

2017
ANNUAL REPORT

MESSIAH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



58TH ANNUAL
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 2018
12:30 PM

2017 Annual Report

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58th Annual Congregational Meeting Agenda

Opening Prayer
January 22, 2017 Annual Meeting Minutes
Pastor's Report
Music Ministry Report
Congregation President's Report
Foundation for the Future Update
Ministry Reports (written)
HUB Elections
Endowment Fund Election
2017 Financials/2018 Budget
Lutheran Church of Concord Update
New Business
Closing Prayer

Our Mission, Vision, and Core Values

Mission Statement

Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church
Called into community, gifted to serve;
Glorifying God through love in action.

Vision Statement

As we build up one another and Christ's church, we at Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church worship the living God in word and sacrament. Centered in Christ, we joyfully stand shoulder to shoulder in praise, worship and service, listening for God, giving and receiving love, encouragement and forgiveness. We extend that love to the community to create a more just society, recognizing that all people are beloved children of God.

As we build up one another and Christ's church, we care for one another, offering comfort, peace and friendship in the name of Jesus. At the same time we care for all of creation as stewards of our time, talents and resources to comfort and serve others as Jesus has called us to do.

As we build up one another and Christ's church, we nurture all people as children of God. We study and learn together as disciples of Christ. We raise up leaders from among us to draw yet others to the love of Jesus.

As we build up one another and Christ's church, we passionately share the good news of God's love and salvation by reaching out to others far and wide in welcome, recognizing them as friends we have not yet met. We confidently follow God into a future filled with hope, trusting the Holy Spirit and giving glory to God.

Core Values

We at Messiah value:

- **Vibrant relationships with God** – evident in our worship, prayer, and daily lives
- **Serving others together** – using our gifts to meet others' needs
- **Generosity** – as faithful stewards of our God-given time, talents and resources
- **Growing in faith** – through personal and community prayer, study, and discipleship
- **Community and fellowship** – living as brothers and sisters in Christ, encouraging and holding each other accountable
- **Compassion and kindness** – loving and building up one another
- **Inclusion and affirmation** – welcoming everyone with God's love
- **Spirit-led momentum** – continuously discerning and growing as a community
- **Trust** – in God and each other, to share our joys and struggles
- **Forgiveness and reconciliation** – embracing God's forgiveness and extending it to others

Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church
MINUTES
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
January 22, 2017

The meeting was called to order by President Julie Gerstenberger. A quorum was in attendance.

Welcome to all!

Opening Prayer - Pastor Aileen Robbins

Annual Reports in Annual Report Booklet

Acceptance of Minutes -The 2016 minutes were accepted, motioned and passed.

Report of the Pastor - Pastor Aileen Robbins - Thanked everyone for what they do! Pastor Aileen explained the Lily Grant, what it means and how she will be using it for her sabbatical. She spends time working with Lori Nikolof who is working with the Congregation at Concord as she works toward becoming a Pastor. We will be partnering with Concord for 2 yrs. as they seek their path forward.

Report of Director of Music - Dr. Willie LaFavor -Everyone is invited to come and join in song, raise hand bells in praise, or play an instrument in joy as we worship God through music!

Report of the President - Julie Gerstenberger - Congregational Goals -Our goals are being met and people are actively engaged at Messiah. This helps to show the health of our congregation. The congregation set a series of goals on what it means to be a congregation. We will continue to promote using appropriate language in trying not to use "them" and "us" in our speech and written word. Sometimes it is difficult.

Ministry Reports - Written in the Annual Report Booklet. Highlights include:

Worship and Music - Shelly Knapp - We will continue to open our hearts to God and the Holy Spirit who inspires us and guides in all things. May we be challenged, changed and uplifted as we continue to worship in Christ's name. Let us be excited by all that lies ahead as He continues to work among us.

Faith Formation - Tarra Hartmann - Fundraising for the Youth Event is well underway. Messiah is blessed with an abundance of strong, active, Faith Formation ministries, thanks to our many dedicated, faithful leaders and the commitment of those people to engage opportunities for us as disciples, to enrich & deepen our Christian faith.

Reach Out - Joanne Ligtenberg - We are looking for ways in 2017 that we "can take our show on the road" while we will continue to search out ways that we can interact and serve the people in our community so that they will feel comfortable coming to Messiah.

Service - John Corman - Thank you to everyone who has contributed. Let's do God's work together!

RAIHN - Tarri Mundt - I look forward to hearing from you and chatting about how you too can become one of our faithful and dedicated volunteers in our shared RAIHN ministry.

Operation Christmas Child - Larry Dennis -Thanks to all who helped and contributed as 41 boxes were shipped out.

Property - Rod Speer - I have a whole new appreciation for what the Property Team and what others do to make the Messiah complex presentable, welcoming and inviting, while trying to hold the budget line. Thank you! Kudo's to Julie as President!

Communications - Lisa Klima -proud and grateful to have led the team, but confident that the new Communications Team Leader will do an excellent job going forward.

Warm Clothing Drive - Judy Merritt Speed -We went over last year's numbers in the coat drive, Thank you!

HUB Elections

* *Nominated for two year terms*

Cathy Coe	First Term - Communications
Shelly Knapp	Second Term - Worship
Tarra Hartmann	Second Term- Faith Formation
Tom Johnson	Second Term - Stewardship and Finance

*Distribution of written ballots

* After counting the ballots the candidates were unanimously elected.

*HUB members are eligible to serve three consecutive two-year terms

*Thanks to the Nominating Committee

Endowment Fund - Ladd Dromgold - We are at \$21,150.

* *Nominated for three year terms*

Ladd Dromgold	Third Term
Mary Zonneville	Third Term
Tom Johnson	Second Term

It was moved and seconded that the above people be elected to the Endowment Fund. Approved

2017 Proposed Budget - Tom Johnson

Presentation, discussion of budget - total proposed budget, \$298,000

A motion was made, seconded and carried to adopt the 2017 Proposed budget.

Tom discussed the following.

- Worked on getting realistic budget numbers for major capital needs.
- Received a generous gift of \$100,000 to install air conditioning and heating in the Sanctuary and repair the parking lot if done immediately.
- Overseeing the Operating Budget which included a new storage shed (\$2,724).
- Many "emergency" or one time expenditures; they include: repair after a water main break (\$1,085), replacing all emergency lights (\$2,475), replacing lights in the Cross (\$525), new office server (\$1,788), Pastor's laptop (\$981), and boiler repair costs (\$1,400) for a total of \$8,254 coming out of the operating budget.
- The last few years extra funds have been transferred to the Greater Messiah Fund at the end of the year.
- Outlook is challenging for 2017 and will be discussed at the Financial Forum.

