

Good Shepherd
Lutheran Church

*God's work.
Our hands.*

Annual Report ***2017-2018***

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GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

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CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

AGENDA

OPENING PRAYER.....Pastor Tom Hillertz

OPENING HYMN.....*“O Master, Let Me Walk with You”* #818, vs. 1 & 2

MEETING CALL TO ORDER.....President Leanne Cunningham

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

TREASURER’S REPORT.....Dana Jones

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Introduction of all council members and their role
2. Nomination of members for 2018-2019 Nominating Committee
3. Approval of 2018-2019 budget

CLOSING.....The Lord’s Prayer
.....*“We Are Called”* #720, vs. 4

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.

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MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 27, 2017, ANNUAL MEETING

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 10:22 a.m. Pastor Tom Hillertz opened with prayer, and the congregation sang a hymn.

President's Report-Bob Clark

Reviewed the minutes of the August, 2016 annual meeting and the May 28, 2017 congregational meeting. Nancy McCowen (1st) made a motion to dispense with reading of those minutes and approve them as written. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report-Dana VanDeveer-Jones

Reported that last fiscal year, monies were borrowed from the Property Fund to meet expenses in the Operating Fund and remain unpaid.

New Business

Council members gave short presentations on the committees they chair. In Tori Corkery's absence, President Clark reported the Stewardship Committee is again planning the annual Harvest of Thanks program in a couple of months.

Evangelism—Chair Agatha Barnes asked the congregation to consider becoming a member of that committee. She stated the annual Nativity Walk will be December 3, 3-6 p.m. She urged members to consider lending a nativity set, playing one of the characters in the live nativity scene, or helping with setup or refreshments.

Education—Chair Amy Chamley announced that Rally Day will be September 10 this year. Sunday School will see new changes coming.

Youth—Chair Ruth Meyer announced there would be fund raisers coming for next summer's youth trips. In October, there will be pumpkin sales on the church lawn for a few weeks prior to Halloween

Worship and Music—Chair David Smith reminded the congregation that this year is the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. The committee is making the whole month of October Reformation month. On October 1, there will be two meetings--an adult forum and a town hall meeting in late afternoon--for the purpose of discussing proposed changes to the worship services.

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Property—Chair Tom Holm invited the congregation to become members of his committee. No prior experience is needed. Also, lawn mowers and snow removal volunteers are always welcome.

Fellowship—Chairs Jodi and Jeff Davis People are needed to become members of the committee and bring new ideas for fun activities for our church. Jodi announced that WELCA will be having a Reformation Heritage Festival in October.

Secretary Myrna Johnson read the council-approved Nominating Committee for 2018. They are Jeff Davis, Jenelle Keene, Ruth Meyer, Darrell Boege, John Hart, and June Waller. President Clark asked for further nominations for the Nominating Committee. None were made. Committee as above was approved.

FY 2017-2018 Budget, Harold Moe noted there was a \$10,000 increase in revenue, and he asked how it was expected to be met. Treasurer VanDeveer-Jones stated the total budget was reduced about 3% from last year and that she reallocated from some budget items. Special offerings are now being utilized about 50% for operating costs. Formerly, 100% were given to the organizations such as LSSI, World Hunger, and Thankoffering. There were no salary increases budgeted or given. The budget was approved.

Adjournment

Meeting was closed at 10:44 with the Lord's Prayer and a hymn.

Respectfully submitted,

Myrna Johnson, Secretary

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MINUTES OF THE JUNE 17, 2018, CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Vice-President Leanne Cunningham.

Pastor Tom Hillertz opened with prayer.

Amy Chamley represented the Church Council and made a motion submitting the following three items for member approval by paper ballot. Motion approved.

Election of New Church Council Members

The Nominating Committee consisting of Darrell Boege, Jeff Davis, John Hart, Jenelle Keene, Ruth Meyer, and June Waller recommended the following six members:

Agatha Barnes (returning), Dan Corkery, Patty Hart, Sherrill Houchens, Erin Wilding-Martin, and Ron Meyer. Approved by unanimous vote.

Constitution Amendment

To reduce the number of church council committees to five:

Discipleship, Outreach, Resources, Worship and Music, Fellowship. Approved by 51 to 1 vote.

Changing Method of Electing Church Treasurer

Changing Church Treasurer election from an annual election by the Church Council to a biennial election by the congregation. Nancy Holm questioned whether the treasurer would serve as a council member. Approved by unanimous vote.

Adjournment

Meeting was closed at 10:12 with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Myrna Johnson, Secretary

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church has completed another year of *Preaching, Teaching, and Reaching* in Jesus' name. What a joy to work together, hearing the gospel message, and then going forth to spread the Good News.

This year saw our strategic plan change from a written document to action. Our Sunday school program was revamped, council committees are being reorganized, and two new positions have been added to our staff. The church rolls have been updated and a new software tracking system has been installed.

Our sanctuary has been updated with a new center isle layout, the southwest quadrant of the roof replaced, and the sound system has been upgraded to enhance our services.

Good Shepherd has joined with our sister congregations Grace and St Matthews to provide Vacation Bible School and we share a joint Thanksgiving service with Grace Lutheran Church. This past fall along with Lutherans around the globe, we celebrated the 500th anniversary of the reformation with services and other activities to commemorate the events of 1518. Our worship and music team has worked with Pastor Hillertz to develop a monthly Sunday evening gathering that includes a meal and vesper service. A Wednesday evening study group met throughout the year and provided an opportunity for fellowship, learning, and reflection.

The annual Harvest of Thanks celebration allowed us to serve sixty families with food for a bountiful Thanksgiving dinner. Our youth covered the parking lot with nearly a thousand pumpkins and marketed them over several weeks prior to Halloween. The parking lot was a sea of orange and many visitors stopped by to visit and make purchases. The event was conducted as a fund raiser for the National Youth Gathering in Houston this summer and served as a great outreach to the neighborhood. Our Nativity Walk remains a popular event and has many of our neighbors in the community stop by to see the live nativity, inspect the many nativity sets displayed, and enjoy an evening of music and fellowship.

The pilgrimage to El Salvador continues with a team of eleven set to depart for a home build with Habitat July 28th. Good Shepherd partnered with Feeding Our Kids and donated all Lenten offerings to assist in this vital program of helping reduce food insecurity among elementary school children.

We continue to work with Empty Tomb to provide food for needy families in the community and assist in a variety of programs they coordinate.

Our church is blessed with a community of willing hearts and caring hands that respond to the call to help our brothers and sisters and care for each other. Many thanks are due Pastor Hillertz, Jason, and all our staff for the service they provide daily to further the gospel. A big thank you to our committee chairs and committee members for the work they do, often behind the scenes and many times unnoticed but so critical to the work of the church.

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Finally, to the congregation your response to the tag line **God's work, Our Hands** makes it so much more than a slogan but a real plan of action. We thank God for you and all you do in Jesus' name.

In His Service,

Bob Clark

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MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Membership Data (January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017)

Baptized membership 427

Confirmed members 345

*Average weekly attendance 138

Baptized (August 1, 2017 to July 31, 2018)

Keaghan Olivia Martin 8/27/17

Ronwyn Elizabeth Martin 8/27/17

Addison Grace Hoey 9/3/17

Sylvia Marie Dickinson 12/31/17

Kyle Shane Price 12/27/17

Mackenzie Ann O'Connell 2/11/18

Members received through July 31, 2018

Eric & Kate Brucker (Alyson, Jacob, Tessa)

Vance Martin & Erin Wilding-Martin (Keaghan, Rhonwyn)

Transferred to the Church Eternal (August 1, 2017 to July 31, 2018)

Margaret Bareis 9/15/17

Janis Ward 11/18/17

Jean Marxmiller 3/14/18

*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.

