

# FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

## ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

January 26, 2020 - 11:30 a.m.

### Table of Contents

#### Page No.

2	Agenda
3	Pastor's Parochial Report
4	Minutes of January 2019 Meeting
6	Church Council Nominees
7	Standing Team Nominations
8	American Churches are at a Tipping Point
10	Pastor's Report
13	Council President Report
14	Council Treasurer Report
16	Cradle Roll Report
17	Evangelism and Fellowship Reports
18	Social Ministry Report
19	Internal Audit
21	First Lutheran Church Prayer Chain Report
22	Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Report
24	Circle I Report
25	Circle II and Saturday Quilting Group Reports
26	First Lutheran Foundation Report
28	Foundation Nominees
29	Memorial Fund Report
30	Narrative Mission Support Plan
33	Proposed 2020 Mission Support Plan

**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AGENDA**  
**First Lutheran Church**  
**South Sioux City, Nebraska**  
**January 26, 2020**  
**11:30 a.m.**

Annual Congregational Meeting Agenda  
First Lutheran Church

1. Call to Order – Church Council President – Chad Cain
2. Opening Prayer – Pastor Douglas Dill
3. Approval of minutes from Annual Meeting January 20, 2019
4. Vote on Constitution changes
5. Vote on Bylaw changes
6. Congregational Elections Information
  - a. Congregational Council (Four Openings; 3 adult, 1 youth)
  - b. (2) Synod Assembly Delegates 2020, May 28-June 1
  - c. (3) Nominating committee 2020

While waiting for election results, the meeting may proceed with other business on the Agenda

7. Congregational Reports
  - a. Pastor
  - b. Council President
  - c. Council Treasurer
  - d. Committee Reports
8. First Lutheran Foundation Report
  - a. First Lutheran Church Foundation Bylaws
  - b. Election of board members
9. Mission Support Funds (Budget)
10. Election Results for Council
11. Election Results for Foundation
12. Old Business
13. New Business
14. Adjournment
15. Closing Prayer by Pastor Douglas Dill

# PASTOR'S PAROCHIAL REPORT

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
Child Members (below Confirmation)	109	94
Confirmed Membership	419	373
<b>Total</b>	<b>528</b>	<b>467</b>
<b>Members Communing at least once during the year</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>259</b>
 <b><u>SUNDAY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT</u></b>		
Pupils	31	21
Teachers, Helpers, Super, Subs	3	6
Cradle Roll	7	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>38</b>
 <b><u>VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL ENROLLMENT</u></b>		
Pupils	33	22
Teachers, Helpers, Super	10	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>32</b>
 <b><u>CONFIRMATIONS/CLASSES</u></b>		
Confirmed	7	4
Confirmation Classes	10	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>WEDDINGS</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>BAPTISMS</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>FUNERALS PERFORMED</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>19</b>
 <b><u>MEMBERS RECEIVED</u></b>		
<b>ADULT</b>		
Baptism	1	2
Confirmation	7	4
Transfer	4	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>CHILD</b>		
Baptism	10	7
Transfers	0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>
 <b><u>MEMBERS REMOVED</u></b>		
<b>ADULT</b>		
Deaths	6	9
Transfer	12	6
Other	27	54
<b>Total</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>69</b>
<b>CHILD</b>		
Confirmation	7	4
Transfer	5	0
Other	7	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>18</b>

**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH  
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING  
JANUARY 20, 2019**

1. At 9:30 am the meeting was called to order by Council President Chad Cain.
2. Seventy-six (76) members attended the meeting. - Mike Hunter counted.
3. A motion was made by Rita Todd to approve the agenda for the Annual Meeting Jan. 20, 2019, as printed, second to the motion was made by Scott Koepe. Motion passed.
4. Pastor Dill led the congregation in prayer.
5. A motion was made by Gary Panko to approve minutes from Annual Meeting Jan. 28, 2018, as printed, second to the motion was made by George Weiland. Motion passed.
6. Sue Hunter presented the Church Council's Mission Support Plan.

There was discussion - John Koskovich made a motion to spend only on the list as money supports. Jo Ann Garvey seconded the motion. There was a hand vote. There was more discussion and concerns brought forth. John K. restated his motion. There was a hand vote. Motion passed. Mike Hunter made a motion to approve the Mission Support Plan as written. Judy Blessing seconded. Hand vote – 27 of 76 voted for, 31 of 76 opposed, others abstained. 2019 Mission Support Plan did not pass as presented.

7. a. There was no vote for new Congregational Council members per request by Synod attorney. Current council will stay on for one more year.
  - b. Council is looking for two (2) Synod Assembly Delegates for 2019. Dates – May 30 – June 1. Kathy Anders spoke on her past attendance experience. Chad Cain volunteered to attend as a voting delegate.
  - c. Sue Hunter read the Standing Committee Nominations. There were corrections to the written report. Rita Todd made a motion to accept the Standing Committee Nominations as corrected. It was seconded. Motion passed with a voice vote.

Since there were no elections the meeting continued.

8. Scott Koepe made a motion to accept all Congregational reports as written. John Koskovich seconded. Motion passed. Gary Panko spoke on the Mutual Ministry report.

John Koskovich made a motion to suspend the Annual meeting so the Foundation report could be given. Brandon Trautwein seconded. Motion passed.

9. The Foundation Report was read.

**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH  
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING  
JANUARY 20, 2019**

Rita Todd made a motion to reconvene the Annual Meeting. Paula Reider seconded. Motion passed.

Sue Hunter shared an amended Mission Support Plan. Gary Panko made a motion to adopt the 75% Mission Support Plan. Janell Sila seconded. There was much discussion. Gary P. withdrew his motion. Janell S. withdrew her second. Gary Panko then made a motion to revote to accept the original Mission Support Plan. Rita Todd seconded. There was more discussion. For and against. There was a revote by show of hands. The new vote was 47 for and 19 opposed. The 2019 Mission Support Plan was approved.

10. Old Business – none

11. New Business – none.

12. At 11:04 am a motion to adjourn was made by Scott Koeppe, seconded by John Koskovich. Motion passed.

13. Bev Panko gave a closing Prayer.

Respectfully submitted  
Deb Kenny, Council Secretary

## CHURCH COUNCIL NOMINEES

### **Chad Cain**

I am vying for a term on the church council. I am wanting to do this because I feel that the work we have been doing inside and outside the church isn't done. I want to continue the improvements we have been making. We are continuing to update the building and the grounds. We are continuing to provide a wonderful worship service experience. We continue to have members of the congregation do wonderful things in the community. I want to be able to continue to provide ideas and help lead our congregation with more involvement in the community and better the church every day.

I have been on the council for 2 years now and I have enjoyed my time working with everyone and listening to everyone's ideas. During that 2-year period I have had the pleasure of being the President of our congregation. I have helped with the budget the last 2 years. I have continued to assist and help when needed in the Sunday School classroom. I help lead services when asked. I love this church and I love the people in it. I think we can all continue to work together to make our church the best there is. We continue to make improvements and continue to provide the services we have and improve on new ones. I know we can do that.

I work at Great West Casualty as a truck underwriter. I am a coach in the Sergeant Bluff Rec. league. I watch sports and play golf. I play fantasy football. I am very church and family oriented. I am asking to be voted back on to the church council by you, all my friends. And I thank every one of you that I have had the honor of listening and conversing with.

### **Jarroed Knudsen**

I have been a member of this church all my life. I was baptized and confirmed here.

I earned rank of Eagle Scout from Troop 149 under direction of Ryan Hoag in 1998.

I graduated from South Sioux City High School in 1999 and Wayne State College in 2004.

