



Light
of
Christ
LUTHERAN CHURCH



2017 Annual Report

Senior Pastor's Report - 2017 Annual Report

Pastor Kendall Koenig



2017 was a profound year for Light of Christ with amazing milestones of blessing and painful moments of loss. As I said midyear, it was the best of times and the worst of times. Let me reflect on the seasons and milestones of blessing first, and then acknowledge the emotional challenges at the end.

Strong ministry year: As you will see in the up-coming pages, we as a church continued to live out our mission to Invite, Nurture and Serve in deep and practical ways. I am so grateful for our faithful staff and amazing ministry leaders who help bless little lives, shape young lives and help adults truly engage with Jesus as Leader and Savior of their life. And along with that, we shared Christ's love in this community and beyond in many and varied ways. Take a look at the rest of this report and give thanks to God for His strength and vision that continues to lead us forward!

Congregational Goals: At the Annual meeting, the Council put forward 3 key goals for the congregation last year:

1) Initiate next steps in new Church/Ministry Center discernment and planning.

In January/early February we hosted 17 Vision and Readiness gatherings, presenting the opportunity for long term missional growth and the challenge of raising \$3.6 million to allow us to move forward with building our new campus without selling 100 Hanson Road. At the February Annual meeting—our largest ever!—the vote was 85% in favor of taking that step. It was an exciting and overwhelming moment—we had heard God clearly! We initiated a capital campaign entitled "Forward in Faith" based on Joshua 1:9. By early June we had received \$2.5 million in commitments, but we had lost momentum.

God put a renewed challenge before leaders, and by July 9th, the Spirit had stirred leaders' hearts and we were at \$3 million in commitments. With the Council putting forth the deadline of August 5th, God began a new and miraculous work in this congregation. By the Council meeting on August 7, God had led 222 households to make commitments of \$3,667,000, surpassing our goal!

Since then, we have re-formed the Building Team, clarified our contract with Dave Skiffington (our architect), re-engaged with our Civil Engineer, launched the Forward in Faith Mission Project team, and sent out RFQ's to contractors so that we can take the next steps. This has been a journey where

God has shown Himself real and powerful in new ways to all of us. To God be the glory!

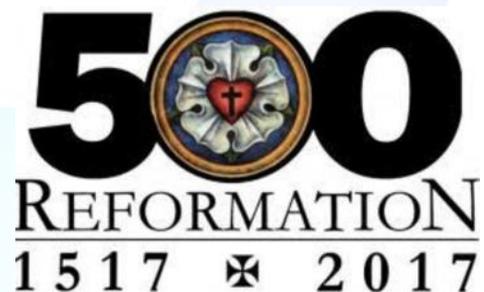
2) Embrace the vision of being "A Church of all ages" that lives out Christ's mission in this community and beyond.

As a congregation—and as a community—we have shifted demographically. Ten years ago, we were a congregation skewed dramatically towards families with grade school age children. Now, we are more evenly balanced, though with a slight demographic dip in that area. Our goal is not to be a "young" congregation or an "old" one, but a "Church of all ages", a Church that accurately represents the community in which God has placed us.

To that end, we have hosted two focus groups of younger adults in the congregation, and continued to develop outreach strategies to engage 20's & 30's fully in the life of the congregation. This will continue to be a focus as we move into 2018.

3) Celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation in a variety of ways.

In February we launched a four week worship series focused on key themes from the Reformation. We also sent out daily Luther quotes with devotional reflections to apply them to today. We also hosted a showing of a Luther travelogue movie produced by Rick Steves. This past fall we again sent out daily reflections on Luther's Small Catechism, covering the 10 Commandments and Lord's Prayer. A 500th Anniversary is not something to overlook!



In 2017, the following pastoral and sacramental acts were initiated: 23 baptisms, 26, confirmations, 4 weddings, and 10 funerals.

There were many wonderful moments of ministry that are captured in this report, along with many moments in worship and serving where God touched lives profoundly but we don't create a written record. That is okay—God knows!

In this year, we as a congregation also faced some times of profound hurt and loss, most exemplified by the journey Pr. Sharon went through. Her car accident in June that left her with a severe post-concussion

Senior Pastor's Report continued...

symptoms along with the fast and difficult cancer journey that her husband Al experienced. We grieve his loss, along with the others who we needed to commend into God's hands his past year. This was hard, so very hard. And yet God used so many of you in different ways to bring care, support and comfort to Pr. Sharon and others during these past months. We truly lived out LOC's first Care principle—"Christian care is a community effort." And because we are a Resurrection people, we not only grieve with our brothers and sisters, we point each other to the hope that we share because of Jesus. *"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."* - Romans 15:13

As we head into 2018, may we continue to seek Christ's leading for us as a congregation and for us individually. To the highest mountains and through the deepest valleys our Savior will guide us. I'm honored to be taking this journey with you.

Properties Report 2017

The maintenance staff concentrated on general upkeep of the facilities. A few projects included the following:

- Demolition and removal of the outdoor stage platform due to safety reasons.
- Repair and staining of the entrance and exit driveway retaining walls.
- Remodel of the Living Room space on the Faithland level.



The spring cleanup occurred with the assistance of volunteer youth, adults and scouts. The fall cleanup day was cancelled due to inclement weather.

Plumbing issues surfaced the final few months of 2017. Various scenarios are being explored with the best resolution to be implemented in the very near future.

Minimal activity occurred on the property at Longmeadow and Sleepy Hollow Roads due to the construction work on Longmeadow directly in front of our property. Just prior to the start of construction, the construction team relocated further back onto our property our large boulder previously situated at the corner of Sleepy Hollow and Longmeadow. Volunteers removed the temporary sign that had been located at that corner.

We again had the ability to work with McHenry County who provided us with community service workers during 2017. However, we had very few who completed their hours with us. These workers provided clerical as well as maintenance assistance totaling 41 hours.

Church Council President's Report 2017

Bonnie Cummins, Council President

Joshua 1:9 *"I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go"*.

I absolutely love this bible verse! Being my confirmation verse, it has had great meaning to me throughout my life, and I have relied on it repeatedly. How surprised and elated was I when I found out that we were going to base our Forward in Faith Capital Campaign on this verse! With such great words of strength and reassurance that our God is with us at all times, I knew deep in my heart that we were going to succeed on the path I felt God was calling us to take.