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PASTOR'S REPORT

*Ordained ministry is a privilege granted by God through the call of the church.*¹

Ordained ministry in this church or any other church comes with its challenges. I'm quite sure that comes as no surprise. That said, as I approach my fifteen year serving as pastor I can confidently state ordained ministry comes with countless joys and blessings. In this, my sixth year of serving as pastor here at Good Shepherd, I am grateful for God's and the church's call to serve and the many ways working together we share the steadfast love of Christ in word and deed.

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. - Hebrews 13:8

Last year we celebrated the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. Five hundred years ago the Reformation brought necessary change to the church. But change in the church didn't end there. The church continues to change.

Here at Good Shepherd last year we made substantial change.

Although this report needs to focus on the current year, I think it wise to look back at how we arrived at the many changes we as a congregation implement this year.

In 2013 at its annual meeting and based upon my recommendation the congregation approved the formation of a Long Range Plan. Many good ideas came from that committee, including our new mission statement, *Preaching, Teaching and Reaching in Jesus Name*. I am grateful for Amy Chamley's leadership of this committee.

Upon completion of the Long Range plan the need for a clear strategic plan became clear. A Strategic Plan committee was formed and led by Leanne Cunningham. Using surveys, small group meetings, visits, and town hall meetings the committee did an outstanding job offering members, visitors and members of the community a voice in the plan. Printed copies of the Strategic Plan are available in the church office.

Although the Strategic Plan was recently introduced and approved by the congregation, many of the goals of the plan are being worked on or are already in place. Allow me to offer a few examples.

- ✓ Cantors serve as music leaders helping the congregation learn new worship settings and hymns.
- ✓ We Worship once a month on Sunday evening using *the Joyus Light* setting and before worship we gather for fellowship and a meal.
- ✓ Last year we experimented with new Education models (Sunday School). This year the Discipleship Committee (formerly Education and Youth) is looking to revise last year's model and expand our offerings.
- ✓ One of the many blessings handed down to us is our building. Many saints of the church have sacrificed and worked hard so that we might enjoy the facility we have today. We are blessed to be mortgage free. We are called to be faithful

¹ Visions and Expectations, Ordained Ministries in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, p.1

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stewards of what has been handed down to us. Therefore, an ad-hoc committee has been formed (and met) addressing current and future facility needs.

- ✓ Based upon ELCA churchwide policies, members of the Personnel Committee created new personnel policies for Good Shepherd staff.

I could go on with examples of how the Strategic Plan is a working document, however with these few examples I'm sure you get the picture. Our recently implemented Strategic Plan is not a plan we will place on the shelf to collect dust, rather it's a tool that will guide us as we seek to do the very best we are able; *Preaching, Teaching and Reaching in Jesus Name*.

Staff Changes

The past year has seen substantial changes in staff. Last March Nancy Olson resigned as parish office assistant. Nancy served three years helping with everything from prayer chain to balancing the church Visa bill. Nancy will be missed as a friend and for her theological insights. I wish Nancy nothing but the best as she continues her ministry at Saint Patrick's, Urbana.

In September Patrick Murray became our new choir director. Patrick was a joy to work with, fit in well with our faith community and brought a diversity of music to our church. Patrick left Good Shepherd to take a faculty position in Canada. Again, I will miss Patrick and wish him all the best.

This summer we welcomed Mary Corkery as Youth Media Assistant. Mary has done a fantastic job helping implement our new database, taking pictures and working with both social and printed media.

This summer we also welcomed Marlin Dudley to staff. Marilyn serves as Parish Worker assisting with publications, prospective members and maintaining the database. This in addition to serving as a volunteer visiting shut-ins and offering them Holy Communion. Marilyn's gifts to the church are a true blessing.

This fall we will welcome Emilie Williams as our new Choir Director. Emilie directed the choir last spring in Patrick's absence and is excited to join Good Shepherd as a member of staff.

Changes in the Constitution

The past two years have seen two changes to Good Shepherd's constitution. In 2017 a change was made to the verbiage in rostered leader's title. In 2018 the constitution was changed to reflect the new committee structure.

In the past few years it occurs to me that we have seen a lot of change. Change can be a difficult task. I believe as a congregation we have accepted change and I believe that change has placed us in a very good place for future ministry.

**That said, one thing will never change and that's God's steadfast love for us
in Christ Jesus.**

Thanks be to God!

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Ministry Partners

Good Shepherd has a reputation of helping those in need. I am grateful for the work we do with our ministry partners including Empty Tomb, Community Resources and other churches. Thanks to your generosity we provided food and gas to 22 individuals and families who came to Good Shepherd seeking help last year.

We continue to help our campus ministry partner, St Andrews by providing weekly custodial services.

I am grateful that in a year when due to budget constraints our synod cut its giving to ELCA churchwide from 55% to 50%, Good Shepherd has been able to maintain its mission support. (benevolence) Thank you!

Planning Ahead

I look forward to my time in El-Salvador, to worshiping together, to working together with members of Good Shepherd, to making new friends and experiencing a new culture.

In the past two years or so I feel much of my time has been spent developing policy. Now that we have completed much of that work, I look forward to doing more of the ministry that I feel God has called me to at Good Shepherd, focusing on worship, preaching and visits to the sick and homebound. I also plan to be more involved in synod committees and will be developing staff reviews and reviewing staff.

With Thanks

Thank you to the Mc Manaway family for the gift of two trees and the beautiful new altar vases in memory of Sonja.

I am grateful for my lectionary study group, colleagues that meet Monday mornings at Saint Mathews in Urbana. Together we study the assigned scripture for the coming Sunday. I am grateful for their willingness to share and for new and different perspectives on scripture.

I am grateful for the ladies who serve our prayer shawl ministry. Did you know that so far we have given out 37 prayer shawls to church members, friends and family and members of the community? Words fail me when I try to express the gratitude of those who receive the shawls.

Thank you to Gail Block who serving as Mission Interpreter, lifts up the mission of Good Shepherd and of the entire ELCA.

I am grateful for staff members and the way we serve together. In the few months Mary Corkery has been on staff Mary has done an awesome job working with membership information, taking pictures and working with printed and social media. Marilyn Dudley shares her gifts of visiting, welcoming, communicating and also works with printed media. We are blessed to have these two gifted woman serving as new members of our staff.

Yvona Vlach continues in her 6th year serving as Admissive Assistant. She works hard keeping Jason and me on task (that alone is a job and a half) and continues to be a welcoming first impression to Good Shepherd. Dennis Lage works to set up and take

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down for the many events held here at Good Shepherd. He works hard to keep our building clean and organized. (Sometimes so well organized the rest of us can't find anything. 😊) Dana VanDeveer-Jones keeps our books and is more than patient explaining the numbers to all of us.

All of us are blessed by Linda Pein and her gifts in music. Although most of us experience Linda's gifts only on Sunday morning, Linda often goes above and beyond leading the chime and bell choirs, working with the worship and music committee, playing for weddings, funerals and for synod events. Kevina Leng serves well as our choir accompanist.

I am blessed to serve with Deacon Jason Fisher. Jason is an outstanding teacher and a colleague that I can share ideas with.

I realize that often I take the blessings of my wife Wendy for granted. For 15 years Wendy has walked the path of ordained ministry with me. There are times I know I could not have done it alone. In early 2019 Wendy and I will become grandparents for the first time. I am at a loss for words when it comes to expressing how blessed and happy we are.

Finally, I am grateful to all of you for your support of our shared ministry and for the many ways you serve in the church and community.

