



2020 ANNUAL REPORT



Central Lutheran
MINNEAPOLIS

Dear Friends in Christ,

This year's Annual Meeting will be online, a virtual meeting on Sunday, February 14, at 12:00 p.m. We will gather by the same link that gathers us for online worship each weekend. As we prepare for the Annual Meeting, there will be an online, open budget and nominating meeting. This meeting will be on Sunday, January 31, at 12:00 p.m., using the same online worship link.

At both meetings you will have the opportunity to ask questions or share comments. You can email in questions or comments, or you can call in to ask or comment. The details for how to email or call in will be provided at each of the meetings. The Congregation Council passed a continuing resolution, supported by the constitution, to provide this logistic in this unprecedented time. It will not be a perfect format, but it will allow us to gather in a safe way to tend to the mission of the congregation.

With all of that in mind, this annual report and the agenda for the Annual Meeting will not be the same this year. Both will be abbreviated, sharing the specifics for our life together. Because the report and meeting are offered online, we will not have the opportunity for the longer reflections that are often a part of this process. Please approach this report and the meetings with that in mind. Grace is needed this year as we adapt, working to fulfill our shared obligations for reports, voting on the budget and nominees and providing a safe way for us to gather.

Thank you for your faithfulness and flexibility as we continue in this pandemic marathon. The many "water stops" continue to sustain us. We are hopeful as we enter the last stretch of the marathon. I am confident that we will return to in-person worship this year. Initially, we may return to an in-person worship service like we experience online, then as the virus is managed, we will add in singing and Holy Communion. Time will tell, but all indicators point to a shared, new normal this year.

I look forward to the day when we gather again, in person. The church is defined by the people of God gathering for worship and then being sent out to be the love of God in the world. You have continued the work of the body of Christ as those sent to be the love of God. We have tried our best to be the gathered people of God through online worship, but it is just not the same. Soon, we will gather to hear the Word and share in the Sacraments. It will be a remarkable moment. It will be a needed moment as we seek the strength to share God's love for a weary and conflicted world.

Yours in Christ Jesus,
Pastor Peter Nycklemoe

Agenda

Central Lutheran Church Annual Meeting of the Congregation

Online via the livestream link at www.centralmpls.org

**February 14, 2021
12:00 p.m.**

AGENDA

Lisa Beane, President

Welcome and Overview of the Meeting and Logistics for Communication

Call to Order

Opening Prayer

**Approval of Minutes (presented but to be approved by mailed ballot):
February 9, 2020 Annual Meeting Minutes**

President's Report

Rostered Minister's Reports

Pastors

Deacon

Written Reports to Note

Action Items (presented but to be approved by mailed ballot):

Treasurer's Report

2021 Budget

Nominating Committee Report and Elections

Prayer and Benediction

Adjournment

Minutes of 2020 Annual Meeting

Regular Annual Meeting of the Congregation, February 9, 2020

The Annual Meeting of Central Lutheran Church was held on Sunday, February 9, 2020. The 2019 Annual Report was available to Central members prior to the meeting; it was available online via the church's website and was distributed at the Annual Meeting.

Call to Order

Declaring that a quorum was present, Congregational President Sara Stensaas called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

Opening Prayer

The meeting began with an opening prayer led by Pastor Stephanie Friesen.

Approval of Agenda

President Sara Stensaas highlighted the agenda for the annual meeting and asked for any changes, additions, etc. The agenda is found on page 3 of the 2019 Annual Report. A motion to approve the agenda as presented was made, seconded and approved.

Approval of Minutes

A correction was made to the minutes by President Sara Stensaas, changing the increase in the Foundation distribution to CLC to .5%, instead of .05% as printed. A motion to approve the corrected minutes of the February 10, 2019 Annual Meeting was made, seconded and approved.

President's Report

Congregation President Sara Stensaas shared her gratitude to all for her past year and one-half as president of the congregation. She reflected on the many communities she has met that help to make Central Lutheran what it is today—from the wee ones of the Choristers to all the volunteers who serve the church and the community each and every day. She thanked Pastor Peter for his leadership, guidance and wisdom throughout her time as President. She closed by quoting Jeremiah 29:11, "For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope." The Congregation President's report can be found on page 6 of the 2019 Annual Report.

Rostered Leader's Reports

Gratitude was again repeated by each of the rostered leaders—Pastor Melissa, Pastor Stephanie, Deacon Mark, and Pastor Peter—who thanked all for their continued faithfulness, service, patience, and grace as the congregation and community continues to grow in the new space and in ministry, now and in the future.

Pastor Peter shared information about the Comparative Church Statistics, found on page 9 of the 2019 Annual Report. The Pastors' and Cantor's reports begin on page 7 of the 2019 Annual Report, followed by reports from the Directors of Finance, Security, Facilities, Food Service, and Communications.

Central Lutheran Church Foundation Report

Bonnie Weisenburger, president of the Foundation, summarized the Foundation's Report, found on page 21 of the 2019 Annual Report. This included the Foundation's distribution to CLC for 2020 at 5.25%, as well as voting an additional .50% in distribution over the next three years for the Mission Forward campaign. She thanked Shirley Teig, who recently resigned due to health reasons, but added that Shirley has agreed to be an honorary member of the board (non-voting). She shared the election of Patrick Egan, Ron Fiscus and Kari Lyle to the three open positions. Finally, she thanked all contributors to the Foundation.

Ministry Area Reports

President Sara Stensaas encouraged all members to read these reports found in the Annual Report packet. Included are reports of the Columbarium Association, 2019 Historian Report, Tree of Life Lutheran Church, Reconciling in Christ (RIC) Team, Camp Amnicon, and the annual report of Bishop Ann Svenningsen of the Minneapolis Area Synod.

Information Items:

1. Strategic Planning Report
Lisa Beane, Council vice-president and Strategic Planning Team chair, invited all to read the Strategic Planning Team report, found on page 16 of the 2019 Annual Report. The four work groups --- New Member Welcome and Engagement Initiative, Member Participation and Mission Clarity Initiative, Member Relationships and Community Connections, and Telling the Story Marketing Initiative --- are working to develop one or two SMART goals, along with a timeline for launch and completion. She invited all to the Sunday March 1 meeting of a newly formed Great Room Welcome Team to be a "welcomer" to help identify and welcome visitors.
2. Maintenance and Capital Replacement Planning and Funding
Pastor Peter, for Steve Studt of the Fiscal and Property Committee, referenced this group's report found on page 15 of the 2019 Annual Report. He highlighted the two subcommittees that have been formed: one to focus on future maintenance projects, including timing and potential costs; and one to focus on future capital projects, including timing and costs of known major capital needs,

Minutes of 2020 Annual Meeting *continued*

such as the stained glass windows and organ refurbishment.

Action Items:

1. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer John Olson thanked Obie Holmen, director of finance; Pastor Peter; Fiscal and Property; the Executive Committee and Congregation Council. He began by recapping the Building Renewal/Capital Campaign and the Mission Forward Campaign. He presented an overview of the financial reports, which covered 2019 Budget and Actual amounts for Revenue and Expenses, including Regular Offering and other Revenues and the expenses of Mission Emphasis, Ministry Emphasis, Facility Expenses, Debt Service, Congregational life, Personnel and Other Expenses. Both revenue and expenses totaled \$2,908,912. He also highlighted the Assets and Liabilities Consolidated Funds, and the Designated Fund Summary. The financial reports begin on page 25 of the 2019 Annual Report. A more detailed presentation of the financial reports was given at an open Budget Meeting one week prior to the Annual Meeting, for which all members were invited to attend.

A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made, seconded and approved.

2. 2020 Budget

John presented the 2020 Proposed Budget, which reflects Total Revenues of \$2,913,250 and Total Expenses of \$2,913,250.

A motion to approve the 2020 Budget was made, seconded and approved.