Capital Planning - Jeff Gerstenberger - The Capital Campaign will be known as The Foundation for The Future.

There will be several steps in planning the Campaign

- Hold a Prayer Vigil on Feb.11.
- There are many projects, some labeled as critical, highly recommended, recommended and possible further enhancements.
- Commitment Sunday will be on February 12th.
- The money pledged will be raised over a 3 yr. period and work will take place as needed

It was motioned, seconded and approved that we adjourn.

Prayer - Pastor Aileen

Respectfully submitted,
Secretary,
Joanne Ligtenberg

Pastor's Letter

January 2018

Dear Friends,

This year I am writing just one letter to the membership of both Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church and Lutheran Church of Concord. I have been blessed to serve both congregations, to worship with the wonderful people in both settings and to come to know the servant hearts that work so diligently and generously to care for the people of God both inside and outside of their buildings.

This past year we have worshipped together in both settings. It has been lovely to have so many of the Messiah and Concord disciples join together at the 9:00 worship service. The cantatas put on by the choir in Lent and Advent and the midweek Lent services were meaningful in both places as well as our Fourth Sunday of Advent combined worship service on Dec. 24.

We have also served together. As we filled Thanksgiving baskets and helped children with crafts at the Kids Christmas Workshop, we came to know one another better and formed relationships that are built on faith. In the spring we held a Discipleship Workshop for both congregations focused on mission. Thus far it has been an amazing journey together.

I commend you for making sacrifices on behalf of your brothers and sisters and for the sake of Christ's church. Our Lord and Savior gave his very life for us and it is heartening to me to know that you are willing to make sacrifices for one another. The timing of our worship was a practical matter that is not necessarily ideal, yet you have been faithful despite some inconveniences during this two year transition.

As to the coming year, I am excited about the ministry opportunities in front of us again. The Worship and Music Teams of both congregations are diligently working to find ways to bring us together for more corporate worship. The Faith Formation Teams are working to bring us together around God's Word. And both Hub and Council are working to prepare a path towards a merger or consolidation in a timely, yet gracious manner to take into account everyone's needs.

As we enter 2018, I ask your prayers and patience for those things that will challenge us. And I ask that you share your dreams and your joys when it is obvious that the Spirit is leading us. I anticipate a wonderful year in growing together with one another and with our Lord. Thank you for your partnership in ministry!

Peace

Pastor Aileen

Music Ministry Report

“Next to the Word of God, music deserves the highest praise. The gift of language combined with the gift of song was given to man that he should proclaim the Word of God through music.”—Martin Luther

God gave us the gift of music so that we may worship and praise God. This applies not only to the choir members or instrumentalists, but to everybody! The gift of music is one of Messiah’s ministries in its reaching out to our community and world, and would not be possible without many volunteers cheerfully giving their time and talents. This report is a summary of the many ways music enriches our lives at Messiah and in the community and helps us to proclaim the Word of God.

Messiah continued with two similar services this year; the Sunday morning service was moved to 11:00 in reflection of our closer relationship with our sister church Concord, and the other service continued at 5:00 on Sunday evenings. I met with the Worship Team several times throughout the year to help plan liturgy and special events, and I also continued to choose hymns for the services. Our Sunday morning service continues to be blessed by our devoted, dedicated, and active choir members, and I give them many thanks for their service to the church. During the past year, Messiah’s choir joined forces with Concord Lutheran for several services. During Holy Week, the choirs joined together to present anthems at the Maundy Thursday service at Concord and presented Hal Hopson’s *Service of Darkness* for Good Friday at Messiah. In December, both choirs again joined forces for a presentation of Carl Schalk’s *The Great O Antiphons*. After this service, both choirs enjoyed several hours of Christmas caroling to shut-ins from both churches. On Reformation Sunday, a special service was planned to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, including liturgical music written by Martin Luther or his contemporaries. The Messiah Ringers continues to provide their talents to several important services during the year. The children presented a wonderful Christmas drama at the 5:00 Christmas Eve Service.

We were also blessed to have kids and adults participate in the Praise Band, which participated in the Fall Festival Worship Service, and presented in church during the year. Thanks to Neal Bourque, Harrison Hutton, Amy Mitchell, Jack Mitchell, Andrew La Favor, Samantha and Sydney Weiss, Alex Gerstenberger, and others. My main priority continues to be to give opportunities for all people, including kids, to have a chance to use their musical gifts for the service of the church. The Messiah Ringers and other instrumentalists and vocalists presented the yearly Feast of Music before the 10:30 Christmas Eve service. For Easter, we had a brass quartet led by Gary Samulski. I continue to be grateful for the musical talent we have in the church!

The annual MAD (Music-Art-Drama) camp was held in August and was once again a great success. The theme of this year’s musical presentation was the story of the Good Samaritan, told through *Pizza is Boss!* This year, the script was written by me, with adaptations provided by Pastor Aileen, and I wrote the lyrics and music for the songs. Many thanks go to all the volunteers who continue to help make this exciting week possible!

As we ponder God’s gift of music to us, come and sing, ring handbells, or play an instrument with praise and thanksgiving as we worship God through music!

Dr. Willie La Favor Director of Music

President's Report

Called into community, gifted to serve;
Glorifying God through love in action.

This year has been a year of renewal, changes, and growth for the Messiah community. We successfully challenged ourselves to improve the facilities that provide a safe home for our ministries with our Foundation for the Future capital campaign; we continued to grow as a Missional Congregation with our Discipleship Workshop in May; we began the accompaniment journey with our brothers and sisters at Concord; and we “retreated” and walked together on a joyful journey of renewal during Pastor Aileen’s sabbatical.

Throughout the year, we also continued to make significant progress on our 2015-2018 Congregational Strategic Goals to increasingly become “Church for the Community”. Here is an update on our great progress to date:

Goal 1. Promote language and behaviors that acknowledge and celebrate that all are beloved and gifted children of God, brothers and sisters in Christ. → *Our study groups have tackled topics that help us identify and reflect on our biases and barriers in interacting with others.*

Goal 2. Increase our engagement with the community through the quantity of our interactions and the quality of our relationships.

a. Grow the % of Messiah members engaged in ministries with intentional community interaction from 7% to **20%** → *Currently, **over 30%** of us are engaged in Messiah’s community-focused ministry!*

b. **Double** the number of community members engaged with Messiah ministries with intentional community interaction. → *We have exceeded our goal already, and **grown our interactions by 2.5X** since 2015, due to both growth in key community ministries (e.g. Soup-er Saturday, MAD Camp), as well as development of new community ministries (e.g. Christmas Workshop) and dual-purpose programs (e.g. Christmas Tree Sale).*

Goal 3. Equip people through study, worship and training to share our unique faith stories such that God’s love is proclaimed. → *We have shared our faith stories with each other in small groups, worship, and through online videos, to become more comfortable sharing God’s work in our lives.*

Goal 4. Continue to increase congregational engagement in our ministries of worship, learning, service and outreach from 50% to **65%** of members. → *We continued to grow our engagement from 20% in 2011 to **55%** in 2017, truly living our mission to “Glorify God through love in action”.*

It has been a privilege to serve on the HUB for the last six years, and to see the Holy Spirit at work within and among us as we grow together in faith. My deepest thanks go to Pastor Aileen, Willie, Cathy, Pastor Paul, Pastor Hans, HUB members and all our ministry leads; thank you for your faithful, inspired, and thoughtful leadership as we grow together. As we move into our 60th Anniversary year, we can all look forward together to deepening our relationships with God, with each other, and with the community we serve.

