



# 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

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### *From President of the Congregation ... Kristi Mittelstaedt*

As members of Peace, we have a lot to celebrate and for which to be grateful. This past year has shown our ability to adapt and accommodate. When the path wasn't always clear, we simply stuck together and let God lead the way. Last year at this time, we were preparing for construction of the classroom addition. We had hopes of what the added space could do and we knew it meant many opportunities, yet there was much to do to get it built and furnished. With the work of many, especially the dedicated I-Team, the project is basically complete. From the initial contract negotiations to the occupancy permit, it was a large undertaking and they did a wonderful job. As the project moved forward, our entire congregation was required to adapt and make due while under construction. We worked together to make it all possible and that is something to celebrate. As we see how the new space can expand our ministry, we often wonder how we made do without it. It soon became clear that additional items were needed beyond bricks and sticks. We established a fund for Move-In Costs. We asked the congregation to financially support this fund to allow Peace to truly utilize the added space. The Board was humbled and amazed at your response. As you know,

we exceeded our goal and pressed on to get the work done. Many worked hard to finalize cost, secure the work and get the installations complete. With the physical changes to our building came many opportunities for expanded programs. Again, the members of Peace responded and made it look easy. Programs related to our youth and outreach to the community have been well received. Looney Lutherans held two fantastic shows. VBS this year was a huge success even with the construction. Members of Peace worked together to make this another fantastic year for the kids. The Spark Program continues to bring in families from the community and they have such an amazing experience, they can't wait to return. The music here at Peace makes the worship experience such an uplifting time. The children's choir, adult choir, solos, duets and the incredible Christmas program. A praise band was recently added and we are tapping our toes each Sunday. Thank you to all those who share their God given gifts with all of us each week.

### *2016: A Year of Building and Growth*

Great job to all of our Ministry Teams who quietly work behind the scenes. Outreach has had a busy year with many large events and of course those wonderful

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## Peace Lutheran Church Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 29th - Following the 9:00am Worship

# 2016 Annual Meeting Agenda

Sunday, January 29, 2017

- Call to Order
- Opening Prayer
- Open Forum - maximum of 10 minutes
- Adopt Annual Meeting Agenda
- Approve Congregational Meeting Minutes
  - ◆ Annual Meeting - January 31, 2016
  - ◆ Special Congregational Meeting - July 17, 2016
- Pastor's Report
- President's Report
- Nominating Committee Ballot Presentation
  - ◆ Ministry Board (3 year term) - vote for 2
  - ◆ Nominating Committee (1 year term) - vote for 6
  - ◆ Amend Constitution of Peace Lutheran Church to include changes to Nominating Committee in section B7.02
  - ◆ Amend Constitution of Peace Lutheran Church to add language in Section A2.08 to include the Statement of Faith on Marriage and Human Sexuality
- Departed Members
  - ◆ Phyllis Leaf 06/08/16
- 2016 Finance Review
- 2017 Proposed Budget
- Move In Costs Review
- Nominating Committee - Election Results
  - ◆ President (after Ministry Board election results)
  - ◆ 2017 Congregation President Election Results
- Adjournment
- Closing Prayer

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**From President of the Congregation ... Kristi Mittelstaedt**

Pineapple deliveries. Property does an amazing job with keep our building clean and well kept. Hospitality coordinates many special events and helps us to celebrate Birthdays and Anniversaries. Altar Care ensures the beauty of our worship setting and does a wonderful job making it beautiful. Technology worked hard this year to ensure we received the system that best fit our needs and many more upgrades. Women of Peace share their gifts with our graduates and others. Stewardship did a fantastic job with their talks and committee of two. Christian education inspires our youth encouraging them to grow in their faith. Youth activities comes up with fun events for our kids to gather and build relationships. Missions reminds us of how we can reach out and help those in need. Thank you to all of you who care so deeply and work continuously to make Peace an active vibrant church in the community.

The average worship attendance is up 42%. New Member Households received are up 75% in 2016. It's a joy to welcome all to the family of Peace. As we continue to grow, added infrastructure will be important. The small church processes will need adjusting to ensure a growing church can blossom. In working to keep everything organized, Pastor Hanson is a faithful leader. His organization, dedication and fantastic sense of humor have been imperative to our growth. Thank you to Pastor for working so diligently with the resources you have and tirelessly ensure things go without a hitch! As we move into 2017 prayerfully consider the leaders of Peace as they seek to hire an Administrative Marketing position. This role will be necessary to ensure tasks are completed timely and offer support for Pastor in his role. A heartfelt thank you to Sue, Judy and Marty for all the time and effort they put forth to ensure our finances are orderly and properly accounted for. They do a great job and we are truly blessed to have them. A special thank you to John Weinzierl as he steps down from the Ministry Board. Your hours of dedication have made Peace a better place. Thank to my fellow board members for their patience and support this year. Each is dedicated and faithful in their service and have been a joy to work with on the board. I am thankful to have had the opportunity to serve as your President and I look forward to the future God has planned for Peace!

In Christ, Kristi Mittelstaedt

## Pastor's Report ... Pastor David

**We always thank God for you, brothers and sisters, and rightly so, because your faith is growing more and more, and the love all of you have for one another is increasing.**

**"I'm so very thankful..."** These were the opening words by the Valedictorian to the graduating veterinarians at the U of M, including my niece. As he spoke at the podium, he went on to recount the many people - professors, staff, and family that had helped him to become the person he was today and that their influence would continue to guide him into the future.

**"I'm so very thankful..."** The Apostle Paul speaks of such thankfulness. He offered his grateful heart to God for those in his life that have meant so much. He believed that God had provided so many good friends and co-workers in the gospel for the expressed purpose of carrying out all that God had asked him to do. He saw them as partners in that ministry, walking side by side with him, whether physically walking with him along the many miles of road he traveled or with him in prayer or in support, or in the common task they shared. Their names ring out from his letters he wrote.

**"I'm so very thankful..."** For me, this year has been the most incredible year. I too, give thanks to God for those who share in this ministry together. I'm thankful for an incredible congregation that always surprises me. You are open and willing to try new things and to see things in new ways. Your generosity is amazing! When asked, you step up and say "we can do this" and show us that you mean it by sharing your gifts of support. Your prayers hold us together and renew the Spirit within us. You share readily your affirmation when

we've hit the mark and your wisdom when we've missed the moment. I'm so very thankful for each of you here at Peace.