3. Nominating Committee Report and Elections

On behalf of the Nominating Committee, Joe Surla submitted the following nominations for leadership: Congregation Council President – Lisa Beane; Congregation Vice-President – Rod Richter; Congregation Council Secretary – Jennifer Surla; Council at-large – Roberta Groening, Paul Troselius; Audit Committee (two-year term) – Seth Peter. The 2019 Synod Assembly Voting Members – Christa Olson, Karen Knox, Judy Hedman, Brian McKinley. This report appears on Page 18-19 of the 2019 Annual Report.

According to the Constitution, President Sara asked for any nominations from the floor three times, of which there were none.

A motion to accept the full slate of candidates was

made, seconded, and unanimously approved by voice.

Though not an agenda item, newly elected President Lisa Beane called on Pastor Peter, who offered special thanks to Dave Sand, for his service as congregation president at the beginning of the Building Renewal and as a Council at large member during the past year. Pastor Peter also thanked out-going Congregation President Sara Stensaas and presented her with a print of deceased member Bob Boldt's painting of Central Lutheran Church.

Prayer and Benediction

Pastor Melissa closed the meeting with prayer and a benediction.

Adjournment

President Lisa Beane adjourned the meeting at 12:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Hansen, recording for
Jen Surla, Secretary

Congregation President

Lisa Beane

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. (2 Corinthians 1:3-4.)

2020 was a lesson in humility, wasn't it? I have been reflecting on last year's Annual Meeting—as some of you have, perhaps—and longing to see all your faces and gather as God's people. Last year, on the heels of Central's 100th Anniversary celebrations, we were looking forward to implementing our Strategic Plan, expanding our welcome and community partnerships, and many other things.

Obviously 2020 had other plans. Instead, we have been forced to confront a deadly pandemic that has isolated us from each other and our loved ones, created financial hardship for many, and caused illness, suffering, and death. And then, the killing of George Floyd here in the city we call home laid bare the realities of racial injustice—in Minneapolis and beyond—that we now must confess we have not worked hard enough to address.

Although troubles abound, I remain hopeful about Central's future. That we welcomed new members virtually during this pandemic is a sign of hope for me and a reminder that the church is on God's time and has persevered through countless human struggles. The strength of Central is the steadfastness and generosity of

each one of you. Central continues to thrive because of all the things—large and small—you are doing to renew your commitment to our faith community while we cannot all be together. When you participate in a Zoom Bible study, volunteer to decorate the sanctuary, record your part for a virtual choir anthem, or just reach out to another member you haven't heard from in a while, you are laying the groundwork for Central's continued vitality when we emerge from this pandemic. The commitment of Central's rostered leaders and staff also is critical to our success, and I hope you will join me in reaching out to thank them.

The Congregation Council is thinking toward Central's future and working to develop strategic initiatives focused on how we can find deeper engagement with one another and with our neighbors downtown. We look forward to sharing that work with you as it continues to take shape. Several of you have reached out to me with words of support and encouragement during the last year. I am grateful for those messages and for your prayers, but I can tell you sincerely that it is a joy and a blessing to serve Central during these challenging and uncertain times.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 15:13.)

Lisa Beane

Pastor Peter Nycklemoe

Invitation to Imagine

One of the blessings of faith and prayer is the gift of imagination. We foster imagination in children, but often we do not continue to foster imagination in our adult lives. Faith and prayer, in our individual lives and as a faith community, open us to God's gift of imagination. In this year's unique annual report, here during a global pandemic, I invite you to the ways of faith and prayer that open your imagination and so open you to God's invitations.

Before we return to a new normal, is there an opportunity for our collective imagining? I think so, in fact I am convinced that God is inviting us to pause before we fully return to the new normal as a congregation. In this pause, our imaginations can open us to some conversations that are essential. The generosity team will facilitate these conversations, with great food and the chance to safely gather in the great room before we fully return to worship, formation and community.

There are a few questions that I invite you to begin pondering, imagining as we enter this stage of the pandemic:

- What have you learned in this pandemic about your faith in God, insights that you did not imagine before?

- What have you missed about life together as a faith community, what is essential as you imagine the new normal for your faith and wholeness?
- What have you not missed about life together as a faith community and how do you imagine what God may be inviting us to let go of or not resume as we return?

It has been quite a year. At last year's Annual Meeting we could never have imagined what would unfold. When we return to church in person, we need to name the grief and restlessness that we have experienced. We also name the surprises, the mystery and the deep learning that we want to apply to our lives.

In the pages of this unique annual report you will find reflections on life in the pandemic. You will hear about the remarkable adaptation that has defined the year. You will hear about some of the sorrows and the surprises.

Thank you for your faithfulness. You are a beloved child of God. Your generosity is inspiring. Your commitment to this faith community is remarkable. Thank you to the Council leadership and their wise guidance in this pandemic. Thank you to the rostered leaders and staff who have served, adapted, served, adapted, over and over again.

It is a privilege to serve as one of your rostered leaders. Thanks be to God!

Comparative Church Statistics

This Annual Report is deeply impacted by the pandemic. We do not have a way to truly show the comparative statistics because so many indicators of our life together were suspended. This report will communicate life passages and some online worship averages.

Life Passages	Baptisms	Confirmations	Weddings	New Members	Funerals
2020	3	6	7	25	18

Notes:

Two baptisms were celebrated before Covid-19, and one baptism was on a Saturday night, with safe distance, in Covid-19. Several families are planning for baptism when we return to in-person worship. The six confirmations were celebrated on Saturday, October 3, within the limit of 25 total in the sanctuary. Two weddings were before Covid-19, two were offsite and three were on site, within the limit of 25 in the sanctuary. The first funeral for a member who died from Covid-19 was held on April 15, 2020, offsite at a funeral home. The first onsite funeral during Covid-19, within the limit of 25 total in the sanctuary, was on August 30, 2020. Between September 1 and December 31, 2020, eight additional funerals were held at Central. There were three funerals at Central before Covid-19, so six funerals were held offsite because of Covid-19.

New Members were welcomed, via Zoom and named in worship the weekend of November 14-15, 2020. Twenty-two adults and three children joined, a blessing and remarkable to note in a pandemic when we are not in person for worship.

Worship	Weekend Average	Triduum	Easter Weekend	Christmas Eve and Day
2020/2019	650/543	1030/651	1560/1729	1205/1729

Notes:

The first number is for 2020 and the second number, for comparison, is from 2019. The IP addresses for the livestream through the website use the multiplier of 1.5 to consider households where two or more worship on the same IP address. The numbers for 2020 do not include Facebook Live numbers. Facebook Live tends to have people join and leave the feed during the services, where the livestream IP address tend to remain from beginning to end. On average, the weekend Facebook Live numbers are 75 people. If added in, then the total combined average for online and Facebook Live worship would be 725.

Pastor Melissa Pohlman

Wow, had you told me all the challenges we would face in 2020, I would not have believed you. In our world, in our country, in our church and in our city the opportunities to allow our faith to speak into our current situation were constant. Through the midst of the pandemic and the social unrest, we continued to show up for folks who needed food and clothes and community and hope. The Community Meal on Mondays never stopped, but instead constantly flexed to meet the needs of the folks coming to lunch and the needs to keep everyone safe. The Augsburg Central Health Commons also kept providing good and safe care for folks who weren't getting much medical care anywhere else. I will be eternally grateful to Katie Clark and her team of nurses for the way they kept us aware and moving forward. The Free Store closed briefly at the beginning of the pandemic until we could figure out a way to operate and then every few weeks we tweaked that model in response to the Covid numbers and the needs of the community. Street Voices of Change did the same. They met when we could do it safely and cared for one another through the violent deaths of three folks we knew (George Floyd, Eddie Gordon and Eddie Sole) which then caused social unrest. Street Voices has made significant

strides in getting the Shelter Residents Bill of Rights into the hands of State legislators for this upcoming session. The Empowering Conversations team took very seriously our call to racial justice as a church and launched a season of focused forums and affinity groups to take on the issue.