My current activities are membership in Triangle Lodge #643, currently serving as Master, Abu Bekr Shrine, where I participate in several different groups, help with Boy Scouts and helped my dad with his gun business until his passing in 2019.

My vision for this church is for healing and growth through faith, love and forgiveness.

Thank you for your consideration.

### **Jennifer Lieber**

I was born in Kellogg ID and raised in South Sioux. I am 38 years old. I have lived through some hard times in my life and have overcome them. I have not been a perfect person by far. I had my first child, Angel, at the age of 16. I had to become a grown up real fast. I knew I would be raising him by myself. I have always had a strong faith in God, and I truly believe that is why I was able to overcome the hardship I had to face, so I prayed for the strength to be a good mother and provider for him. And so it was! He is now 21 years old, serving our great country in the Navy. I couldn't be more proud.

I married the love of my life, Richard Lieber, in 2005. He has always been a member of this church, and he is the one who brought me here. I was baptized and became a member of First Lutheran in 2005, and my faith has just grown since then. We have three beautiful children: Branden, Katelyn and Hailey, who are actively involved in First Lutheran.

I am on the Fellowship team, and I try to help out anywhere I can. I love serving people. I have always enjoyed serving. When I was younger, I served as a candy striper at St. Luke's Hospital. As time went on, I realized I really like giving back.

I served as a Boy Scout leader as well as a Girl Scout leader. During both of those times, I tried to teach the children how important it was to help people. We made blankets and gave them to those in need, we bought Christmas gifts for an entire family with money that we raised, we cleaned parks, and the list goes on....

I have been working at Sharie's Gallery for the last nine years helping people deal with the loss of their loved ones by creating something special out of the flowers they get from funerals. I care deeply about people and I want to help wherever I can. Whether it's giving them something special to look at or providing food for those who cannot afford it, I am always willing to help someone. What I am trying to say is that I have a passion to help people and I believe I can do some good at First Lutheran. I am asking for your vote for council member.

# STANDING TEAM NOMINATIONS

The following people have been selected by the Nominating Team to serve on the following standing teams. Everyone is encouraged to join a team.

## Christian Education

Chad Cain  
Ranelle De Jong  
Jenni Durant  
Linda Kendra  
Deb Kenny  
Brianne Lake  
Rita Todd

## Evangelism

Judy Blessing  
Pam Knudsen  
Janell Sila

## Fellowship

Kathy Anders  
Kris Bergstrom  
Judy Blessing  
Kris Dill  
Jenni Durant  
Sue Hunter  
Jennifer Lieber  
Leila Mathiason  
Bev Rautenberg-Panko  
Rita Todd

## Property

Jim Hansen  
Chris Knudsen  
Terry Sorem

## Social Ministry

Sue Hunter  
Deb Kenny  
Sandy Larson  
Leila Mathiason  
Bev Rautenberg-Panko

## Stewardship

Council  
Ken Conley  
Mike Hunter  
Tim Niemeyer

## Mission Support Plan

Linda Fischer  
Rick Heuertz  
Sue Hunter  
Linda Johansen  
Janet Tondreau

## Worship & Music

Marla Bianchini  
Linda Johansen  
Jane Krogh  
Rita Todd

## Youth

Chad Cain  
Sue Hunter  
Michelle Kinnaman  
Brianne Lake  
Rita Todd

## Parsonage

Ken Conley  
Janet Tondreau

## Audit

Denise Kleinberg  
Pam Knudsen  
Sandy Larson

## Mutual Ministry

Ken Conley  
Kim Long  
Carrie Novak  
Rita Todd

# AMERICAN CHURCHES ARE AT A TIPPING POINT

*This article was originally published at ThomRainer.com on December 3, 2018. Thom S. Rainer serves as president and CEO of LifeWay Christian Resources. Among his greatest joys are his family: his wife Nellie Jo; three sons, Sam, Art, and Jess; and ten grandchildren. Dr. Rainer can be found on Twitter @ThomRainer and at facebook.com/Thom.S.Rainer.*

***Tipping Point*** (noun): the critical point in a situation, process, or system beyond which a significant and often unstoppable effect or change takes place.

If current trajectories continue, American churches will pass a tipping point. Our congregations will begin a likely unstoppable path toward decline that will rival many European churches of the past century. If there is not a significant movement of revitalization, there will be an accelerated rate of decline and death.

The good news is that many leaders are not denying this reality. They are seeking God and responding obediently. Church revitalization has become a real and powerful theme. As I indicated in my book, *Scrappy Church*, more and more churches are moving in incredible and positive directions.

How will God move in our churches? How will we respond? While I will not address those two paramount questions in this particular article, I do want us to see the three specific areas of the tipping point: theological, attitudinal, and actionable.

## **The Theological Tipping Point**

If a church does not have a solid biblical and theological foundation, all other issues are moot. In some congregations, there is slippage on the doctrine of exclusivity, the biblical truth that Christ is the only way of salvation (John 14:6). In other congregations, leaders and members are questioning the absolute authority of Scripture. That issue is as old as creation when the serpent questioned God's Word, "Did God really say . . .?" (Genesis 3:1).

We can't even begin to deal with other tipping points until we have resolved the issues of truth and fidelity to Scripture. The slippery slope of questioning God's authority leads to the decline and death of churches.

## **The Attitudinal Tipping Point**

At some point in the recent history of the Church, particularly North American churches, becoming a part of a local congregation became a consumer-driven activity. Too many church members want, even demand, their own preferences and desires. In some congregations, we are more likely to hear a member fight over his or her own worship style preference than ask how he or she might truly serve the body of Christ.

Read 1 Corinthians 12. Becoming a member of the body of Christ means we serve others for the greater good of the body. The needs of others come before our preferences and desires. Paul admonished the local congregation in Philippi: "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility consider



# AMERICAN CHURCHES ARE AT A TIPPING POINT

others as more important than yourselves” (Philippians 2:3). That doesn’t sound like some of our church business meetings.

## **The Actionable Tipping Point**

There are many presumably Bible-believing churches that like the idea of evangelism more than doing evangelism. Frankly, I deal with evangelical church leaders and members every day who profess unwavering fidelity to Scripture but haven’t intentionally had a gospel conversation in recent memory.

We are so busy with church activities that we neglect active obedience of the Great Commission. We can be passionate about the placement of the offertory in the worship service but never invite people to come to those worship services. We can complain when the pastor doesn’t visit members sufficiently, but never visit the hurting and lost ourselves.

A church leader recently asked me why I thought his church was not growing. I asked him what his church did every single week to reach, invite, and serve the community. His silence was his own answer. Many of us conservative Christians would rather fight each other than fight against the gates of hell.

## **It Is Time**

Still, I am not discouraged. The tipping point is not inevitable. Our obedience may have waned, but God’s power has not. Many church leaders and members are recommitting themselves to a renewed and vibrant mission. Many of their churches are seeking and seeing revitalization.

There is indeed an incipient movement of scrappy churches. It is real. It is growing.

It is time.

With whatever years God gives me, with whatever breaths I have remaining to breathe, I ask God to use me in my church to serve Him and others with unwavering commitment.

And then, and only then, may I dare to whisper, “I have not lived in vain.”

## PASTOR'S REPORT

It is now 2020 and a very busy year has gone by. Below you will see a summary of some of the items I did here as your pastor, during 2019. It is a summary and not exhaustive of the complete picture. This also does not take into account all of the people involved to allow me to do these activities.

We have a lot of work to be done in 2020 and beyond. More help is needed by the disciples. We all need to pitch in to do ministry this year and beyond. That is not to say there has not been help, but we have a particularly busy task ahead as we try to get healthy and do more ministry.

