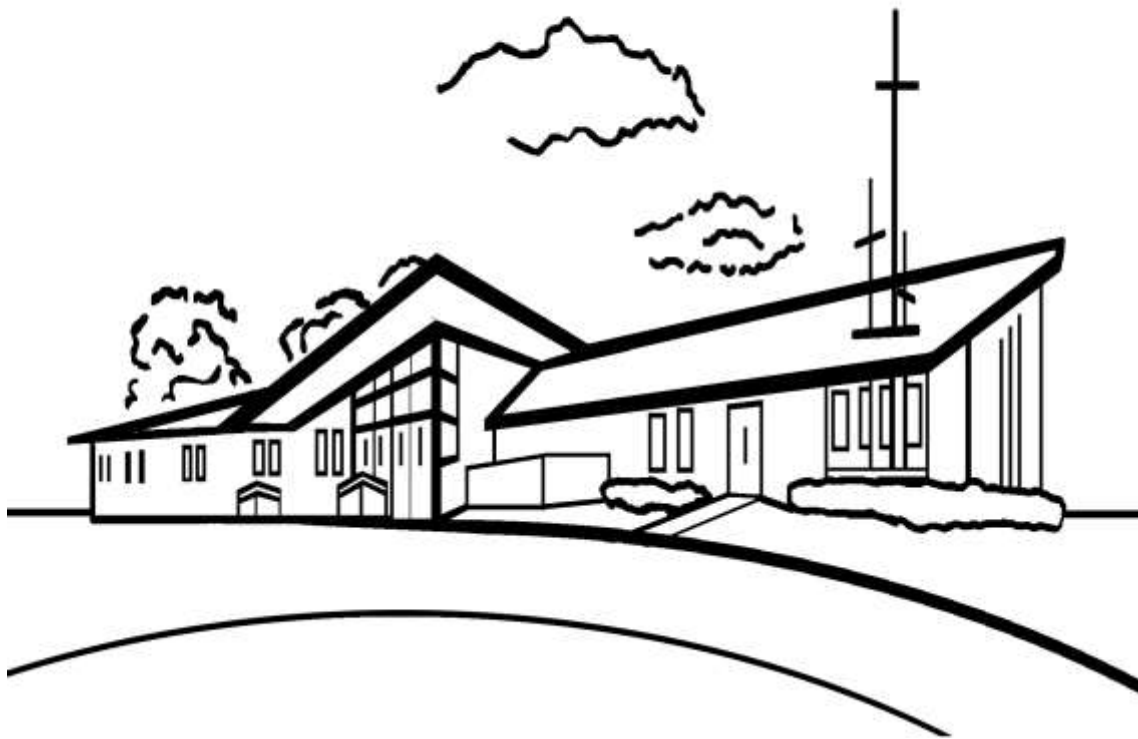


**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**Columbus, WI 53925**  
**2013 ANNUAL REPORT**



**Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.**

**Hebrews 11:1**

ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA  
January 26, 2014 - 9:30am.

1. Gathering Song
2. Meeting Called to Order by President . . . . . Scott Mathwich
3. Scripture and Prayer. . . . . Pastor Moberg
4. Minutes of 2013 Annual Meeting . . . . . Scott Mathwich
5. Nominating Committee Report . . . . . Pastor Moberg
6. Election of 2014 Faith Council
7. Election of 2014 Endowment Fund Committee
8. Election of 2014 Synod Assembly Voting Members
9. Election of 2014 Nominating Committee
10. Pastor's Report . . . . . Pastor Moberg, Pastor Nelson
11. Statistical Report . . . . . Pastor Moberg
12. President's Report . . . . . Scott Mathwich
13. Treasurer's Report . . . . . Wendy Corlett
14. Faith Projects Report . . . . . Wendy Corlett
15. Committee Reports:
  - Evangelism Committee . . . . . Joyce Lienke
  - Multimedia Ministry Committee. . . . . Troy Tadych
  - Property Committee . . . . . Scott Mathwich, Todd Morris
  - Social Ministry . . . . . Jennifer Herzberg
  - Stewardship. . . . . Scott Mathwich
  - Sunday School . . . . . Melody Tadych, Kati Kahl
16. Other Reports:
  - Altar Guild . . . . . Julie Sennehn
  - Church Ladies Ministry. . . . . Ruth Nordal
  - Endowment Fund. . . . . Sara Yuds
  - Faith Lutheran Church Women . . . . . Reta Thies, Becky Stark
  - Finance Process Audit Report. . . . . Betsy Woodward
  - Youth League Report. . . . . Pam Larson, Ruth Nordal
17. Presentation and Approval of 2014 Spending Plan
18. Nominations for Audit of 2013 Books
19. Unfinished Business
20. New Business
21. Closing Prayer
22. Adjournment of the Annual Meeting

Current and newly elected council members will meet briefly after adjournment.

Faith Lutheran Church – Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes for January 27, 2013  
“Serving God and Serving People”

Attendees sang the gathering song “Shine, Jesus, Shine” to signal the start to the 2012 annual meeting. The annual meeting was called to order at 9:30 by Council President Scott Mathwich. 50 members were in attendance. Pastor Bob Moberg led devotions and prayer.

**APPROVAL OF 2011 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES:**

**Motion made by Joyce Lienke and seconded by Denny Langfeldt to approve the 2011 annual meeting minutes as submitted from January 22, 2012. Motion carried by voice vote.**

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT: (Nancy Patrick, Dennis Sampolinski, and Pat Schellin counted votes)**

An error was noted in the Nominating Committee Report shown in the Annual Report. Pete Kaland's name was not listed.

Church Council: Nominees are Larry Haseman, Jenny Herzberg, and Todd Morris.

**Motion made by Joyce Lienke and seconded by Joanne Sampson to nominate Lisa Sebranek from the floor.**

**Motion made by Dennis Sampolinski and seconded by Erin Bussian to close nominations.**

**Motion carried by voice vote.**

Elected to Church Council by ballot vote: Jenny Herzberg, Todd Morris, and Lisa Sebranek.

Endowment Fund: Nominees are Erin Bussian, DeAnn Gaska, Emogene Johnson, Pete Kaland and Reta Thies.

**Motion made by Henry Elling and seconded by Todd Morris to close nominations.**

**Motion carried by voice vote.**

Elected to Endowment Fund by ballot vote: Erin Bussian, DeAnn Gaska, and Pete Kaland.

Synod Assembly: Nominee for female delegate is Sandy Schieble. An error was noted in the Nominating Committee Report shown in the Annual Report. Sandy Schieble's name was not listed. Sandy did, however, accept the nomination prior to the meeting, and her name was listed on the ballot. An error was also noted on the ballot with Derek Berget's name shown as the male delegate nominee. Derek previously declined nomination (and his name was not shown on the Nominating Committee Report).

**Motion made by Maizie Anthon and seconded by Todd Morris to nominate Henry Elling as male delegate from the floor. Motion carried by voice vote.**

**Motion made by Pat Sullivan and seconded Dennis Sampolinski to close nominations.**

**Motion carried by voice vote.**

**Motion made by Dennis Sampolinski and seconded Bev O'Brion to cast a unanimous ballot for Sandy Schieble and Henry Elling as delegates for Synod Assembly. Motion carried by voice vote.**

Nominating Committee: All nominations were made from the floor.

