A message from
ELCA Presiding Bishop
Elizabeth Eaton

Dear friends in Christ,

Stepping out in faith can be difficult. Martin Luther did it in 1517. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America did it at the 2019 Churchwide Assembly. This church can be bold and daring because of our scriptural and Lutheran confessional understandings. Is it easy?

No. Do we always get it right? Probably not. Where we are in error, may God correct us.

The cross is our center. Faith, grace and Scripture alone are our guides. We are church. We are compelled by the gospel and our understanding that in Christ we have been set free to love and serve the neighbor. This loving and serving of our neighbor alongside courageous and faithful leaders is what offers hope to congregations.

Over the past 18 months we have made significant strides in our work on congregational vitality. This church has multiplied its efforts and leveraged its resources to enhance vitality in congregations. Our vision continues to evolve around strengthening our relationships with God, each other and the neighbors we serve. In this way we are addressing both local and global issues by being present in our own community and proactive with issues in the broader church.

This presence is made possible in significant ways through your giving of time, talents and financial resources to our work together. The success of our recent campaign, Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA, reflects the increasing support for existing and new ministries that serve our communities here at home and others around the globe. Through regular, special and legacy gifts, $250 million was given to support God’s work. Through the spiritual practice of giving, we both acknowledge receiving God’s gifts and share in God’s generosity by passing on a portion to others. Together we are doing God’s work in ways that we could not do otherwise.

As your congregation plans work for the coming year, I hope you will be both bold and daring, remembering God provides and desires abundant life for all. May you continue supporting God’s work together with a spirit of solidarity, collaboration and generosity. We are all partners in the gospel, believing in Jesus Christ crucified and risen for the life of the world.

Stepping out in faith together,

Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

“So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!” —2 Corinthians 5:17
Our Savior's Lutheran Church
2019 Annual Meeting of the Congregation
January 26, 2020

Welcome and Call to Order
- Devotion and Opening Prayer
- Approval of the Agenda - ACTION ITEM
- Approval of 2018 Annual Meeting Minutes
- Approval of June 2, 2019 Special Meeting Minutes
- Approval of October 6, 2019 Special Meeting Minutes
- Approval of November 18, 2019 Special Meeting Minutes
- Presentation of Annual Report/Questions
  - Jeff Schneider
  - Pastor Len

  - Diane Hielsberg

Presentation of 2020 Ministry & Mission Spending Plan - ACTION ITEM
  - Diane Hielsberg

Presentation of Church Leadership Candidates
  (Nominating Committee) Ballot vote - ACTION ITEM
  - Brian Peck

Senior Pastor's Report
  - Pastor Len

Old Business
- Estate Gifts Update
  - Jeff Schneider
- Portico Update
  - Committees
- Transition Team Update
  - Mike Booker

New Business
- Call Committee Update
  - Greg Peet
- Constitution Taskforce Update
  - Jim Provenza
- Resolution of Thanks - Outgoing Council Members
  - Pastor Len

Vote Results
  - Brian Peck

Installation of 2020 Council
- Presentation of President's Bible
  - Jeff Schneider
- Remarks from new President
  - Mike Booker

Closing Prayer
  - Pastor Scott
2018 Annual Congregation Meeting Minutes—January 27, 2019

1. Called to order by Greg Peet at 12 noon.
   a. Opening song and litany with opening prayer (Pastor Len)
   b. Approval of the agenda – m/s/c
   c. Approval of the 1/28/18 annual meeting minutes – m/s/c
   d. Approval of 3/11/18 special meeting minutes – m/s/c
   e. Approval of 9/23/18 special meeting minutes – m/s/c
   f. Approval of 11/4/18 special meeting minutes – m/s/c
   g. Presentation of the annual report and questions

   a. 2018 Annual Financial Report – results from last year
   b. 2% short on actual 2018 vs the 2018 budget ($1,085,000 & $1,103,000)
   c. 2018 expenses $1,067,000 actual vs $1,100,000 budget
   d. Contingency funded $71,000 – the balance of Contingency is $207,072 (12/31/18)
   e. Finished year with $17,375 surplus (budgeted $3,048 surplus)
   f. Endowment Fund at $610,000 (12/31/18)
   g. Jeff thanked Elizabeth & Jenni as well as council cabinets, audit committee, & OSLC members

3. Presentation of the 2019 ministry and mission spending plan – Jeff Schneider
   a. Motion to accept 2019 Mission Plan – motioned and seconded
   b. Jeff explained the plan and compared it to the 2018 results
   c. Question: to read the legend of the pie chart and give the percent amounts listed.
   d. The motion carried unopposed

4. Presentation of the church leadership candidates
   a. Ballots were distributed and collected by Kim Randles, Cole Bathje, Gary Randles, Brent Bernardi, Elizabeth Brinkley, Jenni Riplinger, Don Holt, Greg Peet
   b. Question on terms, Kim explained term lengths and the “fill in” role

5. Senior Pastor’s Report: Pastor Len – happy to be here, thanked Pastor Scott, the staff, all volunteers
   a. Question: regarding a permanent receptionist position, we have been seeking volunteers but are still looking

6. Old Business:
   a. Estate Gifts Update – Greg Peet – explanation where money has gone and is to go
      i. Question: is this in the annual report, unfortunately no
      ii. Question: what constitutes an electronic message center, Greg explained the replacement of the existing signs
      iii. Question: can we e-mail this presentation (of the estate gifts), yes – it will be linked on the website
   b. Portico Update – explanation and update of the process
      i. Bob Rothkopf talked about the fundraising aspect: $83,000 was pledged and $29,000 has been given so far
      ii. Roger Mahler talked about the building process: flat roof with 4 brick piers and tied into the building
      iii. Question: does the cost per square foot include the architect and other services, yes (and Roger explained the process ahead)
   c. Old President’s remarks (Greg Peet): he thanked Gary Randles (former president), the council members, our Pastors and the staff, Greg encouraged everyone to become part of the “family” and get involved; he spoke on the transition process

7. New Business:
   a. Transition Team Update – Mike Booker – spoke on the future of our church – the purpose and the role of the transition team and congregation, introduced the transition team members (Mike Booker, Andrea Bathje, Susie Bernardi, Trevor Johnsen, Becca Johnson, Brian Peck, & Peter Thomas)

8. Vote Results: 93 votes cast: majority vote elects the ballot nominating the nominations that were made.

9. Installation of the 2019 Council
   a. Presentation of the President’s Bible
   b. Jeff thanked Greg for his service and presented a gift, thanked and acknowledged those coming off council or a committee
   c. Remarks from the new President
   d. 2019 Council members Jeff Schneider, Mike Booker, Cindy Jensen Toews, Ted Johnson, Lisa Dall, Eric Bøeversstad, Jim Stenberg, Diane Hiebsberg, Shawn Artlip, Sheryl Jecklin, & Trevor Johnsen were present at the installation

10. Closing Prayer (Pastor Scott)
11. Motion to adjourn – m/s/c unopposed at 1:25pm

Respectfully Submitted, Trevor Johnsen
Special Congregational Meeting-June 2, 2019
Portico Construction

- Meeting called to order by President Jeff Schneider at 12:02pm
- Opening prayer by Interim Senior Pastor Len Hoffman
- Acknowledgment of Quorum by Jeff Schneider
- Presentation of Design by Keith Shaver
- Presentation of Finance Committee by Bob Rothkopf
- Presentation of Motions
  - **Motion 1**: Resolved, that OSLC proceed with the building of the Portico as recommended by the Portico Building Committee and approved by Council.
    - Bob Rothkopf, 2nd Ross Moorhouse
  - **Motion 2**: Resolved, that OSLC proceed in raising the funds needed to begin and complete the Portico Project. Funds exceeding the actual construction to be placed in the Building Contingency Fund.
    - Bob Rothkopf, 2nd Keith Shaver
  - **Motion 3**: Resolved, that OSLC begin construction when cash on hand reaches $150,000.00.
    - Bob Rothkopf, 2nd Paul Svezia
- Distribution of Ballots (with above 3 motions)
- Tellers: Don Holt, Jim Stenberg, Cyndi Hlavin
- Announcement of Results by Jeff Schneider
  - **Motion 1** carried: 76 for, 3 against
  - **Motion 2** carried: 75 for, 3 against
  - **Motion 3** carried: 77 for, 3 against
- Closing Lords Prayer led by Pastor Len
- Adjournment at 12:28pm

Respectfully Submitted: Eric Baeeverstad

Special Congregational Meeting-October 6, 2019
Sr. Pastor Call Committee

Call to Order at 11:54am by Council President Jeff Schneider

Prayer by Interim Senior Pastor Len Hoffman

A quorum was established. (69 in Attendance)

1. Council President Jeff Schneider announced a slate of candidates, selected by council, would be presented. Additional nominations from the congregation were welcomed. No additional nominations were received.
2. Prepared ballots were distributed and collected. A ballot count was conducted by Jim Stenberg, Roger Mahler and Cyndi Hlavin. The presented slate of candidates received 66 of 68 votes cast. Two ballots cast were for single names.
3. The presented slate of candidates including Becca Johnson, T.J. Leake, Phil Thompson, Greg Peet, Pam Shaver, Gary Randles and Emily Bjork were erected by a super majority.
4. Motion to adjourn at 12:07pm.

Respectfully Submitted: Michael Booker, Council Vice President

Special Congregational Meeting-November 17, 2019
Associate Pastor Call

Call to Order at 9:25 am by Council President Jeff Schneider

A quorum was established.

Prepared ballots were distributed and collected. The ballot count was supervised by Jim Stenberg.

The resolution below was made by the Personnel Committee and seconded by Brian Peck.

Resolved, that Our Savior’s Lutheran Church (“OSLC”) extends Associate Pastor Scott Stolberg’s existing term call to a date ending one year after Pastor Stolberg is given notice in writing by the next, new Senior Pastor that his call will be terminated. During this extended call, it is the OSLC’s goal that Pastor Stolberg’s salary and benefits will be maintained at a level no less than the Synod’s guidelines for a Pastor with his experience serving in this position. Pastor Stolberg’s salary and benefits will be paid until the earlier of (a) the end of this call or (b) Pastor Stolberg’s acceptance of another call.