This was the council's main focus during 2017 – to plan, prepare, and move forward with our new Church/Ministry Center. Another major focus for the council was how we, Light of Christ, could be "A Church of All Ages". (Please see Pastor Kendall's report for more detailed information on both of these.)

And as we were strong and courageous stepping out in faith, God once again has been truly faithful to all of us. We grew in faith (praying and discerning), grew in community (visiting other members and having open discussions), and grew in serving (both internally and externally). Not only did we meet our financial goal for the Capital Campaign to proceed with His work, we exceeded it giving us the opportunity to also help others in need: Mission of Hope in Haiti, Appalachian Service Project, and Turning Point. Our newly formed Mission Project team is currently working with these wonderful groups. God is good!

Some of the other highlights of the council's work this year included:

- Approval of ELCA Disaster Recovery Special Donation to help with the disasters in Houston, Florida, and Puerto Rico.
- Reviewed and discussed bridge events between the Preschool and Church to provide more interaction and invitations to Preschool families into our church community.

- Reforming of the New Building Team.
- Creation of the Mission Project Team.
- Creation of the Capital Campaign Follow Up Team to provide communication and updates to the congregation.
- Creation of the 100 Hanson Road Planning Team.
- Discussion and guidance for Future Planning.
 - ◊ Future Staffing.
 - ◊ Millennials Focus Group meetings.
 - ◊ Worship/Design Input Team.
- Reviewed recommendations from the Financial Review Team for financial systems/processes
 - ◊ Approval of new requisition and purchase order system for proper review and controls
 - ◊ Cross training of staff

Thank you to all of the other council members: Keith Sharlog, Michelle Bunke, Scott Pruyn, Kathleen Long, Chris Kardys, Pastor Kendall, and Pastor Sharon for your prayer, discernment, long hours, and loving devotion to our God. It has been a true joy serving with each of you. Thank you also to our wonderful staff, and to all of you, the congregation, for your faith in us, and for your unending faith in His mission.

Over 25 years ago, my family walked into the doors of Light of Christ and knew this was our church home immediately. I am SO thankful and blessed to be a part of God's journey here, and can't wait to see how His plans continue to unfold for us, and for the future generations to come!

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."*

God Bless!



Council Secretary - 2017 Annual Report

Scott Pruyn, Council Secretary

Light of Christ's 2017 Council met on a monthly basis and on occasion, for special meetings needed to address additional items. The meetings began with prayer, God sighting sharing and a devotional given by one of the Council members.

Council meetings are God-led with trust that He guides our discussions and decisions. Typical meetings included items such as reviewing and approving the prior month's meeting minutes, reviewing and approving the Treasurer's report, staffing and ministry updated, and discussing ways to fulfill our mission.

We also addressed timely issues, such as, The Forward in Faith Capital Campaign, decided to move forward with the new church building upon successfully reaching our goals of the campaign, Creation of Design and Building Teams for the new church, charters for new and existing teams, special serving events, the LOC Preschool, stewardship plans, and the annual budget.

Council oversees and approves LOC practice, focusing on "what does it mean to be a Lutheran church in a mission field" and how we address "discipleship" in our community, so that we continue to invite, nurture, and serve.

2017 Council consisted of the following people:

Keith Sharlog – President / Vice President
Bonnie Cummins – Vice President / President
Michelle Bunke – Treasurer
Scott Pruyn – Secretary
Kathleen Long
Chris Kardys
Pastor Kendall Koenig Pastor Sharon Rogers

Leaving Council this year are Bonnie Cummins and Keith Sharlog. The nominees for the 2018 offices to be voted on at the Annual Meeting are listed below.

Nominations for 2018 are:

Council: Matt Cianciarulo and Stuart Haughee for three year terms:



Matt
Cianciarulo



Stuart
Haughee

Financial Review Team: Dorene Roley

Nominating Team: Robin Meldgin and Michelle DeLaRosa

Synod Assembly Delegates: Dave Nash, Sue Rayas, Tom and Caprice Towne

Summary of Motions from 2017 Council Minutes – In addition to monthly motions for acceptance of Council Minutes and Treasurers Reports:

January

Motion to allocate 2016 surplus of \$18,983 be moved into Reserved Fund for Future Staffing, as that will be needed as we move forward. (Melissa) seconded (Greg), Approved 5. Opposed 2, motion passed.

February – Special Meeting

Motion to accept Nominations (Kendall), seconded (Keith):

Nomination of officers:

Keith Sharlog – President

Bonnie Cummins – Vice President

Michelle Bunke – Treasurer

Scott Pruyn - Secretary

Motion passed unanimously

Motion to move forward with entering into a capital campaign to build on the Long Meadow property and use Klote and Associates to help lead the process (Keith) seconded (Bonnie), motion passed unanimously.

February – Regular Meeting

None

March

Motion to provide retirement benefits to positions scoped to 25 hours or more (Michelle) Seconded (Chris). Carried unanimously.

Motion to provide benefit by January 31st of 5% of prior year's earnings for positions scoped to 25 hours or more (Keith) Seconded (Michelle). Carried unanimously.

April

Motion to move dollars from the Hand Bell Fund to the Music Restricted Fund (Scott) Seconded (Kathleen) carried unanimously

Motion to donate the mission portion of our capital campaign to Turning Point - \$50,000, Appalachian Service Project - \$25,000, and to Mission of Hope Haiti

- \$25,000 contingent on meeting our goal of \$3.6 million (Scott) Seconded (Michelle) Carried unanimously.

Motion to move ahead with making the reservation with Conference Point for 2018 Council retreat (Kendall) Seconded (Scott) Carried unanimously.

May

None

June

None

July

Motion for the church to review covering the gap between disability and Sharon's current salary during the concussion recovery period on or before 12/31/2017 (Kendall) Seconded (Bonnie) carried unanimously.

August

Motion that we re-form the building team to begin the process of building a new Church Ministry Center for Light of Christ at Longmeadow and Sleepy Hollow Roads (Kendall) Seconded (Kathleen) carried unanimously.

Motion to adopt the charter for the Additional Projects Team (Kendall) Seconded (Michelle) carried unanimously.

September

Motion to increase employee healthcare cost share to 5% from 2.5% for 2018 (Keith) Seconded (Bonnie) carried unanimously.