God's peace,

Pastor Tom Hillertz

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DIRECTOR OF YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY'S REPORT



August began with my third journey to El Salvador to continue building houses for Habitat for Humanity, but more importantly to keep building relationships with our Salvadoran brothers and sisters. Each time I go it gets harder and harder to come back. The people and the country are so beautiful and blessed with such humility and strength. Their faith is as vibrant as their clothing and food which never cease to amaze me. As I continue to learn more about their people and their struggles, I become more passionate about advocating for them and the tens of thousands of young people that flee their country every month to find sanctuary in the United States. I have renewed my commitment to the ELCA AMMPARO initiative and seek to educate those around me about the plight of our brothers and sisters from Central America. Faithful witnesses like Oscar Romero give me hope those who follow Christ will risk all to forge a way forward so that everyone can feel safe in their home country and abroad.

September I visited Lake Williamson for our Professional Leadership event through our Synod. Our speaker was Beth A. Lewis, President & CEO of 1517 Media, the ministry of publishing of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. She shared about the painful decisions she had to make in order for a print based company to survive the emerging digital landscape. I was particularly caught by how they chose to reduce the number of in house artists they had and hire artists outside the company when work needed to be done. It seemed to be a unique form of evangelism for those amazing up and coming artists to find work surrounded by Christians. What would it look like for our congregation to invite gifted people from the community into our projects and surround them with the love of Christ?

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October saw us try something completely different in the fundraising world. We decided to do a Pumpkin Patch Fundraiser. It involved lots of families helping unload, organize, and sell over 850 pumpkins to the community. Many members of our congregation were gracious enough to give of their time to help us clean and sell these pumpkins. Through the Holy Spirit we were able to meet many people in our community and make connections with those we had not known before. Just about every month I talk to someone in the community

that asks where I work and they respond, "Oh the church with the pumpkins!" What a fun way for us to meet our community and let others know they are welcome to serve Christ alongside us. I look forward to us trying this fundraiser again in the fall so buckle up! I also began leading the Wednesday Workshops based on Martin Luther's Small Catechism. It is such a rich document and led to all kinds of wonderful discussion that encouraged and challenged us to dive deeper into our walk with Jesus.



November our middle and high school youth headed to Carlinville for our retreat them, "God the Builder" (1 Peter 2:5 – "like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.") This event gave our students a chance to build on their faith by hearing and experience what God has already built around them. I continue to give thanks for Good Shepherd's support of sending youth to participate in these retreats and in doing so, helping build up the next generation of faithful leaders who will follow Jesus into the world building God's grace into everything they create.

December followed in our theme of celebrating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation by studying Luther's Christmas Sermons during our Wednesday Workshops. All of us who took part were amazed at how relatable and earthy Luther's sermons were as he spoke to his congregation. While coloring copies of some of the Reformation woodprints we discussed some of the events going on in Luther's day that shaped some of his comments related to the holy family and the birth of Christ. These

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sermons helped us pay attention to people in the story we may have often overlooked, and after all, isn't paying attention to overlooked people what the baby Jesus will eventually teach us anyway?



January found me visiting the doctor's office and getting a biopsy of a mole that was on my face. It was a week later that I was told I had cancer and needed to come in to have the rest of it removed. I praise God for the watchful eye of my dermatologist and give thanks that as of now I am cancer free. The scar on the left side of my face will forever be a sign of God's grace on my face. With this fresh scar I headed to Houston to help plan our Synod Day event that was to take place during the National Youth Gathering later that summer. It was an excellent time to learn about

the city and get my bearings before bringing a group from our church there to meet 30,000 other Lutheran youth.

February wasn't quite time for March Madness but there were many middle school and high school basketball games. I enjoy watching the youth of our congregation play and be challenged to use their gifts at school and while travelling. Every student needs at least three other adults to be their cheerleaders whether they are in sports or not. My hope is that each youth in our congregation will have at least one mentor from Good Shepherd to cheer them on and listen when they need to talk. The third of our Wednesday Workshops kicked off with Lent as we studied Bonhoeffer's book, *Life Together*. 40 minutes was just not enough time to dig deep into this short and relevant book. Our church council and congregation would do well to read it together as we all seek to be fed from the same table and sent out to serve our neighbor.



March is the month that Cunningham Children's home hosts its annual Cunningham Mission Day. Over the last couple of years we have been able to be the token Lutheran group that attends this regional Methodist event. It is an excellent way to learn about Cunningham's history, mission, and work through games, projects, music, and art. I look forward to taking students to this event each year so that they can see that kids their age don't always have it so easy, but praise God that followers of Jesus come into their lives to bring them some love, joy, and grace.

April finished up my final weeks with my mentee named Richard. He is a student at a local elementary school that I was paired with for the CU One to One Mentoring program. It is some of the best continuing education I could ever hope for and gets me out into the community to meet other teachers, leaders, and families. I am so thankful for his patience with me as we learn about one another. I've also continued to help drive and support the Canteen Run each month. My hope is that at some point everyone in

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our congregation will get a chance to go out on the truck with me so I can introduce everyone to my friends without an address. Martin Luther said, “We are all beggars, this is true.” And that the only difference between Christians and everyone else is that we are, “beggars showing other beggars where to find bread.”



May was light on events but heavy on celebrations. We celebrated 9 students from Good Shepherd graduating from high school and going on to do amazing things. It was a privilege to share dinner with them and their families, hear about all they had accomplished, and see the joy and anticipation in their eyes as they thought about the future. In collaboration with Pastor Tom, I have continued preaching about every other month and enjoy the challenge of diving into God’s Word to hear what it is that the Lord is saying to us and our community.

June had my family travelling to Meeker Lodge near Rocky Mountain National Park in Colorado to participate in the Luther Academy of the Rockies. This was my first continuing education event through Wartburg and after an exhilarating two weeks I look to make it an annual trip. Three different professors and speakers taught us throughout



the morning while my boys attended a kids camp put on by the Luther Academy. I think they had just as much fun playing as I did learning! My notebook is full of ideas for the fall and I look forward to sharing much of the information with the congregation either through Wednesday Workshops, Adult forums, sermons, or newsletter articles. This was a much needed time of renewal for my family and I am extremely grateful to be able to participate in these kinds of continuing education events.

July saw me traveling with students and adults from our congregation to Houston for a week of service projects, interactive learning, and worship. After touring NASA we got up the next day to worship alongside other youth and adults from our synod. The next day we went and helped replace and paint new shingles on a gentleman’s house who was affected by Hurricane Harvey. Our third full day was spent in

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the Interactive Learning center where we encountered different ministries and could learn more about the variety of ways we could serve in Jesus' name. Our group was able to present a check to the President of the Board of WELCA to help fight human trafficking. We had some amazing Mexican food, sweat a lot, heard from phenomenal speakers, communed with 30,000 others in the same place, and saw God at work far beyond the walls of Good Shepherd. This is my 16th year of being on staff at Leadership Lab and we had yet another amazing year of encouraging youth to use their God given gifts to serve the church and the world. We are blessed that God's Holy Spirit is stirring among the young people in our congregation and preparing them for ministry in the world.

The year hasn't been without struggles. I got creative and tried to address Sunday School in a very Reformation focused way and didn't lean enough on the abilities and gifts of those within our congregation. Like I am oft to do I took too much on myself and didn't delegate roles and responsibilities to others. Because of that Sabbath Sundays started off well but limped along the rest of the year. We tried new things – some worked, some didn't. We all believe faith formation and education is primary for our youth and adults, and yet we have fewer students attending and fewer adults willing to teach. We can no longer sustain the educational model we once held and we need to try new things as we move forward.

