

# Lutheran Church of the Resurrection Congregational Meeting Agenda

December 10, 2017

## **Call to Order**

Opening Prayer

## **Minutes from the previous meeting**

## **Reports (Brief summaries)**

Pastoral Report

Deaconess Report

Financial Reports

Board for Missions Report

Report of the Elders

Trustees Report

Reformation 500 recap

## **Old Business**

None

## **New Business**

Report of Budget Committee (pending)

Report of the Nominating Committee

Slate of officers for consideration and vote by the congregation:

Brian Watson	Council President
Dan Callahan	Council Vice President
Amanda Goldsmith	Council Secretary
Chris Batson	Head Elder
Tom Huesers	Elder
Glenn Carlson	Elder
Mark Larsen	Head Trustee
Tom Huesers	Trustee
Brian Watson	Trustee
Michelle Hein	Chair of the Board for Missions
Dorothy McAlister	Financial Secretary
Pat Kablitz	Assistant Financial Secretary

# **Lutheran Church of the Resurrection**

## **Annual Voters' Meeting Minutes December 11, 2016**

The meeting opened at 11:55 a.m. with a prayer by Fernando Gouvêa. Fernando noted the meeting's agenda. A quorum of church congregation members was present. The minutes of the 2015 Annual Voters' Meeting were read by Mike Hein. A motion to accept the minutes as read passed unanimously. Mike took the minutes for this meeting.

The **Report of the Pastor** was given by Pastor Nielsen. He reported one baptism in 2016. He commended the work of the Church Council, groups, and individuals for their contributions to the life of the church, specifically the work of the Altar Guild. The installation of Deaconess Conover was a highlight of the year. Outreach continues to be a primary concern and objective. Pastor Nielsen asked church members to invite people to attend a service, and he will encourage them to attend an Inquirers Class.

2017 will represent the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation and the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the congregation and the church will form a short-term subcommittee to develop ideas for celebrating these anniversaries. Pastor Nielsen provided a good example of stewardship with the whole life insurance policy Avis Grant took out in 1994 and gave the proceeds to the church. The policy matured and provided almost \$25,000 to the church recently which paid for the church's roof and added to the church's Capital Improvement Fund.

The **Report of the Deaconess** was given by Deaconess Conover. The summer Women's Retreat went very well. She is leading a Women's Bible Study semi-monthly on Saturday mornings. Sharon leads weekly prayer group meetings and assists with the Senior High Youth Group events and activities. She is making several visits to various members of the congregation.

The **Report of the Financial Secretary and Treasurer** was given by Yvonne Batson. She noted the church's recent transition to PayChex payroll service and reviewed the Income and Expense Statement for November, 2016. The church has received a total of \$186,929.79 in income and has incurred \$166,771.86 in expenses.

Yvonne proposed to move the \$901.08 in the Designated Memorials Fund to the Undesignated Memorials Fund due to no longer having specific designations information for that amount. After discussion, this motion passed with two abstentions. She proposed using the \$200 which has been designated for Seminary students by giving an additional \$100 each to the two seminary students which the church currently supports. This motion passed unanimously. Yvonne proposed the church pay off the remaining \$1,200 on the organ loan by the end of 2016. This motion passed unanimously.

The **Report of the Board for Missions** was given by Amanda Goldsmith. In 2016, mission support was given to several local, national, and international charities and missions. The Mid-Maine Homeless Shelter received donations of men's clothing from the church and \$2,000 recently went to support their purchase of washers and dryers. Hope Lutheran Church receives \$400/month in financial support from our church.

Other charitable giving by the church included the Lutheran Heritage Fund, L.C.M.S. Disaster Relief, the Waterville-Area Food Bank, Lutherans for Life, the Garuna Foundation, Maine Children's Home, and the L.C.M.S. – New England District. Future charitable giving may include

the Lutheran Braille Workers and the church's Senior High Youth Group Missions Trip to Boston.

The **Report of the Elders** was given by Chris Batson. One new member was received into membership in 2016, by baptism – David Grierson. There were no releases from membership. The church has 123 baptized members, with 107 of these members confirmed. There are 23 children and 54 family units. The average 2016 church worship attendance, through November, was 67.

Chris reported the church's Fall Men's Retreat went well, with 12 men attending. They continue to oversee the Early Communion Program. The Elders recently began a study on the topic of stewardship. The Elders plan a Men's Breakfast for January 14<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m.

The **Report of the Trustees** was given by Mark Larsen. Mark outlined the church's roof replacement and church sanctuary renovation over the past year. He thanked Mike Hein for recently taking on the church custodial duties on a long-term volunteer basis. The church will consider sealing and striping the parking lot and replacing older lighting fixtures over the next year. He thanked Brian Watson and Tom Huesers for their help in overseeing the church projects this year and Pastor Nielsen.

