

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH 3022 W WISCONSIN AVENUE MILWAUKEE WI 53208

# Annual Report

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2016

Prepared for the 159th Annual Meeting of the Congregation  
January 29, 2017

*and introducing...*

**RENEWREJOICE!**  
from Generation to Generation



OUR SAVIOR'S  
LUTHERAN - MILWAUKEE

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## **AGENDA – ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

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### **159th MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION**

**January 29, 2017**

Welcome and Call to Order - Wendy Enockson, President

Opening Prayer - Pastor Keen

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Minutes

Attention to printed reports

Treasurer's Report - Linda Moore

Proposed 2017 Budget - Linda Moore, Treasurer

Report of the Foundation

Report of the Nominating Committee & Elections

Story of "Why"

Renew Rejoice! 2017

Old Business

New Business

Announcements

Closing Prayer

## **STAFF**

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### **PASTORAL STAFF**

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Patrick Keen

### **OFFICE STAFF**

Parish Administrator: Penny Schwid

Finance Director: David M. Wolber

Treasurer (Volunteer): Linda Moore

### **CUSTODIAL STAFF**

Benny Thompson

Nila Wooten

### **MUSIC STAFF**

Organist & Interim Choir Director: John Seboldt

Pianist (Wednesdays): Isaiah Adams

11:00 Service Worship Leader: Bob Foley

## **CONGREGATIONAL LEADERSHIP**

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### **CHURCH COUNCIL**

President: Wendy Enockson

Vice President: Julie Carr

Secretary: Mike Festge

Treasurer: Linda Moore

Tim Larson

Paul Brynildson

Frank Schultz

### **MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS**

Archives: Tim Larson

Building and Grounds: LaVonne Williams

Education: Cyndi Benner

Personnel: Paul Brynildson

Stewardship: Phil Enockson

Worship: Penny Schwid

Yarn: Julie Carr & Kari Ziemienski

### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Phil Enockson

### **OUR SAVIOR'S FOUNDATION**

Paul Brynildson

Vivian Watkins

Linda Brown

Linda Moore

Frank Schultz

Cheryl Viste

Paula Holman

### **ADDITIONAL GROUPS**

Coffee Hour:

Marie Brynildson, Coordinator October - May

LaVonne Williams, Coordinator June-October

Ushers: Steve Oakland, Head Usher

Thrivent leaders: Gary Christianson, LaVonne Williams, Dick Gielow,

## MINUTES OF CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS

### **Minutes of the 158th Annual Meeting of the Congregation January 31, 2016**

**Call to order:** The meeting was called to order by President Miguel de Jesús.

**Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was approved as printed.

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the 157th Annual Meeting January 25, 2015 and the Special Congregational Meeting January 10, 2016 were approved as printed.

**Ratification of the Amended and Restated Constitution:** It was moved and seconded to ratify the Amended and Restated Constitution of Our Savior's Lutheran Church that was approved by the Congregation at a meeting held on January 10, 2016. After discussion a vote by ballot was taken. The result of the ballots cast was announced with 44 voting "Aye" one voting "Nay" and six Abstaining. With a majority vote of those present and voting having voted "Aye" it was declared that the proposed Amended Constitution of Our Savior's Lutheran Church was ratified.

**Approval and adopt of the Amended and Restated Bylaws:** It was moved and seconded to approve and adopt the proposed Amended Bylaws of Our Savior's Lutheran Church. After discussion a vote by ballot was taken. The result of the ballots cast was announced with 34 voting "Aye" and none voting "Nay". With a unanimous vote of those present and voting having voted "Aye" it was declared that the proposed Amended Bylaws of Our Savior's Lutheran Church were approved and adopted.

**Report of the Nominating Committee:** The Nominating Committee presented nominees for the following positions:

Congregational Council

Council President: Wendy Enockson (2 year term)

Council Vice-President: Julie Carr (1 year term)

Council Secretary: Michael Festge (2 year term)

Council Treasurer: Linda Moore (1 year term)

Elected Congregational Member: Paul Brynildson, Timothy Larson, Frank Schultz (2 year term)

Our Savior's Foundation Board of Directors

Paula Holman (3 year term)

Frank Schultz (3 year term)

Nominating Committee

Miguel de Jesús (2 year term)

Phil Enockson (1 year term)

Karen Nimz (1 year term)

Kari Zieminski (2 year term)

Lay voting members to the Greater Milwaukee Synod Assembly (Elect 2)

Miguel de Jesús

Cyndi Benner

Linda Moore (Alternate)

There were no nominations from the floor. The nominees who were presented were elected to their positions by acclamation.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor Keen read from and commented on his written report.

**President's Report:** President Miguel de Jesús referred to and commented on his written report.

**Treasurer's Report:** Linda Moore read from and commented on her written report. She also commented on the slides in her PowerPoint presentation of the 2015 Financial Report. It was moved and seconded to accept the 2015 Financial Report as presented. Motion carried.

**Proposed 2016 Budget and Report of the Foundation:** Linda Moore commented on the slides in her PowerPoint presentation of the 2016 Proposed Budget. The Pastor Keen commented on the potential Ministry Teams that are presented in the Annual Report. Frank Schultz commented on the status of the Foundation and its support of Our Savior's. It was moved and seconded to approve the 2016 Proposed Budget as presented. Motion carried.

