

# 2017

# Annual

# Report



**5500 East 57th Street  
Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57108  
605-371-3737 | [www.gloriadei-sd.org](http://www.gloriadei-sd.org)**

# **AGENDA**

## **ANNUAL MEETING—GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Sunday, January 28, 2018

Fellowship Hall

Time 11:45 a.m.

Call to Order

Opening Devotions

Approval of Minutes: Annual meeting, January 27, 2017 (pages 5-6)

President's Report (page 7)

1. Ratification of constitutional changes

Senior Pastor's Report (pages 8-9)

2017 Treasurer's Report and Presentation of 2017 Financial Plan

(pages 30-33)

New Business

Other Business

Closing Prayer

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## ANNUAL REPORT - GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH

Annual Meeting Agenda	p. 2
Table of Contents	p. 3
2017 Gloria Dei Staff	p. 4
Annual Meeting Minutes, January 31, 2017	pp. 5-6
Reports:	
President of Congregation and Council	p. 7
Senior Pastor	pp. 8-9
Associate Pastor / COO	p. 10
Associate Pastor	p. 11
Associate Pastor	p. 12
Ministry of Mission and Outreach	p. 14
Meals on Wheels	p. 14
Gloria Dei Quilters	p. 14
Partnership Ministries	p. 15
Boy Scouts of America Troop 371 & Pack 371	p. 16
Director of Children, Youth and Family	p. 17
Ministry of Children Youth and Family	p. 18
Church School Offerings	p. 18
Director of Preschool	p. 18
Library	p. 19
Childcare Ministry	p. 19
Mothers of Preschoolers	p. 20
Confirmation Assistants	p. 20
Ministry of Worship and Evangelism	p. 21
GRACE Liturgical Dance	p. 21
Director of Worship Arts	p. 22
Media Ministry	p. 22
Director of Lay Ministry	p. 23
Ministry of Congregational Care	p. 24
Pickleball Ministry	p. 25
Ministry of Administration	p. 26
Change for Change	p. 27
Endowment Committee	p. 27
Current Council/Ministry Team/Committee Members	p. 28
Membership Statistics	p. 29
2018 Pledge Analysis	p. 29
Treasurer's Report for 2017	
2018 Proposed General Fund Budget	pp. 30-31
2017 Loaves and Fishes	p. 32
Building Loan Update	p. 32
Restricted Fund Report	p. 33
Letter from the Bishop	p. 34
South Dakota Synod ELCA - Mission Plan	pp. 35-36
South Dakota Synod ELCA - Adopted Budget 2018	p. 37
South Dakota Synod ELCA - Where does my Offering Go?	pp.38-39

# 2017 STAFF MEMBERS

## PASTORS

Tim Selbo, Senior Pastor  
Dwight Stensgaard, Associate Pastor / COO  
Bob O'Connor, Associate Pastor  
Sarah Goldammer, Associate Pastor  
Chris Zuraff, Associate Pastor

## DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY

Sandy Berven

## EDUCATION ASSISTANTS

\*Michelle Anderson \*Dayleen Swanson (Sep-Dec)  
\*Luke Senst (Sep-Dec)

## YOUTH ASSISTANTS

*Christina Claude (Jan-May)	*Samantha Peterson
*Sam Kennedy	*Hans Lundquist
*Dan Schmidtman (Jan-May)	*Evan Meyer (Jan-May)
*Rochelle Ramharter	*Kaitlyn Junso
*Harriet Monson	*Alexandra Peterson
*Elizabeth Enalls (Jan-Apr)	*Brooke Weber (Jan-May)
*Allison Schenkel (Sep-Dec)	*Payton Christensen (Sep-Dec)

## YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT ASSOCIATE

\*Matthew Harsch (Apr-Dec) \*Colby Houchin (Oct-Dec)

## BUSINESS & FACILITY ADMINISTRATOR

Cheryl McGuire

## BUSINESS OFFICE ASSOCIATE

\*Gail Wilcox

## FINANCIAL TELLERS

\*Pat Zoerink \*Gail Wilcox

## DIRECTOR OF WORSHIP ARTS

Matt Walicke

## ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC/MEDIA

John Effinger

## MUSIC ASSOCIATE

\*Gretchen Borgum

## MUSIC ASSISTANT

\*Ryan Woods (Sep-Dec)

## MEDIA MINISTRY COORDINATOR

\*Cicely Schock (Jan-Mar)

\*part time

## FOOD MINISTRY COORDINATOR

\*Deb Peterson

## FOOD MINISTRY ASSISTANTS

*Janine Larson (Jan-May)	*Shannon Klarenbeek
*Jan Wood	*Lucy Henglefelt (Sep-Dec)

## DIRECTOR OF LAY MINISTRY

\*Darice Huber

## PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR

Sharon Claude

## PRESCHOOL TEACHERS

*Diane Dobbs	*Ginny Kroger (Jan-May)
*Stacey Reitz	*Bobbi Schramm
*Dayleen Swanson (Sep-Dec)	

## PRESCHOOL TEACHERS' AIDE & LUNCH BUNCH

\*Jane Gramlick

## FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE

Judi Schwerin

## CHILD CARE COORDINATORS

\*Dan and Molly Rost

## CHILD CARE ASSISTANTS

\*Brynn Berven \*Greta Stadem

## OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Gail Wilcox (Jan-Mar) Cicely Schock (Apr-Dec)

## OFFICE SECRETARIES

*Tanya Stadem	*Pat Zoerink
*Stacie Kray (Sep-Dec)	

## CUSTODIANS

Jeff Riley \*Gordy Albers

## ADULT CHOIR ACCOMPANIST

\*Dayna Groskruetz

## LITURGICAL DANCE

*Elizabeth Enalls	*Brooke Weber (Jan-May)
*Sydney Bartunek (Sep-Dec)	

## WEDDING COORDINATORS

\*Joleen Hessman \*Erika Hessman

## MISSIONARIES

Elisabeth Johnson, Cameroon  
Sergio Rios Carrillo, Nicaragua (Jan-Aug)

**Gloria Dei Lutheran Church  
Annual Meeting  
January 29, 2017 @ 11:45 AM**

ROLL: Quorum was obtained

Written notice was given more than 10-days in advance

CALL TO ORDER – Jon Sogn

OPENING DEVOTIONS – Pastor Chris Zuraff

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 31, 2016 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

Motion to Approve the January 31, 2016 Annual Meeting Minutes by Mr. Curt Hohman. Deb Soholt seconded the motion.

The motion passed with unanimous support.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Thank you all for furthering the mission of Gloria Dei.

It's been an incredible year at Gloria Dei, some of the highlights were:

The continuous evolution of our Pastoral Staff

The hard work and synthesis of Church Governing Documents

An Annual Church Council Retreat. At the retreat some of the goals that Council set are:

Working with professionals to increase communication and marketing

Doing a growth study and decide how we can be a positive impact in the community

Continued analysis of our facilities study

Long-term 3-5 year budget planning

Budget consolidation of the general operating budget with the capital campaign

Increase small group ministry

Aligning Ministry with Mission Team Report

A couple of the big changes to our Constitution and By-Laws that were made:

Quorum was changed from 100-50.

Church Council definition changed. Council went from 9 members to 7 members. The mission of the Council is to be a visionary body.

We moved away from boards in favor of ministry teams that are staff led.

Ratification of Constitution

Motion was made by Dave Skogland to ratify the amendments to the Gloria Dei Constitution, said amendments, as voted upon and approved at the Gloria Dei Annual Meeting held January 31, 2016.

The effective date of the Amendments shall be January 30, 2017. Carla Borchardt seconded the motion.

The vote occurred by ballot; the motion carried by a vote of 99-0.

SENIOR PASTOR'S REPORT

Strong word of thanks to all for continuing to live out our mission and vision.

A big thank you to the Church Council and all that they do.

We do have a lot of decisions to make in the near future about the growth of our church, our community and our faith.

Two of our current Church Council members will be transitioning off the Council, Jarod Edelen and Rob Broin. Thank you for your tireless work and commitment to Gloria Dei. Jon Sogn will take the president position and Sara Dannen will take the vice-president position and Steve Schultz will be joining as the Treasurer.

Gloria Dei has the wonderful benefit of Pastoral Sabbaticals. Pastor Tim will be taking a 12-week sabbatical starting around April 23.

Pastor Sara Goldammer

The Youth and Family Ministry Team has been strategizing on how to help the youth of Gloria Dei from birth to college.

Pastor Chris Zuraff

The Ministry of Mission and Outreach has set a theme of "Go Therefore!"

## 2016 TREASURER'S REPORT AND PRESENTATION OF 2017 FINANCIAL PLAN

### Financial Overview

In the 2016 budget Gloria Dei estimated giving to be at \$1,849,042 and Expenses to be at \$1,999,042.

Actual Giving in 2016 came in at \$1,953,655 and Actual Expenses came in at \$1,858,852 leaving Gloria Dei with a surplus of \$94,803.

### Church Balance Sheet

Gloria Dei has a current budget surplus of \$398,757

The Loaves of Fishes Campaign has a current balance of \$191,183

Restricted Fund Account has a current balance of \$328,338

Total Cash as of December 31, 2016 is \$918,278

A motion was made by Becky Blue to approve the 2016 President's Report. Cathy Bernard seconded the motion.

The motion passed with unanimous support.

### Looing forward to 2017

The 2017 budget has estimated giving to be \$2,813,667 and expenses to be \$2,950,816. This leaves us at a proposed operating deficit of \$137,149.

Loaves and Fishes \$3.2 million. In 2016 the campaign took in \$892,000. Total receipts for the campaign is \$1,655,462.

### 2017 Financial Plan Overview

This year we are going to focus on including our capital campaign with our current operating budget

### Adoption of the 2017 Financial Plan

A motion was made by Jerry Soholt to Approve the 2017 Budget. Dan Radigan seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous support.

### ADJOURNMENT – Jon Sogn

There was a motion to adjourn by Dave Erickson. Lois Borchardt seconded the motion. The Motion passed with unanimous support.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

*Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*

*Matthew 28:18-20*

Friends:

A farmer was mending fence along a country highway. A car came by filled with a family. The driver rolled down the window and said, "I received a job transfer and we are considering moving to the town up the road. What can you tell us about it?" The farmer said, "Well, tell me about the town you live in now." The driver replied, "We love it. People are friendly, the neighbors are helpful, and the schools are wonderful with teachers who really care about the students." The farmer took off his hat, scratched his head, and said "I think you will find this town to be exactly the same."

The farmer went back to mending his fence, and a short time later another car came by filled with a family. The driver rolled down the window and said "I received a job transfer and we are considering moving to the town up the road. What can you tell us about it?" The farmer said "Well, tell me about the town you live in now." The driver replied "We hate it. People are rude, the neighbors never help out with anything, and the schools are terrible with teachers who only care about a paycheck." The farmer took off his hat, scratched his head, and said "I think you will find this town to be exactly the same."

If our Gloria Dei family was part of this story, we would without a doubt be in the first car! It is impossible to walk through our church and not be inspired by the energy, enthusiasm, friendliness, helpfulness, generosity and love being shown by our Gloria Dei family to each other and to our community. The smiles, the laughter, the loving hugs, the comforting hugs, the fellowship, the music, the meals, the Bible studies, the sounds of children learning the Word of God, the many, many, many activities inside and outside the walls of Gloria Dei – all evidence that our family is filled with the fire of the Holy Spirit as we strive to live out the Great Commission given to us in Matthew.

Thank you. Thank you to our pastoral, program, and administrative staff extraordinaire for all you do. Thank you to the council members for your wisdom and leadership. Thank you to each and every member for your contributions of time and talent and your generosity making all of this possible. We are truly blessed!

It has been another great year in the life of Gloria Dei, and 2018 will continue to be the same. Thanks to all. Now get out there and gather, grow, give and go as we live out God's Love!

Jon Sogn

## SENIOR PASTOR

***Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.***

--John 20:30-31

At Gloria Dei we continue to be people of God, grounded in the life-giving Word of God. And when I say "Word of God", I'm thinking of three ways in which the Word is manifest in our lives.

First and foremost, Jesus is the Word... as we say at Christmas and as recorded in John chapter one, Jesus is "the Word made flesh". In and through him we have meaningful life, now and forever.

Secondly, we know that Jesus is made known to us through the Bible, the written Word of God. At Gloria Dei we continue to emphasize digging into the written Word of God, individually and within Bible Study groups. Through the Bible God makes himself known to us as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in a deep and abiding way. As the verses above say so well, the Bible is "written so that we will come to believe in Jesus, and have life in his name."

And thirdly, the Word of God comes to us through preaching, teaching, and the verbal proclamation of the good news of God's forgiveness, love, and grace. In other words, the Word is alive today as it is proclaimed to us and through us.

My focus as your Senior Pastor during 2017, and always, is ensuring that God's Word is proclaimed to you in a personal way, and that, as God desires, it is spread far and wide through Gloria Dei to the community and world. It is the life giving Word of God, filled with grace and love, which truly has the power to transform lives.

