beginning Balance	Restricted Revenue	Restricted Expenses	Ending Balance
<b>Special Funds:</b>				
<b>Children &amp; Youth</b>				
Children Yth Camp	\$45.95	\$38,532.13	\$38,270.52	\$307.56
Bingo	\$342.75	\$260.50	\$323.77	\$279.48
Youth Programs Designated	\$1,397.74	\$200.00	\$1,108.47	\$489.27
Youth Gathering Fund	\$15,886.71	\$28,673.12	\$44,559.83	\$0.00
Summer Youth Trips	\$973.83	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$973.83
Youth Servant Trip	\$702.80	\$0.00	\$670.00	\$32.80
HyVee Cards	\$271.78	\$30,696.42	\$30,500.00	\$468.20
Childrens Camp	\$0.00	\$1,691.91	\$1,691.91	\$0.00
Youth event payments	\$840.00	\$1,452.00	\$1,643.55	\$648.45
Youth Programming	\$45.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$45.00
Giving Jar	\$11,617.04	\$6,437.60	\$4,764.95	\$13,289.69
Christmas Program Offering	\$1,338.35	\$735.00	\$168.17	\$1,905.18
Scrips Program	\$8,017.83	\$104,359.68	\$103,194.36	\$9,183.15
Confirmation	\$559.73	\$2,802.65	\$759.75	\$2,602.63
Fundraising Children & Youth	\$6,003.88	\$13,576.75	\$12,814.55	\$6,766.08
<b>Total Children &amp; Youth</b>	<b>\$48,043.39</b>	<b>\$229,417.76</b>	<b>\$240,469.83</b>	<b>\$36,991.32</b>
<b>Music</b>				
Memorial Music & Misc	\$3,281.92	\$1,720.00	\$1,402.40	\$3,599.52
Music Camp Inc/Exp	\$0.00	\$330.88	\$330.88	\$0.00
Handbell Fund	\$65.08	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$65.08
Adult Choir Funeral Gifts	\$1,026.01	\$25.00	\$394.35	\$656.66
<b>Total Music</b>	<b>\$4,373.01</b>	<b>\$2,075.88</b>	<b>\$2,127.63</b>	<b>\$4,321.26</b>

# SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS CONTINUED



## Ministries

Stephen Minsitry	\$1,253.33	\$315.95	\$330.39	\$1,238.89
VBS - Bilingual	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$75.00
Start Up Programs	\$1,005.74	\$0.00	\$210.00	\$795.74
Faith through frames	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$356.18	\$1,643.82
Brian's Team	\$368.10	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$368.10
Global Mission Peace Bank	\$24.31	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$24.31
Prayer Shawl Ministry	\$822.39	\$844.21	\$339.24	\$1,327.36
Global Missions	\$420.11	\$6,357.42	\$3,736.32	\$3,041.21
World Hunger	\$218.84	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$218.84
Orphan Ministry	\$88.78	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$88.78
Necessities for Western Heights	\$968.00	\$5.00	\$569.43	\$403.57
Necessities for Neighbors	\$12,803.00	\$17,133.76	\$15,586.76	\$14,350.00
Banquet	\$956.64	\$0.00	\$545.52	\$411.12
Health Wellness Ministry	\$259.02	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$259.02
<b>Total Ministries</b>	<b>\$19,263.26</b>	<b>\$26,656.34</b>	<b>\$21,673.84</b>	<b>\$24,245.76</b>

## Designated/Undesignated

Designated Income/Expense	\$2,397.70	\$435.00	\$0.00	\$2,832.70
Designated Memorials	\$2,135.00	\$11,615.00	\$0.00	\$13,750.00
Undesignated Memorials	\$5,971.42	\$1,540.00	\$521.93	\$6,989.49
Special Gifts Account	\$4,083.85	\$0.00	\$2,742.28	\$1,341.57
<b>Total Designated/Undesignated</b>	<b>\$14,587.97</b>	<b>\$13,590.00</b>	<b>\$3,264.21</b>	<b>\$24,913.76</b>