The **Report of the Board for Youth** was not given. Pastor Nielsen reported the Senior High Youth Group will participate in a "Five Sixteen Missions Project" in Boston in June, 2017.

Deb Nielsen gave the **Lutheran Women's Missions League** report. The recent annual craft fair raised approximately \$1,900. There was an L.W.M.L. annual party on December 10<sup>th</sup>.

The **2017 Church Council and Officers** were nominated for approval: Brian Watson, President; Dan Callahan, Vice President; Yvonne Batson, Treasurer; Pat Kablitz, Financial Secretary; Dorthy McAllister, Assistant Financial Secretary; Amanda Goldsmith, Recording Secretary; Chris Batson, Head Elder; Glenn Carlson, Sr. and Tom Huesers, Elders; Mark Larsen, Head Trustee; Brian Watson and Tom Huesers, Trustees; and Amanda Goldsmith, Board for Missions Chair. There was no nomination for the Board for Youth Chair position. A motion to approve the Church Council and officer nominees passed unanimously.

Chris Batson detailed the proposed **2017 Church Budget**. The total proposed expense for 2017 is \$195,548. A motion to accept the proposed 2017 budget passed unanimously.

In **New Business**, Chris Batson thanked Fernando Gouvêa for his leadership as President of the Church Council and Mike Hein for his service as Recording Secretary, both over many years.

The meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m. with Pastor Nielsen leading those in attendance in singing the Common Doxology.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mike Hein

## Annual Meeting Report of the Pastor

12/10/17

### Official pastoral acts during 2017 were as follows:

- Baptisms: 2 (Eleanor Keefe; Charlotte Klipp)
- Funerals: 1 (Bonnie Mathieu)
- Weddings: 1 (Corina Batson / Tyler Wilson)

### I want to thank all those who contribute to the life of this congregation by their service to it.

- The Church Council members
- The Sunday School teachers and staff
- The Altar Guild
- The Ushers and Communion Assistants
- The Acolytes
- The people who have no 'title' but who do 'little things' that no one notices, but that make this a better place to be.

### A brief report on my work at Hope Lutheran Church – Bangor. (HLC)

I began serving HLC again on the Sunday after Easter – 2017. HLC rescheduled its worship service to 3:00pm. with Bible Study following. On August 27, I presented my views regarding the future of the congregation and my position with them. If in one year, the regular Sunday worship attendance is 20 or more communicant members, the congregation should move in the direction of calling a resident pastor. If the regular worship attendance is less than 20 communicant members, the congregation should move in the direction of closing. Furthermore, if I am to lead them over the next three years, I will want to be called by the congregation to be their pastor. Apart from a proper call, I am not willing to continue to serve. In a subsequent meeting, the congregation approved of the plan. I am awaiting further discussion with the District President. The membership of LCR should understand that I am taking no compensation from HLC except reimbursement for mileage. I am limiting my time in Bangor to Sunday afternoon and evenings with exceptions as necessary.

In Christ,

*Pastor Nielsen*

**ASSET ACCOUNTS**

01-1110	Camden National Bank	
	Posted balance	12,608.83
	Total unposted in fund accounting	-1,075.82
	Adjusted account balance	11,533.01
01-1210	LCEF - (Savings Acct.)	
	Posted balance	11,349.36
	Total unposted in fund accounting	17.89
	Adjusted account balance	11,367.25
01-1220	LCEF - (Cap. Imp. Acct.)	
	Posted balance	14,806.19
	Total unposted in fund accounting	24.11
	Adjusted account balance	14,830.30
01-1310	Thrivent (Scholarship)	
	Posted balance	5,994.34
	Total unposted in fund accounting	1,296.94
	Adjusted account balance	7,291.28

**TOTAL ASSET ACCOUNTS** **45,021.84**

**LIABILITY ACCOUNTS**

01-2215	Federal Withholding	
	Posted balance	141.02
	Total unposted in fund accounting	25.64
	Adjusted account balance	166.66
01-2475	LCEF Mortg. - Sanctuary	
	Posted balance	29,228.19
	Total unposted in fund accounting	-1,939.82
	Adjusted account balance	27,288.37

**TOTAL LIABILITY ACCOUNTS** **27,455.03**

**EQUITY ACCOUNTS**

01-3110	Unrestricted Net Assets	
	Posted balance	164,825.20
	Total unposted in fund accounting	2,113.32
	Adjusted account balance	166,938.52
01-3201	Building Fund	2,607.91
01-3202	Sr. Youth Group	
	Posted balance	313.09
	Total unposted in fund accounting	570.00
	Adjusted account balance	883.09
01-3203	Primary Youth Group	448.50
01-3204	Undesignated Memorials	
	Posted balance	1,555.10
	Total unposted in fund accounting	-265.00
	Adjusted account balance	1,290.10
01-3205	Designated Memorials	448.58
01-3206	Flowers	