As the team leader of our Worship & Evangelism team, planning worship, preaching, teaching, and reaching out into the community are key roles that I play. In addition, the oversight of the staff, visioning with staff and church council for the future, the oversight of stewardship, conducting weddings, funerals, baptisms, and sharing in pastoral care fill my days and weeks with joyful work.

As always, I'm energized by preaching and teaching the Word. Through May of 2017 we finished our 2016-17 preaching theme of "Deeper in Faith & Wider in Outreach." Through the summer we worked through "Summer Blockbusters", taking the word of God and connecting it to popular movies. In August we preached through the book of Philippians. And this past fall, leading up the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation, we preached on the theme "Roots, Relevancy, and Renewal", with an eye toward the elements within the Small Catechism and Luther's main emphases of faith. On November 1<sup>st</sup>, it was a joy to worship together with 4000 others at the Sioux Falls Arena in celebration of the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ is the central message to us from our God. Beginning in January of 2018 we'll preach and read through the gospel of John.

In addition to worship and preaching, my teaching emphasis was within the Thursday night Bible study. From January to May of 2017 we finished up the book of Genesis. Currently we're in the midst of the gospel of John. Come and join in the meaningful discussion, as God's word shapes and forms us in magnificent ways.

### Other highlights from 2017

This was the first full year of having Pastors Sarah, Chris, and Bob on our pastoral team. Together with Pastor Dwight, the five of us are working very well together and I believe both the unity and diversity we bring to one another is bearing much fruit within Gloria Dei. It is a joy to be on Gloria Dei's pastoral team with them.

Gloria Dei hosted the South Dakota Synod Assembly in June. A big word of thanks to the many staff and volunteers from our congregation who helped to make this event smooth and successful. Special thanks to Cheryl McGuire, Jeff Riley, and Gordy Albers from our staff for leading this effort for Gloria Dei.

Following the direction of the church council, Gloria Dei moved to a unified budget, combining the General Fund and Building Fund into one. The fall stewardship emphasis "Faithful from Generation to Generation" will enable us to continue in bold ways to share the faith of Jesus Christ with all ages and continue to pass on the faith to each new generation. Thank you for your ongoing commitment to Christ's work.

(Continued from page 8)

We received two fine groups of new members in 2017, one in March and one in October. In total, 214 people joined this congregation, representing 90 family units. In addition, another 63 people were brought into God's family through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

Gail Wilcox has moved to part time on our staff with new responsibilities. Gail served as the Office Administrator for a number of years and did an amazing job. Thanks Gail and well done. She now is on the Office Team and also assists with financials.

Cicely Schock became our new Office Administrator in 2017, bringing her experience with managing our social media into her new position and is off to a great start in this new role. Thanks Cicely.

Other new part-time staff include Stacie Kray in our office, and Dayleen Swanson who teaches in our Preschool and also assists with Church School duties. Welcome Stacie and Dayleen.

I also need to say thanks to all of you for giving me my first ever sabbatical. During the months of May, June, and July, I was blessed to have 12 weeks of rest, renewal, study and travel. The time spent with family and extended family was truly a gift. The study at Luther Seminary and at a Pastor's Conference was invigorating. Worshiping at eleven different churches during this time was life-giving. The time spent in the beauty of God's creation in places like the Black Hills, Northern California, Arizona and Florida was inspiring. The golf was enjoyable, even if the handicap didn't come down much. Thank you for allowing me this time of rest and renewal, being able to focus in on my relationship with God and others.

Lots of ministry happens through all of you at Gloria Dei. Please read through the different reports to get a snapshot of ministry through Fellowship, Mission & Outreach, Education, Children, Youth and Family, Congregational Care, Music and Worship, and so much more. God is glorified through it all.

I want to extend a word of thanks to the Gloria Dei staff. We are all indeed blessed by the talent and dedication portrayed by our staff day in and day out. The work and commitment to God's work through the staff and this body of believers is nothing short of outstanding. Be sure to say thank you to your Gloria Dei staff.

Also, a heartfelt "thank you" to our church council and all the ministry teams, who take seriously and joyfully their role to represent and set vision and programming for the entire congregation. It is a privilege and a pleasure to work together with our staff and church council.

Finally, I am so grateful to all of you. You are a community who gives generously of your time, your talent, and your resources to make Gloria Dei a thriving mission center for Christ. Thank you for opening yourselves up to allow Christ's light to shine in you and through you. God has called us to this great labor of love together. I'm grateful to God for your faithfulness and your partnership in the Good News of Jesus Christ, in whom we have life and salvation.

Gloria Dei - To God be the Glory

Pastor Tim Selbo  
January, 2018

## ASSOCIATE PASTOR / COO

*Rejoice always! Pray without ceasing; give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.  
I Thessalonians 5.18-19*

### Dear Friends,

As I look back at 2017 and think about the life, ministry, and mission of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, I am thankful, and I think about God's call and will for us in life, so profoundly and powerfully shared in I Thessalonians 5.18-19; GIVE THANKS in all circumstances! I GIVE THANKS to God for this past year and for the bounty of blessings He has showered upon us all in this community of faith. And as I reflect on God's call and will, to live our lives GIVING THANKS, I realize the truth in the teaching that when we GIVE THANKS in all circumstances, we have learned God's – life's – dearest lesson.

God calls us to live lives of THANKFULNESS – not because He needs our thanks – no – because LIVING THANKFULLY – is the dear lesson that leads to an abundant life – a life of joy, peace and wholeness. A life that is ungrateful is a life that sees itself as a victim, a casualty – an ungrateful life is a sour, wintry, and resentful life – plagued with darkness and despair. Anything but abundance comes to us in result of ungratefulness. TODAY, GOD IS CALLING US TO LIVE THANKFULLY – for this is the way to the abundant life we all hope and pray for.

Someone once said; **THE GREATEST SAINT IS NOT THE PERSON WHO PRAYS MOST; IT IS THE ONE WHO IS MOST GRATEFUL.** How true, because in gratitude we rejoice not only in all the gifts given to us by God, but we live in praise of God – and in praise of God our spirits are lifted and freed, our souls are made whole and joy rings in our hearts.

GOD IS CALLING US TODAY – TO LIVE THANKFULLY. This is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you and I.

I love Meister Eckhart's quote on prayer: **If the only prayer you ever say in your entire life is thank you, it will be enough.** I love this quote and its thought and guidance in regard to prayer and being thankful! God is the great giver and gives all the time and gives everything He has to us. All of life is a gift of God and for this it is right to give God thanks. I am thankful for the opportunity to serve the mission and ministry of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church. I give thanks for the privilege to share God's word and to celebrate His warm and loving presence in the sacraments with you. I give thanks for the incredible leadership and staff at Gloria Dei who serves with great passion. I give thanks for the care you express to my family and for the partnership we share in the gospel. Thank you for everything!

This has been another wondrous year at Gloria Dei and I could make a list of all that has been accomplished, but this year all I really want to say is 'thank you' and 'God bless you and your family.' Along the way as we serve and share life may we be aware of God's many blessings and remember to give thanks. For the good and gracious will of God is for us is to live thankfully.

When we are THANKFUL PEOPLE we see what has been gained in life rather than what has been lost in our life and by so doing we prevent ourselves from falling into a victim mentality which can destroy our very lives – LIVING THANKFULLY IS A DEAR LESSON OF GOD.

And when we are THANKFUL PEOPLE we see what has been shared in life rather than what has been taken and by so doing we keep a proper healthy perspective and balance in life and keep a sense of values in this world in which we live.

And when we live our lives GIVING THANKS we have strength to pick up the pieces of a tragedy and transfer that tragedy into a triumph in our lives. Living life GIVING THANKS is a beautiful and powerful way to live! It gives us staying power, surviving power, energizing power, and an attitude that allows us to build our lives on our hopes – and not on our hurts.

So, it follows that when we live our lives GIVING THANKS at all times and in all circumstances - we have learned one of God's – life's – dearest lessons.

**God blessed our congregation in 2017. Here are a few of the ministry opportunities I have been privileged to serve in:**

- The Ministry of Congregational Care
- Stephen Ministry
- The Ministry of Administration
- The Ministry of Worship
- The Ministry of Children, Youth, and Family
- The Ministry of OWLS
- The Ministry of Stewardship
- Staff Ministry
- Kitchen Ministry and more ....

I 'give thanks' for the privilege and the honor to serve with you in the Lord's ministry named Gloria Dei Lutheran Church.

**God's Blessings Always,  
Pastor Dwight**

## ASSOCIATE PASTOR

*I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. Philippians 4:13*

Philippians 4:13 is known as the 10 finger prayer. If you say each word in this verse from the Bible, it takes you exactly 10 fingers. It's simple, easy to remember, fast to say, but has so much meaning in such few words!

It reminds us of who it is that we get our strength from and why it is that we do this work of the church. We work to Glorify God in all things and because it is God's work we are doing, it is through His strength that we are able to do them.

It has officially been one year since I was welcomed into ministry with Gloria Dei Lutheran Church. What a joy it has been for me and my family to join you in this important task of witnessing to Jesus Christ and caring for His people.

There are so many great things going on here at Gloria Dei and much to be celebrated! Here are just a few of them:

There have been some changes to confirmation starting the in 2017-2018 school year. Confirmation starts the beginning of the 6th grade year and continues through the fall of the 9th grade year.

6th grade students are encouraged to participate in confirmation camp the summer before their 7th grade year in school. Summer camp is an excellent time for our students to build their faith and meet other Christians their age. It is also a great time for me to get to know them better and spend time in the Word with them. This last summer, 45 students were able to participate in camp!

6th, 7th, and 8th grade meet weekly on Wednesday evenings. We are using the Re:Form curriculum to deepen our faith. They spend 30 minutes in large group time and 30 minutes with their small group leaders. We have 25 amazing small group leaders who are dedicated to teaching and helping our youth grow in faith. Without them this program would not be possible or as successful!

This year we added mentor night once a month. The 6th-8th grade classes still spend 30 minutes in large group time but break into smaller small groups called mentor groups. These groups are different than their usual small groups, which allow them to get to know new people. They are also led by mentors which allow them to have another caring adult in their lives. There are 26 mentors.

9th grade confirmation year has changed from previous years. In the fall they met with the High School youth group and Pastor Sarah. They were confirmed the first weekend in November.

This year, the weekends of October 29th and November 5th, we had 101 freshman and sophomore youth confirm their faith. In preparation they had to complete a Statement of Faith booklet and meet with one of the pastors. They were also asked to participate in the High School youth group time on Wednesday evenings.

I have also had the chance to meet with most church school classrooms. It has been a great opportunity to get to know the kids and families better.

It has been a joy to watch how God is working through this church and through our young people. There are so many people who are a part of the Children, Youth, and Family team that make this such an amazing ministry. I am thankful for their talents and all the ways God works through us to share the Gospel of Christ!

I look forward to the year ahead and all the ways that God will work through us to spread His word. May God's word strengthen you today and always!

God Bless,  
Pastor Sarah Goldammer

## ASSOCIATE PASTOR

<sup>16</sup>Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. <sup>17</sup>When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. <sup>18</sup>And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

– Matthew 28:16-20

One simple little word in this passage, this Great Commission as the church calls it, has always captured my attention. It's the word, "GO." The word is an imperative verb, a command from Jesus to get off their hind-ends and get moving. The passage shows up at the very end of the Gospel of Matthew, after Jesus has been hung on the cross, after he has been resurrected from the dead. He appears to his disciples on the top of a mountain and speaks to them in simple terms. His words are not hard to understand, unlike some of the parables or stories he told. He tells them precisely what they are to do next after he leaves them for the final time. And the first thing he tells them to do is, "GO."

We've often passed by this little command, focusing instead on more attractive or churchy words like "baptize" or "teach." We've also focused on the promise of Jesus to remain with us always. Don't get me wrong, these are great pieces of Scripture to focus on. But what about that little imperative to, "go?" What does it mean?

Well, let's not make it more complicated than Jesus intends it to be. It means, simply, go. Don't sit. Don't stand idly. Don't wait. The time is now. Everything that has happened with Jesus, all of the healing, the casting out of demons, the raising from the dead, the stories, the journeying, the walking on water, the arrest in the garden, the trial before Pilate, the crucifixion on the cross, the rising on the third day; all of these things have not been done so that we who are his disciples can sit comfortably in our pews. These things have been done because there is news to tell, a message to share. There is a Messiah, a Savior, to proclaim and we are to proclaim him not only with our lips but with our lives.

We, disciples of Jesus, have heard the good news and now we are being called to share that good news with the whole world. "Go therefore," Jesus says, "and make disciples of *all* nations..." There is work to be done, work for the sake of the kingdom that Jesus has inaugurated.