**Motion made by Ed Schellin to nominate Maizie Anthon.**

**Motion made by Al Strohschein to nominate Pat Sullivan.**  
**Motion made by Al Strohschein to nominate Joyce Lienke.**  
**Motion made by Ruth Nordal to nominate Sarah Yuds.**  
**Motion made by Pat Sullivan to nominate Al Strohschein.**  
**Motion made by Judy Sullivan and seconded by Joanne Sampson to close nominations.**  
**Motion carried by voice vote.**  
**Motion made by Larry Haseman and seconded by Brian Patrick to cast a unanimous ballot for Maizie Anthon, Pat Sullivan, Joyce Lienke, Sarah Yuds, and Al Strohschein to the nominating committee. Motion carried by voice vote.**

**Pastor Bob's Report:** Focused on the success of Unbinding The Gospel.

**Pastor Lisa's Report:** Focused on the success of Unbinding The Gospel, Unbinding Your Heart and the upcoming Unbinding Your Soul.

**2012 Statistical Report and Ministerial Acts (Pastor Bob):** Corrections to the reports on page 12 and page 14:

2012 Baptized Members should be: 743, not 747.

2012 Confirmed Members should be: 547, not 539.

Fritz Price needs to be added to the list of those passing.

Average attendance is 22.2% as compared with 20% from 2011.

Joyce Lienke asked if confirmation students are required to attend church. Pastor Bob indicated that they must submit 15 sermon reports per year.

**President's Report:** In addition to the report on page 10, President Scott explained the action of the Synod to grant Faith Lutheran Church covenant process exemption from the Synod's membership model. Pastor Bob represented our congregation at synod council meetings to help in the process.

**Treasurer's Report:** No questions/comments.

**Faith Projects:** Wendy/Betsy fielded questions on Faith Projects. President Scott also explained the new line item for Sabbatical Leave. Pastor Bob, Pastor Lisa and CRLM Sandy Schieble are eligible for Sabbatical leaves for up to three months. Faith is responsible to pay full salary and benefits during the sabbatical and must pay extra staff for pastoral coverage during this time. The latter, (paying for extra coverage), is the intention of the budgeted funds. The congregation is not responsible to pay for the destination fee but can sponsor if desired.

**Committee Reports:**

**Motion made by Dennis Sampolinski and seconded by Joanne Sampson to accept committee reports as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.**

**Other Committee Reports:**

**Motion made by Joanne Sampson and seconded by Joyce Lienke to accept other committee reports as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.**

**2013 Spending Plan:** Wendy/Betsy fielded questions on the 2013 spending plan.

**Motion made by Ed Schellin and seconded by Gene Boelte to approve the 2013 spending plan as proposed. Motion carried by voice vote.**

**Election of 2012 Congregational Audit Committee:** Betsy explained the review of financial procedures and policies being done by a CPA firm. The review will provide guidelines for congregational audit, but not before 2012 is needed. Wendy will provide suggestions on the 2012 audit until recommendations are completed by the CPA firms.

**Motion made by Pastor Bob to nominate Amy and Kyle Kary as 2012 auditors.**

**Motion made by Brian Patrick to nominate Dennis Sampolinski as 2012 auditor. Dennis declined.**

**Motion made by Pat Sullivan to nominate Judy Sullivan as 2012 auditor.**

**Motion made by Al Strohschein and seconded by Ed Schellin to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Amy Kary, Kyle Kary, and Judy Sullivan as 2012 auditors.**

**Motion carried by voice vote.**

Henry Elling thanked Wendy Corlett and Betsy Woodward for their work on finances during 2012.

**Unfinished business from 2011 meeting:** None

**New business from 2012 meeting:**

Scott mentioned that this year's non-binding survey is open to all members whether in attendance at the annual meeting or not.

Ed Schellin asked the status of performance evaluations for paid staff. Scott answered that there currently is no program and no plan for undertaking the multi-year effort. The Council addressed this question and considered the issue. Scott also told the Congregation that we won't have a program unless there are volunteers from the floor. Al Strohschein spoke on behalf of staff support to explain that the committee revised their committee role during 2012 and removed the requirement for performance evaluations from the committee. The committee did not feel qualified to do the evaluations. Al also said the committee felt very strongly that they were "sounding boards." Ed asked if other churches in the synod have similar evaluation programs and Pastor Bob was not aware of any. New members are encouraged to join staff support and performance evaluations can be reintroduced by anyone who will take the lead on introducing the program.

Al complimented Melody/Troy Taydych and their extended committee for their work on the Scrip program.

Al complimented Scott on his leadership.

Denny Langfeldt raised concern about the potential misunderstanding of the church's covenant process and the 18 members lost to inactivity. Pastor Bob stated that the purpose of the Covenant is to avoid attendance, giving, and communion standards to maintain voting membership. He said the design of the Covenant is to put the onus back on the members – have them tell the church they are or are not members and not the other way around. Joyce Lienke said that letters sent to inactive members are kind

and caring. Lyle Sampson said the Covenant system was the first thing Faith founding members did when they began organizing Faith Lutheran. The intent was not for us to judge them. If individuals want to be a member of our organization, they sign in.

Meeting adjourned at 11:02.

Respectfully submitted,  
Betsy Woodward, Council Secretary

## PASTOR BOB'S REPORT 2013

Sometimes the very same scripture passages that are the most comforting promises can also be the most challenging demands. Here is a case in point from Matthew 6:

*25 'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink,\* or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?*

*31Therefore do not worry, saying, "What will we eat?" or "What will we drink?" or "What will we wear?" 32For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. 33But strive first for the kingdom of God\* and his\* righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.*

The same temptations that get us to worry about ourselves – all the needs for material things and the worries about whether we will have enough – also tempt us as a church. There has never been a time for any church anywhere, that the temptation to be anxious and afraid about what tomorrow might bring has been far away.

But, praise the Lord, lately we have been struggling harder against that temptation at Faith. This must be God's doing, but I believe the channel of his working has been through renewal that has come through our "Unbinding" experiences. Look at the write ups in this Annual Report from congregational president, Scott Mathwich, and from Pr. Lisa. There you will read a real spirit of renewal and excitement and hope about what God is doing at Faith Lutheran Church.

Look also at the spending plan that the Finance Committee and the Congregation Council are proposing to you for a vote at this meeting. For the first time in a number of years it is a "growth budget". The Finance Committee has called it "a holy experiment".

The reason for the existence of the church is that it is to do ministry. It is to spend itself in the effort. It is called to believe that God is more than an incidental part of its life! The church is called to teach – and to live – trust in the grace and faithfulness of God.

In these verses from Matthew, Jesus seems to be saying that if our focus as individuals, or as a church, is the "food & clothing" of material success; then that is all we will achieve. And not even that is guaranteed, since clearly even the "gentiles" who struggle for those things don't always achieve them. And we will be on our own in the scramble to be materially successful.