**"I'm so very thankful..."** I'm thankful for the Ministry Teams I work with. You all care so very much about what God is doing at Peace and give of yourselves so generously. I'm thankful for our Ministry Board, President Kristi Mittelstaedt, the I Team and all of our leadership, who have focused faithfully on our future at Peace. I'm thankful for Sue Beulke and Judy Jacobson and the hours of time they put in to manage the details. I'm also thankful for our confirmation students and their teachers, Colette Thorson and Jon Peterson. I'm thankful that I can be a part of SPARK, VBS and the Children's Christmas Program. We have such wonderful children, filled with energy and joy. It keeps my spirit young. I'm thankful for all of these and so many more.

**"I'm so very thankful..."** Lastly, I'm thankful to God for taking my life and renewing in my heart the joy of serving that may have become empty if not for God's intervention. I'm thankful for the power of the Holy Spirit for

2 Thessalonians 1:3



Pastor David Hanson

every gift given when necessary to open my eyes to the miracles possible, instead of the doubt of limited possibilities. I'm thankful for Stephanie, for her deep understanding of things greater and her heart to be my partner in the crazy world we call "David & Stephanie's life." I would not be anything without her at my side. Yes... without a doubt... I'm so very thankful...

Humbly...



Pastor David

## A SPECIAL *Thank You!*

### 2016 PLC Ministry Board

We have much to be grateful for this year. We give thanks to God for those who have led our congregation. We are a better church because of their insight, their dedication, discernment and faithfulness. For those who are leaving the PLC Ministry Board, we thank you and pray that God will bless you in whatever area of ministry you will serve in next. Thank you!



Kristi  
Mittelstaedt



John  
Weinzierl

# PLC 2016 Leadership

## 2016 Nominating Committee Report

The nominating committee met in October to start the selection process for two, three year terms for the Ministry Board and six, one year positions for the nominating committee. The committee was advised to read the constitution and bylaws to make sure those parameters were followed. A chairperson was picked. The time and talent sheets had been checked to see if anyone had noted an interest in serving. The committee members were to bring names to the next meeting for discernment. After several meetings a slate of 4 candidates for Ministry Board and 10 candidates for nominating committee was presented to the Ministry Board at the December meeting and all names were ratified. The candidates were asked to submit their bio's and pictures for the annual report. Members: Robert Lotito, Leif Pederson, Julie Sprenger, Meghan Weaver, Sharon Weinzierl and Carole Sundblad, Chairperson Ministry Board liaison is Bob Rieckenberg.

Submitted by: Carole Sundblad

### Ministry Board (Vote for up to 2)

- Erik Strand
- Beth Seefeldt
- Harlan Sundblad
- Duane Swenson

### Nominating Committee (Vote for up to 6)

- Jackie Cramb
- Dan Beulke
- Lillie Tesch
- Curtis Ziermann
- Kelsie Simon
- Julie Choate
- Marla Erickson
- Karen Lotito
- Phil Schansberg
- Mary Barfnecht

## 2017 PLC Ministry Board Candidates



Erik  
Strand

Hi, My name is Erik Strand. My wife, Sarah, and I live in Mayer with our two fur babies, Bear and Ruger. We have a baby on the way as well. Sarah and I were married at Peace by Pastor Hanson in September 2015. We both are involved in various activities in the church from Youth to Technology. In my spare time you can find me running/walking our dogs, hunting, fishing, sitting in the garage, dressing up as a t-rex, or just hanging out. I am originally from Plymouth and attended Plymouth Covenant Church growing up. Prior to finding a new church, Sarah and I "church hopped" for about a year before stepping into Peace. It was the one-of-a-kind atmosphere that made us

come back and stay. I am running for Ministry Board because as PLC grows, we will encounter more and more younger couples, young families and I think it is imperative that we continue to grow our Christian Education and Youth programs so as kids go through our programs, when they leave for college, they want to come back and not just come back for their parents. I am originally from a large Church and feel like we can utilize some of their ideas to benefit PLC and continue our ministry by sharing God's love by serving our community and our world. Thank You & God Bless, Erik



Beth  
Seefeldt

My family has been at Peace since it's beginning. My husband Tim, our four children and their families, are charter members of Peace, and feel like part of the Peace family and want everyone who enters Peace's doors to feel that also. My background in church involvement goes way back to before I had our children (31+ yrs.). In my former church, I had taught SS, confirmation and VBS. I served on many committees and directed the VBS program for many years. Caring for the altar and playing in the bell choir was a joy. Leading Bible Study and serving funerals, etc. was very important. All of this

happening while raising our four children, driving school bus and doing wedding work. The move to Peace was an opportunity to take a break, to enjoy my growing family and find time to rest and reflect. I now am serving on the Hospitality team with renewed vigor, while making new friends, planning and executing new ideas. I look forward to serving and helping at Peace where God calls me. God Bless, Beth Seefeldt



Harlan  
Sundblad

My name is Harlan Sundblad and I am a charter member of Peace Lutheran Church. My wife Carole and I have been married 53 years and have 2 married sons and 6 grandchildren. I was a machinist for 27 years and have farmed for 40 years, and continue to crop farm with my son's help. I served 1 term on Council at Trinity Lutheran while a member. We enjoy our grandchildren, biking, camping, and traveling. I previously served at Peace Lutheran on the nominating committee and ushering, and am currently on the finance committee. I would be honored to serve on the ministry board.



Duane  
Swenson

I am Duane Swenson and have been married to Doris for 53+ years. We have three grown children and 7 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild on the way.

I have been retired for 16 years but still work part time at the golf course. We enjoy going south in the winter for two to three weeks.

We have been members of Peace Lutheran for about two years and the last year have served as ushers and greeters.

# Get To Know Your Leaders

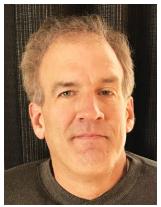


## 2017 PLC Nominating Committee Candidates



Jackie  
Cramb

- I am a wife, mother, grandmother, daughter, sister. I have been married to my husband for 32 years. We have a son Neil. I do have two other children Tina and Adam with four beautiful grandchildren.
- Been at Peace for a year and a half. We really do enjoy Peace!
- I am on the Altar Care committee. I really do want to get involved more.
- Thanks for your time, Jackie Cramb.



Dan  
Beulke

My name is Dan Beulke. I was born in Rosemount, MN and grew up on the family farm. I am a graduate of the University of Minnesota. I am married to Sue and we have two children, Sarah and Jacob. I am an account manager for C. H. Robinson and have worked there for 28 years. Sue and I joined Peace about 2 years ago. I am currently serving on the Finance Committee at Peace.



Lillie  
Tesch

My husband Carl (Fred) Tesch and I live in the countryside near Mayer. We have raised four children and now have 11 grandchildren. We have been blessed to be able to spend 51 years as a married couple.

