Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

God's work. Our hands.

Annual Report 2016-2017

Pastor Thomas Hillertz

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GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

AGENDA

OPENING PRAYER…….Pastor Tom Hillertz

OPENING HYMN……....….*"We Are Called"* #720, vs. 1 & 2

MEETING CALL TO ORDER……..…..President Bob Clark

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

REPORTS…….….Pastor, President, Committees, Treasurer

TREASURER'S REPORT……..Dana VanDeveer-Jones

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Introduction of all council members and their role
2. Nomination of members for 2017-2018 Nominating Committee
3. Approval of 2017-2018 budget

CLOSING……...……..…The Lord's Prayer
……..……...…*"We Are Called"* #720, vs. 3

ADJOURNMENT

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MISSION STATEMENT

We are a congregation of called believers in Christ.

We are: **BROUGHT** into the church by baptism.

SAVED and forgiven by Grace through faith.

ASSEMBLED by the Holy Spirit to worship and partake of the sacraments.

STRENGTHENED by prayer, study, and fellowship.

LED to serve the spiritual and other needs of our community.

Our mission is to share the Good News of salvation with all people through our words and through our actions. Because of our relationship with Christ, we seek to live changed, Christ-centered lives with all people through:

EDUCATION by increasing our understanding of our baptismal gifts in Jesus Christ through a variety of learning experiences for people of all ages.

FELLOWSHIP by encouraging personal caring and meaningful relationships among congregational members.

SERVICE by sharing our gifts from God with others in the church, the community, and the world.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH by worship, participation in the sacraments, prayer, devotions, and Bible study.

STEWARDSHIP by helping our members become aware that all we are and have is a gift from God and joyfully sharing a portion of these gifts in response to God's love.

SUPPORT by meeting the needs of members during times of crisis and on a regular basis.

Adopted by the congregation July 1984.

MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 21, 2016, ANNUAL MEETING

Call To Order
Meeting called to order at 10:11am. Deacon Jason Fisher opened with a prayer.

President's Report - Bob Clark

- Reviewed minutes of the annual report. Motion made to approve the minutes. Harold Moe (1st). Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report - Dana VanDeveer-Jones

- Reviewed the 2015/2016 budget.

Old Budget: N/A

New Business

2016/2017 Budget

- Motion made to approve the proposed budget. Joe Chamley (1st), Bob Coverdill (2nd). Motion approved.
- Bob Coverdill: Stressed that we should continue to support the benevolence.
- The 'Giving' budget line was reviewed for clarification: Service Food pantry, giving projects throughout the year, community support giving.

2016/2017 - Council Members

- Bob Clark - President
- John Todd - Vice President
- Dana VanDeVeer-Jones - Treasurer
- Sean McKendall - Secretary
- Kristine Scheu - Education
- Agatha Barnes - Evangelism
- Jeff Davis - Fellowship
- Tom Holm - Property
- Jenelle Keene - Service
- Tori Corkery - Stewardship
- Tim Smith - Worship & Music
- Ruth Meyer - Youth

Nominating Committee, John Todd

- John Todd, Kristine Scheu, Sean McKendall, Amy Chamley, Jodi Davis, Don Block. John Todd made a motion to approve the committee. Bob Coverdill (2nd). Motion approved.

Q&A

- Membership remains steady, but the attendance gradually declines.

Adjournment

A motion was made and approved to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 10:50am.
Meeting closed with Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Sean McKendall, Secretary

MINUTES OF THE MAY 28, 2017, CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Call to Order

President Bob Clark called the meeting to order at 10:10am. Pastor Hillertz opened the meeting with a prayer.

Nominating Committee

- Motion made to cast a unanimous ballot, accept the Nominating Committee findings and close the Nominating Period. Motion approved.
- Nominating Committee: Don Block, Amy Chamley, Jodi Davis, Kristine Scheu, John Todd, and Sean McKendall
- Nominees: Leanne Cunningham, Amy Chamley, Myrna Johnson, David Smith, Katrina Widholm

Proposed Constitution

- Motion made that the congregation accept the changes in the 2017 proposed Constitution as a result of changes made to the ELCA model Constitution at the 2016 Church-Wide Assembly. Motion approved.

Sanctuary Upgrades

- Motion made to accept the proposed revisions to the sanctuary. Motion approved.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:23am. Meeting closed with Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Sean McKendall
Secretary

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church completes its fiscal year July 31st. Churches have long given annual reports, reflecting on goals, accomplishments, and looking forward to the future. Second Corinthians tells of St Paul's reporting of generosity and sharing from the churches of Macedonia during a time of great need. We continue that reporting process.

Our year at Good Shepherd has been one of both great challenges and even greater opportunities. Together we search for the most effective way to meet our mission goals of *Preaching, Teaching, and Reaching in Jesus's Name*. During this year we went to one Sunday service. While this necessitates a change, it reflects a reality seen throughout our synod, smaller numbers of Sunday worshipers.

Our long-range plan and review was completed this year. An outgrowth of that work is the establishment of a Strategic Planning Committee charged with creating a compact plan that will have defined, realistic, and measurable goals. One of this committee's first actions is a survey of all members seeking input on worship times, Bible studies, and a host of other possibilities for worship.

Good Shepherd is conducting an in-depth review of its membership rolls and expects this work will be current by year's end.

Our church year recorded many successful activities. A successful Harvest of Thanks helped our church distribute nearly 60 Thanksgiving dinners to the needy. Advent brought our annual nativity walk and live nativity to the community. Our youth sponsored Souper Bowl and fund-raiser for the food pantry has helped us serve an ever-growing need for food support. The Good Shepherd pantry and our support of the empty tomb Work-a-thon result in hundreds of people obtaining food assistance throughout the year.

The church picnic was a delightful gathering and in addition raised over $1200 for LSSI through the Pedal for a Purpose event held in conjunction with the picnic.

Our members are active in the Feed Our Children food program, One Winter Night event to raise funds and awareness of the homeless of our community, the Canteen Run, the Story Book project, clothing drive for released prisoners, the Prayer Shawl ministry, Meals on Wheels, and a host of other activities. We were able to complete a reroofing of the flat roof areas of the sanctuary and will be completing the center isle project in the early fall. Our annual mission trip to El Salvador is scheduled for August and we look forward to additional opportunities to serve in the year to come.

Together we have many challenges to face but with the gift of the Holy Spirit and a sense of community we can look to the future with confidence. A special thank you to Pastor Hillertz and Jason for all they do for Good Shepherd. A big shout out to all committee members, staff, volunteers, and the congregation for the many tasks completed, many without any fanfare that keep our church doing what it does best. *Preaching, Teaching, and Reaching in Jesus's Name.*

In His Service,

Bob Clark

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Membership Data (August 1, 2016 to July 31, 2017)

Baptized membership	423
Confirmed members	345
Average weekly attendance	132*

Baptized (August 1, 2016 to July 31, 2017)

Adelyn Rose Kretz	10/23/16
Aiden Taylor	02/26/17
Myles Short	02/26/17
Aaron Buhnerkempe	04/09/17
Mikhail Jacobs	06/11/17

Members received through July 31, 2017

Susan Barreto (Ethan & Lucas)
Vickie Wilson
Vimala & Daniel Jayasingh
Meg & Rob Dickinson

Transferred to the Church Eternal (August 1, 2016 to July 31, 2017)

John O. Marxmiller	02/11/17
Dorothy J. Oakley	03/20/17
Ruth Reasor	07/05/17

*Instructions for the Average worship attendance from 2016 parochial report:

Total number of people including children and non-members present for regularly scheduled Sunday and weekday services (e.g., Saturday, Monday) during the whole year (summer included) and divide by the number of Sundays in the year. Do not include attendance at Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Good Friday, or special services such as weddings or funerals or mid-week Lenten or Advent services (unless you hold mid-week services throughout the year). Estimate if necessary.

