



2/25/2018

# 2017 Annual Report

All Saints Lutheran Church



4800 All Saints Rd NW, Albuquerque NM 87120



## PASTOR KRISTIN SCHULTZ ~ ANNUAL REPORT

When we gather for our congregational meeting on February 25, it will be one year exactly from the first Sunday I worshipped with you in 2017. We have done so much together in one year! I have been on a steep learning curve, as I get to know you, and how you do things.

I appreciate the rich tradition of worship and music here, as our choir and bell choir continue to offer beautiful and meaningful accompaniment to our worship. The Praise Band has stepped up to lead worship twice a month with energy and joy, offering a wonderful alternative for those who like something more casual and new. Whatever the style or setting – I look forward to trying new things with you in the years to come! – my hope is that our worship always expresses how glad we are to come together around the Word of God and sacraments of baptism and Holy Communion.

A lot has happened in our first year – I can't begin to capture it all. Some highlights are:

- ❖ Meet the Pastor gatherings through the summer, when I got to hear stories of many of your lives and experiences at All Saints.
- ❖ Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp: South, where I joined our middle and high school youth for a fantastic camp experience, led by Rainbow Trail but in a new southern NM location. Over a dozen youth will go to RTLC this summer!
- ❖ Gathering in the fall with over 30 adult learners to watch the Claiming our Gifts video series and read *By Heart*, a new commentary on the Small Catechism (see more in the Adult Education report).
- ❖ Walking in the Gay Pride parade with a small but energetic group of church members on a hot June morning.
- ❖ Working with a fantastic church staff – a group of people who care deeply about this community and support us in music, administration, preschool, and youth ministry. Thank you, Cassandra, Martha, Carolyn, Katherine, Erin, Marleta, Alisa, and Victoria!
- ❖ Working with a great Council, and so many volunteers, committed to leading this congregation into a bright future together.

In the fall, we had a stewardship campaign in which we asked All Saints members to pledge their giving for 2018. We knew that pledging was not a strong part of the tradition of this church, and felt our goal of 50 pledges would be a challenge. Instead, we received 65 pledges for an annual sum of \$223,000! That's fantastic, and allows us to increase staff hours. Even more, that signals to me that this congregation is ready to commit ourselves to our future together – to commit ourselves to one another and to mission and ministry in our neighborhood, city and world.

We are blessed. We are blessed for the sake of the world around us, and I trust that our future together will take us more fully into the world, even as we ourselves are deeply fed by our worship, education, and life together.

## ADULT EDUCATION

First, I want to repeat something I've often said, which is just how amazing it is that this congregation has three weekly adult Bible study classes, in addition to monthly W-ELCA circles and Wednesday adult education led by the Pastor. Few Lutheran churches can claim that many people gathering to deepen our faith in study of God's Word and elements of Christian life together. I deeply value these ongoing, self-sustaining groups.

Adult Education as organized and led by the Pastor has focused on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 and evenings at 5:30. The education gatherings really took off in the fall, when we watched and discussed the video series created by Bishop Jim Gonia of the Rocky Mountain Synod called *Claiming our Gifts*. These challenged us to claim the gifts of our Lutheran tradition and theology, and how they will carry us into a new and exciting future in ministry. Then, in honor of the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation, we studied Luther's Small Catechism with a new book called *By Heart*. Commentary on each section of the catechism by Lutheran professors from around the country invited us to explore the history and context of the catechism, as well as what it might mean for us today.

Wednesday adult education classes will continue, hopefully with some shared leadership in planning and teaching. I would also love to see other opportunities, such as retreats, book groups, digital groups – other ways for us to explore our faith and how we live it out in this busy and challenging world. Interested? Let's talk.

~ Pastor Kristin Schultz

## BIBLE BREAKOUT – SUNDAY MORNINGS

**Contact:** Martha Montañó

**Volunteer Teachers:** Randine Hughes, Virginia Antonetty, Rhonda Bentz, Megan Barnes, Martha Montañó

During both Sunday services, immediately following the Children's sermon and blessing time, all of the preschool and elementary-aged children go to classrooms for a lesson and activities based on the Gospel lesson for the day. The children were engaged in age appropriate lessons and were encouraged to share their learnings with parents through family-focused take-home sheets. The paid nursery workers were involved in preparing and leading the lessons for the preschool children. All Saints volunteers led the elementary-aged group. Average attendance is 3-4 kids in the nursery and 5-6 kids for elementary age.

We changed the curriculum to Spark Lectionary Curriculum through Augsburg Fortress.

Respectfully submitted, Martha Montañó

## CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY MINISTRY

**Committee Members:** Martha Montañó (contact), Steve Reil, Erin Reil, Nicole Arguello, Jenny Kellett

VBS: (7/17-21/17), A few of the youth helped with various aspects of Vacation Bible School. 70 children attended.

Confirmation Camp: (7/16-23/17), \_\_\_ youth went to Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp in Colorado.

God's Work, Our Hands: (9/9/17), packed food at Roadrunner Foodbank with 4-5 other ELCA churches in town. Approximately 10-12 volunteered.

Hiking to Tent Rocks: (9/24/17), 7 participants

Balloon Burrito Breakfast: (10/7/17), approximately 30 people of all ages. Youth prepared and sold burritos. We made \$500 towards our 2018 youth gathering expenses.

Holy Ghost Weenie Roast: (10/29/17), Pre-K and Elementary focused activities were coordinated by the youth committee, including pumpkin carving, hot dog and s'mores roasting, and many trunk or treats. It was attended by children, youth and families from All Saints church and preschool. A total of 30 people attended.

Serve 505: (10/21 & 11/18/17), packed and distributed food for 75-90 Westside families in need through Harvest Church. 2-3 families volunteered.

Gingerbread House Making Contest: (12/10/17), 26 individuals and families from ASLC and the community joined in this intergenerational event.

Christmas Caroling: (12/17/17), 3 families joined together to visit members at The Neighborhood and Fairwinds to visit and sing carols. After, we returned to church for hot cocoa and cider.

Luminarias: (12/24/17) youth assembled and set-up of over 500 luminarias for services. 12-15 participants.

In July 2017, ASLC hired Martha Montañó as the new Director of CYF Ministry. She has been excited and exuberant in her first 6 months. She has enrolled in the Vibrant Faith University's Faith Formation certification program. She completed her first of six courses, earning a 100% for her first project.

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE

**Contact:** Martha Montañó

**Members:** A team effort by many.

Wednesday Night Live is ASLC's ongoing intergenerational engagement in a common meal, opportunity for Bible study, fellowship, games, and worship. The age range of people served was preschool through seniors.

Elementary students studied various Biblical topics through our "Faith Builders" program which engages the kids with lessons that are combined with building Lego "scenes" of various Bible stories. They also sang in the choir on Wednesdays.