I will narrow my focus for this coming year and teach the Middle School youth after worship on Sundays, lead themed workshops throughout the year, and host a high school youth bible study in my home once a week. My gifts are in teaching so I will also come alongside all students who are working with mentors on their Confirmation Discipleship program. I see lots of opportunities for faith formation through our mentoring program and would love to see it expand and grow as we challenge one another into deeper faith in Jesus and witness to His saving work.

The major highlights for me this past year have been seeing post high school students discern their vocations and being able to continue having conversations of faith with them into young adulthood. Youth & Family Ministry is not just Jason hanging out with kids through high school. It is a lifelong faith journey we all go on together. We have seen sons and daughters of this congregation apply for and accept vocations in a variety of ministry settings where they can bring healing and hope to a hurting world. This can't happen without God, and it can't happen without the church faithfully showing up to share the gifts and freedom it has been given in Jesus Christ.

Jason Fisher

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CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL AND STAFF
2017-2018

Officers

President	Bob Clark
Vice-President	Leanne Cunningham
Secretary	Myrna Johnson
Treasurer	Dana Jones

Committee Chairs

Christian Education	Amy Chamley
Evangelism	Agatha Barnes
Fellowship	Jeff & Jodi Davis
Finance	Dana Jones
Property	Tom Holm
Service	Katrina Widholm
Stewardship	Tori Corkery
Worship & Music	David Smith
Youth	Ruth Meyer

Staff

Pastor	Thomas Hillertz
Deacon	Jason Fisher
Parish Office Manager	Yvona Vlach
Parish Office Assistant	Nancy Olson
Parish Worker	Marilyn Dudley
Parish Media Intern	Mary Corkery
Financial Secretary	Dana Jones
Custodian	Dennis Lage
Choir Director	Patrick Murray
Organist	Linda Pein

TREASURER'S REPORT

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GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

2017-2018 RESTRICTED PROFIT & LOSS

				Aug '17 - Jul 18
			Income	
			Other Receipts	
			Education	30.00
			Evangelism	945.00
			Fellowship -	201.00
			Fellowship - Coffee	48.00
			Service-Other	531.00
			Service-Food Pantry	1,798.44
			Service-Outreach	2,304.00
			Stewardship	1,250.00
			WELCA	170.00
			Worship - Flowers	2,156.00
			Worship - PoinsettiaFlowers	191.00
			Youth	7,125.94
			Total Other Receipts	16,750.38
			Restricted Income	
			Property Improvement Envelope	11,243.00
			EFT Building/Debt Ret.	5,210.00
			Property Improvement interest	13.19
			Manley Endowment	1,833.00
			Manley Endowment interest	293.80
			Memorial	686.77
			El Salvador	23.12
			Mission	11,397.00
			Total Restricted Income	30,699.88
			Special Offering	
			ELCA	5,700.00
			Local	120.00
			Christmas	3,076.00
			ELCA Intern. Disaster Response	1,490.00
			ELCA Domestic Disaster Response	150.00
			Empty Tomb	300.00
			Lenten Services	4,547.50
			LOMC	1,024.00
			LSSI	1,255.00
			Thanksgiving	769.00
			World Hunger	637.00
			Total Special Offering	19,068.50
			Total Income	66,518.76
			Gross Profit	66,518.76

(Continued on next page.)

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

2017-2018 RESTRICTED PROFIT & LOSS CONT'D

		Expense	
		01. Benevolence	
		Special Offerings	13,313.50
		Total 01. Benevolence	13,313.50
		05. Property Committee	
		Approved Capital Equipment	30,003.41
		Total 05. Property Committee	30,003.41
		09. Other	
		CM Endowment Reimbursement	7,894.87
		Memorial Fund Reimbursement	6,132.25
		Restricted Reimbursement	14,109.90
		Total 09. Other	31,578.22
		Reimbursement	
		Education	30.00
		Evangelism	945.00
		Fellowship	249.00
		Stewardship	1,250.00
		Service	4,633.44
		Worship	2,347.00
		Youth	7,125.94
		Total Reimbursement	16,580.38
		Total Expense	88,034.31

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

PROPERTY IMPROVEMENTS FUND

Revenue and Expenditures 2017 - 2018		
Beginning Fund Balance		\$ 30,159.13
<u>Total Revenue</u>		
Contributions		16,453.00
General Fund payback		10,000.00
Interest		12.30
<u>Expenditures</u>		
Center Isle		7,063.79
Roof		3,628.55
Electrical		1,990.27
Gutters		5,640.80
BKB Engineering		4,680.00
Sanctuary sound system		7,000.00
For operating expenses - approved by Council		5,319.00
Total Expenditures		35,322.41
Ending Fund Balance		\$ 21,302.02

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

PROPOSED GENERAL BUDGET 2018-2019

Proposed General Budget - Page 1

		17/18	% of	17/18	% of	Proposed		
		Budget	Total	Actual Expenses	Total	18/19	% of	%
						Budget	Total	Change
REVENUE		\$ 355,000		\$ 363,450		\$ 370,352		
	General giving	335,000		350,446		368,352		
	Other Funds (Property, Memorial)	15,000		10,678		-		
	Speical Offerings	3,000				-		
	Other income	2,000		2,326		2,000		
I. BENEVOLENCE**		\$ 18,250	5%	\$ 19,133	5%	\$ 22,000	6%	21%
	1 ELCA	16,250		15,160		20,000		
	Alternative Benevolence	-		1,900		-		
	2 Service	2,000		2,073		2,000		
II. PASTORAL MINISTRY		\$ 114,784	32%	\$ 115,833	33%	\$ 118,199	32%	3%
	3 Salary	45,907		45,907		47,529		
	4 Housing	25,000		25,000		25,000		
	5 FICA Offset	5,424		5,424		5,548		
	6 Car Mileage	2,500		958		2,500		
	7 Pension / Insurance	33,703		36,749		35,372		
	8 Continuing Education	1,000		874		1,000		
	9 Book Allowance	500		115		500		
	10 Pulpit Supply	750		806		750		
III. STAFF		\$ 120,009	34%	\$ 119,220	34%	\$ 124,120	34%	3%
	11 Parish Worker	6,028		4,989		6,028		
	12 Secretaries	39,917		39,031		41,115		
	13 Youth Minister	44,761		44,497		46,104		
	14 Youth Minster Benefits	11,645		13,571		12,730		
	15 Custodial Services	16,158		15,119		16,643		
	16 Continuing Education	1,500		2,013		1,500		
IV WORSHIP COMMITTEE		\$ 33,364	9%	\$ 30,732	9%	\$ 34,372	9%	3%
	17 Organist	14,190		13,040		14,579		
	18 Sr. Choir Director	9,088		8,613		9,647		
	19 Special Music Director	1,986		1,845		2,046		
	20 Accompanist/Soloist Sub	4,350		3,750		4,350		
	21 Supplies	3,500		3,484		3,500		
	22 Music	250		0		250		
**Benevolence consists of: monies sent to the ELCA (and alternative benevolence entities) and monies given for local aid (service committee) through the operating budget/General Fund as well as special offering and specifically designated funds as noted on page 22								

(Continued on next page.)