We are Charter members of Peace. Currently I serve on the Hospitality and Mission teams at Peace. You might know me as the woman who stands up and asks for you to please serve in the Peace Café on Sunday mornings.



Curt  
Ziermann

Curt attended Zion Lutheran School as a youth and graduated from Waconia High School. He worked as a licensed utility operator and recently retired from OTR Trucking.

He served 28 years with the Mayer Fire and Rescue, and 8 years on the City of Mayer Planning Commission for two housing developments. Curt was a 4-H exchange leader and a past FFA member. At a former church he served on the Church Council and Youth Committee. He also chaired their AAL/Thrivent Chapter which held many fundraisers for families in need.

Curt previously served on the Nominating Committee for Peace. He serves as a greeter and usher when scheduled. Presently Curt is working with his third confirmation student as a mentor.

With a strong background of growing up Lutheran: Word Alone, Grace Alone, Faith Alone, resonates that who we are in Christ reflects in what we do for others.



Kelsie  
Simon

My name is Kelsie Simon. I am married to Ben and we have a daughter Hallie. We live in St. Bonifacius. I work for a bank in their trust department. I enjoy being outdoors. Our family does a lot of camping, boating and fishing. I have been a member at Peace for about a year. I am currently serving on the Christmas Program committee.

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## (2017 PLC Nominating Committee Candidates - continued)



Julie  
Choate

- Julie Choate Member since April 2016
- Participating on the following committees: Outreach and Mission, Alto with the adult choir
- Previous member of Grace Lutheran in Andover, MN for 15 years.
- Married to Carl Choate. Four children - 3 sons, 1 daughter. 4 grandchildren - 3 grandsons, 1 granddaughter.
- Live in Watertown



Marla  
Erickson

My name is Marla Erickson. Most of you may know me as Peace's Adult Choir director and special music coordinator, roles in which I have joyfully served for several years now! My husband Tom and I have been worshipping at Peace Lutheran in Watertown for three years now. I currently have two jobs: One is as a flight attendant, for Delta, based here at MSP, flying approximately three days a week. My second job is a home-based business I have held for over 30 years, and that is as a deposition editor for court reporters. While my main gifts lie in music ministry and am a member of the Worship & Music Committee, I have also been involved in teaching VBS, helping teach/rehearse music with the children's choirs, supported SPARK Kids Club with meal preparation, participated in Feed My Starving Children, the December Women's Luncheon and other non-musical endeavors. In running for nominating committee, I feel I have gotten to know the good people of Peace and where some of their interests/talents/spiritual gifts lie, and would welcome the opportunity to serve in this role. I am honored to have been asked.



Karen  
Lotito

My name is Karen Lotito and I have been a part of Peace Lutheran church since 2010. I have been married to my husband Robert for almost 24 years and we have 3 girls. Rebecca is 22, Rachel is 21 and Robyn is 19. We moved from California to Minnesota 8 years ago when Robert retired from the military. We have been very involved in the church over the past few years and would love to continue serving Peace in the next years to come.

Thank you, Karen



Phil  
Schansberg

Phil is a lifelong member of the Lutheran faith and a Charter member of Peace Lutheran Church. He has lived in the area since 1973 and a retiree from Honeywell. Phil and Barb were married at Trinity and between them they have six children, 11 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren. He has served on Church Council, Cemetery Board and Christian Education Committee. He is an ardent believer in God's word and truths and looks forward to serving Peace, our Lord and the community.



Mary  
Barfnecht

Dear Peace Ministry Board and members, I was contacted by Carol Sundblad to possibly serve on the nominating committee. I would be interested in serving in that capacity. Don and I joined Peace early spring of 2016 we have felt welcomed and embraced. We have enjoyed getting to know the members of the church community. Since joining, we have enjoyed delivering pineapples and welcoming new comers to our community, we have also worked in the Peace Café, and we look forward to volunteering together as greeters and ushers. I am an active member of the outreach committee. I moved to Watertown a little over eight years ago, when I married Don. I previously lived in Waconia for many years. Together we have three adult children and seven granddaughters. In my leisure time I love to bird watch, antique and garden. There is something therapeutic about digging in the dirt and watching my plantings grow into something beautiful. One of God's many gifts is nature's beauty in plants and animals. I have worked in the medical field for many years, for almost the last thirty as an oncology nurse. I have worked for Ridgeview Regional Radiation Oncology for 15 years as their radiation nurse. Looking forward to retirement in the next year or so. Thank you for your consideration, Mary

# 2016 Ministry Team Reports



## Hospitality Ministry Team Report

Hospitality Committee members: Karen, Rachel and Robert Lotito, Lillie Tesch, Terri Christensen, Marty and Diane Malmin, Tracy Hulley, Beth Seefeldt, Julie Sprenger, Sarah Strand, Shawn Perez Hospitality Chair and John Weinzierl as MB Liaison.

The Hospitality Committee had a fun and exciting year!

- Hosted and decorated Peace Café for PLC Ground Breaking Ceremony.
- Arranged Themed Lenten Soup Suppers.
- Assisted in picking out new tables and chairs for the new Fellowship area.
- Picked out new appliances for the expanded Peace Café.
- Hosted Easter Brunch at PLC for 135 people.
- Hosted 2 Cribbage Tournaments at PLC.
- Hosted a Fish Fry.
- Hosted Dream'n & Desserts.
- Hosted a Wedding.
- Hosted a Funeral.
- Took a bus of 42 Peace Members, family and friends to the Minnesota Twins Faith Night.
- Hosted Rally Sunday.
- Pie Auction: 30 Pies were auctioned off raising \$4,275.00.

- Organized Guess Who's Coming to Dinner with 4 host homes and 32 participants in October.
- Hired a Graphic Designer to assist with Advertising material for PLC's 1st Christmas Bazaar, Cookie Walk and Women's Luncheon with Christian Speaker
- Hosted a table at Ladies Night Out in Watertown . Handed out nicely decorated cookies advertising the PLC Christmas Bazaar and Cookie Walk.
- Hosted Reformation Sunday Celebration Dinner.
- Assisted with the Church Open House
- Hosted Peace Lutheran's Christmas Bazaar, Cookie Walk and Ladies Luncheon with Speaker Dede Hard.
- Organized a bus trip to the Martin Luther exhibit at MIA.

In addition, we coordinate Greeters for each Sunday and Holiday services, we announce and provided cupcakes on the 1st Sunday of each month for Peace members celebrating their birthdays and anniversaries. We order cakes for special events. We order all Peace Café supplies including coffee. We have also shopped and filled our expanded Peace Café with much needed supplies.

