

January 31, 2021

10:45 am

AGENDA



Call to Order

Ron Jurkovic, Chairperson

Opening Prayer

Pastor Chris Buresh

Minutes of Last Congregational Meeting

Diane M. Sweeney

Pastoral Report

Pastor Chris Buresh

Director of Childrens' and Family Ministry's Report

Lori Puttkammer

Music

Aaron Basch

Financial Secretary's Report

Linda Sensmeier

Treasurer's Report

William Markel

Finance Committee Report

Paul Behrman

Reports from Council Committee Chairpersons

Education

Edith Schmitt

Congregational Activities

Lauren Kirkner

Deacons

Paul Petersen

Church and Community

Shawn Erickson

Trustees

Matt Behrman

Missions and Charities

Judy Lang

Stewardship

Joe Perry

Presentation of 2021 Budget

William Markel

Call Committee

Gail Behrman

Nomination of 2021 Church Officers

Wayne Rabold

New Business

Comments by the Chairperson

Ron Jurkovic

Adjournment – The Lord's Prayer



ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
JANUARY 26, 2020

The annual Congregational Meeting of the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd was called to order by Chairperson, Kristie Traverso at 9:51 am. on January 26, 2020. There were 153 voting members present, constituting a quorum and legal meeting. Pastor Chris Buresh opened with prayer. The minutes of the January, 2019 meeting had been distributed to all present to be read individually. On a motion by Carol Miller, seconded by Deanna Wachholz, the minutes were accepted as presented.

PASTORAL REPORT: Pastor Buresh expressed how the annual meeting is a time to celebrate how the light has come over us in the last year and to reflect where the light is calling us. Thankful to be doing this work along side the church family. He recognized those who have left the staff this past year, Kyle Gansel and Ron Skoglund. He welcomed Michelle Podewell as Carillon Bell Choir Director, Jennifer Corp as Sunday School Children's' Music Director, Pastor Joe Schultz as Interim Minister and Pastor Basch as Pastor Emeritus. Special thanks to Council Members stepping down, Kristie Traverso, Keith Gansel, Kelly Hennessy and Larry Mish. He is blessed by the support of the congregation and his family.

INTERIM MINISTER'S REPORT: Pastor Chris reported for Pastor Joe. Pastor Joe is blessed to be at Good Shepherd. He appreciates our emphasis on Missions and invites everyone to the Spaghetti Dinner, Feb 9.

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRY: Lori Puttkammer – 2019 was a busy and fulfilling year! Lori shared all the different things the children learned, participated in, and shared. She explained the fellowship opportunities, how well the church nursery is attended, and how amazing the Vacation Bible School program is attended. She thanked all the volunteers who created these big successes. She's looking forward to 2020, and all it will bring. Lori thanked her fellow staff, Youth and Ed committee, and the VBS team, for all their support and knowledge. She is grateful to serve God and our church family.

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Pastor Chris reported for Aaron Basch. He thanked Kyle Gansel for his years of service and welcomed Michelle to fill his shoes. He thanked all who are in the choirs for their dedication and for the church family for their support. Pastor also stated the Jr. Choir is completing the process of getting new robes. Last, he invited anyone to join any of our choirs.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY: Linda Sensmeier reviewed the Financial Secretary's report for 2019.

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2019

Regular Offerings	\$682,336.17
Charities & Welfare	\$35,348.10
Other Receipts	\$820.20
Special Donations	<u>\$234,060.47</u>
Total Receipts	\$952,564.94
Memorials	\$17,295.24

On a motion made by Jim Fricke, seconded by Joe Perry, the Financial Secretary's Report was accepted.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
JANUARY 26, 2020

TREASURER'S REPORT: Bill Markel reviewed the Treasurer's Report for 2019:

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2019

Opening Balance 1/1/19	\$413,575.38
Plus Receipts	\$952,564.94
Less Expenditures	<u>\$725,552.47</u>
Ending Balance 12/31/19	\$640,587.85
Church Property & Furnishings (est.)	\$5,000,000.00
Church, Checking Operating Account	\$640,587.85
Memorial Account	\$201,409.13
Morgan Stanley Enrichment Account	\$3,645,347.00
Missions Account	\$86,870.74

On a motion by Joe Perry, seconded by Marilyn Aspan, the Treasurer's Report was accepted.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: Paul Behrman reported on the Morgan Stanley Enrichment Account, and the Mission Endowment Account.