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

PROPOSED GENERAL BUDGET 2018-2019

Proposed General Budget - Page 2										
								Proposed		
		Budget	% of		Expenses	% of		Budget	% of	%
		<u>Budget</u>	<u>Total</u>		<u>Actual</u> <u>Expenses</u>	<u>Total</u>		<u>Budget</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Change</u>
V. PROPERTY COMMITTEE		<u>\$ 36,600</u>	<u>10%</u>		<u>\$ 37,568</u>	<u>#DIV/0!</u>		<u>\$ 35,600</u>	<u>#DIV/0!</u>	-3%
	23 Maintenance	10,000			10,600			10,000		
	24 Gas/Electric	12,000			11,399			12,000		
	25 Insurance	8,000			8,908			7,000		
	26 Telephone	3,000			3,131			3,000		
	27 Water	2,000			1,976			2,000		
	28 Stormwater U	1,600			1,554			1,600		
VI. OFFICE		<u>\$ 7,800</u>	<u>2%</u>		<u>\$ 12,277</u>	<u>#DIV/0!</u>		<u>\$ 7,800</u>	<u>#DIV/0!</u>	0%
	29 Supplies	4,500			8,966			4,500		
	30 Postage	1,800			2,328			1,800		
	31 Computer Co	500			-			500		
	32 Technology S	1,000			983			1,000		
XII. EDUCATION COMMITTEE		<u>\$ 2,500</u>	<u>1%</u>		<u>\$ 2,365</u>	<u>#DIV/0!</u>		<u>\$ 2,500</u>	<u>#DIV/0!</u>	0%
	33 Parish Educa	2,500			2,365			2,500		
	34 Lay / VBS Le	0			-			0		
VIII. MAJOR COMMITTEES		<u>\$ 9,000</u>	<u>3%</u>		<u>\$ 7,813</u>	<u>#DIV/0!</u>		<u>\$ 9,000</u>	<u>#DIV/0!</u>	0%
	35 Stewardship	1,250			738			1,250		
	36 Evangelism-a	1,000			1,258			1,000		
	37 Evangelism-e	1,500			145			1,500		
	38 Youth	4,000			950			4,000		
	39 National Conv	0			1,500			0		
	40 Fellowship	1,000			2,944			1,000		
	41 Wellness Cor	250			278			250		
IX. OTHER		<u>\$ 11,900</u>	<u>3%</u>		<u>\$ 8,977</u>	<u>#DIV/0!</u>		<u>\$ 11,900</u>	<u>#DIV/0!</u>	0%
	42 Accounting S	8,400			7,345			8,400		
	43 The Lutheran	500			0			500		
	44 Convention	1,500			633			1,500		
	45 Miscellaneous	1,500			999			1,500		
TOTALS		<u>\$ 150,175</u>	<u>19%</u>		<u>\$ 148,096</u>	<u>#DIV/0!</u>		<u>\$ 154,936</u>	<u>#DIV/0!</u>	3.2%

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

PICTORIAL REVIEW

Confirmation 2017



Christmas Program 2017



GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

Pet Blessing 2017



Pumpkin Fundraiser



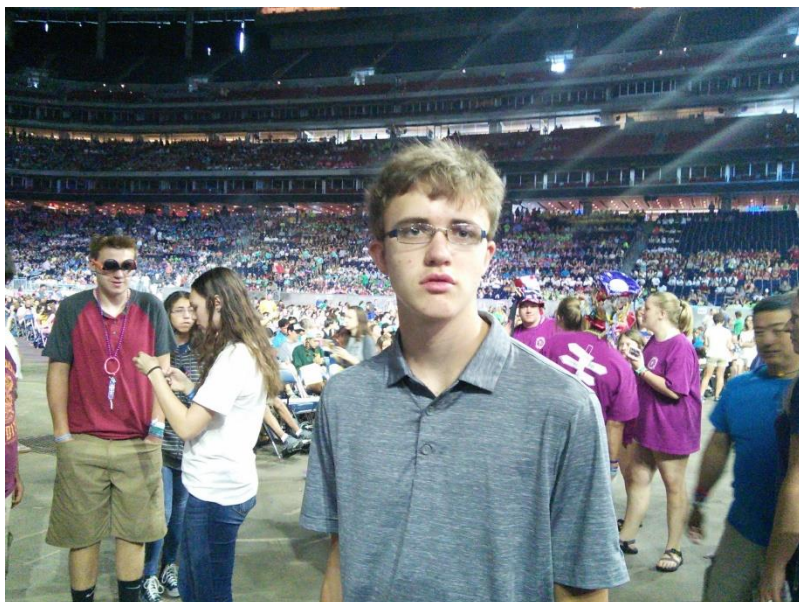
GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

Operation Turkey Sandwich



GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
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Youth Gathering, Houston



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Church Picnic 2018



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Mission Trip to El Salvador 2018



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CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

AUDIT COMMITTEE STATEMENT

On June 19, 21, 26 and July 7, and 9th, 2018 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 **four** months of records, both receipts and expenditures (September through December 2017) over the past church year.

The records of the following funds were made available for review: General Fund, Building Fund, Memorial Fund, Mission Fund, Reserve Fund, Carol Manley Endowment Fund, Youth Checking and Youth Saving Accounts. Each funds 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 July 13, 2018 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, 2018 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 2017-18 church year.

Respectfully submitted,

Eldon Gleichman, Chair
Dave Carlson

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

This has been an exciting time to be on the GSLC Council. This past year, my role has largely been that of a liaison with the Strategic Planning Committee, and I have enjoyed working with the Council to implement many of the recommendations outlined in that plan (please see the Strategic Planning Committee report in this document for details).

One of the best qualities of Good Shepherd is that our members love our church family. That has been clear to me since my family joined this congregation in 2004, and I was reminded of that regularly during my time on the Strategic Planning Committee. Even when we have differences of opinion on practices, traditions and activities, we are united by our commitment to one another and to our mission of Teaching, Reaching and Preaching in Jesus' Name.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leanne M. Cunningham
Vice-President

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

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.

TAKING CHANCES-MAKING CHANGES

You might say that our theme for Education at GSLC this year was REFORMATION! In an effort to re-energize the education programs at Good Shepherd, and to celebrate the 500th Anniversary of Luther's Reformation, we took some chances and made some big changes.

Based on the idea that we learn best through doing, and that it's important for all age groups to learn and share together, we devised SABBATH Sundays – a hands-on, intergenerational, rotation approach. During the first semester we focused on the Reformation. Each week, the whole congregation was encouraged to meet in the Library after worship for refreshments and a brief overview of the week's theme and lesson. Then participants could choose to create art, read and interpret scripture, build and/or work on a service project related to the theme.

Younger children participated in the "Prayground", a room set up for Preschool/Kindergarten level activities, games, story-reading, etc. Each week we focused on a specific story from the Bible. On the 2nd Sunday of each month, Jason lead a Cross+Generational Sunday School event highlighting the Faith5. SABBATH Sundays also included group service projects - shopping for the food pantry and helping organize Harvest of Thanks.

As an alternative to Adult Forum, we offered WORKSHOP Wednesdays, Jason led a series of Wednesday evening studies of a variety of topics - Luther's Small Catechism, Luther's Christmas Sermons, and the writings of Dietrich Bonhoeffer. WORKSHOP Wednesdays included dinner and discussion.

Our Christmas Program focused on the hymn "From Heaven Above" by Martin Luther, and involved children, teens, and the GSLC choir. We also started a youth choir, which will hopefully grow in the coming year. Finally, Vacation Bible School was organized and hosted by Grace Lutheran Church this year, GSLC helped by providing meals and money.

Some of our changes worked well - some not so much. As we plan for the coming year, the Education and Youth Committees are working together to survey church members about their vision for Education at GSLC. Based on survey results, and focus groups/forums, we are planning programs that engage and excite all members of Good Shepherd, while providing foundational knowledge of the Bible and Lutheran theology.

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

GET READY TO HELP

One important thing we learned this year is that we need HELP! In order to make education programs at Good Shepherd engaging and valuable we need volunteers to help plan, organize and teach. Please consider making a commitment to volunteer in some capacity to work with the youth of our church.

