ANNUAL REPORT
2019

St. Michael's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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The Reverend Russell Haab, Interim Pastor

Our mission is to celebrate and share
God's love in Jesus Christ.

Bulletin of Reports for the Year 2019
& Resources for the
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
Sunday, February 9, 2020
The Reverend Russell Haab, Interim Pastor

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St. Michael's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

AGENDA FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2020

- Opening Devotions
- Submission of Minutes
  - ◊ February 10, 2019 Annual Meeting Minutes

    Note: These minutes have been reviewed and approved by the Congregation Council. No action is required by the Congregation.
- The Treasurer's Report – Year 2019
- Financial Review Report For 2018
- Nominating Committee Report for Congregation Council Membership
  - ◊ Call for nominations from the floor
  - ◊ Balloting
- 2019 Memorial Fund Income Allocation
- 2020 Income and Expense Plans
- Bylaws and Continuing Resolution to conform to Constitution Approved March 3, 2019
- Election Report (if required)
- Call Committee Update
- Recognition and Thanks
- Installation of 2020 Congregation Council
- Closing Prayer

St Michael's Lutheran Church Annual Meeting

February 10, 2019

11:57 AM Council President	**Call to Order** 52 people signed in at the time of call to order, quorum is established. Annual Report package received by all attendees.
Pastor	**Opening Devotions and Litany**
President	**2018 Annual Meeting Minutes (2/11/2018)** available and approved by Congregation Council – no action required
Treasurer	**2018 Annual Treasurers Report Reviewed** – There were no questions. Final summary was that overall expenses were down and income was up due to one-time gifts. Rental income on track. Ending the year at almost breakeven.
Audit Committee	**Audit Committee Final Review** The 2017 annual review of the accounting records was completed. Carol Prisco reported no material discrepancies in the 2017 records or reports from the 2017 Annual Report.
President	**Nominating Committee Report and Council Appointments** Members leaving council were recognized. Joe LaRose agreed to serve the balance of the term (having taken the place of Brian Nielsen) and to be the Treasurer. Peggy Schlagle presented the nominees identified by the Nominating Committee: Martha Burke, Geoffrey Castle and Kay McConnell. Call for any additional nominations – none were presented President of Council indicated new members were adopted by unanimous consent
Pastor	**Christus Intentional Mission Partnership** – Pastor reviewed the history and current situation of our partnership with Christus.
President	**Balloting** Resolution 3: Discontinue the intentional mission partnership with Christus Lutheran Church in Camden. Call for Questions and Discussion – no issues brought forward. Vote Called: adopted by consensus. Resolution 1: Distribute the 2018 Memorial Fund income to the general account in 2019. This consists of $8,240. Call for Questions and Discussion – no issues brought forward Vote Called: adopted by consensus. Resolution 2: Adopt the 2019 General Operating Fund and Rental Fund income and expense plans. Joe LaRose advised that although our relationship with Christus is ending, 2% of income would still be set aside for local outreach.

Call for questions and discussion –One question was raised about the continued use of the current property manager. This is still an open item to be resolved in the next month or two. No other issues were brought forward.
Vote Called: adopted by consensus

President **Pastor Transition –** A high level overview of the process was outlined, with more details to come at the March 3, 2019 meeting. The Bishop will attend the 2/12/19 Congregation Council meeting to begin working through the process with the council.

President **102 Chapel Property Update**
Property was previously recommended for use with IHOC as a transition home. Verbal communication was received that the necessary zoning changes will be approved by the township. Church is awaiting finalization of the township "Master Plan" which includes proper zoning of the property for recommended use.

President **New Constitution and Transition Framework**
Ray Kratz took the lead to re-write the church's constitution, to be fully in compliance with the ELCA guidelines. He provided a summary of changes and reviewed them. Everyone was provided copies and will be given time to review. There will be meeting to discuss, question and approve the new constitution on March 3, 2019.

President **Election Report**
There is no election report for this year

Pastor **Recognition**
Departing Council members: Lauren Gromen, Jack Hinger (who also served on the Executive Committee), Gina Krumanocker and Peggy Schlagle
Installation of new council members and recognition of returning council members and Executive Committee members.
Ray Kratz was recognized for all of his work to update the Constitution.

Pastor **Closing Prayer**

1:10 PM President **Conclusion of the meeting** and thank you to congregation members who participated.

St. Michael's Lutheran Church

2019 Asset/Fund Balances	12/31/2019	12/31/2018	Change
General Fund			
Cash - TD Bank	$32,645	$49,806	-$17,161
ELCA Mission Investments	$13,690	$30,766	-$17,076
Charles Schwab	$1,643	$1,665	-$22
	$47,978	$82,237	-$34,259
Dedicated (Restricted) Funds	$34,930	$52,249	-$17,319
Unrestricted Fund Balance	**$13,048**	**$29,988**	-$16,940
Rental Fund			
Cash - TD Bank	$21,506	$22,641	-$1,135
Mission Investment	$26,024	$25,812	$212
Total Assets	$47,530	$48,453	-$923
Fund Balance	**$47,530**	**$48,453**	-$923
Rental Fund Liability - Memorial Fund Loan	**$0**	**-$9,614**	$9,614
Memorial Fund	**$356,453**	**$326,084**	$30,369
Youth Gathering Fund			
ELCA Youth Gathering Mission Plus Account	**$10,964**	**$10,004**	$960
Total Fund Balances	**$427,995**	**$404,915**	$23,080

St Michael's Evengelical Lutheran Church
2010 Giving Pattern and Income for the General Fund
Financial Secretary Annual Report for 2019

Giving Units	Weekly Range	Amount Given
33	.01 - 5.00	3,209
15	5.01 - 10.00	6,375
20	10.01 - 20.00	15,235
14	20.01 - 30.00	18,188
7	30.01 - 40.00	13,285
5	40.01 - 50.00	12,340
4	50.01 - 60.00	11,230
3	60.01 - 70.00	10,200
3	70.01 - 80.00	12,115
6	80.01 - 90.00	26,900
2	90.01 - 100.00	10,260
6	100.01 - 200.00	43,350
4	200.01 - 400.00	60,186
122		$242,873

122 giving units contributed a total of $242,873 to the General Fund

$ 1,485 was received from visitors with recordable gifts
$258,387 was the total income for the General Fund

Total Income Giving:	
General	$244,358
Plate	$2,387
Lenten/Easter	$3,449
Thanksgiving	$175
Advent/Christmas	$3,056
Devotional Booklets	$5
Bldg Usage	$4,957
	$258,387

The average per giving unit was $1,991 annually or $38 per week
The mean per giving unit was $780 annually or $15 per week

Total contributions by members was $285,144 for 2019

Much thanks to all of the tellers for their many hours of service throughout the year the year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tom Gano, Financial Secretary & Jill Zak, Assistant Financial Secretary

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

For the Annual Meeting of the Congregation on February 9, 2020

One member of the Congregation Council is completing a regular term. Council Member and charter member, Anne Trasser, passed away in July, making her position vacant. In addition, Mary-Kate Collins moved to Virginia. Elizabeth Winkelman was appointed to serve a vacated seat at the September 17, 2019 regular meeting of the Congregation Council. The outgoing Council class serves as the Nominating Committee (Constitution C13.02). Alexis Krul, Joe LaRose and Elizabeth Winkelman were on the committee; Joe LaRose served as chairperson.

The current Council membership follows:

Terms expiring February 2020	Terms expiring February 2021	Terms expiring February 2022
Alexis Krul	Ken Billet	Martha Burke
Joe LaRose	Anne Cassidy	Geoffrey Castle
Elizabeth Winkelman*	Lisa Gess	Kay McConnell
Vacant	Gloria Love	

* Appointed to a vacated seat until the Annual Meeting of the Congregation on February 9, 2020

The Nominating Committee identified the following voting members of the Congregation willing to serve on the Congregation Council for these terms:

Nominees for Terms Expiring Feb 2021**	Nominees for Terms expiring Feb 2023
Joe LaRose	Alexis Krul
	Vacant
	Vacant

**Term limited to one year to meet Synod guidelines that Treasurers serve no more than three years consecutively

St. Michael's Constitution provides that: *The voting membership of the Congregation Council shall consist of the pastor(s), and between eight (8) and fourteen (14) members of the congregation. (**C12.01)*** This slate of nominees meets this requirement.

C12.02. *The members of the Congregation Council except the pastor(s) shall be elected by written ballot to serve for up to three (3) years or until their successors are elected. Such members shall be eligible to serve no more than two (2) full terms consecutively. Their terms shall begin at the close of the annual meeting at which they are elected. Their tenure shall be so arranged so that one-third of the terms expire annually.* (St. Michael's Constitution)

RESOLUTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION
ST. MICHAEL'S ANNUAL MEETING
February 9, 2020

RESOLUTION 1: A RESOLUTION TO DISTRIBUTE THE 2019 MEMORIAL FUND INCOME

Be it resolved that St. Michael's Congregation Council recommends to the Congregation at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 9, 2020 that the 2019 Memorial Fund Income of $8,647 be used to support the 2020 General Operating Fund.

RESOLUTION 2: A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE 2020 GENERAL OPERATING FUND AND RENTAL FUND INCOME AND EXPENSE PLANS

Be it resolved that St. Michael's Congregation gathered for the Annual Meeting on February 9, 2020 approves the 2020 General Operating Fund and Rental Fund Income and Expense Plans as recommended by the Congregation Council.