Thank you to all PLC members for all your support!  
Shawn Perez, Hospitality Chairperson

## Financial Ministry Report

The financial Ministry Team Members for 2016 were Judy Jacobson, Sue Beulke, Marty Malmin, Andy Johnsrud, Glen Hulley, Mark Foster, Harlan Sundblad, Dan Beulke, and Paul Nesvold.

Our financial Ministry Team thanks all Peace families for their generosity during the year. We were able to finish the year strong, with a carry over for 2017 of about \$15,000. This was extra special, because during the year, we were able to raise

over \$100,000 to fund the move in costs for our wonderful new addition.

Our team would like to give Marty Malmin a special thanks for all his help and patience during the transition period for Judy, Sue and myself. Thanks also to Judy and Sue for the many hours spent keeping the books for Peace during 2016.

Paul Nesvold

for Holy Communion, Baptism, and the various festivals and seasons of the Church year. Our group assists with seasonal decoration of our worship center.

### Highlights of 2016:

- Set-ups for Holy Week, Easter, and Christmas – including flower orders and maintenance
- Special set-ups for baptisms, confirmation, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday
- Welcomed Ruth Clark and Doris Swenson to our ministry team
- Purchase of Liquid Candles for Advent candelabra

**To learn more:** Please contact Barb Schansberg at [brbshg@aol.com](mailto:brbshg@aol.com) or call 763-595-1138.

## Altar Care Report

**Leader:** Barb Schansberg.

**Who we are:** Our group currently consists of Barb Schansberg, Sherry Essig, MaryAnn Hoese, Karen Hoernemann, Heidi Thaemert, Jackie Cramb, Doris Swenson, Ruth Clark, and Cathy Rieckenberg. Sadly we said goodbye this year to our faithful servant, Phyllis Leaf. Any adult member of Peace Lutheran is welcome and encouraged to join this ministry. We are sincerely devoted and feel privileged to serve our Lord in this way.

**What we do:** We are "caretakers" of the altar, lectern and baptismal font along with their presentations. As such, we prepare for worship by setting up and maintaining supplies

## Technology Team Report

The Technology Committee is a team of members that provide a valuable service to the church. We depend on them for hearing God's Word, for singing our praises to Him and guiding us every Sunday through Worship.

This year Technology was very active with upgrading the sanctuary and the church computer system and with including new equipment in the new addition. We contracted with AVE (Audio Visual Electronics) for this work. Below is a list that encompasses the work that was completed.

### Sanctuary

Confidence screen in the back of the sanctuary to project the worship songs, liturgy and etc. Williams hearing-assisted devices (4).

### New Addition

- Laser projection monitor and pull-down screen in the large Fellowship Hall
- HD Sony television in the large classroom for Sunday School & in the Conference Room
- Many speakers throughout the addition for sound projection

### Software

Software and hardware to monitor and control the sound between the sanctuary and the Fellowship/Sunday School classroom. These are wall-mounted pads that control what you can hear and see and where.

### Main Computer

Upgrades/replacement of our main computer to a server to setup an actual network environment in the church. This will become more important as it allows Pastor and the Administration staff the capability to work from multiple computers and locations around the church.

## Outreach Ministry Team Report

Per the Outreach mission statement, The focus of our ministry is to serve, reach, and embrace our community with the love of Christ, with the hope of welcoming everyone in Christian love, through the word of God. Outreach was very busy in 2016, we:

- Delivered 234 pineapples to new move-ins in St. Boni, Waconia, Watertown, Mayer, and Delano south of Hwy 12 in January, March, May, July, and October.
- Hosted 4 Get-to-Know You/Us Brunches in January, April, June, and September.
- Hosted 5 New Member Sundays in January, April, June, September, and November.
- Organized Guess Who's Coming to Dinner with 5 host homes and 36 participants in February.
- Prepared/served a Lenten Soup Supper in March.
- Oversaw the Easter mailing to Watertown in March.
- Advertised for Easter, MN Teen and Adult Challenge Choir, Building Dedication, Looney Lutherans, and Christmas.
- Determined/assembled materials for new member packets.
- Hosted MN Teen and Adult Challenge Choir in April.
- Ordered the donated You Are Now Entering the Mission Field sign.
- Hosted the Re-Union Picnic for new members from 2015-2016 at the Johnsrud's in August.
- Hosted the Prayer Walk at Nesvold's in October.
- Hosted a table for Ladies Night Out in Watertown in October.

This list of improvements is a high level look at what has been completed. There are many other improvements that have made a huge impact on moving our church programs.

None of this would have been possible without the dedication from the Technology team. Each one of them played an integral part in making this happen. Many of them do not work in the computer industry but they had a desire to help us grow and make it all possible. Thank you all for your help. Carl Choate, Robert Dean, Erik Strand, Sue Beulke, Doreen Seal, Rebecca Lotito, Dan Juncewski, Pastor David, Kristi Mittelstaedt.

I also want to give a shout-out for those that help out on a weekly basis to help us hear, see and to read God's Word.

**Powerpoint:** Edie Hanson, Rachel Lotito, Rebecca Lotito, Pastor David Hanson

**Audio:** Bill Hoernemann, Phil Schansberg, Erik Strand, Lotito Family

**Bulletins:** Barb Schansberg, Sue Beulke

**Video:** Doreen Seal

As you can see the Video team needs more people to help so we can build a rotation. This would be a great opportunity for our high school kids who are confirmed and would like to do this for their Time & Talent.

During 2017 we will continue to upgrade our computer systems and add additional software to help make the Administration jobs easier.

- Hosted the Building Dedication in November.
- Hosted two performances of the Looney Lutherans in November. Gross sales of \$4,745 and provided Upcoming Events handouts to all guests.
- Rested and enjoyed fellowship at a Christmas dinner at the Peterson's in December.

In addition, we sent thank you cards to all visitors, oversaw the guest book, and funded the devotional Our Daily Bread (available to all members and guests). We are brainstorming for special events and new ideas for 2017 and will be looking at new/improved ways to reach out to the surrounding communities. Also on our agenda is a Welcome Center and/or kiosk to serve both members and guests, for which we will likely gather input from/work with the Hospitality Team.

THANK YOU to the congregation for helping with pineapple deliveries, providing bars/food for Peace's special events, seeking out and talking with our guests, and being supportive.

If you are interested in having fun, sharing Peace with the surrounding communities, and welcoming people to Peace please talk with any of the Outreach team members: Cathy Rieckenberg, Doreen Seal, Doris Swenson, Joan Nesvold, Julie Choat, Mandy May, Mary Barfnecht, Nicole Johnsrud, Sharon Weinzierl, Shawn Perez (first ½ 2016), Tracy Hulley, Amy Peterson, MB Rep Bob Rieckenberg or Pastor Dave.