But the promise – and the challenge – is this: If we put the things of the Kingdom of God first then God will bless us spiritually, AND materially.

Well, we will have to do our part. Stewardship and prayer and worship and serving are all spiritual exercises. And exercise takes work. But when we set our priorities to God's kingdom we don't work alone.

I can see the blessings unfolding. I am excited. I am grateful to you. I am grateful to God.

In Christ,  
Pr. Bob

## PASTOR LISA'S REPORT 2013

### Unbinding the Gospel results:

Many people took their faith journeys deeper through this Unbinding the Gospel experience. Our goal was to have people invite and bring their friends and acquaintances to discussion groups this fall. That proved more challenging than we imagined. What we, along with other congregations in our synod, learned is that there needs to be step before that--something less intimidating than a discussion group on faith.

We discovered that it's easier to invite people to events that are not "religious," such as the spaghetti supper and Fur, Fin, and Feathers. People are more likely to attend a function like that than a discussion about God and faith. There are many people who resist religious functions for whatever reason, and many who just can't bring themselves to walk through the church's door.

Because of this, we hope to have more events outside of the church building. The concert on the lawn, which the youth sponsored last September, brought together a great mix of Faith members and others. I would love to see us have a hot dog lunch on our lawn at the end of the school year and invite the neighborhood and community. Just getting people onto our lawn would be a great accomplishment!

One of the greatest results of Unbinding the Gospel has been the way our members are greeting guests at our worship services. Part of your work on Sunday morning includes helping new folks feel welcome. Please consider inviting someone you don't know to join you for fellowship on Sunday. Not many new folks are brave enough to walk into the fellowship hall alone.

We had 7 family units join Faith in 2013 and there are already more who want to join now. Many of these families include children, who are now actively involved in Sunday School or confirmation. We have 37 young people in confirmation and 8 great, adult mentors! Thank you to our confirmation mentors, Sunday School teachers and helpers and our great, Sunday School coordinators!

Having children makes it easy for new folks to get involved in a congregation. It's harder to get involved without the need for children's Christian education. Another result of Unbinding the Gospel is the desire for more, small group ministries. We hope that these small groups will make it easier for all people to get involved at Faith.

Soon to be unveiled is "Small Group Ministry Bags." These bags will be similar to what you might find at the library, with 10 of the same book to read and discuss in a small group. Or a video that you can watch and discuss in a small group. Just check out a bag, choose a time and place to meet, and invite others to join you. If you have other ideas for small groups, please let one of the staff know.

Meanwhile, keep praying for Faith. Prayer makes things happen! It is only through the Holy Spirit that we are who we are. And I'm excited to see what the Holy Spirit will be up to in 2014!



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2013

It is an awesome opportunity to serve on the Church Council of a church as dynamic as Faith Lutheran. I highly recommend you try it at some point in your Christian walk. You will experience many different aspects of church operations, some of which you have experience with and some of which you will depend on others. Council meetings with ten voting members plus two Pastors and the occasional guest are always interesting. Some Council meetings have short agendas and some meetings have long agendas. Some agenda topics are quick and seemingly easy consensus decisions, some take a few months, some take a special task force to work through and some get talked about over and over and then, just drop off.

Faith Lutheran is blessed with many active members. We support our internal ministries that help us live our Christian lives and we are involved with external missions that are outside of our reach to help Christians, and those we hope to become Christians. We changes lives! As challenges and opportunities arise, we address them. Remember the Christian music band in the parking lot this past summer? That was both a challenge and an opportunity! That event was really cool, (*thanks Pam*).

Do we have some things to think about? Yes we do. Even though we have excellent properties of the church and parsonage, both buildings are starting to show their age. The church carpet and the parsonage roof fascia boards are examples. Then there is the question if it is time to study the church capacity so we remain an inviting place for the school year, Christmas, Easter and the next building boom for our geographic area. We will soon have the results of the Finance process audit, which will confirm what we are doing and offer improvement ideas. Also, our church Constitution will soon be due for an update to remain current with ELCA and Synod guidelines and for our own operations. By the later I am referring to our current committee structure which leads to our Council structure. We name nine committees, but only half of the committees are realistically functioning, so perhaps we should reorganize or reduce the number of committees. None of these things are reasons to fret, but we should recognize that they are out there.

Prior to serving on Council, I was a Sunday School teacher. Teaching or helping with Sunday School motivates you, helps with your spiritual growth and also helps you study the Bible. With the Bible and the book, "*Purpose Driven Life*", I didn't think I really needed much more inspirational/motivational Christian book- learning. However, in the last three years I have read "*Rich Church Poor Church*" and two of the "*Unbinding*" books. Those books illustrate some of the challenges the Christian church faces and offers solutions to address them. Since we are part of the Christian church, these types of books speak to us personally as well. Obviously, there are many Christian books out there and I hope you find some that "*work*" for you. Maybe these do. Continued learning is an opportunity not to pass up.

Serving you on Council as Secretary and then as your President has been an important, interesting and a memorable chapter in my walk. Thank you.

Respectfully,  
Scott Mathwich

**STATISTICAL REPORT**  
as of December 31, 2013

| <b>MEMBERSHIP</b>                                | <b>2010</b> | <b>2011</b> | <b>2012</b> | <b>2013</b> |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Baptized Members                                 | 749         | 748         | 743         | 757         |
| Confirmed Members                                | 548         | 541         | 547         | 552         |
| <i>All confirmed members are voting members.</i> |             |             |             |             |
|  |             |             |             |             |
| <b>ACCESSIONS</b>                                |             |             |             |             |
| By Baptism                                       | 18          | 7           | 14          | 12          |
| By Transfer                                      | 3           | 2           | 14          | 8           |
| By Affirmation of Faith                          | <u>17</u>   | <u>5</u>    | <u>7</u>    | <u>11</u>   |
|  | 38          | 14          | 35          | 31          |
|  |             |             |             |             |
| <b>LOSSES</b>                                    |             |             |             |             |
| By Transfer                                      | 4           | 6           | 0           | 5           |
| By Death   | 5           | 5           | 3           | 5           |
| By Inactivity                                    | 15          | 3           | 18          | 7           |
| Moved from Area                                  | <u>9</u>    | <u>1</u>    | <u>20</u>   | <u>0</u>    |
|  | 33          | 15          | 40          | 17          |
|  |             |             |             |             |
| <b>GAIN IN MEMBERSHIP</b>                        |             |             |             |             |
| Baptized   | -5          | -2          | -5          | +14         |
| Confirmed  | -10         | -7          | -2          | +5          |
|  |             |             |             |             |
| <b>SERVICES</b>                                  |             |             |             |             |
| Sunday Services                                  | 99          | 102         | 103         | 102         |
| Ave. Weekly Attendance                           | 176         | 162         | 165         | 161         |
| % in Attendance                                  | 24%         | 22%         | 22.2%       | 21.3%       |
| Week Day Services                                | 9           | 8           | 9           | 8           |
| Ave. Attendance                                  | 124         | 133         | 125         | 148         |
| S.S. Enrollment                                  | 99          | 98          | 100         | 115         |
| Communion Services                               | 58          | 57          | 57          | 57          |
| Total Number of Communicants                     | 4672        | 4521        | 4409        | 4523        |
|  |             |             |             |             |
| Average Communicants Per Service                 | 81          | 79          | 77          | 79          |
| Ecumenical Services ++                           | 10          | 11          | 11          | 10          |
|  |             |             |             |             |
| <b>MINISTERIAL ACTS</b>                          |             |             |             |             |
| Baptisms   | 18          | 6           | 14          | 12          |
| Confirmations                                    | 10          | 8           | 8           | 8           |
| Weddings   | 6           | 4           | 3           | 3           |
| Funerals   | 11          | 8           | 6           | 8           |