In Christ’s peace,
Julie Gerstenberger

Worship Ministry Report

WORSHIP VISION STATEMENT

Gathered as a community of God's children, celebrating our redemption through the cross of Christ, with hearts and minds open to hear God's word, we anticipate a fresh encounter with the Holy Spirit. We know God is alive and among us, engaging us, and speaking to us whenever we lift our voices together in praise. Through our enthusiastic participation in music, liturgy, prayer, and sacraments we create a place where people are comfortable to express the full range of human emotion. We recognize that God is responding with comfort, encouragement, reassurance, forgiveness, blessing, challenge, excitement, hope, power, inspiration, and relationship - empowering us to carry the good news of the Gospel into the world.

Worship & Music Goals for 2015 – 2018

- Create a sacred space leading to a fresh encounter with the Holy Spirit.
- Provide engaging worship in which everyone can participate and understand.
- Increase participation in worship by providing ways to make all disciples more comfortable in worship leadership roles.
- Equip Christ's disciples with a language and spirit to carry the gospel story from the sanctuary into the world.

To ensure that we are creating a sacred space to provide engaging worship requires the gifts and talents of those who serve at Messiah by:

- Getting our sanctuary ready for worship. THE ALTAR GUILD (Cherrie Crudele)
- Distributing the body and blood of Jesus Christ. ASSISTING MINISTERS (See Pastor Aileen)
- Welcoming disciples and visitors and guests. THE GREETERS (Barb Corman)
- Contributing to the needs of those gathered and seeking to show hospitality. THE USHERS (Ed Orlando)
- Reading the lessons at each Sunday service. THE LECTORS
- Planning meaningful and creative worship experiences for the whole congregation. THE WORSHIP TEAM (Pastor Aileen Robbins, Willie LaFavor, Shelly Knapp, Cherrie Crudele, Jeff Gerstenberger, Sandy Moncrief, Tarra Hartmann, Tarri Mundt, Ed & Susan Orlando, Barb Corman)

Messiah's Worship Team met 6 times in preparation for 2017 worship experiences, agreeing that each meeting would include the following:

- Prayer (To focus our intention to nurture and develop Christian community as a team)
- Reflections (What has just happened in worship? Successes and disappointments? And Revisions (Ways to improve? Changes? New Ideas to Implement?))
- Upcoming Worship Experiences (Laying out the basis and details for upcoming worship experiences)
- Miscellaneous Matters/Next Steps/Administration followed by Closing Prayer and Adjournment

Reflections: What made the service an exciting experience? What gave it energy? What moments during service were the best we could offer to Jesus and those who came to worship? What do we want to repeat? What do we want to make sure never happens again? What can make the service even better and to the next level?

Special Prayer Stations: An opportunity for individuals to have private prayer for special needs and concerns will continue at both sides of the altar during Communion on the 2nd Sunday of the month.

Prayer Stations: Will continue new stations (world map with candles, cross for prayers for healing (with band aids), and book for prayer requests; continue the prayers submitted by the children; must remember to ask the children if they have special prayers during the children's message

All Saints: Created the opportunity to remember loved ones who passed into eternal rest during the year and those who had passed in prior years as well.

Congregational flow during Communion: We continued the flow that is used on the 2nd Sundays when personal prayer stations are offered as the standard flow in which the congregation comes up the center aisle for Communion

Good Friday: We continued to have no noon service. Participated in the morning Ecumenical Cross Walk: building beloved community through a show of unified concern across denominational and cultural lines.

Revisions:

Sharing Unified Worship Experiences and Resources MELC and LCC:

- New Worship Schedules for a two-year commitment: LCC service at 9 am and MELC service at 11:00 am. This allows adequate fellowship and travel time for Pastor Aileen as she supports MELC and LCC
- Combined Worship Teams met twice in 2017 to share Narrative Lectionary materials and plan the combined services during Advent and Christmas
- Lenten midweek service and discussions was at noon at MELC and evenings at LCC
- We look to increase the number of opportunities for unified worship and agreed that on such occasions those services will start at 10 am which is midway between 11 am service at MELC and the 9 am service at LLC
- Joint choirs will continue to seek opportunities to share their musical gifts together

Worship During Pastor Aileen's El Camino Journey: Pastor Shoop (MELC) and Pastor Irmer (LCC) ensured that the pastoral needs of both churches were fully satisfied during Pastor Aileen's Sabbatical Journey

Narrative Lectionary: We began using the NARRATIVE LECTIONARY STARTING AT ADVENT.

There are 2 different readings instead of 4 readings; liturgical colors generally remain the same; we receive a more comprehensive sampling of the stories of God's work in creation and through his children; and we have a specific story focus each week

Policy Review: The Worship Team updated the Wedding Policy, revised the Communion Assistants Policy which is now the Worship Assistants policy, and developed a new Funeral Policy

Informational Meetings: As a team we reviewed the worship-related feedback from the Informational Meetings that were facilitated to respond to the questions from members of MELC about the status of LCC: The Lord's Prayer, Communion, Service Times, Service Elements, Music, and Environment

Communion Bread: Continues to be a topic since the bread we use is no longer available from our source. We switched to naan bread on an interim basis and will explore other options, including volunteer bakers who would follow a specific recipe, in early 2018.

Bell Choir: The Bell Choir is now situated in the Sanctuary instead of the choir loft. The response has been favorable and more attention to the Bell Choir from the members of the congregation is evident.

Technology: Just in time for Christmas we were able to replace the projector in the front of the Sanctuary with a new projector that is mounted from the balcony area. As a result there is no further need for any tables in the front pews or a cart in the front of the Sanctuary.

Entering 2018, the Worship Team and all Worship Ministries of Messiah will continue to open our hearts to God and the Holy Spirit who inspires us and guides us in all things. We know we will be challenged by possible changes in our infrastructure in 2018, but may we as God's people be changed and uplifted as we continue to worship in Christ's name. Let us be excited by all that lies ahead as He continues to work among us.