If we expect our children and teens to commit to our church, we need to show them our commitment to them. We need to invite children, teens, and young adults into worship, service and fellowship. And we need to challenge and nurture them as they strengthen their relationships with God, our church community, the world, and each other.

THANK YOU

Thanks to the following people who helped with various education activities at GSLC in the past year:

Bob Clark, Marilyn Dudley, Marla Todd, Dana Jones, Linda Pein, Wendy Hillertz, Erin Wilding-Martin, Katrina Widholm, Agatha Barnes, Walker Smith, Emma Chamley, Ella Greer, Samantha Fisher, Pastor Tom, the GSLC Choir - and many others.

Also, special thanks to Jason for his enthusiastic vision and hard work!

Peace,

Amy Kilgus Chamley
Education Committee Chair

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

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

Worship schedule and special events regularly appear in the News-Gazette. 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. Any other committee may submit requests to be included in the N-G event calendar and Chambanamoms event calendar (though individuals can submit requests via the chambanamoms website also).

Outreach Events

October: The Pet Blessing was held and continues to bring a few non-members to one of our church events.

Various members of the committee volunteered their time to the Fall Pumpkin sale, benefiting the youth group.

December: The earlier time and nice weather for the Nativity Walk made it an extremely well-attended event. 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 Service Committee by preparing Sloppy Joes, several sides and desserts.

The Evangelism committee graciously thanks our members for their support in these events and others as we look forward to adding different outreach events. Everyone is welcome to be involved in sharing Christ's love through these or other church activities.

Respectfully submitted,

Agatha Barnes

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Members: Gail Block, Jeff Davis, Jodi Davis, Tori Corkery, Laurie Johnson, Jeannie McMurray, Carol Steinman, Nicole Paul, Sally Widholm

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 at Good Shepherd promotes the idea that fellowship is not necessarily an event, but that it should be a part of our life as Christ followers. The Fellowship Committee held meetings regularly throughout the year, usually meeting on the first Wednesday of the month at 5:30 in the library at Good Shepherd. 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, staff and congregation for regularly assisting in the duties on behalf of the Fellowship Committee.

Fellowship Events from 2017-18

- The Fellowship Committee assisted in organizing the kick-off to the Sunday evening pot-luck meals that are held on the evenings of the monthly Sunday Evening Worship Services. However, it was determined in the spring that the current members of the fellowship committee do not have the man-power to continue to assist in the planning of these Sunday evening pot-luck meals at the current time.
- The Fellowship Committee provided refreshments for the annual Lutheran World Relief InGathering that was held at Good Shepherd on October 27th.
- On January 20th, the Fellowship Committee hosted a Game Night Pot-luck in the Fellowship Hall. This Saturday evening event was open to community members as well as member of Good Shepherd. Spaghetti was served by the Fellowship Committee and games for all ages were made available. This event was very well-attended and it was decided that this is an event worth repeating!
- The Fellowship Committee enjoyed serving a mid-week Lenten Meal with the Stewardship Committee.
- Following the success of the church picnic from May 2017, the Fellowship Committee once again hosted a church picnic. The pavilion at Centennial Park was rented and the Fellowship Committee provided the main 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 55 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. Jason helped lead games and the egg toss was a favorite once again. The picnic was

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

a success and fun was had by all who attended! Don Block grilled the meat and his participation in this event was an integral part of its success. (Note: the pavilion rental, main dish, serve ware, condiments, buns, balloons and ice cream costs were all donated by individual members of the Fellowship Committee and are not listed as expenses in the church budget).

- Throughout the year, the fellowship committee receives requests for special refreshments from church staff for various special events and celebrations. We are always happy to make those accommodations. The requests for changes are made to the County Market bakery on Kirby and Duncan, which is where our standing Sunday morning order is placed.

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 consider organizing new events, activities 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

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT

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

There were several repair and maintenance projects this past year. Some members said it was difficult to hear the pastor and/or lay reader. Our upgraded sound system fixed these issues. Thanks to Nancy McCowen and Jim Hack for supervising this project. Jim Hack installed hand rails on the outer sanctuary walls. The southernmost section of the sanctuary roof started to leak and the original cedar shakes were replaced with shingles to match the rest of the roof. Smoke detectors were installed in the library and several classrooms to bring the building up to code for overnight occupancy. This will allow overnight visitors such as youth groups passing through town to spread out beyond the fellowship hall. New gutters and downspouts were installed on the new roof at the west of the sanctuary and the classroom wing. Thanks to Greg Fisher for supervising these three projects.

Property issues that will need to be addressed in the near future include replacing our aging furnaces and air conditioners, drainage on the west side of the building, and replacing the roof.

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

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

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

The Stewardship Committee was very fortunate to have such wonderful support from the congregation during the 2017-18 year. The Harvest of Thanks food collection and distribution in November was very successful. This year we used our Sabbath Sunday time to invite everyone in the congregation to help sort the food. This worked very well and reduced the time needed to prepare on Monday morning when our families came to pick up their food baskets. Our thanks to Patty Hart for stepping up on distribution day and to Jodi Davis for making the many deliveries in Rantoul and of course to all the volunteers who helped with sorting and distribution. With the donation of 75 (5-lb) hams from Hormel and cash donations of \$1,250 (minus expense for rolls and other perishables) we were able to donate about \$1,000 to the Service Committee who used the funds to fill the food pantry and provide food/supplies for the Canteen Run.

In November, the Stewardship Committee learned there was a deficit in funds available to make our monthly payments to the ELCA for a couple of months. The committee decided to make a special appeal to the congregation asking for donations to be used directly to pay our benevolence commitment. The response was overwhelming and we were able to pay all our back due payments as well as have some funds in reserve in case of a future shortage. We are so fortunate to have such a generous congregation.

The theme of our 2018 Stewardship drive was “Singing Stewardship” which asked us to look at stewardship another way. Rather than just a once-a-year decision, true stewardship is a daily response to God. One way we can see this is in the hymns we sing during Worship. Our hymns are the stories of our faith, and many of those stories address the ways we use our gifts in service to God’s work here on Earth. During three weeks in April, we used some of our Worship time looking more closely at a selection of hymns about stewardship. These beloved songs addressed themes of building our spiritual community, devoting ourselves to service rather than worldly idols, and making our lives an offering to God. Through music we were inspired to consider how we give our time, talent and treasure. Congregation members were able to submit time/talent forms both online and on paper copies. We look forward to being able to use the new Breeze database this coming year to assist with collecting time/talent information. Pledges in dollars were similar to last year, making it possible for our congregation to continue to serve and spread the good news of the Lord.

The Stewardship Committee also began discussions about various forms of electronic giving (via website, credit card swipe at church, etc.). These electronic forms would be an additional way for congregation members to give—it would not replace our current ways of giving (by check or auto deduction). In the coming year it is hoped that we will gather more information needed to determine our options, the cost, the need, etc. Ash Waller will lead this investigation.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tori Corkery, Chair

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

SERVICE COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee members: Katrina Widholm, Patty Hart, Heather Murphy, Jim Hack, Barb Hack, Shelly Cekander, Jenelle Keene. Jonathon Wisdom, Don Block, Greg Fisher

The service committee had another busy and productive year working with various projects in our community.

We collected and helped to distribute 124 backpacks thru empty tomb for the 2017-2018 school year. This was done with our partnership with the Empty Tomb.

The Food Pantry had another successful year led by Patty Hart with help from Bob Clark. More families were in need of help this year.

Bob as well as others from church secured Thrivent cards throughout the year to help purchase food for the Food Pantry.