**ECUMENICAL SERVICES FAITH PARTICIPATED IN DURING 2013:**

|         |                                  |                      |
|---------|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| Feb. 13 | Faith Lutheran Church            | Ash Wednesday        |
| Feb. 20 | Wisconsin Academy                | Lenten Service       |
| Feb. 27 | Olivet Congregational            | Lenten Service       |
| Mar. 6  | Church of the Nazarene           | Lenten Service       |
| Mar. 13 | St. Jerome Catholic Church       | Lenten Service       |
| Mar. 20 | First Presbyterian Church        | Lenten Service       |
| Mar. 29 | FR United Methodist Church (1pm) | Good Friday Service  |
|         | Faith Lutheran (7pm)             | Good Friday Service  |
| Nov. 27 | Faith Lutheran Church            | Thanksgiving Service |

## MINISTERIAL ACTS – 2013

### NEW MEMBERS

- Avalee Jewel Voss
  - Owen Michael Hankins
  - Tylar Jonathan Hankins
  - Brant Theodore Rosenberry
  - Lillian Kay Schuster
  - Hannah Jane Hole
  - Brielle Grace Berget
  - Harvey Griffith Roberts
  - Drake Alexander Schultz
  - Landon Edward Goering
  - Jadeson Robert Hall
  - Mary Jane Sturdevant
  - Stephen Joseph Peterson
  - Sara Lyn Peterson
  - Joseph Charles Peterson
  - Jenna Mae Peterson
  - Marion G. Kuehn
  - Jeffrey Lawrence Kirchberg
  - Roxanne Lynn Kirchberg
  - Joshua Gerald Kirchberg
  - Brady August Kirchberg
  - Levi Jeffery Gene Kirchberg
  - Laurie Lynn Niehoff
  - Tiffany Mae Niehoff
  - Michelle Steiner
  - Mitchell Steiner
  - Skyler Steiner
  - Zachary Steiner
  - Kelli Campbell
  - Garrett Campbell
  - Meredith Campbell
- 
- Baptized

### WEDDINGS

Adam Aeschlimann/Marissa Bergum  
Aaron Charles Holz/April Marie Herman  
Shawn Michael Grams/Megan Elizabeth Meagher

### DEATHS

Julie Ann Breitzman  
Victor Paananen  
Donald Harvey Miller  
Fredric William Shepard  
Duane Alan Durtschi  
Jeffrey David Baxter  
Carol Mae Niehoff  
Mary J. Sturdevant

### CONFIRMATION

Natalie Ann Cass  
Kyle Kevin Fritz  
Mary Rae Larson  
MaKayla Renee Mitchell  
Caroline Christine Morris  
Michael James Rowe  
Olivia Helen Severson  
Bailey Michelle Wilson

## 2013 MEMORIALS

1. A monetary gift given to the Faith's Bell Choir in memory of Dorothy Johnson . . . Bell Choir.
2. Julie Breitzman Memorial. . . . . Timothy and Christine Kovalaske, Steve and Kimberly Rowe, Richard and Beverly Hartl, Ryan and Lisa Hasey, Glenn and Karin Westlake, Jerome and DeAnn Gaksa, Michael and Tracy McNulty, Larry and Mark Baker, Roxanne Ayer, Joseph and Terri Hammer, Jim Breitzman, Steven Odell, Todd and Margaret Nelson, Nina Jones.
3. Altar candles given in memory of Dorothy Johnson . . . . . Emogene Johnson.
4. Portable PA given in memory of Harold Klug. . . . . , Roger and Janice Kurth.
5. Eternal light candles given in memory of Eric O'Brion. . . . . Eugene and Bev O'Brion.
6. Don Miller Music Ministry Memorial. . . . . Tara Voelker, Lyle and Joanne Sampson, Emogene Johnson, Jerome and DeAnn Gaska, Jeanne Jones, Esther Gaumitz, Eugene and Bev O'Brion, Ronald and Linda Huebner, Alice Schmidt, Alan Strohschein and Kathy Hoch, Jan Zahn, Lisa and Michael Kluetz Jr.
7. Don Miller Memorial . . . . Russell and Peggy Fredrick, Richard and Beverly Hartl, Anne Gero, Rodney Schubert, Rodney and Dianne Patrick, David and Shirley Mueller, Sandra McNamus, Roxanne Ayer, Glenn and Karin Westlake, Eva Van Horn, Steve and Kimberly Rowe, Bruce and Suzanne Zahn, Gary and Mary Feldt, Betty Baxter, Ivan and Reta Thies, Peter and Judy Kaland, Daryl Severson, Barbara Bergum, Ronald and Nancy Caldwell, Henry and Catherine Elling, Tom and Joyce Walker, Thelma Hurd, Daniel and Beth Burnard, Robert and Judy Hughes, Dennis and Claire Sampolinski, Steve and Drue Decker.
8. Duane Durtschi Memorial . . . . . Jerome and DeAnn Gaska, Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Zweifel, Richard and Beverly Hartl.
9. Jeff Baxter Memorial. . . . . Bruce and Suzanne Zahn.
10. Russell Seier Memorial . . . . . Richard and Beverly Hartl.
11. Laptop Computer for Multimedia given in memory of Don Miller . . . . . Margaret Miller.
12. Carol Niehoff Memorial. . . . . Timothy and Tammy Smith, Darla Colvin, Eva Van Horn, Peggy Schleicher, Jeanette Parpart, Michael and Sandra Waugh, William and Cindy Shade, Patricia Heiman.
13. Quigley Memorial/Christmas Altar Paraments. . . . . John and Retta Kurth, Ron and Linda Huebner, Sally Price, Nancy Mickelson, Jerome and DeAnn Gaska, Ennifer and Lan Herzberg, Scott and Sue Mathwich, Eugene and Beverly O'Brion, Rod Schubert, Merlyn and Joyce Lienke, Barb Bergum, Paul Bergum, Al Strohschein and Kathy Hoch, Ben and Eva Van Horn, Vic and Debbie Barth, Scrip, Sharon Bradish, Margaret Miller, Kylee Kary.
14. Advent wreath candles given in memory of Bill Chase. . . . . Doris Chase.
15. Bell Choir music given in memory of Julie Breitzman. . . . . Pat Schellin.
16. Bell Choir music given in memory of Don Miller. . . . . Java 6:15 Men's Group.
17. Mary Sturdevant Memorial. . . . . Jerry and Deanne Raley, Dale Sturdevant.