YOUTH AND EDUCATION: Kelly Hennessy said it was a successful year. Although we miss Ron Skoglund, we look forward to working with Pastor Joe.

ADULT ACTIVITIES: Diane Adduci filled in for Shawn Erickson. She spoke of the three activities the committee hosted, including Ash Wednesday Senior Luncheon, Rally Day and the refreshments following the Christmas Concert. An invitation was given for anyone who would like to join the committee, explaining it is not a big time commitment, but a lot of fun!

DEACONS: Paul Petersen reported that our Church is divided into 16 districts with one Deacon serving each district. Each Deacon is responsible for providing giving statements for members in their district. Deacons also assist with baptisms. They also host twice a month coffee hours, as well as three picnics. He finished by thanking Sue Buerger, Bill Kretzer and Sue McCoy, who are stepping down, for their years of service.

TRUSTEES: Keith Gansel's report started with an explanation of all the upgrades done to the church this year. LED fixtures and bulbs were replaced throughout the church proper, as well as the church grounds. Carpet was replaced in the sanctuary, narthex, coatrooms, hallways, and old narthex. Kelly Kretzer was given credit for her assistance selecting the product, and coordinating the installment. And a huge thank you to many members who came to remove and replace pews for the project, which only took one week, with no disruption to services. Employee of the year was given to Jan Nelson, who "single handedly" worked through two carpal tunnel surgeries, and then a fractured wrist. Henry Lang, Tom Germany, the Ericksons, Donna Choquette and many others who are always there when help is needed. Keith closed by thanking Pastor Chris, Pastor Basch, the church council, and fellow members for constant support, encouragement, confidence and love given to him through the years.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
JANUARY 26, 2020

CHURCH AND COMMUNITY: Larry Mish explaining how this committee helps foster the relationship between the Good Shepherd Church and the surrounding communities by offering and hosting various events. This past year, some of these events included, two blood drives, hosting Flu Vaccinations, acting as a voting facility for various precincts, and a safe place for Palos East School. We have also hosted the Palos School District 118 pre-screening, and also the Boy Scout Troop 3729 and Boy Scout Troop 729. Special thanks to Wayne Buerger for his help with organizing the vaccinations, and Karl Krout who helps organize the blood drives and Donna Choquette and Jan Nelson for their continued help.

MISSIONS AND CHARITIES: Judy Lang explained how we are all participants in Missions Outreach. Sharing our gifts has always been a priority at Good Shepherd. The Missions and Charities supported monetarily by our Congregation are listed in the annual report. This year's total donations is \$192,302, representing approximately 34% of our opening budget. Many projects are sponsored by organizations and individuals within our congregation. The Church Council has recently approved a new program titled, "A Companion Synod Relationship". We will develop a relationship with a Lutheran congregation in Africa, emphasizing the relationship of Christians throughout the world.

STEWARDSHIP: Joe Perry repeats, continue to give, and the stewards will continue to count!

CALL COMMITTEE: Gail Behrman introduced members of the Call Committee, explaining they have only had one meeting thus far, but are filling out the paperwork to start the Call process. They are open to hear any suggestions any members may have.

2020 BUDGET: Bill Markel presented the 2020 Budget to the Congregation to approve. Linda Sensmeier made a motion to approve the budget and Linda Hubbard seconded the motion. The budget was unanimously accepted.

NOMINATIONS: Roger Rosenquist presented the nominations for the 2020 church officers. A motion was made by Carol Miller, and seconded by Marilyn Aspan, to accept these nominations. The nominations were passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS There was no new business.

COMMENTS BY THE CHAIRPERSON: Kristie Traverso was honored and privileged to serve as Council Chair for the last two years. What a job, trying to say goodbye to a Pastor of 40 years, while at the same time bringing in a new, wonderful, qualified Pastor. Was so easy to do with the loving members of Good Shepherd right there next to her. She thanked the Church Council for the many hours put in on Tuesday nights, making sure our church runs smoothly. Thanks to the staff and volunteers, for all the work done behind the scenes. She was grateful to Ron Skoglund for his years of service and amazed by Lori's gifts, and excited to have Pastor Joe added to our church family. Last, she thanked Pastor Chris. She knows Good Shepherd is in good hands.