PASTOR'S REPORT

"We Are Called"

One of my very favorite hymns is *We Are Called.* (Evangelical Lutheran Worship, #720) The second verse of that hymn begins, "Come Open Your Hearts." While preparing this report, this hymn came to mind and recalling the events of the past year, one thing has become crystal clear: we are a congregation that opens our hearts.

For six years we have served in El- Salvador helping to build a church and helping to build homes. Working together with our ministry partners at empty tomb we do more than our church's share of food deliveries. Working with other churches in our community, we provide clothing to prisoners and record stories read by parents in prison to be shared with their children at home. We provide food, gas cards, rent, and sometimes just a listening ear to those who come through our doors seeking help.

The hymn continues, "Show your mercy to all those in fear." Good Shepherd showed mercy to clients of Lutheran Social Services. Together we raised over $1,200 toward the $55,200 raised by members of the Central Southern Illinois Synod's "Pedal for a Purpose" campaign. 100% of these funds went to support Lutheran Social Services of Illinois, a ministry deeply impacted by our state's budget crisis. Our Vacation Bible School kids and volunteers showed God's mercy giving to ELCA Good Gifts. Here's the Good Gifts link in case you would like to check it out or even give. https://community.elca.org/elcagoodgifts. We showed mercy to children providing school supplies and over 100 backpacks for children returning to school. Sleeping in cardboard boxes on city streets and working with our ministry partners C-U at Home members of Good Shepherd raised money for the homeless and those suffering the pain of addictions in our communities. And as I write, a woman who is not a member of our church called thanking us for the beautiful flowers that were delivered after church, grateful for our prayers and touched that we care.

We open our hearts and we show mercy
to women and men of all ages,
all cultures and any sexual orientation,
because all are precious children of God.

Our Future

In his September report to the Synod Council Bishop Roth writes, "First and Foremost, the value of the Christian witness and ministry cannot be reduced to nickels and noses – that is dollars that we count and the number of people on our membership rolls. Much of what the church does that is worthwhile cannot be measured statistically. At the same time however, numbers are not irrelevant". So very true!

Bishop Roth points to the declining number of congregations and church members in our synod. In 1988 the synod included 162 congregations with close to 63,000 baptized members and an average worship attendance of around 22,000. At the end of 2015 the congregations in the synod numbered 127 with 43,611 baptized members and an

average worship attendance of just under 12,000. Here at Good Shepherd, our baptized membership numbers remain stable while our average Sunday worship numbers have been in decline. There are many reasons behind the declining numbers in our synod and at Good Shepherd and I'd welcome conversation. That said, perhaps we are best served when we look to the future.

In his report Bishop Roth points to four options congregations and the synod are pursuing as we look to the future. I'd like to share two. First, Geographical Parishes. Currently our synod has three such models: The Wartburg Parish, consisting of five congregations that have come together in the southern conference; this parish came together over 10 years ago. The Three Saints Parish -- this parish, which consist of three congregations north of Peoria, is just getting off the ground. And finally, seven congregations in the Northwest Conference are working together to form The Seven Servants United Parish. From what I read and hear this seems to be going well.

The second model I want to share is the merging or blending of congregations. Three congregations in the Springfield area (Atonement, Faith, and Luther Memorial) blended together to form Peace Lutheran. In his report Bishop Roth writes that Peace Lutheran is a stronger, more vibrant ministry, worshiping community, and witness to the gospel than the three predecessor congregations.

Why, you may ask, do I share these numbers and models of change? To point out that the church is always changing and change doesn't always come easy. Change didn't come easy 500 years ago for a monk named Martin Luther and it isn't easy for us today.

Please know, I'm not suggesting that either of the above models would work for Good Shepherd. What I would suggest is that the church will look different in the near future and we have been addressing that future through the work of the Long Rang Plan Committee and continuing that work through the Strategic Plan Committee.

Looking Back

- This year I served on the candidacy synod committee. It is a true delight to walk with those preparing to serve the church. Next year I will be looking for other synod committees on which to serve.
- I am thankful for the growth in shared ministries with our ELCA sister congregations; examples include Thanksgiving Eve service with our friends at Grace (next year GSLC will host) and Vacation Bible School hosted at Good Shepherd. We support Saint Andrew's Campus Ministries both financially and through the gift of providing janitorial services.
- In the community I hear how meaningful our October Pet Blessing is.
- The GSLC Constitution has been revised and submitted to the synod for approval.
- We host church groups overnight on their way to mission trips and community groups such as the Champaign-Urbana Junior Women's Club.
- I was part of a round table decision group at Presence hospital exploring how ministries in our community might be faithful stewards of resources entrusted to us.

- I have been active in the Monday morning Pastor's Bible study and continue meeting with my spiritual director.

Long Range Plan Progress

Looking back to suggestions coming from the Long Range Plan, its clear progress has been made.

- We have experimented with a change in worship times and offered a Wednesday evening service. The Strategic Plan Committee is seeking feedback.
- We have implemented additional cross-generational events.
- We have implemented congregational care without additional paid staff.
- We have updated the building, including the south roof; changed the sanctuary lighting; and soon we will begin construction on the center aisle.
- We have included Jason more in the preaching schedule.

With Thanks

This year, we said goodbye to Jill Crandall who served as our Choir Director for 6 years. Jill leaves to serve in her other vocations as wife and grandmother. Thank you Jill, for sharing your gifts in music, for the diversity in music you brought to the congregation, and for your faithful service. Thank you to Linda Pein who weekly shares her gifts in music and goes above and beyond leading chimes, choosing hymns, and making arrangements for special music. Thank you to Dr. Chee Hyeon-Choi; you are an amazing musician and we miss you and wish you all the best at Bradley University. Thanks you to Tatiana Shustova; we as a congregation were blessed when you came forward to serve as the choir accompanist. Thank you to Dennis Lage who keeps our building clean while also keeping us guessing. Thank you to Administrative Assistant Yvona Vlach who is never too busy to greet visitors with a smile and is an excellent first impression for all entering our building. Thank you to Deacon, Jason Fisher; it is a blessing to serve with you. You challenge me with new ideas, provide a listening ear, and keep me laughing; for all that I am grateful. Thank you to council members who have finished their term and to those who continue to serve, and thank you to members who have taken on leadership responsibilities.

Thank you to Betsy Kakoma, Sandy Rueter, and Celeste Coverdill who serve as parish nurses and visitors. Thank you to Marilyn Dudley; although Marilyn does not serve as a synodical authorized minister in our congregation she uses her gifts and training in preaching and pastoral care. Also, Marilyn has begun a prayer shawl ministry at Good Shepherd.

Finally, thank you to my wife Wendy for your constant love and support!

Soli Deo Gloria (Glory to God Alone),

Pastor Thomas Hillertz

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY'S REPORT

"Each one of you has to be God's microphone. *Each one of you has to be a messenger, a prophet. The church will always exist as long as there is someone who has been baptized…Where is your baptism? You are baptized in your professions, in the fields of workers, in the market. Wherever there is someone who has been baptized, that is where the church is. There is a prophet there. Let us not hide the talent that God gave us on the day of our baptism and let us truly live the beauty and responsibility of being a prophetic people."* – Oscar Romero

Last summer I went from serving students at Leadership Lab, to driving home and being with my family for four hours before hopping on a plane to El Salvador for nine days, and then from there going to New Orleans for a week as a delegate to the E.L.C.A. National Convention. It was a humbling and demanding journey that required all of me. My mind was challenged by high school students attending Leadership Lab, my body was tapped while building a house in El Salvador, and my spirit was renewed in New Orleans as I heard of all that God is doing through our tiny tribe of Christianity. God is ever giver, guide, and gift and I know that none of these experiences would have been possible without a church back home that sees my gifts as things that can be shared with more than just our congregation. Good Shepherd is a place where we are taught to love God, "with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength… and to love your neighbor as yourself." - Mark 12:29-31

We have been blessed to see students who have attended leadership lab come back and help lead worship, special music, Sunday school, youth events, synod events, and fellowship events. The network of youth and adults that students receive from a week of Lab can become lifelong friendships as we seek to follow Jesus together. My hope is that we can find more ways to equip them and empower them to lead here at Good Shepherd and at their schools. God is doing amazing things through these youth-leaders and I hope to highlight some of those things each month in the Scroll.