Middle school confirmation students have been working with Pastor Kristin and Steve Reil this year. A new Sparkhouse curriculum, Re:Form was introduced this fall with weekly videos and activities. We have worked through the Bible and Tough Questions (with Pastor) units. One Wednesday a month, Wacky Wednesday, the middle school and high school groups get together for a night of combined fellowship and fun. We have 7-8 youth participating each week.

High school students focused their Bible study time on topical discussions related to school, life, stress, pressures, friends, etc. We started the second half of the year with the re:Form Ancestors curriculum. We studied Adam & Eve, Noah, Abraham & Sarah, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Rahab, and Deborah. We also put together boxes for the college-aged youth in mid-November. We consistently have 5-6 students attend.

Attendance has remained steady at 15-20 adults and 10-12 youth each week. We would love to see this number increase in 2018.

Bell Choir and Adult Choir had their regular rehearsals on Wednesday night as well, and many of the choir members also participated in the community building, meal, and study opportunities.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**  
**PRESENTED BY RAINBOW TRAIL DAY CAMP**

**Committee Members:** Marleta Anderson, Karen Hyde, Karen Cellan, Patty Ferdig, Brenda Culbertson

All Saints had a fantastic Vacation Bible School with Rainbow Trail counselors in 2017. The theme was “Breaking All the Rules-Following Jesus’ Lead” and was held the week of July 17 – 21. The group of counselors that came to All Saints from Rainbow Trail was awesome. Counselors were Clay McCombe, Hannah Maxa, Sarah Eachus, Connor Peterson and All Saints very own Matthew Ferdig. This team of young people provided inspiration through singing and skits, Bible study and all the fun you can imagine. Thank you to Lucy Archambault and the Klenners for housing the counselors.

Church members volunteered to help with many things, provide camper snacks, food for the counselors, supplies for arts and crafts, supervision in the classrooms, clean up and trash collection . Campers this year were divided into five groups – Chattering Chipmunks, Mighty Moose, Busy Beavers, Ready Rams, and Soaring Eagles. Attendance reached 70 in the five groups and the Hooting Owls in the preschool numbered 14 children.

Daily special events for camp this year included “On a Wing and a Prayer”, “Bugs and Reptiles”, Explora Museum – “In a Spin”, Maxwell Museum – Pottery and water play day with the camp counselors. The Thursday night potluck and program was fun and well attended.

This year the children’s service project was to collect items for the Rio Grande Valley Blue Star Mothers. These mothers pack the food and toiletries and send them to the troops overseas.

2016 was the first year that campers came free of a charge. Noisy collections were taken twice in church to pay for VBS. Monies collected paid for all events, Rainbow Trail fees and each camper received a free t-shirt. In 2017, the money collected was not enough to pay for all of the camper fees and no t-shirts were given. My hope is that in 2018 we can continue this “Free” community outreach ministry. Look into your hearts and help fund this event for the children.

Thank you to everyone involved for making 2017 a successful Vacation Bible School program. Plans are under way for an even greater year in 2018.

Marleta Anderson, Director VBS 2017

## **ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL**

“Sometimes we are so busy adding up our troubles that we forget to count our blessings.”

### **BLESSINGS**

The children in the program  
The families of these children  
The Teachers and Director  
Pastor Kristin and Church Staff  
The Preschool Board members  
All Saints Lutheran Church members

### **THANK YOU!**

**FAIHFUL SERVANTS:** Preschool Board Members President – Carol Ormson,  
Vice-President – Tom Hyde, Secretary – Theresa Covell, Council Representative - Jerry Ferdig,  
Member – Cheryl Klenner.

**TEACHERS & DIRECTOR:** Alisa Castillo, Victoria Montes, and Marleta Anderson.

### **WHAT WAS NEW IN 2017!**

The Infant/Toddler program at All Saints was officially opened in September 2017. Rooms were cleaned, painted and cribs put together. After a few glitches with CYFD we were approved for up to 9 infants and toddlers.

Financially, the preschool struggled this last year. For the first time since I have been here there were no gifts or donations made to the preschool during 2017. If anyone is interested in how they can help with the Scholarship program, a donation, gift, Thrivent Choice dollars, and/or donations of supplies and paper goods, please see Marleta Anderson.

If at any time you wish to tour the Preschool, or if you have questions stop by or call Marleta Anderson at 897-2144.



## FINANCE COMMITTEE

**Chair:** Diana Lewis, Treasurer

**Committee Members:** Jim Perry (Finance Secretary), Jim Kruger, Jan Jastram, Marleta Anderson (Preschool Director)

We have been very blessed by God in 2017. Thanks to a generous bequest from the Bibra's we have been able to do many much needed repairs to the church and given generously to various worthy charities and we have a new pastor. It was a quieter year for the finance committee. We completed most of our large projects in 2016. We are still looking for new software to replace Power Church.

Giving was down from 2016 by about \$12,000. However, we are optimistic about 2018. Thanks to the Stewardship committee we have pledges for \$230,000. We are hopeful that the downward trend we have faced for the past few years is at a turning point.

With God's help, we look forward to a wonderful 2018.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Finance Committee

## STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

**Chair:** Jeff Yingling

**Committee Members:** Jerry Ferdig, Tim Hanson, Jim Kruger, Kristin Schultz

All Saints Stewardship Committee had an active and successful 2017.

### Time, Talent and Fellowship Survey

During the winter and spring, we created a Time, Talent and Fellowship Survey. We issued it in April using Survey Monkey, as well as making printed copies available to members who do not use the Internet. Approximately 90 members responded to the survey.

With Mark Winn's assistance, the survey results were organized into ministry, organizational, and fellowship areas which can be shared with church leaders and other interested individuals. If you have not been contacted regarding an activity for which you volunteered or expressed an interest, please let Kristin or Jeff know.

### Make It Simple Commitment Campaign

Starting in the late summer, the Committee, with Pam Hanson's participation, planned a pledging effort to assist Congregation Council with planning/managing finances and helping ensure All Saints' future. The Committee opted to use ELCA's *Make It Simple* commitment campaign. We used content from *Make It Simple* and other sources to communicate the campaign, including

Temple Talks, sermons, posters, mailings, and bulletin/newsletter articles. We also hosted a Fellowship “hour” during which we provided information and answered questions regarding the campaign and stewardship, in general.

The Committee was pleased with the campaign results. We set a modest goal of receiving 50 commitment cards. By the end of 2017, we received 64 cards from individuals and families (exceeding our goal by 28%) who collectively committed \$4337 in total giving per week.

#### Transparency

The Committee made a concerted effort in 2017 to keep the congregation informed regarding stewardship and our activities, using bulletin and newsletter articles as well as other means. We firmly believe communication is key to gaining and maintaining All Saints’ members’ trust and involving them in our church’s mission and ministry.

Also, we are pleased to report we were able to conduct our activities within our \$300.00 budget, spending only \$164.29.