Resolution passed by a vote of 209-2.

Motion to adjourn by Mike Booker, seconded by Brian Peck.

Meeting adjourned at 9:36am.

Respectfully Submitted: Jeff Schneider, Council President
# 2019 Financial Summary of All Funds

## 1. General Fund

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Expense</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions $942,525</td>
<td>Council $3,840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other $8,727</td>
<td>Office $20,869</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property $187,436</td>
<td>Finance/Mortgage $26,295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personnell $618,272</td>
<td>Education $14,944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caring/Fellowship $1,606</td>
<td>Worship/Music $21,436</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missions $56,600</td>
<td>Mgt Fees $4,502</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sub Total $951,252

| Playtown $59,877                | Total $964,422                  |
| Total $1,011,129                | Sub Total $964,422              |

## 2. Endowment Fund

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Expense</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions $12,578</td>
<td>Grants $28,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest/Dividends &amp; Investment Gain/(Loss) $139,968</td>
<td>Mgt Fees $4,502</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total $152,546

| Total $32,802                   |                          |

## 3. Special Gifts Fund

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Expense</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions $18,425</td>
<td>Grants $4,460</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total $18,425

| Total $4,460                    |                          |

## 4. WELCA Fund

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Expense</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tickets $876</td>
<td>Unit Events $1,164</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offerings $4,731</td>
<td>Offerings to ELCA $2,389</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair Trade Sales $613</td>
<td>Fair Trade Purchases $815</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do-Day Donations $107</td>
<td>Do-Day $559</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous $100</td>
<td>Mission Outreach $1,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Literature $20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Convention Offering $100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Miscellaneous $144</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total $6,427

| Total $6,491                    |                          |

## 5. Contingency Fund

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Expense</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions $600</td>
<td>Capital Expenditures $62,876</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estate Gifts Funds $94,992</td>
<td>Operating Deficit $13,170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest $118</td>
<td>Playtown Deficit $9,180</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total $95,710

| Total $85,226                   |                          |

## Totals for All Funds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Expense</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$1,284,237</td>
<td>$1,162,458</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
UNDERSTANDING THE FINANCIALS

Our Savior’s practices Fund Accounting to manage your gifts and contributions. Our financial report contains five basic funds.

1. General Fund
   Donations and pledges to this fund support the entire day-to-day functioning of the church. Since 2004, the General Fund incorporates all operating expenses of the church. The ministries of the eight cabinets (Caring & Fellowship, Education, Evangelism, Finance, Mission, Operations, Personnel, and Worship & Music) are all funded by your gifts.

   Playtown Preschool is part of the General Fund. The preschool is owned by Our Savior’s Lutheran Church and has been a self-supporting entity through tuition received. Accounting for Playtown Preschool is an operating budget item.

2. Endowment Fund
   The Endowment Fund was established in 1995. This fund enables members and friends of the congregation to make financial gifts that will perpetuate the ministry of the church now and beyond their lifetimes. The fund’s principal is invested and a designated percentage of the principal is disbursed annually at the discretion of the Endowment Committee.

3. Special Gifts Fund
   The Special Gifts Fund of Our Savior’s is a vehicle for designated giving through personal and memorial giving. Gifts are held in the Special Gifts fund and are available for expenditure approved by the Special Gifts committee. The cabinets and committees of the church have created a wish list in an attempt to streamline purposeful expenditure.

4. WELCA (Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America)
   This self-supporting fund receives income from freewill offerings at both Circle and General Meetings. Income is spent on WELCA programs and designated gifts throughout the year.

5. Contingency Fund
   The Contingency Fund was established to provide funds for unexpected or emergency expenditures including operating budget shortfalls. The Contingency Fund also provides funds for Capital Expenditures approved by the Operations Cabinet and Congregational Council. This fund has been funded through the operating budget, designated gifts and estate gifts.
### Assets

**Current Assets**
- Cash $871,373
- Investments $729,567

**Total Current Assets** $1,600,940

**Fixed Assets**
- Total Fixed Assets $6,561,763

**Total Assets** $8,162,703

### Liabilities

**Current Liabilities**
- Prepaid Pledges for 2020 $52,750

**Total Current Liabilities** $52,750

**Total Liabilities** $52,750

### Fund Principal

- General Fund $6,594,645
- Endowment $729,567
- Special Gifts $39,323
- WELCA $2,280
- Contingency $257,280

**Total Fund Principal** $7,623,095

### Restricted Funds

- Total Temporarily Restricted $486,858

**Total Restricted Funds** $486,858

**Total Liabilities, Fund Principal, & Restricted Funds** $8,162,703
## 2020 Ministry and Mission Spending Plan

### INCOME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contributions</th>
<th>2019 Budget</th>
<th>2019 Actual</th>
<th>2020 Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$ 970,499</td>
<td>$ 942,525</td>
<td>$ 999,030</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>$ 6,800</td>
<td>$ 8,727</td>
<td>$ 6,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL INCOME</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 977,299</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 951,252</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 1,005,630</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### EXPENSES

#### CARING & FELLOWSHIP CABINET

| Total Caring & Fellowship Cabinet | $ 1,900 | $ 1,606 | $ 3,650 |

#### EDUCATION CABINET

| Programs                  | $ 11,000 | $ 10,031 | $ 11,250 |
| Commercial Ministries     | $ 9,200  | $ 4,913  | $ 10,500 |
| **Total Education Cabinet** | **$ 20,200** | **$ 14,944** | **$ 21,750** |

#### EVANGELISM CABINET

| Programs                  | $ 2,500  | $ 3,651  | $ 3,450  |
| Communication & Marketing| $ 10,250 | $ 9,473  | $ 11,600 |
| **Total Evangelism Cabinet** | **$ 12,750** | **$ 13,124** | **$ 15,050** |

#### FINANCE CABINET

| Finance/Fees               | $ 1,100  | $ 654    | $ 1,100  |
| Commercial Insurance       | $ 22,400 | $ 22,362 | $ 23,002 |
| Stewardship                | $ 3,500  | $ 3,279  | $ 3,500  |
| **Total Finance Cabinet**  | **$ 27,000** | **$ 26,295** | **$ 27,602** |

#### MISSION CABINET

| ELCA Missions % of Contributed | 3.81%    | 3.93%    | 3.90%    |
| ELCA Missions                 | $ 37,000 | $ 37,000 | $ 39,000 |
| Local/Other Missions          | $ 19,600 | $ 19,600 | $ 18,000 |
| **Total Mission Cabinet**    | **$ 56,600** | **$ 56,600** | **$ 57,000** |

#### OPERATIONS CABINET

| Council                        | $ 3,500  | $ 3,840  | $ 13,500 |
| Office                         | $ 29,450 | $ 20,869 | $ 27,450 |
| Property                       | $ 180,700| $ 187,436| $ 191,730|
| **Total Operations Cabinet**  | **$ 213,650** | **$ 212,145** | **$ 232,680** |

#### PERSONNEL CABINET

| Total Personnel Cabinet       | $ 653,445 | $ 618,272 | $ 653,347 |

#### WORSHIP & MUSIC CABINET

| Worship                        | $ 3,350  | $ 4,725  | $ 3,350  |
| Music                          | $ 17,725 | $ 16,711 | $ 19,675 |
| **Total Worship Cabinet**     | **$ 21,075** | **$ 21,436** | **$ 23,025** |

#### TOTAL EXPENSES

| **NET TOTAL**                  | **$ (29,321)** | **$ (13,170)** | **$ (28,474)** |

#### PLAYTOWN PRESCHOOL

| Tuition                        | $ 91,423 | $ 59,877 | $ 51,274 |
| Expenses                       | $ 91,423 | $ 69,057 | $ 52,660 |
| **NET TOTAL**                  | **$ -** | **$ (9,180)** | **$ (1,406)** |

#### GENERAL FUND NET TOTAL

| **NET TOTAL**                  | **$ (29,321)** | **$ (22,350)** | **$ (29,880)** |
I would like to thank the members of the Nominating Committee this year for doing a wonderful job of contacting church members to become part of the many Cabinets and Committees in the Church. This year’s Committee consisted of Abby Derry, Anna Ellerbroek, Paul Grover, Cynal Hlavin, Sharon Jackson, Lynn Kinney, Brian Peck, Kathy Stim, and Emily Tropp. It makes it so much easier to accomplish your task when a committee works together and has an enjoyable time doing it.

I would also like to thank all of the church members that volunteered their time to become part of a cabinet or committee over the next few years.

Respectfully Submitted,
Brian Peck, Committee Chair

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**OSLC Leadership 2020**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Term</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Mike Booker</td>
<td>Jan 2020-Jan 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice-President</td>
<td>Jim Provenza</td>
<td>Jan 2020-Jan 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Members At Large</td>
<td>Shawn Artlip</td>
<td>Jan 2019-Jan 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Andrea Bathje</td>
<td>Jan 2020-Jan 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caring &amp; Fellowship Cabinet</td>
<td>Sheryl Jecklin</td>
<td>Jan 2019-Jan 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Cabinet</td>
<td>Renee Guse</td>
<td>Jan 2020-Jan 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance Cabinet</td>
<td>Diane Hielsberg</td>
<td>Jan 2019-Jan 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evangelism Cabinet</td>
<td>Lou Larson</td>
<td>Jan 2020-Jan 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missions Cabinet</td>
<td>Lisa Doll</td>
<td>Jan 2019-Jan 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operations Cabinet</td>
<td>Roger Mahler</td>
<td>Jan 2020-Jan 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personnel Cabinet</td>
<td>Kristen Elliot</td>
<td>Jan 2020-Jan 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worship &amp; Music Cabinet</td>
<td>Eric Baeverstad</td>
<td>Jan 2019-Jan 2021</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Audit Committee (3 year term)  (6 Members)
- Michael Ellerbroek  Jan 2019-Jan 2022
- Jerry Kinsley  Jan 2019-Jan 2022
- Matthew Papoccia  Jan 2018-Jan 2021
- Trevor Johnsen  Jan 2018-Jan 2021
- Bob Wright  Jan 2020-Jan 2023
- Gary Randles  Jan 2020-Jan 2023