Our theme verse this year centers around being sent. We are forgiven and we respond by saying, Here Am I, Send Me. (Is 6:8)

<sup>6</sup>Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar. <sup>7</sup>With it he touched my mouth and said, "See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for."

<sup>8</sup>Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?"  
And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"

We respond to what God does for us and we go and do mission. 2020 is a year of response, sending, and mission. Here am I. Send me!

<b>Worship</b>	1.	83 Sunday worship services at FLC
	2.	4 Wednesday Advent Worships
	3.	1 Ashes 2 Go
	4.	Maundy Thursday & Good Friday Worship
	5.	3 Christmas Eve Worships
	6.	6 Nursing Home Worship
	7.	Attended 3 Sunday Worships in Siouxland
	8.	1 Prayer Worship at FLC
	9.	9 Baptisms
	10.	1 Community Thanksgiving Worship
<b>Funerals</b>	1.	19 Funeral Planning
	2.	19 Funeral Services
	3.	10 Prayer Services
	4.	Attend 4 funerals, 1 visitation
	5.	Assisted 1 funeral
	6.	2 Present on day of death
	7.	1 Burial outside of Funeral
<b>Visitation</b>	1.	44 Hospital Visits
	2.	61 Pastoral Visits
	3.	21 Pastoral Phone Call
	4.	1 Pastoral Counseling
	5.	2 Attempt Visit with Cancellation
<b>Confirmation</b>	1.	8 confirmation class
<b>Text Study</b>	1.	28 Text studies
	2.	1 Host Text Study

# PASTOR'S REPORT

## Meetings

1. 12 Council meeting
2. 4 Executive team meeting
3. 24 Prayer Meetings
4. 11 Clergy Coach meeting
5. 9 Worship and Music Team Meeting
6. 2 Spiritual Direction Meeting
7. 12 phone meeting
8. 1 Local pastor gathering
9. 1 phone meeting with Healthy Congregations
10. 1 phone meeting with Lombard Peace
11. 20 Scheduled meetings
12. 9 Heartland Meetings
13. 1 Nominating Team Meeting
14. 5 Meeting with Bishop & Staff
15. 4 Premarital Counseling
16. 1 Acts Bible Study Meeting
17. 5 Attend DCMA Meeting
18. 9 Meetings, other
19. 1 Growing Community Connections
20. 3 Days at Council Retreat
21. 2 Worship Planning with Joey
22. 2 First Communion Class
23. 12 Meetings with local pastors
24. 1 Bishop Installation Dinner
25. 1 Bishop Installation
26. 1 Ecumenism Conversation
27. 1 Court Appearance reg. Jim Reider

## WWW

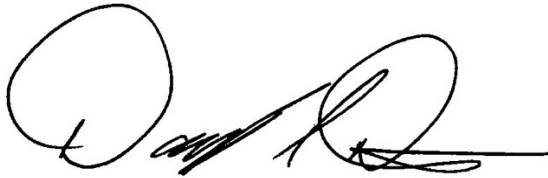
1. Blog updates, Website and Calendar changes, weekly
2. Facebook updates, multiple times per week
3. Send out News Flashes, weekly
4. Twitter posts for FLC, multiple times per week
5. Send out text reminders, weekly
6. LinkedIn Posts, multiple times per week
7. Send out Worship Bulletin Email, weekly
8. Install and update security cameras

## MISC.

1. 7 TV Interviews
2. Attend/Work Christmas Concert
3. Update Proclaim Software on multiple devices, as needed
4. Review Proclaim Presentations, weekly
5. Attend/Work Living Nativity
6. Send out Grief Books to family of member funerals
7. Update Proclaim software on multiple devices as needed
8. Family Game Day
9. 1 Adoption hearing for member
10. 2 Outside FLC Council Meetings
11. 1 Host DCMA Meeting
12. 5 Host Text Study
13. 1 Blood donation at FLC

## PASTOR'S REPORT

14. 6 Band Practices
15. 21 Breakfast with the pastors
16. 1 Attend Muslim Center Dedication
17. Attend Fellowship Event, Home Free
18. Living Last Supper Rehearsal
19. Living Last Supper Play
20. 10 Vacation Days, 1 Sunday
21. 2 Retreat, prep for Holy Week
22. Attend "Protecting Places of Worship"
23. Assist in modifications of sanctuary
24. 2 Days of Synod Assembly
25. 8 Days of continuing education
26. 2 Wedding Rehearsal
27. 2 Wedding
28. 4 Days of VBS
29. 7 Days for Leadership Lab
30. Attend & Facilitate Fellowship Dinner & Movie
31. Attend Movie, Neither Wolf Nor Dog, in Yankton
32. Assist in cleaning carpets
33. Fellowship Breakfast
34. 2 orientations for LD students cleaning FLC
35. Active Shooter Training Evaluation for FLC
36. 2 Congregational Meetings
37. Fellowship Halloween Party
38. Crop walk participation
39. 3 Days Theological Conference
40. 1 Day Chaplain Training
41. Help Setup and take down Craft Fair
42. Attend entire Craft Fair
43. Christmas Concert

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D. R.', written in a cursive style.

## CHURCH COUNCIL PRESIDENT REPORT

Here we are, another year completed. Another year of changes and another year of doing God's work with our hands. We continue to make strides in our church life to make us a united family. We continue to reach out to the community and help our fellow citizens. I am glad to report that we are gaining involvement within our church. It is all very exciting what we are doing and have done.

A few things we have done. At Christmas time we handed out presents to children at the local schools. We had an amazing Christmas concert. We sent kids to Leadership Lab this past year for the 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year. We had car washes. Our Fellowship team has done an amazing job of planning events such as breakfasts, game days, and even a movie night. Our Evangelism team does a great job of reminding everyone how much the church feels like a family with sending out cards for birthdays and anniversaries. We have been updating the church with new lights and children's pray ground. We started this last summer of doing two outdoor services a month through September, and they were a huge hit. One last thing: the Fellowship team put together a Chili cook off, and for the 3<sup>rd</sup> straight year an "actual" chili did not win. It was another chicken dish. Everything we do is Fellowship with each other. We all have fun and enjoy our time together. I look forward to this year to do all these activities again and then some.

That was a look back at this last year. So what do we have going on for the next year? Well, we have more updates to do to the church. We will be doing things to bring us all together as a family and to help with the community. We need to get back to the basics this year, though. We need to treat each other as family. We need to help each other in good and bad times. We are all brothers and sisters of Christ. We are all here to help each other whenever we can. We don't need to be divided, because at the end of the day we all want to do what is best for the Church we pray and serve in. We want to do what is best to help the community we live in. We want to help everyone we can. As Jesus said, "Love one another as I have loved you." That is what we should be doing.

I am excited for the coming year.