Because large amounts of food were found to missing from the pantry we began to lock the door. We began to prepare sacks of food that would cover an emergency food need. These were put in the office. A slip in bag with a flyer from empty tomb or salvation army or both are in the bags and include a food gift certificate for \$15.00 from county market (could be used for meat, eggs, milk, bread, etc). The bag is placed in the corner of Jason's office and it could be handed out on discretion of pastor, Jason, or Yvona. Staff would not have to leave office, eliminating discussion on contents or requests that we go to store & purchase perishables.

Heather Murphy headed up the Giving Tree in 2017 and it was a successful event as we collected gifts for six local children and ten members of the Safe House.

Mega Work-a-thon

Empty Tomb's annual mega work-a-thon was held March 3rd. Bob Clark led a group of volunteers to the event. The goal was to involve churches throughout the community, deliver 500 food pantry boxes to needy families, and raise enough cash to fund a one year reserve for the charity's operating account. Twenty-eight churches came together to purchase necessary food, decorate & fill boxes, and deliver 537 boxes to families throughout the county. Good shepherd pledged to purchase food, and fill and deliver 22 boxes. This goal was realized as we had about 25 people involved in purchasing food, decorating boxes and completing the deliveries. Our donated food items (\$412 of pantry staples) were purchased with Thrivent action grant dollars.

Our church collected \$2,338 and forwarded that amount to Empty Tomb for the No Bills left Behind Fund. I am also aware that there were additional funds donated by Good Shepherd members directly to Empty Tomb. GSLC has participated in this worthwhile project for several years as we partner with Empty Tomb in its ongoing mission to help others to provide food, furniture, back packs, school supplies, and other forms of assistance to the most vulnerable of our neighbors throughout Champaign County.

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
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The first annual “Service of Service” was held in May:

Blessing bags for the homeless (10)

Team Captain: Ella Greer with Amy Chamley - 20 or more bags need to be made. Donations welcome like Kleenex packs, socks, water bottles, handy wipes, granola bars, etc. Monetary donations are accepted too so that supplies can be bought.

Clean Kitchen and Inventory items (8)

Team Captain: Myrna Johnson - Help sort through items in Good Shepherd's kitchen to see what supplies we will need, etc.

Flower delivery (4)

Team Captain: Barb Hack

Furniture Delivery for Empty Tomb (6)

Team Captain - Bob Clark will drive the truck; will need strong helpers to deliver the furniture.

GSLC Building projects and gardening around property (10)

Team Captain: Tom Holm - Help around the church grounds with various projects and gardening.

Help Organize Our Food Pantry (5)

Team Captain: Patty Hart

Make Welcome Cards (5)

Team Captain: Mary Ann Espeseth

Nursery Clean-Up (4)

Team Captain: Jenelle Keene - Disinfect toys in nursery

Organize Canteen Run shed (12)

Team Captain: Jason Fisher - The shed is located at 619 N Country Fair Dr, Champaign. The code to get through the gate is *5328# and we will be at the first shed on the left.

Park Clean-Up in town (30)

Team Captain: Pastor Tom. Any amount of people over age 13 to pick up a park through Champaign Park District (Centennial Park or Hessel Park)

Shopping for Food Deliveries (10)

Team Captain: Katrina Widholm - Will be sent to grocery store with list of supplies needed for food deliveries to have on hand throughout the week.

Jenelle sold small and affordable pieces of jewelry from El Salvador at the Reformation event on Sunday, October 22, 2017. We marked up prices, so that we can reimburse Jim (who generously brought back the pieces) as well as sending the women's coop the profits.

Greg Fisher continued to work with VOAD (Organizations Assisting In Disasters). Greg led a group of volunteers from our church to help with flood disaster relief to help in the Watseka, IL area.

Jim Hack led another group on a trip with Habitat for Humanity to El Salvador in the summer of 2017.

Thank you,

Katrina Widholm

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WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Members (2017-2018): Susan Barreto, Eric Brucker, Jennifer Byers-York, Charles Carroll, Meg Dickinson, Jason Fisher, Samantha Fisher, Kara Greer, John Hart, Sherrill Houchens, Pastor Tom Hillertz, Laurie Johnson, Nancy McCowen, Zach Meyer, Linda Pein, Corinne Saldeen, Ash Waller

Sunday Morning Attendance:

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>
Block 1	137.00	136.05
Block 2	114.86	112.80 (through 24 June)
Block 3	146.69	

Block 1: 2nd Sunday in January through Sunday preceding Memorial Day weekend

Block 2: Sunday preceding Memorial Day to Sunday preceding Labor Day

Block 3: Sunday following Labor Day to Sunday preceding Christmas

Activities:

- Expanded membership of Worship and Music Committee with creation of sub-committees when useful.
- Committee reviewed results of congregational survey and implemented changes based upon the survey.
- Held a Town Hall meeting to discuss worship schedule and worship plans so as to receive feedback from the congregation.
- Established new system to send out rough drafts of Serving Schedule that allows participants to indicate when they are unable to serve so that changes can be made in advance.
- Returned to practice of printing full service (except hymns) in the weekly Bulletin.
- Created instructions and guide for ushers to account for new center aisle.
- Organized Reformation Month, with five Sunday services each around a specific theme and some with special music, including a Youth Service (conducted entirely by the Youth of the Congregation), a Women's Service (conducted entirely by women), and a service focused on the Lutheran musical tradition. Professor Joy Kammerling provided special inserts on each of these themes distributed with the weekly Bulletin.
- Organized a new Sunday Evening Evensong Service on the second Sunday of each month (except during Lent). Identified and purchased Joyous Light Evening Service for these services. Average Sunday evening attendance November-June: 21.
- Team of Music Leaders/Cantors established to provide leadership during singing of communion hymns in addition to regular service music.
- Joint Grace/Good Shepherd Thanksgiving Eve service hosted at Good Shepherd.

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- Special Service on November 12th focused on God with Us at Work.
- Special Service on December 10th built on Advent hymns.
- Special Taizé Service in March.
- Special Service on May 6th Service of Service.
- Planning begun for services from August through December.
- Purchase of Handbells.

The Worship and Music Committee thanks the members for their feedback as we plan different styles of services and worship experiences.

Respectfully submitted,

David K. Smith

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

The GSLC Strategic Planning Committee completed its work and submitted a plan to the Church Council in January 2018. The Council approved the plan at its March 13 meeting, and held a Town Hall meeting on April 8 to discuss the plan with the congregation.

Two elements of the Strategic Plan required changes to our congregation's constitution:

- the reduction of the number of Council committees to five; and
- the designation of the Treasurer as a position elected by the congregation every two years.

Both of these changes were approved at a congregational meeting on June 17, 2018.

Other initiatives that have begun based on the Strategic Plan include:

- establishment of a Parish Worker position to facilitate communication among the various groups in the church, to assist with welcoming and orienting new members, and to spread the word about Good Shepherd to the greater community: this position was filled in May 2018;
- adoption of a plan for regular performance evaluations of the Pastor and other staff: evaluations for this year have been completed;
- formation of a Long-Range Facilities Committee to develop a plan for future maintenance and improvements to our building: the Committee has been formed and is currently at work;
- adoption of a comprehensive set of personnel policies for all staff in our congregation: the personnel policies were developed by the Personnel Committee, approved by the Council on June 12, 2018, and have been shared with the appropriate staff;
- collaborative long-range worship planning by the Pastor and the Worship and Music Committee: the Worship and Music Committee has been doing advance planning since August 2017.

The Church Council is tasked with implementing the remainder of the plan.