Submitted by Amy Peterson

# 2016 Ministry Team Reports



## Stewardship Committee Report

As I sit down to write my third stewardship committee report, I find that another year has gone by at Peace Lutheran Church and all I can say is WOW!

The stewardship committee was made up of Sue Beulke, Pastor Hanson and myself. I am happy to report that Jon Peterson will be on the committee this coming year and taking over as chairperson the next year. We still are looking for others to join us as more things can be done with a larger group as well as more ideas for stewardship within the church.

Our theme this year centered on the 500 year anniversary of Martin Luther. The theme carried through fund raising and the dinner we had on Celebration Sunday, October 30, 2016.

We distributed 90 stewardship packets of which 55 "Faith Promises" were returned. 51 pledges were made and 19 households increased their pledges over last year and 8 new households we pledging for the first time.

With all the data gathered, we came up with the following:

2017 Faith Promises	\$195,496
2017 projected non-pledging gifts	\$ 7,500
2017 new member gifts (estimated 21 households)	\$ 10,000
<u>2017 projected special offerings</u> (Christmas, Easter, etc)	<u>\$ 10,000</u>
	\$222,996
Our proposed 2017 Budget	\$231,213
2017 projected operating deficit	(\$ 8,217)

# Music Ministry Report

This year we have attempted the breakouts of two separate choirs for our kids to accommodate the many ages of kids in our church and the desires of those kids as well as parents who wanted to see age appropriate music being taught and learned. This year we have broken out into two choirs; one is our Children's Choir which ranges in age of preschool-4th grade and then our Praise Choir which is 5th-12th grade. This is an evolving program as it is the first year and so there have been some learning opportunities and growing pains. CD's were made with the music/songs being taught over the year for the kids to listen to in the car, at home, wherever and this has been a welcomed addition.

Due to this being a new routine in the church and acknowledging a desire from all in the church to have our youngsters (Children's Choir) learn the oldies of the Sunday

We are hopeful with the generosity of so many that we will meet this need and exceed it.

Also, the “Moving Forward” campaign was well received and many generous gifts helped us move into the new addition. We are very blessed at this time to not have mortgage debt, with the exception of those outstanding bonds for approximately \$150,000.

A generous congregation makes it easy to be on the stewardship committee. We must stop and give thanks to the Lord for the blessings and opportunities given to our church. Very seldom will these ever happen to a startup congregation.

Many Thanks to Sue Beulke and Pastor Hanson for all their help and we welcome Jon Peterson to our group...and there is room for others!

Sincerely in Christ, Gerald E. Hendricks



(\$ 8,217) *Thank You Everyone!*  
*Together We Make A Difference!*

School music (Do Lord, This Little Light of Mine, Down in My Heart, Jesus Loves Me, etc...this is a long list) and then for the kids who have these songs down (Praise Choir) to get a chance to sing their New Favorites that they hear on our Christian radio stations. Our desire and hope is that the parents of our church and the youth of our church, see this as an opportunity and will get involved (or encourage that involvement in this program). The beauty is that nobody has to be a concert level singer...what we sincerely desire is that their hearts will always have a song in them that they can easily go to when times are tough... and even when the times are good. So please join us in this effort of evolving this ministry. Meghan Weaver is the lead for our Praise Choir and Nicole Johnsrud is lead for the Children's Choir. We currently have our Children Singing the second Sunday of every month.

## Adult Choir Report

Peace Lutheran Church's Adult choir sings for Sunday morning services at least two Sundays per month. It holds its rehearsals at 8:15 a.m. of the day on which we sing, with special weeknight rehearsals scheduled, as necessary, for Christmas, Easter, and other choral events. Our goal and our joy is to choose thematic music in keeping with Pastor Hanson's sermon topic and/or scripture readings to enhance the overall worship experience. Peace enjoyed being part of a Thanksgiving week ecumenical church service with several area churches gathering at Evangelical Church in Watertown this Thanksgiving time, with Peace's members representing the largest group attending, with both adult and children's choirs this year! Those members of our congregation who love to sing are always welcomed and encouraged to join us. In addition to Adult Choir, Peace is very blessed to have many talented and willing singers who bless us with Special Music in the



form of solos, duets and instrumental offerings approximately twice monthly.

Marla Erickson, Adult Choir Director/Special Music Coordinator

Soli Deo gloria!

## Christian Education Ministry Team Report

Our Christian Ed program has truly experienced an exciting time over the last year with the completion of the expansion of the church and moving into the new space for Sunday School. Our classes have grown and the space we now get to share with our children is truly a blessing for those of us who get the privilege of teaching the youth as well as to the kids. We currently have five breakout classrooms and 22 children registered for Sunday School from preschool-6th grade. Our middle and high school kids also meet and range in size for attendance but sees an average of 10-12 kids on any Sunday in the conference room. Our Sunday School curriculum has continued with SOLA and this year has been the Old Testament of Prophets and Kings. The older kids are meeting and discussing current topics with Colette Thorson as the lead teacher. Teachers this year; Stephanie Hanson, Shawn Perez, Meghan Weaver, Colette Thorson, Nicole Johnsrud & Pastor Hanson.

Additionally, our Sunday School kids get to partake in music prior to classtime and we also have a large group meeting where they discuss how the kids are doing, if they have prayer requests and we do a Sunday School offering. We have a goal of \$500 for chicks to be purchased for sustainable farming in International communities. We are close to that goal and anticipate that we will be making that donation before the end of February.

We continued our second year of SPARK in the fall and currently have an attendance of 23 kids that attend this after school program. When kids come they ride the bus to the church, enjoy some free time to do homework, color, word finds, enjoy a snack and then have an opportunity to watch a Bible Story on the screen in the Sanctuary and then they breakout into small groups according to age and go through 20-25 minute stations; crafts, devotional, games, music and then enjoy a meal before going home. Assistance for this program comes from Shawn Perez, Joseph Perez, Ben Simon, and Nicole Johnsrud.

Our confirmation program continues to build with our youth and we currently have nine students in the confirmation program. This year we will have four students being confirmed. Our Confirmation students meet at 6:30 and they continued with the same curriculum we have done the last two years. The three year confirmation study includes; New Testament, Old Testament and then Combination/Review and adding in Catechism and Lutheran teachings. Teachers this year include; Jon Peterson, Colette Thorson and Pastor Hanson.

Our Adult education continues with studies that come up at different times; our latest is *Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World* being led by Pastor Linda Boyadjis. This group(s) meet Tuesdays

and Thursdays once a month at different times to allow schedules of many to try and connect with others and learn from Linda a wonderful lesson. We are open to suggestions and would love to learn from others in the congregation their needs and desires of what they'd like to see.