#### 2018

The Committee plans to use the Rocky Mountain Synod’s *Stewardship for All Seasons* program in 2018 as the vehicle for continuing and increasing stewardship at All Saints. More information will be shared as the year progresses.

Currently, we do not plan to conduct another Time, Talent and Fellowship Survey among the general membership for a couple years; however, new members will be asked to complete a survey so they can become better involved in the congregation’s life.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Yingling

## **MEMORIAL & GIFTS COMMITTEE**

**Chair:** Wayne White

The beginning balance in the Memorials and Gifts Committee’s account was \$8,479. During the year, contributions reported were \$1,740. Of this total, \$1,670 has been designated for music and evangelism.

Payments by vouchers totaled \$4,948, primarily for new furniture in the Narthex.

The Committee’s records, based on these data, show a balance at year-end of \$5,271, of which \$2,670 is restricted. It is doubtful, however, that this figure will compare with what is in the computer, since we lack synchronization among various elements of our financial reporting system. This has been discussed with those concerned, and we should see improvements in the year ahead.

## ENDOWMENT FUND

**Chair:** Sharon Ellis

**Committee Members:** Sharon Ellis (Chairwoman), Patty Ferdig, Lois Howard,  
Jim Kruger, and Warren Saur (Treasurer)

<b>Investment</b>	<b>01/01/2017 Value</b>	<b>12/31/2017 Value</b>
Total T. Rowe Price Funds	\$124,916.40	\$141,005.14
U.S. Bank Balance	\$16,382.57	\$10,846.16
Mission Investment Fund	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
Total Investments (includes principal)	\$161,298.97	\$171,851.30
Principal	\$110,320.00	\$110,454.00
Total Available Funds for grants/gifts	\$50,978.97	\$61,397.30

### **Recipients of Endowment Fund Grants in 2017**

<b>Organization/Person</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Annunciation House/Outreach	\$1,000.00
Nanette Morton/Capital Improvement (door window)	\$432.00
Erin Reil/ALCM Biennial Conference in Minneapolis/Scholarship	\$1,300.00
NM Faith Coalition for Immigrant Justice/Outreach	\$500.00
Pastor Schultz/RMS Ministry Excellence Fund/Scholarship	\$400.00
Judith Messal – Presenter at RMSWD Fall Gathering/Missions	\$860.00
ELCA Youth Gathering/2018 youth gathering in Houston,TX/Scholarship	\$2,450.00
Lillian Edwards – RMS Gathering Oct/6-8/2017/Scholarship	\$75.00
Rocky Mountain Synod – Training for 5 people/Scholarship	\$700.00
Total	\$7,717.00

Note: Any amount of unused awarded grant funds returned to the Endowment Fund are included in the U. S. Bank Balance.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Warren Saur (Endowment Fund Treasurer)

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE

**COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT:** To identify the needs of the people in the local and global community and match the talents and resources of All Saints congregation to these needs.

**COMMITTEE MEMBER:** Karen Hyde, chairperson; Judy Messal, recorder; Lillian Edwards, Patty Ferdig, Pamela Hanson, Anne Marie Raftshol and Lucretia Tippit.

**MEETING TIME:** The first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm in the small conference room at church. We welcome anyone to participate as a regular committee member or to volunteer with specific periodic projects.

### **MISSIONS:**

- **Iglesia Luterana Cristo Rey Mission Church, El Paso, TX:** \$1000.00 annual donation
- **Border Servant Corps, El Paso, TX:** \$600.00 annual donation
- **ELCA Young Adults in Global Missions (YAGM):** Tim Slivensky in Bethlehem June 2016-June 2017 and Dan Wang in Cambodia June 2017-June 2018: \$1000.00 each paid in September of the volunteer year.

### **ANNUALLY BUDGETTED DONATIONS:**

- **Bread for the World:** \$200.00 annual dues as a member congregation.
- **Lutheran Campus Ministry in Albuquerque:** \$500.00 annual donation.
- **Lutheran Advocacy Ministry of New Mexico (LAM-NM):** \$1000.00 annual donation.
- **Rainbow Trail Camp, Colorado:** \$800.00 annual donation
- **Lutheran World Relief All Saint's Quilter's Fund:** \$500.

### **2017 MONTHLY ACTIVITIES:**

- **JANUARY 31:** Annual Advocacy Issues Briefing Conference sponsored by Lutheran Advocacy Ministry-New Mexico (LAM-NM) and followed by the Bishop's Luncheon in Santa Fe with Bishop Gonia speaking and state legislators in attendance. 15 members attended from ASLC.
- **MONTH OF FEBRUARY:** Winter collection for Sierra Vista Elementary School Backpack Food Campaign providing non-perishable food to help fill 26+ backpacks each Friday for student's weekend meals.
- **MARCH (Disability Month):** To'Hajiilee Collection of infant and toddler hygiene and clothing items for the To'Hajiilee Navajo Reservation Early Childhood Education Program near Grants.
- **MARCH 1-APRIL 9:** Lenten World Hunger Campaign during which \$3284 was collected.
- **MARCH 12:** Refugee & Immigrants Sunday hosting the Coalition for Immigrant Justice and LFS.
- **MARCH 26-APRIL 2:** Family Promise Hosting with 11 guests, 3 adults and 8 children.
- **MAY 10:** Habitat for Humanity Lunch at the West Mesa building site. 42 volunteers were served.
- **MAY 7:** Bread for the World Offering of Letters to congressional leaders. 88 letters were sent to our congressional leaders.

- **JUNE 18-JULY 2:** Two week Family Promise Hosting at Cross of Hope Church.
- **JULY:** Lutheran Family Services month long collection of household goods.
- **AUGUST 20:** Annual ASLC Bake Sale which this year earned \$500.00 from sales. Funds were donated to AS Vacation Bible School fund.
- **SEPTEMBER:** Autumn backpack food collection project for Sierra Vista Elementary School providing non-perishable food to help fill 26 backpacks each Friday for student's weekend meals.
- **SEPTEMBER 29:** Sponsored a seminar and mini immersion fundraiser for Cristo Rey Iglesia Luterana with Pastor Rose Mary Guzman-Sanchez from El Paso.
- **OCTOBER 1:** Hosted a reception for the recipients of our Bibra Fund charitable donations.
- **OCTOBER 9-16:** Family Promise hosting with 13 guests, 3 adults and 10 children.
- **NOVEMBER 26-DECEMBER 2:** Family Promise Hosting with 4 families, - 8 adults and 5 children.
- **DECEMBER:** Christmas Giving Tree. Christmas gifts and grocery cards were provided for 8 families - 6 from Sierra Vista Elementary School, 1 referred by an AS congregant and 1 from AS Preschool. We had over 80 tags for gifts. We received donations of \$525 which provided grocery cards for each of the families for Christmas dinner. In conjunction with the Preschool, we also had a large collection of hats, mittens, gloves, underwear and pajamas that were donated to Storehouse West.
- **FAMILY PROMISE PROGRAM:** We serve as a host church for the interfaith hospitality program of Family Promise in Albuquerque, a 90 day program for families which houses and feeds participants through host churches and provides assistance in helping families find permanent housing and jobs. Week long hostings occur approximately every 3-4 months during which 3-4 families of up to 16 individuals are housed at All Saints. Each hosting consists of 7 days beginning on a Sunday afternoon and ending the following Sunday. Meals, transportation, overnight lodging and weekend activities are provided for the families. A partnership between All Saints and The Latter Day Saints church was developed this year which has enabled us to more adequately manage this ministry with more volunteers. Several members from Paradise Hills Methodist church continue to assist in providing food for breakfasts & lunches and a new relationship with St. Francis Episcopal Church was started in November.
- **ONGOING PROJECTS:** Ongoing Collections with collection containers located in the Narthex coat closet:
  - **Used inkjet cartridges** recycled at Staples with proceeds going to ASLC business account. We can donate up to 20 cartridges each month @ \$2 received for each cartridge (potential of \$480 per year). A total of \$400 was added to the office account this year for returned cartridges.
  - **Postage stamps** – Any proceeds from these go to help with Outreach projects.
  - **Eyeglasses** to Nicaragua;
  - **Recycled cell phones** to Cellphones for Soldiers for calling cards for deployed service personnel;
  - **Aluminum can tabs** to McDonald House;
  - **Green beans, food & children's clothing** to Storehouse West. Grocery cart in coat closet.
  - **Household goods** to Storehouse downtown. Container outside Preschool door.