**Ministry Team Reports:** President Miguel de Jesús referred to the Ministry Team, Committee and Task Force Reports that appear in the Annual Report.

**Announcements:** Phil Enockson announced that a High Tea is being planned for February 27 to celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Dedication of the Hasler Lounge with a \$5,000 goal to raise funds to refurbish the Hasler Lounge.

There being no other business a motion to adjourn was made, seconded and passed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael O. Festge, Secretary

**Minutes of the Mid-Year Congregational Meeting**  
**Mid-Year Congregational Meeting**  
**June 26, 2016**

**Call to order:** The meeting was called to order by President Wendy Enockson.

**Respectful Communication Guidelines:** Wendy read the Respectful Communication Guidelines and the Congregation responded, "I will with God's help."

**Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was approved as printed.

**Cycle of Blessings Presentation:** Penny Schwid and Phil Enockson lead an exercise on the flow of Holy Currencies in the Cycle of Blessings.

**Council Goals and Strategic Plan:** Wendy commented on the goals that have been established by the Council for 2016:

1. Develop a strategic plan for the next 5 years,
2. Attend Blessings Connections (Holy Currencies training),
3. Develop a financial stability model (including participation in SAS),
4. Update the council handbook and complete the manual of ministry,
5. Strengthen organizational performance,
6. Update financial controls, and
7. Define our relationship with Central City Churches (CCC).

**Stewardship for All Seasons (SAS):** Tim explained SAS as a two-year training program initiative in best Stewardship practices.

**Treasurer's Report:** Linda Moore presented a comparison of actual income and expenses compared with the budget for January through May 2016. Linda also showed proposed changes to the 2016 Annual Budget, but explained that the Council has not taken action on those proposed changes and that the Congregation is not being asked for a Budget revision.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor Keen commented on a number of matters.

**Announcements:** Announcements were made of the following events:

- Frank re: Men's Group,
- Julie re: Yarn Ministry and Grief Ministry, and
- Wendy re: Outreach For Hope Bike Ride

**Closing Prayer:** Pastor Keen prayed the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael O. Festge, Secretary

## **REPORT OF THE PASTOR**

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by Rev. Dr. Patrick Keen

Grace and peace to each of you from God our Father, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

As I write this report to them people of God here at Our Savior's Lutheran church, I remember the words of Apostle Paul, "Every time I think of you, I thank my God." I thank God for you as I continue to learn how to be your pastor.

2016 has been a very trying year for me for many reasons, beginning with the death of my wife in April, As you may imagine, it has been difficult making the transition in ministry without her, the woman who was always next to me supporting my every move and action.

A large number with members who were significant in the life and well being of this church made their transition into eternal glory during this past year. It has been difficult because of the number of deaths we have experienced in this congregation in 2016 alone. The rapid succession of deaths has made it difficult for me to grieve not just the loss of my wife but the loss of those whom I have grown to love and appreciate in this church.

We have had some wonderful experiences during this past year despite the grief and loss. In May upon my return , I was favored with a musical of healing that was superb with a great variety of musicians and other coming out to encourage me in my healing process. We celebrated Bishop Jeff's final service as bishop of this synod, and what a great day that was.

We experienced a wonderful VBS program with the help and support of the Siebert Lutheran Foundation and the Serve Boldly volunteers from Moorhead, Minnesota. The program helped our youth see the Christ in people as they work their everyday jobs, from farmers to politicians to animal welfare workers.

We have developed strong partnerships with local organizations and agencies, networking to improve the quality of life of the residence of this community and the people who do business here. Those partnerships are proving to be invaluable as we move forward. We have partnered with Central City Churches, Inc. in sponsoring a Church Construction Project which is geared towards helping individuals secure employment with the Milwaukee Bucks construction projects. Our congregational partners are Peace Lutheran Church in Rosendale, WI. and Visions of Faith International Ministries in Chicago, who have reached out in partnership in different ways over the past two years. We are encouraged that there will be more congregations on the horizon as we become more exposed to the opportunities to develop those relationships.

In the spring, we hosted the UMW Choirs concert was a wonderful experience for all who attended, in spite of an area wide power failure. We hosted the Moral revival with Rev. William Barber and Rev. James Forbes, which was outstanding, with the help of our friends at Studio Gear, and our partners at the ELCA. This was an opportunity for us to showcase our wonderful facility. We are still seeing results from that gathering.

There are some exciting days ahead of us but I will hold off on articulating them here and now, I will just invite you to stay tuned and get further engaged in what God is doing here at OSLC. I will invite you to pray about the role you will play in helping to discover the new things God is doing and about to do here at OSLC.

Pastor Keen

## **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

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by Wendy Enockson

Dear Members of OSLC,

While I was thinking about writing this report, my mind kept wandering to all the Facebook posts and memes I had seen about the ending of 2016. It seemed many people were more than ready to say good-bye to the year. It certainly had its ups and downs. Overall we had a very productive year...

At the mid-year meeting I shared with you the goals our leadership had set for the year. Pastor Keen, the Council and Parish Life Team (PLT) having been working diligently to accomplish these goals. The Kaleidoscope training (Cycle of Blessings) provided us with a better understanding of how our ministries can become sustainable. We will be using the tools learned in this training moving forward.