Endowment Committee (3 year term)  (7 Members)
- Kim Randles  Jan 2018-Jan 2021
- Cindy Johnson  Jan 2019-Jan 2022
- Brent Bernardi  Jan 2019-Jan 2022
- Forrest Carlson  Jan 2019-Jan 2022
- Terry Whitesel  Jan 2019-Jan 2022
- Bob Toews  Jan 2020-Jan 2023
- Eric Baeverstad  Jan 2020-Jan 2023

Nominating Committee (3 year term)  (9 Members)
- Anna Ellerbroek  Jan 2018-Jan 2021
- Paul Grover  Jan 2018-Jan 2021
- Brian Peck  Jan 2018-Jan 2021
- Abby Derry  Jan 2019-Jan 2022
- Lynn Kinney  Jan 2019-Jan 2022
- Sharon Jackson  Jan 2019-Jan 2022
- Brenda Moorhous  Jan 2020-Jan 2023
- Gary Winkie  Jan 2020-Jan 2023
- Erik Johnson  Jan 2020-Jan 2023

Synod Assembly (1 year term)
- Bob Rothkopp  Jan 2020-Jan 2021
- Cathy Rothkopp  Jan 2020-Jan 2021

Lutheran High Delegate (2 year term)
- Donna Homuth  Jan 2020-Jan 2022

Rockford Area Lutheran Ministries
- Sandy Carter  Jan 2020-Jan 2021
- Turid Addams  Jan 2020-Jan 2021
The following represent the focus of my ministry this past year in addition to my regular pastoral responsibilities.

1. To assist the congregation in making the transition to a new Senior Pastor, working with the Transition Team and Call Committee will complete the transition process by fall of 2019, and work with the Synod and the Call Committee towards the goal of extending a call to a new Senior Pastor by summer of 2020.

2. To assist the congregation in making the transition to a new Senior Pastor, working with the Council and an appointed Constitution Committee to complete required updates to the model constitution, and review and amend the constitution as necessary to provide clarity of structure and responsibilities, including Council continuing resolutions.

3. To assist the congregation in making the transition to a new Senior Pastor, working with the Connection Ministries Director and the Caring and Fellowship Cabinet to review the membership rolls and update them by removing those members who have moved away, have become inactive in accordance with constitutional provisions for removing inactive members, and those who have chosen to permanently resign from OSLC. Our staff team has moved OSLC into REALM database system. We are in the process of updating the REALM Directory with member information and photos.

4. To assist the congregation in making the transition to a new Senior Pastor, working with the Connections Ministry Director and the Caring and Fellowship Cabinet to provide a handbook of volunteers who have chosen areas of service and abilities that they wish to share inside and outside OSLC.

5. To prepare for a strong 2020 financially, a Stewardship Task Force has been assembled. Stewardship Team has been recruited and consists of Bill Kobler, Chair, Carolyn Kobler, Tracy Peck, Kathy Stim, Lou Larson, Debbie Larson and Kim Randles. Response weekend was held November 9 &10. Of those pledging in 2019 and 2020, OSLC experienced an increase of just over $40,000, a 10% increase for this group overall.

It is my pleasure to work with our dedicated rostered leaders and lay staff who each day demonstrate their commitment to the ministry of OSLC. This is a blessed congregation with so many dedicated and gifted lay leaders and congregational members who generously give of their time, abilities and financial resources to grow, serve, love and inspire.

Pastor Len Hoffmann
“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the LORD. “As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: it will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it. You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands…” (Isaiah 55:8-12)

It has been an incredible first year here at Our Saviors Lutheran Church! The congregation has been a great blessing in my life. Always affirming and supportive of both my wife Wendy and I, your kindness and generosity to us have been overwhelming. Thanks be to God.

The New Year was brought in and celebrated with an Epiphany Service that incorporated many from the congregation. The next several months were dedicated to listening to the congregation, engaging with the staff, council and cabinets, evaluating what gifts I could share with OSLC ministries and experiencing the wonderful worship that Our Savior’s offers to the community.

After listening and learning about how the confirmation program has gone through many changes in the last few years, I thought it would be best to create a confirmation program for the Fall that would have stability. Yet, the new program would need to be flexible enough to address the many different directions our families are pulled in our present society. To date, I have received positive feedback from both parents and confirmands about the Confirmation program that has been put into place.

Working alongside Deacon Marti, parents and youth in both confirmation and the High School youth group has been exhilarating! High School youth have been very active this year attending to fundraisers (Trivia Night, Art Salutations, etc.) for their mission trip, as well as, helping with a great variety of ministries. These activities were successful primarily because of the support received from this congregation. Thank you! The youth also helped to support the intergenerational community picnics over the summer, as well as, showing up for many important meetings during the year, especially at our transition meetings. The High School youth represented Our Savior’s well on their mission trip to Ohio. I am blessed to be connected to such hard working and thoughtful people. Special thanks to the parents of our youth, who have been very engaged and supportive. I would also like to thank the Education Cabinet for their support of all of our youth programs at OSLC.

The Community Picnics were another great success over the summer. Connecting not only different age groups at the church but also many cabinets and their gifts. The picnics reached out into the community and made great connections with the neighborhood community.

By the way… Operations is a group that just keeps on moving (literally) this congregation forward. Thanks for all you do… and you do a lot! (And now that much has been done… much will be expected!) 😊

As I write this report, we are in Advent and I am joyfully experiencing again the wonderful worship that OSLC offers. It was a wonderful way to begin my time at Our Savior’s and continues to be a blessing as we begin a new church year. Special thanks to Marti, Kristen, Brock and Worship and Music.

One of the great pleasures of being called to Our Savior’s is to have such a talented and hardworking staff. Thanks to Elizabeth, Katie, Cyndi, Jenni, Angela, Loe and the newest staff member, Sheryl. We also celebrate in the office the gifts of Johanna and Cindy. What wonderful resources and knowledgeable colleagues we have been blessed with at OSLC!

I look forward to meeting a new Senior Pastor even as I grieve the idea of Pr. Len leaving. He is a wonderful interim Pastor. I look forward to the challenge and opportunity that Our Savior’s will encounter in the coming year, while celebrating a great collaboration with a gifted pastor. Godspeed Pr. Len, you are a mentor and friend.

Together we will continue to Grow Spiritually, Share Generously, Love Unconditionally and Inspire Hope.

I am looking forward to the journey!

Pr. Scott Stolberg
Associate Pastor of Youth and Family Ministry
The wolf shall live with the lamb,  
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,  
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,  
and a little child shall lead them.  

Isaiah 11:6

Worship and Music

Milestones:
- Epiphany service created and led by Pastor Scott
- Collaborative Easter Vigil worship at Trinity with several churches from the area
- CSLC Concert Series with concerts with Mark Baldwin, trumpet, Savannah Bay Strandin, vocalists, Kantorei, Margaret Dean, organ, Rock Valley Master Chorale
- Variety of worship styles at 5:00: evensong, jazz, Taizé, cowboy, contemplative
- The creation of a signup system for lay leader worship volunteers stream lining scheduling and dispersal of information
- Choir tour in the Spring to homes of former singers
- Choirs, Adult and Caillion Ringers, singing across services
- Continued development of the Children/Youth Choir musically, dramatically, faithfully, socially
- Continued work on the Northern Illinois Synod Worship Team and leading worship at Synod Assembly
- CSLC participation in Rejoicing Spirits Worship
- Media Ministry revitalizing under Pastor Scott’s leadership
- Weekly Playtown Preschool Music Class
- Facebook streaming
- Media Shout 7!

Grateful for:
- All of the volunteers who help lead worship and make worship happen, especially the Sacristans
- All the musicians who spend hours each week practicing and rehearsing to prepare for leading music in worship
- The staff of CSLC
- The Worship and Music Cabinet
- The Church Council
- Musical colleagues Lorie Parker-Weinrich, Brock Alekna, Kristen Nelson, John Wahquist
- Pastors Len and Scott

Respectfully submitted
Deacon Marti Bein
Keep on loving one another…. Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing so some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing….. Hebrews 13:1-2

It is a blessing to serve God in different ways at OSLC. Connecting with one another in God’s love is a heart blessing as I engage in conversation with guests and members of Our Savior’s Lutheran Church. I connect with the Caring and Fellowship Cabinet, the Education Cabinet and the Evangelism Cabinet regularly each month and participate in planning and implementing ideas and needs of the cabinets.

God's two greatest commandments are to love God and love others. To love everyone equally is a true sign of our love for God and our desire to live Christ-like. Hospitality is known as entertaining and welcoming guests. It is a genuine way to show love for others! Jesus tells us in Matthew 25:40 that whatever we do for the least of people, we do for HIM.

*Love, Hope, Grow & Inspire*, our new banners in the atrium, remind me daily of God’s love, the hope I have in every day, and the joy in growing in my faith to share and inspire others to live in HIM.

His Peace, Hope and Love,

Cyndi Hlavin
Connections Ministry Director
My thanks to all the volunteers, members and staff of OSLC for your faithfulness to God, your dedication to the ministry and mission of OSLC and your support of me in my role as your Business Coordinator. The role of Business Coordinator primarily connects to three of Our Savior’s cabinets. Those cabinets are **Finance, Operations and Personnel**. Below is a glimpse into the area of responsibility of the Business Coordinator.

**Finance Cabinet**
Finance activities are substantial and important. OSLC’s bookkeeper Jenni Ripplinger and I work to process and review contributions, contribution statements, accounts payable, accounts receivable, and generate financial statements. We assist in creating the annual budget and provide monthly reporting to cabinets and committees. Jenni’s attention to detail and accuracy are a great asset to OSLC.

**Operations Cabinet**
There are many volunteers on the Operations Cabinet. These individuals contribute a great deal of their time, knowledge, experience and labor. OSLC would easily spend at least double the amount on the property budget without the dedicated members of the Operations Cabinet. I greatly appreciate this group of dedicated volunteers, and I hope that the congregation appreciates them as well.