- **Aluminum cans** sold for recycling with proceeds going to Family Promise hosting costs. Aluminum collection box is under the counter in the kitchen.

All Saints is one of the most generous, caring and giving congregations we have ever known. Thank you for your steadfast and generous support for all of our outreach programs. Together we are helping to make a difference in our community.

I would like to extend a special note of thanks to the dedicated members of this committee who work so diligently on our various projects and who give so generously and enthusiastically of their time. Along with all the work on the many projects at All Saints, the committee also has representation on the Albuquerque Interfaith Hunger Coalition and the Lutheran Advocacy Ministry-NM boards which keeps us connected to crucial activities in the community.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen M. Hyde, chairperson

## CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

**Chair:** Jan Jastram

**Committee Members:** Shelley Takeuchi, Council representative

The fifth Sunday is designated a potluck Sunday and five of them were held in 2017. The Pinewood Derby continues to be a fun annual event with the expert help of Kathy, Eric and Matt Ferdig. An installation reception was held for Pastor Kristin in February. The Annual Balloon Fiesta Breakfast was very well attended and featured breakfast burritos made and served by the Youth of the congregation.

A BIG thank you to all who helped set up, clean up and serve. Especially Patty Ferdig, Virginia Antonetty, Patty Kruger and Shelley Takeuchi.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jan Jastram

## EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

**Chair:** Kris Ericson

**Committee Members:** Judy Messal, Marlee Barnes, Rika Tillen, Kristin Schultz

In late fall the Evangelism Committee was reconstituted. Evangelism is simple, it's about spreading the Gospel, about loving your neighbor –those we know and those that we don't. Planning for several activities and projects is underway; we'll be reaching out to those who marked interest on their Time & Talent survey to assist. If you're interested in any of our current planning and would like to join the committee, please do so!

- Create a welcome brochure/packet for visitors – completed.
- Facebook presence – more posts, variety of information, boosting posts, “sharing out instead of just looking in,” advertising, tying to website, hashtags, create events,
- Website – refresh the design, link to social media, share information more timely, interactive calendar, mobile friendly instead of mobile ready, sign up button, blogs
- Marketing/Advertising/Outreach – social media, school and community programs, community festivals, neighborhood invitations, church logo/shirts
- Newcomers – “Discover All Saints,” being a welcoming church, permanent name tags, formally accepting new members

Respectfully submitted,  
Kris Ericson

## MUSIC MINISTRY

Carolyn Trueba: Director of Music Ministries, All Saints Choir, Hallelujah Ringers

Katherine Alexander: Organist/Accompanist

Erin Reil: Director of Youth Choir, Grace Notes Praise Band

*Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all you lands!*

*Serve the Lord with gladness; come into God's presence with a song.*

~ Psalm 100

At All Saints Lutheran Church, we are blessed with many choral and instrumental musicians who are all volunteers from the congregation and who give freely of their time and talents to enhance the worship experience at every service. As a staff, we are grateful to work with so many talented musicians.

The All Saints Choir sings three Sundays a month plus special services. The Choir presented seven anthems in “A Service of Shadows and Stones” on Good Friday along with the narrative of the

crucifixion. Choir members also presented the Christmas story narrative with a cantata prior to the final candlelight service on Christmas Eve. Soloists from the choir offered music during the summer months. Other choir members led Holden Evening Prayer during Lent and Advent; several serve as assisting ministers.

The Hallelujah Ringers played bells every third Sunday of the month, offering a prelude and an offertory selection at both services. Instrumentalists enhanced a number of services, and piano/organ duets were offered by our organist and music director. Congregational settings were changed seasonally to reflect the tone and season of the services, and members of the congregation submitted favorite hymns to be sung during the summer months.

The Youth and Children's Choir sang for the first service on the first Sunday of the month, on Christmas Eve and Maundy Thursday. The Grace Notes Praise Band led the second service on the second and fourth Sundays of each month and played for the second Christmas Eve service.

Thanks to all the musicians who have participated in leading the congregation in song and musical meditations to the Lord!

Submitted by Carolyn Trueba

## WORSHIP COMMITTEE

**Co-Chairs:** Jan Jastram and Erin Reil

**Committee Members:** Katherine Alexander, Rhonda Bentz, Priscilla Brower, Eric Ferdig, Shelley Takeuchi, Carolyn Trueba

The Worship Ministry manages the logistics and budgets behind producing meaningful worship experiences. The committee is responsible for altar/pulpit décor, choral/visual support including instrument maintenance, and for maintaining and providing sacramental and other supplies necessary for worship. Another focus is scheduling and providing the necessary training for worship assistants, lectors, acolytes and ushers.

During 2017, the committee worked with Pastor Kristin, to ensure that worship at All Saints continued to be stimulating and meaningful. Priscilla Brower and her Reformation Committee worked hard to create a Reformation Celebration of the 500-year anniversary. We continue to reform and renew aspects of our worship. These include the addition of a pray-ground in the sanctuary, and gathering at the table together as one for communion. We plan to continue the conversations on different worship styles and services.

Special thanks to Priscilla Brower and the other Reformation Committee members for their continued work on the Reformation Celebration. Many hands help to make light work and we



thank all who have volunteered over the year with the music and altar ministries, and as worship assistants. You are invaluable. We can never have too many hands helping. If you would like to volunteer your time and talent, your ministry gifts are always welcomed.