We have been blessed with opportunity and guidance throughout 2016. A grant from the Siebert Lutheran Foundation enabled us to participate in the Stewardship for All Seasons initiative offered through the Synod. And it provided the means for consulting the Unstuck Group to, well, get our strategic planning efforts unstuck! Mike Ward's and Mark Meyer's expertise have been invaluable. The strategic plan is being launched alongside of the stewardship campaign. They support each other. They provide the focus we need to pivot Our Savior's to fulfil God's mission here in the heart of Milwaukee.

Thank you to the leadership for your commitment, your energy, your wisdom and all the ways you demonstrate God's love.

As we begin the 159<sup>th</sup> year of OSLC, I am excited and, to be honest, a little anxious. Completing these goals was no small task. But we are only at the beginning; there is more of work ahead of us. I am confident that we can accomplish great things. As the strategic plan is implemented I hope you will consider how you will participate.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Wendy Enockson



**REPORT OF THE TREASURER** *"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."* NIV, Jeremiah 29:11  
by Linda Moore

I begin this year's report with a difficult decision I recently made. In December, my brother Jim was diagnosed with ALS. God is calling me to help Jim and his family through this challenging time. In order to create time in my life to do that, I am resigning as Our Savior's Treasurer.

God willing, I will become Assistant Treasurer. In that role, I will help the incoming Treasurer track and pay bills, record deposits, and track cash flow. (For me, "track cash flow" means making sure there is enough money in the checking account to meet next month's payroll.) With the incoming Treasurer, Pastor Keen and President Wendy, together we will determine how to share the many other responsibilities of the Treasurer.

As I've repeated each year that I've been Treasurer, while the financial numbers that I share with you have value, they are only part of the Our Savior's story. I find such hope in the exciting changes that Our Savior's leaders are sharing with us today.

### **Financial Report**

#### **2016 Profit and Loss, Budget to Actual**

The Profit and Loss statements in this Annual Report include a grant of \$92,000 for 2016 from Our Savior's Foundation,000, which was approved at the January 23, 2017, Foundation Board meeting. Before that grant, the net loss for 2016 was **(\$-83,622)**, the amount in the financial reports many of you received last week. The grant approved by the Foundation Board includes \$8,378 to offset the 2015 net loss.

Total actual revenue for 2016 before the Foundation grant was \$270,100, which is 3% or \$8,945 less than budgeted. Total actual expenditures also were less than budgeted, 14% or approximately \$54,350 less. Net Loss before the Foundation grant was **35% BETTER** than budgeted. Budgeted loss was **(\$-129,023)**; actual loss was **(\$-83,622)** or \$45,400 better.

The 2016 budget included \$10,000 in both revenues and expenditures for new ministries. Actual 2016 revenues from new ministries were \$6,995, and actual related 2016 expenditures were \$6,004. The largest of these new ministries was the November Moral Revival.

#### **Analysis of Plan for Giving and of Annual Net Income/(Loss)**

*Plan for Giving* – As I identified previously, Plan for Giving is a useful revenue indicator to track over years. You know the story – as we've lost long-time members, giving has fallen. The "*Plan for Giving 2011 thru 2016*" chart identifies the annual reduction in plan for giving over 6 years and the budget estimate for 2017.

There also is good news here. Over the last 3 years, Our Savior's has lost several generous contributors. Without them, plan for giving would have lost \$45,000 in annual revenues. However, Pastor Keen has brought in new giving, which helped to reduce this shortfall. And I think the new ministries that will be implemented in 2017 will greatly improve this trend.

*Annual Net Income or Loss* – Shortly after I became Treasurer in 2013, I became very aware that if ministries at Our Saviors remained the same over the next few years, the funding from Our Savior's Foundation would need to significantly increase. Before 2013, discretionary spending was cut to almost nothing, costs of operating a building cannot materially change if we don't move, and staffing had been reduced as much as was feasible. The table "*Annual Net Income or Loss*" verifies support from the Foundation has increased.

The new plans being presented at this Annual Meeting hold the promise of turning the future around and bringing new revenues to Our Savior's. While it may take a few years for revenues to fully cover all expenditures, I sense 2017 is the year the trend of needing more and more funding from the Foundation will begin to reverse.

*2017 Budget* – As with last year's budget, the 2017 Proposed Budget is based on predictable facts and estimates. I believe change is coming, but I do not know how it will affect revenue or expenditures. I believe in the future of Our Savior's; because I cannot yet quantify it, the budget presented today does not include these promising changes.

Our Savior's leaders, including Pastor Keen, Council members and the Parish Life Team, have devoted much prayer and many hours developing the programs being presented today. Transformation has begun at Our Savior's; now it's time to support the process and give these promises a chance to bear fruit. I grew up on a farm; when I was a child, I learned that if I keep pulling tomato plants out of the ground to check how they're growing, I won't get any tomatoes. Please pray with us and help us nurture our new programs.