RESOLUTION 3: A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE UPDATED BYLAWS AND CONTINUING RESOLUTION

Be it resolved that the Congregation of St. Michael's Lutheran Church gathered for its Annual Meeting of the Congregation on Sunday, February 9, 2020 approves the updated Bylaws and Continuing Resolution recommended by the Congregation Council to conform to the Constitution adopted on March 3, 2019.

St. Michael's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

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Treasurer's Report

Notes on Financial Reports

A. 2019 Asset/Fund Balances.

In 2019, Total Asset/Fund Balances increased by $23,080. The increase is attributable to a $30,369 increase in the value of the Memorial Fund. The decrease in the General Fund cash accounts of $34,259 is attributable to budgeted expenses exceeding income by $13,520 and the expenditure of over $17,319 of Dedicated Funds to support the completion of the Parsonage Improvement Project and the preparation of the Parish House as IHOC transitional housing.

B. 2019 Budget to Actual Comparison.

1. **General Fund.** Income received fell short of anticipated income by $36,697. We received 88% of projected income and expended 88% of projected expenses. Our 2019 General Fund Budget projected that spending would exceed income by $(15,047); actual spending exceeded income by $(13,520).

2. **Rental Fund.** Income exceeded expenses by $18,048

C. 2020 Proposed Budget.

1. **General Fund.** We are projecting expenses to exceed income by $(2,052).

    a. **Income.** In 2020, we are projecting an income budget of $300,365. This is based upon the rollover of 2019 actual income received and our belief that the generosity experienced during the first seven months of 2019 in both pledged and unpledged giving will continue into 2020. It was noted that Income received during the last five months of 2019, after Pastor Gebhart's retirement, tracked almost 8% lower than the same five month period in 2018. Additionally, the 2020 income budget will include the transfer of 2019 Memorial Fund income of $8,647 and $10,000 of 2020 income from the Rental Fund.

    b. **Expenses.** We are projecting an expense budget of $302,417. This is 5% less than our expense budget in 2019. The decrease is attributable to projecting pastor's compensation in 2020 to be at a lesser base salary rate. Expense category projections for 2020 are based upon a combination of input from our church committees, rollover of actual 2019 spending amounts, and Church council recommendations for staff compensation increases.

2. **Rental Fund.** We anticipate rental property activity to be stable in 2020 with no major repair or maintenance expenses anticipated and the continuation of a steady rental income stream. In 2020, we are projecting income to exceed expenses by $20,104.

D. Parsonage Improvement Project.

The Congregation financial obligation to complete the Parsonage Improvement Project was $55,000. We expended $50,021 to complete the initiative. We managed to come in under budget by almost $5,000 as a result of the Property Committee's professional oversight of all phases of the project. The project was funded with a total of $37,375 from generous member gifts and Family Designated Memorial gifts. The balance of project obligations, $12,646, was drawn from the Living Memorial Fund.

E. St. Michaels Parish House/IHOC Transitional Housing.

Our agreement to allow IHOC use of St. Michael's Parish House at 102 Chapel Avenue as transitional housing for three individuals required improvements to make a space that had been used a food pantry into a space suitable as a residential accommodation. Funding for the project consisted of a memorial gift of $10,000 designated specifically for this purpose, and a $2,000 contribution from IHOC. We expended $12,094 consisting of $4220 for legal fees to obtain the zoning variance and the balance of $7,874 for mechanical and cosmetic improvements.

Thank you to all Church members who contribute their time and talents to preserve and protect St. Michael's financial resources. A special "thank you" to; Financial Secretary Tom Gano and assistant Jill Zak; Assistant Treasurer Joan Pearl, Kay McConnel, 2019 Memorial Fund Committee members Carol Prisco, Wayne Gess, Kim Billet; Administrative Assistant Kelly Mosley; and, all the Teller Team members.

Joe La Rose, Treasurer

St. Michael's Lutheran Church - 2020 Budget

	2020 Budget	2019 Actual	2019 Budget	2018 Actual
GENERAL FUND				
Income (Contributions)				
General	$267,420	$244,318	$280,652	$280,652
Plate, Seasonal, Building, etc.	14,298	14,298	14,661	14,661
Memorial Fund	8,647	8,240	8,240	7,316
Rental Fund Income Contribution	10,000	-	-	-
Income Total	**$300,365**	**266,856**	**303,553**	**302,629**
Benevolence				
Mission Support	28,172	$26,557	29,531	29,467
NJ Synod Compensation Aid Fund	822	$822	822	710
World Hunger	1,409	$1,317	1,477	1,473
Local Outreach	5,634	5,268	5,906	5,896
Benevolence Total	**36,037**	**33,964**	**37,736**	**37,546**
Staff				
Salary - Pastor	55,000	$73,430	82,178	71,000
Social Security/Medicare tax		$1,452		
Pension Plan - ELCA	7,150	$7,478	12,820	11,076
Health Insurance - ELCA	19,812	$0	0	13,452
Disability - ELCA	1,073	$1,558	2,671	2,769
Survivor Benefit	501	$125	214	277
Retiree Support	501	$436	748	646
Housing Equity	2,500	$1,458	2,500	2,500
Auto Mileage Reimbursement	2,000	$1,809	2,000	1,921
Conferences	375	$0	375	184
Education	375	$0	375	$0
Books/supplies	300	-	300	300
Pastor Total	**89,587**	**87,746**	**104,181**	**104,125**
Salary - Music Director	30,369	$29,774	29,774	28,366
Social Security/Medicare tax	2,278	2,278	2,278	2,170
Music Director Total	32,647	32,052	32,052	30,536
Salary - Office Staff	17,956	$17,604	17,604	16,055
Social Security/Medicare tax	1,347	1,347	1,347	1,210
Office Staff Total	19,303	18,951	18,951	17,265
Salary - Custodian	19,141	$18,766	18,766	18,300
Social Security/Medicare tax	1,436	1,436	1,436	1,396
Custodian Total	20,577	20,202	20,202	19,696
Staff Compensation Total	**162,113**	**158,951**	**175,386**	**171,622**

General Programs				
Martha Circle	200	194	200	97
Evangelism	100	0	200	-
Parish Life & Coffee	900	560	900	585
Social Ministry	100	0	100	24
Membership	100	16	100	-
Youth Gathering	250	250	250	-
Youth Group	650	521	650	382
General Programs Total	2,300	1,541	2,400	1,088
Worship & Music				
Instrumentals	400	365	650	375
Licensing	1,000	910	1,000	892
Music supplies	1,500	1538	1,200	1,834
Piano/organ maintenance	1,200	1330	1,200	1,215
Supply Organists	400	300	800	327
Sound System	250	32	500	-
Altar supplies	800	608	800	622
Devotional booklets	800	926	571	571
Offering envelopes	500	463	600	553
Supply Pastors	1,000	-	1,000	900
Worship & Music Total	7,850	6,472	8,321	7,289
Christian Education				
Pre-k to 12	1,000	967	1,000	748
Confirmation	500	227	500	412
Adult	1,000	431	1,000	923
Summer Programs	100	-	100	-
Worship & Music Total	2,600	1,625	2,600	2,083
Program Total	**12,750**	**9,638**	**13,321**	**10,460**
Administration				
AED Device/CPR Training	1,000	0	0	0
Postage and bulk mail	1,000	1,117	600	546
Printing & office supplies	1,700	1,648	2,000	1,665
Misc. Admin/legal	1,000	1,454	1,000	1,030
Professional fees	750	0	1,500	-
Copier contract/supplies	5,500	5,302	5,500	5,240
Computer upgrade/software	2,175	1,547	2,175	2,163
Synod Assembly	1,500	1,658	1,250	1,058
Bank charges	1,000	1,067	1,000	1,426
Church Insurance	11,500	11,173	11,500	10,921
Council contingency\Call Process	3,500	0	3,500	-
Communications/Marketing	250	0	-	-
Telephone & Internet	2,850	2,879	2,850	2,869
Administration Total	**33,725**	**27,845**	**32,875**	**26,918**

Property - Church				
Parish House	1,000	5,292	4,198	4,198
Garden committee	400	59	400	-
Misc. supplies - property	1,150	0	400	1,091
General maint/repair	4,100	2,592	4,250	4,718
Cleaning supplies	1,750	1,381	3,392	1,242
Lawn/snow maintenance	6,874	6,270	6,874	6,874
PSE&G	19,906	22,336	19,906	19,906
Fire alarm	2,943	3,037	2,943	2,943
Floor cleaning	**1,000**	0	750	-
Water/sewer	1,938	1,661	1,938	1,938
Trash removal	3,082	2,076	3,082	3,082
HVAC	882	926	882	882
Church Property Total	***45,025***	**45,630**	**49,015**	**46,874**
Property - Parsonage				
General maint/repair	1,671	1,450	1,671	1,671
PSE&G	2,706	1,999	2,706	2,706
Water/sewer	890	899	890	890
Parsonage Total	**5,267**	**4,348**	**5,267**	**5,267**
Capital Improvements-Narthex Roo	**7,500**	**-**	5,000	4,827
Property Total	**57,792**	**49,978**	**59,282**	**56,968**
Expense Total	**302,417**	**280,376**	**318,600**	**303,514**
Income less Expense	**$ (2,052)**	**$ (13,520)**	**$ (15,047)**	**$ (885)**