God Bless,

Chad Cain  
President

# First Lutheran Church

## Balance Sheet

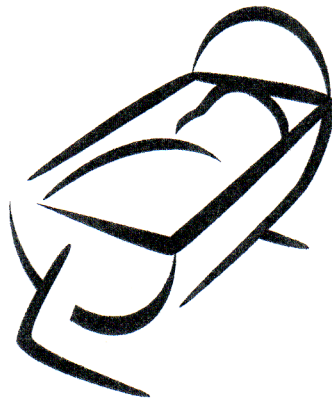
	December 31, 2017	December 31, 2018	December 31, 2019
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Checking Account - F&M Bank	\$41,473.66	\$15,991.97	\$8,407.14
Money Market Savings Account - SFCU	34,223.10	7,969.37	28,244.49
Certificate of Deposit - SFCU	11,595.02	0.00	0.00
Savings Account - SFCU	10.95	51,092.93	31.66
KP CD - SNB	67,155.06	67,155.06	67,155.06
Build the Spirit CD - SNB	10,157.08	428.39	428.39
Capital Improvement CD - SNB	12,702.05	12,702.05	12,702.05
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$177,316.92</b>	<b>\$155,339.77</b>	<b>\$116,968.79</b>
Savings Account - F&M Bank (Memorial Fund)	17,385.69	14,277.31	15,403.05
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$194,702.61</b>	<b>\$169,617.08</b>	<b>\$132,371.84</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
State Taxes - Payroll	\$557.55	\$549.94	\$307.48
Federal Taxes - Payroll	1,372.04	1,655.28	1,011.26
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$1,929.59</b>	<b>\$2,205.22</b>	<b>\$1,318.74</b>
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>			
General Fund	-\$25,917.64	-\$53,624.18	-\$34,641.84
2017 Parsonage Storm Damage Fund	\$9,728.69	\$0.00	\$0.00
2017 Storm Damage Fund	\$24,283.33	\$0.00	\$0.00
Capital Improvement	21,737.87	14,622.15	17,242.15
Memorial Fund	17,385.69	14,277.31	15,403.05
KP Fund	85,644.64	85,644.64	32,260.74
Parsonage Fund	179.48	0.00	0.00
Equipment Fund	740.38	0.00	0.00
Handbell Fund	2,041.76	2,041.76	2,041.76
Continuing Ed. - Pastor Fund	2,100.96	1,337.01	0.00
Handbell Maintenance Fund	4,107.00	5,107.00	5,162.00
Sewing Fund	234.92	590.72	461.66
Rummage Sale Fund	0.00	50.00	0.00
Organ Fund	8,333.33	8,333.33	8,333.33
Flower Fund	683.00	646.50	490.50
Thrivent Choice Fund	10,509.36	11,508.36	12,476.36
Special Offerings	23,119.84	69,771.15	60,232.37
In and Out	2,298.01	-48.27	2,847.66
Salad Luncheon	0.00	0.00	0.00
Choir Robe Fund	220.00	220.00	220.00
World Hunger	0.00	0.00	0.00
Wednesday Meal Fund	2,259.66	2,278.97	2,326.80
Confirmation Camp	-69.87	0.00	0.00
Build the Spirit	958.73	1,068.73	1,108.73
Youth Fund	2,193.88	3,586.68	5,087.83
<b>TOTAL FUND BALANCES</b>	<b>\$192,773.02</b>	<b>\$167,411.86</b>	<b>\$131,053.10</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; FUNDS</b>	<b>\$194,702.61</b>	<b>\$169,617.08</b>	<b>\$132,371.84</b>

## General Fund Statement of Income & Expenses

	Actual 2019	Budget 2019	Actual 2018	Actual 2017
<b>INCOME</b>				
Contributions - General	\$207,815.81	\$281,476.00	\$210,994.35	\$228,084.36
Transfers from other funds	\$3,773.84		\$6,646.04	\$9,444.03
Income - Miscellaneous	1,060.50		1,611.55	1,985.25
Interest - Other investments	213.85		154.78	257.15
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$212,864.00</b>	<b>\$281,476.00</b>	<b>\$219,406.72</b>	<b>\$239,770.79</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
Pastor's Salary	\$42,999.60	\$43,000.00	\$41,500.08	\$43,000.08
Pator's Housing Equity	\$3,790.56	\$3,790.00	2,416.74	
Pastor's Social Security	3,289.92	3,290.00	3,290.00	4,276.08
Pastor's Car Allowance	3,726.60	3,000.00	915.58	1,898.89
Pastor's Pension and Insurance	37,614.72	37,611.00	36,049.56	36,076.44
Pastor's Publications	200.00	200.00	99.99	150.50
Pastor's Cont. Ed	1,100.00	1,100.00	1,100.00	285.00
Theological Conference	548.21	500.00	432.44	0.00
<b>TOTAL (Pastor Expenses)</b>	<b>\$93,269.61</b>	<b>\$92,491.00</b>	<b>\$85,804.39</b>	<b>\$85,686.99</b>
<b>EXPENSES - OTHER</b>				
Supply Pastor	\$458.00	\$1,350.00	\$425.54	\$205.89
Secretary - Full Time	29,150.80	29,120.00	30,774.80	28,960.55
Secretary - Full Time insurance	3,552.16	3,189.00		
Secretary - Part Time	0.00	0.00	0.00	12,859.42
Custodian - Part Time	2,570.00	10,000.00	24,802.85	24,218.40
Organists	1,662.00	7,500.00	3,458.50	3,007.72
Nursery		0.00	0.00	1,422.68
Choir Director	3,762.00	8,500.00	7,039.50	4,222.89
Spirit Connection Director	4,414.17	9,600.00	9,600.00	9,460.86
Director of Music	10,143.00			
Wage Taxes	4,170.26	5,447.00	5,838.55	6,413.66
Worship and Music	4,550.81	1,500.00	401.51	687.90
Evangelism	55.00	500.00	0.00	4,369.84
Stewardship		500.00	0.00	0.00
Social Ministry	267.65	500.00	0.00	0.00
Food Bank	4,800.00	4,800.00	0.00	0.00
Altar Care	511.94	500.00	275.85	332.60
Christian Education	1,149.34	9,500.00	1,288.29	904.23
Parish	5,396.29	5,000.00	7,099.46	4,490.77
Office Supplies	6,011.24	4,425.00	2,218.78	2,385.78
Postage	505.54	750.00	707.60	1,079.25
Insurance	6,462.25	12,000.00	9,349.00	8,475.00
Synod Convention	1,495.60	2,000.00	1,425.16	1,169.89
Gas	4,326.83	5,000.00	4,623.88	3,681.89
Water / Electric / Sewer	7,932.66	9,000.00	8,712.42	9,185.91
Telephone	1,357.02	1,500.00	1,420.31	1,563.88
Organ and Piano Upkeep	1,366.00	0.00	953.00	1,298.00
Snow Removal	4,000.00	4,000.00	8,000.00	0.00
Building Maintenance	6,459.67	20,854.00	5,562.37	7,428.98
Grounds Maintenance	2,979.00	1,500.00	1,334.89	1,664.79
Janitorial Supplies	887.70	1,000.00	889.69	1,023.70
Youth	509.57	500.00	389.00	484.28
Fellowship	0.00	500.00	0.00	100.00
Bell Maintenance	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Devotionals	0.00	250.00	0.00	0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$120,906.50</b>	<b>\$160,785.00</b>	<b>\$137,590.95</b>	<b>\$142,098.76</b>
Total Operating Expenses	\$214,176.11	\$253,276.00	\$223,395.34	\$227,785.75
Mission Share	11,405.00	12,000.00	7,000.00	11,385.00
Transfer to Capital Improvement	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00
Parsonage loan/utilities	10,196.98	10,000.00	9,730.15	9,387.36
Parsonage Improvements	10,527.75	5,000.00	5,787.77	2,000.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$247,505.84</b>	<b>\$281,476.00</b>	<b>\$247,113.26</b>	<b>\$251,758.11</b>
<b>Receipts Less Expenses</b>	<b>(\$34,641.84)</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>(\$27,706.54)</b>	<b>(\$11,987.32)</b>

## CRADLE ROLL REPORT

### *Cradle Roll Department*



*The Cradle Roll Department has 11 children from birth to age three years old that we are currently mailing to as of December 31. This year from January 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>, we have added 5 new children and 1 have either moved or transferred to Sunday School.*

*We use a Baptism and Birthday Card Pack to welcome a child into our congregation. The first is sent at the time of birth/baptism, followed by one for the first, second, and third birthdays. The child is invited to begin attending nursery class Sunday School when the 3<sup>rd</sup> year birthday card is sent.*

*Jackie Gierman*  
Jackie Gierman

*Cradle Roll*



## EVANGELISM REPORT

### “Bringing Others to Christ”

Every month we gave out cards to members of our church to let them know they are important.