The one team in the Community Cluster that didn't have their ministry significantly impacted by Covid was our Garden Ministry Team. They continued to do an amazing job of beautifying the campus so that all who walked by were blessed by God's creation.

No annual report would be complete without thanking all the staff and volunteers who did an amazing job at being flexible and engaged this year. Thank you to Dwayne Wright, Freddy Coleman, Mark Carroll, Adam Koland, Sherry Shannon, Karen Knox and to all the volunteers, too many to name, who are always ready to care for one more person. Thank you, and let's plan on a 2021 full of implementing the good things we have learned from 2020.

Pastor Stephanie Friesen

The one word that best summarizes 2020 for the Formation and Care ministry cluster is 'adaptation'.

Like every ministry area at Central, our life together has been highlighted by creatively adapting to new and distanced ways of being together even though we are apart. While there have been challenges for all of us, the creativity and flexibility we've experienced has been remarkable.

In Children Youth and Family Ministry, we adapted our curriculum to shift to at-home learning. We packaged boxes of Holy Week activities for kids ages 3 to 18 that included reading, crafts and candlelight experiences for Easter. We hosted scavenger hunts in worship to keep our youngest members engaged and created a way to host vacation Bible school in a multi-media box of activities with daily videos and lessons for kids. It was fun to see pictures of families reading and learning together. Our middle and high school students visited the George Floyd memorial and committed to continuing conversations about racial justice in our community.

We continue to send learning materials home and host weekly openings for Sunday school online. Our middle and high school students have shifted to Zoom with some in-person learning which we hope will increase in the coming months.

Adult learning and connecting shifted to Zoom and it's working very well.

In Pastoral Care, we adapted to a more systematic schedule of calling our members for regular check-ins. Each of the rostered leaders is in touch with members regularly and we share information to make sure the good care and connection we have with our Central family remains a priority. The amazing work of the Caring Crew ensures that our members, who may be more isolated because of limited use of technology, receive mailings each month with a personal note.

I am thankful each day for the grace-filled adaptations of our Central Family.

In Peace – Pastor Stephanie

Deacon Cantor Mark Sedio

“Grace and peace to you...” So begins the apostle Paul’s second letter to the Christians at Corinth. Grace and peace. Who could ever have anticipated that, just following our last Annual Meeting, on the coattails of remembering that we are dust on Ash Wednesday 2020, we’d find ourselves where we are at this time.

I would never have expected that there would come a time in my career as a church musician when people would not only be unable to join their voices singing but not be able to gather physically for worship. We’re Lutherans. We gather around Word and Sacrament. We sing. It is who we are.

Within days of the shelter-in-place order, we who plan worship found ourselves creating new patterns for worship, in a new virtual paradigm. We moved from navigating physical visual possibilities like determining the best place for the font in a given season to making sure the presider, assisting minister and vocal quartet or soloist were safely distanced and aware of camera shots and angles. Sound checks had less to do with how things sounded in our magnificent sanctuary and more about balance on the livestream. Hymnody, liturgical music, choral anthems all had to be rethought and, in several instances, re-created. We all became too familiar with the wonders of zoom.us - its many possibilities as well as its drawbacks (the main one – inability to actually sing together). Yes, it really was a different kind of year.

Here are some of the major events/changes/happenings in the area of worship and music:

- We bid farewell to Associate Cantor Jane Lien who retired at the end of June. Jane and I had the opportunity to work together here at Central for 19 years. Due to the pandemic, a farewell gathering was not possible. Instead, the congregation showered Jane with over a hundred cards, greetings and notes. Sincere thanks to Jane for nearly two decades of serving as assistant organist, as director of the Central Bell Choir and Choristers.
- At the end of May we also bid God-speed to our wonderful tenor section leader Mike Fairbairn who embarked on a study program for a Masters in Music Therapy in Dallas, Texas. We were extremely lucky to welcome tenor Bill Pederson who began with us in June.
- The search for a new associate director for music and worship began in late January. Search committee members included Judy Bogard, Laura Holst, Andy Whitford Holey, Doran Schoeppach, Dave Sand, chairperson Katie Sankey and me (ex officio). With the onset of the pandemic it was decided that interviews would be done virtually. In early April, Isaac Drewes was interviewed, offered

and accepted the position. Isaac began August 10 and immediately dug into his new work—despite the handicap of not being able to meet most members of the Central congregation. In these five months he has begun virtual rehearsals with the Choristers (children’s choir) that also include weekly one-on-one 30 minute tutoring sessions, proven himself an incredible (!) organist—both repertoire and hymn playing, set up new office technologies for worship planning (shared folders, planning documents), and has pulled together seven virtual choir projects for the Central Choir and one for the Choristers. More are planned (pretty much monthly) for the remainder of the program year. To give some perspective on the effort here - each virtual choir endeavor is multilayered and includes recording a video track (Isaac at the piano, me conducting, Mark Kieffer video recording), sending these to each of the four section leaders who record their part and send them back. These are emailed to all members of the Central Choir who record themselves and submit their recordings back to Isaac who then adds the piano or organ accompaniment and mixes it all together. In the interview process we had no idea this would be a part of the associate’s position but are extremely thankful not only for his incredible musical abilities but technological prowess as well! Bravo!!

- In September the rostered leaders agreed to change from following the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL) that we’ve been using for worship planning and begin using the Narrative Lectionary (NL). The NL is a four year cycle that takes us chronologically from Creation (September) through Pentecost (May). The NL was devised by professors at Luther Seminary and has been adopted by many congregations throughout the English speaking world. Because it highlights texts that don’t usually show up in the RCL (especially those from the Hebrew Bible) it provides preachers and musicians with a wealth of new possibilities.
- Although, because of travel restrictions, our out-of-town guest carillonneurs had to cancel their travel plans our summer 2020 concert on the plaza series was able to continue with performances by our in-house carillonneur Tim Short and David Johnson, carillonneur at the House of Hope Presbyterian Church in St. Paul. These six summer Sunday concerts provided listeners with a possibility for live music in a safely distanced area with a variety of those beloved food trucks.
- In last year’s report I mentioned that I was asked by Augsburg Fortress Publishers to serve on the

Continued on next page...

editorial team for their new hymn/liturgy resource. The supplement, *All Creation Sings*, was physically and electronically published in October (the physical version is purple, by the way). Some of the hymns and liturgical music have already found their way into our worship services.

- This spring I was informed that the Masterworks Chorale, the choral ensemble I'd conducted at Augsburg University for the past two years would not be continuing. I was honored when I received a call from President Pribbenow asking if I would consider an appointment as University Organist beginning this January—an offer I accepted. My responsibilities focus on larger university events (opening convocation and service in the fall, baccalaureate and graduation in the spring and, of course, as organist for Advent Vespers).

In conclusion I want to thank my clergy colleagues Pastors Peter, Melissa and Stephanie, our incredible new associate musician Isaac Drewes, Mark Kieffer without whom we could not be holding our livestream services and archived videos, Michael Dee with his attention to detail and the entire Central staff. A huge thank you also to our four amazing section leaders Froya Olson, soprano; Robin Helgen, alto; Bill Pederson, tenor; and David Gindra, bass; who continue to provide us with outstanding choral music—this past year throughout the summer as well.

Grace to you and peace. We miss you tremendously! Soli Deo gloria! Amen.

Deacon Cantor Mark Sedio

Obie Holmen Director of Finance

For all the pandemic craziness, Central's finances remained strong in 2020.

The significant shortfall in parking revenues after the Convention Center shut down was more than offset by the receipt of SBA funds under the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) as part of the Federal stimulus package. Central's PPP loan has now been officially and completely forgiven. These funds allowed full retention of staff without furloughs or layoffs.

Although we missed the loose checks and plate offering associated with guests, especially during festival worship services, it was not unusual to receive a check in the mail from a stranger in appreciation of our online worship livestream. Many members switched to online giving and others faithfully mailed their checks.