Each year that our congregation commits to help build houses with Habitat for Humanity in El Salvador I remain steadfast in my promise to attend if we send any youth on this amazing trip. Anytime we are stretched physically we have an opportunity to grow spiritually, and selfishly I love being there when it happens! I've been inspired by the life and work of

Oscar Romero along with the hospitality and love of the Salvadoran people. There is much we still have to learn from those living in, and fleeing from El Salvador. Those we have met have a strong faith and it is my hope to continue building relationships with them so that when they come to the United States as missionaries to revive the church one day I can say, "I know you!"

At our National Assembly last August we voted to simplify the roster and have ministers of Word and Sacrament (Pastors), and ministers of Word and Service (Deacons). As of January 1st this year my official title within our denomination is Deacon, even though I still like "youth & family guy." This title change is also more reflective of where I have always sensed God's call in my life and that is in studying and sharing God's Word alongside acts of service outside the walls of the church. My emphasis as a Deacon continues to be in the area of Youth & Family Ministry and allows me to share with youth and adults the multiple ways and places that ANY lay person can serve God's church. Are you a nurse? You can be a deacon. Are you a teacher? You can be a deacon. Are you a painter, construction worker, musician, or janitor? Whatever your vocation is you can be theologically equipped to see it as your calling to serve the church through your gifts. Archbishop Oscar Romero said, "*You are baptized in your professions, in the fields of workers, in the market. Wherever there is someone who has been baptized, that is where the church is."* If you have questions about theological education and the variety of ways in which someone might be able to serve let me know. Oscar Romero goes on to say, "*Let us not hide the talent that God gave us on the day of our baptism and let us truly live the beauty and responsibility of being a prophetic people."*

Freed & RENEWED in Christ
500 YEARS OF GOD'S GRACE IN ACTION

What I love about the prophets is that they were, and continue to be, some of the most creative people. They use the things around them to share about what God has done and is doing. The second half of my annual report will share some of the new and creative things we have tried as a congregation this year:

In September members of Good Shepherd were invited out to Centennial Park for Flannel Fest. We watched lumberjacks compete with chainsaws and axes, and then where able to participate in a huge human mattress dominoes event. All funds raised from this event went to purchase mattresses that would be delivered to the homes of folks who didn't have a

bed on which to sleep.

Our Youth Committee chair person was filled with a double dose of the Holy Spirit when she decided we would try and put together an enormous Youth Rummage sale in our fellowship hall. We had such an amazing outpouring of support from the congregation and community that the students who helped all raised hundreds of dollars for future youth trips. It was a win-win for the everyone since members were able to clean out some clutter, neighbors were able to get some great deals, and local charities could sell our leftovers to support their local ministries.

November saw the coalescing of multiple people from our congregation, along with other places of faith, around community Immigration Forums. Meeting spaces opened to overflowing as people from the Champaign Urbana area came together to learn what they could do to support immigrants and refugees in our community. I've been excited to see such love for our neighbors in other countries and will continue to find ways that our youth and adults can serve those who are fleeing violence and find themselves at the mercy of strangers, strangers who happen to be loving Lutherans!

In January I attend the E.L.C.A. Youth Workers Extravaganza and was able to network with other youth leaders from around the country. It was an amazing time of fellowship and encouragement as friends new and old gathered together singing with their 500th Anniversary Reformation Mugs. I was able to make connections with the Lutheran Deaconess Association and am looking forward to becoming part of that community. At the convention I was also introduced to Bible Art Journaling, Fidget toys, and the game Tenzi for which my life will never be the same.

February had us hosting another Trivia Night Fundraiser for the Carol Manley Endowment Fund for Youth, but what was new about it was the number of visitors from our neighborhood. I'm convinced that as a congregation we can open up our building to so many more community events that allow neighbors to meet loving Lutherans, and also give them a vision for what God is up to in our congregation.

In March our Pastors Conference met at St. Matthews Lutheran church in Urbana where we had Francisco Herrera share about the Decolonize Lutheranism movement. We were informed about a segment of Lutheran leaders and pastors who don't feel welcome in our denomination because of how much we tend to cling to cultural stereotypes about what it means to be Lutheran instead of clinging to our common theology. There are amazingly gifted pastors and leaders with very different backgrounds who have gifts to offer and we need to create more space for them to

share those gifts and quit believing that Lutheran worship or belief looks a particular way. I've personally been convicted to read more theologians who are not white, male, and European.

Youth from our congregation gathered with their peers at Meadowbrook church in April for an area wide worship event. Local youth leaders organized the event and had youth lead it with a prayer time at the end for those in our community who need God in their lives. Many of these same youth attend our first of many, "Nation Day of…" events where we celebrated National Pretzel day by eating pretzels at Auntie Anne's, Wetzels Pretzels, Old Chicago, and Red Robin. During this event youth and their friends had an opportunity to learn about the Mennonite faith of the founder of Auntie Anne's. National Ice Cream, French Fry, Hamburger, and Trail Mix day are soon to follow.

God blessed us with amazing weather in May that allowed Marylin Dudley and I to install a Reformation Heritage Herb Garden in front of the cross at Good Shepherd. This was a project we learned about through Pastor Amy at St. Andrew's and were happy to take part in. The box is filled with herbs that scholars believe Katy Luther would have grown in her own garden and used for healing during the Reformation. I am sure that we will find time during our education hour in the fall to explore this garden box and talk more about how we can bring healing to those around us as well.

Vision and Goals for the coming year:

- **Implement and help lead a weekly Cross + Generational Bible Study at our home.**
- **Go door to door meeting neighbors near our church and get their prayer requests.**
- **Take high school youth and their friends out to lunch and other events regularly.**
- **Connect members with opportunities to serve the widow, orphan, and foreigner.**
- **Encourage members of Good Shepherd to create art for our worship space.**
- **Open up Confirmation instruction for ANY member seeking to affirm their baptism.**
- **Weekly Congregation-wide study of Luther's *Small Catechism*.**

"Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life." – Romans 6:4

Do others see this newness of life in us? My hopeful prayer is that this coming year will be, not only a celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, but a Holy Spirit filled revival of our congregation that overflows into the streets of Prospect & Devonshire and beyond. The water of our baptisms cannot be contained and each day we must trust in God the giver of life that all those who are washed ashore by these baptismal waters are gifts from God deserving our time, attention, and love. Hear once more the words of Oscar Romero, ***"Each one of you has to be God's microphone.*** *Each one of you has to be a messenger, a prophet. The church will always exist as long as there is someone who has been baptized…Where is your baptism?*

Jason Fisher

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL AND STAFF
2016-2017

Officers

President	Bob Clark
Vice-President	John Todd
Secretary	Sean McKendall
Treasurer	Dana VanDeveer-Jones

Committee Chairs

Education	Kristine Scheu
Evangelism	Agatha Barnes
Fellowship	Jeff Davis
Finance	Dana VanDeveer-Jones
Property	Tom Holm
Service	Jenelle Keene
Stewardship	Tori Corkery
Worship & Music	Tim Smith
Youth	Ruth Meyer

Staff

Pastor	Thomas Hillertz
Deacon	Jason Fisher
Parish Office Manager	Yvona Vlach
Parish Office Assistant	Nancy Olson
Financial Secretary	Dana VanDeveer-Jones
Custodian	Dennis Lage
Choir Director	Jill Crandall
Organist	Linda Pein

TREASURER'S REPORT
2016 - 2017 Fiscal Year

		July 31, 2017	July 31, 2016
General Fund	(1)	$ (74.96)	$ (3,102.27)
Memorial Fund	(2)	14,707.14	15,049.30
Reserve Fund	(3)	17.05	429.07
Exercise Fund	(4)	-	248.32
C Manley Endowment Fund	(5)	27,698.16	33,857.63
Property Impr Fund	(6)	30,159.13	42,583.07
Mission Savings Fund	(7)	5,591.49	2,507.15

(1) See Revenue Summary and Proposed General Budget for activity.
(2) See Restricted Profit and Loss.
(3) Funds temporarily transferred in to General Fund as needed to cover deficit balance.
(4) Funds managed by GSLC Exercise Group-closed during FY2017.
(5) Entire balance is Carol Manley Endowment Fund for Youth.
(6) See Revenue and Expenditures 2016-2017 for activity.
(7) Account holds El Salvador funds and new Mission Fund (see mission fund report).