God's Grace and Peace,  
Jan Jastram and Erin Reil

## PROPERTY COMMITTEE

**Chair:** Dennis Milks

**Committee Members:** Pastor Kristin Schultz, Todd Kellett, Jan Jastram, Andy Lewis, Tim Hanson

For the year of 2017 we had many projects:

1. Kitchen remodel was completed.
2. New metal doors were installed by the Sacristy
3. Outside worship area has been done with a few more trees and plants to be installed in the Spring.
4. Carpeting was installed in Sanctuary, front office, library, class rooms, and Sacristy.
5. Wood Flooring has been done
6. Painting of fellowship hall.
7. Entrance to front of Church was repaved
8. Entrance to Pre-School has been re-enforced.
9. Boy Scout did 2 Clean-up days

A Special THANK YOU goes out to Andy Lewis, Tim Hanson, Jim Perry, Jerry Ferdig and anyone else I may have forgotten. They have been changing out the lights in the church. The new lights are LED and will in time save us on our electric bill once they have all been completed.

The property committee would like to extend an invitation to anyone with time and talent to help us. If you are interested please ask Andy Lewis or myself. Thank You!!

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dennis Milks

## **PRAYER TEAM MINISTRY**

I often think of the Prayer Team as a gift Pastor Russ Sorenson left for All Saints, and especially for me as your pastor. The team focused on care for members who are on our prayer list, keeping one another informed about ongoing needs for cares, moves and changes. Members of the prayer team take on the responsibility for visiting members who are homebound or in nursing care twice a month, or as needed. The group also offers prayers and blessings during worship at least once a quarter – praying for an anointing the hands of worshippers who come to them during Holy Communion. The prayer team provides excellent support for me, for one another, and for those whom they visit and for whom they pray.

~ Pastor Kristin Schultz

## **QUILT MINISTRY**

All are welcome to join the quilters on Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

What a blessed 2017!

Our wonderful Quilters had a tremendous year. 93 quilts were sent to Lutheran World Relief, 120 were sold, 8 were given as special gifts, and 70 smaller quilts were donated to To'Hajiilee Early Childhood Coordinated Services (TECCS).

The quilts sold provided \$3,190! This was all sent to LWR to ship the quilts overseas and provide comfort where it is most needed.

Our Quilters depend on donations for fabrics, batting, shipping, and most especially, sheets! Thank you!

## **W-ELCA**

Our unit has five W-ELCA Circles. These circles meet monthly for Bible Study, unit business and fellowship.

2017 started out like previous years with a board meeting and plans for the upcoming year. Our current board President was Sharon Ellis, the Treasurer was Rhonda Bentz and the Secretary was Linda Milks. Three of the 5 unit Circles were represented; Patty Ferdig (Esperanza), Harriet Rothlisberger (Deborah) and Lois Howard (Tabitha). We made last minute arrangements for desserts and decorations for the North NM WELCA Cluster event that the All Saints unit was hosting at our church on January 20. Next, we planned a spring general meeting in April and talked about a spring meal fundraiser if the church kitchen was completed.

We also talked about our aging population, the inability to recruit leaders and volunteers from our circles and the decreasing involvement in our general meetings and fundraisers over the previous two years. Many of our members said they were not physically able to perform the tasks needed to prepare and carry out these large events. Out of optimism, we went ahead with the general meeting plans for April 2017.

The WELCA Cluster event on January 20 went smoothly and we hosted a morning of Prayer and Contemplation with 58 women from 8 Lutheran churches in North NM participating. Patty Ferdig and Rhonda Bentz represent ASL at the Cluster level.

Our own 2017 Spring General Meeting in April did not go so well. The ASL circle rosters showed a membership of 42 women however only 13 women attended the spring luncheon and Katie Luther presentation (and two of those were guests). It was much effort with very little return. In fact, this meeting resulted in a proposal to downsize and reconfigure the WELCA unit at All Saints. The individual circles expressed a desire to continue with their monthly meetings. The circles would also continue to collect a WELCA offering which would go toward unit designations and trickle upward to the Synod and National levels as originally structured. Instead of 4 unit officers, we would have a coordinator and a treasurer. We would no longer have the big annual general meetings, labor intensive fundraisers or community project events. However any woman in a circle could propose and organize a Thankoffering service, a service project or social event asking WELCA circle members to volunteer and assist. Circles would be connected by email communications with the coordinator and treasurer. Circles would propose how and where any funds that are accumulating should be spent. Rhonda Bentz was elected Coordinator and Sharon Ellis was elected treasurer of the ASL WELCA unit.

By the end of April, the church kitchen was not completed and could not support a spring meal fundraiser. To everyone's relief, the circles decided to forego that fundraising event.

So we have scaled back. Only two of the circles have been able to sustain their membership and meet every month. The others meet when health and schedules permit. Our treasury still grows but not at the rate it did previously. A good example is Thankoffering. In 2016 we raised \$1129 and in 2017, with the congregation's help, we only raised \$585. The treasurer's report shows half of our unit offerings going to the synod level which is the Rocky Mountain Synod Women's Organization. (RMSWO sends half of their collected money on up to the National WELCA level.) In addition, our Thankoffering goes straight up to the National Level WELCA organization. National Level reports that finances are tight in their realm also, They have frozen grant money and let two administrative positions go.

On a positive note, our unit supported the Phoebe solar project in Liberia with a \$500 donation (WELCA was attempting to raise \$1,000,000). We gave \$792.95 to Lutheran World Relief through our ASL quilters. We met our travel equalization obligation and we were able to send a \$100 offering to the WELCA Triennial Convention in July. We had three members travel to Denver in October to support the RMSWO event. Judy Messal gave a presentation on border immersion and immigration concerns. She shocked the participants with her descriptions of people living in the Juarez city dump and the stark economic differences she sees in families living on the Mexican side of the border. Rhonda Bentz was the Cluster rep to RMSWO and she provided entertainment as a Dolly Parton impersonator.

Our unit has accumulated some money that will be disbursed in the near future 2018 as the circles designate. The treasurer is asking for proposals now.