Gloria Dei, disciples of Jesus, won't you join in this work? Won't you hear that good news for yourself and commit to sharing it with a world in need? There are lots of ways for you to participate in this work through your church. You can give through your Outreach Ministry of the Month envelopes (or through our electronic giving, if you so choose). You can donate to the change for change baskets (send your change with a little kid near you if you don't want to get up and deliver it yourself). You can worship with some of the great, unique congregations in Sioux Falls like Church on the Street, Pueblo de Dios, or St. Dysmas. You can sign up to serve through one of our partner ministries like the St. Francis House (now with monthly opportunities) or the Banquet. You can mentor a student through the Lutheran Social Services mentoring program. You can provide a turkey basket for a family in need through the Heartland House. You can be a language partner with a new Spanish speaking immigrant through our relationship with the Ayuda Initiative. You can make plans to travel with us to Nicaragua for our medical mission trip or participate in our next international mission trip that God is leading us to in the coming year.

No matter your level of commitment, we have a way for you to live out this Great Commission of Jesus, this imperative to "GO" into all the world to make disciples, sharing the good news that you hear each and every week in worship with us.

Let's GO Gloria Dei!

Pastor Chris Zuraff

Associate Pastor of Mission/Outreach and Adult Education

## MINISTRY OF MISSION AND OUTREACH

Mission and Outreach at Gloria Dei has a bold vision to engage every Gloria Dei member in an outreach opportunity through Gloria Dei. We understand that not everyone is able to make an extended commitment like traveling to a foreign country for mission work; engagement happens at many different levels. Sometimes, engagement simply means giving through the Outreach Ministry of the Month envelopes (formerly called Partnership Ministries). Sometimes it means serving at the Banquet. And sometimes it means more. We'd like to encourage and invite every member of Gloria Dei to engage with Mission and Outreach at some level.

Mission and Outreach has a vision to become clear and focused in our communication of both *opportunities* to engage as well as *stories* of our engagement. We want to communicate the call of Jesus at the end of Matthew's Gospel to "GO" and make disciples with clear invitations to participate in various Mission and Outreach opportunities at Gloria Dei. We also want to communicate the ways in which we've both encountered Jesus and served him as we've engaged in these opportunities. A single, clear location for Mission and Outreach communication in the gathering space, as well as a clear and functional website are critical to our communication strategy.

Mission and Outreach has a vision to expand the number of opportunities for engagement. First, we hope to do this by "flattening" our Team structure and encouraging Mission and Outreach Team members to become passionate about 1 area of ministry and invite others to participate in those opportunities. Pastor Chris will continuously identify and invite others to join in this effort so that Mission and Outreach becomes an ever-widening circle of passionate people doing God's work in all sorts of ways and inviting others to do the same. Second, we'd like to continue to explore more mission opportunities domestically, internationally, and even right in our own neighborhood where God has planted us.

If you'd like to get involved in Mission and Outreach in any way, please be in touch with Pastor Chris. Let's GO Gloria Dei!

## MEALS ON WHEELS

Gloria Dei volunteers are dedicated to helping seniors remain in their homes by delivering nutritional meals through the Meals on Wheels program sponsored by Active Generations. Gloria Dei has 30 devoted volunteers (26 regular volunteers, 2 substitutes, and 2 holiday volunteers) who support this project by driving Route 8 every Tuesday and Thursday. Our Gloria Dei volunteers deliver meals 8-10 times a year averaging 10-18 hours a year. This results in over 250 hours of their time to deliver 1,200+ meals covering 101 days of the year.

A special thank you to the Gloria Dei Meals on Wheels volunteers. Currently, Gloria Dei has 9 volunteers with 20 or more years of service and 6 volunteers with 10 to 19 years of service.

Come join us - new volunteers are always welcome! Please call the church office to volunteer for more information.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jared Olson

## GLORIA DEI QUILTERS

### PEACE BY PIECE QUILTERS

The Peace by Piece Quilting group meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday nights of each month from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. here at Gloria Dei in the quilting room. Our main purpose is to make quilts for the Lutherans Outdoors and Shetek quilt auctions. The proceeds from these auctions are to raise funds to help children attend camp that otherwise may not be able to afford it.

We have also taken on the goal of providing quilts to the Cystic Fibrosis group called Breathe Bravely. They are giving a Breathe Bravely bundle to children and adults that are newly diagnosed or experiencing a setback in their disease process and these bundles include a quilt.

Our quilting group has about eight regular quilters and a few others that come when they can. We are always looking for new or experienced quilters that are interested in helping our ministry.

~Submitted by Cloie Schmidt

### DEI QUILTERS

The Dei Quilters meet on the first and third Wednesday of each month to piece, tie and finish quilts for area charities. This year the group made over 60 quilts of various sizes and distributed them in December to the Furniture Mission, St. Francis House and project Linus. Pastor Chris took a quilt with him to Nicaragua and two quilts were donated to Lutheran's Outdoors for their quilt auction. With grant money from Thrivent Financial, bed pillows were purchased and the ladies made pillow cases for them and donated them to the Furniture Mission. You may have seen some of our quilts on display in the gathering area. Many people will be warm and comforted because of the generosity and support from Gloria Dei Lutheran Church.

~Submitted by Pat Andersen

## PARTNERSHIP MINISTRIES

Beginning in 2018, Partnership Ministries will take on a new name: Outreach Ministry of the Month. Each month one or two outreach ministries will be highlighted and congregational members are encouraged to give not only of their financial resources, but also their time, talents, and prayers.

**January: The Lutheran Church of Nicaragua Faith and Hope (ILFE).....\$808.00**

A delegation of Gloria Dei members, together with two members of Bethlehem Lutheran in Aberdeen, SD made the trip to Nicaragua in 2017. We are thankful to continue our strong partnership with ILFE and thankful to Carla Borchardt, Jayson Santi, and Dr. Paul Amundson for their leadership with this trip.

**February: St. Dysmas of South Dakota (at the SD State Penitentiary) .....\$743.00**

Members of Gloria Dei worshiped with St. Dysmas again this year. St. Dysmas has called a new pastor to serve them as Pastor Bob Chell retired. Pastor Wayne Gallipo is now faithfully serving this congregation behind the prison walls.

**Lent Offering: .....\$1,427.00ea**

½ to ELCA World Hunger Appeal and ½ to the Food Pantry

**March: The Banquet .....\$735.00**

Gloria Dei served at the Banquet twice this year. Over 50 Gloria Dei members prepared for and served over 400 people each time we served. A group of Gloria Dei members, Gloria Dei youth, and Boy Scouts baked and donated cookies to the Banquet for their Christmas fundraiser this year, as well. We thank Jon Christenson for his wonderful leadership in our outreach opportunities through the Banquet!

**April: St. Francis House .....\$835.00**

St. Francis House's mission is to help individuals and families move from homelessness and joblessness to self-sufficiency. Gloria Dei is moving to support St. Francis House through a monthly opportunity to serve meals. We thank Steve Zahn for his work with this effort! Members of Gloria Dei also helped purchase and install a new oven range for St. Francis House this year!

**May: Habitat for Humanity .....\$734.00**

Gloria Dei again provided substantial funding to Habitat for Humanity.

**June: Furniture Mission .....\$677.00**

Furniture Mission collects gently used furniture and distributes it to individuals and families in need throughout Sioux Falls. Volunteers use Furniture Mission trucks to pick up and deliver the furniture.

**July: Grace Episcopal Church, Soldier Creek.....\$673.00**

Grace Episcopal Church has been the recipient of items donated through our Christmas Outreach Tree: items such as hats, gloves, sweatshirts, toys, and games are donated. We also support this congregation financially.

**August: Lifelight .....\$715.00**

Lifelight continues its ministry to provide a free Christian music festival in the Sioux Falls area.

**September: LSS Student Mentoring .....\$645.00**

The LSS Mentoring program connects students with adults, usually during their lunch hour at school, to help guide them, listen to them, and be a positive example in their lives. Several Gloria Dei members are LSS mentors.

**October: Heartland Ephphatha and Luther Seminary .....\$248.00ea**

Heartland Ephphatha's mission is to ensure that anyone in need of American Sign Language interpretive services has access to worship, Bible studies, and fellowship opportunities in the Sioux Falls area. Luther Seminary educates seminary students to serve in God's mission in the world. Donations from Gloria Dei are used to support tuition for seminary students.

**November: Heartland House.....\$603.00**

Heartland House helps to coordinate the delivery of Thanksgiving Turkey baskets between Gloria Dei members and families in need in the Sioux Falls area. This year 52 families (up from 40) in Sioux Falls received a wonderful Thanksgiving meal!!! Thank you to Dawn Rost for coordinating this outreach opportunity this year and thank you to Dar Britzman for arranging the turkey donations!

**Advent Offering: .....\$370.00**

**December: Bishop Dudley Hospitality House (including the Good Shepherd Center) .....\$736.00**

The Bishop Dudley House is a day and overnight shelter for the homeless in downtown Sioux Falls, just across the street from the Banquet. The Christmas Outreach Tree is used to send donations to folks who stay at Bishop Dudley House. We thank Brad Adams for his commitment to working with this organization!

# GLORIA DEI BOY SCOUTS AND CUB SCOUT CHARTERS

## GLORIA DEI CHARTERS – BOYS SCOUTS OF AMERICA Pack 371 & Troop 371

**Troop 371** has 46 registered Scouts ages 12-18, divided into 4 patrols. 10 Scouts are Gloria Dei members.

Senior Patrol Leader – Matthew Ruesch      Assistant Senior Patrol Leader – Carter Friske

The Troop has 35 registered adult members.

Committee Chairman – Barry Bauer Scoutmaster – Lyle Ruesch

### Rank Advancements and Merit Badges

Troop 371 had a total of 30 rank advancements during 2017 and currently has:

5 - Scout, 3 Tenderfoot, 3 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Class, 3 - 1<sup>st</sup> Class, 5 - Star, 21 - Life, 6 - Eagle

108 Merit Badges and 1 Bronze Palm and 1 Silver Palm have been awarded in 2017

Court of Honors: March 20<sup>th</sup>, August 14<sup>th</sup>, December 3<sup>rd</sup>

### Troop Activities and Eagle Scouts and their Projects in 2017

#### Eagle Scouts' Projects:

Matthew Ruesch: Planned and oversaw the building of 17 wood racks for storing firewood at each of the campsites at Leif Ericson Day Camp

Trevor Bormann: Planned and oversaw the building of portable wood boxes with shelving that holds sheet music for the music department at Lincoln High School

Jonah Nelson: Established a food pantry at Messiah New Hope Lutheran Church and made a plan for it to be self sustaining

Community Service: Scout Sunday - Serving breakfast at Gloria Dei; Memorial Day flag placement at Hills of Rest Cemetery; Planting trees at Good Earth State Park; Planting trees at Lake Vermillion; Miracle League Baseball; Scouting for Food; Three Thanksgiving food baskets; Made Christmas cookies/goodies to be sold at The Banquet to help raise funds for milk and coffee.

Fund Raising: Popcorn Sales, Wreath Sales

Troop Activities: Iyataka camping in February; Spring and Fall Troop elections; Merit Badge Academy; Spring Camp-O-Ree at Newton Hills Scout Camp; Order of the Arrow Conclave at Lewis & Clark Scout Camp; Troop campout at Swan Lake; Summer Camp at Lewis & Clark Scout Camp; Summer Camp at Many Points Boy Scout Camp; High Adventure backpacking-Big Horn Mountains; Kayaking on Lake Alvin; Hiking at Good Earth State Park; Bowling; Swimming at Terrace Park; Rock Climbing; Thunder Road; Scout garage cleaning and dutch oven cooking; Swimming at Wild Water West; Galaxy Gaming; Disc Golf; Fall Camporee at Newton Hills Scout Camp; Fall Camporee with the National Guard at Lewis & Clark Scout Camp; 1 Junior Leader Training Session

Meeting Time: 7:00-8:15 pm, every Monday evening in the Fellowship Hall

Yours in Scouting, Scoutmaster Lyle Ruesch

\*\*\*\*\*

**Pack 371** includes 56 boys ages 5-12 (13 of them Gloria Dei members) and 12 registered adults. In the fall of 2017 Pack 371 started a den of Lions for boys in Kindergarten. The BSA started the Lion program in the fall of 2016. The pack has a total of 6 dens (1 for each grade level K-5) that meet approximately 2-3 times during the month.

Committee Chairman – Monte Johanning      Cubmaster – Jeremy Tamisiea

**Advancements**- Every boy advances a rank as the school year advances

### Pack Activities in 2017

Community Service: Clean up at Lake Pahoja; Scouting for Food; Christmas Caroling at Stoney Brook Assisted Living with a collection of items for donation to: Bishop Dudley House, St. Francis House, Teddy Bear Den

Fund Raising: Popcorn Sales

Activities: Blue & Gold Banquet; Pinewood Derby; Cub Scout Day Camp, Akela Camp and Webelos Camp; Monthly summer Pack activities of biking to Falls Park, swimming, and hiking at Beaver Creek Nature Area; Rocket Launching at Laurel Oaks Park

Pack Meeting Time: 7:00- 8:00 pm the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month, at John Harris Elementary or Gloria Dei Gymnasium

Den Meeting Times: 6:30 - 7:30 pm, or 7:00 – 8:00 pm Monday nights in the Gloria Dei education wing.