BENEVOLENCE DISTRIBUTION

Mission - El Salvador	$15,330.89
Cen/Southern IL Synod	17,628.25
Alternative Benevolence	2,920.55
Food Deliveries	2,205.93
Lutheran Social Services of Illinois	1,330.00
Giving Tree and Backpack Drive	2,193.48
First Call for Help assistance	1,869.18
World Hunger/Disaster Response	561.00
Canteen Run	1,000.00
Habitat for Humanity	3,000.00
Other Local Aid	1,689.51
St. Andrew's Ministry	350.00
TOTAL	$50,078.79

Respectfully submitted,

Dana VanDeveer
Treasurer

2016-2017 RESTRICTED PROFIT & LOSS

	Aug '16 - Jul 17
Income	
Other Receipts	
Education	903.17
Evangelism	815.00
Fellowship -	88.17
Service-Other	765.00
Service-Food Pantry	2,200.00
Service-Outreach	1,436.49
Service-Safe House	300.00
Stewardship	1,019.00
WELCA	65.00
Worship - Flowers	1,780.00
Worship - PoinsettiaFlowers	283.00
Youth	476.53
Total Other Receipts	10,131.36
Restricted Income	
Property Improvement Envelope	11,075.00
EFT Building/Debt Ret.	5,670.00
Property Improvement interest	20.43
Manley Endowment	3,280.00
Manley Endowment interest	291.69
Memorial	2,780.53
El Salvador	2.71
Mission	11,081.00
Thrivent Funds	181.00
Total Restricted Income	34,382.36
Special Offering	
Local	300.00
Christmas	3,090.00
ELCA Intern. Disaster Respone	34.00
Lenten Services	
LSSI	1,310.00
Thanksgiving	1,000.00
World Hunger	747.00
Special Offering - Other	50.00
Total Special Offering	6,531.00
Total Income	51,044.72
Gross Profit	51,044.72

(Continued on next page.)

2016-2017 RESTRICTED PROFIT & LOSS CONT'D

Expense	
01. Benevolence	
Special Offerings	6,116.00
Total 01. Benevolence	6,116.00
05. Property Committee	
Approved Capital Equipment	19,153.54
Total 05. Property Committee	19,153.54
09. Other	
CM Endowment Reimbursement	8,651.16
Memorial Fund Reimbursement	2,422.70
Restricted Reimbursement	8,467.73
Total 09. Other	19,541.59
Reimbursement	
Education	903.17
Evangelism	815.00
Fellowship	88.17
Stewardship	1,019.00
Service	4,680.00
Worship	2,063.00
Youth	449.40
Reimbursement - Other	65.00
Total Reimbursement	10,082.74
Total Expense	54,893.87
Net Income	**-3,849.15**

2016-2017 PROPERTY IMPROVEMENTS FUND

Property Improvements Fund Revenue and Expenditures 2016 - 2017	
Beginning Fund Balance	$ 42,583.07
Total Revenue	
Contributions	16,745.00
Interest	20.43
Expenditures	
Concrete work	450.00
Eletrical work	6,234.00
Parking lot	155.52
Roof	3,265.94
Center isle	2,525.91
HVAC maintenance	585.00
Property insurance	5,973.00
Borrowing - general fund	10,000.00
Total Expenditures	29,189.37
Ending Fund Balance	$ 30,159.13

PROPOSED GENERAL BUDGET 2017-2018

Proposed General Budget - Page 1

2017 - 2018 Fiscal Year

		16/17 Budget	% of Total	16/17 Actual Expenses	% of Total	Proposed 17/18 Budget	% of Total	% Change
	REVENUE	$ 345,400		$ 343,873		$ 355,000		
	General giving	343,400		335,832		335,000		
	Other Funds (Property, Memorial)			5,973		15,000		
	Speical Offerings					3,000		
	Other income	2,000		2,068		2,000		
I.	BENEVOLENCE	$ 24,000	7%	$ 23,009	7%	$ 18,250	5%	-24%
1	ELCA	20,000		17,628		16,250		
	Alternative Benevolence	-		2,921		-		
2	Service	4,000		2,460		2,000		
II.	PASTORAL MINISTRY	$ 114,784	31%	$ 111,563	32%	$ 114,784	32%	0%
3	Salary	45,907		45,907		45,907		
4	Housing	25,000		25,000		25,000		
5	FICA Offset	5,424		5,424		5,424		
6	Car Mileage	2,500		848		2,500		
7	Pension / Insurance	33,703		33,568		33,703		
8	Continuing Education	1,000		452		1,000		
9	Book Allowance	500		167		500		
10	Pulpit Supply	750		197		750		
III.	STAFF	$ 120,009	33%	$ 118,347	34%	$ 120,009	34%	0%
11	Parish Worker	6,028		4,400		6,028		
12	Secretaries	39,917		40,448		39,917		
13	Secretary Benefits	-		-		-		
14	Treasurer	-		-		-		
15	Financial Secretary	-		-		-		
16	Youth Minister	44,761		44,231		44,761		
17	Youth Minster Benefits	11,645		11,969		11,645		
18	Custodial Services	16,158		15,274		16,158		
19	Continuing Education	1,500		2,025		1,500		
IV	WORSHIP COMMITTEE	$ 33,364	9%	$ 33,658	10%	$ 33,364	9%	0%
20	Organist	14,190		12,953		14,190		
21	Sr. Choir Director	9,088		8,944		9,088		
22	Youth Music Director	1,986		1,845		1,986		
23	Parish Musician Benefits	-		-		-		
24	Accompanist/Soloist Sub	4,350		4,634		4,350		
25	Supplies	3,500		4,738		3,500		
26	Music	250		544		250		

(Continued on next page.)

PROPOSED GENERAL BUDGET 2017-2018 CONT'D

Proposed General Budget - Page 2

2017 - 2018 Fiscal Year

		16/17 Budget	% of Total	16/17 Actual Expenses	% of Total	Proposed 17/18 Budget	% of Total	% Change
V.	PROPERTY COMMITTEE	$ 36,800	10%	$ 24,811	7%	$ 36,600	10%	-1%
28	Maintenance Supplies	11,000		5,357		10,000		
29	Gas/Electric	12,000		10,571		12,000		
30	Insurance	8,000		2,491		8,000		
31	Telephone	2,200		2,981		3,000		
32	Water	2,000		1,866		2,000		
33	Stormwater Utility Fee	1,600		1,545		1,600		
VI.	OFFICE	$ 8,300	2%	$ 12,769	4%	$ 7,800	2%	-6%
34	Supplies	4,500		9,434		4,500		
35	Postage	1,800		2,030		1,800		
36	Computer Components	500		370		500		
37	Technology Services	1,500		935		1,000		
XII.	EDUCATION COMMITTEE	$ 3,000	1%	$ 2,442	1%	$ 2,500	1%	-17%
38	Parish Education	3,000		2,442		2,500		
39	Lay / VBS Leader	0		-		0		
VIII.	MAJOR COMMITTEES	$ 12,750	3%	$ 9,110	3%	$ 9,000	3%	-29%
40	Stewardship	2,000		1,138		1,250		
41	Evangelism-advertisement	1,500		1,032		1,000		
42	Evangelism-events	2,000		687		1,500		
43	Youth	5,000		3,527		4,000		
44	National Convention	0		1,500		0		
45	Fellowship	2,000		1,226		1,000		
46	Wellness Committee	250		0		250		
IX.	OTHER	$ 11,900	3%	$ 11,057	3%	$ 11,900	3%	0%
47	Accounting Services	8,400		7,260		8,400		
48	The Lutheran	500		0		500		
49	Convention	1,500		1,760		1,500		
50	Miscellaneous/Call Process	1,500		2,037		1,500		
	TOTALS	$ 364,907	100%	$ 346,766	100%	$ 354,207	100%	-2.9%

PICTORIAL REVIEW

Confirmation 2016

Volunteer Appreciation

Pet Blessing 2016

Harvest of Thanks

Trunk or Treat

Youth Gathering, Lake Williamson

Synod Assembly 2017

Vacation Bible School 2017

AUDIT COMMITTEE STATEMENT

On June 21, 26 July 9, 10, 19, 20, 27, and August 3, 2017 Dave Carlson and I completed the annual audit by examining the records of the Treasurer and Financial Secretary. Our responsibility was to evaluate the financial statements of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.