We are also partnering this year with Hospitality as we have a Field Trip planned for the Martin Luther Art Exhibit at the Minneapolis Institute of Art in January. This will be done with a group bus ride to the museum and then followed up with fellowship together at a local restaurant-German of course.

Christian Ed has seen some major changes this year in the transition from Diane Malmin to now Nicole Johnsrud being the head of Christian Education Committee. There are big shoes being filled but Diane has been gracious to continue her involvement in the committee with her knowledge and input. We welcome any who are interested in joining this group as we continue to grow this ministry and continue to make a positive impact on our church members with relevant content, studies and information as well (and if not more importantly) for our youth to help build a foundation in their relationship with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

# 2016 Ministry Team Reports



## Youth Activities Team Report

Committee Members: Meghan Weaver, Colette Thorson, Heidi Thaemert, Rachel Lotito, Joseph Perez, Anna Benson, Sarah Strand.

First, it is important to take time to thank each ministry team member as throughout the year they have put numerous hours into this committee and the activities. It is also important to thank the parents of the youth and our youth as they have really made this Youth Activities group thrive.

In the beginning we strategized on how to bring youth together, make them feel comfortable together and continue to build relationships amongst each other so a Youth Activities event was not a "I have to go..." but rather "I WANT to go!" It was through the immense preparation and the care and thoughtfulness of this team that ensured our youth did have the "I WANT to go!" mentality to these events.

In November of 2015, we went on an overnight camp-out on Lake Minnetonka with around 10 youth attend. It was awesome. In December of 2016, we concluded our year with a bowling event in Delano where we had 29 youth attend. Throughout 2016, we continued to see an increase in our youth attendance at each event. It was such a blessing to see God's work at hand and watch the increase in attendance within just one year.

During 2016 we had various activities which included: cosmic tubing, movie night at Pastor's house, roller blade night, bowling, overnight stay on Lake Minnetonka, end

of the year bash, back to school bash for high schoolers, created the best float in the Rails to Trails parade, and had our first annual chalk color war. We also adopted a Highway and did a ditch clean up twice in 2016.

As we look into 2017, we are excited to build upon the momentum and success of 2016. There are various events already planned. The Committee is excited to see where Youth Activities is at the end of 2017. As we continue to grow, we thank God as without His love none of this would have been made possible, Pastor Hanson for his continued help to encourage and inspire the youth, and the Peace Lutheran Congregation for their continued and constant support and prayers as the youth attended all these events.

We continue to encourage all youth, parents and church members to become involved. We are open and welcome to new youth, new volunteers and new ideas!

Sarah Strand, 2016 Chair

**Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.**

1 Timothy 4:12 NIV

## Missions Ministry Team Report

Committee Members: Julie Choate, Ruth Clark, Edie Hanson, Barb Schansberg, Carole Sundblad, Lillie Tesch, Heidi Thaemert, and Sue Ziermann

The Missions Team continued to meet the third Monday of each month in 2016. As a team, we determined the recipients of PLC's 2016 benevolence dollars (N.B. -- all organizations and donation amounts were approved by the Ministry Board) and utilized our discretionary funds to support those locally in need via the Good Samaritan Fund, a one-time donation to a family with extreme medical needs, and the homeless blessing bags.

In addition to monetary gifting decisions, the Missions team organized several opportunities for PLC members to volunteer and serve those in need.

Some of the organizations supported were local, while others were national and/or international (see table below for Mission specifics).

On September 25, we hosted PLC's second Mission Sunday. Dorothy DeSens, President of the New Hope Mission Society, was our guest presenter. During the Peace Café fellowship that followed, we collected \$130.00 which we then donated to Feed My Starving Children during our October packing session event.

As two of our active long-term team members have elected to step down in 2017, we are in need of new members. Please consider joining us. Our meetings are held at church, typically the third Monday of the month at 6:30 P.M., and are open to all. If monthly meetings are not for you, we ask that you continue to support us, via prayer, donations and/or event participation.

(continued on next page)

## Missions Ministry Team Report (continued)

Organization	PLC Coordinator(s)	PLC's Active Participation
<b>Love In the Name of Christ (Love INC)</b>	Barb Schansberg	For the fourth year running, on the second Sunday of every month, PLC collected cash and personal care items for distribution to areal need families through Love INC. In October, Julie Choate began making deliveries of personal care items to needy families as directed by Love INC.
<b>Watertown Friends for Life Food Shelf</b>	Barb Schansberg	On the fourth Sunday of every month, PLC collected cash and non-perish-able foodstuffs and delivered them to the food shelf.
<b>Nutritional Assistance Program for Seniors (NAPS)</b>	Julie Sprenger Pastor David Hanson	Since February 2015, PLC has served as a distribution center for NAPS of MN. Every third Tuesday of the month, low income seniors 60 years or older stop in and pick up a free box of pre-boxed nutritious commodity food products provided by Second Harvest. Currently nine area seniors take advantage of the program.
<b>Orphan Grain Train</b>	Sue Ziermann	Via the efforts of the Peace women's group, 99 layettes were created/assembled and donated to Orphan Grain Train.
<b>Operation Christmas Child</b>	Nicole Johnsrud	The SPARKS and Sunday School kids packed 54 shoe boxes of Christmas cheer to be distributed through Operation Christmas Child. This was up from the 27 packed in 2015.
<b>Feed My Starving Children</b>	Ruth Clark	In January, April, July and October, 10, 9, 17, and 12, PLC volunteers, respectively, traveled to Feed My Starving Children in Chanhassen to pack Manna Packs of rice for future delivery to Haiti, Dominican Republic and Nicaragua. PLC Missions Team donated the Peace Cafe offering of \$130.00 collected on Missions Sunday to FMSC.
<b>SAL's Make A Difference Day</b>	John Weinzierl	Four PLC volunteers helped pack 61 care boxes to be distributed to active military troops by Sons of the American Legion (SAL).
<b>Adopt-a-Child/Family Christmas</b>	Sharon Weinzierl	PLC members anonymously purchased Christmas gifts for 22 children and 3 families identified by the Watertown Elementary School counselor.
<b>Homeless Blessing Bags</b>	Ruth Clark	Missions team purchased hats, gloves, neck gaiters, sox, SPAM and nuts for 24 bags for PLC members to distribute to homeless victims (bags actu-ally assembled January 8, 2017).
<b>St. Paul Lutheran's Coat Drive</b>	Ruth Clark	PLC members contributed one scarf, three dress coats, 14 ski jackets, two pairs of gloves and two hats.