The pandemic also resulted in expense savings in some obvious areas: utilities and facility maintenance, no family or youth trips, and a reduction in outside musicians hired for worship.

Bottom line?

Central increased cash reserves during the year, which will serve us well as we head into an uncertain 2021 and the continuing loss of parking revenue. The proposed 2021 budget assumes that NO parking revenue will return in 2021, a worst-case scenario. If normalcy returns at some point and parking picks up, so much the better. The accumulated cash reserves will support the proposed budget, and no staff reductions are planned.

Meanwhile, we completed the first full year of the Mission Forward capital campaign. Total funds received amount to \$1,157,127 plus an additional sum of \$84,000 from the Foundation. Funds have been expended for landscaping and lower narthex upgrades, and a portion has been set aside as planned benevolence. The principal mortgage loan balances have been reduced by \$977,538.

Many of us work from home on most days, and we have become accustomed to Zoom meetings. When he arrived, Pastor Peter instituted a staff coffee break at 10:00 a.m. each morning. We have continued that tradition with Zoom coffee breaks each day, and we check in with each other regularly even though we may not be present in the office. Sometimes, we even manage to conduct a little business.

Isaac Drewes

Assoc. Director for Music and Worship

Greetings Central! I came to this community in August, and I am thrilled to be here, even during a pandemic. As we have been adapting to the present circumstances, I have overseen three main areas: virtual choir projects, Choristers, and Bell Choir.

Beginning in September, the Central Choir has been creating virtual choir offerings. Singers submit their individual recordings, which I combine with piano or organ accompaniment to form the finished product. Our section leaders record the initial track, which is then sent to the rest of the choir. I am proud of all these individuals for stepping out of their comfort zone and singing together in this new way!

Since October, our Choristers have been meeting for weekly rehearsals over Zoom. Choristers range from 6-11 years old, and have done a fantastic job adapting to new circumstances and challenges. The group is working on their own virtual projects, the first of which was heard in worship on December 20. In addition to weekly rehearsals,

Choristers each have one-on-one tutoring sessions to work on singing, repertoire, and music theory. The musical growth in the last four months has been astounding! If you have a child that would like to join, please send me an email.

The Bell Choir has met periodically over Zoom for fellowship. Unlike vocal groups, bells do not lend themselves to virtual projects. However, with Covid numbers trending in the right direction, and the rollout of two vaccines, I am hopeful that we can resume some form of in-person, socially-distanced rehearsal.

Covid has been a tough reality for our music ministry. I long for the time when we can gather and join in song. Nevertheless, I am grateful for these ways that we stay connected and involved.

Central Lutheran Church Foundation

The pandemic challenged the Foundation to conduct its business in new and creative ways. The annual meeting of the Trustees and the special meeting on May 20, 2020 and December 9, 2020, respectively, were held via Zoom. The work of the five committees (Audit, Development, Executive, Governance, and Investment) was conducted via Zoom. End of Life Seminars sponsored by the Development Committee were available online.

The Foundation Trustees welcomed three newly elected members (Patrick Egan, Ron Fiscus, and Kari Lyle) at the May 20, 2020 meeting. Recently retired Trustee members (Arlan Abel and Larry Gregerson) agreed to serve as honorary members.

In 2020, \$1,090,992 was distributed to Central Lutheran Church from the Foundation. The rate of distribution of 5.25% was calculated based on a specific formula over a three-year period plus the addition of .50% specifically for the capital campaign. The total distribution rate for 2020 was 5.75%. The rate is reviewed annually and may be adjusted and changed, if necessary, to maintain the

portfolio within a close range of the historical value of the fund as indexed to inflation. The current value of the Foundation calls for the distribution rate to increase to 5.75%. This 5.75% plus the .50% for the capital campaign puts the rate at 6.25% effective January 1, 2021.

Memorials, gifts, and bequests totaled \$969,005 for the year 2020. This amount was a significant increase from 2019 due to a large estate gift. The Foundation is grateful to those who have become Legacy Partners by including the Foundation in their estate plans, as well as those who give memorials or other gifts. These gifts continue to support Central's mission in perpetuity.

The asset market value of the Foundation's portfolio was \$22,955,260 on December 31, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Anderson, Vice President

Dave Rodriguez

Director of Facilities

It is hard to look back to one year ago and remember all the plans we had for the upcoming year. The excitement for hosting some one-of-a-kind events, and making improvements in how we manage our long running events. But then the pandemic happened, and all those plans went out the window. The biggest hit for Charles, Mulu, and myself was not being able to be around all of you. The building is a completely different place without our members, and we look forward to things getting back to whatever our new normal will be. I am confident we will be okay with whatever changes we'll have to make, as long as we all can get together and BE together. My crew and I really miss the building full and buzzing with all of us doing God's work with our hands. We are thankful for the hard work put in by the volunteers, and the continued support from all of you in the congregation.

We have been staying busy doing a lot of things we would not have had time to do if it weren't for the pandemic. We've undergone an excellent remodeling project on

the lower narthex, making it an updated and more user-friendly space for adult education, children youth and family events, and for outside guests. We have also been able to settle into the building, eliminating almost all of our off-site storage, and have enjoyed putting things away in their new homes. Adding cameras to the parking ramp, completing additional landscaping improvements, and overseeing the replacement of the warrantied main entrance doors are a few of the many projects keeping us busy.

It makes me happy to be able to continue the Monday meal and community assistance as best as we can, while remaining dedicated to public safety and preventing the spread of Covid-19. All of these things are preparations for the day we all can come back together and see each other face-to-face and interact with each other in person, as it should be.

Dwayne Wright

Director of Security

This has been an unexpected different kind of year for us because of the Covid 19 pandemic. I never thought something like this would happen in my lifetime. I would like everyone to know that Freddy and I are doing just fine, and we miss and think about each and everyone of you. We are still able to do God's work of having the Free Store available on Mondays and Thursdays by appointment only,

to make sure we are safe as possible. I would like to say thanks to the volunteers for their commitment during this pandemic. And thanks also to Katie Clark for supplying us with PPE to keep us safe as possible. On a safety note, we are installing cameras in the parking ramp which should be completed in February. I am thankful for you, and for great coworkers. Thanks be to God, and thanks to all.

Mark Carroll

Food Service Director

As we started 2020, I was so excited to continue with our new wonderful kitchen. Volunteers were all back and working hard. Then things all changed. There was a virus called Covid-19. Little did we know, how much it would affect each and everyone of us. The church had to quickly revise, how we could serve the community. The Monday meal needed to be done in such a way that it was in a to-go package. Adam and myself, with the help from the wonderful staff, began assembling our new to-go meals. Eventually we were able to bring back 2-3 volunteers per week. Adam was also able to put together a to-go breakfast

for Street Voices of Change.

I would like to let you know, Adam and I are healthy and looking forward to seeing you all real soon. Although the path forward from 2020 may feel uncertain, one thing has never been clearer, we have to come together, work together, and support each other whenever we can.

God bless you all,
Mark

Sara Masters

Director of Communications

Staying Connected in a Pandemic

Well, let's not do that again. Redo 2020 I mean. It was difficult, lonely for some and a time to live life differently than we were used to. We couldn't do what we wanted; go where we wanted when we wanted to a lot of the time. We needed to think about others and stay home so we didn't spread this virus. We are still in this time of uncertainty and hopefully we are on our way to our *new* normal.

I have worked mostly from home the past year, being lucky to do so. Thank God for technology and thank you all for sticking in there with us.

You have settled in quite nicely to worshipping, watching the Sunday school opening and funerals online; finding what you need on the website; receiving devotions, video updates and news in your email inbox; using Zoom for meetings and Bible studies; signing up to come in for daily prayer and communion; and giving online.

I'm so glad that my work helps you to stay connected and informed in our life together at Central.

I do have to say that I will be ready to come back to work when the time comes. But for now, keep doing what your doing and I hope to see you all soon!