## ASLC W-ELCA Treasurer's Report

December 31, 2017

### Beginning Balance as of 12/31/16

\$3,391.03

#### Income

Circle Offerings Jan - June		917.02	
Circle Offerings Sep - Dec		454.00	
General Meeting April		160.00	
Other Offering Jan- June		210.00	
Travel Equalization		\$21.00	
General income total			\$1,762.02

#### Fund Raisers

Cluster Lunch January		432.00	
Dinner & Dessert Auction April		1,637.00	
Fundraiser income total**			\$2,069.00

Thank Offerings (2017)\*\*\* 610.00 \$610.00

#### Total Income

\$4,441.02

#### Expenses

Thank Offering (2016*) January		1,129.00	
Thank Offering (2017)*** December		585.00	
Special Outreach - Phebe Hospital January		500.00	
Offerings half to RMSWO January		322.00	
Offerings half to RMSWO June		674.00	
Offering Triennial July		100.00	
Total Offerings			\$3,310.00

Scholarship (RMSWO) October 100.00

Travel Equal. to RMSWO April 50.00

ASLC Meetings/Retreats April 105.78

ASLC Copier April 60.00

Gather Mag. - 2 subscriptions May 19.90

Total general expenses 335.68

Fund Raiser Expense - cluster January 227.00

Fund Raiser Expense - D&DA May 206.09

Fund raiser - LWR June 792.95

Fund raiser - ASLC quilters June 792.96

Fundraiser outgo - total \*\* \$2,019.00

#### Total Expenses

\$5,664.68

### Current Balance 12/31/2017

\$ 2,167.37

\* this was previously counted in 2016 report, but changed here to match church accounting since it was actually paid in January

\*\* this doesn't match income because of confusion between W-ELCA records and church records

\*\*\* Some thankofferings were received after the check was already sent to churchwide

## ASLC STATISTICAL REPORT FOR 2017

<b>Membership</b>	<b>Baptized</b>	<b>Confirmed</b>
Through December 2016	374	326

### Members Received

By Baptism	2	0
By Transfer from Lutheran Congregations		
By Affirmation of Faith (and Confirmation)	19	19
<b>Total Members Received through December</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>19</b>

### Members Removed

By Transfer to Other Lutheran Congregations	15	15
By Death	3	3
By Request	2	2
Transferred to Inactive Status	0	0
<b>Total Members Removed through December</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>

### Membership

Through December 2017	<b>375</b>	<b>325</b>
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### Average Worship Attendance

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
<b>8:00</b>	-----	50	48	51	49	57	67	72	68	82	69	88
<b>9:00</b>	67	95	99	115	<i>One service during the summers of 2014 - 2016</i>							
<b>9:30</b>	<i>97 (summer service)</i>											
<b>10:30</b>	-----	85	102	107	93	96	98	103	111	118	125	142
<b>10:45</b>	66											
<b>Totals</b>	129	124	139	148	142	153	165	175	179	200	194	230

Average worship attendance numbers for 2006-2013 were from November of the prior year through October of year reported on.

2014-2017 are presented on an annual basis, consisting of the calendar year.

Service times in 2016 were changed from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and from 10:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. on Sunday, October 30, 2016. The average worship attendance times for those new service times for 2016 are included in the 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. numbers.

ASLC Special Congregational Meeting  
January 29, 2017  
10:10 beginning time

A. Opening prayer - Pastor Russell

B. Eric Ferdig made a motion to approve the agenda for today. Denise Winn seconded the motion approving agenda. Vote approved by congregation unanimously.  
Agenda approved.

a. Is there a quorum? YES. 95 signed in and present at meeting.

C. Teri Cole presents for Bishop Gonia and the synod council: greetings and blessings. Bishop Gonia is at St. Luke for Lutheran - Catholic prayer service 3 pm

D. Andy Lewis- call committee.

He reports the recommendation of calling Kristin Schultz by the council and the call committee.

a. Motion to call Kristin Schultz was made by Andy Lewis, Ed Streibe seconded.

Ballot Written vote commences. Final count is 98 -0 in favor of extending a call to Kristin Schultz as the new senior pastor at All Saints Lutheran Church, Albuquerque.

b. Jim Perry made a Motion to approve the proposed salary and benefits package as documented. It was seconded by Warren Saur. discussion regarding housing allowance follows. Housing amount based on average Albuquerque rents and property values. Ballot vote commences.

Final count is 96-4 in favor of the proposed salary benefits package for, Pastor Kristin Schultz.

Announcements:

Feb 19 is the next regular congregational meeting. Only one service that day at 9:30. Lunch and meeting to follow.

Pinewood derby today. After second service.

February 26 is possible start date for pastor Kristin Scultz

Family Christian leader position interviews down to two candidates.

Steve Reil makes a motion to adjourn which is seconded by Lois Howard.

Closing Prayer by pastor Russell

Meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Shelley Takeuchi  
Secretary

Congregational meet 2-19-2017  
Draft

1. Call to order 10:30
2. Opening prayer - Pastor Lee
3. Motion to approve agenda made by Mel Bentz, seconded by Lucy Archambult. Motion carried.
4. Verification of quorum - 70 signed.
5. Prior congregational meeting minutes approval November 20 and 27, 2016  
Motion made to accept with corrections by Mel Bentz, second by Steve Reil. Motion carried.

6. President report - Jerry Ferdig

Thank you to Pastor Russell Lee for filling in as our bridge pastor. Worship committee will be doing a survey in April about the change in times and styles of service. On Feb 26, Pastor Schultz begins. Installation is Saturday, March 25. Shrove Tuesday, Feb. 28 pancake dinner 5:30-7 pm hosted by the youth. April 15 church clean-up day. See Jerry Ferdig, Priscilla Bower, or Sharon Ellis to join council or other committees. Ash Wednesday services are on March 1, noon and 7 pm

7. Financial report - Diana Lewis

A. 2017 budget - start on page 29-49. Music director salary not increased in three years. We will take that up with council. Preschool equipment not listed in preschool budget. Teacher salaries increased. 2 year old program is new with new teacher. Questions:

B. Motion to approve 2017 made by Steve Reil to approve budget, seconded by Karen Hyde. Motion carries with one opposed.

8. Property committee report - page 53, Mel Bentz for Dennis Milks.

Painting, renovations, kitchen delayed due to new construction permit confusion. Need chemical suppression range hood which is more money. \$90,000 is current price for kitchen remodel. Due date for finishing, hopefully end of March, definitely before Easter. Wall to be added between youth director office and financial office. Storage container received. Centralizing maintenance location. April 15, Saturday is clean-up day. Boy Scouts cleaning outside. Inside needs it too. Please come and volunteer. Visual system and signage. Projector is possible to come through ceiling and to sound system. Screen prices are being investigated. Sign company was costing too much, so we are investigating new signage. Huge thank you given to property committee. Lighting also being looked at by property. Switching to more economical lighting.

9. Preschool Report - Marleta Anderson. See page 52

Thank you for your service. Always need more children in the preschool. More Marketing needed. 2-5 year olds served. Question: marketing research for Christian based preschool. Send flyers to other churches without preschools. Signage and word of mouth needed. VBS again this summer entitled Breaking all the Rules-Follow Jesus Lead. July 17-21 are the dates.

10. Children Youth and Family Task Force update - Mel Bentz. Page 20

Selection committee for Youth and Family Director down to 2 candidates. Youth groups meet with other churches in area.

11. Stewardship report - Jeff Yingling, page 56

Time talent and treasure survey coming online soon. Paper copies will be available. Volunteers needed as do all committees. No follow-up in past. Jeff wants to change this. Campaign during Pentecost season.

Comment: congregation would like the annual review booklet earlier, before the meeting so people have a chance to review before the meeting. Accolade to quilters who meet every Tuesday. Thanks to council members and all committees.