## Properties Ministry Team Report

The Property Ministry Team is made up of volunteers who offer their time and talents to ensure the facilities are maintained in good repair and appearance.

This group maintains the heating, plumbing, mechanical, electrical and security systems within the church. Property is responsible for the maintenance of supplies, carpet cleaning and the large job of custodial services which includes regular cleaning twice weekly. The exterior maintenance includes regular gardening, weeding, mowing, fertilizing, and snow removal. This group replaces light bulbs which doesn't seem like a large job in the "reachable places" yet planning for those parking lot and sanctuary light bulb changes can be a bigger task.

The new addition brought about a few new tasks and more work! This group works diligently all year long to keep Peace looking well maintained. A few highlights of 2016:

- Moved Trash Enclosure and tie-down Enclosure
- Larger gutters to accommodate larger roof runoffs
- Drainage improvements around the existing building.
- Installation of a larger sprinkler system and sod
- Landscaping & Rain Garden Installation and Maintenance
- Rugs for the entrance and blind installation

- Purchased Tool Shed
- Planted two trees per city requirement
- Parking lot Maintenance, sweeping and installation of guest parking sign-age
- Installation of the Safe, and Air Conditioning Fence

A Special Thank you to all of the helpers who assist to maintain the building and grounds. To our fun group of "coffee guys" (Norm Bauer, Bill Hoernemann, Phil Schansberg, Paul Nesvold, John Weinzerl, Butch Essig, Jim Lindgren and Jake Jacobson ) who quietly ensure the building is clean each week!! Thank you guys...we couldn't do it without you! To Marty Malmin to has countless hours in the maintenance of the seasonal plantings and décor! Thanks to Jerry Berg providing the lawn care services.

To myself, my kids and Kris Hanson for the snowplowing and shoveling services. To those who assisted with deliveries of furniture for the church this past year with the new addition! To all those who lend a hand whenever something is needed for the grounds of Peace...thank you!

We welcomed Ben Simon to the Team this year and we are grateful for his willingness to join our group and lend a hand! We are always looking for others to serve. It's a fun, hardworking group of people –please contact Tom at tom@tmpainters.com or call his cell #612-805-1871 to learn more!

# Meeting Minutes



## Peace Lutheran Church of Watertown

### Unapproved Minutes of the 2015 Annual Meeting - January 31, 2016

**NOTED:** This year's Annual Report was emailed to church members prior to the meeting. Many members printed their own copy or read it from their personal electronic devices or had a copy that the church printed off. Pastor David put together the 20-page report that contained the following information:

1. Letter from the Ministry Board President –Norm Bauer
2. Agenda for today's meeting
3. Pastor's report
4. Thank you to Ministry Board members leaving the Board: Norm Bauer, Mary Hausladen, and Doreen Seal
5. Thank you to Finance Volunteers leaving their office: Kathy Berg and Marty Malmin
6. New Candidates for the Ministry Board: Glen Hulley, Bob Rieckenberg and Kristi Mittelstaedt
7. New Candidates for the Nominating Committee: Phyllis Leaf, Robert Lotito, Leif Pederson, Beth Seefeldt, Julie Sprenger, Carole Sundblad, Meghan Weaver and Sharon Weinzierl
8. Ministry Team reports
9. Unapproved minutes from the 2014 Annual Meeting
10. Unapproved minutes from the Special Congregation meeting on 3/22/15 –Pastoral Call Committee
11. Unapproved minutes from the Special Congregation meeting on 6/7/15 –Vote on Mortgage/Building Gift
12. Unapproved minutes from the Special Congregation meeting on 9/20/15 –Extend a Pastoral Call to Pastor David Hanson
13. Finance Reports
14. Document PLC-P0010 –Memorial Donation Policy
15. Constitution and Bylaw Changes
16. Parochial Report –Membership & Worship Stats, Pastoral Acts, Confirmation, Graduation, New Members
17. Building a Future –I Team Report

**Called to order:** 9:55 a.m. by Norm Bauer, President of the Ministry Board

61 voting members were present at the meeting.

Pastor David open the Annual Meeting with prayer.

**Open Forum:** Butch Essig spoke that we have lost 4-5 church members in the last 5 years and that there is interest in having a columbarium built/designed during or soon after the building addition is completed. There is not an interest for a private cemetery as there are particular laws around it that are hard to overcome. The word 'Columbarium' means 'Pigeon Hole' or 'Memorial Wall'. It costs approximately \$20,000 to build one depending on the size. A form was distributed to members to indicate if they are interested in having a Columbarium built and if they would consider being on a committee to develop it.

**Agenda:** A motion was made by Bill Homemann/Leif Pederson/Carried to adopt the Agenda as presented.

**Congregational Meetings:** A motion was made by Barb Schansberg/Marty Malmin/Carried to accept the Special Congregational meeting minutes as presented.

**Pastoral Report:** Pastor David thanked the congregation for making Stephanie and him feel welcomed to our church. He acknowledged it was his first annual meeting. He reviewed the Parochial Report. He also gave us 4 words to live by:

**Connect:** In your relationship with Jesus Christ and others.

**Grow:** In your relationship with Jesus Christ. Life is a long journey so include worship and prayer into your daily life.

**Serve:** There are many opportunities and missions that we all can serve at (ie: Feed My Starving Children, etc).

**Go:** Share the passion and gifts you have for Jesus Christ.

He also gave thanks to our church

leadership. He said to lift them up, affirm each other with praise and gratitude for God's Word. Pray, support and find ways to help our leadership.

A motion was made by Lillie Tesch/Butch Essig/Carried to accept the Pastor's report.

**President's Report:** A motion was made by Bob Rieckenberg/Heather Hanson/Carried to accept the President's report as presented.

**Finance:** Marty Malmin stated that the outside accounting firm of Matter Reuter CPS from Delano reviewed our church finances. Jeannie Matter from the firm wrote in a letter that the accuracy of the 2 bank accounts, validated the monthly checks and balance of activity of expenses.

A motion was made by Sharon Weinzierl/Terri Christensen/Carried to accept the Finance report as presented.

**2015 Financial Review:** Marty Malmin stated that we ended 2015 \$7,171 in the red. Our income was \$147,161 and expenses were \$154,332. Marty is not alarmed with the deficit as he recounted the many accomplishments of the year:

- Bought a new grand piano with the majority of the money from a gift of Marie Lenz estate. The balance of the money coming from contributions from church members
- Paid the mortgage off with a gift of money from Joan & Paul Nesvold for the majority of it and the congregation contributing the remaining \$47,000 for a zero balance.
- Paid down \$7,000 in notes

**- continued on next page -**

2015 Peace Lutheran Church of Watertown Unapproved Minutes of the Annual Meeting - January 31, 2016  
 (continued)

Operating Expenses –What it takes to run the church.