Lutheran Church of the Resurrection  
**Cash Management Report**

	Posted balance	376.75
	Total unposted in fund accounting	-50.00
	Adjusted account balance	326.75
01-3207	Seminarian	100.00
01-3208	Bible Study	102.00
01-3209	Altar Supplies	-142.93
01-3210	Pastor's Fund	948.43
01-3211	Books/Bibles/Hymnals	1,937.85
01-3212	Soc. Min. / Bene. Fund	843.09
01-3214	Deaconess Scholarship Fun	1,100.76
01-3215	Music Fund	
	Posted balance	0.00
	Total unposted in fund accounting	-50.00
	Adjusted account balance	-50.00
01-3216	Deaconess Special Project	2,500.00
01-3217	CHP Fund	
	Posted balance	1,179.41
	Total unposted in fund accounting	-236.10
	Adjusted account balance	943.31
<b>TOTAL EQUITY ACCOUNTS</b>		<b>181,225.96</b>
	Total asset accounts	45,021.84
	less: total liability accounts	27,455.03
	less: total Equity accounts	181,225.96 **
	<b>Adjusted balance</b>	<b>-163,659.15</b>

**\*\* Balance includes amounts from accounts that have negative balances**

Lutheran Church of the Resurrection

**Income and Expense Statement**

Consolidated - November 2017

	Current Period	Year to Date	YTD Prior Year	Year to Date Bud
<b>GIFTS GIVEN FOR MISSION</b>				
<b>GENERAL OFFERINGS</b>				\$170,177.37
Envelope Offerings	12,356.00	153,406.43	148,329.00	0.00
Loose Offerings	1,322.00	7,289.10	2,988.96	0.00
Sunday School Offerings	0.00	0.00	6.00	0.00
Subtotal General Offerings	13,678.00	160,695.53	151,323.96	170,177.37
<b>SPECIFIED OFFERINGS</b>				
Building Fund	1,453.00	17,399.00	22,076.00	0.00
Sr. Youth Group	570.00	1,235.00	4,384.28	0.00
Designated Memorials	0.00	612.50	25.00	0.00
Flowers	0.00	579.00	660.00	0.00
Seminarian	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
Books/Bibles/Hymnals	0.00	36.00	132.00	6,875.00
Missions	0.00	227.50	0.00	0.00
Deaconess Scholarship Fun	0.00	0.00	3,220.00	0.00
Music Fund	0.00	0.00	665.00	0.00
Deaconess Special Project	0.00	2,500.00	0.00	0.00
CHP Fund	0.00	1,048.00	50.00	0.00
Hope - Bangor	0.00	0.00	1,800.00	0.00
Subtotal Specified Offerings	2,023.00	23,737.00	33,012.28	6,875.00
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>				
Investment Interest	1,338.94	1,460.65	115.65	0.00
Building Use Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,200.00
Tuesday AA	0.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
In-Stiches	0.00	295.00	380.00	0.00
Newcomers Group	150.00	300.00	100.00	0.00
Oakgrove Living Center	50.00	550.00	550.00	0.00
Motivational Services	100.00	1,000.00	1,100.00	0.00
Subtotal Building Use Income	300.00	2,245.00	2,230.00	2,200.00
Miscellaneous Income	92.24	119.38	283.90	0.00
Thrivent Financial	0.00	6.00	0.00	0.00
Building Fund Release	-1,453.00	-18,122.90	-20,968.00	0.00
Sr. Youth Group Release	0.00	-1,671.20	-4,593.25	0.00
Undesignated Memorials Re	-265.00	-385.00	-607.00	0.00
Deisgnated Memorials Rele	0.00	-615.00	0.00	0.00
Flowers Release	-50.00	-785.88	-533.97	0.00
Pastor's Fund Release	0.00	0.00	-79.99	0.00
Books/Bibles/Hymnals Rele	0.00	0.00	-435.00	0.00
Missions Release	0.00	116.73	0.00	0.00
Deaconess Scholarship Rel	0.00	0.00	-3,203.89	0.00
Music Fund Release	0.00	0.00	-705.00	0.00
CHP Fund Release	-847.27	-2,199.83	-596.35	0.00
Hope - Bangor Release	0.00	0.00	-1,800.00	0.00
Principal Payment Release	0.00	0.00	-1,000.00	0.00
Net Restricted Accounts	2,615.27	22,565.23	34,486.45	0.00
Subtotal Miscellaneous Income	92.24	-972.47	247.90	0.00
Subtotal Other Income	1,731.18	2,733.18	2,593.55	2,200.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>17,432.18</b>	<b>187,165.71</b>	<b>186,929.79</b>	<b>179,252.37</b>