The test procedures are outlined in Paragraph CR2.02 on page 27 of the Continuing Resolutions of the Constitution of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. The procedures listed in the Constitution state that the committee reasonably examine two months of receipts and expenditures over the past church year to reveal any errors or discrepancies. The committee examined six months of records, both receipts and expenditures (October 2016 through March 2017) over the past church year.

The records of the following funds were made available for review: General Fund, Building Fund, Memorial Fund, Reserve Fund, Carol Manley Endowment Fund, Exercise Fund, Mission Fund and Youth Checking and Youth Saving Accounts. Each fund monthly bank statements are reconciled with the financial records of the church.

The checking and saving accounts maintained by the youth minister, on behalf of the youth, are kept as church accounts. A detailed record is kept by the youth minister. The Financial Secretary and the Youth Minister met on August 3, 2017 to review the youth accounts. Based on the Youth Minister's record (of individual accounts) and accounting for the transfers from the General Fund, the account balance in the checking and savings account as of July 31, 2017 appears to be reasonably maintained.

In accordance with accepted accounting principles, we find these documents to be accurate and represent the church's financial position for the 2016-17 church year.

Respectfully submitted,

Eldon Gleichman, Chair
Dave Carlson

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It has been my pleasure to serve as the Vice-President of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church for the past four years, with a brief stint as President for a few months during the transition from President Houchens to President Clark. During that time, the Council had many challenges, from budgetary concerns to service scheduling. At the same time, however, there were many more uplifting things that reminded me of the great works we are doing in the name of Jesus.

During the past year, I was tasked with leading and summarizing the Council's review of the Long Range Study conducted by the Long Range Committee. These discussions were completed in April and compiled into a Visioning Document, presented at the May Council meeting, for use by the Strategic Planning Committee.

As a parting note, consider what Paul said in his letter to the Romans, Chapter 12, "For even as we have many members in one body, and all the members have not the same office: **5** so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and severally members one of another. **6** And having gifts differing according to the grace that was given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of our faith; **7** or ministry, let us give ourselves to our ministry; or he that teacheth, to his teaching".

I would encourage others to consider serving at church in a capacity that is most comfortable to them, as I did on Council. Our mission of spreading the Good News will be best served by those that serve it best.

Respectfully submitted in Christ's name,

John W. Todd, Vice-President

2016 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Getting S'More of Jesus was our VBS theme this year.

We created our own week of service again this year, with the help of Grace Lutheran Church and St. Matthew's Lutheran Church. They joined us this year for VBS on June 19-23 from 8:00-12. We had an early drop off and late pick up time, so the actual VBS activities ran from 8:30-11:30. We used a small pre-made kit and turned it into our own. We created the whole week based on a camping theme and bible verses that were related to tents, fire, and light. We worked together to figure out songs, crafts, service projects, snacks, and bible studies that related to sharing S'more of God's word with our community.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Members: Kristine Scheu (chair), Jason Fisher, Jenelle Keene, Amy Chamley, and all of the other Sunday school teachers.

The goal of the Christian Education Committee is to support the spiritual growth of the congregation through education. There are five main components of Christian education at Good Shepherd: Sunday school, confirmation, high school youth, adult forum, and vacation Bible school. Below are some highlights of the past year.

- We continued with background checks on those working in the nursery, teaching Sunday school, and traveling on youth trips, and more. (Kristine ran the list of names through the website.)
- Pastor Tom led studies during the adult forum for the year. He had several guest speakers come in and talk about their organizations and their outreach programs.
- The Sunday school year started on Rally Day with games and activities. We had several different coloring, building, and minute-to-win-it games set up for the kids to play. We continue to build our faith in God by Reaching, Preaching, and Teaching the Good News of Jesus.
- Kristine Scheu created the Christmas program, based on another church's performance for the Sunday school children to perform. They sang songs, read Bible verses, and reenacted the voyage to Bethlehem and the birth of Jesus. The performance was called "A Savior's Birth". Dana Jones, Jenelle Keene, and Marla Todd helped with music, practice, and outfits.
- The Sunday school children sang in church three times, besides the Christmas program. Several children also sang solos, duets, or played piano or other instruments during the church services.
- First Communion training was held and several children took part in their First Communion.
- On the last day of Sunday school, in May, the children painted decorations for VBS. They helped create a lot of the large decorations, including trees, a camper, and forest signs for the week of VBS. They also did some prep work of cutting out name tags, cutting tissue paper for a craft, cutting contact paper, tracing objects, and more.
- Confirmation was held in the fall on Reformation Sunday.
- The high school youth studied with Jason throughout the year. They also started doing more activities throughout the month for fun get-togethers.
- 60 children attended the week of VBS "Getting S'more of Jesus." We also had about 18 high school and adult helpers throughout the week. We had about 80 people involved with VBS this year. Jenelle Keene and Kristine Scheu served as VBS directors. They were helped by Amy Chamley (music), Pastor Tom (Bible study), Jason Fisher (Bible study/floater), Caitlyn (Bible study), Marilyn (Bible study), Maggie (behind the scenes planning/prep), Jenelle (greeter/floater/behind the scenes planning), and Kristine Scheu (service/floater) in preparing and

organizing the week. It included music, snacks, games, Bible study, crafts, service projects, and serving a campout meal to the 60+ group. Jason, Cailtyn, Marilyn, and Pastor Tom led the Bible studies; Amy Chamley, Bess Chamley, and Emma Chamley led music; Kristine Scheu led crafts and service projects. Jenelle Keene was the greeter and "floater" to make sure everything was running smoothly.

- Dana Jones and Kristine Scheu led closings for Sunday school. Due to having one service, we decided to have the kids go straight to their classrooms to start their Bible lessons for the day. It was easier to get everyone together from 11-11:15 to sing songs and end with the Lord's Prayer, so there weren't others in the sanctuary.

A huge thank-you to all those who volunteered their time to be Sunday School teachers, guest speakers, VBS leaders, and confirmation leaders.

A huge thank-you to everyone who made monetary donations for VBS, the resource room, or service projects throughout the year.

A huge thank-you to the Good Shepherd staff for all they do to help with the education committee... from cleaning up after us, planning and teaching, to copying and printing, and so much more!

Sunday School Staff Report

Sunday School Teachers for Pre-K- 5
Jenelle Keene
Amy Chamley
Joe Chamley
Samantha Fisher
Agatha Barnes
Marla Todd
Dana Jones
Kristine Scheu
Kelly Koester

Youth Leaders
Jason Fisher

Adult Forum Leaders
Pastor Tom

Thank you to everyone for your support and help with teaching and expanding our knowledge of the Bible and our faith throughout this past year.

Sincerely,

Kristine Scheu
Education Chair

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Members: Agatha Barnes, Betsy Kakoma, Dan Corkery, Barb Hack, Vickie Wilson, Jeanne McMurray, Becky Fisher, Don Block, Jason Fisher

Marketing: Advertising regularly appears in the News-Gazette announcing our church worship schedules and special events. The Evangelism sponsored events are included on the News-Gazette events calendar, the ChambanaMoms events calendar, GSLC Facebook page, the weekly Shout Out and the monthly Scroll.