## 2013 GIFTS

1. Toilet . . . . . Anonymous.
2. Monitor. . . . . Ed Schellin.
3. Palms . . . . . Roger Hasz.
4. Roll of stamps . . . . . Tom and Joyce Walker.
5. Case of eternal light candles in honor of our children and parents . . . . . Daryl and Jami Severson.
6. Computer Keyboards. . . . . Kristen Hart.
7. Carpet solution and machine rental. . . . . Brian and Nancy Patrick.
8. Hangers for Quilt Show. . . . . Eugene and Connie Frey.
9. Bell choir gloves. . . . . Erin Bussian.
10. Children’s books for the library. . . . . Kimberly Rowe.
11. Recycle baskets. . . . . Scott Mathwich.
12. Recycle bins. . . . . Jenny Herzberg.
13. Candelabra candles. . . . . Julie Sennhenn.
14. Name badge holders. . . . . Anonymous.
15. Material for baptismal gowns. . . . . Margaret Miller.
16. Monetary gift for bell choir music. . . . . Sue Frish.
17. Quilt hangers. . . . . Betsy Woodward, Erin Bussian, Bev O’Brion.
18. Monetary gift for pole rentals for Quilt Show. . . . . Connie Frey.
19. Aldo Leopold bench. . . . . Jenny Herzberg.
20. Monetary gift for stamps. . . . . Anonymous.
21. Florescent light bulbs. . . . . Rod Schubert.
22. Bell choir gloves. . . . . Lisa Weisensel.
23. Case of CD-R disks . . . . . Dennis Langfeldt.
24. Making several hymnal pew racks. . . . . Ben Van Horn.
25. Communion wine . . . . . Rebecca Oehlert.
26. Monetary gift toward “new carpet” fund . . . . . Eugene and Bev O’Brion.
27. Copier paper . . . . . Al Strohschein.
28. Altar candles . . . . . Gene and Connie Frey.
29. Printed envelopes with church logo. . . . . Christi Jurgerson.
30. Two Christmas wreaths. . . . . Dick and Bev Hartl.
31. A case of florescent light bulbs. . . . . Rod Schubert.
32. Singing batons for bell choir. . . . . Anonymous.

# Committee Reports

## EVANGELISM COMMITTEE 2013

In January 2013 the Evangelism Committee met the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month as we always do. We welcomed three new members to our committee – Marcia McMullen, Erin Bussian and Judy Kaland.

Our meetings consist of sending cards to visitors, and sending holiday cards to the shut-ins for Valentine's Day, Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

We continue to review the 2012 and 2013 covenant and keep track of the members that have not signed. Letters go out to these members to let them know they are missed and are required to sign the covenant to retain membership at Faith.

We visit new members and present them with loaves of bread.

We held two "Women's Night Out" at the Cardinal Alehouse and Bowl which was very enjoyable. The attendance to these dinners was very rewarding.

In May we had a "Quilt Show and Tea" which consisted of displaying very old and very new quilts and served a light lunch. Again, a big success. We will use the proceeds from the show to purchase new brochures for Faith.

In July we again put our float in the "4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade". We also helped Fur, Fin and Feather in the Brat stand.

In October we hosted a Quilting Bee and revenue from this was given back to the church for use of the utilities. Also, we continued to have "Trunk and Treat" in the parking lot on Halloween. The candy left over was given to the Sunday School for Christmas.

A task force Committee is being formed to work on the recognition of memorials for Faith.

We want to encourage the members of Faith to wear name tags to help our visitors.

All and all it has been a wonderful year. Many members outside of our committee are very generous with their helping hands. We want to thank all of you and the congregation for donations of candy etc.

May we continue to work toward opening our doors and our hearts to the people of God.

2014 – On June 22<sup>nd</sup> at 2:00 pm the Friesland Men's Choir will perform at Faith. Put this on your calendar.

Joycelyn Lienke, Chairperson

### MULTIMEDIA MINISTRY COMMITTEE 2013

The Multimedia Committee along with the current volunteers, video tapes Faith's church services, prepares power point presentations for projection and monitors the projectors during their use in church services. Faith's web site is also updated on a weekly basis. There is much more that the committee could be doing to support the ministry of Faith with an increase in volunteers. Please consider volunteering; the time commitment is minimal and the satisfaction of serving God is great. Don't forget that Faith's motto is "Faith serving God and serving people". In 2013 the Multimedia Committee stayed busy with our hardware too. A new monitor was donated and installed in the control booth for the use of taping services. This new monitor is larger and in color, making the task much more pleasant. Thank you to Ed Scheelin for this gift. Also, the media laptop in the control booth was replaced after the old one no longer worked. The new laptop is running the newest operating system, Windows 8.1, and will serve Faith for many years to come. A special thanks to Margaret Miller for providing the funds for that computer. Also Pastor Bob's office computer was replaced with a new machine as well, moving him off of Windows Vista and on to Windows 8.1. A special thanks goes to funds provided from the spaghetti supper to allow this computer to be purchased. Both computers are running MS Office 365, and under our current software agreement, we can install Office on 3 more Faith computers at no additional charge.

Multimedia is always looking for ways that we can help Faith spread the Good News of The Lord. If there is anything that you would like to see, help with, or do, please let us know.

Yours in the service to the Lord here at Faith,  
Faith's Multimedia Ministry Committee

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### PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT 2013

While there is not a regularly meeting Property committee, we would like to acknowledge the regular and repeated service contributions made by Rod Schubert, Mark McNamee and Glenn & Shirley Andler for projects and budget planning. Many members contribute to the maintenance of the church property, inside and outside, and much of the time that is done without someone asking them to do it. Most tasks are thankless jobs and overlooked by many, but we **THANK YOU!** God is aware of your service.

Here are examples of things done this year for church property that the Council dealt with: new front entrance doors installed, all interior and exterior church door locks re-keyed, a raised toilet was installed in the upstairs women's bathroom, water heater valve repaired, an air conditioner repaired, the dishwasher was serviced, the organ was serviced, the pianos were tuned, an outside recycling container enclosure was built and roof heat tape added to prevent ice dams.

Also, these three major Property challenges were identified and are being addressed:

1. **The lower level sidewalk** serves three purposes; First, an emergency exit for the lower level rooms. Second, access to the lower level from the outside. And third, the alternative solution to having an inside elevator. Historically, the snow has not been removed. This past Spring that became a problem when snow and ice accumulation



prevented drainage from snow melt and a heavy rain which resulted in lower level flooding. To improve the sidewalk feature, these things happened: the landscaping was trenched and the sloping grade improved by Eugene O’Brion, a dusk-to-dawn yard light was placed over the outside doorway landing, a tree and branches were removed and funds were added to the budget for snow blowing and salting.

2. **The red church carpet** is showing wear and tear, especially in the Narthex. This carpet is over 20 years old. Repair options are being studied and quoted. A carpet replacement fund has been established on the “Wish List”.
3. **The parsonage fascia boards** are rotting on the inside by poor soffit ventilation and on the outside by too much shade. The plan is to replace the fascia boards and correct the inside ventilation by reconfiguring the soffits. To do this the gutters will need to be removed and also likely replaced. The outside shade has been addressed, for the next few years, by significant tree trimming. The trimming will also help the roof shingles to last longer.