Motion to accept the Ministry Team Charter for the Building Team with the updates identified in the review (Scott) Seconded (Kathleen) carried unanimously.

October

Motion to make a \$3,000 donation from our surplus to the ELCA Disaster Recovery for help in Houston, Florida, and Puerto Rico (Scott) Seconded (Keith) carried unanimously.

Motion to pay Pr. Sharon her salary on a pro-rated basis for the hours she works while on part time duty and coordinate with the disability insurance to pay their portion (Bonnie) Seconded (Keith) carried unanimously.

Motion to continue with the Portico Gold Plus plan for the employees eligible for Health Insurance (Keith) Seconded (Scott) carried unanimously.

November

None

December

Motion to accept the Requisition/Purchase Order (PO) process proposed by the BMT and presented by Michelle (Kendall) Seconded (Bonnie) carried unanimously.

Motion to approve a summer internship (Kendall) Seconded (Michelle) carried unanimously.

Children's Ministries - 2017 Annual Report

Jessica Adams, Director of Children's Ministries
Stephanie Bemis, Nursery/Preschool Coordinator

Update from Children's Ministry:

- FaithLand underwent a few cosmetic changes with a fresh coat of paint, rearranging, and the addition of a smartboard and projector.
- Our Nursery kids continued to hear short stories from the Frolic bible and board books.
- As a part of Baptism, each child receives an age appropriate bible (Frolic, Spark, or CONNECT)
- We updated the Elevate Jr. curriculum for our preschool kids and have several new teachers!
- We continued with the Holy Moly! curriculum for K-3. With the addition of the Smartboard we will be able to bring the lessons to life in 2018.
- We continued with the CONNECT curriculum in 4 & 5-meeting in the Annex during BOTH services this year.

Awana at Light of Christ!

- Kicked-off a brand new mid-week ministry for kids Kindergarten through 5th grade.
- Awana is a program designed to help raise our children into spiritual champions...believers with unshakeable, lifelong faith in God!
- **23 kids** attend weekly on Thursday nights from 6:15pm-7:45pm to participate in exciting activities, hear a Bible lesson, and be a part of small group time working through their own activity books & memorizing scripture!
- Jennesa Gober and Jennifer Pruyn co-lead along with 6-10 other adults each week.

Vacation Bible School 2017: Maker Fun Factory

- 1 week camp held June 26-30
- AM (9am-12pm) and PM (1pm-4pm) sessions
- Preschool-5th grade
- Average of 152 kids in the AM session
- Average of 110 kids in the PM session
- Over 70 volunteers and many generous donations

VBS 280+ children registered, 50 new families this year!



FaithLand Sunday programming: Birth-5th grade

Attendance: PreK-5 th grade	Total Registered	9:00AM Avg	10:30AM Avg	Total Avg
Jan-May 2017	127	23	27	50
June-Aug 2017	127	15	20	35
Sept-Dec 2017	146	25	27	52

FaithLand Curriculum: Preschool-5th Grade

- **Planned preschool Elevate Jr. Curriculum** with age-appropriate activities making connections between everyday life and Biblical teachings.
- **K-3 Holy Moly! Curriculum** helping children discover, relate, and connect with the stories in the Bible.
- **4-5 CONNECT Curriculum** is a fresh approach utilizing a full range of teaching styles to connect with each child.

On average there are 12 volunteers serving in FaithLand each Sunday and over 40 total dedicated volunteers!

Milestone Ministries

- **11 Third Graders** and their parents attended a Bible Discovery Workshop where the kids received a "real words" CONNECT Bible and learned how and why to use it.
- **6 Children** K-5 and their parents joined us for dinner and a workshop learning the **Lord's Prayer** and its meaning.
- **21 Fifth Graders** and their parents participated in three workshops to learn about the themes connected with making their First Communion.

FaithLand & VBS Benevolence

VBS children raised **\$1974** for our offering to Operation Clean Water for Peru! FaithLand also raised **\$227** to the ELCA's Disaster Relief Fund to aid those in need after this year's devastating hurricane season.



Youth Ministries – 2017 Annual Report

Pastor Sharon Rogers, Associate Pastor

Kim Carrera, Director of Youth Ministry, Summer Jam

Jared Skorburg, PATH Manager

MIDDLE SCHOOL MINISTRY

PATH Confirmation Ministry: 2017-2018: 72 students, 35 leaders. School year enrollment for PATH 2016-2017 was 74 students accompanied by 37 leaders. 6th and 7th graders meet from 6-7:30pm, 8th graders meet from 7:15-8:45pm. Volunteers help with check-in and a volunteer administrative assistant helps with recording, worship reflections and serving reflections. The 2017-2018 focus is The Ten Commandments. Pr. Sharon is the lead teacher, with Pr. Kendall, Jared Skorburg, and Kim Carrera each teaching several lessons throughout the year.

PATH Retreat 2017: 58 students and 35 leaders attended this annual weekend retreat with the theme of "Merge: Life Hurts, God Heals" based on 2 Corinthians 1:3-4. We focused on how God can heal us when the world may hurt us. We stayed at Lake Geneva Youth Camp in Wisconsin.



PATH Serving Events: During the course of the year, the PATH students assisted with Saturday Serves for LOC, Mobile Food pantry, Northern Illinois Food Bank in Geneva and serving Feed My Starving Children. In December, they helped decorate the church for Christmas and made angel ornaments for the LOC Preschool Angel Tree. The Feed My Starving Children event in January was for all grades along with their families, 67 students and families helped pack 157 cartons which provided 33,912 meals. This will feed 93 children for a year. The 8th graders went to the Northern Illinois Food Bank in Geneva in February and packed 1,602 pounds of cereal, providing 1,335 meals for hungry neighbors in northern Illinois.

PATH BASH: 54 students out of the 72 participated with their leaders in a long day of fun filled spiritual growth and team building activities. Small groups competed in a Photo Scavenger Hunt, figuring out clues and completing. Following the hunt there was

worship and a powerful message from Trevor Skorburg around why we should follow the Ten Commandments.



PATH Fun Day: In September, we had our 2nd Fun Day Event. A day for PATH students, parents and leaders to come have some fun with their small groups and get to know each other better. There were 54 in attendance joining together to play "larger than life" games and a favorite, "9 Square."

PATH Screenager Night: Parents and youth attended a special informational night with 110 in attendance. The documentary dove deep into how technology impacts youth development and the challenges of parenting in the digital world where parents compete with video games, texting, and social media.