Fiscal and Property Committee

Despite the challenges posed by the pandemic, the Fiscal and Property Committee continued to meet on a monthly basis to review the financial records. After the lockdown commenced, the committee met by Zoom conference call with the financial reports sent to the committee by email. The financial reports including revenue/expenses, balance sheet and designated accounts from the previous month and year to date are reviewed. The committee reviews proposed budgets and forwards its recommendations to the Congregation Council. Minutes are taken at each meeting and are on file in the church office.

The committee reviews the status of capital projects, such as the columbarium expansion, baptismal font project, landscaping project, and organ humidifier project. Where necessary, committee recommendations are forwarded to the Congregation Council. With the building closed for much of the 2020, a large number of maintenance projects were able to be completed.

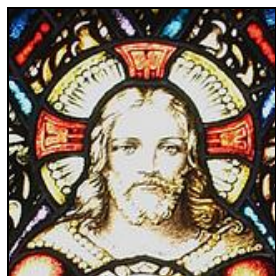
The church requested and received a Federal PPP loan/grant. It was monitored and was approved by the government as a grant upon completion. The grant was

instrumental in Central weathering the loss of parking and other revenues and enabled the retention of staff.

Other significant actions taken by the committee include the following: the committee recommended a change in banks from Wells Fargo to Alerus Financial, also two accounts were opened at G/S Associates to build capital replacement funds to address short/long term capital needs. The need for capital replacement funds became clear after establishing facilities assessment criteria and a historical preservation plan extending out 30+ years.

The committee will continue to address church fiscal and property needs in 2021, which promises to be a challenging year.

Columbarium Association



Central Lutheran Columbarium Association

COLUMBARIUM ASSOCIATION BOARD

Chuck Anderson
Joyce Anderson
Christopher Haug
Bill Masche
Mark Peterson
Les Rosecke
Karl Starr
David West

December 31, 2020

Columbarium Association Annual Report

The Central Lutheran Church Columbarium Association Board devoted considerable time in 2020 determining meaningful ways to serve our future needs in addition to enhancing the dignity and environment of the Columbarium.

Thanks to the steady growth of interest and purchases since the first west wall was installed in 2014, we are in a strong financial position to continue to realize the architectural vision for this sacred space. Taking these and other factors into consideration, the Board determined this to be an appropriate time to increase the capacity of the Columbarium. In December 2020, an order was placed for a second wall including 162 (8"x 8") niches. This new south wall, matching the style of the west wall, will be installed in the spring of 2021. This plan for expansion and enhancements in the Columbarium coincided nicely with the remodeling of the lower narthex.

We are excited and honored to be offering additional Columbarium options and space for those desiring a dignified, elegant, and economical final resting place for themselves or others. Our Board members, Pastor Peter or Michael Dee are eager to visit with you and answer your questions. Also, look forward to a revised brochure including special pricing and location options for both walls.

The care and support we have experienced by our beloved Central Lutheran Church in life can continue in our death as our body is put to rest in the Columbarium.

Columbarium Milestones

June 22, 2014	Annual Congregational Meeting founding resolution
December 9, 2014	Columbarium first unit construction completed
December 28, 2014	Columbarium dedication
January 2015	Columbarium Fund established as a stand-alone account
March 15, 2015	First entombment

144	Number of total niches in first unit
62	Number of niches reserved in total as of Dec. 31, 2020
7	Number of entombments in this calendar year (since January 1, 2020)
46	Number of entombments in total as of Dec. 31, 2020

Entombments in this program year

...We look for the resurrection of the body and the life of the world to come. Amen.

These bodies have been taken into the care of the Church until the Day of Resurrection:

- + Anita Mattson
- + Irving Sorbel
- + Bonnie Sorbel
- + Dolores Morales
- + Kathryn "Kathy" McKinley
- + Joyce Ellingson
- + Jon Rondestvedt

Financial Statement - Columbarium Fund

\$77,427.00	Opening Balance
\$15,000.00	Columbarium Membership & Gifts
\$2,271.00	Columbarium Construction & Operation
<u>\$20,745.13</u>	Purchase of second Columbarium Wall
\$69,410.87	Closing Balance

Respectfully Submitted



Nominating Committee

Here are the leaders that the nominating committee recommends for approval by the Congregation Council.

Council:

President: Lisa Beane – 1 year remaining on term

Vice President: Jeff Block – 2 year term

Treasurer: Karl Starr – 2 year term

Secretary: Jen Surla – 1 year remaining on term

At Large:

Roberta Groening – 1 year remaining on term

Paul Troselius – 1 year remaining on term

Rod Richter – 1 year remaining on term

Mark Erickson – 2 year term

Ann Oyen – 2 year term

Kirstin Hash – 2 year term

Nominating Committee:

Stephanie Beane – Appointed by Council to fill Kathy Kvammen-McKinley's 2 year term

Bob Tufford – 1 year remaining on term

Diane Olson – 1 year remaining on term

David West – 1 year remaining on term

Thomas Anderson – 2 year term

Carol Rieger – 2 year term

David Brenke – 3 year term

Matt Grahm – 3 year term

Cathy Egan – 3 year term

Audit Committee:

Seth Peter – 1 year remaining on term

Aaron Sankey – 2 year term

Mary Farmer – 2 year term

Synod Assembly:

Christa Olson

Karen Knox

Judith Hedman

Brian McKinley

Submitted by: Stephanie Beane and Caron Porthan, co-chairs

Leadership Nominees



Congregation Vice President

Jeff Block

I was born and raised in Great Falls, Montana and am a life-long Lutheran. I attended Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota. My wife, Kristin, and I joined Central Lutheran 4 years ago after moving to Minneapolis. During the past 2 years, I have had the pleasure of serving on the Generosity Committee. Professionally, I am an Otolaryngologist (Ear, Nose, and Throat Specialist), and have been in full-time clinical practice since 1997. In our free time, we enjoy running, biking, hiking, traveling, dining out with friends, and spending time with our 4 adult children in Milwaukee, Boston, and Minneapolis.



Congregation Council - Treasurer

Karl Starr

Karl Starr and his husband, Christopher Haug, have been members of Central Lutheran since 2006. Karl has previously served on the Congregation Council and was a member of the 100th Anniversary Planning Committee. From 2013 – 2019 he served as chair of the Personnel Committee. He also serves as a member of the columbarium board. Karl retired in 2019 following a career focused primarily on human resources administration. The first 30 years of Karl's career were spent with Thrivent Financial. The last five years of his career were spent leading the HR team for a consortium of local nonprofit organizations. Karl and Christopher live in the Standish neighborhood of south Minneapolis. They enjoy cooking, gardening and their three daily walks with their dogs. In non-pandemic times, Karl and Christopher enjoy travel and entertaining.



Council at Large

Kirsten Hash

Kirsten started attending Central in 2016 when she moved to Minneapolis to attend law school at the University of St. Thomas. She officially became a member in 2018 and is now a trademark attorney at Ploen Law Firm in St. Paul. She is also a graduate of Luther College. Kirsten sings in the Central Choir and is active in the Young Adults group. She enjoys traveling the world and is eagerly anticipating being able to go see new places again.



Council at Large

Ann Oyen

My husband Marty and I joined Central on Palm Sunday in 1973 shortly before the birth of our first son. A lot of history has happened since then, nearly five decades worth. Somehow I've become a grandmother, widow and retired teacher. During my retirement years, I have been drawn into Central's community ministries programs as a volunteer in the Free Store and a representative to Align Minneapolis. I find spiritual nourishment and renewal for this work through my parallel involvement in Central's prayer ministries as a member of the Prayer Team and Prayer Chain, and a participant in healing prayers and "Listening for God" circles. Also, I have been greatly blessed by opportunities to be a lay reader and assisting minister.



Audit Committee

Mary Farmer

I am a baptised and confirmed member of Central. Over the years, some of the things I have done are helped with Sunday school, sang in choirs, count money and sew quilt tops. I am married to Greg and we have three boys who grew up at Central and now in January have welcomed a new granddaughter to the family.