Card given to Pastor Lee from All Saints

12. Closing prayer - Pastor Russell Lee.

13. Motion to adjourn made by Steve Reil, seconded by Erin Reil, motion carried. Meeting adjourned 11:25 p.m.



## ALL SAINTS CONGREGATIONAL MEETING ~ MAY 21, 2017

1. Meeting Called to Order 10:30 - Jerry Ferdig, president.
2. Opening Prayer a Pastor Kristin Schultz
3. Approval of the Agenda (While Quorum is being Verified) JomWhite made a motion to approve agenda, Wayne White seconded. Motion passed.
4. Verification of Quorum - yes
5. Approval of Prior Congregational Minutes (from Meeting of Feb. 2017)  
Mel Bentz made a motion to approve former minutes, seconded by Lindi Perry. Motion passed.
6. Pastor's Report (Looking Forward)
  - a. Conversations with the pastor - meetings in people's homes.
  - b. Children, Youth and Family Ministry. - trying different days and times for these events.
  - c. Community Covenant- relating to each other, suggestions. Based on Life Together by Dietrich Bonhoeffer.
7. Presidents Report (What's been accomplished for the past year or so) - Jerry Ferdig
  - a. Survey - time and talent survey online or paper version.
  - b. Summer and regular services - most like this new schedule, more time between services, some want 8 am back
  - c. Kitchen - hood certified commercial and exhaust, more electrical, inspection needed after. Almost done.
  - d. Boy Scout camp, Mark Kistler visual and performance art camp, VBS.
  - e. Accomplished a lot. New floor, playground, roof, parking lot sealed.
8. Financial Report - Diana Lewis
  - a. Current Status - balance sheet. Preschool report - registrations behind for next year. Behind in tuition due to scholarships needed. Pray for them and the preschool. Flowers run about \$30.00. If you sign up, please pay. Giving down from last year. Bibra estate money make the numbers look a bit off. General fund. Mortgage money report. Bibra bequest budgeted and spent. ASLC cash analysis on last page. \$9719.05 operating cash. Suggest that each giving member ups contributions by \$25.00 each month. Giving campaign coming up later this year. Simply giving program by Thrivent. Auto giving from your bank account.
9. Elections - Mel Bentz and Jerry Ferdig
  - a. Candidates for council: Pamela Hanson, Steve Real, Kris Erickson, Jim Kruger, Dennis Milks. Candidate form Endowment committee: Sharon Ellis. Nominations from floor: none. Made a motion to close nominations by Mel Bentz, seconded by Gloria Owen. Motion passed.
  - b. Tim tenant going off the endowment committee. Nanette, crish and Henry Hautz going off council
10. CYFM Committee Update -Mel Bentz.  
Person we selection for this position was given a raise by the company she currently worked for and decided to stay there. Katie is still working in a reduced time frame due to illness.  
Pastor Kristin gave a big thank you to youth and family task force.  
Christo Rey supporting seminarian with \$5000 and \$3000 for their congregation and ministry. Also run immigration an immersion program.
11. Unanimously adopted the ballot presented earlier.
12. Closing Prayer, Pastor Kristin
13. Motion to Adjourn made by Lucy Amundsen and Lindy passed.

## ALL SAINTS BIBRA BEQUEST CONGREGATIONAL MEETING ~ OCTOBER 15, 2017

1. Meeting come to order Quorum achieved (62). 10:18 began.
2. Prayer – Pastor Schultz
3. Council approve recommendation from the Bibra Committee for second Bibra Bequest Spending.
4. Motion was made to approve the agenda by Priscilla Bower, 2<sup>nd</sup> from Karen Hyde, Motion approved.
5. Diana Lewis – Bibra second bequest recommendations.

See Second Blue Bequest Sheet \$388,303.00 (typed below for reference)

Remainder of second Bibra bequest	\$388,303.00
Set aside for operating expenses	\$ 50,000.00
Set aside for capital Improvement	\$ 100,000.00
Set aside for other expenditures	\$77,534.60
Noise reduction in Fellowship Hall	\$3,000.00
Solar Energy (To Be Determined)	
Showers/Handicap accessible family bathrooms (2)	\$27,000.00
Less amount given from Outreach tithe for a project in church	(\$7,000.00)
Design Consultant – Karen Brem	\$5,000.00
Replace or replace just seat covers on chairs in fellowship hall (to be determined)	
Carpeting for sanctuary, new flooring for narthex, hallways, classrooms, small conference room and youth director’s office	\$52,768.40
Landscape outdoor altar / shade cover (my estimate)	\$50,000.00
Repair drywall and paint church	\$30,000.00
<b>Total set asides and expenditures</b>	<b>\$3888,303.00</b>

\*Narthex furniture paid by Memorial Fund

6. Kathleen Brem –Design Consultant
  - a. helped design altar area and first church layout and design.
  - b. Flooring for narthex and hallways – vinyl tile.
  - c. Flooring for sanctuary – Joy theme, tile carpeting squares. 20 year warranty.
  - d. Classrooms, conference room and study – tile carpet squares. 10 year warranty.
  - e. Begin October 30. 1 week installment. Narthex on November 6. Leveler used and one week

installation. Halls worked on at the same time. Repair drywall November 22 and done by Christmas.

f. Landscaping – design drawings are Kathleen’s gift to us here at All Saints Lutheran Church.

7. Jeff Yingling made motion to end discussion, seconded by Steve Reil. Motion was approved with, 2 opposed.

8. Jim Kruger made a motion to accept the recommendation of church council, Seconded by Priscilla Bower, motion passed with 2 opposed and 1 abstention.

Steve Reil made a motion to adjourn, Jeff Yingling seconded, and the motion was carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:54 a.m.