Rite of Affirmation of Baptism: Following Faith Expression presentations, 26 8th graders affirmed their baptism at two confirmation services in May.

Summer JAM: An average of 12 students attended. Kim Carrera and several high school assistants led weekly studies, games and activities to strengthen spiritual growth and give students opportunities to make new friends.

HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY

Summit Youth Group: In 2017 Summit had an average of 30 in attendance, 61 youth attended Summit 3 times or more. Summit has 9 adult leaders, 7 returning from last year, 1 new and 1 college age student leader. XP3 Curriculum was used this year and included various series. Some of the series talked taking pauses to be fully present in the now, how to deal with conflict in all types of relationships and the importance of community.

Plunge: Sunday afternoon Bible Study is a place, where teens plunge deeper into God's Word as they fellowship with each other. Every few months it is student led. Plunge averages 7 students per week.

Winter Retreat 2017: In January, 20 students along with 4 leaders went to Lake Geneva Youth Camp in Lake Geneva Wisconsin for a weekend retreat. The theme of the weekend was "Vive". They grew in their faith as they learned that Jesus came so we would have life to the fullest.

Mission Trip: 53 high school students, 2 college aged student leaders and 11 adult leaders headed out to Charleston, South Carolina in partnership with Group



Mission Trips. The theme for the week of serving was "The Road". Luke 24:32 was the theme verse that the students lived out. They were split into 11 work crews as they served the community of Charleston. They served in many ways that week, at assisted living centers, serving kids and youth at an outreach ministry, and helping landscape and home repair. 66 people were God's hands and feet as they were learning that Jesus walks the road with them and is always there. 3 youth and Kim Carrera shared in the weekend worship message and led music for the LOC congregation.

Summer Summit: We spent this summer connecting through fellowship and learning nights. The summer began with an 8th grade welcoming and summer kick-off event. Throughout the summer the group had a Family Feud night, a pool party, and the 4th annual messy game night that had over 50 in attendance. We had our first ever Mission Impossible Night with 65 participants. We had a worship and open mic night where we heard how God is working in students' lives. It was a powerful night of sharing and worshipping through many forms. Also this summer, we went through a series on prayer that explored how to pray and the power of prayer. We had a Lock-in towards the end of summer where 36 high school students enjoyed a night of fun with no sleep.

Serving Joyfully: Summit youth focused on serving opportunities in February. Youth helped collect food for a local food pantry and served at 2 other local food pantries. The youth also saw the importance of serving in their church. In 2017 15 high schoolers served in Faithland and 21 for VBS. There are 3 students who helped usher this year on a regular basis. The youth also served on multiple musical teams; 3 are serving on a worship team, 7 in orchestra, and 1 serves with the children's choir.



Welcome Ministry - 2017 Annual Report

Jennifer Alderson, Director of Welcome Ministries

The Welcome Ministry experienced an outstanding year - thanks to the combined efforts of a Volunteer Team of over 70 Ushers, Greeters, Communion Servers, Connection Center Hosts and Coffee Station Hosts who serve faithfully on a regular basis.

Light of Christ had the privilege of welcoming over 166 First Time Guests in 2017. In addition, 35 people decided make Light of Christ their permanent church home through membership in 2017.

The Welcome Ministry's ongoing commitment to making the most of every opportunity to connect with visitors has brought about some exciting new adventures this year. We have added Guest Parking Signs to our parking lot, to welcome visitors from the moment they come onto our property!

We've also added a "Meet the Pastors" experience, happening once a month after both the 9 am and 10:30 am services—and it has proven to be an incredible platform to meet newcomers face to face! We've also renamed and restructured our Starting the Journey class, now calling it "Insight", and have made our membership process a collaborative venture with the Ignite and Impact Adult Discipleship experiences.



Our Connection Center continues to evolve into a more welcoming space with each passing year. In 2017, the Welcome Ministry Team decided to revamp our coffee service during our weekend worship—in an effort to continue to make a positive first impression—and provide an engaging way to meet new visitors—gathered around the coffee



station! The best part about this renovation is that the coffee we serve now has a two-fold mission—it not only helps us to better connect with our guests, but it also directly impacts global missions. 100% of the profits from the Hope Coffee we purchase directly affects mission work in the communities where the coffee is farmed. We can feel good about the difference we are making — both here and abroad!



The Welcome Ministry has also had a strong presence at our community outreach events this year, setting up Photo Booths at both the End of Summer Picnic and the Fall Festival, and greeting visitors at our annual Vacation Bible School. These events have provided yet another opportunity to engage with visitors at Light of Christ, helping our guests to have positive experiences and help them to make deeper connections into community at Light of Christ.



Worship and Music Ministries - 2017 Annual Report

Josh Jones, Director of Music & Worship
Beca Malmgren, Director of Children's Music

Blended Worship

In 2017, blended worship services continued to be held on Saturday evenings at 5pm and Sunday mornings at 9am. Blended worship on Saturday featured a rotation of capable musicians who would lead worship as soloists or in very small ensembles. Sunday blended worship continued to be led by a rotation of 5 praise bands. Worship also involved the Voices of Light choir and children's choir about twice a month, and occasionally used the organ, a chamber orchestra, or added a brass section to the praise band. There were also unique worship opportunities provided in May with a Service of Healing Prayer and December with a Blue Christmas service.



Contemporary Worship

In 2017, contemporary worship services continued to be held Sunday mornings at 10:30am. Contemporary worship continued to be led by a rotation of 5 praise bands. Worship also involved the children's choir about twice a month, and occasionally added a brass section to the praise band.

Worship Music Ensembles

Music ministry involved over 100 musicians in 2017. The music ensembles continue to be a substantial and effective way for musically blessed congregants to serve in worship and nurture their relationship with Jesus Christ! LoC Praise Bands include about 40 dedicated and talented musicians, including high school and college students. Adult Choir continued to build this year, performing more sophisticated literature, and contributing to worship about twice a month. The chamber orchestra grew in size and sound as it added several young players and contributed to the Christmas and Easter services.

Music Reaching Out

In 2017, LOC praise bands took several opportunities to reach beyond Hanson Road to affirm our church's mission and invite people into our community. In

March, a band played the PATH retreat. The band did not do the Algonquin founders Parade this year as it was cancelled due to the flooding. In August, a small



ensemble provided musical accompaniment for the immersion baptism event.