OSLC’s Assistant Coordinator Angela McNally and I work to coordinate the logistics of facility maintenance and facility use. Angela’s expanded work hours in 2019 permitted her to become primary focal point for facility use logistics. Angela quickly learned the HVAC control system and door access control system. This provided much need back up to an important function. Angela has been a wonderful addition to the office staff.

Facility Maintenance: We coordinated and assisted the Operations Cabinet in maintaining the facility. Preventative maintenance, inspections, repair calls and special projects keep us Cabinet busy. Also, we coordinate the custodial activities through the contracted building services company.

Facility Use: We interacted with coordinators for Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, Rockford Lutheran School, Children’s Home+ Aid, Rock Valley College ESL classes, Johnson Elementary School, ALS Association, Swedish Historical Society, Rockford Election Board and others in addition to the various OSLC groups and members to allow use of the OSLC facility. Calendar scheduling, door access scheduling and heating/cooling scheduling are logistical items essential to facility use.

IT Projects: I coordinated the conversion of the Church database system that took place in May 2019. I act as the administrator of the OSLC church database system. Along with other staff, I worked to deploy Realm to staff, council and cabinets in 2019. The goal is to more widely deploy Realm to the congregation in 2020 as we learn to use the expanded functionality available. Additionally, I coordinated the upgrade of the Wi-Fi hardware at OSLC. The existing hardware was at end of life and had not been performing well for some time. The new hardware has been much more reliable since it was deployed. Also, I coordinated the move of some of the staff to Office 365, this work will continue in 2020.

**Personnel Cabinet**
My main function associated with the Personnel Cabinet is payroll and benefits administration. We process payroll every two weeks. Additionally, staffing changes trigger needed action. I handled onboarding of 3 staff and offboarding of 3 staff during 2019. Also, I assist Personnel in building the Personnel budget and understanding any variances to the budget throughout the year.

Submitted Respectfully, Elizabeth Brinkley
Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

**Grow Spiritually, Share Generously, Love Unconditionally, Inspire Hope**

This is the Mission Statement of your Church crafted by the Transition Team with the congregation’s input and adopted by Church Council in 2019. This Transition team was established to create a vision for our Church as we look to the future and the call of a new Senior Pastor. Many thanks to the team and the many members who attended their forums. Now what are we going to do to fulfill our Mission statement this year and in 2020?

**Grow Spiritually:** There are Bible Study opportunities at present which include Bible Miners, the Saturday Series and WELCA studies. A new Bible study has been proposed for Lent. I encourage your participation in these and other gatherings to enhance your spiritual growth. This year we launched the live video of the 8:30 am service on Facebook and YouTube allowing members and non-members to participate in Worship when unable to attend in person.

**Share Generously:** We share with our many giving programs, including Mission of the Month and Mission spending with the guidance of the Endowment and Mission Committees. On God’s Work Our Hands Day in September we packaged meals for 24,000. Please read the Mission report for all the details. We have many events that reach out to our local community, including summer neighborhood picnics and Trunk or Treat on Halloween. We have been blessed to receive several estate gifts this year. Council believes in “first fruits” giving and donates 10% of the amount received from those gifts to our mission effort.

**Love Unconditionally:** We invite others to use our facility without cost in many cases. Serving as a resource of volunteers for our community we show love to others in service. We sponsor youth mission trips to serve people outside of our community. We have many from our church who provide countless hours of tutoring and support at Johnson School. And we support our members in caring relationships.

**Inspire Hope:** Our Transition Team inspired hope by the creating a compelling mission and vision for our future. The calling of a new Senior Pastor is exciting as we anticipate new leadership to guide the congregation. Thanks to the Call Committee for their diligence on this important task.

There are many initiatives new this year to provide more connections within your church. One of these is the Realm application, which allows members to communicate and coordinate with each other more effectively. This year also saw the completion of the Portico to provide a more welcoming and safe entrance to the church.

As you can tell, much is happening at your church which due to a capable and committed staff and many members who volunteer to help with the many tasks and committees. Thank you to the staff and all the members who commit their time and resources to fulfill Christ’s mission on earth. You all are a blessing to work with and a blessing for your church.

Finally, as God says in Jeremiah:

> For I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

What can you do to help provide an inspiring future for your church?

God Bless

Jeff Schneider
President: Jeff Schneider
Vice-President: Mike Booker
Members At Large: Shawn Artlip, Kim Randles (fill – 1 year)

Caring & Fellowship Cabinet
Sheryl Jecklin
Lynn Kinney
Dorothy Mahler
Linda Nicholson
Sally Raymer
Marlene Winkle
Staff: Cyndi Hlavin

Education Cabinet
Renee Guse
Trevor Johnsen (co-chair)
Johanna Lund-Backer
B.J. Johnson
Joy Wiedenhoeft
Pam Keeling
Amy McCormick
Staff: Pastor Scott and Cyndi Hlavin

Evangelism Cabinet
Ted Johnson
John Strandin
Paul Svezia
Jeff Wessman
Staff: Katie Bellinson and Cyndi Hlavin

Finance Cabinet
Diane Helsberg
Jim Keeling
T.J. Leake
John Linder
Bob Rothkopf
Staff: Elizabeth Blinkley and Jenni Ripplinger

Missions Cabinet
Lisa Doll
Jennifer Anderson
Emily Bark
Sandy Carter
Henry Doll
Deborah Johnsen
Deb Larson
Lou Larson
Eric Meyer
Brian Pock
Bruce Person
Kathy Slim
Staff: Pr. Len Hoffmann

Operations Cabinet
Keith Shaver
Rob Batulis
Jeffrey Cowles
Rob Fitch
Ted Getty
Brian Johnson
Roger Mahler
Gary Raymer
Bob Rothkopf
Harry Sturm
Paul Svezia
Phil Thompson
Dale Townsend
Roland Westra
Gary Winkle
Mark Yaromiecz
Staff: Elizabeth Blinkley

Personnel Cabinet
Jim Stenberg
Sarah Blanchford
Cindy Erickson
Kristen Elliot
Keith Syvert
Mike Booker (Council VP)
Staff: Pr. Len Hoffmann

Worship & Music Cabinet
Eric Baeverstad
Sharon Jackson
Ross Mothaus
Sharon Peterson
John Wahlquist
Staff: Deacon Matt and Pastor Len
The Caring and Fellowship Cabinet’s purpose is to assure members of the congregation that they are cared for at every age and circumstance of their life and strengthen the bonds of fellowship within the OSLC Church family.

The Caring and Fellowship Cabinet meets once a month to exchange ideas and encourage one another. We give thanks to the faithful Cabinet members; Lynn Kinney, Dorathy Mahler, Linda Nicholson, Sally Raymer, Marlene Winkie and cabinet chair Sheryl Jecklin.

OSLC Stephen Ministers provide one-to-one care, support and prayer for our members during challenges along their faith journey. They connect with those in the hospital and follow up if meal train, homebound communion, or a pastoral visit is needed. OSLC dedicated newly trained Stephen Ministers this year after months of classroom training. They meet once a month to encourage, support one another and gather for informational classes. They share a passion for bringing Christ’s love and care to people during a time of need.

We celebrate many joys along the path of our spiritual journey through planning and coordinating fellowship times and events; Installation dinner for Pastor Scott, Weekly Coffee Hour, Lenten Soup Lunches, Transition gatherings, Volunteer Appreciation Sunday, Fireside Theatre dinner & concert, Golf Outing, Trunk or Treat, Veterans Coffee hour, Advent Coffee Hour, and a farewell to Brock Alekna. We want all God’s people to connect with each other, engage in conversation, have some fun and grow in faith together.

We serve others during times of grief. Our Funeral Committee coordinated ten fellowship luncheons and served over 1,400 people during these gathering times. We shared hospitality, compassion and support to our members and community during these difficult times. Teams are organized to serve as ushers, set up, servers, and clean up.

The needs of our congregation as individuals are constantly changing and diverse. This Cabinet strives to coordinate the actions of members caring for members, rejoicing in God’s love and building new friendships or reconnecting with one another along the way.

Stephen Ministry hosted “Here and Now in Rockford,” an informative conversation on human trafficking. Active Seniors and the Romeos (Retired Old Men Eating Out) groups provide fellowship opportunities for OSLC’s more mature members and friends to gather, have some fun and learn together. Romeos hosted a special event inviting the community in for “Where are the Millennials?”

Parish Nurses provide regular monthly blood pressure checks and regularly check the AED monitors.

The Caring & Fellowship Cabinet provides the OSLC staff a time to gather together for an Advent lunch.

Submitted by Sheryl Jecklin, Cabinet Director
The Education Cabinet for 2019 was blessed to have the following faithful members: Johanna Lund-Backer, B.J. Johnson, Joy Wiedenhoft, Pam Keeling, Amy McCormick, Trevor Johnsen (co-chair), and Renee Guse (co-chair). During the year, Pastor Len, Pastor Scott, Deacon Marti Bein, and Cyndi Hlavin supported the Education Cabinet. Below is a snapshot of 2019:

I. **Playtown** – Amy McCormick is the director. Nineteen students “graduated” at the end of the school year. This fall Playtown moved to one classroom with Amy and an assistant leading the children in the morning. Twenty two students attend. Besides a wonderful curriculum, students have experienced field trips to the apple orchard and fire station.

II. **Youth**
   A. **Confirmation** – Ten students affirmed their baptism on Reformation Sunday, October 27th. Pastor Scott started different tracks this year for Confirmation to meet the needs of all families. The traditional track meets on Wednesday nights. The experiential track meets one Saturday a month and travels throughout the area to learn the material. If neither of these two tracks work, a home school track is also available.
   B. **High School Youth Group** – Ten youth as well as Pastor Scott, Marti Bein, and Trevor Johnsen went on a mission trip to Lorraine County, Ohio from June 23 – 29. Throughout the year, the youth held fundraisers to support this trip which included Trivia Night, Easter Breakfast and running Art Saddler basketball games. The congregation was very supportive as well. The youth also attended Second Sunday at Katie’s Cup with other Lutheran churches from the area. The youth meet most Sunday nights. Plans are underway for the summer of 2020. The youth will be going on a Boundary Waters Trip June 21 – 27.
   C. **Sunday School** – Cyndi Hlavin and a team of volunteers have made Sunday School a success. Most Sundays students begin in their classrooms for the lesson and then end Sunday School with a closing that Pastor Scott leads. On Rally Day, Zoofari was set up in the Atrium for members of all ages to tour. The latest event was A Keepsake Christmas as well as children helping in a drama and singing songs at both Sunday church services. Our Saviors is blessed to have such faithful Sunday School teachers.