Peace Be With You All, Shelly Knapp

Faith Formation Ministry Report

FAITH FORMATION VISION: *We are disciples of the living God, learning at the feet of Jesus, open to the Spirit working in us and through us to make Christ visible. We work together in love, challenging each other to grow and act in faith. We recognize and celebrate God's work in ourselves, in others, and in the community.*

FAITH FORMATION TEAM RESPONSIBILITIES:

The role of Faith Formation Team is to provide opportunities & support for faith growth, for people of all ages. It includes Adult Christian Education, Bible study, Confirmation Class, Sunday School, Prayer Cell, Spiritual Growth Group, the Library team, Women's Breakfast & Study, MAD Camp, Youth Group, Adult Youth Group, experiential faith events, opportunities and much more!

We support the current programs and encourage new ministries & opportunities that may be proposed. In effect, the team works to provide the best Christian education programs that we are able, while also providing opportunities to grow in our faith. The Faith Formation Team actively works with the other Messiah HUB Ministries & their teams, engaging as disciples, using the gifts of all to respond through our ministries.

Messiah is blessed with an abundance of strong, active Faith Formation ministries, thanks to our many, dedicated, faithful leaders and the commitment of those people to engage opportunities for us as disciples, to enrich & deepen our Christian faith.

Adult Faith Formation opportunities are many at Messiah. Education & bible study are offered Sunday evenings, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, mornings and evenings, at church and in the community, in several formats, some in conjunction with our friends from Lutheran Church of Concord and with a great variety of leaders.

Events & opportunities also covered under Faith Formation this past year included: The Good Friday Ecumenical Cross Walk, LYO events & Winter Weekend and Adult Youth Group activities. The Faith Formation Team scheduled informative Reformation/Martin Luther bulletin inserts once a month for the past year, leading up to the 500th anniversary celebration of the Martin Luther's Reformation in 2017. Faith Formation in conjunction with the Reach Out Team sent Reformation postcards to a school in Germany. Our Library Team also held a Reformation 500 Bookstore (sponsored by Augsburg) as part of our Reformation celebration. The Faith Formation team researched and wrote a reflection, prayer prompt and guide for Messiah's Prayer Drive during Pastor Aileen's sabbatical. Most recently, Messiah's Christmas Tree FUNdraiser engaged 60-65 people from the congregation and the community outside Messiah, all to benefit Messiah's Youth Gathering Fund.

Faith Formation is a busy & active ministry at Messiah! We look forward to building on these many ministries in the future and welcome participation & suggestions from anyone who wishes to join with us.

Tarra Hartmann

Library

If we had to choose a theme for 2017, GROWING/STRENGTHENING OUR FAITH would most define our year.

ADULTS

In anticipation of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, the library hosted a REFORMATION 500 BOOK FAIR. Augsburg Press supplied sample sale copies, which the library was able to keep. Titles ran the gamut from PAPA LUTHER, a young adult graphic novel to sermons to ecumenism and all facets of Martin Luther's life and thoughts.

Our Memorial Day display really touched hearts. L.J. Schneider, donated his boyhood collection of toy soldiers and everyone was encouraged to take a soldier for their pocket or purse. Each time they touched the soldier it was a reminder to pray for our service people. Our display also featured books from our more patriotic selections, such as D'Souza's WHAT'S SO GREAT ABOUT AMERICA and Mansfield's LINCOLN'S BATTLE WITH GOD. This feel-good display was capped off by a solemn reminder. FREEDOM IS NEVER FREE displayed combat boots and a 5 line biography titled THESE BOOTS.

CHILDREN

The younger members of our congregation received second hand Christmas/Advent books and shiny new copies of the Easter story.

To help with Daniel Seamans Eagle Scout project, we offered him a nice selection of young adult paperbacks.

Used reading material was given away at a "free to a good home" table during MAD Camp.

And finally, we were able to give each Sunday School child a one-year subscription to SPARKS FAMILY (replaced THE LITTLE LUTHERAN), which will begin with the March/April 2018 issue.

OTHER

Amish stories and a wide selection of audio books were added to our collection this year.

Finally, we are happy to announce that 51 more books were borrowed in 2017. For a small library like ours this is a significant increase. We thank our many loyal readers and invite others to give us a try.

Jo-Ann Honan

Women's Breakfast & Bible Study

The Messiah Women's Breakfast and Bible Study Group is a gathering of women that study and share their faith with one another on the third Saturday of the month at 8:30 am in the Conference Room. Usually we have about 6-8 ladies so it is small enough to have a good discussion. We begin with coffee, tea, a continental breakfast and prayer. The group is open to **all** women and we have a diverse group that meet faithfully as we study and support one another in our faith journey.

Our group began meeting in September and we conclude in May. This year in September we began studying the book, "Bible Sisters" which is about women in the Bible, some of whom are well known and some that we hear very little about. The stories are interesting and we can always find ways that we as women can relate to these women. The discussion can be lively and compassionate as we uphold each other. We all take turns facilitating the lesson of the month and have enjoyed doing this. If you choose not to be a facilitator that is OK too. Ladies also sign up to bring the breakfast as well so there is always something you can do if you like.

We would love to have you join us, no need to call ahead just come and we will have a book and a warm welcome for you.

Contact person for the group is Joanne Ligtenberg, 621-3813

Reach Out Ministry Report

We extend Christ's love by reaching out with open arms and hearts. We joyfully welcome all people into fellowship, service and Christian worship. Called to be Christ-like disciples we support each other and care for all people. Inspired by the power of the Holy Spirit, we serve all in daily life.

In 2017 the Reach Out Team has continued our effort to reach into the community and invite our congregation to stretch their activity within the Church and in the Community. Our activities are coordinated with "Good News", the church office and the website. It seems as though more and more people are finding us electronically. This past year we put up large banners outside the Church for Soup-er Saturday, the Country Fair and the Kid's Christmas Workshop. Reach Out has now purchased a stand up A-frame sign that will be put up one week prior to Soup-er Saturday and then taken down again.

Our guests on Soup-er Saturday like to keep up with what is going on at Messiah so we provide that information at the luncheons in written form and verbally. This year we had people join us at the Country Fair, the Pastor's Welcome Back Event and some grandchildren were at the Children's Christmas Workshop. Our guests like to know what is going on at Messiah so we provide information at the luncheon and they have come to other events as well.

Soup-er Saturday began in 2014 with about 12 guests from the Community. In 2015 we served 375, 2016 it was 700 and in 2017 we served 755. About 83% of the people served are from the community, many are repeat guests and there are always some new folks. It is nice to know that we are now viewed as a "safe, trusted and friendly place to come".