The meeting then closed at 10:45 a.m. with Pastor Buresh leading us in the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane M. Sweeney
Secretary

People of the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

The Statistical Summary for 2020

Entering our Communicant Membership:	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
by transfer from other Lutheran Churches	5	9	0
returned from "out of area" listing	3	0	1
by Adult Confirmation or Profession of Faith	16	4	0
Juniors Confirmed	20	14	19
Returned from "inactive" listing	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>
	46	28	20

Those who left our active communicant membership:

by transfer to other Lutheran Churches	2	10	0
by death	15	17	17
placed on "out of area" listing	19	12	0
placed on "inactive" listing	22	12	0
withdrawal or other denomination	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	59	51	17

Transfers or releases issued to those who have been

On our "out of area" or "inactive" listing	2	2	0
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Summary of Membership Reports

Baptized membership at end of year	1,823	1,805	1,799
Communicant membership at end of year	1,530	1,507	1,510

Official Pastoral Acts:

Baptisms	28	16	15
Marriages	10	3	5
Funerals	30	33	21

Total Worship Attendance	24,282	21,327	37,508
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Total Communion Attendance	10,584	9,202	Unknown
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Sunday School Enrollment

Confirmation Classes (grades 6-8)	48	48	48
Sunday School (nursery – 5 th grade)	<u>110</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>
	158	148	148

	Sessions	Enrolled	Total Attended	Total Percent
2018	47	3,892	2,060	52.9
2019	47	3,590	1,924	53.5
2020	52	3,900	4,961	100.3



GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
ANNUAL MEETING
JANUARY 31, 2021

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S & FAMILY MINISTRY REPORT

Peace and love to you,

I recently attended a children's ministry, 3-day, virtual conference. I am grateful to Pastor Chris and the Council for blessing me with the ability to attend. The conference theme this year was Living Evidence.

As I began thinking about 2020, it became clear to me how much the theme had meaning for us here at Good Shepherd over the past year.

We began strong with all the fun family fellowship events, Sunday school lessons and mission projects underway, Early childhood moms looking forward to new ways to gather and connect, the 6th Grade Confirmation kids diving deeper into the Apostles' Creed, Lord's Prayer and 10 Commandments, even VBS planning had begun and then....well... then, it all came to a screeching halt. Covid-19 entered our lives and reached the level of a pandemic. With so much unknown about this illness, we were forced to shelter in place; in our homes.

Thanks to Pastor Chris' leadership and the Church Council we were able to continue virtually. Within 1 week's time, we had Virtual Sunday school lessons recorded and online. YouTube, Zoom, Constant Contact, I-Movie, recording, editing, adding to the website, became necessary to learn to keep our children and our children's ministry leaders connected. We were bringing God's word into the homes of our children. It would not only impact them, but their whole family, too.

Tough decisions surrounding VBS, with the pandemic in mind, had to be made. Thanks to Scott Bort, the Youth and Education Committee, Michelle Podewell and the VBS Planning committee we were more determined than ever to give our favorite summertime friends a virtual opportunity to hear God's Word and have fun doing it.

As we headed into the fall, our Sunday school and Confirmation classes began virtually. These took on a new level of virtual presentation, too. Thanks to Jennifer Miller-Corp our Sunday school kids get to sing and dance each week virtually through our Virtual Classroom. Then as Christmas quickly approached, we began working diligently on a virtual presentation that would help us feel connected as well as celebrate Jesus' birth with one another. While it was definitely different, the celebration of His love was significantly felt.

Those on the Youth and Education Committee, the VBS planning committee, the Sunday school Teachers, our Puppet Ministry team, our Children's Music Directors, the office staff, Pastor Joe, Pastor Chris and I have walked alongside of each other sharing the passion for bringing God's Word and love to our children no matter the circumstance. This, my friends, is definitely...Living Evidence! Living Evidence, that together, we were determined to let our light shine.

In this year, 2021, I feel I can say with confidence that all those involved with our Children's Ministry programs will continue shining the light and love of Jesus. I would encourage any of you to consider joining us as future Kid Min opportunities arise. Let's continue shining brightly for our next generation.

Sincerely,

Lori Puttkammer



Family Ministries



GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
ANNUAL MEETING
JANUARY 31, 2021

MUSIC REPORT

The music program has been particularly impacted by the pandemic as singing is unfortunately one of the most transmissible activities a person can do. The music staff has worked hard to contribute music to the virtual services without being able to deploy the talents of all of our choir members. As the year progressed we were able to provide additional video content for church services culminating with our virtual Christmas Concert. Thank you to Cindy, Donna, Michelle and Joy for working to put that program together along with the other individuals who were able to participate. We will continue to provide recorded music this spring and will restore full choir participation as soon as it is safe to do so. Thanks for all of your support during this challenging year and wishing everyone a happy and healthy 2021.