Respectfully Submitted, Linda Moore, Treasurer

**Our Savior's Lutheran Church 2016 Financial Report  
After 2016 Grant from Our Savior's Foundation**

	2016 Budget	2016 Actual	Over/ (Under) Budget
<b>Income</b>			
<b>Congregational Giving</b>			
Plan for Giving (2016 Actual - w Close the Gap)	\$ 185,000	\$ 164,737	(\$20,263)
Other Copngregational Giving	12,795	8,912	(3,883)
Estates, Bequests, Memorials	6,200	22,651	16,451
Faith, Other Contributions	8,100	7,970	(130)
New Ministries and Strategic Planning	10,000	6,995	(3,005)
<b>Income from Assets</b>			
Interest and Other Income	150	304	154
Weddings & Receptions	1,250	2,000	750
Income from Properties	12,000	10,825	(1,175)
Holman Account Assets	17,000	17,855	855
<b>Transfers from Restricted</b>			
Hasler Fund	3,000	717	(2,283)
Other Funds	850	1,258	408
<b>Grants</b>			
Our Savior's Foundation	0	92,000	92,000
Other Grants	16,000	21,191	5,191
<b>Pass-Through</b>			
Member Contributions to Food Pantry	6,700	1,112	(5,588)
	\$	\$	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>279,045</b>	<b>358,527</b>	<b>\$79,482</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
<b>Ministry Team</b>			
Benevolence	\$ 24,700	\$ 18,538	\$ (6,162)
Building and Grounds	88,550	85,337	(3,213)
Business Administration			2,184

	14,050	16,234	
Parish Education	7,900	5,799	(2,101)
Evangelical Outreach	9,365	7,580	(1,785)
Congregational Fellowship	700	-	(700)
Pastoral Care	2,550	4,702	2,152
Stewardship	1,575	1,517	(58)
Worship	4,510	7,058	2,548
Youth	5,000	0	(5,000)
Staff	239,167	197,380	(41,787)
New Ministries and Strategic Planning	10,000	6,004	(3,996)
	\$	\$	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>408,067</b>	<b>350,149</b>	<b>(57,918)</b>
	\$	\$	\$
<b>Net Income / (Loss)</b>	<b>(129,022)</b>	<b>8,378</b>	<b>137,400</b>

**Our Savior's Lutheran Church 2016 Budget & Actual, 2017 Budget  
Budgets Before Grant from Our Savior's Foundation  
Actual After Foundation Grant for 2016**

	2016 Budget	2016 Actual	2017 Proposed Budget
<b>Income</b>			
<b>Congregational Giving</b>			
Plan for Giving (2016 - w Close the Gap)	\$ 185,000	\$ 164,737	\$ 170,000
Other Congregational Giving	11,295	8,912	9,065
Estates, Bequests, Memorials	6,200	22,651	12,500
Faith, Other Contributions	8,100	7,970	8,000
New Ministries & Strategic Planning	10,000	6,995	5,635
<b>Income from Assets</b>			
Interest and Other Income	150	304	10
Weddings & Receptions	1,250	2,000	2,000
Income from Properties	12,000	10,825	11,000
Holman Account Assets	17,000	17,855	18,000
<b>Transfers from Restricted</b>			
Hasler Fund	3,000	717	0
Other Funds	850	1,258	2,131
<b>Grants</b>			
Our Savior's Foundation	0	92,000	0
Other Grants	16,000	21,191	23,822
<b>Pass-Through</b>			
Member Contributions to Food Pantry	6,700	1,112	1,200
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 277,545</b>	<b>\$ 358,527</b>	<b>\$ 263,363</b>

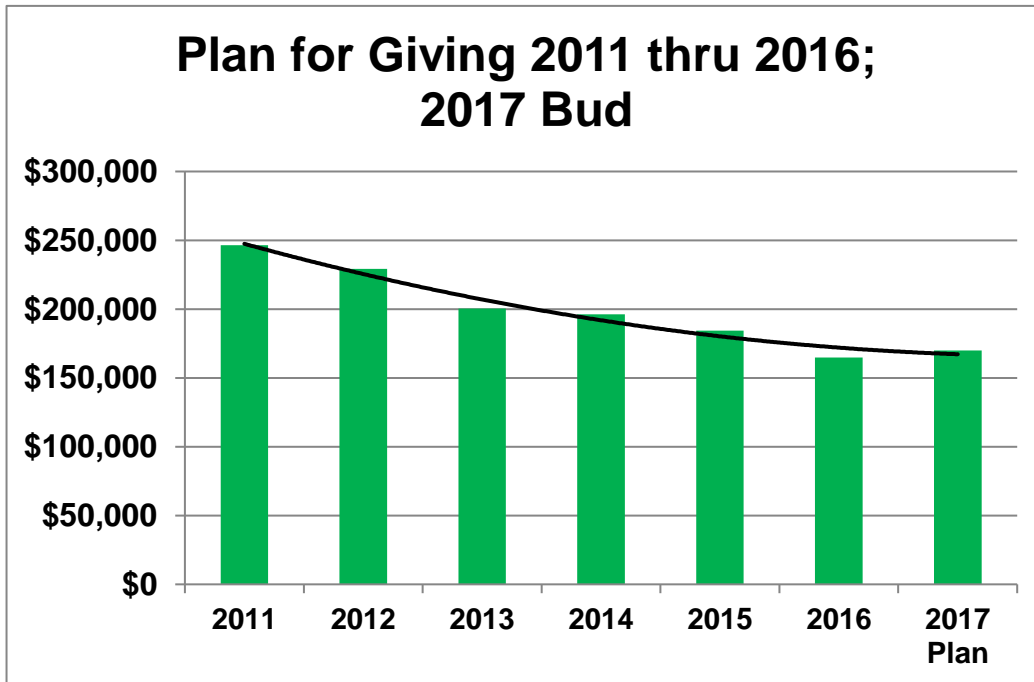
<b>Expenses</b>			
<b>Ministry Team</b>			
Benevolence	\$24,700	\$18,538	\$18,000
Building and Grounds	88,550	85,337	91,750
Business Administration	14,050	16,234	21,450
Parish Education	7,900	5,799	6,400
Evangelical Outreach	9,365	7,580	7,660
Congregational Fellowship	700	0	(50)
Pastoral Care	2,550	4,702	3,760
Stewardship	1,575	1,517	5,675
Worship	4,510	7,058	3,800
Youth	5,000	0	5,000