III. **VBS** – ROAR took place July 15 - 19. Seventy children attended with fifty three volunteers. We thank Cyndi Hlavin, Melissa Johnson, and all of the volunteers who made VBS such a success.

IV. **Adult Education** – Johanna Lund-Backer and our pastors provided numerous learning opportunities. Some of the highlights include five new Stephen Ministers being trained. In between services, an Adult Forum is held. Bible Miners meet the first Thursday of the month. There is also a Saturday Series offered. “How to Get Through What You’re Going Through,” a video series led by Pastor Rick Warren, was so successful that it will be offered again.

V. **Library** – The library is open on Sunday mornings with faithful volunteers. Students from Playtown visit on a regular basis. New books are purchased on a regular basis.

The Education Cabinet thanks you for all of your support throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,
Renee Guse, Education Cabinet Director
The primary purpose of the Evangelism Cabinet is to communicate OSLC news, events and activities to members and friends of our church family, and implement outreach strategies to welcome guests and prospective members. Much of this work is accomplished through the development/distribution of communication and marketing tools, including CrossTalk (newsletter), ThisWeek (announcements), website, email blasts, Electronic Message Centers, screen announcements, direct mail, video, brochures, advertising and social media.

Marketing and Evangelism Highlights of 2019

- Atrium “update” including the installation of (4) 5 x 14-foot banners reflecting Our Savior’s mission statement: Grow, Share, Love and Inspire.
- Installation and ongoing maintenance of the (2) Electronic Message Centers.
- Produced graphics and videos for the “Share Generously” stewardship campaign.
- Implemented neighborhood direct mail program to raise awareness/invite folks to Christmas & Easter worship, neighborhood picnics and Playtown Preschool.
- Creation of new Parking Lot Banners.
- Continued participation in the community-wide Festival of Lights celebration, including a new nativity-themed display.
- Provided support with inaugural OSLC neighborhood picnics.
- Comprehensive Easter and Christmas campaigns to the community, utilizing billboards, print and TV advertising and social media.
- Supported the launch of REALM congregational database application.

Projects for 2020

- Atrium update phase II
- Updates to the OSLC website and general brochures.
- Neighborhood picnics.

Thank you to staff members Katie Belinson, Communication Coordinator, and Cyndi Hiavin, Connections Ministry Director, for their ongoing dedication and constant efforts that go above and beyond the call of duty.

Thank you again to Jeff Wessman for his creative talent and vision. His continued dedication and generosity with his graphic design work is a true blessing to all the members of Our Savior’s.

Thank you to Lisa Doll for her excellent work and assistance with OSLC bulletin boards.

Cabinet Members: John Strandin, Paul Svezia and Jeff Wessman.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ted Johnson, Cabinet Director
The Finance Cabinet works closely with the Business Coordinator and Bookkeeper to maintain the integrity of the church’s financial position. The Cabinet is responsible for the monthly review of the church’s financials, assisting with preparation, review and maintenance of the annual ministry and missions spending plan, and review of the annual audit report submitted by the Audit Committee. The Finance Cabinet also oversees the Endowment, Stewardship, and Special Gifts committees. There are currently five members on the Cabinet: Jim Keeling, T.J. Leake, John Linder and Bob Rothkopf. In addition to the items listed above, the Finance Cabinet has been busy during 2019 with the process of rewriting various policies and procedures.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Hielsberg, Cabinet Director

The Stewardship Task Force chose the theme “Share Generously” from the Mission Statement of Our Savior’s Lutheran Church. We used the words from 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 as the scriptural inspiration for the 2019 stewardship emphasis.

6) Remember this — a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop. 7) You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don’t give reluctantly or in response to pressure. “For God loves a person who gives cheerfully.” 8) And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others.

Our desire was to share the impact that congregational members’ personal giving had inside the walls of our church, in the Rockford community, in our nation, and around the world. With the help of Pastor Len and the videographer Ted Johnson, we developed a set of videos highlighting the work of each CSLC Council Cabinet and presented them during Saturday evening and Sunday morning services in the weeks leading up to Commitment Sunday. We also held four small group discussion sessions during which we presented some of the challenges faced by Our Savior’s and other churches. Statistical data for Our Savior’s related to attendance, age demographics, giving patterns, and budgetary needs were presented and discussed. Each person was encouraged to “Share Generously” as they had been blessed to support and expand the ministry of Our Savior’s Lutheran Church.

I want to thank each of the committee members, Pastor Len, the CSLC office staff, Pastor Scott, and Ted Johnson for their contributions to this effort. I leave you with the prayer we used to open the small group discussions.

God of abundance, you have poured out a large measure of earthly blessings; our table is richly furnished, our cup overflows, and we live in safety and security. Teach us to set our hearts on you and not these material blessings. Keep us from becoming captivated by prosperity and empower us to share generously, as generosity is a matter of the heart. Grant us wisdom to use your blessings to your glory and to the service of humankind; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Submitted by Bill Kobler, Chair
Pastoral Advisor: Pastor Len Hoffmann
Members: Carolyn Kobler, Lou and Debbie Larson, Tracy Peck, Kim Randles, Kathy Stim

To share generously, one of our priorities at OSLC is to connect our abilities and financial resources for mission and outreach opportunities. The Mission Cabinet’s purpose is to facilitate this priority by providing the opportunities for our church members to give of their financial resources, time and talent. Furthermore, we reached out to our mission partners to learn more about their work and created opportunities, not only for giving, but also to become better educated about the populations they serve, which includes the mentally and physically challenged, the sexually exploited, those impacted by disasters, the homeless and the hungry.

Our Mission of the Month partners included local as well as national and global partners: ELCA World Hunger, Lutheran Partners in Global Mission, Gideons, Rockford Promise (named scholar), quarterly reverse offerings for Cornucopia and Rock River Valley food pantries, school supplies for Johnson Elementary, Lutheran Social Services (Angel Tree), MOSAIC (Angel Tree), and Laundry Love.

In addition to our Mission of the Month, we served a variety of other organizations. We hosted a bi-annual dinner for our RVC-ESL students, provided close to twenty-five tutors to Johnson Elementary, supported a group of members who cook and serve monthly meals for Carpenter’s Place, provided clothing and toiletries to JustBreathe815, and stocked the Paper Angle Tree at Bethesda Presbyterian for One Body Collaboratives’ outreach. A new outreach that took place was bringing the Northern Illinois Food Bank mobile unit to our parking lot to distribute food to our neighbors in need.

One of our biggest events was held on September 7, 2019 – God’s Work, Our Hands day. In conjunction with other ELCA churches across the county, this event provided us with a variety of wonderful opportunities to serve God by rolling up our sleeves and serving our community. Our Boy Scout Troop #14, along with other volunteers, did some building and yard clean-up at Patriots’ Gateway; a group of volunteers assisted at Cornucopia Food Pantry packing and cleaning; students from Lutheran High School joined our volunteers on site in packing 24,000 meals for Kids Around the World; and a group worked at Habitat for Humanity all day on a community build. In addition, September was deemed “Soctember” as members donated underwear and socks for a community-wide collection benefiting JustBreathe815.

The Mission Cabinet disperses monies quarterly to the following partners: ELCA/Northern Illinois Synod, Lutheran High school, Rockford Area Lutheran Ministries, as well as Rock House Kids, LSSI, Rockford Rescue Mission, Life Scape, Remedies Renewing Lives, and One Body Collaboratives. This last year we also supported Grace Place, Stepping Stones, and Patriots’ Gateway with funding or service hours. We allocated funding for Lutheran Disaster Relief to aid fire-fighting efforts in California and flood relief in Texas. We approved over $40,000 of funding from the estate gift neighborhood outreach fund for donations to Habitat for Humanity, Rockford Promise, RAASE and the new Family Justice Center.

As stated by the Operations Cabinet Director, “our building serves as a mission outreach.” Numerous organizations use our building at no or minimal cost: LSSI, MOSAIC, NAMI, Alzheimer’s support group, Children’s Home and Aid parenting groups, RVC- ESL Playtown, and more. Some use our parking lot for drop-off sites, like Keep Northern Illinois Beautiful and Good Samaritan Purse. Being conscientious stewards of our facility fulfills another aspect of mission outreach.

In November, we celebrated with thirty-one of our mission partners at a Mission Fair between services. Our members had a chance to dialogue with our partners and learn more about the populations they serve and how we can be more supportive of their efforts.

We look forward to learning from a newly-established subsidiary of the Mission Cabinet, the Green Team. Under the guidance of Ron Burmeister and with its eight-member team, we will continue to research and look for ways for OSLC to embrace our Christian responsibility for our church’s ecological and carbon-based footprint through education and action in cooperation with other cabinets.

2020, at a glance, begins with our January Mission of the Month, fulfilling Rosie’s Birthday Club’s request for forty gift cards to present to children for their birthdays, who might not otherwise be recognized. We will continue to support and serve our local food pantries and neighborhood elementary school. We aim to become more involved in supporting our Playtown Preschool and the Northern Illinois Food Bank with either another mobile unit or volunteers to their sites. We hope to maintain the tradition of naming a Rockford Promise scholar as well as giving generously to LPGM, ELCA and NIS missions. Hopefully, we will return to Honduras to work with World Gospel Outreach in July on another medical-serve trip. We aim to continue to serve God with our spirit of sharing generously with our local, national and global partners.