Outreach Events:

October: The Pet Blessing was held and featured in the News-Gazette with a few pictures. This event continues to bring a few non-members to one of our church events.

We also assisted with Trunk or Treat by providing treat bags for the children.

November: Election Day hospitality table serving coffee, juice, cookies and fruit (6am-7pm). The 2016 election brought in a lot of people and they were very appreciative.

December: The Nativity Walk is an extremely well-attended event, made even more popular by the presence of a camel this year. The opportunity to enjoy a variety of musical talents, old and new nativity sets, and the live nativity reminds us of the true meaning of Christmas.

March: Shared in sponsoring a Lenten dinner with the Youth Committee by preparing soup and salad.

April: While it is a smaller election day, we still provided coffee and cookies to our area voters.

May: The property committee finished putting up the Little Free Library on the church property.

June: This was our 6th year participating in the 18th Annual Jettie Rhodes Neighborhood Day at King Park, in Urbana. This year's theme was "*Stop Bullying Now, Take a Stand, Lend a Hand. Where There's a Crisis…There Christ Is*". We included the VBS kids by having them trace their hands on our banner and sign their names. Participants at the park signed out banner which will be hung in the church library. Kids made yarn crosses and could take them home.

Weekly events: We continue to include adult member birthdays in the weekly bulletin to give others a chance to also recognize member's special days.

Possible Future Events: Continue to improve outreach with outside of the four walls ideas such as gathering volunteers for the Illinois marathon (April), July 4th parade (July), sponsor National Neighborhood Day in GSLC parking lot (August).

The Evangelism committee graciously thanks our members for their support in these events. Everyone is welcome to be involved in sharing Christ's love through these or other church activities.

Respectfully submitted,

Agatha Barnes, Chair

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Current Members: Gail Block, Jeff Davis, Jodi Davis, Tori Corkery, Laurie Johnson, Jeannie McMurray

The Fellowship Committee promotes fellowship among the members of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and oversees the running of the church kitchen. We believe that spending time with those people that we worship, serve and study God's word with gives us more of an opportunity to grow in our faith. The Fellowship Committee held meetings regularly throughout the year. We met five times over the course of the year, and used email to communicate between meetings.

The Fellowship Committee budget includes the cost the refreshments that are served after worship services. Members of Good Shepherd are assigned as weekly fellowship servers to set out the weekly refreshments, make/serve coffee and clean up after the fellowship time. The Fellowship Committee thanks the church office and staff for regularly assisting in the duties on behalf of the committee.

Fellowship Events from 2016-17

- The Fellowship Committee paired up with the Education Committee to host a breakfast for the kick-off of the Sunday School year. We enjoyed egg casseroles, fruit and a variety of pastries, coffee and juices. This was a cross-generational event and an opportunity for all members to participate in fellowship with one another and grow in our faith.
- The Fellowship Committee enjoyed serving a mid-week Lenten Meal with the Executive Committee.
- In May, we hosted a church picnic. The pavilion at Centennial Park was rented and the Fellowship Committee provided the mail dish, serve ware and drinks. The grill and warmers were transported to the park for the use of grilling meat. People were asked to bring a dish to share. Over 60 people attended the picnic. We played games, enjoyed homemade ice cream and held a fundraising event for *Pedal for a Purpose*, which is a bicycle tour in the Central/Southern Illinois Synod to raise funds for various ministries. The picnic was a success and fun was had by all who attended! The Fellowship Committee wishes to continue this event in future years. (Note: the pavilion rental, main dish, serve ware, condiments, buns, balloons, and ice cream costs were all donated by members of the committee and are not listed as expenses in the church budget).

The Fellowship Committee is aware that there are many opportunities within our congregation to experience true Christian fellowship. We are thankful for these opportunities and are open to organize new events, activities and resources to ensure these opportunities continue. It is our desire to give all members of the congregation a chance to get to know one another on a personal basis, support each other in our callings and exercise our faith in love, all to God's Glory.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jeff & Jodi Davis

PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Members: Don Block, Darrell Boege, Robby Cekander, Dick Ensrud, Greg Fisher, Jim Hack, Dave Jackson, and Tom Holm.

The back of the sanctuary had a “temporary” flat roof for many years and leaking, staining, and mildew problems for almost as long. This year we installed a sloped roof that we hope will eliminate these problems. Thanks to Jim Hack for designing the roof, purchasing the materials, and leading the team of GSLC members who built it.

As of the time this report was submitted we had contracted to have a center aisle cut in the sanctuary pews. I hope it is finished in time for the annual meeting.

As always, the Property Committee welcomes suggestions and reports of problems with the building or grounds from the congregation.

I would like to thank the committee members and the gardening, lawn mowing, and snow clearing volunteers for their time and effort. On behalf of the committee, I would like to give special thanks to our custodian Dennis Lage for keeping our building in good condition.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Holm

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee members: Tori Corkery (chair), Leanne Cunningham, Jodi Davis, Bob Espeseth, Jim Hack, Ron Meyer, Rob Murphy, Ash Waller

The Stewardship Committee was very fortunate to have such wonderful support from the congregation during the 2016-17 year. The Harvest of Thanks food collection and distribution in November was very successful. We had 18 volunteers help sort and distribute food. We exceeded our original goal of feeding 50 families by actually feeding 65 families! And we were very fortunate that we only had a few deliveries to make this year. Our success in families picking up their food was due to the hard work of Jodi Davis who personally called each of our families. We then mailed a reminder postcard to each family. We were blessed with the donation of 60 (5 pound) hams from Hormel and our generous congregation donated funds that totaled $959! The proceeds went to the Service Committee to help fill the food pantry and provide food/supplies for the Canteen Run.

The theme of our 2017 Stewardship drive shared our congregation's mission statement: "Preaching, Teaching and Reaching in Jesus' Name." Through temple talks and an article in the Scroll we highlighted the variety of good works we are doing inside and outside the church. For time/talent forms we tried something new by offering an online form while still making the hard copies available. Thirty-two responses came in via our new online form and 47 paper copies were received. Pledges in dollars are up from last year, making it possible for our congregation to continue to serve and spread the good news of the Lord.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tori Corkery, Chair

SERVICE COMMITTEE REPORT

The service committee had another busy and productive year working with various projects in our community. We collected and helped to distribute 105 backpacks thru empty tomb for the 2016-2017 school year. In October, we partnered with Habitat for Humanity and various faith groups in Champaign-Urbana to help build two homes in Urbana. We gave our Thankoffering to Canteen Run. In December, we collected and distributed approximately 72 “giving tree” gifts thru LSSI and Safehouse. Christmas offerings were given to the local Habitat for Humanity to help fund the “Interfaith Build”. Lenten offering was given to ELCA as part of our benevolence. This year, we had a large food drive with help from our Thrivent members, and we had an amazing response! Thank you to everyone who donated funds, helped us shop, and assisted us with redoing our food pantry. Our food pantry has not been this well stocked in years! Special thanks to all the kids and adults who shopped with us during the Sunday School hour. ☺

In March, we participated in the empty tomb Day of Service, collecting and packing 23 boxes of food. On the Day of Service, approximately twelve people from Good Shepherd assisted in decorating and delivering boxes of food around Champaign County with people from many other local churches. In May, we assisted with assembling silent auction baskets and serving dinner to raise funds for our members’ trip with Habitat for Humanity in El Salvador. Many thanks to Jim and Barbara Hack and Don Block for coordinating this event! We also had a great time at VBS working on service projects: yarn crosses for our homebound members, folded newspapers for the Humane Society, bookmarks for our church hymnals, greeting cards for the new welcome center, and serving a meal to family and church members. We had fun and were able to show the kids that you are never too young to serve.