## Peace

Coke Machine	\$360.43	\$5,450.30	\$3,107.20	\$2,703.53
Flowers for Altar	\$1,355.14	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,355.14
Peace Meals	\$2,388.03	\$0.00	\$202.52	\$2,185.51
Wedding Fees in Out	\$3,137.91	\$5,575.00	\$5,543.57	\$3,169.34
Shuttle Bus Account	\$412.12	\$150.00	\$512.12	\$50.00
Revolving assistance fund	\$2,044.67	\$0.00	\$1,302.62	\$742.05
Peace Quarterly Mission	\$845.37	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$845.37
Sanctuary Improvements	\$845.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$845.00
50th Anniversary	\$1,439.42	\$0.00	\$1,439.42	\$0.00
Capital Improvement	\$30,330.78	\$7,047.42	\$23,446.67	\$13,931.53
Potholes and Parking Lot	\$0.00	\$73,959.32	\$11,897.37	\$62,061.95
Library Dedicated	\$215.00	\$796.99	\$0.00	\$1,011.99
Bequest proceeds	\$23,458.36	\$962.13	\$406.79	\$24,013.70
Outreach Projects	\$0.00	\$20.00	\$0.00	\$20.00
Endowment Gifts	\$1,050.00	\$31,105.21	\$21,760.21	\$10,395.00
Marty's Mug - Synod	\$1,972.38	\$0.00	\$1,972.38	\$0.00
Endowment Operating	\$5,383.10	\$9,260.11	\$10,489.58	\$4,153.63
<b>Total Peace</b>	<b>\$75,237.71</b>	<b>\$134,326.48</b>	<b>\$82,080.45</b>	<b>\$127,483.74</b>



## SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

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<b>Adult Education</b>				
Adult Ed Events	\$365.43	\$364.00	\$504.52	\$224.91
Adult Ed Book Sales	\$0.00	\$565.61	\$565.61	\$0.00
<b>Total Adult Education</b>	<b>\$365.43</b>	<b>\$929.61</b>	<b>\$1,070.13</b>	<b>\$224.91</b>
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>\$161,870.77</b>	<b>\$406,996.07</b>	<b>\$350,686.09</b>	<b>\$218,180.75</b>



**LSS** Strengthening Individuals,  
Families & Communities  
2018 Annual Report to Congregations

RESURRECTING  
HOPE

## LSS Campaign for Hope

For nearly a century, LSS has served in partnership with individuals, churches, organizations, communities and you—South Dakota Synod of the ELCA. Your support resurrects hope. It's what the LSS Campaign for Hope is all about.

We are touched by the generosity and support of the many Congregations and the SD Women of the ELCA in support of LSS and the commitment to fundraising \$1,175,000 for the Campaign for Hope. LSS representatives have only presented at a few congregations so far, but have been warmly welcomed to share the stories of those we serve—**Thank you.**

We are currently scheduling Congregations and WELCA visits for 2019, and would welcome the opportunity to share in fellowship and to offer an update of how you can Resurrect Hope. To learn more about the Campaign for Hope or to schedule a visit, please reach out to an LSS Development Director at **800-568-2401**.

[CampaignForHope.LssSD.org](http://CampaignForHope.LssSD.org)

## A Future of Success, Not of Suffering

LSS serves people of all ages, faiths, races and economic status with professional, confidential and affordable services. LSS touched the lives of those we serve **48,690** times last year. As a premier human service agency, we strive to care for, support and strengthen those who need, bringing a future filled with hope—a future of success to people of all ages, families of all kinds and communities of all sizes.

- The agency continues to strengthen its use of standardized assessment tools to measure client outcomes. The use of dashboards and automated reports provide the tools for leadership to monitor outcomes data more frequently and implement programmatic adjustments when necessary.
- LSS continues to improve its capacity to deliver trauma-informed care. **97% of youth** in Psychiatric Residential Treatment, and **100% of youth** in Foster Care, showed a reduction in trauma symptoms upon discharge.
- **80% of refugees** resettled were employed in a full-time position within eight months of arrival. **97% of individuals** who secured employment kept their jobs for 90 days. The average starting wage was \$12.20 per hour and 97% had access to benefits.
- **89% of youth** and **94% of parents** completing Functional Family Therapy reported increased overall family functioning. **75% of youth** had no new violation during the course of treatment.
- Youth who participate in the Arise Shelter Care are successful. **90% of youth** are discharged to safe and stable housing.