Lutheran Church of the Resurrection

**Income and Expense Statement**

Consolidated - November 2017

	Current Period	Year to Date	YTD Prior Year	Year to Date Bud
<b>GIFTS USED FOR MISSION</b>				
<b>PASTORAL</b>				
Salary	\$3,696.24	\$41,075.33	\$39,463.38	\$41,575.38
Housing	1,833.34	19,875.05	20,166.74	19,250.00
Concordia Plan Services	2,341.29	25,768.16	24,950.84	25,668.50
Travel Expenses	0.00	419.97	1,244.30	1,466.63
CPS Retirement Account	162.66	1,707.93	1,789.26	1,825.12
Guest Pastor	0.00	500.00	0.00	229.13
Pastoral Conferences	0.00	670.00	955.98	1,375.00
Subtotal Pastoral	8,033.53	90,016.44	88,570.50	91,389.76
<b>DEACONESS</b>				
Salary	416.66	4,583.26	1,041.32	4,583.37
Travel Expenses	0.00	1,568.97	0.00	1,145.87
Other Expenses	0.00	686.13	0.00	0.00
Continuing Education	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,145.87
Subtotal Deaconess	416.66	6,838.36	1,041.32	6,875.11
<b>SUPPORT STAFF</b>				
Nursery Attendant	144.06	1,589.51	1,570.00	1,716.00
Custodian	374.56	2,434.64	3,289.09	4,766.63
Organist	1,115.84	12,274.24	12,458.41	12,274.13
Organist Continuing Ed	0.00	0.00	0.00	68.75
Payroll Taxes	70.72	551.97	593.17	495.88
Workers Comp Insurance	222.50	902.00	927.50	595.87
Subtotal Support Staff	1,927.68	17,752.36	18,838.17	19,917.26
<b>OFFICE</b>				
Office Supp. / Computer	190.81	597.02	335.99	1,466.63
Phones / Internet	77.35	846.03	820.73	847.88
Copier	261.01	1,491.31	1,527.10	1,833.37
Payroll Service	0.00	334.45	65.00	1,100.00
Postage	0.00	391.88	428.92	458.37
Advertising	0.00	230.94	342.00	916.63
Computer	0.00	64.90	1,165.15	0.00
Subtotal Office	529.17	3,956.53	4,684.89	6,622.88
<b>BUILDING &amp; MAINTENANCE</b>				
Mortgage	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,875.00
Insurance	0.00	3,683.00	3,755.60	3,575.00
Electricity	77.10	958.52	1,075.54	1,100.00
Water & Sewer	45.90	463.08	446.13	458.37
Fuel	89.71	2,612.23	2,233.33	3,208.37
Janitorial Supplies	47.50	101.56	283.99	458.37
Snow Removal	0.00	1,680.00	671.50	2,000.00
Repairs/Maintenance	353.67	5,161.91	967.20	4,583.37
Landscaping Services	74.10	1,634.00	1,559.90	1,512.50
Subtotal Building & Maintenance	687.98	16,294.30	10,993.19	23,770.98

Lutheran Church of the Resurrection

**Income and Expense Statement**

Consolidated - November 2017

	Current Period	Year to Date	YTD Prior Year	Year to Date Bud
<b>COMMITTEES</b>				
<b>EVANGELISM</b>				
Reformation 500	847.27	2,199.83	0.00	0.00
Newspapers	42.00	635.58	653.94	0.00
Other Advertising	0.00	250.00	0.00	0.00
Subtotal Evangelism	889.27	3,085.41	653.94	0.00
<b>WORSHIP</b>				
Worship Supplies	277.66	545.51	946.31	458.37
Flowers	50.00	785.88	838.11	229.13
Music	26.11	106.11	122.16	91.63
Offering Envelopes	0.00	167.45	162.39	183.37
Subtotal Worship	353.77	1,604.95	2,068.97	962.50
<b>CHRISTIAN EDUCATION</b>				
Sunday School	0.00	585.40	958.35	779.13
Adult Bible Study	0.00	101.17	247.38	229.13
Book Sales	0.00	181.68	386.68	0.00
Publications	0.00	683.50	1,017.35	916.63
Subtotal Christian Education	0.00	1,551.75	2,609.76	1,924.89
<b>BOARD FOR YOUTH</b>				
Primary Youth Group	50.00	50.00	0.00	0.00
Board for Youth	0.00	0.00	201.04	275.00
Sr. Youth Group	150.00	1,821.20	4,679.64	825.00
Subtotal Board For Youth	200.00	1,871.20	4,880.68	1,100.00
<b>FELLOWSHIP</b>				
Kitchen Supplies	137.97	729.37	405.47	550.00
<b>SOCIAL MINISTRY</b>				
Social Min. / Benev. Fund	0.00	0.00	200.00	0.00
<b>BOARD FOR MISSIONS</b>				
District Support	849.00	8,807.52	7,878.55	8,508.50
Missions	720.00	5,317.82	8,721.92	17,017.88
Seminary Student	250.00	3,750.00	4,500.00	0.00
Hope Lutheran Church	200.00	2,800.00	4,600.00	0.00
Scholarship Fund	0.00	0.00	2,895.00	0.00
Subtotal Board For Missions	2,019.00	20,675.34	28,595.47	25,526.38
Subtotal Committees	3,600.01	29,518.02	39,414.29	30,063.77
<b>OCCASIONAL EXPENSES</b>				
District Convention	5.00	245.75	214.00	229.13
Non-Budgeted Expenses	0.00	0.00	407.00	0.00
Organ interest	0.00	0.00	120.47	91.63
Interest on LCEF - Sanct.	99.93	1,655.28	2,414.86	0.00
Memorial Gifts	0.00	0.00	607.00	0.00
Organ Loan Interest	0.00	0.00	75.64	0.00
Subtotal Occasional Expenses	104.93	1,901.03	3,838.97	320.76
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>15,299.96</b>	<b>166,277.04</b>	<b>167,381.33</b>	<b>178,960.52</b>
<b>EXCESS INCOME/EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$2,132.22</b>	<b>\$20,888.67</b>	<b>\$19,548.46</b>	<b>\$291.85</b>