## ALL SAINTS CONGREGATIONAL MEETING ~ NOVEMBER 19, 2017

1. Call meeting to order 10:19 a.m.
2. Opening Prayer – Pastor Kristin Schultz
3. Verify Quorum – Quorum verified
4. Approve Agenda – Lucy Archambault Moved to approve the proposed agenda. Andy Lewis seconded the motion. Carried.
5. Approve Minutes from May Meeting- Diana Lewis Moved to approve the May minutes, Steve Reil seconded. Amendment made for spelling changes -Jo White, Kris Ericson names. Carried.
6. Pastor's Report – Kristin Schultz
  - a. States her feeling of Blessing to be at All Saints.
  - b. Community Covenant – comment by member, Lois Howard that a great example was given by Pastor Schultz concerning the Covenants.
  - c. Possibly put one each Sunday as a focus in the bulletin, one at a time. Put aside a time for teaching and learning through Bonhoeffer's text and other examples. Steve Reil Moved to accept the Covenant, Pam Hanson seconded. Carried.
7. President's Report – Jerry Ferdig
  - a. All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome.
  - b. We are involved in the community. Christmas present tree in Narthex. Check it out and help if you can.
  - c. Thank you to the members who have made all the improvements in the church possible.
8. Election of Nominating Committee – to nominate people for 2018 church council.
  - a. Diana Lewis, Steve Reil, Denise Winn, Kristin Browning –Messel nominated for the committee.
9. Financial Report - Diana Lewis
  - a. Current Budget – New draft made on Thursday night after council meeting.
  - b. 2018 Budget DRAFT – a misc income item of \$3000 (ask Diana) was received this year. Salary proposals have not been decided or voted upon yet. There will be a 4% match on retirement for Youth and Family director and Secretary. Music directors increases are listed. The Worship budget decreased a bit. Education and Evangelism budget decreased a bit. Directors are being conservative for next year's budget requests. Youth Ministry budget will be increased due to some planned upcoming activities. Congregational Life budget up a bit. Building maintenance is down due to the Bibra Funds' spending on maintenance expenses. Questions/Comments: Projected budget is based on this and last year's giving. No final pledge numbers yet, so budget is still in draft form. We are looking to reduce the number of subscriptions to *The Lutheran*. The committee is setting aside \$50,000 from the Bibra Funds in case of a deficit.
  - c. Preschool Budget – Budgeting is more complex now that the state is offering free preschool in the public schools.
10. Stewardship Pledge –Jeff Yingling
  - a. Thanks to the members for participation in the Stewardship Campaign. As of the present, 58 pledges for the 2018 budget have been received. He recognized the team members: Jim Kruger, Pam Hanson, Jerry Ferdig, and Pastor Schultz.
11. Nominating committee: Kris Ericson reported that the Vote was overwhelmingly in favor of all four nominees.
12. The members gathered in the kitchen area where Pastor Schultz gave a conducted a brief “Kitchen Blessing” ceremony. A spaghetti dinner followed.
13. Adjourn – Motion to adjourn, seconded, Carried.

# For the Life of the World...



**Rocky Mountain Synod**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
 God's work. Our hands.

As I ponder our 2017 Rocky Mountain Synod focus on **Re•Formation** and look ahead to our 2018 theme - **For the Life of the World** - three things are clear to me.

**1. The Holy Spirit has need of us.**

I am convinced that our particular witness to the gospel as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America matters more than ever - not just for us, but for the life of the world. Through our congregations and ministries, synods and churchwide expression our calling isn't to survive - it is to be Christ's Body in the world so that together we might proclaim and embody God's unconditional love for all. It's that big.

**2. It's time to fully invest.**

To be the church God is calling us to be for the life of the world, it's time to be "all in". It's time to claim the gifts that give our ELCA life and witness relevance in the



world and make us good companions in ministry. It's time to nurture the continued growth and re-formation of all our leaders. It's time to commit to new and imaginative ways of being Christ's Church into the future. Now is the time.

**3. We can't do this alone.**

It's simple but true: We are Christ's Church, Better Together. We are better together as fellow members of the ELCA. We are better together with our ecumenical partners and through our inter-religious relationships. We are better together when we are deeply connected to both our global communion and our local communities. We cannot be the Church Christ needs us to be alone.

**Christ's Church, always re-formed for the life of the world!**

Yours in Faith,

## 2017 by the numbers

**Claiming our Gifts**

Over **\$26,000** supports our work as a public church through Advocacy, Border Servant Corps, Urban Servant Corps, Lutheran Family Services, and Upbring. **\$38,500** to support summer campers at Sky Ranch and Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camps. **\$242,750** in support of 7 Campus Ministries. **\$1,039,600** shared with our Churchwide ministries.

**Connecting in Ministry & Witness**

**11** Office of the Bishop staff members made over **363** visits to **115** congregations for Sunday worship, council meetings, exit interviews, retreats, and installations, **79** visits to **17** of our partners in ministry: campus ministry, outdoor ministry, social ministry organizations, and education institutions, and hosted **19** large gatherings at the Lutheran Center.

**Equipping All Leaders**

Through Educate, Equip, Enact: **14** congregations participated in Stewardship for all Seasons, **70** leaders joined the Ministry of Money Matters Workshop, and **18** rostered ministers received grants to address financial challenges. We convened **186** conversations with over **11** committees and teams, working as Christ's Church, Better Together to further our work and witness across the Rocky Mountain Synod.

**Accompanying one another into God's Future**

We accompanied **54** congregations in transition, shepherded **57** current candidates for ministry, and offered **18** seminary scholarships. **6** NM congregations became Advocating Congregations. **\$100,000** was shared to support the work of our mission congregations. **\$9,000** was shared with the Caribbean Synod to support their hurricane recovery.

# What we did, together, in 2017

## Claiming our Gifts

**Working towards, unity,** we joined in a liturgy of Common Prayer with 7 of the Roman Catholic Dioceses that overlap the RMS.

## Connecting in Ministry & Witness

**Seeking to equip all of God's children to act for justice,** we hosted Advocacy action and education events

**Embodying our commitment as a global church,** a RMS/ELCA delegation visited our 4 companion synods in Madagascar.

**To strengthen our witness,** we developed video and teaching resources about our gifts as the ELCA.

**Challenging our privilege and seeking mutual understanding,** the synod council and staff traveled to EL Paso to learn about the Border.

**Bearing public witness to unity,** our ecumenical partners joined the 476 attendees at Synod Assembly.

## Equipping All Leaders

**Valuing excellence in leadership,** 168 leaders attended a Theological Conference focused on hard conversations, vulnerability, and financial stewardship.

## Accompanying one another into God's Future

**To better align our structures to serve our mission,** a team worked to update our synodical constitution.

**To strengthen our shared witness,** we partnered with the Episcopal Diocese for congregational leadership training.

**To better support our leaders,** we began Educate, Equip, and Enact to address the financial challenges of rostered ministers.

**As part of our public collective witness to the gospel,** RMS leaders and ecumenical partners led the Easter Sunrise service at Red Rocks Amphitheater.

**Equipping new leaders and renewing congregations,** we hosted a training for Mission Developers and Redevelopers.

## looking ahead to 2018

### **Claiming our Gifts**

- Creating an expanded curriculum for the Claiming Our Gifts teaching resource
- Hosting a joint middle school and high school synodical youth gathering
- Traveling to Houston for the 2018 Youth Gathering

### **Equipping All Leaders**

- Developing a Comprehensive Leadership Strategy for promoting excellence in Leadership
- Supporting participation in Stewardship for All Seasons
- Hosting Fall Missional Gatherings in each conference

### **Connecting in Ministry and Witness**

- Implementing a comprehensive communication strategy that encompasses current technologies
- Convening those serving in part-time ministry
- Hosting leaders from our companion synods in Madagascar

### **Accompanying one another into God's future**

- Increasing our mission support share to Churchwide ministries from 46% to 47%
- Exploring a 3rd outdoor ministry site in the RMS
- Electing a bishop at our May Synod Assembly
- Continuing to pay close attention to justice in public policy