Saint Michael's Lutheran Church - 2020 Budget

		2020 Budget	2019 Actual	2019 Budget	2018 Actual
RENTAL FUND					
Rental Income					
104 Chapel		$ 21,360	$ 21,397	$ 21,360	$ 21,360
106 Chapel		20,100	19,881	20,100	20,520
Other - Interest		100	212	100	124
Income Total		$ 41,560	$ 41,490	$ 41,560	$ 42,004
Rental Expenses					
Bank charges					
104 Chapel -					
Legal fees					
Management fee	A	1922	2,083	2,812	2,812
Property taxes		6500	6,461	6,500	6,466
Repairs & maintenance		750	748	750	420
Utilities & protection plans		900	900	900	894
104 Chapel Property Total		$ 10,072	$ 10,192	$ 10,962	$ 10,592
106 Chapel -					
Legal fees					-
Management fee	A	3484	2,713	2,702	2,702
Property taxes		6000	5,923	6,000	5,926
Repairs & maintenance		1000	3,726	1,000	1,306
Utilities & protection plans		900	888	900	835
106 Chapel Property Total		$ 11,384	$ 13,250	$ 10,602	$ 10,769
Expense Total		21,456	23,442	21,564	21,361
Income less Expense		$ 20,104	$ 18,048	$ 19,996	$ 20,643
Beginning cash balances January 1		$ 49,211	$ 48,453	$ 48,453	$ 38,367
Income less Expense		20,104	18,048	19,996	20,643
Memorial Fund loan repayments		0	(8,960)	(2,655)	(2,897)
Capital expenditures	B	-	(8,330)	(10,000)	(7,660)
Transfer to General Fund		(10,000)	-	-	-
Ending cash balance, December 31		$ 59,315	$ 49,211	$ 55,794	$ 48,453

Notes:

A Management fee equals 9% of monthly rental income, plus first month's rent for new tenants.

B Roof for 106 Chapel Avenue

2019 PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE CONGREGATION

This was a year of transition as we bid Godspeed to Pastor Mike Gebhart on his planned retirement. We enjoyed a pastoral engagement with Pastor Marks during the summer. Since October we have been very fortunate to welcome Pastor Haab as our long-term Interim pastor and we value his pastoral leadership. Council and the congregation devoted several months to dialogue in the development of a Ministry Site Profile. We charted a path for the future and prepared to enter the call process. Now we pray for the Call Committee to discern the will of the Holy Spirit for St. Michael's.

In spite of the changes we experienced, we were an active congregation! In keeping with our ministry goals, we renewed efforts to make our Parish House at 102 Chapel available for the IHOC transitional housing program. An approved zoning variance will allow IHOC residency starting in late January 2020.

Our love for our neighbors has been demonstrated in many ways. We made twelve breakfast casseroles for Joseph's House homeless feeding ministry in Camden every month. I am proud of the new Lutheran Social Ministry's Food Pantry, which serves LSM's affordable housing community. St. Michael's quickly had a lead role in the initiative and remains a source of hope to people facing food insecurity. Our members also gave generously to LSM families by donating Thanksgiving and Easter dinner bags, as well as children's Christmas gifts.

St. Michaels' programs and activities were made possible by the leadership and hands-on work of many faithful volunteers. We were blessed with Christian Education, Youth, Music Ministry, Social Outreach, Altar Guild, Membership, Finance and Memorial Fund support. Fellowship and service projects contribute to our growth together as a church family, such as events hosted by Parish Fellowship and care for our shut-ins by the Martha's Circle. The Property and Garden teams continued to do a great job to maintain and enhance our buildings and grounds. Special mention must be made of the outstanding upgrades to 920 Abington for a new pastor and efforts to ready the Parish House for IHOC residents. A new Communications team focused on outreach via Facebook, free ads and a banner.

I continue to be grateful to the Council for its partnership and dedication to St. Michael's. In addition, I appreciate the many contributions made by our staff, especially during a period of transition. Thanks to Kelly Mosley, Paul Makin and Mark Dishong for sharing their special talents with us.

We are blessed and have much to look forward to in 2020!

Lisa Gess

Report of the Pastor

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Grace be to you and peace from God our Father and our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

I have only been at Saint Michael's for a few months, but I have seen so many great things here since I have been serving you as your Interim Pastor. I have been truly overwhelmed by your gracious welcome to me and my family. This congregation is a welcoming place for all who come through its doors.

It has been a busy and full year in the life of Saint Michael's. You have said goodbye to a pastor who had been serving Saint Michael's for almost 19 years. For some, Pastor Mike was the only pastor they knew. Now you have entered a time of transition. Thus far, you have hired me as your Interim Pastor, and as such, my primary responsibility is to help through this transition until you can Call and welcome a new pastor. You have met to determine some guidelines you would like to use as you continue to move forward. You have established a Call Committee to interview and recommend a candidate for your next pastor which is an ongoing process.

However, through the transition, the work and ministry of Saint Michael's continues through you, the ministers of this congregation. I want to commend Lisa Gess for the work she has taken on as the Council President during this time of transition. She is truly a blessing to the church and Council. I want to take this opportunity to personally thank her for all that she has done in getting me up to speed in such a short amount of time with the business of the church. I am also thankful for Kelly Mosley, our Administrative Assistant, for all the work she has picked up during this transition. I also want to uplift and say a word of thanks to all who serve on the Property Committee. They have overseen two major projects this year – the renovation of the Parsonage and fixing up and preparing 102 Chapel Avenue for IHOC – and completed many additional tasks around the church.

Another strength of this congregation is Sunday Worship. You have a great music director in Mark Dishong. I enjoy working with him, using various worship resources of the church in preparing for our Sunday services. You are also blessed by many talented musicians and singers who share their gift of music with us in many different ways. Worship assistants are another important part of our Sunday Worship. Beginning in January a new way of signing up as a worship assistant

was begun. More people are always needed. You can sign up in the Narthex if you would like to volunteer.

On Sunday mornings, you have a dedicated group of teachers working with the children. I am so glad to be able to join them in their music practice before they begin classes. Soon you will be hearing more about the 2021 National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis, Minnesota, from some of the youth planning to go to this event. Adults have the opportunity to attend Adult Forums on Sunday mornings as well, and I have been leading Wednesday Bible Studies at noon and 7:30 PM. All are welcome to participate in any of our educational events.

I have also been very impressed with the outreach ministry of this congregation. You have provided food, Christmas gifts and birthday bags to Lutheran Social Ministries, and a vibrant ministry working with IHOC, the Interfaith Homeless Outreach Council.

As you move forward into the year 2020, you will continue to share your ministry within this congregation and the community. An increase in communications and Social Media presence in the community has begun and needs to continue. You need to get your story out to the community, so that they will feel the welcome I have felt, and will 'Come and See' what you have seen, as you embody the Gospel in your daily lives. Additionally, there is the hope of restarting the ministry of Eucharistic Ministers (bringing Communion to our members of special concern). Volunteers are needed; speak with me if you are interested.

As ministers of Saint Michael's, you are a strong, mighty group of believers who welcome all who enter in! May you continue to go out and be a blessing as you minister to your families, one another and to our communities!

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Russell F. Haab+

ASH WEDNESDAY

We begin our Lenten Journey on Ash Wednesday, February 26. There are two opportunities for worship including the Imposition of Ashes.

Spoken Communion at 12:00 PM
Holy Communion at 7:30 PM

Both Communion liturgies open with the Introduction to Lent, Corporate Confession and Imposition of Ashes

REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC - MARK DISHONG

Sing to the LORD a new song, and His praise from the ends of the earth. You who go down to the sea, and all that is in it, you coastlands and you inhabitants of them! Let the wilderness and its cities lift up their voice, the villages that Kedar inhabits. Let the inhabitants of Sela sing. Let them shout from the top of the mountains. - Isaiah 42: 10-11

On March 1, 2019 I celebrated the completion of five years as Director of Music at St. Michael's. As Director of Music I play for the Sunday liturgies and direct the many musical ensembles at St. Michael's. Among them are as follows:

- The Adult Choir leads the 11:00 Liturgy each Sunday, September through May. Anthems are prepared for each Liturgy in conjunction with theme of day. Twenty dedicated adults comprise this choir.
- The Bell Choir rehearses and plays several times a year September through May.
- The Festival Choir sings special anthems and leads Christmas Eve worship and Easter morning liturgies. It includes members of the Adult Choir and other congregants and friends.
- The Sunday Church School sings monthly on the fourth Sunday of the month at the 11:00 liturgy. The children sing each week before their lessons on Sundays.

I am truly thankful for all these men, women, and children who use their talents to give praise to God. In addition, several solo vocalists and instrumentalists offer their talents throughout the year. They provide prelude, offertory, and special music on many Sundays. I am grateful to all these musicians for their music ministry.

The Adult Choir:

Soprano	Alto	Tenor	Bass
Shirley Beers	Kim Billet	Gene Pearl	George Dietrich
Kelly Daly	Leola Lewis	Jimmy Clemson	Pastor Russell Haab
Laura Dishong	Joan Pearl		Ed Nace
Erlinda Hair	Karen Roorda		Dennis Purves
Donna Hammer			
Gloria Love			
Kay McConnell			
MaryBeth Neilson			
Becky Sahlman			

Hand Bell Choir: Kim Billet, Vicki Clemson, Kelly Daly, Linda David, Elizabeth DeBacker, Laura Dishong, Sydney Misunas, Kelly Mosley, Ed Nace, Dennis Purves, Becky Sahlman, and Pat Wolbert

Festival Choir: Jimmy Clemson, Vicki Clemson, Elizabeth DeBacker, Eleanor Dishong, Kailey Mansilla, Sydney Misunas, and Becky Sahlman.