The Children's Christmas Workshop is a newer event and began in 2016 with about 35 kids coming to make gifts. In 2016, 42 kids were at the Workshop 2017 with a lot of them having been there the previous year and told us how much they had enjoyed it. On the way out a lot of them asked if we are going to do this again next year and the answer is. "Yes, we plan to".

In both of these events it seems as though the people that work the events enjoy it as much as the people who come to participate.

Our coffee hours after church prove to be very popular and we would like to thank everyone who bakes and buys treats to help make this happen. Don't know how to make coffee? Don't worry about it, just note that when you sign up and our Team will take care of it. We will let the treats and clean up in your hands.

Our Country Fair had hot weather this year and since we had a lot of events that the congregation had to make a dish to pass for, the food was purchased. We asked the congregation to make desserts and did they ever do a wonderful job. We had a lot of guests from the community and that is always great. We started off with a wonderful worship service under the big tent followed by a luncheon with grilled hot dogs. Then the fun and games began with the "Hay Ride to Nowhere", Bounce House, Bingo, Great Old-Fashioned Country Games, and finishing the day with square dancing. It was awfully hot for square dancing so that ended early as we didn't want anyone to get over heated. Once again a great time was had by all!

We are looking for ways in 2018 that we can do a better job of reaching out into the community to help us interact and serve the people that live and work around us.

Joanne Ligtenberg

Service Ministry Report

We are all God's Children. At Messiah, we will endeavor to be God's hands and feet, serving all of his people. Using our God given gifts, with thoughtful prayer, commitment, and generosity, we will provide a variety of services to meet the needs of the community.

2017 was another exciting and gratifying year! We continued to be heavily involved in many ministries. So many members of Messiah gladly gave their time and talents to serve our community in ways that share the love of God with all of God's people. This year Messiah "adopted" a room at RAIHN's new Day Center and furnished it so someone would have a place to relax in private during the day. Tarri Mundt worked hard to get it furnished.

'God's Work, Our Hands' was another big event for Messiah. Messiah's Retreat at Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center was the same weekend as ELCA's designated weekend for GWOH. So we did GWOH at LCLC and Rochester! The Retreat was a huge success. Concord arranged for GWOH activities here in Greece and Rochester. Messiah members not at the Retreat, joined those activities.

The Service team and Messiah members are excited to be joining Concord's Transformational Ministries. This program has been developing and growing for a year and a half at Concord. They are now partnering with Holmes Road Elementary School and Food Link to provide weekend sack-lunches to 20 needy students. Although the need is much larger, this number is a good place to start. Messiah will be sharing the costs of this lunch program.

Here's a complete list the Service Ministry activities: Angel Tree, Blankets for Mercy House, Creative Hands (Shawls), CROP Walk, Disaster Relief, Erna's Hope, Feed My Starving Children, Friendship Circle, 'God's Work. Our Hands.' Sunday, Grace House, Greece Food Shelf, Habitat for Humanity, Helping Each Other, Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center Projects, Lutheran-Episcopalian Campus Ministry Dinner (at RIT), Maggie's Kids / Community Lutheran Ministries, Operation Christmas Child, Tops' Bread, RAIHN, St. John's Home, Thanksgiving Baskets, and Winter Coat Drive.

In 2017, the Service Local Benevolence financially supported these ministries: Angel Tree, Community Lutheran Ministries (Maggie's Kids), CROP Walk, Feed My Starving Children, Genesee Finger Lakes Conference, Greece Food Shelf, Greece Churches Habitat for Humanity, House of Mercy, LCLC, Loop Ministries, Open Door Mission, RAIHN, RAIHN Graduating Families, Lutheran-Episcopalian Campus Ministries at RIT, South Wedge Mission, Wegmans Gift Cards, and the special lunch program at Holmes Road Elementary School.

I have reached the end of my term and can no longer be the Service team leader. It has been a pleasure and honor using our God given gifts together to meet the needs of the community! Thank you Messiah members for all you do!

Respectfully submitted,
John Corman

RAIHN

The team of RAIHN volunteers from Messiah helped host four successful rotations during 2017, engaging in such meaningful activities as being a Host at mealtime, a Cook for an evening meal or weekend breakfast, Overnight Chaperone, or doing up the Laundry at the end of the week. So I hear you asking, “What would I be doing if I volunteered for one of these roles?” To Host at mealtime, you'd be setting the tables, serving the meals prepared by our Cooks, socializing with the guests during the meal and afterwards, and cleaning up the kitchen when everyone is finished eating. This shift is from 5:00 to 8:30 pm Sunday through Saturday evenings, and from 10:00 am until the families depart for the next Hosting Congregation around 1:30 pm on the final Sunday of a rotation week. Our RAIHN Cooks usually prepare the evening meals at home and bring them to Incarnate Word at 5:30 pm all ready to be served. On the weekends the breakfasts are more elaborate than the weekday, but that is solely up to the Volunteer's discretion. Saturday morning breakfast Cooks arrive at 7:00 am and Sunday's Cooks arrive at 8am. If you wanted to serve as Overnight Chaperone, you'd arrive at Incarnate Word at 8:30 pm with your sleeping bag and pillow in tow, and stay overnight with our guests until 7:30 am the next morning. Monday through Saturday mornings you'd be responsible for seeing that the families get up and have an opportunity to grab a quick breakfast before the RAIHN bus comes to take them back to the Day Center for their daily activities, i.e. school or work, or finding new housing, etc. This past August, the RAIHN Ministry moved to a new Day Center location on 142 Webster Avenue. Messiah participated in the Adopt A Room project with several other RAIHN congregations, which allowed us to totally redecorate one of the Family Rooms in the new Day Center. All the rooms were carpeted through the generous donation of a local vendor, but we volunteers painted and furnished our “adopted” rooms, transforming the former commercial retail space into more homey, welcoming rooms for our RAIHN families. Our “adopted” room has a lovely white rocking chair, small lamp and table, a large throw pillow for lounging on the floor, decorative pictures and a large clock on the walls, along with some handy hooks for hanging up coats and jackets, and a locked cabinet for the Family to store their belongings in. We had such fun furnishing and decorating this room which has a plaque on the entrance wall to denote our donation efforts! In 2018, Messiah will again serve with the volunteers from Lutheran Church of the Incarnate Word and Bethany Presbyterian in four rotation weeks starting on January 21st, April 29th, July 29th and October 28th. So if you'd like to volunteer some time to this awesome ministry of hospitality to the homeless families in our area, please contact me at 957-4022, or see me at Church some Sunday. I would be more than happy to answer any questions you may have, and get your name on our mailing list so you can receive our emails with the Doodles to sign up for the various roles outlined above that are part of our master schedule for each RAIHN rotation week. Respectfully submitted, Tarri Mundt

Operation Christmas Child (A Samaritan's Purse ministry)