Children's Choirs

The children's choirs had a busy, wonderful 2017 offering music in both the contemporary and blended services on a monthly basis. The combined choirs involved over 40 children, and met weekly on Wednesday evenings during the school year to prepare music for weekend services. Highlights included LOC's fall kick-off, Thanksgiving Eve and Christmas Eve. The children's choir ministry also prepared two musicals this year. The casts, which each included about 30 kids, met on Tuesday evenings to rehearse for the shows in spring ("The Not So Terrible Parable") and at Christmas ("Dude, You Hear What I Hear?").



Worship Support Ministries

There are dozens of dedicated people who serve the worship ministry behind the scenes, operating technology, and preparing and caring for different elements of worship and welcome. These impressive servers continue to be generous with their time and talents week after week.

Altar Care, led by Carrie Weyers, continued to involve about a dozen women in 2017, and always welcomes new members and bread bakers. They continue to prepare elements for worship and beautify the worship space, providing coordinated décor for special events and services. Marty Kaiser, a member at Light of Christ, shared his passion for wine with the creation and the donation of three cases of "Martin's Vintage One," named for Martin Luther.

Production Team, led by Jack Belford, provides sound engineering and A/V and lighting expertise for all worship services. This worship production team faithfully produces the best possible atmosphere for worship through sound reinforcement. This includes, but is not limited to, creating the best live music mix possible, creating an audio mix that meets the mood the pastor and worship leader want to convey, and supporting the audio needs of the people involved with the church service. Ultimately, glorifying God through providing excellent audio



services. Both inside and outside the church the production team supports PATH, Faithland, Summit, LOC Preschool, MOPs, Men's Ministry, Women's Ministry, Weddings, Memorials, Full Immersion Baptisms in LITH, Mobile Food Pantry, Children's Musicals, and Christmas in a Barn.

Worship Projection Team, led by Scott Morgan, transitioned software. They went from using EZWorship 2009 to using Proclaim. They continued to provide excellent support in worship, facilitating congregational participation each service. The team had about 10 members in 2017, and continues to seek opportunities for more growth.

The Video Ministry, led by Hinrich Schmidt, continued to record portions of worship each week, making these recordings available online. They take special care in memorializing special events like baptisms or children's musicals.

Worship Assistants

Refer to the Welcome Ministry page.

Connection Center Hosts

Refer to the Welcome Ministry page.

Adult Ministries - 2017 Annual Report

Bonnie Kautz-Prasse, Director of Adult Ministries

Pastor Sharon Rogers, Associate Pastor

Adult Ministry at Light of Christ offers opportunities for adults to grow in their faith, find Christian friendships with others and serve beyond themselves. We are continually encouraging adults to find places to connect in all three areas living into our Mission Statement of Invite, Nurture and Serve. The ministries below were designed to help adults grow closer to Jesus, find or grow in Christian friendships and serve in meaningful ways.

GROWING

DISCIPLESHIP WITH ADULTS

- **Churchwide Initiative – Becoming Who God Says You Are:** The fall of 2017 saw the entire Church take a journey with Craig Groeschel's study, "Becoming Who God Says You Are". The Pastors offered a sermon series that helped us understand the power of our lives with God at the center. We had 14 existing small groups participate and 9 new small groups form for this experience.



- **Classes**

- ◊ **Pastor Kendall's Wednesday Morning Bible Study** continued meeting weekly from September through May. Pastor led the group through various books of the Bible with teaching and small group discussion.
 - ◊ **Insight/Ignite/Impact** – This year we offered a series of classes to help people find out more about Light of Christ, our Christian faith and grow in their personal relationship with Jesus.
 - ◊ **Financial Peace University** – In the spring we offer this dynamic course focused on approaching your finances in a Christian manner.
- **Small Groups:** Light of Christ had 32 small groups in 2017 that dug into God's word through studying various books of the Bible, and Christian Book studies.
- **Monthly**
 - ◊ **Men's Breakfast** – This event continued to serve many men at Light of Christ. Meeting the second Saturday of the month offering a combination of

friendship and faith growth opportunity. Average attendance was between 30 -35 men. Each month the men dug into Scripture and discussed how to live an impactful life as a man of God. Some of the topics the men discussed in 2017 were Making Resolutions, Five Gifts of Discipleship – Living Our Baptism, Discussing Anger and Living into our Christian vows.



- ◊ **Women's Breakfast** - This event continued to serve many women at Light of Christ. Meeting the first Saturday of the month offering a combination of friendship and faith growth opportunity. Average attendance was between 15 - 20 women. They reflected on two different video/books studies: 'Keep it Shut-What to Say, How to Say It and When to Say Nothing at All' and 'Let It Go – How to Stop Running the Show and Start Walking in Faith'. Both of these studies were led by Karen Ehman.
- ◊ **Couple's Night Out** – This event met the first Sunday evening of each month. Offered a combination of friendship and faith growth experience. We had over 30 couples involved throughout the year. Experiences included a Road Rally, Dancing, Painting Party, Ugly Christmas Sweater Party and more.
- ◊ **MOPS** – This ministry met the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month between September and May, and is geared toward mothers with preschoolers. There were over 40 women participating in 2017.
- ◊ **MOMSnext** – We had our first year of MOMSnext. This new Ministry provides a group for moms of elementary and middle school children to learn new ideas and connect with other moms. We had 16 moms involved.



- ◇ **Women's Ministry** – Offered monthly events for the women of LOC. Some of the events were: Painting and Wine Event, a Jewelry Making Event and a serving opportunity with an organization called Phil's Friends.



- ◇ **Men's Ministry** – In addition to the events listed in the report, the Men's Ministry also sponsored the serving event for Turning Point in Woodstock.

• Special Events

- ◇ **Kingdom Weekend** – This annual spiritual renewal retreat offered in February had 70 people attend. There was a reunion night after the Retreat.



- ◇ **Women's Retreat** – The Retreat moved to the fall this year – November 10–12. The topic was "God and Our Girlfriends". Once again going up to Lake Delavan Resort, we had a beautiful weekend of great talks, small group experience and a time to rejuvenate. There were 57 women that attended.
- ◇ **Marriage Retreat** – On January 23 we had our Retreat called, "Your Best Season Yet: Adventures in Marriage" It was a great day as our Marriage Leadership Team led the day offering their wisdom and perspective on this adventure called marriage. The day was a combination of small groups, fun and great food. We had 21 couples attend this event.