I want to express gratitude on behalf of all those we serve. We sincerely appreciate your support and partnership. Every kindness and resource that we receive is utilized to create possibilities and a future filled with hope for those who we serve. For more information on LSS services and those we serve, visit [www.LssSD.org](http://www.LssSD.org).

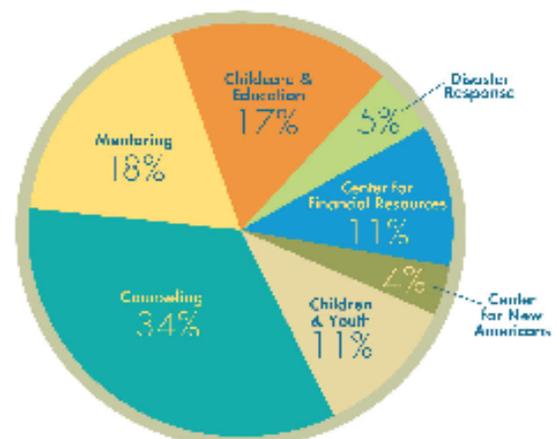
Betty Oldenkamp, LSS President/CEO

## SD Congregations Committed to Support the Campaign for Hope

December 19, 2018

Calvary Lutheran, Rapid City  
Custer Lutheran Fellowship  
Custer Lutheran Fellowship Women of the ELCA  
Emmanuel Lutheran, Groton  
First Lutheran Women of the ELCA, Sioux Falls  
Hope Lutheran Women of the ELCA, Sioux Falls  
Medary Conference Women of the ELCA  
Renner Lutheran Women of the ELCA  
St. Mark's Lutheran Women of the ELCA, Sioux Falls  
Savo Lutheran Women of the ELCA, Frederick  
South Canyon Lutheran, Rapid City  
SD Synodical Women of the ELCA  
West Nidaros Lutheran, Crooks  
West Prairie Lutheran Women of the ELCA, Lennox  
Wilmot Lutheran Women of the ELCA  
Zion Lutheran, Bridgewater  
Zion Lutheran WELCA, Hartford

## HOW YOUR GIFT SERVED





# **SOUTH DAKOTA SYNOD**

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**South Dakota Synod**

**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

*"I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now." - Philippians 1:3-5*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The words of St. Paul to the Christians in Philippi express what I also feel as I pen what will be my last of twelve letters for your inclusion in your congregation's annual report – that feeling is gratitude. I am grateful for the privilege of having served as your Bishop. Thank you for entrusting this holy office to me. What a joy it has been to partner with you in this special way for these 12 years! I've loved the ordinations, anniversaries, installations and all the in-between visits along the way.

Most of all I am grateful for your partnership in God's mission. Because of your faithful daily work of ministry, the word of God is proclaimed, people are washed in the waters of Baptism. Through your hands, people are fed with God's forgiving love at the table of Holy Communion every week all around our state.

It is also my privilege to express gratitude to you on behalf of the tens of thousands of people across the state and around the world who are served by your generous mission support. Because you give, the Gospel goes out not just from your congregation, but from countless other faithful ministry partners who could not do it without you.

Now, I know that this is a different kind of year we are facing, especially in our rural communities where a variety of forces are depressing farm incomes and making life difficult for many of our families and, in turn, congregations. Know that I will do what I can in this office to continue to advocate for just policies that respect the holy work that our farmers do to feed the world. I know that God will continue to do amazing things through your work and generosity in the worst of times just as God has in the best of times.

As you meet in your annual meetings, I am holding you in prayer. Please also hold me and your entire synod staff in prayer as together we discern what God is calling us to do next. We've been well-served, I believe, here in South Dakota with fine synodical leadership over the years. I do not doubt that God will continue to be faithful in this regard by calling a new Bishop and Synod staff who will serve you and the Gospel with faithfulness, creativity and joy.