We have a very good and functional church building and property. As time goes by, maintenance needs will increase and they will need to be addressed. We need and appreciate continued member involvement for volunteer service and member funding. Our church property and parsonage serve us well in carrying out Faith Lutheran’s, Christian ministries and missions.

Report submitted by Scott Mathwich and Todd Morris.

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### COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL MINISTRY 2013

As the Faith Lutheran Church council liaison to the Committee on Social Ministry, I would like to invite all who have a passion for the many social ministry objectives of our church, our synod and the ELCA to join me in forming an active committee.

Some of these social ministry objectives include peace initiatives, world hunger relief, disaster response, green initiatives and environmental awareness, along with many, many more social issues.

Much of Faith Lutheran Church’s daily work addresses these issues. A few examples include our support of the giving tree and cookie baking for Lutheran Social Service, our collection of Lutheran World Relief kits, our making and giving of quilts, collecting for the Columbus-Fall River Food Pantry and our association with Hephatha Lutheran Church in Milwaukee. This year we held a special offering to support the ELCA World Malaria Campaign in April and through the Maintenance with Mission Match program we supported several missions of the ELCA. We also made a decision to actively promote stewardship of our resources and we started recycling wholeheartedly.

Let us, at Faith Lutheran Church, have a social ministry that provides us the with the opportunity to follow Jesus Christ through the support of missions that reflect God's love in the world.

Submitted by Jennifer Herzberg

## STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT 2013

Currently there is not an active Stewardship Committee, but that has not stopped Faith members from doing stewardship. We all know what has to happen and we accept that expectation when we sign the annual Faith membership covenant. We promise God, and Faith, that we will attend services, give money, live a Christian lifestyle, give our time and use our talents. Stewardship is the giving back our time, talent and money for Faith and for our *faith*. Your stewardship can be a sign of your overall Christian spiritual maturity. While most of this report is about the stewardship of funds, we are very responsive in our stewardship of time and talents.

Faith Lutheran changes people's lives! We make a difference! We are grateful to God. We do and support many internal ministries and external missions. We are not afraid to try things. Moving Faith forward for our faith takes your stewardship. The proposed 2014 spending plan is between 5 and 6% higher than 2013. But this is still less than what we proved we could give in 2010. We want to grow Faith for our *faith*.

How do we know how much money to give? What does your Bible say? What does God say to you via the Holy Spirit within you as the result of your prayers and listening? Our answers will be as different as we, and our situations, are different. But that doesn't mean we are not accountable to God, who gave us everything in the first place and who expects us to give back – as we promised we would.

At the "Lead" conference in 2013 the speaker asked: Is your giving a percentage of your gross income or your net income? And then he answered, it doesn't matter, pick one and do that! Similarly, do we calculate our total giving for just Christian causes or do we include other charities? Again, you need to answer that for yourself. The Christian church competes with all other charities for your stewardship.

We do not publish our member giving by name, although it does happen in some churches. On another page in this annual report are two charts. One chart shows giving by the 410 assigned offering envelopes and the other by the 312 complete mailing addresses in the membership directory. The data is what we gave in 2013 as recorded on the Giving Statements. There are currently 20 giving units that use "Simply Giving", 3 give weekly and 17 give monthly. Please find yourself on each chart and reflect on your membership covenant promise and your current and future stewardship.

It is important to acknowledge that we give stewardship talents and funds in other ways besides the Sunday morning offering. We support fund raisers, which in-turn, support internal ministries and external missions. We support things that would otherwise be a budget expense like flowers, bulletins and the Pentecost supply gifts. We pass the plate a second time for various causes. We sponsor things from the "Wish List". We support our Mission Endowment Fund. We support the "Scrip" program that turns personal everyday expenses and special occasion gifts into an opportunity to directly add to our general budget fund. In 2013, the Scrip program's net rebates that directly support our church raised just over \$4,300!

We know the stewardship of funds is not a simple thing, but it is an important thing. Ask God to keep walking with you and guiding you.

Thank you.

Submitted by Scott Mathwich, Council Liaison to the Stewardship Committee

| By Address for 2013 |         |         |
|---------------------|---------|---------|
| Giving Units        | From    | To      |
| 96                  | \$0     | \$0     |
| 52                  | \$1     | \$99    |
| 34                  | \$100   | \$249   |
| 26                  | \$250   | \$499   |
| 25                  | \$500   | \$749   |
| 11                  | \$750   | \$999   |
| 13                  | \$1,000 | \$1,249 |
| 4                   | \$1,250 | \$1,499 |
| 11                  | \$1,500 | \$1,749 |
| 10                  | \$1,750 | \$1,999 |
| 5                   | \$2,000 | \$2,249 |
| 7                   | \$2,250 | \$2,499 |
| 5                   | \$2,500 | \$2,749 |
| 2                   | \$2,750 | \$2,999 |
| 1                   | \$3,000 | \$3,249 |
| 1                   | \$3,250 | \$3,499 |
| 2                   | \$3,500 | \$3,749 |
| 0                   | \$3,750 | \$3,999 |
| 2                   | \$4,000 | \$4,249 |
| 1                   | \$4,250 | \$4,499 |
| 0                   | \$4,500 | \$4,749 |
| 1                   | \$4,750 | \$4,999 |
| 1                   | \$5,000 | \$5,999 |
| 0                   | \$6,000 | \$6,999 |
| 2                   | \$7,000 | \$7,999 |
| 0                   | \$8,000 | +       |

312

| By Envelope for 2013 |         |         |
|----------------------|---------|---------|
| Giving Units         | From    | To      |
| 183                  | \$0     | \$0     |
| 63                   | \$1     | \$99    |
| 34                   | \$100   | \$249   |
| 26                   | \$250   | \$499   |
| 25                   | \$500   | \$749   |
| 11                   | \$750   | \$999   |
| 13                   | \$1,000 | \$1,249 |
| 4                    | \$1,250 | \$1,499 |
| 11                   | \$1,500 | \$1,749 |
| 10                   | \$1,750 | \$1,999 |
| 5                    | \$2,000 | \$2,249 |
| 7                    | \$2,250 | \$2,499 |
| 5                    | \$2,500 | \$2,749 |
| 2                    | \$2,750 | \$2,999 |
| 1                    | \$3,000 | \$3,249 |
| 1                    | \$3,250 | \$3,499 |
| 2                    | \$3,500 | \$3,749 |
| 0                    | \$3,750 | \$3,999 |
| 2                    | \$4,000 | \$4,249 |
| 1                    | \$4,250 | \$4,499 |
| 0                    | \$4,500 | \$4,749 |
| 1                    | \$4,750 | \$4,999 |
| 1                    | \$5,000 | \$5,999 |
| 0                    | \$6,000 | \$6,999 |
| 2                    | \$7,000 | \$7,999 |
| 0                    | \$8,000 | +       |

410

## SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT – DECEMBER 2013

There are currently 80 students enrolled in Faith's Sunday school program for the 2013-2014 school year. Most of these students attend classes on a regular basis. Classes for the pre-kindergarten (4K) through 5<sup>th</sup> grade students are held from 9:20 to 10:20 each Sunday morning. Students participate in music for the first 20 minutes of Sunday school and then return to their individual classrooms. All classes are held in the lower level of the church. Class sizes are as follows: 4 year old kindergarten-11, 5 year old kindergarten-12, 1<sup>st</sup> grade-12, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade-11, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade-12, 4<sup>th</sup> grade-13, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade-9. Third graders received bibles in September and Kindergarteners in November. Pastor Lisa held teaching sessions for both groups of students, along with their parents, prior to the church bible presentations

We are in our third year of using the "SPARK – Activate Faith" curriculum published by Augsburg Fortress. This program is divided into three parts each year: fall, winter and spring. It also alternates on a two year cycle. This curriculum is very teacher and student friendly.