Audit Committee

Aaron Sankey

I am a decision and data scientist at Bank of America. I have been monetizing data and information for the last 15 years at B of A, JP Morgan Chase, and AIG. I was born and raised in North Saint Paul, educated at the University of Minnesota and after a stint living in Manhattan, returned back to the Twin Cities where I earned an MBA at Carlson School of Business. In my spare time, I have been working to develop training for psychotherapists to incorporate decision science into therapy and provide clarity and peace to clients that face complicated short-term choices while working through long-term issues. I live in Saint Paul with my wonderful wife, Katie, and our two kids, Andy (6) and Elise (3). We spend a lot of time reading, running, and building forts out of couches.

2020 Historian Report

January 2020

8: Winter Bible Study with Pr. Peter – The Gospel of John
24-26: Family Camp at Camp Wapo
26: Going Deep with the Enneagram with Pr. Kathie Nycklemoe

February 2020

2: Open 2020 Budget meeting
9: Annual Meeting – The congregation approved the Nominating Committee's ballot for officers of the congregation, and the 2020 Budget. Also given was an overview of the building renewal finances.
22-23: High school retreat to Camp Amnicon
26: Ash Wednesday

March 2020

1: Lent begins with Mid-day Prayer and Adult Faith Formation/Evening Prayer on the Small Catechism and Lord's Prayer
11: Heading Home Central & DCEH bus to State Capital for Homeless Day on the Hill
13: In response to COVID pandemic and the Governor's "Stay at Home" request, all worship services are livestreamed and church activities/events are cancelled or go virtual. The *Spirit* becomes the *eSpirit*. Restoration Center continues caring in new and creative ways. Free Store and Health Commons closed. Monday meals/SVOC breakfasts served take-out style.

April 2020

3: Palm Sunday (online only)
17-19: The Great Three Days/Easter (online only)
22: Pastor Peter shared the first of a weekly Wednesday video greeting.

May 2020

CARE Act PPP Forgivable Loan secured.
15: Governor's "Stay at Home" now become "Stay Safe."
30/31: Pentecost (online only)

June 2020

15: Sarah Hanson, Luther Seminary MDivX student, begins as intern pastor at Tree of Life and Central.
17: Zoom Bible Study – The Book of Psalms
22: Daily Prayer with Holy Communion begins, being offered Monday and Thursday am, Wednesday pm.
30: Jane Lien, associate cantor, retires.

July 2020

12: Summer carillon recitals and food truck dining begins for five Sundays at noon, outside on the north plaza/patio.
24-28: Virtual Vacation Bible School with YouTube videos of Bible stories and personal experiences, crafts and suggested snacks.
27-30 Free Store holds "Christmas in July/August/September/October"

29: Zoom Bible Study – *Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the US* by Rev. Lenny Duncan, begins through Wednesday, August 5.

August 2020

10: Isaac Drewes begins as associate director of worship and music

September 2020

9: Zoom Bible Study – Narrative Lectionary begins
12-13: Rally Weekend at Central—Narrative Lectionary begins with new worship format. Sunday school opening is livestreamed. Carillon concert and food truck at noon on the north plaza/patio.
20: Empowering Conversations – Peace with Justice Forum resumes on Zoom, every third Sunday/month
25: CYF Reformation and Halloween drive-thru at 11:30 in Central's parking ramp
29: Align for Housing Justice on Zoom

October 2020

3: Six Central young people confirmed
4: Global Missions Zoom Forum: Young Adults in Global Mission
18: Confirmation classes begin with self-study curriculum
24: Zoom Prayer Retreat led by Pr. Kathie and Pr. Peter Nycklemoe

November 2020

Centering Prayer, Listening for God, and Spiritual Practices begin monthly opportunities for contemplative prayer.
"God's love – Our thank Response" cards mailed and returned by Central members, which were read during November worship prayers.
31/1: All Saints' Weekend – celebration of the church's resurrection (online only). Each household received a Diya, a small clay holder and candle, to light during worship and remember all those dear who have died.
14/15: Welcomed 21 new members and four children
20: Gov. Walz issues Four-Week Dial Back on certain activities to slow the spread of Covid-19.
23: Thanksgiving Community Meal served "to-go"
25/26: Annual Downtown Interfaith Thanksgiving Worship (online only)

December 2020

4: Augsburg University Advent Vespers: Celebrating a Season of Hope – A Virtual Service
6: Advent: "Lost in the Night, Waiting in Hope" with daily devotions written by Central members
13: Central staff host Christmas drive-thru in parking ramp at 11:30 a.m.
21: Christmas Community Meal served "to-go"
24/25: Christmas Eve/Christmas Day worship (online only)

Tree of Life Lutheran Church

Tree of Life Lutheran has been busy this past year continuing our mission of creating a queer-affirming, millennial led and spiritually grounded new faith community; it's just looked a little different than we expected! Following our first annual meeting in January 2020, we set goals of increasing worship from once a month to twice a month, hiring an intern, becoming more easily accessible to visitors, and writing a newly composed Evening Prayer service. With the pandemic, all these goals shifted but we have still met them.

Since March we have worshipped on Zoom and also made the leap to weekly services! This has provided more stability for us and easier access for visitors than our physical location did. We've adjusted well to life online, welcoming new people as well as broadening leadership to include more voices, and Zoom worship has become a prayerful anchor for our community.

We also hired a pastoral intern, Sarah Hanson, who I

hope many of you have had the opportunity to meet! Her internship is a partnership between Central (8 hrs/wk) and Tree of Life (12 hrs/wk) and is in addition to her classes in the MDivX program at Luther Seminary. Sarah has quickly become an indispensable part of our ministry and we're grateful for her energy, creativity and insight!

Finally, Tree is watching our very own liturgy come together! Focusing on the themes of Epiphany and Jesus' early life, we're creating an evening prayer service that addresses our hopes, fears and prayers during the pandemic. This is a collaborative project featuring art and writing from members of Tree and newly composed music by Tree's musician, Nate Crary.

We are so grateful for Central's continued support and friendship during this difficult year, and I look forward to being able to see you face to face again soon!

Pastor Marissa Sotos

Baptismal Font Team

Beginning in August 2020, Central relaunched the plan to build a more permanent baptismal font in the sanctuary under the direction of the Baptismal Font Team. Now the design and planning portions of this project are nearly complete and I'm excited to share some updates with you!

The Baptismal Font Team consists of Angela Hagen, Christopher Haug, Central's rostered leaders, Michael Dee, and Dave Rodriguez in partnership with Melissa Young of ESG Architecture, and with myself as project manager in my role as Central's liturgical design coordinator.

We began our work by looking at the theological symbolism of fonts in conjunction with Central's values, and also practical considerations for access, safety and use in worship. The team placed emphasis on building a font that was Trinitarian in design, fit well into the existing architecture of the sanctuary, and contributed elements of centering, welcome and natural beauty. The final design will consist of three large interlocking bowls spilling continually into one another and joined on a single base. This will be a permanent architectural structure in the rear of the sanctuary to one side of the center aisle (where the existing font has frequently "lived"). As well as the primary symbol of Trinitarian three in one, the design will focus on the sacramental element of water through abundance and motion, and on welcome and journey through the three

levels of the bowls and through water inspired art on the floor to define the baptistry area.

Significant funding for this project is provided by a generous memorial gift as well as some of the undesignated memorial gifts. Additional funding will be required, so if you are interested in participating in financially supporting this unique project please email Pastor Peter. We are now in the final design stages and are receiving bids for fabrication and installation from Jorgenson Construction. Once bids are finalized, along with any design changes, there will be an online Baptismal Font information meeting to share with you the design and plan. The fabrication for the new font will take an estimated six months, with the hope that installation and dedication will be after we return to in-person worship later this year.