FRIENDSHIP/INVITE

• Seasonal

- ◇ **Bowling** – Our bowling league continued to be a place for great fun and connection...and some exercise too. It ran between September and May at Liberty Bowling Lanes in Carpentersville.

There were in 39 people involved in this fun event.

- ◇ **Softball** – Another fun year of Crusader softball with all three teams playing well and representing Light of Christ and ultimately Jesus to the teams they played. We had 62 people involved.



- ◇ **Care Moms and Dads** – This year Dads joined the fun. This quarterly event is geared towards moms and dads of college age students. They pack care boxes for their students and take time to connect with each other as well. We had over 20 parents involved in this Ministry.



• Special Events

- ◇ **Family Camping** – This year LOC Camping found adventure at a new place. We went to WalCamp Ministries in Kingston Illinois. With beautiful weather and a great new place, the 16 families that attended had a great time.
- ◇ **Men's Steak Fry** – The Fall Kick-off was a great connecting time with a baggo board competition and a steak and potato dinner. There were over 35 men attending.
- ◇ **Women's Fall Kickoff** – The focus of this event was a "Grateful to God" night where the women of LOC celebrated the ways in our lives we are blessed and grateful. We had 25 women attending this event.

SERVING

- **Algonquin/Lake in the Hills Food Pantry:** 21 devoted team members deliver, sort and stock the shelves every Monday morning at the Pyott Road pantry. Ongoing donations donated in the LOC vestibule are delivered regularly to the pantry. The photo below finds the many of the team members enjoying food and friendship making time together after serving.



- **Appalachia Service Project Mission Trip:** It was exciting to have 27 adults participate in our 5th annual weeklong serving event in a new location in Guyan Valley, WV in June. Team members shared their faith stretching and growth experiences as the message in weekend worship in late July.



- **Angel Tree** – 227 tags for individuals plus additional shelter need gifts helped make Christmas brighter for others with Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI), Angel Tree Prison Fellowship, Turning Point, Home of the Sparrow, DCFS foster children, Refuge for Women, Safe Families for Children and friends/family of LOC. Tree ornaments with the gift request tags were again decorated by Faithland kids.
- **ELCA World Hunger** – Thanksgiving Eve and Christmas Day offerings totaled \$2587.23 and enabled LOC to stand on the front line with trusted partners in an effort to break the cycle of poverty and hunger.
- **Garden Ministry** Our community garden once again grew and provided fresh vegetables from June through August to the Alg/LITH Food Pantry.
- **Golden Diners** Our partnership with the Salvation Army continued with LOC'ers delivering hot nutritious mid-day meals in the months of March, July, and November to homebound seniors. This year saw an increase in the numbers of people receiving meals.

- **Habitat for Humanity** – After the Appalachia Service Project mission trip, participants set up a serving day at a local Habitat for Humanity home build.



- **Mobile Food Pantry** – In partnership with the Northern Illinois Food Bank and Alg/LITH Food Pantry, Light of Christ hosted a mobile pantry in October providing food for our hungry neighbors in need.
- **Operation Christmas Child** Our annual participation in this worldwide ministry bringing gifts and the Gospel to kids around the world through a shoebox saw 355 boxes donated through LOC from mid-October to mid-November .
- **Turning Point**
 - ◊ The 11th Annual Men's Ministry Turning Point Clean-up day (photo below) took place in the spring.
 - ◊ Our aluminum can recycling efforts yielded \$216.
 - ◊ Donations placed in our foyer bin donations continue to provide needed year round food and supplies.
 - ◊ Our annual grocery collection at Thanksgiving services brought in hundreds of pounds of food.



Continued...

CARE

Jesus' word to us is simple--"Love one another." Our first two Care Principles at LOC embody this: "Christian care is a community effort", and "Care happens best in the closest connections." The vast majority of Christian care at LOC happens in such a

way that never registers on a report: a meal is brought, a card is sent, a phone call is made, a hospital room is visited, prayers are offered, a wake or funeral is attended. Through these and many other ways, you the people of LOC extend Jesus' love and care to one another.



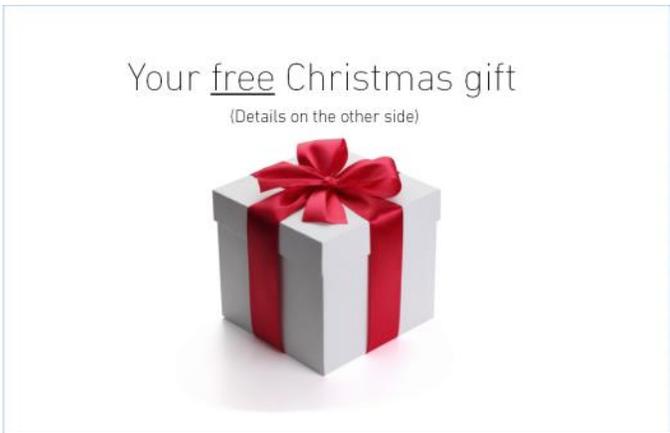
Outreach Marketing Team - 2017 Annual Report

The Outreach Marketing Team of Mark Alderson, Deb Hartmann, Chuck Sprague and Amy Krempel, continues to seek out ways to get the "word out" about Light of Christ and its ministry, and invite our neighbors to come and experience a connection with God through LOC. Over the past year the team focused in the following areas:

- Contract with a company to send a postcard to each new family moving into our community (approx.. 150/mo.); then at Easter, start of Fall and Christmas, we send out an additional postcard to each of those households inviting them to those special moments.
- At Easter, designed and produced 5000 door-hangers and recruited members of the church to hang them through the area inviting neighbors to the Egg Hunt and Easter worship.

- Authorized Facebook boosts to be pushed out 6-8 time/year for special events at church (i.e. Easter, Fall kick-off, Thanksgiving Eve, Blue Christmas, etc.)
- In the fall the team hosted a LOC spirit wear sale and also provided and installed LOC license plate covers for members and attenders of the church.
- The team also has rented a booth at the Algonquin Chamber of Commerce Winterfest to connect with people in the community and share info and an invite from LOC.