Financial Secretary's Report Year Ending December 31, 2020

CASH RECEIPT ANALYSIS:

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
Regular Offerings:		
Envelopes	633,941.67	474,700.86
Eofferings	30,757.49	137,824.50
Plate	16,928.89	3,693.00
Sunday School	409.87	81.10
Lenten Folders	298.25	29.00.
COVID Fund	0.00	11,311.00
Sub Total	682,336.17	627,639.46
 Charities and Welfare:		
Mission Envelopes	34,473.05	34,155.68
Special Missions	875.05	2,050.00
Sub Total	35,348.10	36,205.68
 Other Receipts:		
Youth Fund	220.20	105.00
Facilities Rental	100.00	225.00
Congregation Groups/Socials	0.00	0.00
Baptisms/Weddings	500.00	800.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	75,425.00
Sub Total	820.20	76,555.00
 SUBTOTAL	718,504.47	740,400.14
 Special Donations	234,060.47	90,068.20
 TOTAL	952,564.94	830,468.34
 Memorials:	17,295.24	14,470.00

Linda Sensmeier
Financial Secretary



**Financial
Secretary's
Report**

Good Shepherd Treasurer's Report

2021 Budget

	2020 Actual	2020 Budget	2021 Budget
Salaries and Wages			
Pastors	51,698.32	95,015.00	100,296.45
Staff	204,902.81	166,573.43	171,316.67
Auto and Cell Phone	4,200.00	6,150.00	7,320.00
Housing	-	12,000.00	23,550.00
Total	260,801.13	279,738.43	302,483.11
Fringe Benefits			
Health, Welfare, Insurance	84,618.33	99,827.94	111,398.64
Social Security Expenses	13,066.33	16,197.87	16,529.33
Total	97,684.66	116,025.81	127,927.97
Church Programs			
Children's Programs	2,952.82	8,000.00	8,000.00
Early Childhood Ministry	543.41	1,000.00	1,000.00
Youth Program	7,000.00	7,000.00	7,000.00
Adult Education	505.93	1,700.00	1,700.00
Family Enrichment	136.94	2,000.00	2,000.00
Vacation Bible School	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
Total	13,639.10	22,200.00	22,200.00
Other Operating Expenses			
Utilities	32,113.28	37,450.00	37,000.00
Repairs and Maintenance	17,270.06	35,000.00	35,000.00
Office Supplies & Equipment	16,426.60	5,590.00	5,590.00
Religious/Worship Supplies	5,483.73	9,000.00	9,000.00
Music Programs	1,734.65	2,000.00	2,000.00
Bulletins	965.07	3,000.00	3,000.00
Mailings	5,647.66	5,000.00	5,000.00
Insurance	20,979.00	23,000.00	23,000.00
Convention and Conference	641.56	1,000.00	1,000.00
Snow Removal and Lawn Care	14,281.48	14,000.00	14,000.00
Miscellaneous	3,371.29	500.00	17,500.00
Total	118,914.38	135,540.00	152,090.00
Total Budgeted Expenses	491,039.27	553,504.24	604,701.08
Capital Improvements	-	20,000.00	20,000.00
Missions and Charities	180,721.76	180,000.00	180,000.00
Transfer Money Market/Misc	340,000.00	0.00	0.00
Grand Total	1,011,761.03	753,504.24	804,701.08

MEMORIAL ACCOUNT

Balance: 1/1/20 \$201,409.13

Receipts:

Donations	\$14,470.00	
Interest	<u>181.97</u>	
		14,651.97

Disbursements:

Balance 12/31/20	<u>\$216,061.10</u>
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Respectfully Submitted,
William A. Markel, Treasurer



SPECIAL PROJECTS ACCOUNT

Balance: 1/1/20 \$13,292.71

Receipts:

Interest	<u>6.74</u>	
		6.74

Disbursements: None

Balance 12/31/20	<u>\$13,299.45</u>
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Respectfully Submitted,
William A. Markel, Treasurer



Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
2021 Congregational Meeting
Treasurer's Comments