The Sunday school program has been richly blessed by so many who have answered the call to teach or assist. Teachers and helpers typically alternate Sundays in a classroom. This means that it is necessary to have at least 4 people willing to serve at each grade level. Pam Larson stepped down, at the end of last year, in order to spend more time with the older youth of Faith. We were blessed to have Katie Kahl, a newer member, agree to be the new co-superintendent. She brings many Sunday school skills and talents from other church homes. We have 27 staff members who teach or assist regularly. Ten of the teacher's helpers are students in our confirmation program. We will be recruiting teachers for the 2014-2015 school year in the spring.

Over the summer some updates were made to the rooms. Paint, rugs, and new clocks were added to many rooms. It was funded mostly by donations from individuals and groups at church.

Sunday school students usually sing during a worship service once each month in October, November, January, February, and March. Each class also serves as greeters for the 10:30 service once during the year.

The Sunday school Christmas program was presented on December 15, 2013 during the 10:30 worship service. "The First Christmas" was enjoyed by students and the congregation. We were very fortunate to have many staff members who were willing to help with this event in a variety of capacities. The program was very well attended by students and their families. We enjoyed doing a more traditional program with the hymns we all know and love.

The Sunday school program at Faith continues to be blessed with enthusiastic and dedicated students and staff members. We are also fortunate to have the support of the congregation and we are thankful for all of this. We look forward to another year of learning and growing in Christ.

### **Financial Information:**

Accounts are held at Farmers & Merchants Union Bank. Balance as of 12/31/2013:

Savings account #194217 – Balance \$979.03

Checking account #1118641 – Balance \$2066.75

An equal portion of last year's Sunday school offerings were donated to youth programs at Hepatha Lutheran Church in Milwaukee, Lutheran World Relief and the Columbus-Fall River Food Pantry.

Respectfully submitted,  
Melody Tadych and Katie Kahl, Co-Superintendent

# Other Reports

## ALTAR GUILD 2013

The Altar Guild is currently chaired by Sue Frish, Bev O’Brion and Julie Sennhenn. We had the following people assisting us on Altar Guild for 2013: Joyce Abegglen, Barb Bergum, DeAnn Gaska, Donna Hankes, Jennifer Herzberg, Pat Hurckman, Emogene Johnson, Jeanne Jones, Judy Kaland, Dennis Langfeldt, Jeanne Miller, Margaret Miller, Ruth Nordal, Sally Price, Julie Rieck Al Strohschein, David and Theresa Thelen and Betsy Woodward.

These people worked in teams in cleaning and properly preparing the chancel and altar area, setting up and taking down communion, changing the paraments to match the appropriate season of the church year, arranging flowers and making sure that all items used during the service are cleaned and properly put away.

We were extremely blessed this year, through generous donations, to be able to purchase new paraments for the Christmas season.

We are always welcoming new additions to help serve on Altar Guild whether for a week or two at a time or for the entire month. If you would like to know more about us, please contact Sue, Bev or myself.

Respectfully Submitted

Julie Sennhenn, Altar Guild Co-Chair

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## CHURCH LADIES MINISTRY 2013

For the past twelve years the Church Ladies Ministry (CLM) has been *a ministry to women transitioning from incarceration back into the community*. The ARC Maternal and Infant Program is a part of ARC Community Services, Inc., which specialized in serving the special needs of 12 pregnant/postpartum women and their infants. The women are involved in either the criminal justice system and/or AODA treatment programs. Goals include strengthening the mother/child bond, the family unit, and parenting skills while also addressing criminal thinking. These women are in need of some tender loving care, and an introduction to a new social environment. A dedicated group of five faith members, Yvonne Tjugum, Reta Thies, Judy Sullivan, Emogene Johnson and Ruth Nordal, provide this care and support on a monthly basis by going to the ARC Baby House in Monona where socializing is done through conversation, demonstrating the craft of card making, enjoying refreshments, and sharing God’s love for them through Bible Study, and lots of baby holding. Our main goal as part of CLM is to let them know we care about them, and as Pastor Susan would say, *“to simply love them up.”* To help support this outreach program we receive financial support from the congregation through the Empties4Cash program which is the recycling of empty ink cartridges. *Thank you* to all who support this outreach ministry program at Faith.

# ENDOWMENT FUND REPORT 2013

## Faith Lutheran Endowment Report 2013

| Account Name                            | Account Number          | 2012 Balance       | Additions                | 2013 Balance                    |
|---|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Trivent Life Policy<br>(net cash value) | 2200963TBH              | \$4,864.00         | \$233.00                 | \$5,097.00<br>(as of 9/30/2013) |
| F & M Passbook                          | 200243533 EJ            | \$812.22           | interest 2013<br>unknown | \$812.22                        |
| F & M Passbook                          | 200243534 EM            | \$1,173.33         | interest 2013<br>unknown | \$1,173.33                      |
| F & M CD                                | 2338101                 | \$4,096.77         | \$65.81                  | \$4,162.58                      |
| F & M Savings                           | 200248457               | \$2,724.11         | \$1,606.37               | \$4,330.48                      |
|   | Sub totals              | \$13,670.43        | \$1,905.18               | \$15,575.61                     |
| Thrivent Financial                      |                         |                    |                          | as of 9/30/2013                 |
|   | Large Cap Stock         | \$27,958.43        | \$5,085.62               | \$33,044.05                     |
| *transferred to DIP                     | Money Market            | \$9,258.32         | (\$9,258.32)             | \$0.00                          |
| **transfer from MM                      | Diversified Income Plus | \$0.00             | \$9,309.32               | \$9,309.32                      |
|   | World Wide Fund         | \$1,438.13         | \$136.36                 | \$1,574.49                      |
|   | Income Fund A           | \$21,134.67        | (\$361.78)               | \$20,772.89                     |
|   | Mid Cap Growth          | \$16,143.22        | \$3,138.19               | \$19,281.41                     |
|   | High Yield              | \$2,368.82         | \$73.58                  | \$2,442.40                      |
|   | Total Thrivent funds    | \$78,301.59        | \$8,122.97               | \$86,424.56                     |
| <b>Total Endowment Funds</b>            |                         | <b>\$91,972.02</b> | <b>\$10,028.15</b>       | <b>\$102,000.17</b>             |

**The committee would like to thank all who have contributed to the Endowment Fund:**

Jerome Gaska family  
 Merlyn & Joyce Lienke  
 Tony & Julie Clark & family  
 Ben & Eva Van Horn  
 Al Stroschein  
 Sara Yuds  
 Phyllis & Eugene Damm  
 Jeff & Amy Scheffler  
 Ivan & Reta Thies  
 Rodney & Dianne Patrick  
 Jim & Judy Vale  
 John & Lauretta Kurth  
 Donald & Joanne Quam  
 Edmund Sikorski  
 Kathryn Cook  
 Jeanne Jones  
 George & Henrietta Jordan  
 Janice Zahn  
 Curtis & Linda Hanson  
 Dennis & Elizabeth Mahy  
 David & Susan Zittel  
 Betty Baxter  
 O'Bryon family  
 Keith & Judy Miller

## FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN (FLCW)

Looking for a place to gather with other women to talk about your faith? Faith Lutheran Church Women is the just for you. Women of the ELCW embraces all kinds of ministries that support our mission of mobilizing women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ.