In the year ahead, we will be developing a comprehensive plan for how to extend a joyful welcome as we prepare to move to our new church campus. This will obviously not just be one "teams" effort, but a process in which we will be invited to share.



LOC Preschool - 2016 Annual Report

Michele Niehoff, Director of LOC Preschool

2017 was a year filled with learning, laughter and the sharing of God's love for the young children who attend LOC preschool. We are currently serving over 100 young families with children ages 2-6 who live all over the McHenry county area, with families coming from Algonquin, Huntley, Crystal Lake, West Dundee and Cary.

We are blessed to have four preschool teachers who are church members, it is important for us to strengthen the connection between the school and the church on many different levels.

LOC students are introduced to music and Spanish every week, these programs are lead by our very own Beca Malmgren, Miss Beca leads the children in language and Christian music in the classroom and introduces the students to opportunities to participate in church programming through singing at church on Sunday's or children's Choir. This is a wonderful addition to the program.

The preschool participated in collecting food and gifts for Turning point for the holiday season, it is an important part of the school's curriculum is to care for one another and be God's hands and feet each day.

This year the school had three very successful fundraisers, selling flowers in the fall and spring through Tom's Farm and new this year we asked community businesses to sponsor the LOC Fall Fest, combine that with a fantastic raffle and the preschool is up to

\$10,000 in savings for the play ground in the new building!

New this year is a preschool APP, with the help of Light of Christ Church staff we created and developed an APP to keep our parents up to date on all the wonderful happenings at the school and church.

The changes keep coming this year we will be registering for preschool for the 2018/2019 school year online. Families who are registered with the church can start registering on 1/31/18 and we offer a discounted registration fee for all church members.

This year we are serving 107 families and 31 of those families are enrolled in our 2 year old program called the Bumble Bees, we are having so much fun with all our little ones!

The preschool would like to be the connector between the young families and LOC church and enable folks to call us home and to develop a meaningful relationship with Jesus Christ.

On behalf of the staff and families of Light of Christ Preschool, thank you for making all of this possible! It is an honor to serve in Christ's name.

Preschool Registration for church families begins Wednesday January 31st online.



Light of Christ

2018 Proposed Budget

General Fund

	<u>2017 Budget</u>	<u>2017 Actual</u>	<u>2018 Budget</u>	% change '17 Actual vs '18 Budget
General Income				
General Offering	\$928,000	\$960,926	\$961,000	0%
Loose Change	\$14,000	\$13,529	\$13,000	
Pre-School & Other	\$34,350	\$37,916	\$37,350	
Total Income	\$976,350	\$1,012,371	\$1,011,350	0%
General Expenses				
Council Expenses & Staff Compensation	\$799,775	\$779,958	\$837,633	7%
Operations & Maintenance	\$106,510	\$104,117	\$105,665	1%
Ministry Discretionary & Support	\$69,975	\$57,288	\$67,680	18%
Total Expenses	\$976,260	\$941,364	\$1,010,978	7%
<i>Staff & Operating - % of total expense</i>	93%	94%	93%	
General Fund Surplus / (Deficit)	\$90	\$71,008	\$372	
Fund Balance - Beg of Year	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$200,000	
Transfer from General Fund for Bldg/Staff Reserve		(\$21,007.00)		
Fund Balance - End of Year	\$150,090	\$200,000	\$200,372	

Light of Christ

2018 Proposed Budget

Expense Detail - General Fund

Expense Detail	<u>2017 Budget</u>	<u>2017 Actual</u>	<u>2018 Budget</u>	% change '17 Actual vs '18 Budget
Staff & Operating				
Council (<i>Mortgage, ELCA Tithe, Pastors</i>)	\$438,279	\$419,469	\$464,513	11%
Staff Compensation & Benefits	\$361,496	\$360,489	\$373,120	4%
Operations (<i>Office Related, Utilities, Cleaning</i>)	\$79,110	\$77,546	\$69,465	-10%
Maintenance (<i>Bldg, Snow Removal, Small Repairs</i>)	\$27,400	\$26,572	\$36,200	36%
Staff & Operating	\$906,285	\$884,075	\$943,298	7%
% of income>>	93%	87%	93%	
Ministry Discretionary & Support				
Sr Pastor (<i>Evangelism, Stewardship, Staff Dev't</i>)	\$27,620	\$18,073	\$23,720	31%
Assoc Pastor (<i>Caring Partner, Community</i>)	\$3,700	\$2,528	\$3,700	46%
Worship & Music (<i>Music & Supplies</i>)	\$18,000	\$16,128	\$16,200	0%
Adult Ministry	\$7,650	\$7,372	\$8,650	17%
Youth Ministry	\$2,660	\$2,394	\$3,660	53%
Childrens Ministry	\$6,070	\$6,344	\$7,070	11%
Welcome Ministry	\$4,275	\$4,451	\$4,680	5%
Total Ministry Discetionary & Support	\$69,975	\$57,288	\$67,680	18%
	7%	6%	7%	
Total Expenses	\$976,260	\$941,364	\$1,010,978	7%

Includes
New building/
staffing reserve

Light of Christ

2018 Proposed Budget

Land / New Building Fund

	<u>2017 Budget</u>	<u>2017 Actual</u>	<u>2018 Budget</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Income				
New Building Offering	\$10,500	\$827,791	\$1,033,000	Estimate based on pledges
Building Mortgage Reserve	\$31,937	\$31,937	\$31,944	
Interest	\$2,907	\$2,957	\$2,900	
Total Income	\$45,344	\$862,685	\$1,067,844	
Expenses				
Property Taxes	\$400	\$377	\$400	
Capital Fund Raising	\$168,000	\$147,684		
Architect/Legal/General Contractor	\$222,500	\$3,672	\$222,500	estimated
Annexation	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Other	\$3,000	\$1,001	\$612,500	estimated for earthwork & building
Total Expenses	\$393,900	\$152,735	\$835,400	
New Building Fund Surplus / (Deficit)	(\$348,556)	\$709,951	\$232,444	
New Building Fund Balance - End of Year	\$581,642	\$1,640,148	\$1,872,592	

Existing Building Fund

	<u>2017 Budget</u>	<u>2017 Actual</u>	<u>2018 Budget</u>	
Building Income	\$600	\$600	\$600	
Building Expense	\$10,000	\$3,309	\$10,000	consistent with prior year budgeting
Surplus / (Deficit)	(\$9,400)	(\$2,709)	(\$9,400)	
Transfer from General Fund		\$2,709		
Existing Building Fund Balance - End of Year	\$761	\$10,162	\$762	