This is a ministry we as Messiah members have participated in for a number of years, which consists literally of packing a shoebox with health and school supplies, toys and/or games to be shipped overseas with Christian literature added in Boone, NC before being shipped overseas to any of 130 countries. Over the last 20 years 100 million shoeboxes have carried the message of Jesus' saving grace to needy children throughout the world. This year, with the help offered from a *Thrivent Action Team* grant, we shipped 36 boxes, down from 52 just a year ago. We feel the decrease of sixteen children not receiving a shoebox and the Good News of Jesus Christ was due to the bulletin announcement that stated our values did not agree with the values of the parent organization (Samaritan's Purse). The greater Rochester four county area shipped 19,834 boxes. We will publish where our boxes ended up as we receive word. We enjoyed the multi-generational packing party stuffing shoeboxes, writing personal messages to include, and enjoying pizza, soda and ice cream for the last time. Larry Dennis

Communications Ministry Report

We empower Messiah's disciples to do the work of Christ by make accurate information available to all in the church and in the larger community. We effectively explain, remind, refresh, and refocus the work of Messiah's ministries. We enable the coming-together of individuals into a cohesive community.

The communications team continues to look at how we are communicating to both our members and the community at large. Although this is an ongoing activity, we did accomplish several things this past year.

We developed a New Member handbook to be given to all those joining our Messiah family. It included information about us (a brochure highlighting our ministries, and a telephone directory), and forms for new members to fill out, so we could learn more about them. (a new member form and time and talent form.) All forms are in electronic form, so they can be modified as changes occur.

We have had increasing success in getting our events published in the Greece Post, the Greece News (a monthly publication), and the Democrat and Chronicle. Our Soup-er Saturday is now one of the ongoing events in the Greece Post calendar, and individual events have been well publicized. The Men's Breakfast articles are in almost every month. We have had extended articles with pictures on Soup-er Saturday, MAD Camp, and the Kids Christmas Workshop. Thank you Ed Orlando for the many informative as well as first person articles you have written.

In light of our growing relationship with Concord, we are including their events in our bulletins and Herald. Likewise they are including our information in theirs. Concord's newsletter is available at Messiah and ours at Concord. Our website also now has a link to Concord's website to further increase shared information. Thank you Dave Best for getting that set up.

The Herald continues to be published monthly, with the exception of a combined June/July edition. Thank you to Susan Orlando and Gene Ligtenberg for your work as editors of the Herald, and to Matt Robbins for designing and providing graphics for the final edition. If you check it out on line, it is even in color!!

Our website continues to keep our members and the community informed about both our church and its upcoming activities. Thank you Dave Best for your ongoing work on this.

Thank you to Jerry Klima for video-taping Pastors sermons this past year. Unfortunately he will no longer be able to do so, and we are looking for someone else to take over. Training will be provided, so if you are interested, please contact the church office.

Lastly, new members are always welcome to join our team. Watch the bulletin for meeting dates. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask.

Cathy Coe

Property Ministry Report

Property Mission:

As faithful followers of God, we join together to provide a sanctuary from life's troubles and storms. A Holy place where all of God's people can come to be embraced in the care, comfort and safety of Jesus's loving arms. We offer our time, talents and treasure to provide a worship space for the Lord's people to give worship, honor, glory and praise to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

My thanks and praise go out to the Property Team for the time and talents they put forth. The gals and guys plant and nurture the flower gardens and shrubs to make Messiah presentable, welcoming and inviting from the outside. I thought this year the shrubs and gardens looked exceptional! The crew that cleans does the same for inside the church. Then from constant repairs, (including the organ) to carpentry, electrical or plumbing work. The team will try to tackle any project if we can to save money, but more importantly "To Give Back". My sincere thanks and gratitude for all those who keep the church property looking good !

Weather is always a factor for any property. Our new sanctuary roof survived the Ides of March 80+ mph wind storm without losing one shingle. However our old gray roof lost several shingles due to the storm and other minor damage costing us under \$100 in material. We should recoup that \$100 cost and more, from Non-Utility usage for the 4 - 5 days with no electricity or boiler gas. Though I would not recommend this method as a way to save future Utility costs. March to mid-June was very wet and we always seem to attract water problems like a magnet. For instance when the rain water backed up on the roof and broke through the upper women's room ceiling making a 4' x 4' hole and mess. Thank God for our talented repair team to repair the hole and repaint the entire women's room.

Major improvements noted for 2017 include:

Upstate Roofing striped and re-shingled the gable roof above our office areas. As of 2017 all our roofs are either new or just a few years old. Like our flat roof which also had some minor repairs done. We shouldn't need a new roof anywhere for 25 years or more. Because of Code requirement we had to purchase a "New Fresh Air Unit" and that was placed outside, toward English Rd. Its main purposes are to replenish good breathing air and remove exhaled Carbon Dioxide in large areas of assembly such as the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall. The unit also operates when the large exhaust hood is turned on in our kitchen and it will supply good air to balance the exhausted air. Besides monitoring and balancing our breathing air. This unit also has the benefit to run in an A/C or heating mode. We hope to have this new fresh air unit up and operational by summer. We no longer have large ponds to the English and Mt. Read sides as new swales were dug and properly pitched to get rid of the standing water. All our emergency lights were replaced and upgraded to current and recommend standards. With some heavy muscle work the team relocated the balcony bell choir accessories down to the Sanctuary grade level to make it more accessible to our dingers. A lot of work was done to cover up the VFR piping that was installed for the 1 year old HV/AC system in the Sanctuary. It's great to see stained wood now, covering up our plastic and copper piping along walls and floors. Cathy's computer kept getting sick with a virus and would frequently seize up. So we purchased a new computer for her and shuffled around some of the other computers to different areas. We have upgraded our 1st aid kits and consolidated them into just 3 kits now. We seemed to have had more 1st aid kits around our complex than Pfizer had pills

and almost dating back to the days of Clara Barton. The silverware drawers in our kitchen received some re-engineering and revamping for when one pulls out the containers. The container stays at waist level now instead of making silver slippers on your feet. A new ceiling projector was donated, purchased and installed in memory of Brian Tunney. Sorry, no more shadows on the big screen. New fence posts and the prayer garden trellis were re-anchored and standing upright now. Then we had to make a several hundred dollar repair, to get both boilers recertified according to Code.

Challenges for 2018 will be to get the New Fresh Air Unit operational by summer. Our internet and telecommunication is giving us sporadic problems causing business interruptions because of its age and speed. A small committee has been formed looking into various options to reduce our costs and the need for reliable speed and service. One of the team's toughest and biggest challenges is to recruit younger members. As our current team demographic is what I'll call "Well Seasoned but efficient". The boilers will need continued TLC and a touch of maintenance, as our intent is to wean off the boilers and progress into the next new phases of VRF (AC & Heat) for our office areas. We hope that the Foundation for the Future Capital Campaign will continue to grow to meet or exceed our end objectives. As the entire complex has excellent overhead roofing shelter, but there are several future big ticket items that need to be majorly spruced up or replaced in order keep our Lord's House operational and functioning for our Community at large.