Thank you and may the of light of Christ shine on you all!

Your Bishop,

Pastor David B. Zellmer



**South Dakota Synod**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

November 2018

***Come, Holy Spirit!***

With these words all members of the South Dakota Synod are invited to pray for and discuss the election of a bishop which will occur at the next Synod Assembly, May 31 – June 1, 2019, at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls. We invite your thoughtful participation in the process.

Electing a bishop is one of the most important responsibilities in the life of the synod and a key responsibility of the Synod Assembly. As an election, the process is governed by the *South Dakota Synod Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions*; however, it is first and foremost a call process. As such, it involves discernment, from the perspective both of individual potential nominees and of the synod as a whole. Therefore, engaging in prayerful reflection and seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit are indispensable aspects of the processes of nomination and election.

According to Chapter 9 of the *South Dakota Synod Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions*, the office of bishop is open to any minister of Word and Sacrament on the roster of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). That person may serve two consecutive six-year terms. Our current bishop, David Zellmer, has served two full terms and thus is not eligible for re-election.

A synod study was completed and is available on the synod website. This document provides an overview of the synod and outlines individuals' and congregations' hopes and expectations for the synod moving into the future. Individuals, especially those who will serve as voting members at the Synod Assembly, and congregations of the South Dakota Synod are encouraged to review and discuss the synod study.

Prayerful reflection on the ministry of the synod and thoughtful consideration of the role of the bishop are critical aspects at each stage of the election process. Continued open and respectful conversation about our hopes, dreams, priorities, and challenges; and discernment about ministers who have the desired and necessary gifts for the office of bishop will occur at the spring conference assemblies on February 24, 2019.

The Synod Council has appointed a Bishop Election Committee to coordinate an open, orderly, and transparent election process. The committee will communicate its progress to congregations, pastors and deacons, and assembly voting members through the Synod News and on the synod website. A Q&A (question and answer) document has been posted to the synod website. The website will be updated periodically throughout this process.

The election of the bishop is a call process. Prayer is the foundation of this process where both the Synod Assembly voting members and nominees seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit to understand the needs of the synod and discern whom God is calling to leadership. A devotional guide will be available early in 2019 to assist in this time of prayer and discernment.

***Come, Holy Spirit!*** Guide our hearts and minds that we may receive a faithful servant who will care for God's people and equip us for our ministries, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Carla Borchardt, Vice President



## A message from Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton

Dear siblings in Christ,

As members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, we are freed by grace to live faithfully, witness boldly and serve joyfully. As communities of Jesus that nurture life-changing relationships with God, one another and the world, we are confident about who we are in Christ and what God is calling us to do. Whether worshiping wherever two or more are gathered, engaging in lively conversations about faith, or rolling up our sleeves and getting to work, we strive to share God's grace and love in Christ for all people and creation. This reflects the vitality we find in Jesus Christ, our own spiritual life and our desire to participate in what God is doing today.



Within each community of Jesus there are leaders who strive to model an attitude of servanthood, trustworthiness, humility, patience and listening first while striving to work with others in healthy ways. These leaders teach all ages, motivate believers, build consensus, share a vision, discern direction and facilitate action. Their attention is focused on growing disciples who are sent into their daily life to love and serve others as friends, neighbors, parents, citizens and workers. Together we recognize the importance of growing disciples and multiplying leaders who serve inside your congregation and beyond your walls.

As our congregations plan their work for the coming year and how to use the resources God has entrusted to them, I invite you all to think about the relationships that bring you vitality and the leaders you nurture for God's mission in the world. While you make many decisions, remember you are not alone. We are all partners in sharing the gospel. Together, by God's grace, we can do what God is calling us to. May you go forth to do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with God.

Serving together in Christ's name,

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

You shall love the Lord your God  
with all your heart, and with all  
your soul, and with all your mind,  
and with all your strength.