On behalf of the Font Team, we are grateful to be planning and dreaming for the future baptisms and baptismal remembrances at Central, and we hope you will love and use this font for many decades to come!

Marissa Sotos, Liturgical Design Coordinator

Bishop Ann Svennungsen



Minneapolis Area Synod
of the ELCA

God's grace, peace, and hope be with you through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

In a normal year, I would use this report to highlight the many ways the Synod partners with your congregation to bring good news to your communities. 2020 was hardly a normal year.

Like your congregation, the synod needed to adapt quickly due to the threat of COVID-19, to cancel some programs, introduce new events, and modify most everything else. I have been amazed by the innovation and hard work of congregational leaders. I want – and encourage you as well – to speak a word of deep thanks to leaders for all that has been asked of them to hold our communities together and foster their flourishing.

Shortly after lockdown restrictions began in March, synod leaders led training sessions on online worship and pastoral care, as well as conversations on the question of Holy Communion as part of distance worship. In April, our Synod Treasurer and Secretary led two sessions on applying for PPP loans. In May, we were privileged to host Dr. Michael Osterholm for a presentation which drew 400 pastors, bishops, and leaders; as well as 100,000 viewers afterwards. We gave over \$46,000 in Imagination Grants to 25 congregations to strengthen their online worship presence. This fall, we gathered leaders for a well-received conversation on creative ways to celebrate Christmas. The synod staff provided worship services in May, July, and December, giving congregational leaders a much-needed respite.

Yes, 2020 was hardly a normal year. On May 25, 2020, the killing of George Floyd lifted the veil once again on the pandemic of systemic racism that infects our world. Churches near the killing and the uprising turned on a dime to address the immediate needs, supported by partner congregations throughout the synod. Clergy marched in silence led by AME Presiding Elder Stacy Smith. The Minnesota Council of Churches – which includes all six ELCA synods – voted unanimously to support a multi-year process “Dismantling the Structures and Repairing the Damage of Racism in Minnesota.” The synod’s new racial justice web page (mpls-synod.org/outreach/racial-justice) provides key information for congregations to deepen their work for justice, including the new Center for Leadership and Neighborhood Engagement, led by Rev. Kelly Chatman.

In addition to these efforts, we continue our essential and ongoing work of supporting leaders and fostering congregational vitality. We are blessed with over 700 rostered leaders, 325 serving in calls and 377 retired. We work hard so the church has the loving, faithful, and theologically well-formed ministers it needs. In 2020, we supported 67 persons preparing to become deacons or pastors.

In September, we were honored to receive a Lilly Grant that will support congregational cohorts committed to deepening their faith and neighboring practices. This month, we welcome Rev. Norma Malfatti as Director of Evangelical Mission who will promote our work in starting new congregations and accompanying our strategic ministries.

Our monthly conference meetings and other synod gatherings have revealed a real hunger among leaders to stay connected, learn from each other, and discern best practices for ministry in these times. We are honored and humbled by the calling to serve as convener of such holy conversations.

It is the generosity of congregations like yours that make the synod’s work possible. Thank you! We seek to be careful stewards of every gift. With the PPP loan, which we pray will be forgiven, we hope to end our FY2020 year budget without dipping deeply into reserves.

I conclude this annual report with a word of deep gratitude for the privilege of serving as your bishop. And, I look forward to January 2022, when we can once again worship and gather *in person* – with hugs and handshakes and singing.

Bishop Ann Svennungsen

Financials:

Assets and Liabilities

Consolidated Funds December 31, 2020

ASSETS			
OPERATING	12/31/2020	12/31/2019	12/31/2018
Checking Accounts	\$288,935	\$97,245	\$67,874
Reserve Account	\$202,755	\$227,563	\$100,335
Align, TOL, and Bethany Accounts	\$240,365	\$91,745	\$54,031
TOTAL OPERATING ASSETS	\$732,054	\$416,553	\$222,241
BUILDING & CAPITAL CAMPAIGNS			
Checking Accounts	\$315,881	\$399,833	\$572,677
MIF Demand Investments	\$0	\$0	\$623
Sanctuary and New Construction*	\$17,130,000	\$17,130,000	\$17,130,000
Parking Lot Land and Equipment**	\$5,714,286	\$5,714,286	
TOTAL BUILDING & CAPITAL CAMPAIGNS	\$23,160,167	\$23,244,119	\$17,703,300
DESIGNATED FUNDS (RESTRICTED)			
Checking Account	\$174,810	\$153,488	\$436,665
Funds Invested-ELCA	\$109,903	\$107,935	\$105,546
Life Insurance-Cash Surrender Value	\$27,790	\$26,259	\$25,829
Investments	\$352,261	\$347,819	\$145,853
TOTAL DESIGNATED FUNDS ASSETS	\$664,764	\$635,500	\$713,894
COLUMBARIUM	\$69,411	\$77,427	\$64,246
TOTAL ASSETS	\$24,626,397	\$24,373,599	\$18,703,680
LIABILITIES			
FUNDS HELD FOR OTHERS (ALIGN, BETHANY & TOL)	\$240,365	\$91,745	\$54,031
MORTGAGE NOTES			
Long Term Note Payable-MIF	\$5,956,182	\$6,127,054	\$6,293,000
Short Term Note Payable-MIF	\$1,859,285	\$2,105,596	\$2,500,000
DESIGNATED FUNDS (RESTRICTED)	\$621,774	\$598,913	\$676,952
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$8,677,606	\$8,923,308	\$9,523,983
NET ASSETS	\$15,948,791	\$15,450,291	\$9,179,697

*Based upon a prospective appraisal dated September 29, 2017 obtained for the MIF loan application

**The valuation of the parking lot is based upon net operating income and a capitalization rate

Proposed Budget

Accounts	Proposed budget	2020 Actual	2020 Budget
Budgeted Revenues			
Regular Offering	\$1,275,000	\$1,263,445	\$1,325,000
Building Usage Revenue	\$0	\$12,150	\$40,000
PPP Forgivable Loan Transfers	\$0	\$327,763	\$0
Parking Revenue	\$0	\$220,640	\$475,000
Foundation Revenue	\$972,000	\$832,245	\$828,000
Kitchen Cash Receipts	\$2,000	\$6,780	\$5,000
Donor Designated Camp Amnicon	\$0	\$3,000	\$3,000
Donor Designated Restoration Ctr	\$97,500	\$103,773	\$128,750
Donor Designated Global Mission	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500
Donor Designated Audio Visual	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
Donor Designated Music	\$18,000	\$18,000	\$18,000
Donor Designated CYF	\$36,000	\$48,000	\$48,000
Donor Designated Seniors	\$36,000	\$36,000	\$36,000
Donor Designated Seminarian Support	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
Donor Designated Saturday Services	\$0	\$7,000	\$0
Interest/Investment Revenue	\$10,000	\$10,599	\$12,500
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$0	\$1,109	\$0
Total Budgeted Revenues	\$2,455,000	\$2,899,006	\$2,927,750
Non-budgeted Revenues			
Estate Gifts	\$0	\$70,725	\$0
Wedding and Funeral Services	\$0	\$18,735	\$0
Total Revenues	\$2,455,000	\$2,988,465	\$2,927,750
<i>In addition to monthly operating fund contributions, the Foundation contributes to various Designated Funds. In 2020, the total was \$174,748.</i>			
Expenses			
Mission Emphasis (Benevolence)			
ELCA Churchwide Partnership	\$58,000	\$58,000	\$58,000
ELCA Mission Start (North Loop)	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000
ELCA South Sudan Mission	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Young Adults Global Mission (YAGM)	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Bright Stars of Bethlehem	\$10,000	\$0	\$0
Luther Seminary CPL	\$5,000	\$2,500	\$5,000
Lutheran Healthcare Bangladesh	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
China Service Ventures	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Wycliffe-Follingstad	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Wycliffe-Gaultney	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$10,000
Envision Community (tiny homes)	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
Mental Health Connect	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
Lutheran Social Services	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
Lutheran Campus Ministry	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
Align Minneapolis	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$8,000
Augsburg University	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$7,000
Camp Amnicon	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
ReconcilingWorks	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Extraordinary Lutheran Ministries	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Total Mission Emphasis (Benevolence)	\$186,000	\$168,500	\$176,000
Ministry Emphasis			
Worship Life Ministry	\$17,250	\$18,658	\$18,750
Music Ministry	\$23,325	\$14,351	\$34,450
Children/Youth/Family Ministry	\$16,250	\$9,661	\$29,000
Community Ministry	\$97,500	\$103,573	\$130,250
Fellowship Ministry	\$16,000	\$14,971	\$38,500
Other Ministries	\$13,900	\$8,860	\$16,400
Total Ministry Emphasis	\$184,225	\$170,074	\$267,350