Operating Account

1. 2020 Actual

- a. Overall - \$62,000 under budget on "Budgeted Expenses" and \$82,000 under budget on "Grand Total" expenses excluding the \$340,000 transfer discussed below.
 - i. Salaries and benefits budgeted at \$358,000 came in \$37,000 under budget. This was primarily due to budgeting for an associate pastor for all of 2020 and that position was filled for only part of the year by Pastor Schultz. Additionally, Pastor Schultz worked part time and did not receive benefits nor housing, both of which were budgeted.
 - ii. Church programs and other operating expenses were under budget by \$9,000 and \$17,000, respectively, almost exclusively due to reduced services due to COVID.
 - iii. We did not spend the \$20,000 budgeted for capital improvements, although approximately \$8,000 was expended to expand WIFI to the entire church building. This \$8,000 is included in repairs and maintenance.
 - iv. Missions and Charities budgeted at \$180,000 was donated and is covered in Judy Lang's Missions report.
 - v. We transferred \$340,000 from the Operating Account during the year. This is primarily due to donations from the estate of Ruth Koehler and the desire to keep our investments under the limit the FDIC would insure.
- b. Receipts totaled \$819,000
 - i. Receipts include \$75,325 of proceeds from the Small Business Administration Paycheck Protection Plan ("PPP") program.
 - ii. Receipts also include \$90,000 as a final distribution from the estate of Ruth Koehler.
 - iii. Excluding receipts from PPP and Ms. Koehler's estate, receipts were \$653,000 and were below expenditures by \$18,000

myEoffering

- 1. 2020 receipts from myEoffering (which started February 1, 2019) totaled \$137,000 compared to \$31,000 for 11 months in 2019. This represents 21% of the \$653,000 of "normal" receipts shown above (excluding PPP and Ms. Koehler's estate).
- 2. myEoffering provides the ability to send offerings online, which was crucial in 2020 as we reduced in-person services.
- 3. myEoffering contributions can be designated as Weekly Offerings and Missions.
- 4. Information on myEoffering, including sign up instructions, can be obtained in the Church office.

Memorial Account

- 1. Donations totaled \$15,000 for 2020 and there were no disbursements.

Special Projects Account

- 1. There were no donations in 2021 (nor 2020 or 2019) and no disbursements.

2021 Budget

- 1. \$605,000 budgeted expenses for 2021 exceed by \$114,000 the actual expenses of \$491,000 in 2020.
 - a. \$72,000 of the total increase is due to Salaries and Benefits. Reasons for the increase include:
 - i. Salary increases for our current Pastor and Staff.
 - ii. Salary and benefits for a new Associate Pastor budgeted to start April 1, 2021.
 - iii. Portico Benefits Services increases for health and other benefits.
 - b. \$42,000 of the total increase is due to budgeting for "return to normal" expenses for Church Programs (\$8,000 of the total increase) and Other Operating Expenses (\$34,000 of the total increase).
 - c. \$20,000 is budgeted for Capital Improvements.
 - d. \$180,000 is budgeted for Missions and Charities.
- 2. The Operating Account bank account balance was approximately \$220,000 at December 31, 2020 plus the \$340,000 that was transferred during 2020 but is available for operating expenses.



GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
ANNUAL MEETING
JANUARY 31, 2021

Report on the Bernstein Good Shepherd Enrichment Account

Total Asset Value on January 1, 2020	\$ 3,645,347
Contributions to fund in 2020	\$ 10,092
Capital Appreciation/(Depreciation) <i>change in market value</i>	\$ 248,288
Income	\$ 65,199
Less: Management Fees	<u>\$ (20,375)</u>
Total Asset Value at December 31, 2020	\$ 3,948,551

Account appreciated 7.5% in 2020 (net of fees)

Report on the Mission Endowment Fund

Initial Deposit on May 6, 2008	\$ 164,860.96
Current Account Value at December 31, 2020	\$ 85,200.92
Projected payment base as of December 31, 2020 (no change since May 6, 2008)	\$ 164,860.96
Projected Payment Amount as of December 31, 2020 (no change since May 6, 2008)	\$ 8,243.04
Total Distributions through December 31, 2020	\$ 98,916.52
Current Account Value plus Total Distributions	\$ 184,117.22

Current Account value plus Total Distributions exceed initial deposit.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Behrman
Chairperson - Finance Committee



GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
ANNUAL MEETING
JANUARY 31, 2021

Youth & Education Report

If you are reading this “virtually” and attending the Congregational Meeting “virtually”, that sums up the Youth & Education Committee’s “virtual” year!