Light of Christ Lutheran Church Endowment Fund

1. A special endowment fund called, Light of Christ Lutheran Church Endowment Fund (also known as Endowment Fund), is established for, the purpose of, providing financial support of special programs, services, ministries and benevolences which further Light of Christ's mission to invite, nurture and serve, in this community and beyond. No portion of the principle or the earnings of this Fund shall be used for any regular operating expenditures of the congregation, except as allowed in section 8.
2. Bequests in wills, charitable remainder and other trusts, charitable gift annuities, assignments of life insurance, and unrestricted transfers of property (including, but not limited to cash, stocks, bonds, real estate) in accordance with Light of Christ Lutheran Church Gift Acceptance and Donor Relations policy given to the congregation can be placed in the Endowment Fund.
3. The Endowment Fund Committee will oversee Light of Christ Lutheran Church Endowment Fund and manage the use of the interest funds.
 - A. The committee will consist of no less than three, and no more than five members of Light of Christ appointed for three years by Council, plus Council Treasurer and Business Management Team ("BMT") representative. Initially, members will be appointed for three years and can be extended until the initial disbursement. Following the initial disbursement, the council will present the number of open positions and terms to be voted on by the congregation during the annual meeting. Ongoing, the congregation will elect new members each year. No member can serve consecutive terms after the initial disbursement. The senior pastor will be an advisory non-voting member of the committee. Upon approval of the Congregation at the Annual Meeting or any Special Meeting called for such purpose, the committee may be expanded.
 - B. The Business Management Team and church council Treasurer will be responsible for recommending the proper investment of the principle of the Endowment Fund and will periodically report the earnings to the Endowment Fund Committee. Light of Christ Church Council will make the final investment decision and direct the BMT based on the recommendation.
 - C. The committee will elect annually a committee chairperson, secretary, marketing/publicity chair and finance chair. In the event, that there are fewer members than committee chairs, the committee may elect to allow a member to serve in more than one capacity, or at its discretion, leave a chair vacant with the duties being filled ad hoc.
 - i. The committee chairperson will be responsible for organizing and leading committee meetings, and represent the committee at other meetings. Chairperson may be the second signor on checks and documents transferring funds and assets.
 - ii. The secretary will document meeting minutes including all actions taken by the committee & distribute to the team following each committee meeting. The secretary will also provide a copy of minutes to the Church Council Secretary for inclusion in council meeting and update the adopted policies annually indicating changes made.
 - iii. The marketing/publicity chair will be responsible for communications to the congregation and marketing of the Fund. Marketing/publicity chair will manage the request for project financing and maintain list of approved projects.
 - iv. The finance chair will be the conduit between the committee, Council Treasurer and the Business Management Team. Finance chair will maintain complete and accurate accounts

Endowment Fund continued...

of the Endowment Fund, and provide to Council for inclusion in council meetings. Finance chair is the first signatory on checks and documents transferring funds and assets.

- D. Any member or members of the committee may be removed by the church council at its sole, absolute and non-reviewable discretion for fraud, gross negligence, self-dealing or other misconduct if an extremely detrimental nature or contrary to the endowment committee's purpose. Removal under this provision shall be by Church Council formal action.
 - E. The church council may appoint a member to fill a vacancy on the committee until the next annual meeting, when the congregation will elect a member to fill the term of the vacancy.
 - F. Members of the committee will not be personally liable due to any error of judgment, mistake of law, or action or inaction of any kind in connection with the investment of the fund's asset unless the member's decision is shown, by preponderance of the evidence, to have been the result of willful neglect, willful misconduct, and/or bad faith.
4. The Endowment Fund Committee will meet at least quarterly, or more frequently if deemed necessary for the benefit of the Fund. A quorum will consist of 60% of committee members. A quorum of the entire committee will be necessary to carry any motion or resolution.
5. The committee will report quarterly to the church council and annually to the congregation during the annual meeting.
6. All assets are to be held in the name of Light of Christ Lutheran Church Endowment Fund.
7. Disbursement of Income.
- A. The committee along with BMT will determine what is principle and income according to accepted accounting procedures.
 - B. The principle of the Endowment Fund will be preserved and only the interest earnings will be utilized.
 - C. Income from the Fund may be disbursed at such times deemed necessary and/or feasible to accomplish the church mission.
 - D. Initial distribution of income can occur once the Endowment Fund holds at least \$100,000 in principle or 5 years from inception.
 - E. Income will be calculated once per calendar year and will be available for distribution during the following calendar year. The amount available will vary from year to year based on investment performance and principle amount.
 - F. Requests for distribution must be sponsored by a Light of Christ ministry leader or staff member and submitted to the Endowment Fund Committee.
8. Principle distribution will be allowed only for expenditures of an emergency nature, including (without limitation) expenditures for the continued existence of Light of Christ Lutheran Church, but only upon the recommendation of the church council to present the request to the congregation. The congregation may authorize up to one-half of the principle of the Fund at any one time with an affirmative vote by two-thirds of the members present, if a quorum of the congregation is in attendance. The committee will be

Endowment Fund continued...

required to provide notification of vote in accordance with the Light of Christ Church constitution (30 days advanced notice of vote). An information meeting can be held if deemed necessary within the 30-day period. In case of catastrophic event (for example church destruction from natural disaster), the church council and Fund committee may waive the 30-day period.

9. The Committee may establish rules concerning loans from the Fund. Such rules (not the decisions) are subject to Council approval.

In the event Light of Christ Lutheran Church ceases to exist either through merger or dissolution, disposition or transfer of the Fund will be at the discretion of the Committee in conformity with the approved congregational consultation and in consultations with the bishop of the synod to which the congregation belongs to at such time. Such disbursement of remaining funds shall be consistent with the intended mission of Light of Christ Lutheran Church Algonquin at the time of dissolution, but shall further be considered for religious purposes.

Worship Schedule

Saturday: 5:00PM Blended
Sunday: 9:00AM Blended
10:30AM Contemporary

Offices open Monday-Friday 9am—4:30pm
100 Hanson Road · Algonquin, IL · 60102
847.658.9250 FAX: 847.658.9701
Church Website: www.locchurch.com