Lisa Peterson-Doll, Mission Cabinet Director
### Mission Revenue Sources

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019 Operating Budget Mission Allocation</td>
<td>$56,600.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Endowment Fund Grants</td>
<td>$28,300.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Estate Gifts Funding</td>
<td>$75,913.00</td>
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<td>Special Offerings</td>
<td>$20,058.87</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Mission Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>$181,671.87</strong></td>
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### Mission Distributions

#### Distributions for Northern Illinois Synod

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<tr>
<th>Mission</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ELCA Various Missions</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lutheran High School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northern Illinois Synod Mission Share</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rockford Area Lutheran Ministries</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Synod Related</strong></td>
<td><strong>$80,321.95</strong></td>
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#### Local Mission Partners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Partner</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Angel Tree Gifts - LSI &amp; Mosaic (Est.)</td>
<td>$3,600.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carpenter's Place</td>
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<td>Children's Home &amp; Aid Society</td>
<td>$196.00</td>
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<td>Cornucopia Food Pantry</td>
<td>$1,340.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family Peace Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grace Place Campus Ministry</td>
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<td>Johnson Elementary School</td>
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<td>Just Breathe 815</td>
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<td>Lifestyles Community Services, Inc.</td>
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<td>Lutheran Social Services of Illinois</td>
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<td>Miss Carly's Place</td>
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<td>Nik's Wish - The Nikolaus Ritschel Foundation</td>
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<td>Northern Illinois Food Bank</td>
<td>$1,700.00</td>
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<td>One Body Collaboratives</td>
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<td>RAASE</td>
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<td>Remedies Renewing Lives</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rock House Kids</td>
<td>$1,900.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rock River Valley Food Pantry</td>
<td>$2,349.30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rock Valley College ESL Dinners</td>
<td>$848.10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rockford Habitat for Humanity</td>
<td>$10,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rockford Promise</td>
<td>$10,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rockford Rescue Mission</td>
<td>$2,500.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shelter Care Ministry</td>
<td>$500.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Soup Kitchen Supplies (Carpenter's Place)</td>
<td>$1,853.35</td>
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<tr>
<td>Local Missions – To be distributed</td>
<td>$1,164.77</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Local Mission Partners</strong></td>
<td><strong>$60,152.52</strong></td>
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### Other Mission Projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>God's Work, Our Hands Day – Kids Around the World Meals</td>
<td>$5,400.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honduras Trip Support &amp; Medical Supplies</td>
<td>$2,019.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lutheran Partners in Global Ministry</td>
<td>$2,458.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lutheran World Relief</td>
<td>$632.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women of the ELCA</td>
<td>$2,388.40</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Other Mission Projects</strong></td>
<td><strong>$12,897.40</strong></td>
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### Endowment Grants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lutheran Outdoor Ministry</td>
<td>$3,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lutheran Social Services of Illinois</td>
<td>$7,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mosaic</td>
<td>$14,800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rock House Kids</td>
<td>$3,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Endowment Grants</strong></td>
<td><strong>$28,300.00</strong></td>
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### Total Distributions for Missions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Distributions for Missions</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Mission Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>$181,671.87</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Note: This report summarizes all mission activities of our church. Included are Operating Budget allocations plus a wide variety of special projects, especially Mission of the Month.

The amounts shown are the financial distributions from all sources of revenue.

This does not include gifts in kind such as:

- over 2,000 lbs. of food for the Cornucopia & Rock River Valley Food Pantries
- school supplies for Maud Johnson School and Lutheran World Relief
- 91 rolls of quarters for Laundry Love, a mission of RALM
- clothing and toiletries for Just Breathe 815
- cost of facility usage for outside groups such as Rock Valley ESL classes

Estimates of specific donations for the Angel Tree gifts have been included to reflect the value of these gifts.

Our Savior's is a generous congregation, and together, we make a significant impact on the needs of our community and world.
The Operations Cabinet accomplished several major repairs/improvements this year on the OSLC facility. In addition to this we also did our normal maintenance work such as small repairs to plumbing and electrical fixtures, setting up tables and chairs for special events, landscaping, special cleaning projects, etc. The result is a facility that we can all be proud of. Several times this year when Our Saviors was hosting a special event, attendees have commented on how good the facility looks. I agree with them. Thanks to all who have contributed to this effort and let us all keep the good work going forward.

Members: Bob Batulis, Jeffrey Cowles, Rob Firch, Ted Getty, Brian Johnson, Roger Mahler, Gary Raymer, Bob Rothkopf, Harry Sturm, Paul Svezia, Phil Thompson, Dale Townsend, Roland Westra, Gary Winkle, and Mark Yarolimek

Mansard Roof Replacement: The Mansard roofing on the east and south side of our facility was replaced this year. The roofing had deteriorated to the point where pieces of roofing material were falling off into the Preschool play area. No alternative other than replacement was recommended. The work was accomplished quickly in the early spring.

Flat Roof Repair: Numerous water leaks were recorded in the Bell Room. Operations did a thorough self-inspection of the flat roof above the room and found numerous spots and one large area that were potential leak points. A roofer was contacted, quote obtained, and the repairs completed in early summer. The leaks were repaired, but we should expect new ones to surface as flat roofs need constant attention.

West Worship Center Roof Replacement: The west roof of the Worship Center never leaked, but the shingles on it were continually falling off. Operations repaired what they could, but some of the shingles were too high up for us to fix. The roof was improperly installed, and the roofer was no longer in business for us to contact. The roof was replaced in early summer.

Fire Door Repair: The Fire Doors on the south side of the Upper and Lower Atriums had failures of the electro-magnetic mechanism that holds the door open. New mechanisms were installed.

South Side Window and Trim Painting: The roof and window trim on the south side of the building needed attention. Operations and other volunteers repainted the trim in mid-summer.

Lighting: Much of our lighting has been replaced with high efficiency LED lights. The Worship Center was completed this year and the Social Hall as well.

Hallway: The hallway from the Print Room, to Door J, to Room 126 was reworked. The walls were repaired, repainted, the floor scrubbed, and new floor covering installed.

Parking Lot: All parking surfaces around the OSLC facility were repaired with crack filling, seal coating, and restriped. The curved drive was not done due to the construction of the Portico.

Door L: As I write this report, the Bridge Doors at Entrance L, are being reworked with new locks and mechanisms to allow handicap and remote door access control. A handicap switch and FOB reader were installed, as well as an A/V doorbell, much like the Main Entrance at door A. Access control of the door will be possible from the Office area.

Respectfully Submitted,
Keith Shaver, Cabinet Director
The primary role of the Personnel Cabinet is to support the Senior Pastor in the management of the church staff. Personnel Cabinet members provide support to the staff as necessary in such areas as hiring, establishing compensation ranges for all non-rostered positions, recommending compensation adjustments, participating in staff performance reviews, and developing and reviewing job descriptions.

Our current fulltime staff includes Pr. Len Hoffmann, Interim Senior Pastor; Pr. Scott Stolberg, Associate Pastor; Deacon Marti Bein, Director of Music & Worship; Elizabeth Brinkley, Business Coordinator; Cyndi Hlavin, Connections Ministry Director; Katie Belinson, Communications Coordinator; and Amy McCormick, Playtown Preschool Director. Current part-time staff includes Jenni Ripplinger, Bookkeeper; Kristen Nelson, Organ-Piano-Keyboard Musician; Angela McNally, Assistant Coordinator; Jenn Pierson, Playtown Preschool Assistant Teacher; Lorie Parker-Weinrich, Bell Choir Director; Nikki DeMello, Nursery Attendant; and Sheryl Gray, Receptionist/Administrative Assistant, who was hired in 2019 to fill a long-vacant position made possible with the support of estate gifts. Brock Alekna, Praise Band Leader, left our staff at the end of 2019 to devote his efforts to his full-time career.

In 2019 our staff members (with the exception of the pastors) were each granted a small increase in their compensation. The first such increase in 3 years.

The OSLC Employee Handbook was reviewed by outside counsel in 2018 to ensure that it meets the legal requirements of such a document. Members of the Personnel Cabinet reviewed the recommended changes and completed the final update of the Handbook during 2019. The revised document was approved by the Church Council and was distributed to all staff members.

Each of the staff job descriptions was reviewed and updated during 2019. In addition, offer letters that detailed each full-time non-rostered staff member’s compensation and benefits were prepared and approved.

Members: Sarah Blatchford, Cindy Erickson, Kristen Elliot, Keith Syfert, Jim Stenberg, Mike Booker (Council VP) and Pr. Len Hoffmann

Prepared and Submitted by: Jim Stenberg, Personnel Cabinet Director
The Worship & Music cabinet strives to represent the interests of the members in assuring rich and meaningful worship (as well as the music used within worship) to our current and prospective congregants. Over the years much of the work of the cabinet has been carried out through the great efforts of the Sacristans Committee. This continues to be the case and we are very blessed by their continued dedication.

In recent years, the primary other role of the cabinet has been the coordination of volunteers to support the worship services. As OSLC continues to stay current with trends and technologies, we’re preparing for the day when electronic sign-up for volunteers occurs throughout our ministries. To that end, the Worship and Music Cabinet decided to take an initial step using conventional (non-electronic) signups for needs beginning 1 January 2020. Marti has graciously volunteered to handle that initiative. The cabinet and the mission of OSLC will benefit from your participation. Please help to keep volunteer positions filled.

This has now freed up time for the cabinet to better focus on bigger picture items. We are starting to work through how to assess how well we’re doing; decipher and lovingly respond to individual concerns/praises; and seek out ways to understand, support, and (when needed) challenge the staff. This is a cultural change for the cabinet and, as such, it will still take some time to get comfortable, transition, and gain traction.

We look forward to a new Senior Pastor and have already begun to consider timing and appropriateness of decisions in light of the upcoming change in leadership. We intend to do our best to determine when to make or defer decisions during this interim period.

Our Cabinet is made up of people who care very dearly for OSLC. We welcome your input, prayers, and support.

Wishing to serve you, OSLC, and our Savior,
Eric Baeverstad, Cabinet Director

Cabinet members: Sharon Jackson, Ross Moorhouse, Sharon Peterson, John Wahlquist, Deacon Marti, Pastor Len
The Constitution Task Force has been meeting to review our Constitution. We have updated it for the required updates made by the 2016 and 2019 Churchwide Assemblies.

We are currently exploring possible changes to structure and governance. If you have questions, recommendations or feedback on structure and governance please contact one of the committee members.

Our current goal is to have the revisions ready for final approval at the 2021 annual meeting.