Prior to Covid restrictions going into effect in mid-March, we were able to participate in several children, youth, and family events . . .

- Cosmic Bowling
- Feed My Starving Children
- Sunday School Bake Sale
- Fifth Grade shopping night with funds from the Bake Sale used to purchase food for the Palos Food Pantry
- Youth Service
- Dessert Auction & Spaghetti Dinner hosted by Mission Trip Participants
- Basketball League
- Two Lenten Suppers (before quarantine)
- Early Childhood enrolled our young families in “Frolic” and enjoyed one in-person Freezer Meal night
- Eighth Grade Lock-In

As “**in-person**” education and activities ended abruptly in March, the committee along with Lori, Pastor Chris, and Pastor Joe met via Zoom to discuss what future learning opportunities and activities would look like for the duration of the Covid-19 restrictions. Thanks to technology, we were able to share God’s message with our church family. Here are just a few highlights . . .

- Lori brought Sunday School into our kid’s homes. She recorded YouTube videos each Sunday and her wonderful teaching staff began monthly Zoom activities.
- Lori, Pastor Chris, and Pastor Joe taught Confirmation classes with our 6th, 7th, & 8th grade students via Zoom. We were Blessed to have 14 young people Confirmed and celebrate their First Communion. Lori & Pastor Chris continue to Zoom with our current classes.
- Tuesday Bible Study and Thursday Reflection & Prayer weekly sessions on Facebook
- Early Childhood Ministry kept in touch with emails and enjoyed a fall Zoom gathering to catch up
- Vacation Bible School also debuted in 2020 via YouTube. Five videos were made reflecting our normal five day summer VBS.

Our volunteers bravely stepped in front of the camera and did an awesome job of fostering the relationship between God and kids.

A big thank you to Scott Bort who filmed and edited a terrific Virtual VBS!

In addition . . .

- Youth Outing to Starved Rock in July
- Drive-Through Trunk or Treat
- Gingerbread House Decorating
- LSSI Foster Child Gift (Certificates)
- Christmas Mitten Project for South Suburban Crisis Center
- A virtual Sunday School Christmas Program featuring several Sunday School students



I know I speak for the Youth & Education Committee when I recognize Lori & Pastor Chris for their love and dedication to our educational programs. This was not an easy year and we thank them from the bottom of our hearts.

It is with great joy and hope that we will soon hear voices in the classrooms and laughter in the hallways. We have missed all our friends terribly and can’t wait to have them back “**in-person**”!

Respectfully submitted,

Edith Schmitt

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
ANNUAL MEETING
JANUARY 31, 2021

CONGREGATIONAL ACTIVITIES REPORT

The Congregational Activities Committee had a rather uneventful year due to Covid-19. The Greek themed Ash Wednesday senior luncheon was a great time, filled with wonderful food and special time with friends. Sadly that was all we could do but we are being hopeful and looking forward to a more active 2021!

We are always looking for more volunteers, so if you are interested please contact myself or Pastor Chris. New faces are always welcome and it's a great way to meet new people.

Thank you ,

Lauren Kirkner



DEACONS' REPORT

This year has been very different for what we have been able to do this year. We started out in January and February with twice a month coffee hours until COVID-19 hit. This also prevented us from having our Deacons' picnics last summer.

We still were able to provide quarterly giving statements to our members. I would like to thank Sue Colella and Roger Collins, who are leaving the board, for their many years of service to our church.

Sincerely,

Paul Petersen



CHURCH AND COMMUNITY REPORT

We are happy to report that despite our COVID limitations, we were able to support Elim Christian Services by assisting them with their back to school packing events and Good Shepherd also hosted a blood drive in October. Thanks to all who participated! As we look 2020 in the rear view mirror, we look forward to 2021 and making a difference in both our church and community, starting with a blood drive in February. We are excited to make 2021 a renewal year, so if you are interested in brainstorming and/or participating in future events, please contact Shawn Erickson 708-514-5994 or shawn.erickson@cjerickson.com. We would love to have you join us. It's a great way to connect with your church family and meet a few new faces. Join us!!!!

Sincerely,

Shawn Erickson



GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
ANNUAL MEETING
JANUARY 31, 2021
TRUSTEE REPORT

2020 was an interesting year to take over this position for the Church. Thank you to the church council, the office staff and Pastor Buresh, and others who supported me in this unusual first year. I could not have done it without your help and guidance.