Special Music: Allen Carr, Tyler Clemson, Eleanor Dishong, Laura Dishong, Erlinda Hair, Kim Billet, Dennis Purves, Karen Roorda, Cynthia Tjoa

And while I mention the musicians of St. Michael's I would also like to acknowledge the Congregation Council and the entire congregation for their support, encouragement, and *singing* this past year. I am grateful also for the collegiality of Pastor Michael Gebhart who retired August 1, 2019; Pastor Peggy Marks (August 1-September 30); and Pastor Russell Haab. I am truly blessed to work with these fine pastors, and to serve St. Michael's Lutheran Church.

Soli Deo Gloria!

2019 Benevolence Summary

Financial Gifts Shared – All Sources

NJ Synod ELCA Mission Support	$26,557
Pastor's Discretion Fund	$8,961
Local Benevolence	$228
ELCA Hunger Program	$3,875
Interfaith Homeless Outreach Council	$4,420
Thanksgiving Turkey/Easter Hams	$1,308
NJ Synod Clergy Compensation Aid Fund	$822
ELCA Disaster Response	$466
Financial Gifts Total	**$42,762**

All Sources = Proportional Sharing, Designated Gifts & Family Designated Memorial & Living Memorial Fund Distributions

In-Kind Contributions

Narcotics Anonymous Rent Free Use of Space	$10,000	Assumes $50/use, 5 uses per week less NA donations.
IHOC Hospitality Program	$1,225	Estimate of donated host expensess.
Un-Trim-a-Tree Christmas Gifts	$1,800	Assumes 60 gifts @$30
Pack-a-Sack for Back-to-School	$1,200	Assumes 40 packs @$30
Bag-an-Easter Dinner (excluding Ham)	$1,500	Assumes 50 bags @$30
Bag-a-Thanksgiving Dinner (excluding Turkey)	$1,500	Assumes 50 bags @$30
New Visions/Joseph's House Breakfast	$1,440	Assumes 12 casseroles @12 for 10 months
In-Kind Total	**$18,665**	

Saint Michael's Lutheran Church Memorial Fund Narrative Report for 2019

As of December 31, 2019, the Memorial Fund's assets are held in the following investments classifications:

• Certificates of Deposit	16.97%
• Bonds	37.36%
• Stocks	45.67%
Total	100.00%

The Certificates of Deposit are in ELCA Mission Investment CD's, which are "laddered" (i.e. approximately one CD matures each year). The 2019 annual return is 2.10%. The CD's terms and interest rates are as follows:

• $16,160 Fixed rate, 4 years	*m: 3/20/20*	1.98%
• $ 7,802 Fixed rate, 6 years	*m: 4/04/20*	2.28%
• $ 8,000 Fixed rate, 6 years	*m: 2/25/21*	2.28%
• $ 8,000 Fixed rate, 2 years	*m: 7/25/21*	2.23%
• $ 8,000 Fixed rate, 6 years	*m: 7/25/23*	2.23%
• $ 8,313 Fixed rate, 6 years	*m: 4/04/24*	2.38%

The Bond and Stock components of the portfolio are held in various Vanguard Mutual Funds. The annual earnings in the form of interest and dividends in 2019 was 2.62% (vs 2.76% in 2018), which reflects the emphasis on growth vs income in the portfolio. As a result of a strong stock market rally in 2019, the Fund balances at year end reflects unrealized gains of $42,727 (15.78%) in 2019 compared to market losses of $15,625 in 2018. The unrealized gains are in all investment's classes.

The increase in market value by Fund is as follows:

• 500 Index	29.94 %
• Balanced Index	17.18 %
• High Yield Corporate Bond	9.16 %
• Mid Cap Value Fund	22.28 %
• Short-Term Investment Grade Bonds	1.92 %
• Total Bond Market Index	6.72 %

The Memorial Fund total earnings from interest, dividends and realized capital gains in 2019 are $8,647 (vs $8,240 in 2018). This income will be distributed, in accordance with the Congregational action determined at the 2019 annual meeting, to the General Fund to off-set a 2020 operating deficit, if applicable.

Distributions from the Memorial Fund to the General Fund of the 2018 earnings of $8,240 are reflected in the 2019 General Fund financial statement as additional contributions.

Parsonage Upgrade Funding. In March 2019, the Congregation obligated $20,000 from the Memorial Fund as a contribution toward the estimated $55,000 needed to upgrade the parsonage. Additional funding contributed for the project consisted of gifts from members and family designated memorials totaling $37,375. As a result of the project coming in under budget, project expenses totaled $50,021, only $12,646 of the $20,000 Memorial Fund contribution was expended. The unspent balance, $7,354, was supplemented with an $886 check from the Bond Index Fund to complete the $8,420 transfer due to the General Fund of 2018 Memorial Fund income.

The Memorial Fund Committee continues to monitor the investment portfolio to ensure it follows its investment guidelines, which is a conservative portfolio allocation consisting of CD's, bond and stock mutual funds.

Respectfully submitted:
Saint Michael's Memorial Fund Committee
Carol Prisco, Wayne Gess, Kim Billet, Joe LaRose

St. Michael's Lutheran Church Memorial Fund
2019 Financial Statements

		As of December 31, 2019	2018
Assets:			
Certificates of deposit:			
ELCA Mission Investment, Matures 7/2019	2 Yr. - 1.39%	$ -	$ 8,140
ELCA Mission Investment, Matures 3/2020	4 Yr. - 1.98%	17,489	17,147
ELCA Mission Investment, Matures 4/2020	6 Yr. - 2.28%	8,742	8,546
ELCA Mission Investment, Matures 2/2021	6 Yr. - 2.28%	8,912	8,712
ELCA Mission Investment, Matures 7/2021	2 Yr. - 2.25%	8,271	-
ELCA Mission Investment, Matures 7/2023	6 Yr. - 2.08%	8,411	8,226
ELCA Mission Investment, Matures 4/2024	6 Yr. - 2.38%	8,659	8,455
		60,485	59,227
Mutual Funds:			
Vanguard 500 Index Fund		56,018	51,309
Vanguard Balanced Index Fund		108,338	88,866
Vanguard High-Yield Corp Fund		29,180	25,110
Vanguard Mid-Cap Value Index Fund		32,861	25,588
Vanguard Short-Term Inv Grade Fund		46,029	33,355
Vanguard Total Bond Mkt Index Fund		23,543	40,332
		295,968	264,559
Note Receivable:			
Loan to St. Michael's Rental Fund		-	9,614
Total Assets		356,454	333,400
Less: Earnings due to General Fund		-	(7,316)
Net Assets		$ 356,454	$ 326,084

	Year Ending Dec 31, 2019	2018
Income:		
Interest:		
ELCA Mission Investment - CD 's	$ 1,259	$ 1,203
Loan to St. Michael's Rental Fund	46	330
	1,305	1,533
Dividends/Capital Gains:		
Vanguard 500 Index Fund	1,194	1,036
Vanguard Balanced Index Fund	2,437	2,025
Vanguard High-Yield Corp Fund	1,486	1,427
Vanguard Mid-Cap Value Fund	664	686
Vanguard Short-Term Inv Grade Fund	807	430
Vanguard Total Bond Mkt Index Fund	756	1,103
	7,343	6,707
Total Income	$ 8,647	$ 8,240

Bylaws of St. Michael's Lutheran Church

For revision following adoption of the new Constitution of 3/3/2019. Changes highlighted in yellow.

Article I
Duties of Officers

Section 1. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Congregation and of the Congregation Council. The President shall preside from a position of impartiality on all matters before the Council or the Congregation and may vote when the voting is by ballot and whenever his or her vote will affect the result: either to break or to cause a tie, or in a case where a 2/3 vote is required, to cause or block the attainment of the necessary 2/3 vote.

Section 2. The Vice President shall preside at meetings whenever the President is absent or has stepped down from the chair. In the case of a vacancy in the office of President, the Vice President shall serve as President until the Congregation Council acts to fill the vacancy.

Section 3. The Secretary shall keep accurate minutes of all meetings of the Congregation and of the Congregation Council. He or she shall store and safeguard these minutes in a secure location in the offices of the church. The Secretary shall have copies of the following at each meeting: (a) the recent minutes (b) the Constitution and Bylaws and (c) the continuing resolutions of the Congregation and the Council. As directed by the Congregation Council, the Secretary shall post copies of the minutes for the information of the membership.

Section 4. The Treasurer shall be entrusted with the custody of the Congregation's funds, except those funds in the custody of the Memorial Fund Trustees. The Treasurer shall maintain the necessary accounts and financial records and shall administer all funds and disburse them on proper orders. He or she shall provide a summary report at the regular meetings of the Congregation Council and a year-end annual report to the Congregation.

Section 4. a. The Financial Secretary shall maintain records of all giving commitments and contributions from the members and shall issue periodic statements to the members. The Financial Secretary shall provide a summary report at the regular meetings of the Congregation Council and a year-end annual report to the Congregation. The Financial Secretary is not an officer of the Congregation but supports the work of the Treasurer.

Article II
Organization of St. Michael's Lutheran Church [the Church]

Section 1. **The Church**
The Church shall consist of the Church Members, the Pastor(s), the Congregation Council and the Officers of the congregation, as described & defined in chapters 8, 9, 11 and 12 in the constitution, as well as Congregation Committees, Standing Committees, Special Committees, Task Forces and other groups as described in the following sections of the bylaws.