Yours in Scouting, Cubmaster Jeremy Tamisiea

## DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY

As I think of the past year I am inspired. It is a privilege to share in a ministry that includes families, children, youth, volunteer leaders and staff. Worship, Learning Objectives, Church School, Youth Group, Inner City Mission and Youth Trips, Camps, Service Projects, Family Learning Events and Youth Fundraising are just a part of the programming that we do in CYF Ministry. The good stuff is building relationships and finding the hope in each new promise.

### **Continued Programming:**

Pastor Sarah has included *learning objectives* for all ages participating in classroom teachings and large group settings. Baptism, Bibles, Communion, Confirmation and Graduation Worship Blessings are celebrated church wide but are focused on specific ages so parents and families can share in the faith development of their child/children. The children celebrate as a church body to re-commit to partner with the parents for the duration of their faith journey.

*Church School* creates a place where kids connect with adult and High School leaders to hear God's Word while experiencing God's love. Augsburg's SPARK and CONNECT curriculum is used for ages 3 year old – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade. The curriculum is supported by our CYF team and volunteers as they teach Lutheran theology through Bible stories, creative crafts, Bible games, music and in many more creative ways.

*GDYM – Gloria Dei Youth Ministry* – High School youth includes Wednesday night Bible study which shares the Word as it relates to the youth and their lives today. We have several different high schools represented in our youth group so intentional opportunities are important for them to get to know each other and to build relationships. We offer Wednesday youth group, open lunches, service projects, lock ins and creative opportunities for them to meet one on one or in small groups.

*GDCC – Gloria Dei College Connection* - We continue to visit college students to remind Gloria Dei Young Adults and friends that they have support with Gloria Dei. Delivering Stress-Less bags, meals, conversations and prayers is an incredible experience for those that volunteer to attend the day. We continue to be excited about the growth of this ministry and look forward to future planning and opportunities as we continue to develop this ministry.

*I AM A YOUNG CHRISTIAN* is a new High School Senior youth group, specifically developed for seniors to become mentors for our youth group and to be comfortable leaders in sharing their faith. Christians on a Mission 2018 summer mission trip is also being planned to allow this age to have more challenging opportunities in finding/sharing their faith, worshiping and serving together and to be surrounded by college young adults who will share their experiences and prepare them for their first years of young adulthood.

*Vacation Bible School and NeSoDak Day Camp* is always an incredible week of adult and youth leadership with hundreds of children hearing the Gospel through songs, storytelling, crafts and snacks. This year's theme was Camp Out and we were even able to blend the two camps together to sing This Little Light of Mine!

High School youth, young adult and adults traveled to Philadelphia, PA for our *With Every Act IV Inner City Mission Trip*. The focus this year was to help with the reconstruction of churches, gardens and those in transition. We worked hard, visited historical settings and challenged ourselves by working with the homeless as we shared Rosa's Pizza with all those that were hungry as we walked the downtown streets. We were also blessed to have joined with a Gospel Choir and enjoyed a 2 hour Worship service where we praised Jesus through our music and shouts of joy!

**Parents:** Thank you for sharing your child/children to church school, encouraging your child to attend youth group, Bible study or mission trips and attending worship together as a family. Without your support this ministry would not exist. So thank you for continuing to live out the promises of baptism, being an incredible piece of our church family, and your child's faith journey.

**Volunteers and Leaders.** We have been blessed with hundreds of children in Church School, Confirmation and High School Bible Study and are grateful for the incredible number of you that have heard the call to pray, support, teach, lead and/or mentor to those we know and those that are new to us. Your welcoming spirit and passion is what creates this safe and loving environment. You are an incredible blessing to our team, our families and many precious lives within our church family.

*Blessings (ONYA) on you all! – Sandy Berven and CYF Team*

## 2017 CHURCH SCHOOL OFFERINGS

January - May and September	Youth Works	\$219.82
October - December*	Change for Change	

\*Beginning October 1, 2017, church school offering began being collected during worship in the Change for Change baskets and is no longer collected in the classrooms. Children place their offering in baskets as they are dismissed for church school. The money collected will be combined with other Change for Change monies collected in the baskets and given away with Change for Change to the designated organizations. (See page 27 for more information on Change for Change designations.)

## DIRECTOR OF GLORIA DEI PRESCHOOL

Dear Gloria Dei Members,

Gloria Dei Preschool is celebrating another year of learning and growing! It continues to be a place filled with laughter, new ideas, love, and the boundless energy of three, four and five year olds! As its Director I can definitely say it's the best place to be in the morning! Gloria Dei's Preschool classrooms are filled with joy and laughter and continue to be a blessing for all of our teachers, families, and children in the program.

2017 was filled with a few changes. After teaching at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church for 15 years, Ms. Ginny retired in May of 2017. Ms. Ginny touched many young lives through her career at Gloria Dei. She was loved by many and her chapel lessons were some of the best acted out Bible stories the children will soon not forget.

We hired Dayleen Swanson as our new preschool teacher. Ms. Dayleen has been involved in children's ministry for 30+ years from vacation bible school to children's church school. Her smile and dedication to children and families shows everyday in her classroom. She has been a great addition to our staff and fits in well with our preschool family.

Our remaining team of teachers will all be returning. Stacey Reitz will once again teach the Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday morning class of four and five year olds. On Fridays Stacey's duties include gym teacher, MOPS liaison, and setting up Dramatic Play. Diane Dobbs teaches a Monday and Wednesday three year old class and then on Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday a four year old class. Dayleen Swanson's first year has had her teaching four year olds on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and three year olds on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Bobbi Schramm and I round out the team each teaching a Monday through Friday five year old class. Jane Gramlick, our morning aide and Lunch Bunch Coordinator, keeps our teachers prepared and ready for each day by running copies, gathering materials, preparing snack, and any other duty that is thrown at her! She is the glue that holds our team together!

We continue to focus on our children and families at Gloria Dei Preschool by continuing to grow and minister to all who walk through our doors.

Sharon Claude, Preschool Director

## LIBRARY

The Gloria Dei Library is such a wonderful resource available to each and every Gloria Dei member! We are so blessed to have such a beautiful space filled with books and movies and music that glorify our Lord and Savior and remind us of His presence in our lives. We have several comfortable chairs that people sit in and read to their kids, read a magazine, or just sit and visit. It is a place that kids can come in and do their homework at the table or find a good book to sit and read at the kid's table. We continue to grow both in all of the different materials available for check out, but also by the number of items that are being checked out.

In 2017 (as of this writing) there have been 1,280 items checked out, only 17 items shy of last years record number of 1297. With 3 more Sundays left in 2017, there is no doubt that we will surpass and set a new record since the library opened its doors in 2003... yes, 14 years ago! The breakdown of the 1,280 items is: 830 books, 438 DVD's, 6 music CD's, 3 books on CD and 3 audio CD's.

The Library's check out system has members entered by families, not as individuals. With the growth of the church we added 33 new families into the system this year.

There have been 119 new items placed into the library over the year. They include 90 books, 27 DVD's and 2 music CD's. The children's books and DVD's are very popular items to be checked out. The favorites of course are Veggie Tales, Bible stories, Berenstain Bears and new to the library this year are American Girl books. The adult fiction and non-fiction being checked out has also shown an increase...isn't it great to hold a book in your hands and turn the pages and not have to stare at a screen!

The VHS tapes have been removed from the shelves and the Young Adult section of books moved into its place allowing more room to grow for the Youth books. There have been 12 books removed from the system as a result of weeding, being damaged or lost.

We continue to have a variety of magazines available for you to read. There are inspirational, uplifting stories in the Guidepost; get up-to-date news from a Christian standpoint in Citizen and Christianity Today (CT); get parenting or marriage tips or find great activities to do with your kids in Thriving Family; learn what the Scouting program has to offer in the Scouting magazine; or learn about what the Lutheran church worldwide is doing in The Lutheran.

There has not been a decision made on a new display piece at this time. There are several different styles and sizes to choose from and we want to make sure it is the appropriate fit for our library for what it will be used for. These display pieces are very expensive and we want to make sure we pick the best one to fit our growth. The hope is to find one in 2018. We will continue to add more new books, movies, and music CD's to the library collection for your enjoyment.

May God continue to bless this continually growing ministry at Gloria Dei!

Thank you for your support of the Library.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laura Ruesch

## CHILDCARE MINISTRY

The Gloria Dei Nursery has been bustling with activity this past year! We have seen many children outgrow our program and have been overjoyed to serve many new children and families. The nursery volunteers provide loving care for babies through preschool age children during worship services on Wednesday, Saturday, Sunday, and on special dates.

The nursery volunteers share their love, time and talents with the youngest members and their families. We currently have thirty adult and teen volunteers who give of their time on a monthly basis. We are thrilled when new and current members feel the calling to help care for the Gloria Dei "Littles"! Our volunteers love engaging with children and providing cuddles, stories, and playtime during church services.

Our deepest thanks to the congregation for supporting this important ministry! We appreciate the prayers and support!

Dan and Molly Rost

## **MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) and MOPPETS (Care of the children of the MOPS Moms)**

### **2017 January – May: Be the Starry Eyed**

MOPS Steering Team: Jackie Johnson, Kendra Bouwer, Emily Sieler, Mandee Anderson

Monthly meetings were held on the second Friday of the month in the Fellowship Hall at Gloria Dei from 9am-11am.

Besides the monthly meetings, there were Mom's Night Out events, and times to meet at Wings Gymnastics for playdates. Average attendance was about 18 moms and 20 children. We had amazing volunteers who helped care for these children and we couldn't do this ministry without them!

### **2017 September – December: Free Indeed**

MOPS Steering Team: Kate Patrick, Kimberly Fromm, Pastor Sarah Goldammer

Monthly meetings were held on the second Friday of the month in the Fellowship Hall at Gloria Dei from 9am-11am.

Topics covered were, speaker Krissy Dykhouse talked about perseverance and her faith in God. We talked about Stewardship and collected boxes for Operation Christmas Child. We made ornaments and wrote cards for a nursing home. We met and passed them out to the residents before Christmas.

Besides the monthly meetings, there were Mom's Night Out events, and times to meet at Wings Gymnastics for playdates. Average attendance were about 25 moms and 28 children. We had amazing volunteers who helped care for these children and we couldn't do this ministry without them!

Respectfully Submitted,  
Pastor Sarah Goldammer

## **CONFIRMATION ASSISTANTS**

### **6th / 7th / 8th Grade Small Group Leaders**

Lizzy Pirnung  
Hans Lundquist  
Sheila Gladue  
Kristi Sayler  
Kristie Lewis  
Missy Radigan  
Gina Jensen  
Steve Zahn  
Dusty Brower  
Steve Blair  
Kristen Top  
Michelle Anderson  
Sandra Reinesch

Danielle Moe  
Kristen Stricherz  
Nancy Rausch  
Mary Ronken  
Paul Ronken  
Andrea Miller  
Kelley Reilly  
Cloie Schmidt  
Heather Johnson  
Ralph Olawsky  
Sarah Malchow  
Carrie Van Heel

### **Mentors**

Kathy Burkhart  
Bobbi Schramm  
Karen Starr  
Charity Bergheim  
Ralph Olawsky  
Mert Peterson  
Staci Wietfeld  
Michelle Anderson  
Karyl Mews  
Ryan Bade  
Sherri Baseley  
Candice Nelson  
Liane Effinger  
Connie Scott

Sam Leinen  
Glenda Bittner  
Holly Stiff  
Hans Lundquist  
Darwin Kampa  
Sandra Reinesch  
Gloria Doohen  
Lizzy Pirnung  
Jenny Puumala  
Josh Weiland  
Kristi Curl Mandsager

## MINISTRY OF WORSHIP AND EVANGELISM

Worship of God is at the very heart of what we're all about at Gloria Dei. As we gather regularly for worship, God meets us in Word, Sacrament, and the community of believers. In worship we hear both God's Law and Gospel; we hear God's commands and his grace; we are set free from the power of sin and death; we are reminded that we are among those who are called, forgiven, loved, chosen and sent by God. In worship we sing praises to God and give thanks for God's good gifts. Yes, worship is at the heart of who we are and what we do.

The number of people worshiping at Gloria Dei continues to grow. A couple of years ago we added a Wednesday night worship service. The year 2017 saw significant growth in this service, as well as in weekend Saturday and Sunday worship services. This past fall we also added a Church School session during the 10:30 worship service. This, combined with our other two sessions on Wednesday nights and Sunday morning during the 9:00 a.m. service, has helped to even out our Sunday morning worship numbers.

On average, almost 1000 people worship regularly each week. During the school year this number is approximately 1100 each week. As God continues to work in people's lives, and this community of faith continues to grow, the Worship & Evangelism Team will evaluate alternate worship service opportunities to accommodate the growth. We are grateful to God for this positive challenge.