Since the church was not used for a good portion of the year that allowed for some projects to be completed without interfering with the operation of the church.

The water main replacement project came and went through the parking lot without any major issues. The contractors involved were very good at keeping Pastor and myself informed on the work and the timeline.

As in past reports, the church continues to have leaks in the foundation of both the parsonage and the church itself. This past year we were able to find and patch a leak in the Sunday school room that has plagued the church for years and finish the patching of a hole in the parsonage basement. Thank you to Steve Trafficanta and his crew for quickly tackling these issues and to Frank Yelland who removed the radiator to patch the leak in the Sunday school room.

Another improvement is the installation of touchless water faucets throughout the church to help prevent the spread of COVID. Thank you to Erickson and Erickson Plumbing for the donation of this equipment and the labor to install these fixtures.

The third major improvement was the rewiring of the church's IT infrastructure to support Wi-Fi throughout the building. Thank you to Dwight Janzen for helping procure the equipment and design the network and to all the volunteers that helped with routing the cables through the church.

Other people that deserve some recognition and thanks are . . .

Jan Nelson our custodian, who continues to work hard to keep the church clean and on top of that worked hard to keep the church COVID free.

Henry Lang and the gardening committee that continues to keep the church grounds looking nice. Henry coordinated having most of the larger trees out front trimmed this year which was much needed since it had not been done in a long time.

Keith Gansel who continues to help with me transitioning into this role and has not stopped answering my calls.

Finally, I would like to thank all those who helped when called. I hoped that I would have been able to get all the trustees together for some larger projects but the circumstances of this year did not permit it. Hopefully we will be able to accomplish that soon this year.

Some projects to look forward to in the coming year are resealing the parts of the parking lot that were not replaced by the dig, replacing the concrete walkway to the parsonage, and repairing some flooring in the Sunday school rooms damaged by the leaks.

Respectfully,

Matthew Behrman

Matthew Behrman – Head Trustee



**GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
ANNUAL MEETING
JANUARY 31, 2021**

MISSIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Lutheran Churches Or Agencies we support:

1	Lutheran World Relief	20,000
2	Lutheran Social Services of Illinois	23,000
3	Lutheran School of Theology	2,000
4	Lutheran Outdoor Ministry	2,000
5	First Trinity, Chicago	2,000
6	Lutheran Church in Bethlehem	1,000
7	Bethesda	1,000
8	Metro Chicago Synod	20,000
9	Beds + (St. Mark's PADS)	3,000
10	We Raise (Wheat Ridge Ministries)	3,000
11	Bethania - Chris Brown Church	<u>1,000</u>
	LUTHERAN CHURCH/AGENCY TOTAL	78,000



Local and Community Agencies

12	Aero School for Autism	2,000
13	Blue Cap	2,000
14	Bridge Teen Center	5,000
15	Chicago Food Depository	2,000
16	Community Center Foundation	7,000
17	Crisis Center for South Suburbia	11,243
18	Feed, Clothe and Help the Needy	3,000
19	"Giant Step" School for Autism	2,000
20	Make A Wish - ILLINOIS	1,000
21	Northside Housing	4,000
	Paws Assisting Wounded Warriors (Pack	
22	Leader Academy for Wounded Warriors)	500
23	Park Lawn	1,000
24	Palos Township Food Pantry	3,000
25	PLOWS	5,000
26	Ronald McDonald House (Hope Childrens)	1,000
27	Saint Coletta's	2,000
28	Sharing Connections	5,000
29	The Night Ministry	5,000
30	Together We Cope	4,000
31	Palos Food Pantry	9,000
32	UCP Sequin	2,000
33	Elim Christian Services	2,000
34	Gigi's Playhouse	2,000
35	Blessings in a Backpack, Harvey, IL	1,000
36	Phil's Friends	<u>1,000</u>
	LOCAL AND COMMUNITY TOTAL	82,743

* (Please see written report)

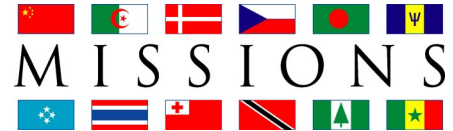


**GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
ANNUAL MEETING
JANUARY 31, 2021**

MISSIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

National and International Outreach

	Centro Infantil de los Angeles (Casa de Los	
37	Angelos)	1,000
38	Crossroads Mission, Big Build	5,000
39	Feed My Starving Children	1,000
40	Heifer Project International	<u>1,000</u>
	NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL TOTALS	8,000