Members: Eric Baeverstad, Carol Swenson, Gary Randles, Jim Provenza

Submitted by: James Provenza, Vice President Elect

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**Vision**

A welcoming faith community inviting all to know Christ.

**Mission**

Living by faith in service to Christ we:

- Grow spiritually
- Share generously
- Love unconditionally
- Inspire hope

**Values**

Our values bring clarity to our vision and mission.

**Faith** – We believe God’s Word and Sacraments are the catalysts for transforming lives and deepening faith.

**Love** – We believe love is at the center of all we do.

**Service** – We believe we are a community of servants who share our God-given abilities.

**Acceptance** – We believe all people matter to God and therefore matter to us.

**Compassion** – We believe it is important to meet people where they are and respond to their needs.
Since being elected by the congregation on October 6th, our committee has been hard at work. We’ve had 14 meetings including three initial candidate interviews. We open each meeting with devotions and prayer asking for God’s guidance as we continue the discernment process. We pray for the Holy Spirit to guide us and the candidates.

In our meetings and in activities outside of the meeting we have:

- Reviewed “With One Voice” - A summary of our congregation’s recent Transition Work
- Reviewed the Ministry Site Profile we provided to show candidates who we are and who we want to be
- Received and considered input received from past Call Committees and other members of our congregation
- Met with Pastors Len and Scott to receive any input they wished to provide
- Reviewed the Senior Pastor job description approved by Council
- Discussed the need for a Mutual Ministry Committee to support our new Senior Pastor
- Listed and discussed desired characteristics and skills needed in our Senior Pastor
- Added three youth as non-voting members of our committee (Ben Bathje, Katie Jensen and Ali Lackner). They are awesome!
- Spent time developing and fine-tuning questions for our candidate interviews
- On Nov 10th received three candidate’s Rostered Minister Profiles (RMP) from the Northern Illinois Synod
- Prepared an agenda and process that would be used in each candidate interview
- Reviewed the candidates RMPs and websites of their current calls as well as other supported documentation, watched and/or listened to samples of the candidates preaching, dependent upon what resources were available
- Had initial interviews with all three candidates in December - included a tour of OSLC facilities, interview questions, dinner with each candidate and responded to candidate questions
- Had Call Committee wrap-up sessions immediately after each interview

Here are our next steps:

- Call Committee meeting on January 6th to internally debrief on all candidate interviews and confirm next steps
- Starting site visits to see candidates preach at current call
- Schedule second interviews where appropriate
- Check references

I am honored to have been chosen by this committee to be the chairperson. I want to let you know that this committee is focused and committed to make sure that we represent our congregation and that we make sure that our transition work that resulted in “With One Voice” is continually in our hands. Please continue to ask the Holy Spirit to lead us as we discern the next Senior Pastor for OSLC.

Submitted by: Greg Peet, Senior Pastor Call Committee Chairperson

Members: Emily Bork, Becca Johnson, T.J. Leake, Gary Randles, Pam Shaver, Phil Thompson
Youth Representatives: Ben Bathje, Katie Jensen, Ali Lackner
The Portico Building Committee met 11 times in 2019, starting in early January. Several actions were accomplished by the team, the main one being a fully functional Portico in place before the Christmas season. The committee started by selecting a design concept, interviewing architects and requesting quotes for the detailed prints of their proposed design. Architect Dave Jenkins of David L. Jenkins & Assoc. was chosen. His design using wood beams provided an economical advantage as well as a desirable aesthetic look. The next action for the committee was to approve the drawings and get preliminary quotes for the construction. The projected cost and design were then presented at a Congregational Meeting and approved. Due to the generosity and dedication of our Church members funding was obtained rather quickly so final bids from contractors were obtained; Larson and Larson Builders was chosen. Construction started late September and was completed in December. As of this writing the Portico costs are approximately $178,500 with another possible $5000 left to spend on items that will be best completed when the weather gets warmer. Many thanks are in order to the contractors for their cooperation in minimizing the amount of time our front doors had to be closed, despite the inclement weather experienced during construction. I would also like to thank the Portico Building Committee (Paul Knopp, Roger Mahler, Phil Thompson, Gary Raymer, Brian Johnson, Ted Getty) for all their patience, knowledge and efforts. It was a good team to work with, and I believe the finished project shows that.

Respectfully Submitted,

Keith Shaver

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### Portico Financial Update

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions - By 80 Contributors</td>
<td>$153,640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Gifts Funds</td>
<td>$5,840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estate Gift Funds</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Contributions/Funds Received</strong></td>
<td><strong>$209,480</strong></td>
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</table>

**Spent:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Communication &amp; Fundraising Expenses</td>
<td>$739</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David L. Jenkins &amp; Assoc. - Architect Fee</td>
<td>$2,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larson &amp; Darby - Design Services</td>
<td>$2,622</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lungo's Plumbing - Install Drain</td>
<td>$1,750</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous Expenses - Drawing Copies/Locate Electrical</td>
<td>$351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Spent</strong></td>
<td><strong>$8,262</strong></td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Account Balance as of 12/31/19**

$201,218

Pending Bill to be Paid:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Larson &amp; Larson - Construction/Winter Heat/Permits</td>
<td>$170,500</td>
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**Funds Remaining:**

$30,718
Per the Constitution of OSLC, “The OSLC Endowment Fund Committee is created to provide a vehicle for anyone desiring to make a contribution of property or monies to a Fund which will provide distributions to be used for designated purposes to enhance the mission of our Congregation”.

Per the Grant Guidelines the OSLC Endowment Fund Committee shall:

- Priority Consideration will be given to grants to the mission partners of OSLC.
- Generally, grant will not be considered for on-going operating support.
- Grants will be awarded for one year only. Circumstances warranting, multi-year commitments may be made.
- The OSLC Constitution prohibits grants to the OSLC operating budget.

Per Section C14.03.01: The Special Gifts Committee shall “Be a sub-committee of the Endowment Fund Committee.” OSLC has not functioned as defined for some years. It is suggested that this change be made for the 2020 year and beyond to bring the actions of the congregation in line with the Constitution of the organization.

In 2019 the following grants were awarded:

1. Mosaic Partners in Possibilities Furnishings Update - $14,800.00
2. LOMC Commercial Dishwasher Replacement - $ 3,000.00
3. LSSI, Sterling Group Home Bathroom Renovations - $ 7,500.00
4. Rock House Kids Intercom & Paging System (Life Safety) - $ 3,000.00

Summary:

- Available: $34,176.25
- Awarded: $28,300.00
- Not Awarded: $ 5,876.25 (remains in fund)

Respectfully submitted; Brent S. Bernardi, Chair Endowment Fund Committee, 2019
Our Savior’s Lutheran Church is blessed with memorials and gifts that have been established in memory and/or honor of members of our congregational family.

Our Savior’s Lutheran Church’s Special Gifts Committee continues to strive to honor those who have blessed this church. In 2019, the following gifts have been made possible through the generous Special Gift memorials:

- 9 Two-way radios for weather/safety needs
- Library books/supplies for adults and children
- Gospel of John presentation
- Environmentally friendly plates for funerals/church events
- Chapel blinds
- Urn pail for memorial services
- Technology/TV/gaming systems for youth ministry
- LED flameless taper candles
- Choral folders

The Brent Stenberg Memorial Music Scholarship has been established. As an accomplished musician, music was always an important part of Brent’s life. This scholarship will be used:
  - in part as scholarships for members of OSLC attending accredited music schools.
  - in part as scholarships to the Lutheran Summer Music Program for music students who are members of Our Savior’s Lutheran Church.
  - to support the purchase of a guitar for students with a passion to play but cannot afford to buy an instrument.

Claudia Holen was the recipient of a $500 scholarship this year.

Opportunities for this scholarship fund will be publicized and available through Special Gifts. Applications are available, and due on March 31, 2020.

We are thankful for the gifts God has given us. These and future gifts to Our Savior’s allow us to further our mission to:

**Grow Spiritually**  **Share Generously**  **Love Unconditionally**  **Inspire Hope**

Please contact any of the committee members below if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Becky Baeverstad       Roger Myers       Loren Nielsen
Marge Waldhauser        Marlene Winkle    Tracy Peck, chair
Membership information is based on the records in our church database, and reflects 2019 information accurately.

**Membership**
- 872 Baptized (2019)
- 1033 Baptized (2018)
- 1070 Baptized (2017)
- 1080 Baptized (2016)
- 1092 Baptized (2015)

**Membership Changes**
- 5 Members Received
- 10 Members by Baptism
  - 2 Transfer In
  - 2 Members by Confirmation
- 23 Deaths
  - 4 Transfer Out
- 12 Released per Member Request
- 24 Released Due to Relocation
- 117 Released per Inactive Membership

**Worship Attendance**
- Average
  - 299 Weekend (2019)
  - 326 Weekend (2018)
  - 356 Weekend (2017)
  - 372 Weekend (2016)
  - 393 Weekend (2015)

**Pastoral Acts**
- 10 Baptisms
- 16 Funerals
- 10 Confirmed
- 3 Weddings
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Estate Gift Summary</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Beginning Balance as of 1/1/19</strong> $181,067</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Received</strong> $300,997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Funds Available</strong> $482,064</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Spent:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atrium Renovation - Banners $5,640</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Picnics $1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contingency $94,992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electronic Message Center $5,544</td>
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<tr>
<td>Entrance Door L Upgrades/Improvements $19,486</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Justice Center $2,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fatherhood Coalition Lunches $196</td>
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<td>God's Work, Our Hands Day on 9/7/19 $5,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Habitat for Humanity $10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Honduras Mission Trip Support $1,319</td>
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<tr>
<td>Illinois Food Bank - Mobile Food Truck $1,200</td>
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<tr>
<td>LPGM Mission of the Month $2,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mayor's Hunger Luncheon $500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Media Ministry Upgrade $10,499</td>
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<tr>
<td>Missions Cabinet for Local Missions $14,127</td>
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<tr>
<td>Name Tags - Congregation/Staff/Council/Transition Team $1,119</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northern Illinois Synod $22,376</td>
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<td>OSLC Concert Series Matching Fund $476</td>
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<td>Personnel Contingency Restricted Fund $140,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Playtown Family Tuition Assistance $2,775</td>
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<tr>
<td>Playtown Fundraiser Matching Fund $500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Portico/Main Entrance $50,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>RAASE $7,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rockford Promise - OSLC Scholarship $8,210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Gifts-Sunday School $6,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transition Team Congregation Forums $2,448</td>
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<tr>
<td>Worship &amp; Music Restricted Fund $17,500</td>
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<td><strong>Total Spent</strong> $434,157</td>
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<td><strong>Account Balance as of 12/31/19</strong> $47,907</td>
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<td><strong>Designated:</strong></td>
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<td>2020 God's Work, Our Hands Day $5,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Entrance Door L Upgrades/Improvements $2,513</td>
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<tr>
<td>Playtown Family Tuition Assistance $1,775</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Designated as of 12/31/19</strong> $9,288</td>
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<td><strong>Funds Remaining</strong> $38,618</td>
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</table>
The Northern Illinois Synod of the ELCA met for its 32nd annual assembly at Augustana College, Rock Island, June 14-15, 2019. The theme was “Walking Together, Loving Christ, Loving all, for the Sake of the Gospel.”