Once a month we gather for Bible study. Transforming Life and Faith: Gather's 2014-2015 Bible study. In Acts, we will read about people who have life-changing experiences. Gather is the magazine of the Women of the ELCA. The Naomi Circle, Anna Circle, and the Scroll Circle invite you to join them. Check the bulletin for time and place for these study groups. All women are welcome to join the Bible study.

The FLCW quilting group meets once a month to make quilts for Lutheran World Relief. They could use your help. Please feel free to join the quilters. This year they sent 66 quilts to Lutheran World Relief and presented a quilt to each of our high school graduates. Thank you to Diane Patrick for leading this ministry. Thank you to everyone that donated items so that 5 health kits and 11 school kits could be sent to LWR.

Thank you to the FLCW leaders who continue to serve:

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| Co-chairman          | Reta Thies & Margaret Miller            |
| Secretary            | Emogene Johnson                         |
| Treasurer            | Becky Stark                             |
| Altar Guild          | Julie Sennhenn, Bev. O'Brion, Sue Frish |
| Church Lady Ministry | Ruth Nordal, Yvonne Tjugum              |
| Quilting Chairman    | Diane Patrick                           |

### FLCW TREASURER'S REPORT – 2013

Balance of checking account, January 1, 2013 \$3,178.35

#### Receipts:

|                           |            |            |
|---------------------------|------------|------------|
| Circle Offerings          | \$ 50.00   |            |
| Funeral Food              | \$1,440.10 |            |
| Blood Drive Donation      | \$ 175.00  |            |
| Cookbook                  | \$ 30.00   |            |
| Coffee/Fellowship         | \$ 341.55  |            |
| Bake Sale Profit/Start-up | \$ 236.00  |            |
| Funeral/Kitchen Donations | \$ 925.00  |            |
| LWR – Shipping            | \$ 200.00  |            |
| Total Receipts 2013       |            | \$3,397.65 |

#### Disbursements:

|                              |           |            |
|------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| Augsburg Publishing Co.      | \$ 267.85 |            |
| Flowers                      | \$ 225.50 |            |
| Blood Drive                  | \$ 133.37 |            |
| Fellowship                   | \$ 104.61 |            |
| LWR – Shipping               | \$ 200.00 |            |
| Funeral Food                 | \$ 600.00 |            |
| Bake Sale Start-up           | \$ 40.00  |            |
| Columbus Club House Donation | \$ 75.00  |            |
| Lutherdale Donation          | \$ 75.00  |            |
| Columbus Food Pantry         | \$ 75.00  |            |
| Bank Service Fee             | \$ 3.00   |            |
| Total Disbursements 2013     |           | \$1,799.33 |

Balance of checking account, December 31, 2013 \$ 4,776.67

Becky Stark, Treasurer, Faith Lutheran Church Women

## WEGNER AUDIT REPORT 2013

During 2013, Wegner LLP CPA & Consultants completed an audit of Faith Lutheran Church financial policies and procedures. As part of the audit, the CPA firm interviewed Pastor Bob, Faith's Church secretary, Church treasurer, Finance Committee chairman and a member of the Offering Counter team. The final reports were submitted in February and November 2013. Copies of the reports are available upon request.

There were several reasons for the procedure audit, but these two critical reasons stand out:

**We have no reason to believe any mishandling of many at Faith, but we want to ensure that our processes are optimally managed to reduce the possibility of this happening.** Quite often in the news there are stories of alleged frauds, embezzlement, or outright stealing of money from businesses and organizations, large and small. For that reason, the IRS is enforcing stricter and more detailed guidelines, policies and procedures for all non-profit organizations. In other words, the IRS wants more oversight of these organizations and more transparency in their financial books for their members.

**A professional review helps record and provides a consistent framework for the financial processes.** When our congregation was organized in 1970, the treasurer, finance committee, secretary, financial secretary, and council began the process to pay monthly bills. As we roll forward the same monthly financial process continues. However, there have been many treasurers, finance committee members, church secretaries, financial secretaries, and church council members during the 40 + years. As each transition occurred, financial history was lost and now we have newer members serving in these roles. When questions are asked, either there is no answer or there are varied answers. Newly paid staff, volunteers, or committee members can take over for retiring members in a seamless manner using this framework, thus offering greater transparency in our financial dealings.

The congregation's review committee defined the detailed action plan, compiled necessary documents, polices, and procedures prior to the interviews; and has begun developing a plan to implement recommendations. Members of the audit committee are Derek Berget, Norri Brozek, Wendy Corlett, Kristin Hart, Jeanne Jones, Bev O'Brion, and Betsy Woodward.

The recommendations made by Wegner are too numerous to list, but a few highlights include:

- A checklist to be used by congregational members during the annual congregational audit. Auditors elected by the congregation will now have a consistent and organized manner to review church records.
- Recommendation to replace the use of zippered bank deposit bags with tamper proof plastic bags.
- Document all bank accounts using Faith's Federal Identification Number to prevent jeopardy on the church's tax exempt status.

The cost of the audit was \$2900 and was funded by donations and Faith Project money as approved by the council. No general operating funds were used to provide this service.



## YOUTH LEAGUE 2013

The Youth at Faith Lutheran Church participated in the Habitat for Humanity Shantytown in May. They raised \$1100 for Habitat for Humanity and spent the night on cardboard boxes to raise awareness about homelessness.

Some youth camped at the Lifest Christian Music Festival in July. They enjoyed great music concerts and camping for 3 nights.

The youth have also had a couple of fundraisers for their 2015 trip to the National Youth Gathering in Detroit. They sold beverages at the Concert on the Lawn in September and they made Kings Cakes in December.

The high school youth also enjoyed a bonfire at Kyle Fritz's house in October. They visited a Buddhist meditation center and went to play laser tag in November.

The 9th graders have gotten together several times to rehearse music and offer their musical talents during the church services.

Finally, ten high school youth spent the night at church on December 27th for a lock-in. They enjoyed board games, movies, pizza, and did some baking at the lock-in.

### Balance as of December 31, 2013

Youth League checking account – \$844.50

Youth League savings account - \$2,397.87

National Youth Gathering account - \$3505.07

Pam Larson and Ruth Nordal