Respectfully Submitted for The Property Ministry Team,
Rod Speer (Chair and Chief)

Isaiah 11:1

A new branch will grow from a stump of a tree; so a new king will come from the family of Jesse.



Stewardship Ministry Report

“Now to him by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.” (Ephesians 3: 20-21)

These are the verses of this year’s Stewardship Campaign, which was titled “The Holy Spirit is Bad at Math.” This year, at Messiah, we had many opportunities to share our Time, Talents and Treasures in some different ways.

We began the year with our Capital Campaign “Foundation for the Future.” Leading up to commitment Sunday, when you generously shared your Treasures, we came together in small groups to not only hear about what the campaign was needed for, but to use our Time to share some of our visions for Messiah with fellow members that we may not normally have a chance to interact with.

Next, we engaged in more small groups to discuss our growing relationship with Concord. We had an opportunity to learn and voice our opinions as to what was taking place currently and the direction the relationship will take in the future.

We followed these talks up with planning for activities during Pastor Aileen’s sabbatical. A great deal of Time and use of our Talents went into planning and participating in the opening overnight retreat, writing our own journey journals, exploring our community needs and then sharing our discoveries with Pastor Aileen on her return.

In closing, the Stewardship Campaign reflected on being *“able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask for or imagine”* when we give our Time, Talent and Treasures to God. Truly 2017 was a very active and blessed year of Stewardship activities. Thank you all, especially this year’s Stewardship Team – Barb Ulreich, Wayne Reabold, Andy Mitchell, Scott Bourque, Tarri Mundt, Pastor Aileen, and Pastor Paul – for sharing your time, talents and treasures with your church throughout the year! No doubt, 2018 will continue to reveal opportunities for sharing in God’s work through Messiah.

In Christ’s Name,

Tom Johnson

Finance Director's Report

In 2017, we had some great highs and some concerning challenges. The concerns will continue into 2018.

We started the year with a very successful capital campaign, Foundation for the Future. The goal of the three-year campaign was \$450,000 and you very generously committed to giving \$411,900. What is even more gratifying is that \$227,090 or 55% of the amount pledged has been given in the first 10 months!

Since the year started before the capital campaign began, we had to include the \$12,288 in loan payments due for our new roof in the operating budget. While we tried to keep the payments in the operating budget, we saw that the budget would not be in balance at the end of the year. Therefore, the full \$12,288 came out of the capital campaign funds.

Another challenge was that the actual pledged amount received for the operating budget came in \$4,740 less than expected. In addition, the seasonal offering was under budget by \$3,572. Finally, the loose offering was under budget by \$2,037. So, these three budget line items together totaled \$10,349 under budget. Your HUB members worked hard to control spending and we closed the books on 2017 with a \$1,721 positive cash flow placed into the "Current Fund – Carry Over" to balance the budget.

We concluded the year with activities during Pastor Aileen's Sabbatical. The Kickoff Retreat, booklets for journaling, and the Return Celebration were all paid for with funds from the Lilly Grant and did not affect the operating budget.

The coming year, 2018, is shaping up to be another challenge. Total pledges for 2018 were \$9,626 less than the actual pledged amount received in 2017. Since the seasonal offering and loose offering were \$5,609 or 53% under budget in 2017, we lowered the budget numbers for these items in 2018. Therefore, we will be looking at a 7% reduction in our 2018 budget, reducing it \$20,000 from \$298,000 to \$278,000. This, of course, will be discussed at the Finance Forum.

We will continue to look for ways to cut costs in the new year. We are working on switching the automatic giving from Simply Giving with Vanco, which costs us \$360 per year, to a free program being offered by Canandaigua National Bank. Also, we are looking for ways to cut our telephone and internet costs from the annual Frontier charge of \$3,300. Additionally, you will see more capital projects this year.

I would like to thank everyone who has helped with the finances this year, especially Gene Ligtenberg, Dave Best and Rod Speers, along with the other members of the Property Management Team, who helped on the major projects; the rest of the property team; the other financial team members; the auditing team; my fellow Hub members; Cathy Coe and Pastor Aileen.

In Christ's Name,

Tom Johnson

Accompaniment Team Annual Report (and Partnership Team with Concord)

As you read this report, please note that there will be more discussion concerning our partnership with Concord at the annual meeting.

Option 1, closure: A choice taken by a congregation to dissolve and members go separate ways to find a new church.

Option 2, merger: A congregation is absorbed into another congregation.

Option 3, consolidation: Two or more congregations join together to create a new congregation.

These are the choices for the Lutheran Church of Concord congregation to select from over the next several months. It will be a slow process, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, to discern which path to take. Messiah, via our accompaniment team, is walking with our sister congregation as it travels this path.

It is likely that Concord's members will propose Option 2 or 3 (or some combination of 2 and 3) to Messiah, and it will be up to us to accept the proposal or offer alternative solutions. Anticipating these choices, our congregation's members participated in a series of small group meetings last summer. Listed here are common concerns that came as feedback from the small groups: decisions being made behind closed doors, losing focus on our ministries as we evaluate our future, losing members, and what convenient ways will be available to become acquainted with Concord's members.

During a congregational meeting in August, these concerns were addressed. The accompaniment team responded to the concerns in the following manner. Decisions will not be made behind closed doors but in open Messiah congregational meetings. Regarding losing focus on our ministries, the accompaniment team sees a small but extremely vibrant congregation with new energy to support our ministries. If some Messiah members want to leave, we cannot dictate what people choose to do, but we will be aware of the situations and keep an open line of communication. Additionally, when the time is right, we will arrange ways for Messiah and Concord members to become acquainted.

In the meantime, currently there are many ways the two congregations work or socialize together, such as combined choirs, Thanksgiving baskets, God's work/our hands day of service, good will folks, and the men's breakfast. Furthermore, Concord members will bring several successful service and outreach ministries as well as new ideas to Messiah.

Accompaniment team members: Pastor Aileen, Gary Cantleberry, Cathy Coe, John Corman, Julie Gerstenberger, Tarra Hartmann, Cindy Hutton, Linda Irmer, Shelly Knapp, Joanne Ligtenberg, Tom Johnson, Rod Speer.

Respectfully submitted by Gary Cantleberry

Men's Breakfast Annual Report

This past year two of our valuable planning team members entered into eternal life with our Lord and Savior. We genuinely miss Lloyd Overmoyer and Brian Tunney. They added vision and direction to our planning team as well as the ongoing function of the ministry.