<b>Staff</b>	239,167	197,380	244,209
<b>New Ministries &amp; Strategic Planning</b>	10,000	6,004	4,850
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$408,067</b>	<b>\$350,149</b>	<b>\$412,504</b>
<b>Net Income / (Loss)</b>	<b>(\$130,522)</b>	<b>\$8,378</b>	<b>(\$149,141)</b>

## Our Savior's Lutheran Church

### Analysis of Plan for Giving and Annual Income/Loss

Presented to the Congregation by Linda Moore,  
Treasurer, January 29, 2017



**Annual Net Income or Loss - Budget, Actual  
before Foundation Grant, Foundation Grant  
and Net Revenue/(Loss) after Grant  
2011 through 2016**

		BUDGET, ACTUAL AND GRANT YEARS					
		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
<b>Budget</b>		(\$37,763)	(\$24,532)	(\$58,929)	(\$72,980)	(\$86,912)	(\$129,023)
<b>Actual before Foundation Grant</b>		(\$31,802)	(\$12,575)	(\$32,320)	(\$70,045)	(\$112,625)	(\$83,622)
<b>Foundation Grant</b>		\$30,451	\$9,900	\$35,000	\$70,800	\$104,000	\$92,000
<b>Net Revenue / (Net Loss)</b>		(\$1,351)	(\$2,675)	\$3,134	\$755	(\$8,625)	\$8,378

**MINISTRY TEAM REPORTS**  
**REPORT OF THE WORSHIP TEAM**

by Penny Schwid

Pastor Keen provides leadership for the Worship Team and, with, John Seboldt and Bob Foley and Penny Schwid, plans the weekly Sunday services. These worship planners give attention to music and liturgy that fit the seasons of the church year and the appointed Sunday texts. Music from the global Christian songbook continues to be important, using the resources of the *Evangelical Lutheran Worship, This Far by Faith, With One Voice, African American Heritage, Lead Me Guide Me* and other hymnals available to us. We maintain a subscription to Augsburg Fortress's online product, [Sundaysandseasons.com](http://Sundaysandseasons.com), for downloading the lectionary material, accessing hymns and liturgy for reprinting as well as Bible texts and graphics. Further, we continue to include some paperless singing in our services, led by Pastor Keen, John, Bob and/or the choir. Unaccompanied verses may also be included. Our goal is for the Word of God to be communicated in the music and that each worshipper might discover something new or something familiar that feeds his or her faith journey.

Special services were planned in 2016 for festival Sundays like 2 services on Ash Wednesday. We had one service on Maundy Thursday and Miguel helped to coordinate the speakers for Good Friday. We had two Easter services and special attention to Pentecost, Reformation, All Saints Sunday and 2 services on Christmas Eve. The Rally Day service was held indoors and several members were recognized for their contributions to the life and ministry of the congregation. We are grateful to the Building and Grounds Team for special decorations for these services, to LaVonne & Jerry Williams and Norma Fogle for serving as "altar guild", caring for the paraments and candles. This Christmas we were especially thrilled with the new paper cut angel banners created by Phil Enockson, Norma Fogle and many of you who helped to cut the intricate designs. We did change the worship schedule to one service at 10:00 a.m. for summer services, which was supported by a majority of people who responded to a survey asking about service time preferences.

The worship leaders are dedicated, serving as Assisting Ministers, Readers, Communion Servers, Ushers, Gift Bearers, Sound Room and Sacristy workers. Two worship leader workshops were held in 2016, led by Pastor Keen, focused on the questions about why we worship. New worship leaders are always invited and welcome; contact Pastor Keen if you are interested and watch for news about the training.

John Seboldt had an unfortunate accident in 2016 that kept him from the organ bench while he recuperated. He was able to return to work here in June and has, thanks be to God, been adding organ pedal work and steps to the balcony to his exercises for recovery. John continues to lead the choir in addition to playing the organ and piano for both services. We are grateful to Sterling Biggers for covering the 11:00 services while John was away, and to a host of gifted organists who filled in during that time.

The choir blesses us with music at the 8:30 services and you who like to sing are always invited to join in. Rehearsals are three Sundays a month at 8:00 a.m. The schedule is printed on the church calendar and available from the church office. Bob Foley continues his leadership at the 11:00 service with voice and guitar. The group known as "3AM" welcomes newcomers for accompanying hymns and liturgy at the 11:00 service. Anthony Boose has blessed the 11:00 congregation with his drumming skills. We are thankful for the dedication of all of these music leaders.

Pastor Keen leads the weekly Wednesday Prayer services in word and music and prayer ( with the support of talented musician, pianist Isaiah Adams). His gift for music is an inspiration and blessing as he leads in the singing each Sunday and in between Sundays, too. He participated in and enjoyed an Evening of Music on May 25, a bit of salve in the early days of grief on the loss of his dear wife Cathy. Pastor Keen is looking forward to planning more evenings of music in the future.