We ordered another 78 boxes of cards for 2020.

We ordered next year’s Christmas cards (found a good sale).

In December we ordered five cases of Bibles (200 Bibles) to be used here at First Lutheran. We will keep a supply on hand here at the church.

We also gave out devotions, books, DVDs and magazines to the Gospel Mission. We took pop tops to the Ronald McDonald house, along with other things that needed to be delivered.

We gave out eight Bibles and two devotions to people in need.

We put church cards in gift bags and filled the gift bags for visitors of our church. We are putting a Bible in each bag.

We also put church cards on bulletin boards in South Sioux and Sioux City. When we were out, we’d start talking and give out a card so they wouldn’t be alone and have a church to come to.

We also pray for our church and all our members every day.

Love and God Bless you all,  
Janell Sila

## FELLOWSHIP REPORT

The fellowship committee this year offered: Monthly Sunday breakfast, game day, Bingo white elephant game, chili cook off, Mother’s Day tea /cookies, Father’s Day root beer floats, Dinner and movie night, Home Free concert, assisted with summer flea market, Halloween party, assisted with craft/vendor fair and put on a Christmas Ecumenical ham dinner following an Ecumenical Christmas concert.

With free will offerings from these events, fellowship has been able to purchase new lights in the fellowship hall and lounge. Fellowship also purchased new candles for the candelabra at the altar.

Fellowship goals will be to continue to offer events to bring members of the church together. Fellowship will also work toward replacing remaining lights in classrooms, new blinds in the fellowship hall, and new Altar candles to match the candelabras.

Fellowship will continue to ask the congregation for suggestions for new events and continue events that have been successful.

## SOCIAL MINISTRY REPORT

Social Ministry Team projects this year:

1. We put together Easter baskets for the children. Fifty-three baskets were delivered: 25 to Gospel Mission, 20 to CSADV and eight to Haven House. Seven Easter food baskets were put together for church members
2. Six Thanksgiving food baskets were put together for church members.
3. Giving Tree was set up with 43 gift tags: 15 for Lutheran Social Services, seven for Haven House, 13 for the children of our church and eight for shut ins.
4. Lutheran World Relief: We put together and boxed 24 quilts, 11 baby care kits, 33 personal care kits, five fabric kits, 59 school backpacks and 124 bars of soap.
5. All through the year we collected items for the grocery cart that sits in the entryway. This includes non perishable food items, mittens, hats and scarves for children at need in the schools, personal hygiene and cleaning products for Haven House.

A big Thank You to everyone who helps us with donations, time and monies.

The Social Ministry Team

# INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT

The audit team for the review of the 2017 and 2018 financial records consisted of Sandy Larson, Pam Knudsen, and Denise Kleinberg. The audit started on Wednesday, October 9, 2019 and concluded Saturday, October 12, 2019.

Since there was no scope given to the team prior to the review, the review consisted of a general review of expenses, payroll, offering, and the Memorial Fund. Our review was to verify that support existed for the payments made, not whether or not the funds were approved for spend by Council.

## **Payroll**

Several months of payroll activity were reviewed no issues found. Timecards were reviewed. Hours appeared to be correctly totaled and reflected the correct payments made to employees. Checks were appropriately signed verifying that Kerri's checks were signed by Sue.

## **Memorial Fund Account**

The savings register was compared against the list of contributions to the Memorial Fund. The total fund balance matched the total register balance listing the contributors and the balance remaining in their requested allocation of funding. (i.e. Christian Ed, Building Fund, General Fund, Youth, etc.)

## **Check Register**

A review of expenses over \$100 was conducted to ensure that spending was supported with documentation and that the support was indicative of spending needed to support our church activities. All miscellaneous spending was reviewed. Also, fixed spending was reviewed to ensure that bills were current and paid timely. All documentation was presented in a format that was easily reviewed. The only suggestion that was given to Kerri is that miscellaneous spending for reimbursement need to have more than a receipt, it requires an explanation of why the funds were spent. Kerri showed a new form that is now required to gain a reimbursement from the church. This is a good practice, and the next audit team should ensure that this practice is followed going forward.

## **Offering**

A review of deposit slips and bank records were accurate with no discrepancies. Cash offering should be counted by two people independently to ensure that all cash is recorded without error.

Respectfully submitted,  
The 2019 audit team

# INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT

Memo to the congregation of First Lutheran Church, SSC

Dear Members,

The audit team met today, March 14, 2019 at 1 PM in the Lounge at First Lutheran Church to review the accounting of the memorial fund. During our review we:

Compared check given to the deposits made into the savings account

Verified deposits made to the savings account

Compared withdrawals/transfers to the general fund

Balancing of the bank account against the ledger

The ledger has been placed into the vault.

The ledger supports memorial donations totaling \$14,277.31. Fund dispersement has been designated by family members as follows:

Altar Care	3347.98
Christian Ed/Youth	4099.62
Music or Music Room	2335.99
Organ Maintenance	3063.25
Pantry/Cupboards	87.38
Undesignated Funds	1343.09
	14277.31

Repectfully submitted,

Audit Team

Sandy Larson

Pam Knudsen

Denise Kleinberg



## PRAYER CHAINS

If you have a concern or need for which you would like prayer, please call me at the church office and a prayer will be started. The prayer chain starts with the first person on each of the chains, and then each person in turn passes the prayer request on to the next person on the list. This is a powerful and comforting ministry that our church offers our members and their friends/families. Please, don't hesitate to call! Our current prayer chains consist of the following volunteers:

### Prayer Chain I

Joann Kleinberg	494-4514
Cathie Galvin	494-4473
Linda Johansen	494-1089
Patty Blessing	404-1371
Lucy Gagnon	999-1332

### Prayer Chain II

Jo Ann Garvey	494-3105
Jane Krogh	494-1630
Lee Mathiason	494-6125
Sandy Larson	494-2135
Jackie Gierman	494-1218

I wish to thank all of the volunteers above for their caring participation in our Prayer Chain Ministry. Together, I hope we have comforted many, many friends throughout this past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Kerri Rahn  
Administrative Assistant

# WOMEN OF THE ELCA REPORT

All Women of the First Lutheran Church in South Sioux City are considered members of the Women of the E.L.C.A.

Current Officers: Bonnie Prosser, Chair; Mary Wolf, Treasurer; Linda Fischer, Secretary; Jackie Gierman, Outreach & Fellowship; Lee Mathiason, Social Ministry; and Rita Todd, Planning and Program

Women of the E.L.C.A. Executive Board: Kathy Anders, Linda Fischer, Jackie Gierman, Sandy Larson, Lee Mathiason, Bonnie Prosser, Rita Todd

All women are invited to attend any meeting of Circle 1, Circle 2, Lydia Group or the Quilting Group.

Circle 1 meets on the third Monday of each month at 2:00 p.m.

Circle 2 meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 9:15 a.m.

Lydia Group meets on the second Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

The Quilting Group meets the second Saturday of the month at 9:00 a.m.

Circle meetings include Bible lessons, refreshments and fellowship. Each Circle has projects that benefit the church and our community.

General Meetings: The women of the ELCA meetings are intended to give all women and friends of the church chance to attend an informal social occasion at the church.