In the coming year, we will be working on similar projects as well as adding some new ones. Our state continues to struggle due to budget issues. Of particular concern at present is Courage Connections, which is the local shelter for women and children dealing with domestic violence. During times of financial strain, giving to others is often reduced, but I humbly pray that we will all continue to work together to provide love, prayers, financial assistance, and service to those most vulnerable in our world. *“For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger, and you invited me in”. Matthew 25:35*

In Christ’s Service,

Jenelle Keene

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

The GSLC Strategic Planning Committee was appointed by the Council and charged with creating a set of specific goals to help our church achieve its mission of Preaching, Teaching and Reaching in Jesus' Name. The committee began its work in June, with an initial focus on the following areas:

- How can we modify our **Worship** services and activities to increase engagement?
- How can we enhance our **Evangelism** efforts in order to attract new membership as well as nurture our current members?
- How can we create **Education** opportunities to enrich all members of our congregation?
- How can we make the best use of our **Facility** for the benefit of Good Shepherd and the community?

While analyzing each of these areas, the committee will also consider ways in which staffing (volunteer and paid) and communications can be made more effective.

The committee is using data gathered via the Long-Range Planning survey and the Visioning Plan developed by Council. We have also begun to seek further guidance from the congregation via a survey about worship preferences, and anticipate using additional surveys, focus groups, etc. to seek needed input. If you would like to contribute your ideas regarding any of these focus areas, please do not hesitate to contact one of the members of the committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Leanne Cunningham (leannemcunningham@yahoo.com)
Vickie Wilson (vjpwilson.6254@yahoo.com)
Shelly Cekander (cekander@sbcglobal.net)
Luke Meyer (lmeyer20@stu.parkland.edu)
Nancy McCowen (nmccowen@comcast.net)
Amy Chamley, Consultant to the Committee (amy.chamley@gmail.com)

MISSION FUND COMMITTEE

Committee members: Dave Carlson, Robby Cekander, Bob Coverdill, Jim Hack, Jenelle Keene and Bob Clark (advisory).

The Mission Fund was established in 2013. The following Bylaws were approved by Council at the May 14, 2013 meeting.

Mission Fund:
A Mission Fund Committee of five to six voting members of this congregation shall be appointed by the Congregation Council. The term of office will be three years with the first slate of members serving staggered terms. Each year following the first, two members will be appointed with one appointed every third year. Members are eligible for only two consecutive terms. At all times at least one member of the committee shall serve on the Congregation Council. In the event of a vacancy on the committee prior to the expiration of a member's term, the Congregation Council shall fill the vacancy. In addition to the elected members, the Pastor of the congregation shall be an advisory, with voice and vote, member of the committee. The Treasurer of the congregation shall maintain the account of the Mission Fund and serve as an advisory, without voice or vote, member of the committee. The Chairperson of the committee shall be elected by the members of the committee each year. The purpose of the committee shall be to implement the guidelines of the fund. The Committee shall meet at least two times each year and at least four members shall be required to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

The duties of the Mission Fund Committee shall include the following:

a. To fulfill the purpose of the Mission Fund, the Committee shall provide distributions of interest, earnings and principal beyond the operating budget of this congregation to mission ministries as stated below:
   1) To help fund the cost of mission work for members.
b. To determine how the Fund assets will be invested, including the asset allocation. The investment objective will be to provide long-term growth. When Fund assets reach $25,000, the fund may be invested in the ELCA Endowment Fund Pooled Trust. No committee member shall invest the assets in a way that would bring private benefit to that individual. The committee shall report annually to the Congregation Council on any and all activity within the Fund. Current balance, additions, distributions and any other activity should be included with the report. Annual accounting and a report of ministries supported through the Fund shall be distributed to the Congregation in its Annual Report.
c. To encourage gifts to the Mission Fund through education and promotion of the Fund.

d. To receive and celebrate gifts given for mission work through the Mission Fund. The committee has the discretion to accept or decline a gift deemed to be in the best interest of the Fund and the congregation. In the absence of gross negligence or fraud, no member of the Congregation Council or Mission Fund Committee shall be personally liable for the actions or omissions with respect to the Mission Fund.

This year we did not have an El Salvador Mission Sunday because we were not asking empty tomb to match our donation as in the past. Also the congregation supported our dinner and auction so great we decided to not have an El Salvador Mission Sunday. Thank you to our Good Shepherd families who supported our dinner and auction.

MISSION FUND
For the fiscal year ending July 31, 2016

Beginning Balance	$4,507.15
(This includes $3,500.00 from original church donations)	
INCOME	
Concert	$1,644.00
Contributions from members	$1,290.00
Interest Income	$2.71
Income Dinner & Auction	$6,367.00
	$9,303.71
TOTAL	$13,810.86
EXPENSES	
Mission Trip	$7,596.91
Expense 2017 Mission Dinners	$122.46
Tools	$500.00
	$7,755.49
TOTAL	$8,219.37
BALANCE 7/31/2017	$5,591.49

YOUTH COMMITTEE REPORT

Members: Jason Fisher, Kara Greer, Nicole Paul, Deb Swanson and Ruth Meyer

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church has an active youth program led by our Youth and Family Ministry Director, Jason Fisher. Through bible study, worship, service and fellowship, our youth are offered a variety of events and activities to grow in their Christian faith.

We offer fellowship youth events for our Second Sunday Shepherds (which includes our Sunday School youth through 5th grade), our Middle School youth and our High School youth. In addition to our fellowship events, our middle and high school youth also participate in a number of retreats throughout the year. These retreats provide a weekend full of bible study, fun and fellowship. Additional spiritual activities offered throughout the year include Leadership Lab and Confirmation Camp.

A few of our fundraising events throughout the year included a huge rummage sale in the fellowship hall which raised over $3,000. A special thank you to all who donated items for our sale and to all who helped with set-up and clean-up. We also hosted our 2nd Annual Trivia Night which helped raise funds for the Carol Manley Endowment Fund for youth. This fund helps send kids to camps, retreats and Leadership Lab. We also offer a number of service events throughout the year. A few of our service events included shopping for food for our GSLC food pantry, the Canteen Run, empty tomb, and some of our youth participated in GSLC's mission trip to El Salvador.

Many thanks are due to the parents and youth who have helped with all of our youth events; to Pastor and the members of our congregation who have generously supported our youth and who continually pray for our youth; and to Jason Fisher, for his energy, enthusiasm, and his love for serving. We are extremely blessed to have Jason leading our youth!

Respectfully Submitted,

Ruth Meyer
Youth Committee Chair

CAROL MANLEY ENDOWMENT FUND FOR YOUTH COMMITTEE

The Carol Manley Endowment Fund for Youth (CMEF) was established to assist in the training and development of the youth of Good Shepherd. The mission of this committee is twofold: to encourage preservation and growth of the principal balance and to utilize earnings from the fund for the youth of Good Shepherd. This fund will provide distributions to support youth ministries and education beyond the operating budget of this congregation.

Members of this committee are Joe Chamley, term ends 12/31/18; Gail Block, term ends 12/31/18; John Todd, term ends 12/31/17; Rhiannon Clifton, term ends 12/31/19; Chad Cassel, term ends 12/31/19; Dana VanDeveer, Treasurer; PastorTom, and Jason Fisher.

The Carol Manley Committee met on April 6, 2017. Our most pressing need was to invite two new members to join our committee. Rhiannon Clifton and Chad Cassel responded positively to this need and will serve through December of 2019.

We discussed our financial situation and the projected needs for this year. The Carol Manley Fund for Youth currently has $30,000 to be used for camps, youth retreats, and Lutheran Leadership Lab at Augustana College, a college of the ELCA. Last year we used $708 for these purposes. This year, we would like to encourage families and youth to apply more readily to use these funds. We would like to contribute $2,000 per year to help with expenses. Next year, with our teenagers planning to go to Houston for the Youth Gathering, we are projecting to give $2,500 in addition to the amounts needed for camps, retreats, and leadership opportunities.