## **REPORT OF THE YARN MINISTRY TEAM**

by Julie Carr and Karin Zieminski

The purpose of Our Saviors Yarn Ministry is to knit/crochet yarn items for those in need of a comforting hug, while having fun, fellowship, and getting technical support in making our projects; all at the same time!

Joyful life changes like the arrival of new babies, takes some getting used to, while struggles like disease, accidents and loss of loved ones are difficult to deal with. The group made and distributed 80 knitted articles; mainly shawls and gave them to OSLC's members and family members, friends, friends of friends and neighbors to provide comfort, support or joy. Two shawls were given to people who had lost a loved one to street violence.

Our group also designates some of their projects to specific recipients. Some made little hats for premature babies in February for a local hospital. Others made hats and scarves for Our Savior's Mitten Tree in the Fall.

The OSLC Yarn Ministry began in March of 2013, with four members. Three years later, we have grown to have seventeen members, made up of women from both services, and friends of members. In 2016, we have gained four new members. Though our average attendance has been eight to nine women, other members who can't come are knitting/crocheting at home.

The member that brings inspiration to us all is Jenine Wimmer, who despite her own health battles, and lack of eye sight, donated more than 30 beautiful shawls she crocheted at home. She hasn't been able to come, but she contributes, adding so much to our ministry.

Everyone is welcome, no matter the skill level. We would love to teach anyone. We endeavor to bring young adults into this ministry as our group is a great opportunity to create for others, and the fellowship and connections made would appeal to an intergenerational group.

We meet the first Saturday of the month, 10:00-12:00, at Brumder Mansion which is next store to Our Saviors ELC.

## **REPORT OF THE ARCHIVE TEAM**

by Timothy Larson

### ***Purpose of the Archive Team***

The purpose of the Archive Team is to celebrate the legacy and heritage of Our Savior's Lutheran Church. We do this through preserving the congregation's historical artifacts, important documents and life stories of its members. We seek to inform and educate members and friends of the rich spiritual and cultural influence this congregation has had locally and nationally and to provide an opportunity for individuals and the community to engage with our past, present and future to strengthen and inspire their faith for today and for generations to come.

### ***2016 Highlights***

The Our Savior's Archive Team was organized in April of 2016. Due to the unique and historic legacy of Our Savior's in the life of the former Evangelical Lutheran Church and the American Lutheran Church bodies, Joel Thorson from the national ELCA Archives visited Our Savior's to provide guidance to the Archive Team to start the process of gathering, organizing and preserving our rich heritage. Joel assisted us in setting priorities and provided guidance in preserving our

history. In addition, Nancy Carroll from the regional ELCA archives at Wartburg Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa shared her expertise and interest in our project.

### ***Doors Open - MKE Event***

The Archive Team organized and hosted the Doors Open MKE Event on Saturday, September 17, and Sunday, September 18, 2016 from noon-5pm. Guests enjoyed organ music (thank you, John!), refreshments, and participated in the angel Christmas project. Over 200 guests, including former members attended the event.



### ***History Room Refresh***

In 2016 the History Room, off of the Narthex, was cleaned and the displays refreshed. The History Room is open between Sunday services and tours of our campus and History Room are available. Please contact the Church Office to arrange a tour.

### ***Marketing Materials Created and Updated***

A new marketing one-pager was designed to provide guests and visitors a brief history of the congregation and provides architectural highlights of the church. In addition, the 1950's stained glass brochure written by Pastor Hiller was enlarged and reproduced for use today. It stands as the definitive work on our stained glass windows. A 1960's organ dedication brochure was revived and provides a comprehensive overview of the

organ. These materials can be found in the Narthex and by the office for your review and enjoyment.

### ***Historic Media Transferred to Modern Media***

Milwaukee Media Company was hired to transfer the below historic media materials to new media for today. We will continue to share these amazing historic moments with you in 2017:

- 1952-1954 Ground-breaking service for the Wisconsin Avenue building and building of the new church, including the topping off of the steeple (Color film to flash drive)
- 1954 Church Dedication Service (Reel-to-reel to CD)
- 1976 Christmas Eve Service Televised "Live" on Channel 6 (Film to flash drive)
- 1950's Photograph Negatives of the church at Christmas (Picture negatives to photographs)
- 1970 Our Savior's Lutheran Church 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the American Lutheran Church (Record to CD)

### ***Faith Story Project***

To record, preserve and inspire future generations the Faith Story Project was initiated to collect the Faith Stories of our members. As of this writing over 12 individuals have submitted their stories with several more in process. Some of these Faith Stories will be shared through the Messenger to inspire all of us, if the author so desires. These stories will be preserved for future generations. To participate in the Faith Story Project and leave your legacy of faith for future generations contact an Archive Team member for more information.

### ***Music and Choir Room***

The Archive Team and several volunteers have been organizing and filing our vast collection of sheet music. An on-line catalogue has been developed to catalogue the music - making the library accessible not only to the congregation but to others who would want to borrow the music.