Special Needs

41	Emergency Assistance	1,000
	Lutheran Disaster Response (Lutheran Disaster	
42	Relief)	4,000
43	Disaster Relief: Mississippi	3,000
44	Disaster Relief: Nashville	3,000
45	COVID Relief Fund	5,000
46	Disaster Relief: Lake Charles LA	2,000
47	Disaster Relief: Northern California	<u>2,000</u>
	SPECIAL NEEDS TOTALS	20,000

MISSIONS DISTRIBUTION TOTALS

188,743

During this most unusual year, Good Shepherd Congregations has met its priority mission goal of sharing our gifts with others. In 2020, distributions exceeded \$188,000 representing 38% of our year's operating expense.

The COVID-10 Pandemic dramatically increased the needs for assistance in categories of food, clothing, shelter and safety as reflected in the report. Other areas of need continued to be supported.

The Annual Endowment Capital Improvement Fund of \$8,243 was designated to the Crisis Center of South Suburbia to expand and update their kitchen to accommodate the increasing numbers of clients at their facility.

In addition, the Good Shepherd Family has continued to deliver food to food pantries, collected food and clothing for the homeless, provided Thanksgiving dinner for needy families, provided gift cards for 175 foster children, given gifts to veterans as well as offered many other known and unknown gifts of kindness and love in the name of Jesus.

Sincere thanks to the congregation for donations that have made it possible to share many acts of love with God's family.

Judy Lang

Missions Committee Chairperson

2021 Church Officers

Serving in 2021 . . . This is a listing of those who are elected to offices as designated by our Congregational Constitution. Space does not permit a listing of the wonderful volunteers and diversity of gifts that make our church a wonderful place, including Sunday School Teachers, Ushers, Chancel Guild, Church landscapers, Choir participants, etc., etc., etc.

*Denotes Chairperson

Church Council:

Chairperson,
Ron Jurkovic
Vice-Chairperson,
Sue Buerger
Secretary,
Joseph Jaksich
Treasurer,
William Markel
Financial Secretary,
Linda Sensmeier

Deacons,
Michael Aspan
Education and Youth,
Edith Schmitt
Missions and Charities,
Judy Lang
Congregational Activities,
Lauren Kirkner
Church and Community,
Shawn Erickson
Trustees,
Matthew Behrman
Stewardship,
Joseph Perry

Deacons:

Michael Aspan *
Mark Baldwin
Jennifer Castor
Nancy Cross
David Fewkes
Jim Fricke
Jeff Good
Lynn Huttner
Kathy Kupka
Ron Luce
Sue Markel
Peter Pappas
Tim Pearson
Paul Petersen
Laura Petritsch
Marsha Rauch

Education & Youth:

Edith Schmitt *
Todd Bergmann
Dawn Bronson
Liz Gutierrez
Sara Hupe
Jenn Kriehner
Julie Maty
Steve Maty
Paula Pries
Katie Walsh

Missions:

Judy Lang *
Marilyn Aspan
Susan Boughan
Debbie Fricke
Tracy Heilman
Robert Held
Sue Hennessy
Judy Lang
Mary Mannix
Joan Meyers
Joe Miller
Henry Paulsen
Ruth Sava

Congregational Activities:

Lauren Kirkner *
Diane Adduci
John Carlson
Lynette Carlson
Sharon Courtney
Shawn Erickson
Susan Joritz
Jim Johanson
Karl Krout
Susan Mish
Melinda Moore
Tim Moore
CJ Muller
Elaine Ogorzalek
Cathy Pellegrini
Caryl Zirbes

Trustees:

Matthew Behrman *
Corey Bergamo, Jr.
Jack Cody
William DeLeo
James Ditchman
Keith Gansel
Tim Hoffman
Dave Holke
Carl Kupka, Jr.
Larry Mish
Tim Pearson
Joe Perry

Stewards:

Joseph Perry *
Jamie Ekhardt
Joyce Grochowski
Robert Held
James Johanson
Nancy Metro
CJ Muller
Joe Schmitt
Gwen Sheehan
Doris Stachyra
Rudy Stachyra

Finance:

Paul Behrman *
Jim Fricke
Henry Lang
Bill Markel
Marie Perry
Laura Petritsch
Roger Rosenquist

Personnel Committee:

Sue Buerger *
Todd Bergmann
Diane M. Sweeney