We are grateful to everyone who contributed ideas and support during the eight months that we spent developing the Strategic Plan. We also appreciate the efforts of Council members and other committees in the plan's implementation.

Respectfully submitted,

Leanne Cunningham (leannemcunningham@yahoo.com)

Nancy McCowen (nmccowen@comcast.net)

Vickie Wilson (vjpwilson.6254@yahoo.com)

Shelly Cekander (cekander@sbcglobal.net)

Luke Meyer (lmeyer20@stu.parkland.edu)

Amy Chamley, Consultant to the Committee (amy.chamley@gmail.com)

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
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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.

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- 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. The congregation supported our fundraising events to the point that we were able to pay for everyone's airplane tickets to El Salvador. The tickets are getting to be very expensive. We would like to say a very special thank-you to each and all of you for your support of the El Salvador project.

MISSION FUND
For the fiscal year ending July 31, 2018

Beginning Balance		\$5,592.13
<i>(This includes \$3,500.00 from original church donations)</i>		

INCOME

Misc. donations	\$463.00	
Donations for trip	\$1,910.00	
Income Breakfast Brunch	\$1,270.00	
Income Paint Party	\$150.00	
Income Easter Breakfast	\$188.00	
Income Concert	\$1,360.00	
Income Mission Dinner	\$6,056.00	
Interest Income	<u>\$22.61</u>	
TOTAL	\$11,419.61	\$17,011.74

EXPENSES

Mission Dinner Expenses	\$507.11	
Stove for El Salvadoran Family	\$200.00	
Airplane Tickets	\$8,448.44	
Airplane Tickets (to be refunded)	\$1,100.00	
2 Scholarships to Habitat Int'l	\$1,970.00	
Scholarship to Briseida Cruz Miron	\$1,000.00	
Tools for trip	<u>\$500.00</u>	
TOTAL	\$13,725.55	(\$13,725.55)

BALANCE		\$3,286.19
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Respectfully submitted,
Jim Hack, Chair

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
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YOUTH COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee members: Jason Fisher, Nicole Paul, Deb Swanson and Ruth Meyer

We had another fun filled year lead by our Youth and Family Ministry Director, Jason Fisher. Each month our youth have a number of activities to choose from to enjoy fellowship with one another, to serve in our community & to grow in their Christian faith.

One of the big events from last fall was our Pumpkin Patch Fundraiser. A huge thank you to all of our members who volunteered their time to help our youth sell pumpkins during this 3 week event. Not only did this event help to raise money for our youth, but we were also able to make many connections with our neighbors in the community & to visit with many people who would stop by to purchase the pumpkins.

In addition to our monthly youth activities, our youth also have served on our mission trip to El Salvador, helped with the Canteen Run, attended a weekend retreat to Carlinville, enjoyed a week at Leadership Lab, and attended the National Youth Gathering. This summer, we had 7 youth attend the National Youth Gathering in Houston. A special thank you to all of our chaperones who traveled with our youth to Houston and also to our congregation for your generous support & prayers. We look forward to hearing our youth share their stories with us.

It is such a blessing to watch our youth grow in their faith each year. Thank you to Pastor & to our congregation for all of your prayers & support of our youth throughout the year. And a special thank you to Jason for his enthusiasm, energy & love of serving. We are so blessed to have Jason as our Youth Director!

Respectfully Submitted,

Ruth Meyer
Youth Committee Chair

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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, terms end 12/31/18; Gail Block, term ends 12/31/18; John Todd, term ends 12/31/19; Rhiannon Clifton, term ends 12/31/19; Chad Cassel, term ends 12/31/19; Dana VanDeveer, Treasurer; Pastor Tom; and Jason Fisher.

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. This year the Fund paid: \$810 for leadership lab, \$530 for Carlinville, \$1000 to Zach Meyer to defray expenses with his Ministry Call, \$350 for Mary Corkery's honorarium (summer internship) and \$4,854.87 for plane tickets for youth to attend the ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston.

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, and Chad Cassel

Dana VanDeveer-Jones, Treasurer

CAROL MANLEY ENDOWMENT FUND For the Fiscal Year Ending July 31, 2018

Income :		Assets:	
Contributions	\$1,833.00	Manley Endowment Fund	
Interest Income	<u>293.80</u>	Savings Account	\$ 982.24
Total Income	\$2,126.80	Certificates of Deposit	<u>20,947.85</u>
Distributions	\$7,894.87		\$21,930.09

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
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WOMEN OF THE ELCA REPORT

WOMEN OF THE ELCA (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 2017-18 WELCA met four times throughout the year. Gail Block continued as the WELCA Treasurer. Jodi Davis continued as chairperson. Beth Followell, Doris Snyder, Jenelle Keene, Corinne Saldeen, Tori Corkery, Nicole Paul, Donna Wagner, Marilyn Dudley, Jan Nuss, Jeretta Hecht, Carol Manley, 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 Reformation Heritage Festival was held on Sunday, October 22nd. This event celebrated the 500th year Anniversary of the Reformation and also served as WELCA's annual fundraiser. This event included a bake sale, baking demonstration, music, and costumes. WELCA hosted Marlene Zenker to present her historical portrayal/dramatization of Katherin Von Bora, the wife of Dr. Martin Luther. WELCA is very thankful for the support and participation we received from the entire congregation.
- WELCA hosted the Lutheran World Relief 2017 InGathering at Good Shepherd on October 27, 2017. 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 and the Good Shepherd Fellowship Committee as a fellowship opportunity for the delivery volunteers from other area congregations as their donations were transferred to the semi-truck. In 2017, Good Shepherd donated 5 mission quilts, 27 school kits and 21 personal care kits. A quilt and kit blessing took place during the Worship Service on Sunday, October 22rd.
- On November 19th, the annual WELCA Thankoffering was collected. The money collected was sent to the church wide women's organization. These funds support the church wide ministries of WELCA.

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- 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 at Windsor of Savoy 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.
- The Prayer Shawl Ministry continues to provide hand knitted and crocheted shawls to comfort and console church members or anyone who is ill, grieving or shut-in. The prayer shawls may be given to friends, neighbors or strangers in need of prayer. Prayer shawls are tagged with a Good Shepherd Lutheran Church label and blessed during a Worship Service prior to be given away. In 2017-18 the over 40 prayer shawls were given away. The Prayer Shawl ministry meets once a month or members can also knit or crochet at home. Marilyn Dudley is the contact person for this ministry. WELCA is very appreciative of the time and energy that is put into making these gifts of love. Thank you to all who participate in this ministry.
- WELCA hosted the annual Christmas Brunch at Good Shepherd on Saturday, December 2nd. Forty ladies attended the brunch. We hosted the event at Good Shepherd, as outside venues have become a burden on our budget over the last few years. Don Block prepared the brunch for us and we had volunteer youth from Good Shepherd serve as waiters. The Fellowship Hall was a great alternative to an outside venue and the meal was outstanding! We plan to continue with this event at Good Shepherd if possible.
- On Saturday, April 14th, WELCA hosted the second annual "God's Work, Our Hands" Project Day in the Fellowship Hall. After fellowship time, a meal and devotion, we assembled 51 school kits and 82 personal care kits

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(more than triple our number from the previous year!). WELCA had received a monetary Thrivent grant that allowed for the purchase of supplies for kits. We had also received a large donation of fabric that was distributed to sewers for the creation of the school bags. This contributed to a much higher response to the request for sewing school bags. 15 women from the congregation participated.

- WELCA Giving for 2016-17: WELCA was blessed with the opportunity to continue to give monetary gifts to local, state and world-wide organizations.

Respectfully submitted,

Jodi Davis, Chair

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