### ***Our Savior's Lutheran Church Archive Collection***

The Archive Collection is located adjacent to the Print Room and consists of the following collections:

1. Book Collection – historic books, worship books, catechism
2. Music Collection – OS's historic LP records, sheet music, worship accessories
3. Video Collection – videos of historic OS moments on video
4. Cassette Collection – collection of worships services, pastor sermons and special speakers including educational forums
5. Art Collection – stained glass windows, artwork from the campus and historic artifacts, including Earl Kittleson artwork



6. OSLC Foundation – minutes and financials
7. Committee Meeting Minutes – council and committee minutes from the very beginning of OS in Norwegian and English
8. Faith Story Project – Capturing our members faith stories

The Archive Team thanks you for your donations and support as we preserve and protect our legacy for future generations. A special thank you to the Archive Team and Friends who have joined us in 2016!

**Archive Team Co-Chairs:** Joan Totten and Tim Larson

**Archive Team:**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sue Miklautsch</li> <li>2. Marian &amp; Dick Gielow</li> <li>3. Karen Nimz</li> <li>4. Lolita Lukach</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Penny Schwid</li> <li>6. Pastor Keen</li> </ol> |
|---|---|

To ensure the effectiveness and participation by all, gracious invitations to participate will be extended to all who have an interest.

### **REPORT OF THE EDUCATION TEAM**

by Cyndi Benner

The Education Ministry Team has been working hard to make education a reality here at OSLC. We have resurrected the Sunday School and are grateful to those members who have volunteered their time and talents to make our Advent Sunday School series a reality. Between two and four children were at the classes every week and seemed to enjoy the Bible Stories and crafts that were provided.

This past summer a week of Vacation Bible School was held here at OSLC. The theme of the program was “Meeting Jesus through people who work”. There was a good turnout of children and we were blessed to have the help of young adults who were here in Milwaukee on a mission trip. Every day except Friday the children experienced some sort of field trip. These included a trip to Milwaukee City Hall, a walk down Wisconsin Avenue to the Humane Society of Wisconsin with a picnic following at Merrill Park, a visit to the Discovery World Center and a visit to a farm followed by a lunch at a restaurant. Although the weather was not always on our side, fun was had by all!

Going into the new church year we are working very hard to be able to continue our Sunday School program and look forward to providing quality education to both the young people and adults here at Our Savior’s.

### **REPORT OF THE BUILDING AND GROUNDS TEAM**

by Jerry and LaVonne Williams

This has been a very busy year for Building and Grounds. We have gone through the church room by room cleaning, organizing, and getting rid of all unnecessary and outdated materials. Anything we found that was from our past history was brought to our Historical group to organize and sort. This work was done by many hands.

Besides our routine electrical and plumbing repairs, we had a major radiator leak in the storage room above what is now our History room. Also, there was a small roof leak in the Sanctuary. Both have been taken care of.

We have recently hired a part time employee, Spencer Jackson, to work on our floors. He is doing a great job stripping and waxing, and keeping the floors well maintained.

The front of the church has been dark for many year. We have hired an electric company to install new lighting fixtures on the church. Now the church is brightly lit for all to see. Also, when the lighting was completed, thanks to Doreen and Mike Festge, they hired Aaron Schwid to come in and re-landscaped the whole front area. With the new trees planted last year, it really looks nice.

In the back church entrance, we planted three chrysanthemum bushes to beautify the area. We did this in honor of Shirley Deer, Shirley Johnson, and Shirley Oakland. We call it our “Shirley Garden”.

This year we also cleaned out half the garage and maintained all the equipment we use. (Next year we will tackle the other side of the garage.) We have two large snowblowers that are in good working order and this year we got another used smaller Toro which can be easily used for smaller snow falls.

Another thing we accomplished this year was to tear out the old cabinets in the kitchen next to the refrigerator. We installed a hand washing sink in it's place and will soon add stainless steal shelving.

In the next year, we will continue to work hard to keep the church in good working order and to keep it clean and beautiful.

## **REPORT OF THE STEWARDSHIP TEAM**

by Penny Schwid

The Stewardship Team has been participating in the special consultant-led process by Stewardship for all Seasons (SAS). We have appreciated the leadership of the consultant, Mike Ward, and the fact that most of the costs were sponsored by Seibert Lutheran Foundation. The result of the SAS work is the new stewardship campaign that is being introduced today (January 29) at our 159th Annual Meeting to support the new strategic plan for 2017.

In this Annual Report you can read about the impact on peoples' lives through the ministry and activities of OSLC that your financial gifts supported in 2016. Here are just some of those:

In 2016...

about 18,000 were served at the Central City Churches food pantry.

100 or more a week attended the Narcotics Anonymous meetings and events.

more than 100 worship services were held - average attendance about 80.

50 Wednesday Prayer Services were held - average attendance about 75.

we provided space for meetings of OSLC groups .

we provided space for meetings of other groups including the Greater Milwaukee Synod.

we provided space for classes like diakonia™.

we rented an office to L&M Payee Service.

we rented parking lot space to Reformation Lutheran.

we hosted Serve Boldly youth and Boston University students who came to serve in Milwaukee, sleep on our floors and use our kitchen and restrooms.

said good-bye to saints among us whom we loved.

we laughed and cried and sang and prayed together.

we held our pastor and Anthony in prayer while we all grieved the passing of Cathy Keen.

we held a week of Vacation Bible School that showed children "Meeting Jesus through People in City", featuring people at work.

Central City Churches Outreach Ministry served lunch and refreshments to hungry people 4 days a week...about 1500 meals each month.

we collaborated with Near West Side Partners and Safe & Sound for a Halloween alternative called Trunk or Treat for children that brought out nearly 400 people.