The Worship & Evangelism team, working together with staff and volunteers, looks to keep our worship services dynamic, relevant, uplifting, and meaningful for all. I encourage you to see both the Lay Ministry and Worship Arts reports within this Annual Report, as they overlap with our Worship & Evangelism Team.

2017 brought with it the development of a Life & Growth Team. This team is updated on the happenings and visions for Gloria Dei and serves intentionally in the community as ambassadors for Christ and, in particular, Gloria Dei. Of course, all of us are called to this same task.

In May of 2017 we finished a 12 month preaching emphasis called "Deeper in Faith & Wider in Outreach." Currently we are preaching and reading our way through the intriguing and life giving Gospel of John. Thank you for your witness to Jesus Christ among your family and within the public sphere. And thank you for continuing to invite your unchurched family, friends, co-workers, and acquaintances to worship with you at Gloria Dei. The best form of Evangelism is sharing in person and telling others about the love of Jesus and inviting them to come and meet Jesus in worship, study, and fellowship. Jesus transforms lives.

Faithfully in Christ,  
Pastor Tim Selbo  
Worship & Evangelism Team Leader

## GRACE LITURGICAL DANCE

GRACE is a dance program available to students from 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 12<sup>th</sup> grade. We worship God through dance and through taking time to understand what the songs mean and how we can apply it to our lives. Elizabeth Enalls is the returning director this year and we have a wonderful new choreographer named Sydney Bartunek. She is so awesome and provides unique and fun dances for the students to engage with the music. GRACE works with the leadership and with the youth activities at Gloria Dei and we are so thankful for the support and tradition that has been handed down year by year.

Thank you so much to all the people who work so hard to continue the GRACE tradition!

All the best,  
Elizabeth Enalls  
Director of GRACE Liturgical Dance

## DIRECTOR OF WORSHIP ARTS

Each year in the Music Ministry at Gloria Dei is better than the last, and this year has been no exception. Here are some of our highlights from 2017:

We welcomed two new part time staff members to the Gloria Dei music staff; Sydney Bartunek who is assisting with GRACE Dancers and Ryan Woods who is a part time worship ministry assistant (and player in the praise band).

In celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, our musicians had several special opportunities. Several of our choir members sang in the combined chorus at the Synod Reformation Worship at the Arena, and also at the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation Hymn Festival at First Lutheran Church. We also welcomed a group of brass musicians to join us for worship on Reformation Weekend at Gloria Dei.

Cantata was exceptional this year, with our largest orchestra yet accompanying our youth, adult, and bell choirs. All the music this year were my original compositions and arrangements, and I'm truly thankful for the musicians and technicians who come together to make it happen. The organ prelude and postlude from this year's cantata will be featured along with five other original arrangements in my upcoming book published by Lorenz Press this spring. A professional recording was also made for this year's cantata and is available to stream free online.

We had our second year offering our Service of Hope and Remembrance during Saturday worship, and our first year in which the children's Christmas Program was offered during Wednesday worship.

Those of us in the Music Ministry at Gloria Dei are excited to be a part of the worship life of this vibrant congregation and we're thrilled to be people who "Gather, Grow, Give and Go All to the Glory of God!"

A special thanks to all of the singers, instrumentalists, technicians, ushers, sacristans, and acolytes who help make worship the amazing experience it is. Those of us who have the privilege of leading the groups you participate in are truly thankful to work with you at Gloria Dei. On behalf of myself, John (Guitar Ensemble, tech crew), Gretchen (Heavenly Harmonies and Church School music), Dayna and Lonna (accompanists), Elizabeth and Sydney (GRACE Dancers), we give our heartfelt appreciation and thanks to all those who participate in the worship life of this vibrant congregation.

Matthew Walicke - Director of Music and Worship Arts

## MEDIA MINISTRY

Media Ministry at Gloria Dei grew and faced some challenges over the past year. In 2017 we:

1. Continued to increase our online presence (our website, Facebook pages, and YouTube page) which has resulted in outreach and evangelism and new members joining our congregation. Examples are Sign Up Genius and the expansion of the #GoNetwork.
2. Began to record the Wednesday evening message; continued to use platforms to offer all sermons, both video and audio, to be viewed shared, and downloaded by anyone.
3. Have seen an substantial increase in our website traffic.
4. Offered more online registration for events across all ministries. Those registering are able to pay online if necessary. Church School And Confirmation online registrations have increased tremendously.
5. Have gained a few more adults and teens to help serve in the A/V booth for worship services.
6. Began to use the Chapel for more events - youth, seminars and other gatherings.
7. Had several A/V items in the Chapel updated and working better.
8. Had major failures of two primary pieces of our audio system in the sanctuary - the audio console in July and the speaker controller in December. These items have been addressed and replaced. The results are that the sanctuary is sounding much better! The audio coverage is now more even and balanced.

Our 2018 Goals include, but are not limited to:

1. Continuing to enhance worship through the use of quality videos, images and audio.
2. Use creative strategies to engage and enhance the connection to our congregation and beyond using technology, social media and our website.
3. Grow our media ministry team by beginning some times of fellowship and training for the team.
4. Continue to educate and support the staff using various software to manage, connect and communicate with members;
5. specifically volunteer sign-up and management.
6. Continue to work with program staff to better utilize, understand, and manage online registration information.

John Effinger - Associate Director of Media and Music

## DIRECTOR OF LAY MINISTRY

**"For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another."**

**Romans 12:4-5**

Visitor Outreach – Gloria Dei is blessed to be in a growing area of Sioux Falls and we have visitors attend our worship services each week. We have an outreach program to welcome visitors and stay in touch with them throughout the year. This includes a welcome letter from Pastor Tim, newsletters, and proactive outreach. We keep our visitors informed about the new member classes and invite them to be part of our family of faith at Gloria Dei. This year we also did outreach through a monthly advertisement in the Southside Living and Eastside Living magazines. These magazines cover neighborhoods in proximity to Gloria Dei and reach about 9000 households on a monthly basis.

New Members – Gloria Dei received new members in March and October. In 2017 we brought in 90 new families for a total of 214 new members. Our new member program consists of classes led by the Pastors, a new member recognition weekend, and a breakfast where new member families can experience a time of fellowship with each other and members of the congregation. We look for opportunities to get our new member families involved in the life of our congregation by inviting them to activities and encouraging them to participate as volunteers in the various ministries at Gloria Dei.

Women's Bible Studies – We have a Bible study on Tuesday morning where the women use the Lutheran Gather magazine Bible study series. The Wednesday morning women's Bible study did a variety of studies during 2017. We read the following books: "Wait and See" by Wendy Pope which is a study of the life of King David; "A Woman Who Doesn't Quit" by Nicki Koziarz which is a study of the book of Ruth and now we are studying "Traveling Light" by Max Lucado which is a study of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm.

Fellowship/Educational Events – In January Pastor Chris and I took a chartered bus with 50 people to Minneapolis to see the Reformation exhibit highlighting the life of Martin Luther. This exhibit was at the Minneapolis Institute of Art. We spent the day at the exhibit and then returned home in the evening. This was the first time this exhibit left Germany. It was very interesting and we learned about the Reformation and Martin Luther's role during this period of history. Pastor Chris did a program on the Nicaragua Mission Trip. He shared pictures and stories from this ministry trip. In June a group of 25 women enjoyed the downtown Sculpture Walk and lunch together at Minerva's. Rain limited our Sculpture Walk, but not our time of fellowship together over lunch. In October Linda Beckman presented a program entitled "The Art of Really Hearing". The program was very educational and helpful as we learned to be better listeners and communicators. We spent time in fellowship over coffee and cookies after the program.

Gloria Dei Book Group – This group meets monthly from September through April to discuss a book and enjoy fellowship time with each other. Each month a book is selected and discussed by the group. We also gathered for dinner during the summer months. In 2017 we read the following books:

- January – "Ordinary Grace" by William Kent Krueger
- February – "Children Act" by Ian McEwan
- March – "Discovering Wes Moore" by Wes Moore
- April – "Some Luck" by Jane Smiley
- May/June – Dinner Out
- July/August – Dinner Out
- September – "The Little Heathens: Hard Time and High Spirits on an Iowa Farm during the Great Depression"  
by Mildred Armstrong Kalish
- October – "Of Mice and Men" by John Steinbeck
- November/December – Christmas Party

Spirit Alive Event – We held our fall kickoff event entitled "Spirit Alive" on Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 a.m. to noon. In addition to worship, church school and breakfast, we also held a ministry fair. There were 27 different tables set up representing over 50 ministries and groups. Everyone had a chance to learn about the different ministries at Gloria Dei and sign up for various programs. We had wonderful participation from the various ministries and the event was very well attended.

OWLS (Older Wiser Lutherans) This group meets for a potluck lunch the third Sunday of every month. This is a wonderful time of fellowship with caring conversations and good food as well as peer presentations.

I am blessed to be a part of the ministry team at Gloria Dei. Glory be to God!

Together in Christ,  
Darice Huber  
Director of Lay Ministries

## MINISTRY OF CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Members: Paul Amundson, Gloria Doohen, Joleen Hessman, Rita Nelson, Bob O'Connor, Yvonne Oppold, Judi Schwerin, Dwight Stensgaard, and Gail Wilcox.

The mission statement for Congregational Care is to provide care, concern, prayer and support for families and individuals at various stages, places and circumstances of life to engage the congregation in service and community to one another. The overall goal is to create a culture of care for one another at Gloria Dei.

The Annual Ministry Plan Included:

*1. Provide timely and effective pastoral care.*

Pastoral Care is available by all 5 pastors and the Faith Community Nurse. This includes hospital visits, regular visits to the homebound, and personal follow-up for individual/family needs during grief, loss or transitions. This year a call schedule was implemented so there is a pastor or nurse available 24 hours a day for any emergent member needs. The faith community nurse made 166 visits and 906 calls in the past year.

*2. Provide support to members by individual and group offerings that promote spiritual, physical and mental well-being.*

Group care is provided through the C.A.S.T.s (Called and Sent Teams) that lend support for divorce, widows, cancer, new babies, grief, exercise, military, addictions and transitions with frozen meals. There were 235 meals prepared this year. There are 25 Stephen Ministers that provided 451 visits to their care partners. There were 3 new Stephen Ministers added in the past year and plans are to send two more people to leadership training to accommodate the program demands. Health services available were monthly blood pressure checks, the bloodmobile twice a year, a Service of Hope and Remembrance in December, education on advanced care directives, and healing services in the fall and spring. Exercise is promoted with the Exercising Your Faith Group, Walking Souls. The past year faithful exercisers walked 24901.55 miles around the world and now members are individually traveling the 800+ miles with Luther from Erfurt to Rome. The numbers continue to grow for pickle ball and play was increased to 4 times a week- Tuesday and Thursday mornings, Thursday evenings and Sunday afternoons. This group has seen exceptional growth not only in numbers and talent on the pickle ball court, but also friendship and fellowship. The SEPT (Safety and Emergency Preparedness Team) reconvened this fall to develop preparatory plans to assure for member safety during worship and programming.

*3. Enhance the ministry of prayer and the prayer team.*

The prayer team has grown to 120 members, prayer cards were developed and placed in the pews. All prayer requests are now added to the shared drive and the Faith Community Nurse tries to follow-up with those listed on the bulletin prayer team and those who submit prayer requests. Consistent guidelines were developed so prayer requests have consistency when sent out whether Gail is here or not. Prayer education has been enhanced with developments in the Spiritual Growth Group, and we will begin offering special times for group prayer in the chapel.

*4. Support youth and family with divorce care for youth and health related education for youth and parents.*

The Divorce C.A.S.T. meets monthly and child care is offered to those who bring children. More time and effort is needed to develop ways to support a common issue for our families. Searches to find a professional that could work with groups of children beyond the Divorce C.A.S.T. have not been successful. Plans are being made to offer a marriage retreat early 2017.

*5. Continue to develop and offer opportunities for spiritual growth and development.*

The Spiritual Growth Group began meeting the fall of 2016 and we have had 4 several week sessions throughout the year. These included a focus on the books *Falling Upward* by Richard Rohr, *The Return of the Prodigal Son* by Henri Nouwen, *Life of the Beloved* by Henri Nouwen and a series of webcasts from the Trinity Conference at The Center to Action and Contemplation. The focus for early 2018 will be on spiritual gifts. The purpose of the group is to offer opportunities to enhance our ability to feel God's presence and be attentive to the Holy Spirit.

A faith community is a unique community that is called to care for one another. It is the hope of the Congregational Care Committee that this team can be a vehicle to increase awareness of the role all members have in being ministers to one another. The goal is for members to feel a "culture of care" in their life at Gloria Dei and the ultimate goal is that this perception will empower relationships and personal growth in knowing and serving Jesus.