Dates & Times: September 24, 2019 @ 7:00 pm  
January 7, 2020 @ 7:00 pm

Social Ministry: Delivered 53 Easter Baskets: 25 To the Gospel Mission, 20 to the CSADV (Council on Sexual Assault & Domestic Violence), 8 to Haven House

Easter food baskets were delivered to 7 Church members.

Lutheran World Relief: 24 Quilts, 59 Backpacks, 5 Fabric Kits, 11 Baby care kits, 33 Personal care kits, 124 Bars of soap

A gift to Kerri and Randy Rahn for \$100.00 (Kerri is our Admin. Asst.) for their wedding.

Christmas donation of a \$150.00 each to: Cardinal Baskets  
Haven House  
The Gospel Mission

Candy was packed on November 12 for our Armed Forces.

Kitchen cleaning schedule:	January	Circle II	May	Lydia Group
	February	Lydia Group	June	Circle I
	March	Circle I	July	Circle II
	April	Circle II	August	Lydia Group

The Women of the ELCA, First Lutheran Church, wants to thank you all for helping with God's Work.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bonnie Prosser

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN OF THE ELCA  
 TREASURER'S REPORT  
 January 1, 2019 - December 30, 2019

<u>GENERAL FUND</u>	
Balance 1-01-19	\$ 187.46
Circles & gen. offerings	219.51
Funeral lunches	775.00
Transfer from savings	450.00
TOTAL	<u>1,631.97</u>
EXPENDITURES	
April general meeting	50.00
Confirmation camp	500.00
School kits	69.48
Bank expense - checks	37.00
Gift - Randy & Kerry Rahn	100.00
Cardinal Baskets	150.00
Gospel Mission	150.00
Haven House	150.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>1,206.48</u>

BALANCE 12-30-19 \$ 425.49

<u>SAVINGS ACCOUNT</u>	
Balance 1-01-19	\$5,705.15
Interest	5.56
TOTAL	<u>5,710.71</u>
Withdrawal	<u>450.00</u>
BALANCE 12-30-19	5,260.71

<u>LYDIA PROJECT FUND</u>	
Balance 1-01-19	\$ 805.00
Offerings	246.50
Pie sales	273.00
TOTAL	<u>1,324.50</u>
EXPENDITURES	
Baptismal blankets	73.59
F.L.C. Youth fund	150.00
Pray ground tables	106.96
Leadership lab	150.00
Women's friendship meal	31.51
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>512.06</u>

BALANCE 12-30-19 \$ 812.44

<u>CIRCLE I PROJECT FUND</u>	
Balance 1-01-19	\$ 165.34
Offerings	526.70
TOTAL	<u>692.04</u>
EXPENDITURES	
School kits	69.48
Regency hair care	120.00
JoAnn Addison memorial	25.00
Social ministry-Easter	50.00
T.Fader-Leadership lab	50.00
Cardinal Baskets	100.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>414.48</u>
BALANCE 12-30-19	\$ 277.56

<u>CIRCLE II PROJECT FUND</u>	
Balance 1-01-19	\$ 441.48
Offerings	445.15
Pecan sales	177.60
TOTAL	<u>1,064.23</u>
EXPENDITURES	
Postage-servicemen(2018)	5.00
Social ministry-Easter	50.00
F.L.C. - food pantry	200.00
Altar flowers	18.00
Regency hair care	120.00
Confirmation camp	100.00
T.Fader - Leadership lab	100.00
Confirmands' roses	28.00
Gospel Mission	50.00
Haven House	50.00
Salvation Army	50.00
F.L.C. food pantry	50.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>821.00</u>

BALANCE 12-30-19 \$ 243.23

<u>OFFERINGS RECEIVED AND PAID</u>	
Synodical	\$ 218.49
Leprosy	40.00
Thank offerings	65.82

## CIRCLE I REPORT

Circle 1 meets the third Monday of the month at 2:00 p.m.

We have 11 members and would love to have others join us or come as a guest.

We start with grace, dessert and fellowship followed by a business meeting, after which we have a lesson.

Some of the projects we have done through the year are: We served a Lenten lunch, served a VBS meal, small gifts for our shut-ins was done in March, we bring food items for the church food pantry every month, we also bring bars of soap for LWR, a donation was made to buy supplies for LWR school backpacks and also made for Easter food baskets for church members, totes and small suitcases to be given to the Florence Crittenton Center, donated to the Cardinal Baskets, also twice a year at Easter and the holidays we pay for 6 hair-dos at the care center for those in need. This is brief look at some of the things we do. Please feel free to join us.

Submitted by Lee Mathiason



## CIRCLE II REPORT

Circle II meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 9:15 in the church lounge.

We support the Gospel Mission and Soup Kitchen monthly.

We served Lenten lunches and a meal for VBS.

We pay twice a year for residents at Regency to have their hair done.

Throughout the year we donate to: food pantry, Easter family baskets, Leadership Lab, Salvation Army, Gospel Mission and Haven House.

We make Personal Care Kits for LWR and Baptismal Napkins for the church.

We sold pecans again this year.

We helped with our Friendship Dinner.

We had a good year. We invite anyone to come join us on the 2nd Tuesday at 9:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Anders

## SATURDAY QUILTING GROUP REPORT

We meet 8 times a year weather permitting. (Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., June, Aug., Sept., and Oct.) on the second Saturday of the month from 9:00 – 12:00. Dates are published in the bulletin. Please call Vicky Johnson at 402-494-7089 if you have any questions.

All of our fabric is donated by members of the Church or community members. We welcome all cotton fabric donations, and sheets for backing. Monetary donations can also be made to the quilting fund to purchase batting, thread, needles, rotary blades, etc.

Our mission is to make quilts for Lutheran World Relief. We also send a quilt to Camp Carol Joy Holling for their annual quilt action.

Respectfully submitted,  
Vicky Johnson

# FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH FOUNDATION REPORT

## FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH FOUNDATION OF SOUTH SIOUX CITY, NE, INC TREASURER'S REPORT SEPTEMBER 30, 2019

### CHECKING ACCOUNT: (F&M BANK)

Beginning balance as of October 1, 2018	\$1,491.67	
<u>Receipts: Oct. 1, 2018 thru Sept. 30, 2019</u>	N/A	
<u>Disbursements:</u>		
Safe Deposit Box Rent	\$ 12.00	
Secretary of State (Biennial Report Filing)	20.00	
Total Disbursements 10/01/18 thru 09/30/2019	\$ 32.00	
Ending Balance as of September 30, 2019		\$ 1,459.67

### MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT: (SIOUXLAND BANK)

Beginning balance as of October 1, 2018	\$22,728.62	
Receipts: Oct. 1, 2018 thru Sept. 30, 2019	N/A	
Interest from Oct. 1, 2018 thru Sept. 30, 2019	\$ 99.54	
<u>Disbursements:</u>	0.00	
Ending Balance as of September 30, 2019		\$22,828.16

### OTHER INVESTMENTS:

Certificate of Deposit (36 month) Siouxland Bank Principal plus accrued interest thru 09/30/2019 Certificate renews 07/16/2022 Rate: 2.97% Certificate held at Siouxland Bank		\$96,509.85
--	--	-------------

**TOTAL ASSETS OF THE FOUNDATION AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2019      \$120,797.68**

**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH FOUNDATION OF SOUTH SIOUX CITY, NE, INC**  
**TREASURER'S REPORT**  
**SEPTEMBER 30, 2019**

**ENDOWMENT FUND:**

Beginning balance as of October 1, 2018			
Principal	\$49,478.20		
Accumulated Interest	\$46,207.01	\$95,685.21	
Interest earned and received		\$ 824.64	
Contribution to Endowment Fund/Principal		\$ 0.00	
Disbursement: None			
Ending balance as of September 30, 2019			\$96,509.85

**UNCOMMITTED FUNDS:**

Beginning balance as of October 1, 2018			
Checking Account:	\$ 1,491.67		
Money Market Account:	\$22,728.62	\$24,220.29	
Receipts:			
Interest from Money Market Account	\$ 99.54		
Total Receipts:		\$ 99.54	
Disbursements:			
Safe deposit box Rent	\$ 12.00		
Secretary of State (Biennial Report Filing)	20.00		
Total Disbursements:		\$ 32.00	
Total uncommitted funds as of 09/30/2019			\$ 24,287.83

**TOTAL ASSETS OF THE FOUNDATION AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2019      \$120,797.68**

PART 2

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Barto

## FOUNDATION NOMINEES

### **Rick Heuertz**

I am Rick Heuertz, and I would like your consideration for a spot on First Lutheran Foundation board. I have been a member of First Lutheran Church since 2001. Since that time, I have served on the Church Council, serving as Council President as well as serving on many committees. I also have served on the call committee and co-headed the “Build The Spirit” project. I regularly volunteer to usher and lector as well as other church activities.