Section 2. **Congregation Committees**
The Congregation Committees shall include the Executive Committee, the Nominating Committee, the Audit Committee, the Mutual Ministry Committee, the Call Committee, and the Memorial Fund Committee in accordance with Chapter 13 of the constitution. Additional Congregation Committees may be formed as the need arises as stipulated in C13.07 of the constitution.

The descriptions and duties of the Congregation Committees, with the exception of the

Memorial Fund Committee, shall be contained in Continuing Resolutions of the Congregation Council.

Section 3. **Standing Committees**
There shall be the following standing committees: Christian Education, Church Property, Invitational Outreach, Membership Support, Finance, Social Outreach, Stewardship, Worship and Music, Youth, and Parish Fellowship.

Each Standing committee shall be composed of members of the congregation and one or more members of the council. Although established by and responsible to the congregation council, these committees shall be recognized as representative of the interest of, and performing essential services for, the congregation as a whole. The descriptions and duties of the Standing Committees shall be contained in Continuing Resolutions of the Congregation Council.

The Congregation Council shall have the authority to establish additional Standing Committees as the mission of the church requires.

Section 4. **Special Committees, Task Forces and Other Groups**
The Congregation Council and the Congregation shall have the authority to establish Special Committees, Task Forces, or other organizational groups, as the mission of the church requires.

The descriptions and duties of such Special Committees, Task Forces or other organizational groups shall be contained in continuing resolutions adopted by the Congregation Council or by the Congregation.

Section 5. The Pastor shall have voice and vote on all Standing and Special Committees, Task Forces and organizational groups.

Article III
Congregational Meeting

Section 1. There shall be an annual meeting of this congregation preferably to be held in January, the date to be set by the Congregation Council.

Article IV
Removal of Members from Rolls

Section 1. The congregation is responsible for continuing concern and conscientious pastoral care for members when they do not a) partake of Holy Communion, b) support the church with their offerings, or c) appear to desire to participate in the life and worship of the congregation. When such members have failed to receive Holy Communion and to make a contribution of record for a period of two consecutive calendar years, they may be removed from the roll of members by the Congregation Council. This procedure will take place only when there is a pastor under call to serve this congregation or with the approval of the bishop of the synod and after such members have been counseled about the matter, if possible. Such persons who have been removed from the roll of members shall remain persons for whom the church has a continuing pastoral concern.

CONTINUING RESOLUTION OF THE CONGREGATION MEMORIAL FUND OPERATION

Whereas, St. Michael's Constitution provides that:

C5.05. *This Congregation shall have a Memorial Fund that will operate as specified in this congregation's continuing resolutions.*

Whereas, the Congregation Council adopted a resolution concerning the operation of the Memorial Fund on April 1, 1979 and that said document has served to guide the Memorial Fund Committee;

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Congregation of St. Michael's Lutheran Church in assembly on January 29, 2006 for its Annual Meeting does hereby affirm that the Congregation Council resolution adopted on April 1, 1979 relating to the Memorial Fund shall continue to serve as the operating document of the Memorial Fund, except where in conflict with the constitution of St. Michael's Lutheran Church, until such time as the Congregation deems it advisable to amend or replace it.

St. Michael's Evangelical Lutheran Church Memorial Fund

Article I.
Name and Purpose

Section 1. This fund shall be known as "St. Michael's Evangelical Lutheran Church Memorial Fund", which is hereinafter sometimes referred to as the "Fund".

Section 2. The purpose of the Fund is to receive, hold, manage and dispose of all special gifts, devises, bequests and memorials received by the Church, and not designated by the donor for a specific purpose, and to apply such funds, or the income thereof, for the general purpose of the Church, or for the support and maintenance of the Church corporation or of some religious, charitable, benevolent or educational object, conducted by the Church or connected with it, or with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Article II.
Receipt of Principal

Section 1. The Church and Congregation Council shall assign, transfer and set over to the Fund Trustees all of the assets and funds received or to be received as a bequest.

Section 2. The Church and Congregation Council shall assign, transfer and set over to the Fund Trustees all of the assets currently in the existing "Memorial Fund" of the Church, except such as have been specifically designated for a special purpose.

Section 3. The Church and Congregation Council shall assign, convey, transfer and set over to the Fund Trustees all gifts, devises, bequests and memorials hereinafter received by the Church and not designated by the donor for a specific purpose.

Article III.
Distribution of Income

Section 1. The Fund Trustees shall report to the Congregation Council, at least annually, as to the net income of the Fund.

Article IV.
Distribution of Principal

Sections 1. The principal of the Fund shall be distributed only upon the recommendation of the Congregation Council submitted to and approved by two thirds of the Congregation.[1]

Article V.
Concerning the Fund Trustees

Section 1. The Fund Trustees shall:

a. collect, control, distribute, hold, invest, manage, sell and transfer the Fund or any part thereof as herein provided;
b. invest and reinvest the Fund and proceeds therefrom or any part thereof in corporation, municipal or government bonds, income bearing stocks, mutual funds or other securities, cash, or other real or personal property, investments and securities of any class, kind or character which they may deem wise, proper and prudent, whether or not such investments shall be those which trust funds are allowed to be invested under the applicable state law;
c. hold any securities in bearer form or to register them in the name of the Church, or of the Fund Trustees as such, or in the name of the nominee or nominees without indicating a fiduciary relationship, provided however that such registration shall neither increase nor decrease the liabilities of the Fund Trustees;
d. exercise with respect to all stocks, bonds and other securities and investments held by them all rights, powers and privileges which are or may be lawfully exercised by an individual owning similar property in his/her own right;
e. the term "net income" shall include all sums received by the Fund trustees by way of interest or dividends (excluding stock dividends and liquidating dividends) paid from and with respect to any of the securities or obligations constituting a part of the principal of the Fund after making any and all deductions therefrom provided for in this agreement or required by law including the expenses of administering the Fund. The decision of the Fund Trustees with respect to the determination as to what shall constitute net income and principal shall be final;
f. the Fund Trustees shall receive no compensation for their services hereunder but shall be reimbursed for proper expenses, obligations, and advances made and incurred by them in administering the Fund.

Section 2. The Congregation Council shall forthwith appoint the Fund Trustees, to be composed of five persons, to serve for such period or periods or during the pleasure of the Congregation Council as shall be provided in the resolution appointing them, and shall appoint their successors from time to time.[2]

Section 3. At or shortly after the end of each calendar year, the Fund Trustees shall render an account to the Church and the Congregation Council of the administration by the Fund Trustees of the principal and income of the Fund during the calendar year, and a copy of such an account shall be included in the annual reports of the Church. Such account shall be examined and verified by the Congregation Council or the appropriate audit committee.

Sections 4.

a. Each Fund Trustees shall serve until the expiration of his/her term, or unless he/she shall sooner die, resign or be removed. Term of office shall be set by Congregation Council on a rotating term 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 years, designated for individual trustees to provide continuity of the committee. [3]
b. Any Fund Trustee may resign at any time upon written notice to the Congregation Council. Such resignation shall become effective upon the day specified therein or on a day fifteen days subsequent to the mailing or delivery of the notice, whichever is later.
c. Any Fund Trustee may be removed at any time by a resolution adopted by two-thirds of the Congregation Council in office at the time. Such removal shall become effective upon the day specified in the resolution of removal and a copy of such resolution shall be mailed to the Fund Trustees so removed at his/her last know address on the records of the Church.

Articles revised March 12, 1979 by the Committee and approved by the Congregation Council, April 1, 1979.

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[1] This article is clarified by the Constitution C5.05: *This congregation shall have a Memorial Fund that will operate as specified in this congregation's continuing resolutions. The purpose of the mission endowment fund is to provide for mission work beyond the operational budget of this congregation. The principal of the Memorial Fund shall be disbursed only upon the recommendation of the Congregation Council and approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present at a legally called meeting of this congregation. Notice of this planned disbursement shall be specified in the call of the meeting.*

[2] This section is further clarified by the Constitution C13.06: *The **Memorial Fund Committee**, consisting of five (5) voting members of the congregation, shall be appointed by the Congregation Council. Terms of office shall be five (5) years and the terms shall be staggered. At least one member shall be a member of the Congregation Council. Members shall be eligible for reappointment. The Memorial Fund appointees, while accountable to the Congregation Council, will provide for the management of investments held in The Memorial Fund.*

[3] This section is further clarified by the Constitution C13.06: *The **Memorial Fund Committee**, consisting of five (5) voting members of the congregation, shall be appointed by the Congregation Council. Terms of office shall be five (5) years and the terms shall be staggered. At least one member shall be a member of the Congregation Council. Members shall be eligible for reappointment. The Memorial Fund appointees, while accountable to the Congregation Council, will provide for the management of investments held in The Memorial Fund.*

2019 Christian Education Report

The goal of the Christian Education Committee is to provide opportunities for educational and spiritual growth in a fun and safe atmosphere for both members and non-members of our Congregation. The Committee continued to strive to make this a success with some exciting new opportunities and expanding on existing programs.

Sunday School Classes were offered for children Pre-K (bathroom able) through grade 12 on a program calendar from September through May. An Adult Forum was also offered on Sunday mornings following the same schedule.

Enriching games and activities were provided at the 50th Annual Corn Roast held this year on September 7th.