**Worship** - All three plenary sessions began with hymn singing and prayer. Friday evening a special event held at Trinity Church, Moline included various recognitions and a special celebration of two pastors celebrating their 50th anniversary of Ordination: Alyn Tolzmann and Dennis Heaney. The service closed with Holden Evening Prayer and the Remembrance of Our Departed Saints. The assembly closed on Saturday with Holy Communion and the Rite of Ordination for Paul David Gebo.

**Speakers** - Bishop Jeffrey Clemens opened Plenary Session 1 with greetings and introductions. LSSI Director David Novak reported that 42,000 individuals with various needs were served during the last year. Cyclists, some of whom came forward with their bikes, raised over $4,000 for World Hunger. Delegates also were able to give in-kind gifts for this effort by signing letters to their legislators. A video “Until All Are Fed” was shown. Keynote speaker, Rev. Dr. Anna Madsen, spoke several times during the assembly. She spoke of a tragic accident in which her husband was killed and her young son was left with a traumatic brain injury. She is a freelance writer with interest in the areas of quantum physics and process theology. Rev. Madsen stressed God’s steady presence in all the moments of our lives.

**Resolutions** - A theme of inclusion was evident as Resolutions R1 “Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of Ordination of Women” and R2 “Concerning Gender Equality for Rostered Leadership Positions in the Northern Illinois Synod” were presented and then approved by the delegates.

**Forums/Workshops** - Friday afternoon delegates were offered two separate opportunities to attend sessions in the areas of budget and synod council work, candidacy, congregational life, global mission, youth ministry, ministry support, outreach, and social ministry. Particularly innovative and inspiring was a session highlighting efforts made at Resurrection Lutheran in Channahon to offer a worship service shorter in time and with less lighting and volume for those who face sensory challenges.

Thank you for the opportunity to represent Our Savior’s Lutheran Church, Rockford at the 2019 Synod Assembly.

Paul and Sue Grover
WELCA has been blessed with another year of activities and fellowship that contributes to our mission: mobilizing women to act boldly in their faith in Jesus Christ. All women of Our Savior’s are members of WELCA and are encouraged to participate in its mission. With the involvement of many caring and loving hands and hearts, WELCA was able to provide the following programs:

**Saturday, March 2, 2019** – Gene Van Gelder, of GVG tours, presented slides and an informative program entitled “What I’ve Learned From Travel”. A catered brunch followed.

**Tuesday, July 9, 2019** – Mary Pulliam from “One Body Collaborative”, presented myriads of ways to make our donations count in helping others. Joseph Schenk accompanied us on a hymn sing with refreshments following.

**Thursday, September 19, 2019** – “Friends of Jesus Throw a Baby Shower” Lorrie Parker-Weinrich and Polly Haploch of Bella Luna Bakery, presented a fun-filled program, featuring the Bell Choir of OSLC and stories from behind the scenes at the bakery, plus delicious cookies for dessert.

**Saturday – Sunday, September 28 – 29** – WELCA Weekend. Our Do Day Ladies created 350 colorful quilts to grace the Worship Center. We welcomed Pastor Trish Maddern back to her childhood church home as our guest preacher.

**Thursday, December 12, 2019** – “Advent Inspirations” featured Chaplain Kent and Ann Terry, presenting faith and adventure stories with musical interaction. 2023 WELCA officers were installed. Thank Offerings were turned in, followed by Christmas desserts.

**Mission Growth**

We are thankful that Johanna Backer continues to be a resource for the monthly Bible studies for WELCA and Circle Leaders.

Both volunteerism and financial support are offered by the women in our circles to local community needs as well, as needed.

**Mission Action**

2019 Lutheran World Relief Donations:
- Do Day Ladies assembled 350 Quilts, 100 School Kits, 43 Health Kits, 100 Baby Layettes.

Local Donations:
- Habitat for Humanity – 4 Quilts
- Military Quilts – 4
- Youth Mission Trivia Night – 1
- Fairhaven Swedish Pancake Brunch – 1
- Lutherdale Quilt – 1 quilt plus 1 antique quilt top
- Lawson Children’s Home – 11 quilts
- Rosecrance – 10 Baby quilts
- Crusader Clinic – 10 Baby Quilts
- Pregnancy Crisis Center – 10 Baby Quilts
- Carpenter’s Place – 17 pounds of toiletries
- Comucopia – Hundreds of colorful tote bags for clients carrying groceries.

Rocky Boy Servant Trip – Our Savior’s Lutheran Church, Box Elder, Montana
Turci Addams, Sharron Angileri, Sandy Carter, Ruth Miller, Sonia Potelski, and Carol Swenson joined the NISynod WELCA Servant Work trip to the Rocky Boy Reservation. They were enabled to deliver 10 microscopes to the Rocky Boy School, thanks to a Thrivent Action Team Grant.

**Mission Community**

Clarke Andrews and Tracy Peck raised up the concerns of so many through their updates of the Prayer Chain. This Ministry serves the entire OSLC community.

WELCA is also part of a larger community – the Northern Illinois Synod and WELCA Churchwide. Sandy Carter represents our North Conference on the NISynod Board.

We are very blessed by the time, talents, and gifts of the women of OSLC. According to our mission, we continue to commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, society and world.

I am grateful for the privilege of serving this past year.

Marlene Winkie, WELCA President

**2019 Executive Board:**
- Marlene Winkie – President
- Julie Tranck – Vice President
- Cathy McCulley Rothkopf – Secretary
- Deb Johnsen – Treasurer
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Litany

L. Gathering together as God’s people in this place, may we always be aware of your presence in our midst.
C. Lord, may we always be aware of your presence.
L. Knowing that the Word is our light, may we continue to grow in our scriptural and confessional understandings.
C. Lord, may our minds continue to grow in your word.
L. Recognizing that stepping out in faith is not easy, we ask that you give us strength, O Lord, to listen and be bold and daring.
C. Lord, give us the patience to listen and the strength to be bold and daring.
L. While we strive to know ourselves and your will for us, may we build our relationships with our brothers and sisters in Christ.
C. Lord, help us to build faith-filled and healthy relationships with others.
L. Recognizing that we are often the ones asking, “And who is my neighbor?” may we open our eyes, ears and hearts to all those in the community in which we live.
C. Lord, may we always be open to those in the community in which we live.
L. Recognizing the importance of Moses, the prophets and disciples, may we work together to accompany and raise up leaders for your church.
C. Lord, may we have the insight, encouragement and skills to raise up courageous leaders.
L. Recognizing the many gifts you have entrusted to us, may we use these gifts to do your work in the world today.
C. Lord, may we use the gifts entrusted to us to do your work.

God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind

Text: Herman G. Stuempfe
Music: John Hughes
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L. Let us pray. As we strive to be your church of the present and the future, may we nurture a spirit of collaboration and solidarity. May we all be partners in sharing the gospel and believing in Jesus Christ crucified and risen for the life of the world.
C. Amen.
Beyond the Wall: Making All Things New

When have you discovered newness in life through Christ? Did you have to step out in faith to do so? Perhaps you had to let go of your will and accept God’s will. This is a major turning point in the faith journey of many people. There are examples in Scripture about Job (Job 29-30), Elijah (I Kings 19:4-14), Mary Magdalene (Luke 8:1-2) and the women at the tomb (Luke 23:55 – 24:5). Consider the story of the rich young man (Matthew 19:16-26, Mark 10:17-31, Luke 18:18-30). He approached Jesus with a simple question: “What must I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus replied, “Go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven.” When the young man heard this, he was very sad and walked away, because he was very rich. Given the choice, he found it difficult to forsake wealth in this world for the promise of God and eternal life.

Sometimes there are barriers or walls that complicate trying something new or stepping out in faith. What walls or barriers have you encountered? Consider the story of Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10), who wanted to witness Jesus preaching but was too short to see past the crowd. After Zacchaeus climbed a tree, Jesus called out to him and invited himself to lunch in Zacchaeus’ home. We know what Jesus said to Zacchaeus, and he was a different person afterward. He had changed from wanting wealth and success in this world to desiring significance through a life of faith. When have you, or your congregation, chosen success over significance? Perhaps when using numbers or the size of your facilities as a measure. Moving toward significance usually means sacrificing success. In what areas of ministry is your congregation seeking significance today?

Stepping out in faith may be a personal choice for a short time but usually involves accompanying others. As members in the body of Christ, we are not called to meet our own needs alone. The Great Commission (Matthew 28:16-20) calls us to go beyond our barriers and bring the message of Jesus Christ to others. This helps us grow beyond a Christian enclave to become servants of Christ and a serving community. In what ways has your congregation moved from an enclave to a servant community?

Overcoming barriers and walls to make things new involves stepping out in faith. It means shaking loose from lethargy and moving out from sheltered comfort. In the process we break the chains of sin that hold us back and divide us from making us one in Christ. When we share in the distress of God’s heart to do the kingdom’s work, we are in tune with God’s will, choosing significance over success and becoming a servant community. This is when we feel the vitality of our faith and the power of the Holy Spirit. May you experience this newness in Christ in and through your ministry.