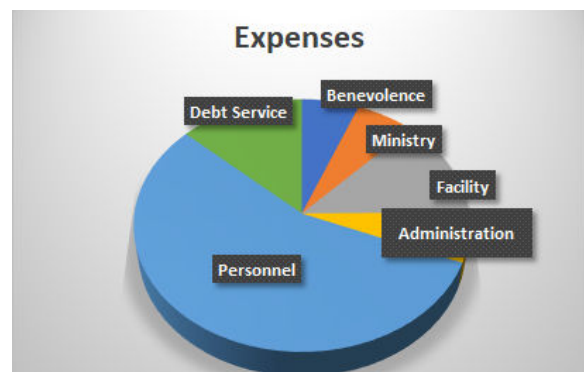
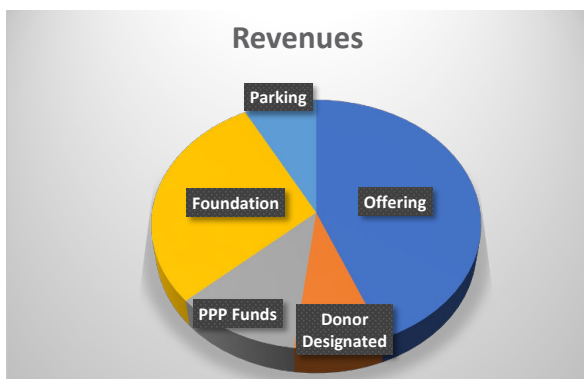
Proposed Budget

continued

Accounts	Proposed budget	2020 Actual	2020 Budget
Facility Expenses			
Building Operations	\$159,800	\$173,254	\$170,225
Utilities	\$110,000	\$106,969	\$119,000
Debt Service & Capital Improvement Escrow	\$368,004	\$417,134	\$412,889
Exterior Maintenance	\$58,000	\$25,186	\$30,000
Total Facility Expenses	\$695,804	\$722,544	\$732,114
Congregational Life			
Administration	\$141,550	\$141,252	\$138,050
Council & Committees	\$2,700	\$1,244	\$4,200
Communications	\$6,000	\$3,463	\$7,000
Banking, Legal, and Audit	\$32,500	\$30,753	\$37,500
Total Congregational Life	\$182,750	\$176,711	\$186,750
Personnel			
Ministry & Cong Life Staff	\$748,500	\$770,822	\$782,974
Facility Staff	\$105,000	\$108,370	\$108,869
Security & Restoration Staff	\$313,250	\$313,998	\$310,920
Employee Benefits	\$307,600	\$330,628	\$311,523
Continuing Education	\$18,500	\$14,280	\$18,500
Mileage & Expense Accounts	\$10,050	\$5,640	\$10,050
Misc Personnel Expense	\$14,700	\$6,044	\$22,700
Total Personnel	\$1,517,600	\$1,549,783	\$1,565,536
Non-budgeted Wedding and Funeral Expens	\$0	\$13,000	\$0
Total Expenses	\$2,766,379	\$2,800,612	\$2,927,750
Net Total	(\$311,379)	\$187,853	\$0

*With the assistance of PPP funds, CLC accumulated cash reserves during 2020.
Such reserves will be used to cover the 2021 deficit,
and ample cash balances should remain at the end of 2021.*

2020 Actual Revenue and Expense



2020 Designated Fund Summary

Accounts	Beginning Balance	Expense	Revenue	Ending Balance
ACTS	\$780	\$0	\$47	\$827
Baptismal Font	\$60,171	\$3,900	\$0	\$56,271
Bequests	\$0	\$141,450	\$141,450	\$0
Camp Amnicon Designated	\$1,800	\$3,000	\$1,550	\$350
Caring for Creation	\$793	\$0	\$0	\$793
Centennial Quilt Project	\$710	\$0	\$0	\$710
Central Nursing Fund	\$391	\$0	\$753	\$1,143
Central Quilters	\$27	\$0	\$0	\$27
Circle of Hope	\$0	\$0	\$720	\$720
Community Meals	\$0	\$3,246	\$3,246	\$0
Community Ministry	\$50,688	\$147,679	\$164,304	\$67,312
CYF	\$31,919	\$54,794	\$42,352	\$19,477
Debt Reduction	\$6,736	\$26,293	\$19,558	\$0
Downtown Music Festival-2015	\$2,007	\$0	\$0	\$2,007
Due TO operating account	\$0	\$6,116	\$6,231	\$116
Ed Penner Memorial	\$5,100	\$0	\$0	\$5,100
ELCA Disaster Relief	\$550	\$550	\$0	\$0
ELCA World Hunger	\$810	\$1,373	\$563	\$0
Fine Art Acquisition	\$19,142	\$2,264	\$80	\$16,958
Foundation Reserve	\$22,415	\$26,148	\$55,985	\$52,252
Gardening Corps	\$1,732	\$1,141	\$2,806	\$3,397
Global Missions	\$11,555	\$2,500	\$6,433	\$15,488
Kitchen Fund	\$2,060	\$0	\$0	\$2,060
Library Reserve	\$8,224	\$0	\$0	\$8,224
Long-term Projects	\$0	\$11,221	\$130,514	\$119,293
LSS Refugee Support	\$920	\$920	\$0	\$0
Maint & Sec Staff Discretionary	\$5,130	\$0	\$0	\$5,130
Memorials	\$9,462	\$545	\$4,970	\$13,887
Men's Fellowship	\$921	\$0	\$0	\$921
MF Envision Benevolence	\$0	\$0	\$20,000	\$20,000
MF Lutheran Health Care Bangladesh	\$0	\$0	\$20,000	\$20,000
MF TOL Benevolence	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Mons Teig Memorial	\$3,498	\$0	\$0	\$3,498
Music Commission	\$10,000	\$0	\$0	\$10,000
Music Fund	\$16,900	\$25,866	\$24,238	\$15,273
Organ Fund	\$30,870	\$33,692	\$1,294	(\$1,527)
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	\$0	\$500	\$6,242	\$5,742
Peace & Justice Forums	\$2,557	\$0	\$0	\$2,557
Prayer Shawls	\$567	\$0	\$0	\$567
Repair Fund (Consumables)	\$186,428	\$164,177	\$82,876	\$105,126
Saturday Night Worship	\$2,315	\$7,000	\$5,425	\$740
Sem Scholarships (Hanson & others)	\$3,047	\$3,494	\$3,273	\$2,826
Senior Adult Ministry	\$25,611	\$45,297	\$47,592	\$27,906
Staging Lift	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,000
Ushers	\$78,890	\$77,488	\$4,200	\$5,603
Totals	\$615,725	\$800,653	\$806,702	\$621,774

Mission Forward Campaign Recap

Member Pledges Received	\$1,157,127
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Foundation Pledge Received	\$84,000
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Expenditures

Campaign Expenses	\$86,036
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Lower Narthex	\$151,795
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Landscaping	\$39,945
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Benevolence Set Aside	\$50,000
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Mortgage Balances

Long Term	\$5,956,182
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Short Term	\$1,859,285
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Checking Account Balance	\$309,356
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