Sunday School Rally Day was held on September 15th. All Sunday School children, Confirmation students, Senior High Sunday School and adults gathered in the sanctuary for Sunday School Teacher Installation and Music. Our groups then spent time meeting their teachers and sharing in some Rally Day games.

Youth Sunday was celebrated on June 2nd as our young people lead worship and shared their personal and touching stories from the youth gathering as their proclamation!

Our Confirmation Ministry prepared Dylan Anderson, Hanna Porowski, Jillina Solis, and Ryan Heckman to affirm their faith and receive the laying on of hands and prayer for Confirmation on Pentecost Sunday, June 9th.

Sunday, December 15th, the Sunday School performed a reenactment of the Nativity Story during the 11:00 a.m. service.

Our Music Director, Mark Dishong, continues to work with our Sunday school children. Our Sunday School Singers offer their gifts of music once a month during the worship at the 11 AM liturgy.

Pastor Mike Gebhart facilitated mid-week adult studies during the first half of the year focused on the Apostle Paul. Pastor Marks led a few sessions to share ELCA church-wide assembly actions during the summer. In December, Pastor Haab offered a series on women in the Bible.

St. Michael's Christian Education ministry is a collaborative effort focusing on a variety of educational opportunities for all ages. Liz DeBacker continues to provide leadership to the Committee. Our devoted teaching staff included: Kim Billet, Vicki Clemson, Liz DeBacker (Program Director), Chris Tressel, and Vivian Gano. Adult Forum was led by Ruth Morgenroth.

Thanks to all who share in the ministry of Christian Education!

Prepared and submitted by the Christian Education Committee

Martha Circle Report for 2019

Martha Circle is dedicated to serving our church family and wider community. This was a difficult year for our group as we had lost three hard working, talented, long time members, Carol Dawn Winkelman, Anne Trasser and Ethel Diaz. We miss them and cherish our memories of them.

Throughout the year we send hundreds of cards to our church members for birthdays, celebrations, get well wishes, sympathy and care and concern. We collected knitted hats for Lutheran Social Ministries and remembered each of our First Communicant's and Confirmands with handmade ribbon crosses. We created and distributed gifts to approximately 20 shut-ins for Valentines Day, Easter and Christmas. We continue to visit our shut-ins and church members in their homes, hospitals, rehabilitation and care facilities.

Our Current members include: Kathleen Abrams, June Anderson, Alva Brunner, Laura Fogg, Vivian Gano, June Greiser, Jo-Ann Guenther, Dot Hambleton, Donna Hammer, Else Jensen, Gina Krumanocker, Dottie Leonard, Charlotte Sturts, Janet Thompson, Millie Wilcox, Holly Zahradnick and Allyson Zinman.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Abrams

Lutheran Crossings Auxiliary Report for 2019

Lutheran Crossings at Moorestown is a Skilled Nursing and Assisted Living Community.
Formerly known as The Lutheran Home it is a ministry of Lutheran Social Ministries of NJ.

Lutheran Crossings, a non-profit organization has been sold to Cambridge Property 1 (an affiliate of Tryko Partners LLC), a profit-making organization. This difficult decision was made because of lack of financial funds to make much needed renovations and upgrades at this facility.

We as an auxiliary group, have enjoyed many years of fund-raising fellowships for the residents. Three of our accomplishments were the new specialized van bus to take residents on outings; a complete renovation of the social hall for meetings, conferences, blood drives and social events for the resident; and an update to the Chapel.

At this point I am not sure how long the hospitality cart will be available for donations.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Thompson

Membership Report for 2019

The purpose of the membership committee is to engage with visitors and current members of the congregation. We build relationships and provide opportunities for everyone to feel welcome.

Five new members were added to our baptized membership:

2 – Affirmation of Faith
2 – Letter of Transfers
1 – Reinstatement

Our membership declined in 2019, at the end of 2018 we had 277 baptized members, 2019 ended with a total of 240.

2 – Removed by Own request
4 – Letter of Transfer
29 – Removed by Council Action
7 – Went Home to Glory

In addition to assisting to the needs of the congregation we are responsible for:

- Monthly reports to council
- Directory updates
- Parish Records
- Cookies and cards for college students

Current members are: Martha Burke, Anne Cassidy, Vivian Gano, Nancy Gromen, Gina Krumanocker, Doreen Mansilla, Joan Pearl and Millie Wilcox.

Respectfully submitted,
Martha Burke

Parish Fellowship Report – 2019

Parish Fellowship hosted the following 2019 congregation events:

- Jan 27 - Budget Forum refreshments
- Feb 10 - Annual Meeting light lunch
- March 3 – Special Meeting light lunch
- June 9 – Confirmation cake
- July – Coordinate Pastor Mike's retirement celebrations
- Oct 20 – Pastor Haab welcome potluck
- Dec 15 – Advent Fellowship Event

Members:

Vicki Clemson	Jo-Ann Guenther
Linda David	Gina Krumanocker
Vivian Gano	Karen Roorda
Lisa Gess	Becky Sahlman
June Greiser	John and Holly Zahradnick

2019 was a busy year! Our team meets on an ad-hoc basis and welcomes new members and/or ideas to support the fellowship of the congregation.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Gess

Property and Garden Committees – 2019 Annual Report

The mission of the Property Committee is to manage and maintain all physical assets of the congregation and to make recommendations to the Congregation Council and to the Congregation on all matters relating thereto. The goal is to provide a safe and comfortable environment that is conducive to Worship, Work, Living, Social and Outreach activities that take place within Church-owned facilities.
The mission of the Garden Committee is to create and maintain an attractive and low maintenance landscape for the enjoyment of the members of the congregation and the surrounding neighborhood

In 2019 we continued our efforts to maintain and upgrade our facilities. We take on as many projects as we can on our own in order to maximize improvements at the least cost to the Church. The following projects were completed:

1. Held Spring and Fall Clean-up days (*). On these days we washed windows, cleaned the gutters and window wells, trimmed trees and shrubs, pulled weeds, raked leaves and performed general outdoor clean-up at the Church and 106 Chapel Ave.

2. Miscellaneous Church Repairs /Upgrades
   - Miscellaneous plumbing repairs (Plumb Medic)
   - Replaced Exit Light batteries and lamps in Sanctuary and Narthex (*)
   - Installed insulation inside heater in Pastor's Office (*)
   - Repaired window in Narthex (*)
   - Replaced exterior lamps at Elkins Rd entrances and repaired photocell (*)
   - Various minor repairs (*)

   (*) – Projects implemented by members of St. Michaels

3. Garden Committee – In 2019 the Garden Committee continued the upkeep of the garden beds at St Michaels. Weeding, deadheading, trimming, fertilizing, light mulching, planting and watering as needed kept us busy. Easter plants were planted in Spring, the Pentecost geraniums in June and Hosta plants soon after. A Japanese Maple tree, purchased with a designated donation, was planted on the front lawn and white blooming azaleas were received as a gift and planted in the garden strip along Elkins Ave.

4. 104 and 106 Chapel Ave are Rental Properties currently managed for St. Michaels by Ron England of Haddon Group Real Estate. The following major repairs were implemented:
   - 106 Chapel Ave – New roof and dry wall repairs to address water damage

5. 102 Chapel Ave – This house has been vacant since the Food Bank relocated to a larger facility in 2015; and numerous repairs and upgrades were required to make the property suitable for use as transitional housing for IHOC. St Michaels Property members implemented various upgrades and solicited bids and managed contractors for major work. Upgrades included the following:
   - Painting interior walls/trim and exterior trim by Kevin Peterson
   - New bedroom carpets by Ed Falls
   - New water heater and vent by Plumb Medic
   - New gas oven/range by Appliance Werks
   - HVAC maintenance by Hutchinson
   - Open ground in kitchen outlet circuit repaired by Thomas Holshue Electric
   - Interior cleaning by Clean Space Zen
   - Miscellaneous repairs by Property Committee:
     - Installed smoke and CO Detectors
     - Repaired/replaced closet doors, poles and shelves
     - Pulled weeds/outdoor clean-up
     - Repairs to Fence and exterior trim
     - Replaced missing asbestos shingles
     - Adjusted bath and bedroom doors
     - Installed window blinds in bedrooms
     - Repaired blinds in living room
     - Checked all outlets and switches
     - Installed towel bar

Property2019AnnualReport

Property and Garden Committees – 2019 Annual Report

6. Parsonage – Major upgrades were implemented to prepare this property for our next Pastor. St Michaels Property members implemented various upgrades, and solicited competitive bids and managed contractors for major work. Work included the following:
    - Energy Upgrade by Allied Energy including new high efficiency HVAC, water heater, upgraded attic insulation and programmable thermostat
    - Painting of interior, garage floor and exterior foundation walls by Kevin Peterson
    - Refinishing of hardwood floors throughout including removal of all upstairs carpets by John Lee
    - New carpet and pad in office by Home Depot
    - New exterior windows, shutters and siding by Bianchi
    - Concrete repairs to sidewalks by Buonanno
    - Power washing of sidewalks and roof by Hands On Deck
    - New screen doors by Hunter Door
    - Interior cleaning by Clean Space Zen
    - Miscellaneous repairs by Property Committee:
        - New lighting fixtures and switch/outlet plates
        - Repairs to kitchen cabinets
        - Trimmed shrubs, put down mulch and general outdoor clean-up
        - New door hardware, door sweeps, house numbers
        - Cleaned garage
        - Washed windows and installed blinds
        - Installed new locks and deadbolts

Thanks to the following for their efforts to repair, upgrade and beautify our facilities:
Pastor Haab, Nancy Manteufel, Millie Wilcox, Dick Wilcox, Vivian Gano, Paul Gulick, Gene Pearl, Walt Flores, Tom Keller, Fred Weber, Jack Hinger, Lauren Gromen, Allen Carr, Chas VanHorn and <u>everyone</u> who helped at our Clean-up Days

Respectfully submitted: *Larry Ferguson and Nancy Manteufel*

Property2019AnnualReport

2019 SOCIAL OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT

In 2019 the Social Outreach Committee continued many of the activities we have been supporting for the past several years and added a few new opportunities for outreach.