2017 was a successful year for the men's breakfast ministry. Our attendance crept into the mid-30's with men attending from several different local congregations along with a few who have no church affiliation. Our goal is to make each man feel comfortable at Messiah, and our format of a delicious breakfast, a devotion, a guest speaker, and plenty of Christian fellowship seems to work.

We are thankful for the team that prepares our breakfast and the list of several excellent guest speakers. Much of our success is due to the food preparation team of Susan, Judy T. Stephanie, Cherri, and many-time sub Judy M. Our guest speakers provided interesting and entertaining presentations across a variety of topics.

It is important to note the contribution of the dedicated breakfast planning team of Gary Cantleberry, Tom Johnson, Wayne Reabold, Royal Stellrecht, Jim Taylor, and Doug Webster who serve together for this ministry.

Respectfully submitted by Gary Cantleberry

Thrivent Active at Messiah

Thrivent is a Fraternal Financial organization that shares its profits with 501C3 charitable organizations. Thrivent continued its focus to encourage its individual members to help fund their "passions". With this individual member emphasis Messiah received nearly \$200 from the **Thrivent Choice Program** where Benefit members designated accumulated charitable \$ from their account to Messiah. Through **Thrivent Action Teams**. Messiah members used \$250 seed funds to increase generosity to programs and ministries they are "passionate" about. A Messiah Thrivent member sponsored the Operation Christmas Child packing party and another Thrivent Messiah member used the **Thrivent Action Team** money to purchase the food for the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper so the proceeds from the ticket sales could go to fund sending our Youth to the Worldwide Youth Convention in Houston. Another Thrivent member used the \$250 to aid in the Christmas Tree campaign and to purchase the tree baler. Additionally, 34 members visited and enjoyed an Evening of Play at **Strong Museum of Play** and helped contribute more than \$2200 to **Rochester Food link** and the **Greece Ecumenical Food Shelf**. If you are a Thrivent member or would like to become one, talk with Larry or Sue Dennis. A \$19.99 annual affiliate membership could give you \$250 in seed money to benefit a ministry or cause you care about.

Larry Dennis

Hub Nominations

Jeff Gerstenberger - President

I grew up in Ann Arbor, Michigan and moved to Rochester in 1988. I am an electrical engineer and am currently a partner at AppliedLogix, LLC where I design electronics for cameras, printers, and other devices. I met my wife Julie while attending the University of Michigan and we have been married for 29 lovely years. We have a son, Alex, who is a software engineer working here in Rochester.

I grew up in the Episcopal Church and then became a member of Brighton Reformed Church when I moved to Rochester. Our family joined Messiah in 2008. Since becoming a member here, I have participated in the Worship Team, assisted in worship services, planned and led leadership and discipleship workshops, and recently chaired the Foundation for the Future Capital Campaign. I look forward to working with Pastor Aileen and all of the leaders in the congregation to exploring ways in which we can minister to our community and witness to the good news of the Gospel.

Judy Webster – Reach Out

Doug and I have been members of Messiah for over forty years. I have been a Sunday school teacher, a member of Altar Guild, Endowment Fund, Church Books Auditor, Reach Out Team, Greeter and Kitchen Co-chair.

Mark Sutliff – Service

Mark Sutliff is a Test Engineer by day supporting his company's Service Centers globally. Outside of work, he spends time with his wife Jordu, daughter Loryn and dog Indigo living in Gates. He enjoys spending time with family and friends, relaxing at home and grilling on weekends. Being a member of Messiah has been an important part of his life, and he looks forward to leading a Service team and its challenges.

Jeff Ulreich – “At Large”

Jeff was born and raised on Long Island. Attended Long Island Lutheran High School prior to going to college at RIT. He earned his BS degree in mechanical engineering in 1991 and in 2004 earned his MS degree in mechanical engineering, both from RIT. He married Barbara Wilson in 1996 and is father to Kyra and John. Jeff has worked as an engineer for Cadbury, Morrison Knudsen, Kodak and Kodak's joint venture NexPress, and has spent the last 12 years working for the University of Rochester, Laboratory for Laser Energetics as a Research Engineer responsible for cryogenic systems and target positioning supporting the national fusion campaign. He is a sports enthusiast who enjoys volleyball, biking, skiing, water skiing, and baseball.

His memory is going and he can't remember what year he began coming to Messiah but it was around the time Pastor Aileen celebrated the 15th anniversary of her ordination. He has enjoyed spending the last 3 years helping teach confirmation to the amazing minds of Messiah youth.

Messiah's 2017 Statistical Highlights

Confirmed 1/1/17	381	Baptized 1/1/17	443
Adults received	13	Baptized received	15
Confirmands	5	Child Baptisms	3
Deaths	10	Deaths	10
Adult transfers out	1	Transfers out	2
Removed by HUB	17	Removed by HUB	26
 Confirmed 12/31/17	 371	 Baptized 12/31/17	 423

Attendance:	<u>'17</u>	<u>'16</u>	<u>'15</u>
Average	120	129	131
Easter	218	246	266
Christmas (Eve & Day)	255	340	357

Marriages performed: 4
Funeral or Memorial Services: 17

Our attendance numbers were affected this year by a change in worship times due to our relationship with The Lutheran Church of Concord. A number of Messiah members have been worshipping each week at Concord's 9 am service, decreasing our attendance here at Messiah.

The Endowment Fund

The Endowment Fund provides an opportunity to make gifts to Messiah that will provide ongoing, perpetual funding for the mission of Messiah. Gifts to the Endowment Fund establish a principle that will not be spent. Rather that principle is invested and only the earnings on the principle will be spent. It is intended that these earnings be used primarily for special needs and goals relative to the mission of Messiah. That could mean a special outreach program, a special inspirational program, a special educational program, or any other special program or project deemed important to furthering the mission of Messiah. There is, however, a stipulation in the Endowment Fund Charter that prohibits the spending of any earnings until a total principle of at least \$100,000 is achieved. As of the end of 2017 the total principle stood at \$21,940.

The Endowment Fund is administered by a board of trustees. During 2017 the board members were Tom Johnson, Gene Ligtenberg, Tarri Mundt, Mary Sonnevile, Judy Webster, and Ladd Dromgold.

Nomination:

Wayne Reabold

Wayne and Mary Lou joined Messiah in 1966. They have 3 children (Tamie, Melanie, and Beth) and 6 grandchildren. He has previously served as the Director of Finance, treasurer, was on the HUB, and is currently participating in a number of ministries at Messiah. He is a retiree from Kodak and enjoys day trips, traveling with Mary Lou, volunteering as an AARP Tax Aide, golf and the grandchildren.