# **Lutheran Church of the Resurrection**

## **Board for Missions**

### **2017 Annual Report**

- The board held regular monthly meetings throughout the year. Going forward in 2018, the board has planned to meet quarterly and for special meetings, as needed.
- In September, Amanda Goldsmith stepped down as the board's chairperson to pursue working with her children's school board and remain the Church Council secretary.
- In September, Michelle Hein accepted the offer of becoming the board's chairperson.

#### **BFM Sponsored Events**

- January 15 the board invited the church to celebrate in Sanctity of Life Sunday. A special collection taken, which was donated to the Lutheran's for Life ministry and tiny foot lapel pins were given out. \$165.00 was collected in donations.
- In February, we celebrated Missions Sunday with a visit from Rev. Charles St. Onge, along with his wife Deborah and daughter's Olivia and Sophia. Pastor St. Onge in the area facilitator for Cayman Islands, Jamaica and Puerto Rico. He is also the mission pastor of Ascension Lutheran Church in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, working with French-, English- and Chinese-worshipping communities. The board hosted a dinner on Saturday evening at the church in honor of the St. Onge family arrival. Pastor St. Onge spoke at Adult Bible study on his work in the missions' ministry and also led the sermon during Sunday worship. The church donated \$1,000 through the LCMS Missions Fund for the St. Onge's ministry.
- Throughout October and November, children's pajamas donations were collected for the Maine Children's Home of Waterville, to donate to their annual Children's Christmas Giving. Over 40 pajamas were collected.
- The Children's Sunday School donated canned foods for Thanksgiving bags throughout October and November. Other food items and recycled bags were donated from other church families and BFM funds. The Sunday before Thanksgiving, each Children's Sunday School group filled 15 bags with food, along with a special Bible verse of Thanksgiving.
- Board members were asked to review the BFM giving guidelines and to provide any suggestions for changes that may consider by the congregation at the Church's annual Congregational Meeting. In November, the board considered all the suggestions made and came up with the following items for the congregations' consideration.

## The Board for Missions Proposed Changes to the Giving Guidelines

- **Section 5: Proposed Giving Percentage Adjustment** (*Suggested adjustments would put the board's future giving more in line with its historical giving in recent years.*)
  - ❖ Evangelical Missions giving to 70% (Currently 80%)
  - ❖ Social Missions giving to 30% (Currently 20%)
  
- **Section 5: Wording Change Proposal**
  - ❖ **Current:** "The distribution of the total mission giving between the two broad categories [shall be determined by the Church Council at the beginning of each year."]
  - ❖ **Proposed Change:** "The distribution of the total mission giving between the two broad categories [shall be determined by the voting members at the congregation at the annual meeting."]
  - ❖ **Proposed Addition:** "*In the absence of a vote by members of the congregation, the distribution of the total missions giving between the herein.*"
  
- **Section 9: Wording Change Proposal**
  - ❖ **Current:** "Distributions shall be made regularly and reconciled against goals and budgets quarterly."
  - ❖ **Proposed Change:** "The board will provide a quarterly report to the church council, which shall include the monthly donations paid out, and meeting minutes."
  - ❖ **Proposed Addition:** "In the month the board's quarterly report is submitted to the church council for approval, the board chair or a representative of the board, shall attend the monthly church council meeting."
  - ❖ **Proposed Addition:** "Upon acceptance from the church council, the board's quarterly report will be made available to the congregation for review."