Interfaith Homeless Outreach Council

1. Homeless Hospitality Network: St. Michael's was scheduled to host the Hospitality Network from November 3rd through November 17th 2019. Unfortunately, the Network was not able to recruit enough men to begin at that time due to unusually warm weather and no longer having an office in Camden. However, we are looking forward to hosting the Network men from April 19th through May 3rd of 2020.
2. Pack-A – Sack: We filled over 40 book bags with school supplies for distribution to children in Camden shelters and schools.
3. Adopt-A-Box: We participated in and served as a drop off point for this campaign to collect toiletries for homeless shelter residents.
4. Grocery certificates: We purchased $6,990 in grocery certificates which resulted in a $350 donation to IHOC.
5. Mall Walk: The Youth Group and a number of members participated in the February 24th Mall Walk. For the seventh year in a row St. Michael's placed first among the groups raising money for the walk!

Lutheran Social Ministries of Camden

1. Holiday Dinners: During November members filled over 50 bags with all the trimmings for a Thanksgiving dinner and donated $750 towards the purchase of turkeys. In April we filled another 50 bags with fixings for an Easter dinner and donated $500 towards the purchase of the families' choice of an entree. The bags and monetary donations were distributed to needy families living in the Lutheran Social Ministry of Camden's affordable homes (LSM homes) in Camden.
2. Food Pantry**:** Beginning in September, St. Michael's began collecting food for the LSM's food pantry and quickly became their major donor.
3. Birthday Bags: Recently we also began a Birthday Bag project designed to provide a bag of birthday supplies for every child in the LSM homes.
4. Untrim-A-Tree: In response to gift requests on our "Christmas Sharing Tree" members provided special gifts for approximately fifty children living in the LSM homes.

Fair Trade Coffee and Products

We continued to purchase fair trade bags of coffee, cans of cocoa, boxes of tea and chocolate from the Lutheran World Relief "Equal Exchange" project.

Joseph's House Outreach

St. Michael's members provided 12 breakfast casseroles once a month to the Joseph's House night shelter.

Advocacy

This year the Social Outreach Committee started what we call the Talk Back Table. We are providing information there and in the Sunday Bulletin highlighting social issues which the New Jersey Synod believes need our attention and the attention of our federal and state legislators. The table has sample letters and contact information to help us make our voices heard on these issues.

We would like to say **Thank You** to the many volunteers who gave their time, talents and money to support all these activities.

Ruth Morgenroth – Chairperson

St. Michael's Annual Report: Youth Group 2019

In September 2019, Elizabeth Winkelman and Kim Billet became the adult leaders of St. Michael's Youth Group. Due to the small number of youth in the congregation and Elizabeth's connection with Christus, the Youth Group consists of youth from both congregations. Partnerships with other churches in the area allows for an increase in diversity of ideas and skills, providing a richer experience for the youth. The Youth Group will continue to collaborate with youth of other local churches to build community and establish relationships.

In 2019, the Youth Group has started having Friday Night Hangouts which occur once a month 7-9PM and offer an opportunity for a welcoming, safe environment for fun, goofiness, and a time to unwind. These will continue to occur in 2020 on a regular schedule.

In mid-November, Elizabeth attended the NJ Synod's Youth Retreat with two youth. It was a fun weekend where the youth were invited to Be Bold. We were encouraged to Be Yourself, Be Engaged, Be Loved, and Be Sent by God because we are all beautifully and wonderfully made! We talked about what it means to feel safe and to be loved. We sang songs, played games, and got to be our goofy selves. Our youth also made deep and lasting friendships with some of the farm animals located on the grounds where the retreat was held. Feed a goat and it will love you forever.

There was also a well-attended roller skating event near the end of November consisting of six youth. However, by the end of the night, Kim and Elizabeth did more laps than the youth and one of the accompanying adults from Christus skated loops around everyone.

This December the Youth Group held a Christmas party attended by four youth and four adults. It was a casual, fun time of hot cocoa and an intense game of fishing for candy canes using a candy cane held your mouth. Pastor Haab was a great sport, but ultimately all youth were able to collect as many or more candy canes than he was able to.

The Youth Group finished out the year with an escape room adventure. This included five of our youth and two from St. Mark's (along with a total of five adults). The group split to escape from an Egyptian themed room and an Area 51 room. All participants successfully escaped before time was up and had a really great experience!

We may be small, but the Youth Group looks forward to large amounts of fun in 2020! Along with more fun outings and activities, we plan to start preparing for Youth Sunday. This summer we will start to discuss the National Youth Gathering to be held in the summer of 2021 in Minneapolis with theme "boundless: God beyond measure."

ST. MICHAEL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
2020 WORSHIP CALENDAR

Sunday	Other	Observance	Time(s)	Notes
		CHRISTMAS 2019		
22-Dec-19	**ONE SERVICE**	Advent 4	10:00 AM	
	Tuesday, December 24, 2019	Christmas Eve	4:30 PM	Family Service
	Tuesday, December 24, 2019	Christmas Eve	10:00 PM	Festival Liturgy
29-Dec-19	**ONE SERVICE**	1 Christmas	10:00 AM	Lessons, Carols & Communion
		JANUARY 2020		
5-Jan-20		2 Christmas	815 & 11 AM	
12-Jan-20		Baptism of Our Lord	815 & 11 AM	
19-Jan-20		2 Epiphany	815 & 11 AM	
26-Jan-20		3 Epiphany	815 & 11 AM	Budget Forum 12:15 PM
		FEBRUARY 2020		
2-Feb-20		4 Epiphany	815 & 11 AM	
9-Feb-20	**ONE SERVICE**	5 Epiphany	10:00 AM	**Annual Meeting Sunday**
16-Feb-20		6 Epiphany	815 & 11 AM	
23-Feb-20		Transfiguration	815 & 11 AM	
26-Feb-20	Wednesday, February 26, 2020	Ash Wednesday	12 Noon	Spoken Communion
26-Feb-20	Wednesday, February 26, 2020	Ash Wednesday	730 PM	Holy Communion
		MARCH 2020		
1-Mar-20		1 Lent	815 & 11 AM	
	Wednesday, March 4, 2020	Mid-week Lent	6:00 PM	Soup, Song & Study
8-Mar-20		2 Lent	815 & 11 AM	
	Wednesday, March 11, 2020	Mid-week Lent	6:00 PM	Soup, Song & Study
15-Mar-20		3 Lent	815 & 11 AM	
	Wednesday, March 18, 2020	Mid-week Lent	6:00 PM	Soup, Song & Study
22-Mar-20		4 Lent	815 & 11 AM	
	Wednesday, March 25, 2020	Mid-week Lent	6:00 PM	Soup, Song & Study
29-Mar-20		5 Lent	815 & 11 AM	
		APRIL 2020		
	Wednesday, April 1, 2020	Mid-week Lent	6:00 PM	Soup, Song & Study
5-Apr-20		Palm/Passion Sunday	815 & 11 AM	
	Thursday, April 9, 2020	Maundy Thursday	12 Noon	Spoken Communion
	Thursday, April 9, 2020	Maundy Thursday	7:30 PM	Holy Communion
	Friday, April 10, 2020	Good Friday	10:30 AM	Children's Activity
	Friday, April 10, 2020	Good Friday	7:30 PM	Good Friday Worship
12-Apr-20		Easter	815 & 11 AM	
19-Apr-20		2 Easter	815 & 11 AM	
26-Apr-20		3 Easter	815 & 11 AM	
		MAY 2020		
3-May-20		4 Easter	815 & 11 AM	
10-May-20		5 Easter	815 & 11 AM	Mother's Day
17-May-20		6 Easter	815 & 11 AM	
24-May-20		7 Easter	815 & 11 AM	
31-May-20		Pentecost	815 & 11 AM	8:15 Spoken Communion
		JUNE 2020		
7-Jun-20		The Holy Trinity	815 & 11 AM	8:15 Spoken Communion
14-Jun-20		2 Pentecost	815 & 11 AM	8:15 Spoken Communion
21-Jun-20		3 Pentecost	815 & 11 AM	8:15 Spoken Communion/Father's Day
28-Jun-20		4 Pentecost	815 & 11 AM	8:15 Spoken Communion
		JULY 2020		
5-Jul-20		5 Pentecost	815 & 11 AM	8:15 Spoken Communion
12-Jul-20		6 Pentecost	815 & 11 AM	8:15 Spoken Communion
17-Jul-20		7 Pentecost	815 & 11 AM	8:15 Spoken Communion

Approved by Council on 11/12/2019

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Subject to Change

ST. MICHAEL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
2020 WORSHIP CALENDAR