On May 7, we asked for a special offering for the Carol Manley Fund for youth. Gail Block gave a temple talk on this and brochures about the fund were included in our bulletins one week prior to the collection.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Chamley, Chair Gail Block, Secretary
John Todd, Rhiannon Clifton, Chad Cassel,
Dana VanDeveer-Jones, Treasurer

CAROL MANLEY ENDOWMENT FUND
For the Fiscal Year Ending July 31, 2016

Income :		**Assets:**	
Contributions	**$3,280.00**	**Manley Endowment Fund**	
Interest Income	**221.91**	**Savings Account**	**$ 7,041.48**
Total Income	**$3,501.91**	**Certificates of Deposit**	**20,656.90**
Distributions	**$8,651.16**		**$27,698.38**

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Each year, our church is asked to report the number of member to the ELCA National. In the past years our report has shown over 700 members which does not appear to be accurate. This Committee was charged by the Pastor and Council President Bob Clark with updating the current membership of Good Shepherd.

GSLC uses a database called Revelations from which multiple lists are generated, (e.g. active and inactive members, households, friends, visitors, and all relationships). The committee requested and received all possible lists. The Revelations database is problematic since editing one list may not result in another list being changed. Thus, the Committee reviewed the various lists for duplication and inaccurate status of individuals. It was a daunting task and the work is incomplete and not finished at submission of this report.

Efforts were made to generally contact individuals on the inactive membership list to seek information about their desire personally or the desire of family members to remain members of Good Shepherd. Once those attempts were completed, individuals were identified who should receive a letter inquiring about their desire to remain members. In general, these were individuals who had not met the constitutional membership requirements of GSLC: attending worship or contribution of time and/or talent. The committee was considerate of special circumstances of individuals and was not dogmatic in how they viewed the membership status. The initial membership letter gave a response date of June 28 and indicated that it would be assumed that if no response was received, the individual(s) desired to be released from membership. In response to this appeal, the committee received more than a 20% actual response. As of the date of this report, the committee has not finalized a complete membership list.

The second item of business was to generate a list of those friends and visitors who wish to remain in contact with GSLC through communications (e.g. Shout Out, Scroll, and other notices). Again, the committee reviewed the list of friends and visitors and compiled a list of individuals to whom a letter would be sent to inquire (1) of their interest in receiving communications and (2) where appropriate (individuals in the community) inquire of their interest in becoming members. Those letters just went out prior to the report of the committee with a response date of July 15.

The committee's next task is to look at the all relationship lists and compare it to the newly created list of members. The committee will aim to ensure that all members of the household are listed. Further, the lists will be updated to reflect members who were noted as released or deleted or should be archived; in addition to the most recent requests to be released or transferred from membership. It was important to determine those individuals who were baptized or confirmed (in general adult children of former members or current members) were archived since they are no longer in the household, joined another congregation, or no longer wish to worship at GSLC. Again, the committee was sensitive to individual cases.

We hope to generate a database with only two primary categories that include various fields for generation of various reports and communications accurately and can be updated easily. The two categories the committee plans to recommend are:

Membership: Active and Inactive

Friends: Others who attend or wish to receive communications about the activities and events of Good Shepherd.

Members of the committee hope efforts will result in better data, a better source for evangelism efforts, and a better tool for distribution of communications to members and friends of Good Shepherd.

We might note, as a positive aspect of this assignment, we received comments from former members about how much the Good Shepherd community meant to them.

In Christ,

Carol Manley, Nancy McCowen, Marla Todd

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT

This has not been a busy year for the personnel committee which is a positive thing. We did meet as required to review the personnel files which on the whole were complete. We did make a very few suggestions which were followed up on by the appropriate people. The process is moving forward to fill the vacant Choir Director position and should be completed shortly. Other than that no news to report which is how we like it. See you in church!

Don Block

WOMEN OF THE ELCA REPORT

WOMEN OF THE ELCA REPORT WELCA PURPOSE STATEMENT

As a community of women, created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing in the church, the society and the world.

WELCA at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church is thankful for a year of service, discipleship and fellowship. We have active members who have contributed their time and talents to support the many ongoing projects and events. As fellow members from Good Shepherd, WELCA members unite for service, fellowship, growth and community outreach. In 2016-17 WELCA met four times through the year. Gail Block continued as the WELCA Treasurer. Jodi Davis continued as chairperson. Beth Followell, Doris Snyder, Jenelle Keene, Corinne Saldeen, Tori Corkery, Wendy Hillertz, Nicole Paul, Carol Manley, Donna Wagner, Marilyn Dudley, Jan Nuss, Jeretta Hecht, Ruth Meyer and others all served as regular committee members to plan and/or oversee the ongoing WELCA events and activities. Many other women showed their support by regularly attending events, donating items, and contributing financially.

On-going WELCA events/activities/service projects:

- A Bake Sale in the fall served as our annual WECLA fundraiser. The sale shared a date and space with the Youth Committee Rummage Sale. WELCA is very thankful for the support we received from the entire congregation.
- WELCA sponsored the Lutheran World Relief 2016 InGathering at Good Shepherd on October 28, 2016. This event is organized by the LWR Central Illinois InGathering. Donations for Lutheran World Relief are brought to Good Shepherd by other area churches to be loaded on a semi-truck. The truck has multiple stopping points in Central Illinois over the 2 day period. Good Shepherd has been a pick-up site for many years. Members of Good Shepherd served as the loaders of the semi-truck. Snacks and refreshments were provided by Good Shepherd WELCA as a fellowship opportunity for the delivery volunteers from other area congregations as their donations were transferred to the semi-truck. In 2016, Good Shepherd donated 15 quilts, 6 school kits and 23 personal care kits, 6 baby care kits, and 1 fabric kit. A quilt and kit blessing took place during worship on Sunday, October 23rd.
- On November 20th, WELCA Thankoffering was collected The money collected was sent to the church-wide women's organization. These funds support the church-wide ministries of the Women of the ELCA.
- The Samaritans of Good Shepherd continue to serve our fellow members of GSLC. Jenelle Keene serves as the Samaritan Coordinator. The Samaritans prepare and serve meals for families who have had a funeral

conducted by our staff. Two women of the church are assigned each month to provide the leadership. Samaritans also send get-well, baby and sympathy cards to fellow church members from the entire church membership.

- Currently, there are three women's bible study groups, sponsored by WELCA. Ruth Circle meets in Good Shepherd choir room on the third Tuesday morning of each month. Outreach from Ruth Circle consists of adopting two names from the Christmas tree project and organizing Christmas cookie deliveries for the over 80's in our congregation. Anna Circle meets on the first Monday of the month at 4:30 pm in the church library. Anna Circle served the 60's Something Meals as their regular service project. Rachel Circle continues to meet in the evening on the fourth Monday of each month. The WELCA book Club meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 9:30 am
- WELCA offers "Sabbath Activity Bags" available for children during worship services. The bags are filled with age appropriate materials and activities for young children to be engaged with while sitting with their families during worship. The nursery is designated specifically for children ages four and younger.
- A Prayer Shawl Ministry was created at Good Shepherd. Prayer shawls are given to comfort and console church members who are ill, grieving or shut in. They may also be given to friends, neighbors or strangers in need of prayer. Shawls are tagged with a Good Shepherd Lutheran Church label and blessed at worship. The Prayer Shawl ministry meets once a month or members can knit or crochet at home. Marilyn Dudley is the contact person for this new ministry.
- WECLA hosted the annual Christmas Brunch at Champaign Country Club. Forty-five women attended the brunch.
- Two members of Good Shepherd plan to attend the WELCA Triennial Gathering in Minneapolis July 13-16
- On Saturday, April 1st, WELCA hosted a "God's Work, Our Hands" Project Day. in the Fellowship Hall. After fellowship time and devotion, we assembled LWR school kits and personal care kits. 15 women from the congregation participated.
- WELCA Giving for 2015-16: WELCA was blessed with the opportunity to continue to give monetary gifts to local, state and world-wide organizations.
    - $500 Good Shepherd Youth Fund
    - $200 Carol Manley Fund
    - $200 Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services
    - $200 Lutheran Social Services of Illinois

Respectfully submitted,

Jodi Davis, Chair

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.