## **Board for Missions Remaining Giving Requests for 2017**

- ❖ \$1,000 to CURE, a Christian, non-profit organization that helps the children of several African countries, Afghanistan, Dominican Republic and the Philippines receive medical care. Dr. Benjamin Warf, who recently performed surgery on our own Nathanael Batson, has developed a shuntless treatment for hydrocephalus and has established a hospital in Uganda, which specializes in neurosurgery. Most of the hospitals established by Cure specialize in a specific area, from clubfoot surgery, to cleft lip and palate surgery. The board recommends our church donate \$1,000, which will cover the costs of one surgery for a child.
- ❖ \$250 to Josh Radki, a Hope Lutheran member and current seminary student.
- ❖ \$200 Christmas gift to Grant Sorenson, our current Fort Wayne Seminary student the church is supporting.
- ❖ \$1,000 to Lutheran Heritage Foundation – translate and print books of the Lutheran faith, which are provided to people around the world in their own languages.
- ❖ \$1,000 to the LCMS missionary work of Rev. St. Onge. Rev. St. Onge and his family visited LCR in February 2017. Given the recent storm damage in area's Rev. St. Onge helps facilitate, such as Puerto Rico, the board recommends this donation.
- ❖ \$50 to purchase kids band aids to be donated to the Maine Children's Cancer Program.
- ❖ \$250 to be earmarked for the January 2018 Lutheran's for Life fund raiser.
- ❖ Remaining Balance: After the BFM's current monthly commitments for November and December 2017 are met, and other approved donating is met, the board recommends the balance of mission funds for 2017 be split between donations to scholarships for future seminarians and deaconesses.

**Report of the Elders  
Annual Meeting – 12/10/17**

**I. Concerning the Membership of The Lutheran Church of the Resurrection in 2016:**

There were 6 new members received into membership

- Eleanor Keefe - by Baptism
- Alarick Morris – by Transfer
- Rev. Robert and Vary Fischer – by Transfer
- Cindy Davis – by Adult Confirmation
- Therese Carter – by Adult Confirmation

There were 4 members released from membership

- Bonnie Mathieu – Death
- Jon and Karen Morren – Transfer
- Corina Batson Wilson – Transfer

The membership of the congregation currently stands as follows:

- There are baptized members 125
- There are confirmed members 112
- There are children 24
- There are family units. 55

Concerning the Worship Attendance of the congregation:

- Average Sunday worship attendance for the year through November is 65

**II. Concerning the work of the Board of Elders in 2017:**

## 2017 LCR Trustee Report

2017 was a much quieter year for the Trustees. We had the parking lot sealed and lined which is good for three years. We had the old water heater (20+ years) replaced over the summer.

Emily Larsen, along with assistance from her sister Elizabeth when she is on break from college, took on the responsibility of the weekly cleaning of the Church.

The replacement of lights in the upstairs hallway has been completed.

A big thank you to Tom Huesers who keeps a keen eye out for things that need to be taken care of around the Church. His efforts, from installing programmable thermostats and timed lights to repairing the boiler in a pinch, have saved the Church a significant sum of money over the last few years.

The next big project on the horizon will be consideration of paving the parking lot and/or expanding if need be.

One final thank you to everyone who pitches in and takes care of little projects that need to be done. For example, Mother Nature took a tree down during the fall storm. Ken Zahner jumped right in and cleaned up the downed tree, eliminating a problem for the future. It is very much appreciated and doesn't go unnoticed. All of us working together keeps the building in immaculate shape.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mark Larsen

## Reformation 500 Committee Report (11/29/2017)

### Post-events Summary

To help the church celebrate the 500th anniversary of Luther's nailing of his 95 theses to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany, the Lutheran Church of the Resurrection (LCR) in Waterville, Maine planned and conducted the following events:

1. Outdoor banners declaring the year as a 500th anniversary of the Reformation were purchased and hung. The banners stated:

"REFORMATION 2017 - AFTER 500 YEARS IT'S STILL ALL ABOUT JESUS"

Three banners were purchased and installed in the early Spring. One was hung across the front gable of the church and two, one on each side, were hung under the church sign. These banners were purchased and donated by Becky and Moe Cote.

2. An adult education class, open to the public, was taught by Pastor Nielsen. The course was offered at Waterville High School on three consecutive Wednesdays from September 27 through October 11 from 7 p.m. until 8:30 p.m.

An average of 40 students were in attendance for each of the three sessions.

About one third of the students were not members of LCR.

Cost to the congregation: \$55.75 to SBS Carbon Copy for brochures

3. The new Luther movie "Martin Luther: The Idea that Changed the World" was screened at the Railroad Square Cinema in Waterville, Maine on Saturday, October 28th at 4:30 p.m. A five dollar admission fee was charged to offset the \$450.00 rental of the theater. The theater could accommodate 90 patrons.