Sunday	Other	Observance	Time(s)	Notes
26-Jul-20		8 Pentecost	815 & 11 AM	8:15 Spoken Communion
		AUGUST 2020		
2-Aug-20		9 Pentecost	815 & 11 AM	8:15 Spoken Communion
9-Aug-20		10 Pentecost	815 & 11 AM	8:15 Spoken Communion
16-Aug-20		11 Pentecost	815 & 11 AM	8:15 Spoken Communion
23-Aug-20		12 Pentecost	815 & 11 AM	8:15 Spoken Communion
30-Aug-20		13 Pentecost	815 & 11 AM	8:15 Spoken Communion
		SEPTEMBER 2020		
6-Sep-20		14 Pentecost	815 & 11 AM	8:15 Spoken Communion
13-Sep-20		15 Pentecost	815 & 11 AM	Rally Day
20-Sep-20		16 Pentecost	815 & 11 AM	
27-Sep-20		17 Pentecost	815 & 11 AM	
		OCTOBER 2020		
4-Oct-20		18 Pentecost	815 & 11 AM	
4-Oct-20			4:00 PM	Blessing of Pet Animals
11-Oct-20		19 Pentecost		
11-Oct-20			4:00 PM	Rain Date Blessing of Pet Animals
18-Oct-20		20 Pentecost	815 & 11 AM	
25-Oct-20		Reformation Sunday	815 & 11 AM	
		NOVEMBER 2020		
1-Nov-20		All Saints	815 & 11 AM	
8-Nov-20		23 Pentecost	815 & 11 AM	
15-Nov-20		24 Pentecost	815 & 11 AM	
22-Nov-20		Christ the King	815 & 11 AM	
29-Nov-20		1 Advent	815 & 11 AM	
		DECEMBER 2020		
6-Dec-20		2 Advent	815 & 11 AM	
13-Dec-20		3 Advent	815 & 11 AM	
20-Dec-20	**ONE SERVICE**	4 Advent	10:00 AM	
	Thursday, December 24, 2020	Christmas Eve	4:30 PM	Family Service
	Thursday, December 24, 2020	Christmas Eve	10:00 PM	Festival Liturgy
27-Dec-20	**ONE SERVICE**	1 Christmas/St. John	10:00 AM	Lessons, Carols & Communion
		JANUARY 2021		
3-Jan-21		2 Christmas	815 & 11 AM	
10-Jan-21		Baptism of Our Lord	815 & 11 AM	

Approved by Council on 11/12/2019

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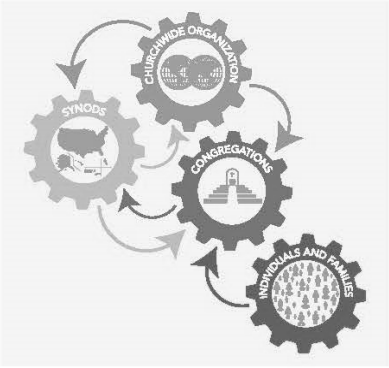
Subject to Change

2019 - 2020 SUNDAY SCHOOL CALENDAR (UPDATED 8/7/2019)
CLASSES 9:30 - 10:45 AM

	SUNDAY SCHOOL DATES	NOTES
Sunday, January 5, 2020	Regular SCS	Epiphany
Sunday, January 12, 2020	Regular SCS	Baptism of Our Lord
Sunday, January 19, 2020	Regular SCS	
Sunday, January 26, 2020	Regular SCS	
Sunday, February 2, 2020	Regular SCS	
Sunday, February 9, 2020	**NO CLASSES - ANNUAL MEETING**	Worship at 10:00 AM Only
Sunday, February 16, 2020	Regular SCS	
Sunday, February 23, 2020	Regular SCS	Transfiguration
Sunday, March 1, 2020	Regular SCS	Lent 1
Sunday, March 8, 2020	Regular SCS	Lent 2
Sunday, March 15, 2020	Regular SCS	Lent 3
Sunday, March 22, 2020	Regular SCS	Lent 4
Sunday, March 29, 2020	Regular SCS	Lent 5
Sunday, April 5, 2020	Regular SCS	Palm/Passion Sunday
Sunday, April 12, 2020	**NO CLASSES - EASTER**	Easter
Sunday, April 19, 2020	Regular SCS	
Sunday, April 26, 2020	Regular SCS	
Sunday, May 3, 2020	Regular SCS	
Sunday, May 10, 2020	Regular SCS	
Sunday, May 17, 2020	**FINAL REGULAR SCS CLASSES**	
Sunday, May 24, 2020	**NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**	Memorial Day Weekend
Sunday, May 31, 2020	**NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**	Pentecost - Confirmation
Sunday, June 7, 2020	**NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**	Youth Sunday

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

WHERE DOES MY **OFFERING GO?**

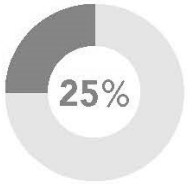


ELCA members in more than 9,300 congregations in the United States and Caribbean give approximately $**1.75 billion** in regular offering to support ELCA ministries in their local communities and worldwide. When members give through their **congregations**, a percentage of that money is then shared with the local **synod** and the national **churchwide organization**.

This unrestricted giving, called Mission Support, gives us both the foundation and the fuel to do God's work in the world and a portion of the gifts circle back to support ministries in synods and local congregations. Of these unrestricted gifts, the churchwide organization receives around 2.6 percent. This represents the largest portion of the ELCA churchwide organization's operating budget.

Your Mission Support helps fund the following churchwide ministries:

Grow the ELCA in the United States

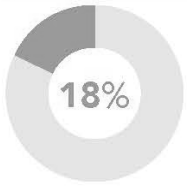


357

Plant and support 357 new congregations.

- **Enable congregations to renew their ministries** and reach out to their surrounding communities.
- **Work together** with our African Descent, American Indian and Alaska Native, Arab and Middle Eastern, Asian and Pacific Islander, and Latino/Latina members to develop networks and resources for ministry.
- **Develop and share resources** for faith, discipleship, prayer and worship.

Grow the Lutheran church around the world

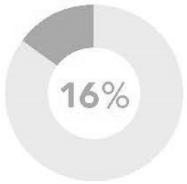


230

Send 230 missionaries in more than 48 countries, and more than 84 Young Adults in Global Mission in 11 country programs.

- **As a member of The Lutheran World Federation, we're in communion with 145 member churches** and directly connected to 85 companion churches in other countries.
- **Accompany new Lutheran churches,** expand ministries, and train leaders and evangelists.

Provide **coordination and support** for churchwide ministries

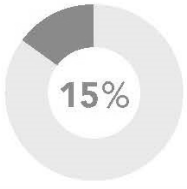


1.1 million

Maintain constituent database, including 1.1 million records of rostered and lay leaders, members, donors and congregations.

- **Preserve and maintain archives and historic records** of the ELCA and its predecessor bodies.
- **Provide office space, equipment and human resources** for staff and operations.
- **Process 150,000 gifts** to ELCA ministries.
- **Equip congregations and synods** with resources to assist in risk management and legal matters.

Support and develop current and future **leaders** in the ELCA



9,900

Recruit, prepare and implement a system for the assignment of 9,900 rostered ministers.

- **Support the work** of seven ELCA seminaries and 26 colleges and universities.
- **Identify, connect and provide** ministry resources and opportunities for networking for lay leaders.
- **Offer events and leadership opportunities** for youth and young adults.

Invest in **technology** and **communications**

Design and maintain communications tools to strengthen our Lutheran identity and grow awareness of our church and its mission and ministries.

- **Connect members with one another** through new technology and systems.

Provide governance and leadership

65

Coordinate meetings and support for 65 synodical bishops.

- **Organize lay and clergy leaders from across the church to serve** on the governance boards and committees that provide guidance and oversight for ELCA ministries.

Grow and sustain financial resources

Develop and promote efforts related to stewardship education, financial literacy, mission interpretation and growth in giving to all church ministries.

Address social issues and **work for justice**

1 in 50

Support social ministry organizations, such as Lutheran Services in America, to impact the lives of **1 in 50** Americans.

- **Engage** in churchwide study and deliberation to create social statements and resources that address social, political, environmental and other public issues.
- **Equip** members and leaders to advocate with lawmakers in order to support policies that promote justice and peace.

Your designated gifts to ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response provide additional funds annually to address hunger, poverty and suffering around the world.

Engage in **research** and **strategic planning**

Research and analyze trends that impact the ELCA and develop innovative strategies to improve mission and ministry in the 21st century.

Sustain **ecumenical** and **interfaith relationships**

Facilitate dialogue and common action among communities of other faiths, including the development of resources and communications for ELCA congregations.

- **Seek unity in faith and life** with all Lutherans and **six** full communion partners.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

PALM SUNDAY

April 5, at 8:15 AM Holy Communion and
11:00 AM Holy Communion

MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 9, 12 Noon Spoken Communion
and 7:30 PM Holy Communion

GOOD FRIDAY

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP & ACTIVITY

April 10 at 10:30 AM
Worship, Songs, Stories, Crafts and a Snack

GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP

April 10 at 7:30 PM

The Passion Gospel according to John, the Procession of the Cross, the Solemn Reproaches and the Bidding Prayer, help us reflect on the meaning of a crucified Savior who brings life to the whole world.

The Resurrection of Our Lord

Easter Sunday

April 12 at 8:15 & 11:00 AM
On the first day of a new week we
celebrate our resurrection hope.
Festival Choir at 11:00 AM
(No Sunday School or Adult Forum)