Mark 12:30



# Reflections on understanding a living and vital faith

In Mark 12:28 Jesus is asked by a scribe: "Which commandment is first of all?" Jesus responded with "the Lord is one," and went on to say, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength" (Mark 12:30). These words are very similar to those that served as Israel's central confession of faith (Deuteronomy 6:4-5). Joshua (22:5) later reminded the people of Israel to observe these words. With this text as a guide, how do we begin to explore the ways we will nurture a living and vital faith in each person and the congregation?

Within the work of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, congregational vitality is defined as "communities of Jesus where there are life-changing relationships with God, one another and the world." These are three important dimensions of our work together. But it is the way in which we bring our heart, soul, mind and strength into our life and work that shows how the light of Christ shines in and through us. Our heart is the way we feel and sense God's presence in and through emotions. The soul is our mindful awareness of the presence of God within us and the world. This awareness encourages us to find meaning and purpose in life, both individually and as a community of faith. The mind is how we learn our beliefs, perspectives and practices that shape our understanding, knowledge and expressions of faith. And strength is the way we use our abilities, passions and skills to shape and live a life of faith.

The vitality of our faith as Christians, and as a church in the Lutheran tradition, finds meaning and purpose in Jesus' words from Mark 12:30. As we engage our strategic directions for the future, we find both power and insight by reflecting on what brings us vitality. Please consider the following:

## Heart

- When are the times you feel or sense God is present?
- How are these experiences different when you are with others rather than alone?
- How do these emotions bring vitality to your faith and relationship with God?

## Soul

- What Scripture passages give you an awareness of life or "living faith"?
- How does this awareness of a living faith help you find meaning and purpose in life?
- What about your life experiences brings a sense of vitality to your faith?

## Mind

- What motivates you to continue growing in your relationship with God?
- What have you found helps you learn more about God?
- Where do you find vitality through your learnings and spiritual practices?

## Strengths

- What God-given abilities, passions and skills have you discovered in your life?
- How does your faith guide you in using these?
- What about using these abilities, passions and gifts gives you vitality?

May your responses to these questions help you gain new insight and vitality into your relationship with God, each other and the world.



## STORIES OF FAITH IN ACTION 2018 • 2019

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is Mission Support?

Mission Support is the portion of your congregation's regular financial offering that is shared with your synod and the churchwide organization. These gifts are used where the need is the greatest, and they also make it possible for the ELCA's 65 synods and the churchwide organization to maintain ongoing commitments to ministry partners.

### What guides the churchwide organization in its decisions regarding Mission Support?

Voting members from across the ELCA meet as a churchwide assembly every three years to guide and direct the work of the churchwide organization. The ELCA Church Council is the interim legislative authority between assemblies. The churchwide organization's strategic priorities are aligned with the ELCA Future Directions 2025 that will emphasize congregational vitality and leadership development across our church. This includes accompanying the nearly 9,300 ELCA congregations as growing centers for evangelical mission and building the capacity of this church for evangelical witness and service in the world to alleviate poverty and to work for justice and peace.

### How does my congregation benefit from Mission Support?

Congregational vitality is enhanced through active participation in our church's mission to share God's love with the world. Stories of Faith in Action is filled with examples of how lives have been changed because of the generosity of ELCA members and congregations through Mission Support. This money funds the work of the synods, and some of the portion of Mission Support that is shared with the churchwide organization comes back to your congregation and synod in the form of services, programs, resources or grants. Typically, more than 90 percent of a congregation's offering remains in the congregation to help pay for ministries, outreach, utilities and the building—supporting your congregation's vital presence in your community.

### What is the distinction between Mission Support and Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA?

Mission Support is one way we act as a church together; we count on one another for the mutual work that Mission Support makes possible. Many ELCA members and congregations are called to give in other ways as well, and this is what Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA offers ([ELCA.org/campaign](http://ELCA.org/campaign)). The campaign, approved by the 2013 Churchwide Assembly, is a way for us to do more, together, through designated gifts to the ministry priorities we are most passionate about, above and beyond regular offerings through our congregation. Campaign gifts are tracked and spent separately from the Mission Support budget. The Campaign for the ELCA is an investment in the future of the ELCA and an extension of our mission and ministry together.



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