Sixty people viewed the film and brought in \$300.00. The cost to the congregation's budget was \$150.00

4. A special ecumenical, lessons and chorales, service was planned for Reformation Sunday, October 29th. The Order of Matins was used (no communion). A brass quartet enhanced the musical offerings to the congregation. Rick Dostie (the church organist) provided additional special music. The sermon focused on the Reformation and the fact that salvation is freely given to all through the grace of God's love alone. All members of the congregation were given special invitations to be used to invite friends, neighbors and family. The altar was adorned with enhanced bouquets of flowers in red to compliment the paraments.

A beautiful, musical Reformation service was conducted and attended by more than 80 people.

Costs to the congregation: brass ensemble - \$600 (\$150 for each of four musicians), flowers - none, the florist's bill of \$399.85 was paid by a parishioner.

5. A celebratory banquet of German themed food was offered immediately after the service accompanied by an Oompah band. The hall was appropriately decorated and set up

began the day before.

The following menu was offered: Bratwurst, sauerkraut, German potato salad, spaetzle, rolls, pretzels, and hot apple cider followed by apple strudel and vanilla ice cream. Servings for 120 were planned, tables for 112 were set up in the basement fellowship hall of the church, and more than 90 people actually attended. A small gift and a Reformation pamphlet was placed at each place setting. Katie and Tom Huesers, Lee Anne Larsen, and Sharon and Dan Callahan were kitchen help. Julie and Sara Kohl, Emily Larsen, and Megan and Jake Huesers were servers.

Costs to the congregation:

Decorations, plates, service and napkins - Katie Huesers - \$462.00

Small gifts from Concordia Publishing House - \$371.81

Picture boards - Don Pryor, \$50.00

Apple strudel - Rev. Nielsen, \$145.80

Oompah band - \$300.00 donation to the Shiner's Children's Hospital plus

\$90.00 for travel expenses.

Food donations:

Bratwurst, and condiments - Sharon and Dan Callahan

Spaetzle - Lyn Rowden and Emily Founier

Pretzels - Katie Huesers

Potato salad - Sharon Klipp, Avis Grant, Amanda Goldsmith, Katie Heusers and

Hope Lutheran Church of Bangor

Sauerkraut - Becky Cote, Dorthy McAllister, David Leigh, and Lee Anne Larsen,

Lois Doran, and Pat Kablitz

Rolls - Sharon Conover, Mike and Michelle Hein, Vesta Holt, Krys and Kathy

Paules

Ice cream - Michelle and Mike Hein, Theresa Carter, Cindy Davis, Anna Rowe,

Katie Heusers

Apple Cider - Katie Huesers, Pastor and Deb Nielsen, Sharon and Dan

Callahan

6. Local newspapers and TV stations were asked to interview Pastor Nielsen to discuss the importance of this anniversary of the Reformation and advertise the activities that the church (LCR) was undertaking.

An interview was conducted and an article was produced in the local newspaper (The Morning Sentinel) a little more than one week before Reformation Sunday. The Bangor TV station WABI was contacted, but no other action was taken by the station.

7. A special Vacation Bible School will be offered. The committee will coordinate and staff a one week VBS session with a focus on the Reformation. This project will be initiated in the early spring of 2018 and the committee will work to ensure that it is offered in the summer.

Special thanks to all the people listed above for giving of their time, talents and food donations, and to Christine Thomas for jumping in and lending a helping hand wherever it was needed, to The Proper Pig (Amy and Fred Ouellette) for the extra tables and chairs, to Mark Larsen for set-up, break-down and cleanup, to all the others like Sharon Conover, Brian and Andrea Watson, Deb Nielsen and many more who helped with clean-up, to Don Pryor for

his photography, to Michelle Hein for creating and posting the sign-up sheet and again to Katie Heusers for being my right-hand woman and my all-around go to person for what needed to be done!

The Committee was given a budget of \$2500.00. Including a \$25.00 miscellaneous reimbursement, the total expenditure for FY2017 was \$2,250.36.

Soli Deo Gloria

Dan Callahan

# **Lutheran Church of the Resurrection**

## **Mission Giving Guidelines**

**May, 2010**

### **Purpose:**

The purpose of establishing guidelines for the disbursement of Mission Giving is to ensure consistency and good stewardship in our efforts. As representatives of the congregation, we are accountable for making sure valuable gifts and offerings are used responsibly and in support of our mission to "Open Hearts Through The Message Of Christ Crucified." As these are only guidelines, the Church Council may make exceptions to them. These guidelines are also intended to encourage growth in our giving and as the congregation grows. It is expected that they will require updating. These guidelines are not intended to replace prudent decision making. Therefore, all Mission Gifts will continue to require approval at one of the monthly Church Council meetings.