Respectfully submitted,  
Judi Schwerin

## PICKLEBALL MINISTRY

### FUN, FITNESS, FELLOWSHIP, FAITH

The Pickleball Fellowship, which began in the fall of 2014, has brought together a group of pickleball enthusiasts and pickleball newbies who have played the game, roared with laughter, consumed multiple cups of coffee, and developed deep bonds of friendship. With a nucleus of approximately fifteen players, we have grown to a group of thirty or more friends. Alas, in the winter months, many of our group migrate to warmer climes and southern courts, but we welcome their return when the robins appear.

Pickleball players love potlucks and social gatherings. We invite you to join us: experience the fun, meet interesting people, and get fit! It is often daunting to join an established group, but we welcome new members. We provide paddles and balls, and we will teach you the game. All are welcome here!

We have four time slots:

Monday and Thursday mornings (8:15-10:15),

Thursday evenings (6:45-8:445)

Sunday afternoons (4:30-6:30).

"We are the best of friends, and I pray for good fortune in everything you do, and for your good health – that your everyday affairs prosper, as well as your soul!" ~ 3 John 1:2

**To God be the Glory! Gloria Dei!**

Adrian and Janine Mohr, Coordinators

## MINISTRY OF ADMINISTRATION

According to the Gloria Dei Constitution, the Ministry of Administration Team is responsible for managing the business operations of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church including the oversight of property, personnel and financial operations. With a 2-year Vision Plan in place, the team members have worked toward fulfilling many of our goals. Listed below is an updated status of our progress.

### Facilities:

1. The Administration Team selected our top three recommendations from the facility use study completed by Koch Hazard last year. These recommendations were presented to the Church Council. The Council is reviewing the recommendations and discussing how they fit into the long range plans for Gloria Dei.
2. A Landscaping Plan has been developed and has been approved by the Church Council. We are awaiting funding to move ahead with the plan.
3. A topographic study to help solve our drainage issues has been completed and approved by the city of Sioux Falls. The Church Council is discussing long range plans for Gloria Dei and how the recommended updates will fit into these plans.
4. We had a very busy weekend on June 1 & 2 hosting the Annual Synod Assembly. With the help of many dedicated volunteers, we had a very successful event. Our guests felt welcome and well-cared for while they spent a few days in our church home.

### Personnel:

All Personnel policies have been reviewed and a new Personnel Policy Manual has been written. At this time, the manual is being reviewed by a council representative and then it will be presented to the full Church Council for approval. I want to say thank you to Carla Borchardt and Pastor Dwight Stensgaard for the time they spent meeting with me and working on this project.

### Financial:

The Church Council made a decision to combine the capital and general fund budgets for 2018 and to hire a firm to help us with the Stewardship Campaign. Mark Davy & Associates helped us develop the *Faithful from Generation to Generation* campaign to increase awareness of the combined budgets.

### Information Services:

With approval from the Church Council, we had an updated WiFi system installed to increase the accessibility to the internet throughout the church. It was very helpful when we held the Synod Assembly at Gloria Dei on June 1 & 2.

I would like to say thank you to Pastor Dwight Stensgaard, Jeff Riley and Gordy Albers for their continued support as we work together to keep Gloria Dei running smoothly. I would also like to thank my fellow team members, Mark Peterson, Mert Peterson and Sue Aguilar, for giving of their time and expertise as we work together for the ministry at Gloria Dei.

Cheryl McGuire  
Business/Facility Administrator

## CHANGE FOR CHANGE

At each worship service during the offering we have baskets where children and adults place change and dollar bills. All the money collected is given away to help alleviate hunger locally and globally. Here is the allocation of donated funds for 2017.

January-March	Kids Against Hunger	\$735.92
April - June	ELCA World Hunger	\$800.11
July - September	Feeding South Dakota	\$732.46
October - December*	Feed My Starving Children	\$977.23
Thanksgiving Eve Offering:	ELCA World Hunger and Feeding South Dakota	\$316.00 each

\*Beginning October 1, 2017, church school offering began being collected during worship in the Change for Change baskets and is no longer collected in the classrooms. Children place their offering in baskets as they are dismissed for church school.

## ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

**2016 - 2017**

### **GLORIA DEI ENDOWMENT FUND**

FUND	BEGINNING VALUE	3rd Quarter 2017 Market Value	Past 12 Quarters Rolling Average	2016 Annual Distribution (5% of Rolling Average)
General Fund	\$ 89,290.83	\$ 99,808.16	\$ 91,002.58	\$ 4,550.13
Camp Counselor Scholarship Fund	\$ 15,403.67	\$ 17,218.03	\$ 15,698.97	\$ 784.95
Pre-School Fund	\$ 6,517.52	\$ 7,285.21	\$ 6,642.46	\$ 332.12
Seminary Scholarship Fund	\$ 15,316.14	\$ 17,120.18	\$ 15,609.76	\$ 780.49
Augustana Pact Scholarship Fund	\$ 20,061.72	\$ 22,424.74	\$ 20,446.32	\$ 1,022.32
Global Mission Partner Fund	\$ 6,517.52	\$ 7,285.21	\$ 6,642.46	\$ 332.12
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 153,107.40</b>	<b>\$ 171,141.53</b>	<b>TOTAL 2017 DISTRIBUTION:</b>	<b>\$ 7,802.13</b>

**Market Value: 9/30/2017**

**Pooled Fund: \$ 169,465.01**

**Mission Plus: \$ 1,676.52**

**Total: \$ 171,141.53**

**End 3rd. Qtr. 2016 \$ 153,576.00**

**Increase/Decrease \$ 17,565.53**

**% Increase/Decrease: 3.996%**

**THANK YOU TO  
GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH CURRENT  
COUNCIL / MINISTRY TEAMS / COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**PRESIDENT**

Jon Sogn

**SECRETARY**

Melissa McKinney

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY**

Sandy Berven (Team Leader)

Julie Johnson

Steve Zahn

Brandon Hurd

Steve Blair

Randy Hotchkins

Harriet Monson

Michelle Anderson

Pastor Sarah Goldammer

Luke Senst

**MINISTRY OF CONGREGATIONAL CARE**

Judi Schwerin (Team Leader)

Paul Amundson

Gloria Doohen

Joleen Hessman

Adrian & Janine Mohr

Rita Nelson

Pastor Bob O'Connor

Yvonne Oppold

Pastor Dwight Stensgaard

Gail Wilcox

**MINISTRY OF WORSHIP & EVANGELISM**

Tim Selbo (Team Leader)

Darice Huber

Matthew Walicke

John Effinger

Anna Kruse

Doug Wiechmann

Cicely Schock

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Rob Broin (chair)

Lorrae Lindquist

Curt Hohman

Julie Paulson

Mert Peterson

**VICE PRESIDENT**

Sara Dannen

**TREASURER**

Steve Schultz

**MINISTRY OF ADMINISTRATION**

Cheryl McGuire (Team Leader)

Pastor Dwight Stensgaard

Steve Schultz, Treasurer

Sue Aguilar

Mark Peterson

Mert Peterson

Jeff Riley

**ENDOWMENT TRUSTEE**

Keith Huber

**MINISTRY OF MISSION & OUTREACH**

Pastor Chris Zuraff (Team Leader)

Steve Zahn

Carl Treiber

Brad Adams

Aaron Schultz

**COUNCIL AT-LARGE MEMBERS**

Blake Hoffman

Missy Radigan

Robin Aden

**2017 SYNOD ASSEMBLY DELEGATES**

Jon Sogn

Sara Dannen

**CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL**—Comprised of 4 officers, 3 at-large members elected by the congregation, and Senior Pastor

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**—Comprised of President, Vice President, Senior Pastor, Treasurer and 1 Council member elected by the Council.

# MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

## PASTORAL ACTS

Baptisms - 63

Marriages - 11

Funerals - 7

Confirmations: Youth - 101

2017 AVERAGE WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	
January*	849
February*	992
March*	1085
April*	1296
May*	806
June	610
July	540
August	697
September*	913
October*	1196
November*	953
December*	1138
<b>Average</b>	<b>981</b>

MEMBERSHIP 2017	
<b>Added to Membership</b>	
(Baptism, Letter of Transfer, Confirmation)	
Baptized	251
Confirmed	228
<b>Removed from Membership</b>	
(Letter of Transfer, Death)	
Baptized	44
Confirmed	31
<b>Total Membership</b>	
	1990 2000 2010 2017
Baptized	621 1748 2144 3221
Confirmed	376 1112 1531 2211
Households	202 518 641 1026

GLORIA DEI AGE PROFILE			
Age	Male	Female	Total
0-5	139	152	291
6-10	134	138	272
11-15	159	110	269
16-20	105	139	244
21-25	100	99	199
26-30	60	81	141
31-35	76	93	169
36-40	105	109	214
41-45	84	104	188
46-50	88	102	190
51-55	78	87	165
56-60	88	107	195
61-65	79	84	163
66-70	41	42	83
71+	58	78	136
<b>Total</b>	<b>1394</b>	<b>1525</b>	<b>2919</b>

\*Includes Wednesday Worship

Average Age = 33.1

## 2018 PLEDGE ANALYSIS - GENERAL FUND

# Rec.	Percent	Weekly Range		Annual Range	
22	5.6	\$192.32	& over	\$10,000.01	& over
40	10.2	\$100.01	to \$192.31	\$5,200.01	to \$10,000.00
35	8.9	\$90.01	to \$100.00	\$4,680.01	to \$5,200.00
7	1.8	\$80.01	to \$90.00	\$4,160.01	to \$4,680.00
14	3.6	\$70.01	to \$80.00	\$3,640.01	to \$4,160.00
16	4.1	\$60.01	to \$70.00	\$3,120.01	to \$3,640.00
17	4.3	\$50.01	to \$60.00	\$2,600.01	to \$3,120.00
36	9.1	\$45.01	to \$50.00	\$2,340.01	to \$2,600.00
7	1.8	\$40.01	to \$45.00	\$2,080.01	to \$2,340.00
21	5.3	\$35.01	to \$40.00	\$1,820.01	to \$2,080.00
14	3.6	\$30.01	to \$35.00	\$1,560.01	to \$1,820.00
22	5.6	\$25.01	to \$30.00	\$1,300.01	to \$1,560.00
39	9.9	\$20.01	to \$25.00	\$1,040.01	to \$1,300.00
29	7.4	\$15.01	to \$20.00	\$780.01	to \$1,040.00
30	7.6	\$10.01	to \$15.00	\$520.01	to \$780.00
35	8.9	\$5.01	to \$10.00	\$260.01	to \$520.00
7	1.8	\$3.01	to \$5.00	\$156.01	to \$260.00
2	0.5	\$1.93	to \$3.00	\$100.01	to \$156.00
0	0.0	\$0.01	to \$1.92	\$1.00	to \$100.00

393 Total Pledges

**GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**2018 PROPOSED GENERAL FUND BUDGET**

	<b>2018 Budget</b>	<b>2017 Budget</b>	<b>2017 Actual</b>	<b>2016 Actual</b>	<b>2015 Actual</b>
<b>RECEIPTS</b>					
General Fund	2,300,000	1,875,000	1,906,903	1,757,743	1,630,604
Loose Offering	50,000	45,000	62,109	45,929	48,209
Vacation Bible School/Day Camp	5,000	5,000	7,104	6,875	5,210
Misc. Benevolence Income	18,900	18,900	15,968	15,191	18,320
Church School Offerings (inc in Misc Income)	-	-	-	642	740
Preschool	113,767	113,767	102,914	119,413	112,644
Other/Interest Income	6,000	6,000	9,384	7,862	6,730
Loaves & Fishes	120,000	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>2,613,667</b>	<b>2,063,667</b>	<b>2,104,382</b>	<b>1,953,655</b>	<b>1,822,457</b>
<b>MISSION &amp; OUTREACH MINISTRIES</b>					
SD Synod/ ELCA Benevolence	125,000	120,000	120,000	115,000	113,258
SD Synod - Listen God is Calling	-	15,000	15,000	15,000	-
USD Campus Ministries	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,127
SDSU Campus Ministries	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,127
Lutherans Outdoors	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
World Hunger	3,000	3,600	3,600	3,600	3,600
Missionary Support	3,000	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500
Shetek Camps	-	500	500	500	500
Quilters	3,500	3,150	2,958	3,293	3,138
Community Outreach	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Heartland House	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Soldier Creek	500	500	500	500	500
St. Francis House	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,500
Habitat for Humanity	5,000	5,250	5,250	5,250	5,250
Miscellaneous Benevolence (non-budget)	18,900	18,900	15,969	15,191	18,320
Miscellaneous Benevolence (budget)	200	200	198	181	175
Church School Benevolence (inc in Misc.)	-	-	-	642	740
The Banquet	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,600
St. Dismas	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
Bishop Dudley Hospitality House	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Faith & Flexibility	7,250	7,250	4,555	139	7,250
Seminary Tuition	1,000	-	-	-	1,000
Feeding South Dakota	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Furniture Mission	-	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Charis Ministries	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500
Iglesia Pueblo de Dios	14,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
Nicaragua Travel Fund	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Luther House of Study	10,000	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
Children, Youth & Family Service Projects	5,000	5,000	2,000	5,000	4,623
Kids Against Hunger	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Feed My Starving Children	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Project Hope	1,640	1,640	943	492	1,640
Cameroon Seminary Scholarship	750	750	750	750	750
Multi-Cultural Center (MCC)	-	1,000	1,000	1,000	-
Table of Grace - Harrisburg	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	-
Communities Facing Addiction	800	-	-	-	-
Ayuda	3,000	2,000	2,000	-	-
Church on the Street	10,000	5,000	5,000	-	-
Mission/Outreach Communications	500	-	-	-	-
Adult Education	1,700	1,700	641	150	1,040
NeSoDak Shoreline Project	4,500	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL MISSION &amp; OUTREACH MINISTRIES</b>	<b>271,340</b>	<b>265,540</b>	<b>254,964</b>	<b>240,788</b>	<b>234,138</b>
<b>CHILDREN, YOUTH &amp; FAMILY MINISTRIES</b>					
Church School Curriculum	4,500	4,500	4,013	2,799	4,343
Church School Supplies	4,000	4,000	4,136	4,837	3,022
Confirmation	11,500	11,500	14,481	10,615	7,750
Children/Youth/Family Activities	23,500	26,000	23,356	22,316	25,242
Nursery	800	800	50	6	603
Sports Ministry	800	800	800	764	535
Young Adult Ministry	5,000	2,500	2,571	2,292	-
Presentation & Special Events	4,500	4,500	4,669	970	4,402
Vacation Bible School/Day Camp	7,900	7,900	7,283	8,571	7,360
Library	2,900	2,900	2,733	1,585	2,898
Equipment	1,500	1,500	1,061	728	480
Mission Trip & Camp Scholarship	20,000	20,000	14,013	-	-
Preschool Scholarship	5,000	5,000	5,000	3,910	3,153
Preschool	18,000	18,000	14,877	15,371	14,707
<b>TOTAL CHILDREN, YOUTH &amp; FAMILY MINISTRIES</b>	<b>109,900</b>	<b>109,900</b>	<b>99,043</b>	<b>74,764</b>	<b>74,495</b>

**GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**2018 PROPOSED GENERAL FUND BUDGET**

	2018 <u>Budget</u>	2017 <u>Budget</u>	2017 <u>Actual</u>	2016 <u>Actual</u>	2015 <u>Actual</u>
<b>WORSHIP &amp; EVANGELISM MINISTRIES</b>					
Evangelism	18,000	18,000	16,866	10,457	8,196
Publicity & Advertising (inc in Evangelism)	-	-	-	1,756	1,750
Lay Ministry	3,500	3,500	2,620	2,382	2,129
Special Events	10,000	7,000	8,356	8,041	9,841
Baptism & Communion Supplies	1,600	1,500	1,505	1,327	944
Liturgical Dance	1,400	1,400	380	1,112	536
Music	4,500	4,500	2,285	3,871	2,551
Worship Supplies	1,200	1,050	1,160	1,013	663
Piano Expenses	1,100	1,100	399	537	424
Tech Budget	15,000	3,500	17,654	3,725	4,148
Instruments	1,800	1,800	2,127	915	244
Worship Accompanists (inc in Spec Events)	-	-	-	800	675
Software/Subscriptions/Licenses	2,300	2,300	2,802	2,959	2,561
Handbells	1,200	1,200	80	1,095	1,166
<b>TOTAL WORSHIP &amp; EVANGELISM MINISTRIES</b>	<b>61,600</b>	<b>46,850</b>	<b>56,234</b>	<b>39,990</b>	<b>35,828</b>
<b>CONGREGATIONAL CARE MINISTRIES</b>					
Health Ministry	7,000	5,800	5,831	5,452	5,814
Exercise Ministry (inc in Health Ministry)	-	700	-	-	534
<b>TOTAL CONGREGATIONAL CARE MINISTRIES</b>	<b>7,000</b>	<b>6,500</b>	<b>5,831</b>	<b>5,452</b>	<b>6,348</b>
<b>ADMINISTRATION MINISTRIES</b>					
Stewardship Planning	8,000	6,000	32,619	5,991	5,411
Building Insurance	22,250	20,500	21,208	20,322	19,763
Equipment Maintenance	13,000	13,000	11,549	11,235	11,962
Grounds Maintenance	14,000	12,000	8,953	8,666	19,798
Building Maintenance	40,000	40,000	30,827	38,684	24,721
Cleaning Supplies	5,000	4,800	4,797	4,540	4,703
General Equipment	10,000	8,000	7,077	14,300	6,981
Utilities	85,000	85,000	78,276	75,260	73,148
Computers/Network	12,000	12,000	12,000	13,060	10,000
City Assessments	15,314	14,600	15,196	13,889	13,210
Transportation	3,000	3,000	1,533	1,536	744
Telephone & Internet	5,000	5,000	4,777	4,912	4,213
Hospitality/Food Ministry	11,000	11,900	6,867	7,605	10,914
Office Supplies	15,000	18,000	13,906	14,176	17,066
Postage	5,000	6,000	4,157	4,965	4,639
Mortgage	280,000	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATION MINISTRIES</b>	<b>543,564</b>	<b>259,800</b>	<b>253,742</b>	<b>239,141</b>	<b>227,273</b>
<b>OPERATIONS &amp; STAFF</b>					
Conventions /Meetings	2,000	2,000	980	1,287	1,265
Staff Compensation	1,282,503	1,153,298	1,078,941	967,236	931,624
Social Security Taxes	62,114	54,254	49,492	46,566	44,774
Worker's Compensation Insurance	8,200	8,200	9,319	7,688	5,622
Pension/Medical	288,684	254,769	234,935	212,108	203,483
Auto Allowance	15,100	15,100	15,046	12,083	11,472
Continuing Education	10,900	11,400	10,300	7,508	5,550
Professional Expenses	7,200	6,200	3,069	1,773	1,716
Staff Development/Training	3,000	3,000	-	-	1,325
Contingency Fund	4,000	4,005	506	2,468	2,704
<b>TOTAL OPERATIONS &amp; STAFF</b>	<b>1,683,701</b>	<b>1,512,226</b>	<b>1,402,588</b>	<b>1,258,717</b>	<b>1,209,535</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>2,677,105</b>	<b>2,200,816</b>	<b>2,072,402</b>	<b>1,858,852</b>	<b>1,787,617</b>
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIT) OF RECEIPTS</b>	<b>(63,438)</b>	<b>(137,149)</b>	<b>31,980</b>	<b>94,803</b>	<b>34,840</b>
Beginning General Fund Cash	\$ 420,351		\$ 388,371	(A) \$ 303,954	\$ 281,114
Ending General Fund Cash	\$ 356,913		\$ 420,351	\$ 398,757	\$ 303,954
(A) Adjustment					

## LOAVES AND FISHES REPORT

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church  
Loaves and Fishes  
2017

	<u>2017 Total</u>	<u>2016 Total</u>	<u>2015 Total</u>	<u>Total Actual</u>
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
Pledges	\$ 863,127	\$ 892,561	\$ 762,901	\$ 2,518,589
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$ 863,127</b>	<b>\$ 892,561</b>	<b>\$ 762,901</b>	<b>\$ 2,518,589</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>				
Mark Davy & Associates	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 45,072	\$ 45,072
Capital Campaign Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,304	\$ 5,304
Audio/Visual	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,091	\$ 4,091
Mortgage Interest	\$ 133,324	\$ 153,959	\$ 86,273	\$ 373,556
Mortgage Principal	\$ 691,482	\$ 1,024,197	\$ 145,352	\$ 1,861,031
Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ 31	\$ -	\$ 31
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>\$ 824,806</b>	<b>\$ 1,178,187</b>	<b>\$ 286,092</b>	<b>\$ 2,289,085</b>
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIT) OF RECEIPTS OVER DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>\$ 38,321</b>	<b>\$ (285,626)</b>	<b>\$ 476,809</b>	<b>\$ 229,504</b>
<b>MORTGAGE BALANCE</b>	<b>\$ 3,272,614</b>			

## BUILDING LOAN UPDATE

Loan Balance 12/31/16	\$3,964,096
Principal paid from Loaves & Fishes	\$ 691,482
Loan Balance 12/31/17	\$3,272,614
Interest Paid during 2017	\$ 133,324
Monthly mortgage payment	\$ 29,567

# RESTRICTED FUND REPORT

## GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH DECEMBER 2017 RESTRICTED FUND REPORT

Clearing Account	\$ 97,269.03	Special Projects	\$ 78,384.10
Music Fund	\$ 780.00	Financial Peace University	\$ 1,289.90
Handbells	\$ 1,578.65	Computers	\$ 12,431.06
Altar Committee Fund	\$ 4,278.73	Thrivent Choice Dollars	\$ 11,828.55
Continuing Education - Pastors	\$ 10,005.32	Parking Lot	\$ 3,648.55
Continuing Education - Staff	\$ 11,461.55	Furniture	\$ 439.15
Dei Café	\$ 25,287.55	Cleaning Equipment	\$ 495.99
Youth Trip Fundraising	\$ 24,229.89	Sanctuary Needs	\$ 8,750.00
Camp Counselor Scholarships	\$ 1,057.66	Coats for Kids	\$ 566.97
Preschool Fund	\$ 23,527.46	Road Construction	\$ 28,933.42
Preschool Long Term Sub Fund	\$ 2,910.22	Seminary Tuition	\$ 6,958.06
Alpha Fund	\$ 773.54	Memorial Garden	\$ 915.00
Good Samaritan Fund	\$ 3,656.63	Global Mission Endow Dist	\$ 309.42
Endowment	\$ 675.00	Cameroon Missionaries	\$ 1,098.00
Facility Reserve Fund	\$ 8,003.44	Other	\$ 720.03
Operations Reserve Fund	\$ 55,661.49	Nicaragua - Travel	\$ 15,519.70
Funeral Committee Fund	\$ 1,699.36	Nicaragua - Medicine & Supplies	\$ 3,067.80
Augustana PACT	\$ 409.02	Soldier Creek	\$ 6,079.37
Building Use Deposits	\$ 5,920.00	Quilting	\$ 50.00
Organ Fund	\$ 4,258.00	Visitation Fund	\$ 286.54
Health Ministry	\$ 10,731.65	MOPS	\$ 6,320.36
Liturgical Dance	\$ 1,369.86	Gym Fees	\$ 6,688.50
Library	\$ 1,859.99		
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 272,116.49</b>	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 116,396.37</b>
		<b>Total Restricted Funds</b>	<b><u>\$ 388,512.86</u></b>

# A MESSAGE FROM BISHOP DAVID B. ZELLMER

Dear Friends in Christ,

If you listen to the news or read the paper, you might hear an echo in these words from Isaiah. Whether it's politics, the changing climate, the economy, – you name it – the chorus sounds like some variation on the themes: "worst ever!" "catastrophe!" While a lot of folks may feel just fine about the current state of the world, Isaiah does put his finger on a spiritual problem that we all suffer from: the suspicion that God has "hidden God's face," and "delivered us up to our guilt." And no wonder! Because when it comes to our life with our neighbor, or our treatment of the earth, or how we've related to God, we always stand in need of repentance.



But don't you just love the bold and devious turn that Isaiah makes? "Yet, O Lord... you made us!" Or more precisely, "you are making us" – "we are the clay in your hands." Now, as much as ever, our communities, towns and cities need to hear the proclamation that God is still God, and we are still not. This is the time for the good news that God has not abandoned us, and that, in Christ, God has joined us. God is still working on us. God will not let go of us.

This is what it means to be the church. To stand in the middle of all the swirling anxious mess and declare that God is with us! *Even in uncertain times!* Everything we do should be directed toward this aim – to let the world see God with us in Jesus Christ. When we share a meal, we point to Christ who fed the 5000. When we comfort the bereaved, we lift up the one who wept at Lazarus' tomb. When we bring in the children for Christian education, we do it at the command of the one who said, "let them come to me." When we speak a word of healing we do it in the name of the Jesus who hung from the cross and said, "Father, forgive them."

On behalf of all the anxious and not-so anxious communities around our synod, I say, "Thank you!" Thank you for your proclamation of the good news of Jesus Christ! Thank you for your generous spirit that makes people want to listen to your message in the first place! Thank you for your time and talents that make the sharing happen. And, of course, thanks for your financial giving that enables the good news to go forth—not only to your locale—but also, through your mission support, to the whole world. And remember: God is still God now, and forever!

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bishop David B. Zellmer".