A little about me outside of church. I grew up in Le Mars, Iowa, and lived in the Le Mars area until I moved to South Sioux City in 2001. Presently I live on a acreage outside of South Sioux City. I have 4 children and 7 grandchildren, 4 step-children and 3 step-grandchildren. I have either owned or managed transportation and logistics companies. Presently I manage 3 different divisions of the Keizer Companies. I am General Manager of Power Only Transport, LLC and Northern Plains Logistics, which are based in Sioux Falls, SD, and I am Transportation and Logistics Manager for Mid-States Utility Trailer Sales. In my “spare” time, I raise, train and show Quarter Horses. I am also an avid bow hunter and fisherman.

Thank you, again, for the privilege and consideration to run for a position on the Foundation Board.

### **Lee Novak**

My name is Lee Novak and I have been a member of First Lutheran Church for 39 years. Carrie and I were married in this Church by Pastor Konig. We have been residents of Dakota County for over 30 years. I have been an active member of the Homer Community Club, serving as President 5 years. During this time I ran the youth and High School Baseball and Softball programs. Our family includes Marissa and Austin Gutzmann, Colton Novak and a granddaughter Summer Gutzmann. Marissa and Colton were both confirmed in First Lutheran Church. I have served on the Call Committee to assist with the hiring of a Minister. I have also served as a Vice President on the Church Board as well as interim President. I would like to be on the Foundation Committee to further assist with First Lutheran Church.

Thank you

# MEMORIAL FUND REPORT

## Memorial Fund – 2019

The Memorial Fund for First Lutheran Church is a separate savings account at F&M Bank here in South Sioux City. The balance in this account on December 31, 2019 was \$15,403.05.

Fund totals are:

Music and/or music room	\$ 2,356.46
Organ maintenance	3,164.88
Altar care	3,024.67
Food pantry cupboards	88.17
Christian education and/or youth	4,134.98
Undesignated funds	2,633.89

During 2019, new plates and chalices were purchased for use on communion Sundays (Memorial funds from Judy Morgan).

Respectfully submitted,

Kerri Rahn

# NARRATIVE MISSION SUPPORT PLAN

## 2020 Tentative

The mission of First Lutheran is “Loving others in Christ for outreach to all; while providing for God’s diversity.” When we open our doors and when we go beyond our doors, we are proving outreach mission. We can only do this effectively when we are healthy in our relationships. When we are healthy, we can truly, together, encounter the vast diversity of our God, and have the opportunity to love all of God’s people. Opening the doors both for those who call First Lutheran home and opening the doors to the mission field is what disciples are called to be and be part of. In Acts, through preaching and mission, many came to believe.

In the early church, in Acts, as the believers reached out and cared for all they encountered, problems arose internally. There was suffering within the body of the church (Acts 6), it was addressed to keep the church healthy enough to care for the outside. Mission, we know, is more than inside the four walls of any congregation. It is outside, where the Holy Spirit is also. It is the Holy Spirit that imparts faith upon all. We trust that God is active in our missions both inside and outside the four walls of First Lutheran. Over the next 12-18 months, we will work on becoming healthy as the body of Christ, so we can carry out mission in the name of Christ Jesus.

Volunteering is what is done by those outside of Christian mission. When disciples use the gifts that God has given them, God is present and God through the Holy Spirit impacts us all. It is through our time, talents and financial resources that God goes with us in mission, not just helps us pay the bills. Your giving to First Lutheran Church is the way God’s mission gets done among us as we share the mission together. Your time, talents and financial giving help to bring hope to the world and make a difference in so many other people’s lives.

### *Our Plan on Carrying out God’s Mission*

- A. To provide meaningful, life-changing, life-giving worship every week of the year.

Last year we held **104** Sunday worship services, where on an average week, **119** people gathered in different styles of worship (traditional and praise) to worship God: to hear God’s Word and share in the sacraments. Although our average on Sunday went down our total attendance went **down** to **6,209** from **6,556**. We had **18** midweek and special services, including sharing services with St. Paul United Methodist Church. We continued Advent worship that was brought back in 2018. We received **9** people through Holy Baptism. We had **4** young adults confirm their baptism and faith by being confirmed. **9** people were committed to our Lord’s eternal care through the Burial of the Dead. **8** new families for a total of **20** new discipling members joined this community through transfer of membership from other congregations. We had a total of **6** members transfer out and we removed **68** members due to inactivity. We do have a few people waiting to become members this year, and we expect more to join. We have had many first-time worshipers join us in 2019 and some joined as members. Music is a special part of ministry at First Lutheran. Our Choir, Hand Bells and Spirit Connection band offer great opportunities for God’s people to share their gifts and for others to enjoy these gifts. We can be prayerful that we can once again have a Choir and Hand Bell Choir in 2020.

Budget Total--\$158,629.86

(This total includes a percentage of the pastor’s salary; expenses, insurance and continuing education; parsonage mortgage payments/improvements/utilities; the secretary, choir director, keyboardist, Spirit

## NARRATIVE MISSION SUPPORT PLAN

Connection director and custodial salaries; adult's music ministries; janitorial supplies; office expenses; insurance, building maintenance; and utilities.)

### B. To nurture people in their faith journey.

This congregation has made a commitment in calling their pastor, to see that education does not stop once someone is confirmed, but instead they have said, "this is only the beginning of a life-long learning through God's Word." This is why we are very intentional in expending energy and prayer to determine how to help all persons, no matter their age or economic background, grow in their relationship with the Lord. First provides an education program for all ages, to nurture the faith that the Holy Spirit has imparted. With **21** enrolled in Sunday School, **8** in confirmation and a variety of adult classes that are offered throughout the year. **5** confirmands attended confirmation camp. New member classes are steeped into Gifts of the Spirit, to provide the new members with insight of who God made them to be and what God intends them to do. We offer a four-week course preparing the youth for first communion. We have an active Vacation Bible School with Adults through multiple congregations, using their gifts to lead over **22** children in the process of discovering God in their midst. Confirmation youth are encouraged to attend church camp, to explore their faith through guided exercises and fun activities. We encourage the confirmed youth to attend a week-long, *Leadership Lab*, to nurture their Christian leadership skills for use in the mission field both inside and outside of the congregation. In 2019, we had **3** youth and **1** adult attend.