### **Guidelines for our Mission Giving:**

1. Currently and for the next several years, funding for Mission Giving was pledged by the voting members of the congregation at the January 2007 annual meeting. The pledge was to set aside ten percent of general gifts and offerings toward Mission Giving for 2007 and increase by one percent every year until 15% of general gifts and offerings is reached in 2012. Starting with 2013 and every year thereafter, the voting members of the congregation shall pledge a percentage of the year's General Offerings (general gifts, loose offerings, general envelope offerings, and general Sunday school offerings) for Mission Giving. One hundred percent of designated gifts and offerings shall be used as the giver or givers intended and are not to be considered as a part of the pledge toward Mission Giving. Likewise, if a designated gift or offering is received and it is designated for Mission Giving, it shall not count towards the pledge but shall be added to the funds that result from the pledge on general gifts and offerings. This may result in a higher percentage of Mission Giving than was pledged by the congregation for that year.

2. In the spirit of faithful, scriptural giving, the percentage pledged to Mission Giving shall come from the "first fruits" of LCR's general offerings and not be affected by shortfalls in the LCR yearly budget. Therefore, examples of items in our annual church budget that are excluded from funding through Mission Giving are:

- a. Corporate worship and Bible study: worship services, Bible study groups, Sunday school, confirmation classes, etc.
- b. Congregational evangelism and outreach: media advertising, Crosstalk CD, Inquires Class, personal invitations and witness, etc.
- c. Building and maintenance: everything involved in maintaining an attractive, inviting, clean, safe, and functional church facility.
- d. Faith and life groups: LWML, men's group, mom's group, dad's group, youth group, prayer group, etc.

3. Gift requests shall qualify if they fall within two broad categories: Social Ministry and Evangelism.

- **Social Ministry:**

This is giving to agencies, groups or individuals for the support of the physical body. It addresses Christ's care for all people and their physical needs in this world. As such, support may be given without regard to religious or doctrinal affiliation or beliefs.

- **Evangelism:**

This is giving to agencies, groups, or individuals for the support and advancement of the Gospel. It addresses Christ's desire for all to be saved through the preaching and spread of the Gospel and for everyone's spiritual life in this world and eternity. Since the teaching and proclamation of the Gospel supports and advances the Kingdom of God only when it is done in accord with the Scriptures, we should support only those agencies, groups and individuals whose evangelism relates closely to Lutheran Church Missouri Synod doctrine.

4. The following are examples of common requests that do not fall under the broad categories of Evangelism and Social Ministry. Therefore, they should not be funded from Mission Giving.

- a. Donations to political parties, candidates and referendums.
- b. Donations to for-profit entities.
- c. Donations to athletic teams.
- d. Donations to school programs.
- e. Donations to fraternal organizations.
- f. Advertising.

5. The distribution of the total mission giving between the two broad categories shall be determined by the Church Council at the beginning of each year. The historical distribution, up to and including the year 2010, has been:

- a. Social Ministry: 20%
- b. Evangelism: 80%

6. Within each broad category, the Church Council should consider the distribution to "local" versus "global" agencies, groups or individuals. The historical distribution, up to and including 2010, has been:

- a. Social Ministry:
  - Local: 85%
  - Global 15%
- b. Evangelism:
  - Local 20% (Hope Lutheran Church, Bangor)
  - Global: 80%

7. The church council shall act as the oversight committee for Mission Giving and distributions.

8. Every attempt should be made to distribute the funds within the year that they were pledged.

9. Distributions shall be made regularly and reconciled against goals and budgets quarterly.

10. A commitment or gift to an agency, group or individual shall not extend beyond one year. The recipient must reapply for the gift and the Council must vote on renewing the gift each year.

11. Each gift shall be measured against the following:
  - a. Does the request align with our mission to “Open Hearts Through The Message Of Christ Crucified”?
  - b. Does the request fall under Evangelism or Social Ministry?
  - c. If it falls under Evangelism, does it closely agree with LCMS doctrine?
  - d. Is an LCR member sponsoring the request?
  - e. When is the money needed and will the funds be available within the needed time frame?
  - f. Specifically, how will the gift be used?
  - g. How is the need documented?
  - h. Does the amount of the request match the need?
  - i. Should the request be only partially funded and/or involve a shared commitment?
  - j. How will the gift be acknowledged and followed up?

12. Disbursements:

Once gifts have been approved by the Church Council, advance notice should be given to recipients. This should be by personal contact or telephone call and not by letter or email so that there is confirmed notification. Recipients should be informed of the gift amount and the specific work for which it was approved, based on the recipient's request. Recipients should also be informed that we would greatly appreciate a brief, written description of how the gift was used and the outcome of the project in order to share the information with our congregation.

*The above document as been adopted by the Church Council of the congregation at its May, 2010 meeting.*