Bishop David B. Zellmer

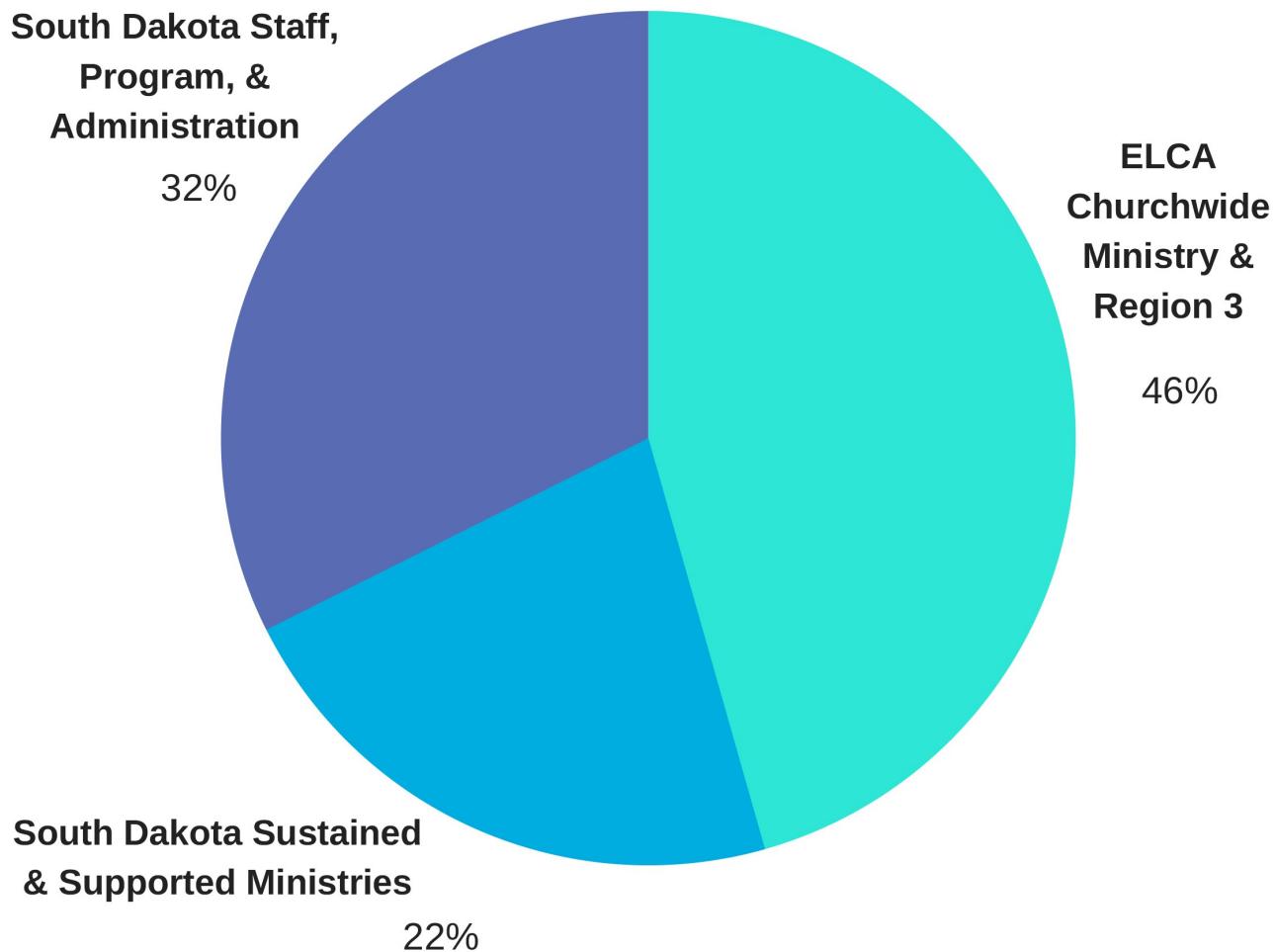
There is no one who calls on your name, who rouses himself to cling to you;  
for you have hidden your face from us and have delivered us up to our guilt.  
Yet, O Lord, you are our father; we are the clay and you the potter;  
we are all the work of your hands.

Isaiah 64:6-7

# 2018 South Dakota Synod Mission Plan

---

The following pie chart represents how every dollar that is designated for mission support to the synod is used. For a full breakdown, you can visit [sdsynod.org/missionsupport2018](http://sdsynod.org/missionsupport2018).

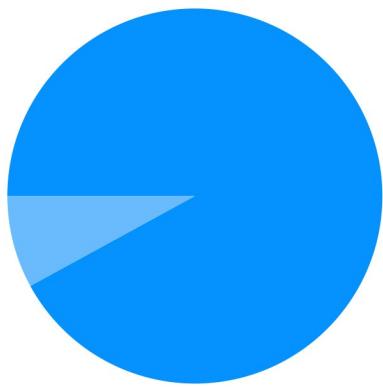


**South Dakota Synod**

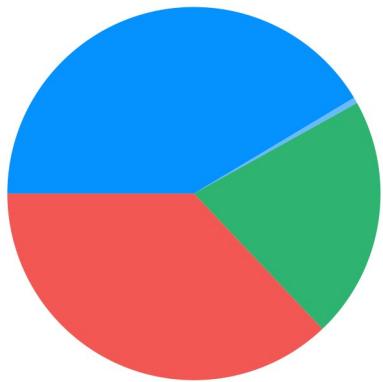
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

## South Dakota Mission Plan Summary

Income



Expenses



■ Mission Support ■ Other

■ Churchwide Mission ■ Region III ■ Shared Ministries ■ Synod Ministries

Income ITEM	AMOUNT
Mission Support	\$1,735,238.00
Other	\$150,055.00

Expenses ITEM	AMOUNT	Summary TOTAL INCOME
Churchwide Mission	\$780,857.00	
Region III	\$9,700.00	\$1,885,293
Shared Ministries	\$395,614.00	
Synod Ministries	\$699,122.00	

Summary TOTAL INCOME
\$1,885,293

Summary TOTAL EXPENSES
\$1,885,293

### Stories of Faith in Action

See how your Mission Support is put to work by visiting [sdsynod.org/SOFA](http://sdsynod.org/SOFA)



**South Dakota Synod**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

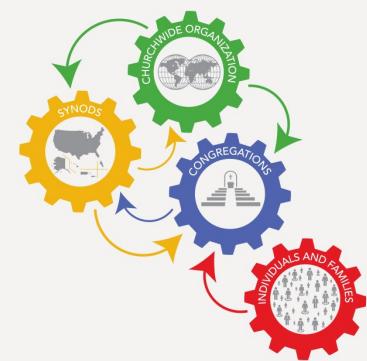
# SOUTH DAKOTA SYNOD, ELCA MISSION PLAN

**Adopted Budget**  
02/01/2018 - 01/31/2019

INCOME	Adopted 2018
MISSION SUPPORT FROM CONGREGATIONS	1,735,238
Program Ministry Income	
Pine Ridge Ministry Income	45,000
Other Income Streams	
SD Synod Mission Support	49,152
DEM Support Staff	10,000
Interest Income	7,500
SDS Transportation LLC Income	12,900
SDS Transportation/Plane Income	25,000
Misc Income	503
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>1,885,293</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
CHURCHWIDE MISSION	Adopted 2018
Mission Support to ELCA	780,857
% of Mission Support	45.0%
Region III	9,700
SHARED MINISTRIES	
South Dakota Sustained Ministries	
Campus Ministry	123,658
Campus Ministry Capital	1,030
Lutheran Planned Giving	57,839
Heartland Ephphatha	6,067
Lutheran Youth Organization	3,605
South Dakota Supported Ministries	
SD Ministries Support	22,118
Luther Seminary	70,127
Lutheran Social Services	70,127
Lutherans Outdoors	34,974
Church Colleges	6,067
Association of Christian Churches	-
Chapel in the Hills	1
Good Samaritan Society	1
<b>Total Shared Ministries</b>	<b>395,614</b>

**Adopted Budget**  
02/01/2018 - 01/31/2019

	Adopted 2018
<b>SOUTH DAKOTA SYNOD MINISTRIES</b>	
<b>Staff Leadership</b>	
Bishop	111,322
Associate Tesch	12,746
Associate Marone	83,101
Bishop/Associate Benefits	75,299
SDS Travel	34,899
Bishop/Assistants Travel & Cont Ed	18,800
<b>Program Ministries</b>	
Native American Ministry	73,124
Synod Youth Ministry Coordinator	15,234
Companion Synod Coordinator	11,578
<b>Support Staff and Office</b>	
Support Staff Salaries/Benefits	144,819
Resource Center Supplies	250
Synod Office Expenses	57,528
Augustana University	19,689
<b>Synod Leadership</b>	
Synod Council	4,500
Support to Ministries Committee	2,600
Candidacy Committee	4,500
Electronic Communications	1,500
Multicultural Ministry Committee	1,700
Companion Synods Ministry Committee	500
Evangelical Outreach Committee	1,500
Mission Strategy Committee	2,000
<b>Ministry Projects</b>	
Stewardship Project	500
Continuing Education Projects	250
<b>Outreach Ministries</b>	
Multicultural Center/Woyatan	15,000
Mission Congregation Start-up	4,000
Companion Synods	500
<b>Contingency</b>	<b>1,683</b>
<b>Subtotal SD Synod Ministries</b>	<b>699,122</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>1,885,293</b>
<b>Net Total</b>	<b>0</b>



ELCA members in more than 9,300 congregations in the United States and Caribbean give approximately **\$1.75 billion** in regular offering to support ELCA ministries in their local communities and worldwide. When members give through their **congregations**, a percentage of that money is then shared with the local **synod** and the national **churchwide organization**.

This unrestricted giving, called Mission Support, gives us both the foundation and the fuel to do God's work in the world and a portion of the gifts circle back to support ministries in synods and local congregations. Of these unrestricted gifts, the churchwide organization receives around 2.6 percent. This represents the largest portion of the ELCA churchwide organization's operating budget.

## Your Mission Support helps fund the following churchwide ministries:

### Grow the ELCA in the United States



Plant and support  
357 new congregations.

- **Enable congregations to renew their ministries** and reach out to their surrounding communities.
- **Work together** with our African Descent, American Indian and Alaska Native, Arab and Middle Eastern, Asian and Pacific Islander, and Latino/Latina members to develop networks and resources for ministry.
- **Develop and share resources** for faith, discipleship, prayer and worship.

### Grow the Lutheran church around the world



Send 230 missionaries  
in more than 48 countries,  
and more than 84 Young  
Adults in Global Mission in  
11 country programs.

- **As a member of The Lutheran World Federation, we're in communion with 145 member churches** and directly connected to 85 companion churches in other countries.
- **Accompany new Lutheran churches**, expand ministries, and train leaders and evangelists.

### Provide coordination and support for churchwide ministries

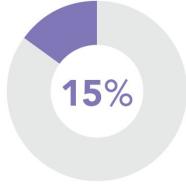


**1.1 million**

Maintain **constituent database**, including 1.1 million records of rostered and lay leaders, members, donors and congregations.

- **Preserve and maintain archives and historic records** of the ELCA and its predecessor bodies.
- **Provide office space, equipment and human resources** for staff and operations.
- **Process 150,000 gifts** to ELCA ministries.
- **Equip congregations and synods** with resources to assist in risk management and legal matters.

### Support and develop current and future **leaders** in the ELCA

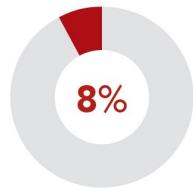


**9,900**

Recruit, prepare and implement a system  
for the assignment of  
9,900 rostered ministers.

- **Support the work** of seven ELCA seminaries and 26 colleges and universities.
- **Identify, connect and provide** ministry resources and opportunities for networking for lay leaders.
- **Offer events and leadership opportunities** for youth and young adults.

## Invest in technology and communications



### Design and maintain communications tools

to strengthen our Lutheran identity and grow awareness of our church and its mission and ministries.

- **Connect members with one another** through new technology and systems.

## Provide governance and leadership



**65**

**Coordinate meetings and support**  
for 65 synodical bishops.

- **Organize lay and clergy leaders from across the church to serve** on the governance boards and committees that provide guidance and oversight for ELCA ministries.

## Grow and sustain financial resources



**Develop and promote** efforts related to stewardship education, financial literacy, mission interpretation and growth in giving to all church ministries.

## Address social issues and **work for justice**



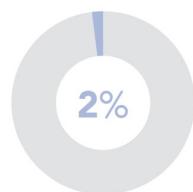
**1 in 50**

**Support** social ministry organizations, such as Lutheran Services in America, to impact the lives of **1 in 50** Americans.

- **Engage** in churchwide study and deliberation to create social statements and resources that address social, political, environmental and other public issues.
- **Equip** members and leaders to advocate with lawmakers in order to support policies that promote justice and peace.

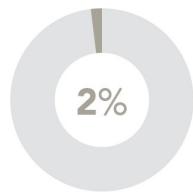
Your designated gifts to ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response provide additional funds annually to address hunger, poverty and suffering around the world.

## Engage in **research** and strategic planning



**Research and analyze trends that impact the ELCA and develop innovative strategies** to improve mission and ministry in the 21st century.

## Sustain **ecumenical** and **interfaith relationships**



**Facilitate dialogue and common action among communities of other faiths**, including the development of resources and communications for ELCA congregations.

- **Seek unity in faith and life** with all Lutherans and **six** full communion partners.