Together we are making the new story of OSLC. Thank you for your support as we plan together, keeping our hearts and our eyes open to the future. What is God about to do? We are ready to find out! Pastor Patrick is leading us to be a church for the 21st century. The RENEW REJOICE! campaign will help support the vision. Watch for your invitation to make a financial commitment for 2017.

## **REPORT OF OUR SAVIOR'S FOUNDATION, INC.**

by Frank Schultz

During 2016 the Foundation continued to address religious, educational and charitable activities for the benefit of Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Milwaukee, WI. The Foundation usually meets the third Monday of the odd numbered months. Meeting dates and times are included and published in the church calendar.

Members of the 2016 Foundation Board include: Linda Brown, Linda Moore, Paula Holman, Frank Schultz, Cheryl Viste and Vivian Watkins. Paul Brynildson was an ad hoc member of the Board, serving as Treasurer. Cheryl Viste and Linda Moore have completed their three year terms on the Board in 2016. I want to especially thank them for their service and thank the other Foundation Board members as well. In addition since I have been nominated to fill the position of OSLC Treasurer in 2017, I have resigned my position on the Foundation Board.

The Foundation ended 2015 with assets (including a checking account, investments in the stock market, stocks and cemetery plots) totaling approximately \$610K. The balance at the end of 2016 was approximately \$646K. The Foundation has a pending liability of \$67K to OSLC to address shortfalls in the 2015 and 2016 church budgets. The Foundation also distributed almost \$18K in earnings to OSLC during 2016.

2016 saw higher dividends paid and increased stock values over the past several years. The Foundation also received gifts and memorials of over \$40K during 2016.

During 2016 the Foundation began to investigate the possibility of hiring a financial advisor to offer a review of our present investments and prepare a strategy for a future investment program. The Board was concerned that our long-standing investment policy was not "in tune" with current economic conditions. To date the Foundation has interviewed three (3) financial advisors representing a wide range of financial firms, from very large to small. Most large financial firms charge a fee of 1% of assets per year for their services. In our case, that would be over \$5K for next year. The smallest financial firm interviewed worked on a "fee per service" arrangement, charging \$200/hour. These firms would assess the Foundation's goals, review current investments, and suggest a future investment strategy. The Foundation may interview more firms before making a final decision on hiring a financial advisor. We welcome comments as we move forward on this project.

Another significant action taken by the Foundation during 2016 was to increase the percentage of assets that can be distributed to OSLC in any year from 10% to 40%. It was hoped this would allow the Foundation to meet budget shortfalls for OSLC for the next three (3) years. It does, however, make it somewhat easier to carry large deficits in the OSLC operating budget. The Foundation Board welcomes your comments on this matter.

Respectfully submitted,  
Frank Schultz

## MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS 2016

	Baptized	Confirmed
MEMBERSHIP – December 31, 2015	221	185
ACCESSIONS in 2015		
1. By Baptism/children	0	0
2. By Baptism/adults	1	0
3. By Affirmation of Faith	6	2
4. By Transfer from other ELCA congregations	3	2
5. By Transfer from other Lutheran congregations	0	0
6. From Non-Lutheran congregations	0	0
7. Statistical Adjustment & Other*	0	0
TOTAL ACCESSIONS	10	4
<i>subtotals</i>	231	189
Baptized members confirmed in 2015		0
Total confirmed		189
Total baptized	231	
LOSSES		
1. By Death	10	10
2. By Transfer to other ELCA congregations	5	5
3. By Transfer to other Lutheran congregations	0	0
4. By Transfer to Non-Lutheran congregations	0	0
5. Statistical adjustment and other reasons	2*	2*
TOTAL LOSSES	17	17
<b>MEMBERSHIP – December 31, 2016</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>172</b>

### New Members Received

Callie Burns	Affirmation of Baptism	January 31
Christopher, Lindsey & Ethan Doman	by Letter of Transfer	June 26
Kenneth & Josephine Harrell	Affirmation of Baptism	June 26
Daren Jasourowski	Affirmation of Baptism	June 26
Edward L. McFarland Jr.	Affirmation of Baptism	June 26
Barbara Jean "BJ" Mosley	Affirmation of Baptism	June 26

### Baptisms

James Tydus                      June 26

### Deaths

Frank Baumgartner              February 29, 2016  
 Ed Schneider                      March 4, 2016  
 Cathy Keen                        April 12  
 Christeen Travis                 April 18  
 Henry Marohl                      April 27  
 Shirley Johnsen                 May 17  
 Shirley Deer                        May 20  
 Floyd Cason                        June 15  
 Mae Weichart                      June 20  
 Ruth Ann Williams                August 14  
 Donald Bayer                      Memorial Service 11/19/2016 (former member)  
 Dolores Schrubba                 December 31

### Transfers

David & Linda Flatten            12/5/2016              to Mt. Hope Lutheran ELCA West Allis  
 Tiffany Flatten                    12/5/2016              to Mt. Hope Lutheran ELCA West Allis  
 Bob & Lana Wiese                12/31/2016             to Fox Point Lutheran ELCA Fox Point

### Dropped due to Address Unknown

Suzan Meyer  
 Sandy Miller

\*Statistical Adjustments - LOSSES = removed inactives, addresses unknown etc.