Budget Total--\$73,242.40

(This total includes a percentage of the pastor's salary; expenses, insurance and continuing education; parsonage mortgage payments/improvements/utilities; the secretary and custodial services; the children, youth and adult ministry; janitorial supplies, office expenses; insurance, building maintenance; Church Consultants, and utilities)

### C. For the Caring of all of God's people.

First Lutheran Church is conscious and has become even more aware that Jesus has commanded us to "Go into all the world." We carry out our mission statement when we say and live out, "Loving others in Christ for outreach to all; while providing for God's diversity." We live as disciples of Christ being Christians who embody "Being a disciple of Christ, a follower of Jesus, is a free-willed loving and gracious response to a loving and gracious God!"

1. We care for one another as a part of the family of faith. Visitations and communion visits are made regularly by the pastor and sacramental visitors to those who are homebound, in assisted living, and nursing homes. The pastor greets and visits with members and first-time worshipers every Sunday before and after each worship service. Hospital calls are made on members who are hospitalized, and phone calls are made on those with special needs. At the time of deaths both inside and outside the congregation, we reach out to those who are grieving a loss. They are also followed-up with by the pastor through books that help with the grieving process over the next year. The pastor also responds to many personal and counseling needs as they come up with our members and others who walk through the doors of the congregation.

## NARRATIVE MISSION SUPPORT PLAN

2. First has a tremendous outreach to the community. Our beautiful building is located in a community that has gone through a significant change in its population make-up. The members of First respond to those needs through donating their time at the soup kitchen, hosting a food pantry (where about **15** people per week are served), hosting and volunteering at the Food Bank (where about **90** people twice a month are served), giving towards Haven House, Gospel Mission, Cardinal Food baskets, adopt a family (giving tree), home communion and nursing home communion, Quilts for Lutheran World Relief, ELCA World Hunger, etc. First hosts the following organizations and more, Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, TOPS, Heartland Counseling Training, South Sioux City School District, R.E.A.C.T., Heartland Counseling Governance Board, Leadership Dakota County and the Dakota County Amateur Radio Club. Pastor works within the community with agencies that reach out to the poor in the neighborhood: Dakota County Connections, Heartland Counseling Board, Dakota County Ministerial Alliance, Soup Kitchen, Voices for Food and reaching out through chaplaincy to all those in need in the community.

Budget Total--\$107,689.74

(This total includes a percentage of the pastor's salary; expenses, insurance and continuing education; parsonage mortgage payments/improvements/utilities; the secretary and custodial services; janitorial supplies, office expenses; insurance, building maintenance; utilities; Church Consultants, benevolence to Nebraska Synod; and ELCA World hunger.)

**Total need to fulfill God's mission among us, *Loving others in Christ for outreach to all; while providing for God's diversity*: \$339,562.00.** May we all be blessed as we share in supporting these ministries in 2020 and beyond.



**First Lutheran Church - 2020 Proposed Mission Support Plan**

	<b>Actual 2018</b>	<b>Mission Support Plan 2019</b>	<b>Actual 2019</b>	<b>Proposed Mission Support Plan 2020</b>
<b>BEGINNING BALANCE</b>	<b>(\$25,917.64)</b>			
<b>INCOME</b>				
Contributions	\$210,994.35	\$281,476.00	\$207,815.81	\$339,562.00
Interest	\$154.78		\$213.85	
Other Income	\$8,257.59		\$4,834.34	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$219,406.72</b>	<b>\$281,476.00</b>	<b>\$212,864.00</b>	<b>\$339,562.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
Pastor's Salary	\$41,500.08	\$43,000.00	\$42,999.60	\$43,000.00
Pastor's Housing Equity	\$2,416.74	\$3,790.00	\$3,790.56	\$5,080.00
Pastor's Social Security	\$3,290.00	\$3,290.00	\$3,289.92	\$3,290.00
Pastor's Car Allowance	\$915.58	\$3,000.00	\$3,726.60	\$3,500.00
Pastor's Pension and Insurance	\$36,049.56	\$37,611.00	\$37,614.72	\$39,070.00
Pastor's Publications	\$99.99	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$250.00
Pastor's Continuing Ed.	\$1,100.00	\$1,100.00	\$1,100.00	\$1,100.00
Theological Conference	\$432.44	\$500.00	\$548.21	\$550.00
<b>TOTAL (Pastor Expenses)</b>	<b>\$85,804.39</b>	<b>\$92,491.00</b>	<b>\$93,269.61</b>	<b>\$95,840.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES - OTHER</b>				
Supply Pastor	\$425.54	\$1,350.00	\$458.00	\$1,350.00
Secretary - Full Time	\$30,774.80	\$29,120.00	\$29,150.80	\$29,994.00
Secretary - Full Time insurance	\$0.00	\$3,189.00	\$3,552.16	\$3,000.00
Part Time Custodian	\$24,802.85	\$10,000.00	\$2,570.00	\$8,034.00
Organists	\$3,458.50	\$7,500.00	\$1,662.00	\$7,500.00
Choir Director	\$7,039.50	\$8,500.00	\$3,762.00	\$0.00
Spirit Connection Director	\$9,600.00	\$9,600.00	\$4,414.17	\$0.00
Director of Music			\$10,143.00	\$16,800.00
Wage Taxes	\$5,838.55	\$5,447.00	\$4,170.26	\$4,994.00
Worship and Music	\$401.51	\$1,500.00	\$4,550.81	\$2,500.00
Evangelism	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$55.00	\$500.00
Stewardship	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Social Ministry	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$267.65	\$500.00
Food Bank	\$0.00	\$4,800.00	\$4,800.00	\$4,800.00
Altar Care	\$275.85	\$500.00	\$511.94	\$500.00
Christian Education	\$1,288.29	\$9,500.00	\$1,149.34	\$1,000.00
Parish	\$7,099.46	\$5,000.00	\$5,396.29	\$5,000.00
Office Supplies	\$2,218.78	\$4,425.00	\$6,011.24	\$5,300.00
Postage	\$707.60	\$750.00	\$505.54	\$750.00
Insurance	\$9,349.00	\$12,000.00	\$6,462.25	\$12,000.00
Synod Convention	\$1,425.16	\$2,000.00	\$1,495.60	\$2,000.00
Gas	\$4,623.88	\$5,000.00	\$4,326.83	\$5,000.00
Electric / Water / Sewer	\$8,712.42	\$9,000.00	\$7,932.66	\$9,000.00
Telephone	\$1,420.31	\$1,500.00	\$1,357.02	\$1,500.00
Organ and Piano Upkeep	\$953.00	\$0.00	\$1,366.00	\$1,500.00
Snow Removal	\$8,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
Building Maintenance	\$5,562.37	\$20,854.00	\$6,459.67	\$15,000.00
Grounds Maintenance	\$1,334.89	\$1,500.00	\$2,979.00	\$20,000.00
Janitorial Supplies	\$889.69	\$1,000.00	\$887.70	\$750.00
Youth	\$389.00	\$500.00	\$509.57	\$500.00
Fellowship	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Bell Maintenance	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Devotionals	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
UNL Campus Ministry			\$0.00	\$500.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$137,590.95</b>	<b>\$160,785.00</b>	<b>\$120,906.50</b>	<b>\$165,522.00</b>
Total Operating Expenses	\$223,395.34	\$253,276.00	\$214,176.11	\$261,362.00
Mission Share	\$7,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$11,405.00	\$12,000.00
Transfer to Capital Improvement	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
Parsonage Monthly Expenses	\$9,730.15	\$10,000.00	\$10,196.98	\$10,000.00
Parsonage Improvements	\$5,787.77	\$5,000.00	\$10,527.75	\$10,000.00
Church Therapy Expenses			\$0.00	\$45,000.00
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$247,113.26</b>	<b>\$281,476.00</b>	<b>\$247,505.84</b>	<b>\$339,562.00</b>
<b>Receipts Less Expenses</b>	<b>(\$53,624.18)</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>(\$34,641.84)</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>