Benevolence –The church's offering to organizations: Love, INC, Friends For Life, Feed My Starving Children  
 Good Samaritan's Fund – (Mission team). A way to help local residents with \$25 once a year for gas when times are tight for them.

A motion was made by Mary Hausladen/Ruth Clark/Carried to accept the Finance report as presented.

**Proposed Budget:** The Stewardship drive this year had 51 Faith promises returned for \$163,542. It was noted that for 2014 there were only 22 returned Faith promises. Those that did not return their Faith promises the Finance committee estimated that approximately \$20,000 in offering could be expected from them. The holiday church services bring in about \$8,600 (Easter and Christmas). The total 2016 budget would be \$192,142.

New for 2016 will be a Contingency Fund with \$7,000.

#### Reviewed the Benevolence Budget

Feed My Starving Children	\$4,000
Orphan Grain Train	\$1,000
Heifer International	\$1,000
New Hope Mission Society	\$2,500
Love, INC	\$2,400
Friends for Life	\$2,400
LCMC	\$1,500
LCMC-Augustana District	\$ 500
	\$15,300

Estimated Income:	\$192,142
Budget:	<u>\$191,763</u>
Surplus:	\$379

Jackie Cramb asked who decides on which funds receive gifts: Mission team and Ministry Board.

A motion was made by Harlan Sundblad/Fred Tesch/Carried to accept the 2016 Proposed Budgets.

**Nomination Committee:** (For names of candidates see list at beginning of the minutes)

Shawn Perez introduced the candidates for the Ministry Board. Glen Hulley and Bob Rieckenberg will be filling the 2 vacancies for 3 year terms. Kristi Mittelstaedt will be filling the 1 year term vacancy. 14 people were asked, 4 accepted but 1 dropped out prior to the meeting leaving 3 candidates for 3 positions.

Shawn introduced the 8 candidates for the Nominating Committee.

Doreen Seal read the proposed changes to the constitution.

At this time ballots were handed out to voting members to vote on the 3 people for the Ministry Board, 6 people for the Nominating Committee, and to ratify the constitution changes.

**President of the Congregation/Ministry Board:** Kristi Mittelstaedt has accepted the 1 year term to be President of the congregation. Norm Bauer will be on for 6 months as Past President.

#### **New Nominating Committee for a 1 year term:**

Phyllis Leaf	Robert Lotito
Leif Pederson	Julie Sprenger
Carole Sundblad	Meghan Weaver

**Ratify the Constitution/Bylaws:** Unanimous vote to accept the changes.

A motion was made by Heather Hanson/Paul Nesvold/Carried to destroy the ballots.

The Memorial Donation Policy was approved by the Ministry Board earlier this year.

Ministry Team reports –no questions by the congregation.

A motion was made by Jerry Hendricks/Bob Rieckenberg/Carried to accept the reports as presented.

Pastor David thanked out-going Minis-

try Board members: Norm, Mary and Doreen.

He also thanks Kathy Berg and Marty for their contributions to Finance.

He welcomed Sue Beulke and Judy Jacobson to the Finance team.

**I Team:** John Weinzierl spoke and said that bids could be going out on 2/11/16 for construction work. That the cost of the Columbarium, if it moves forward, would be picked up by the congregation. Storm water and control has been the recent issue to get resolved. Construction time will be approximately 5/1/16 –9/30/16. The construction will not affect the sanctuary.

**Adjourn**–10:54 a.m. Motion made by Leif Pederson/Butch Essig/Carried to adjourn the meeting.

**Pastor David** –“Go In Peace”  
**Congregation** –“We Will”

Respectfully Submitted in Christ's Name – Doreen Seal, out-going secretary

# Creating a Church of Generosity



## Income Summary

	2016	2015	2014
Faith Promises-General Fund	\$175,836	\$138,943	\$139,047
Cash Offerings	\$3,423	\$2,361	\$2,124
Lenten Offerings	\$2,773	\$1,363	\$1,069
Easter Offerings	\$3,171	\$985	\$1,143
Thanksgiving Offerings	\$600	\$100	\$55
Advent Offerings	\$20	\$10	\$287
Christmas Offerings	\$4,064	\$2,865	\$4,796
Interest Income	\$141	\$134	\$192
Miscellaneous Income	\$400	\$400	\$820
 Operating Income	 \$190,428	 \$147,161	 \$149,533
Building Fund			\$958
Capital Campaign Fund		\$5,400	\$5,929
Building Fund - Notes			
Building Funds - Various			
Building Fund - Debt Retirement		\$67,622	\$15,535
Move in Costs	\$121,564		
Various Funds	\$15,214	\$22,174	\$30,431
Memorials	\$4,315	\$2,075	\$400
Refunded Transactions	\$7,072	\$13,924	\$5,839
 Non-Operating Income	 \$148,165	 \$111,195	 \$59,092
Total Income	\$338,593	\$258,356	\$208,625

## Expense Summary

	2016	2015	2014
Benevolence	\$15,300	\$7,800	\$9,750
Property	\$22,183	\$15,911	\$16,377
Salaries & Benefits	\$111,725	\$95,948	\$87,716
Education	\$5,779	\$2,365	\$4,001
Activity	\$2,503	\$2,855	
Outreach	\$4,703	\$2,685	\$314
Missions	\$915		
Music	\$937	\$571	\$1,054
Stewardship	\$1,658	\$183	
Office and Church Supplies	\$9,481	\$7,029	\$9,814
Communications & Technology	\$1,316	\$71	\$326
Hospitality	\$2,283	\$1,695	\$1,183
Mortgage		\$8,800	\$13,200
Note Interest	\$6,377	\$5,600	\$5,775
Call Committee and Pastor Relocation		\$2,819	
 Operating Expense	 \$185,160	 \$154,332	 \$149,510
Building Fund Expense			\$14,124
Building Fund-Various		\$57,196	\$848
Move In Costs	\$117,164		
Various Funds	\$11,245	\$30,419	\$12,971
Memorials		\$3,350	
Refunded Transactions	\$5,230	\$12,877	\$5,483
 Non-Operating Expense	 \$133,639	 \$103,842	 \$33,426
Total Expense	\$318,799	\$258,174	\$182,936

## Cash & Fund Balances

Cash in Bank as of 12/31/16	\$88,147.71
Fund Balances as of 12/31/16	
General Fund	\$35,912.48
Special Reserve Accounts	\$2,000.00
Move in Costs Fund	\$8,919.65
Undesignated Memorials	\$140.00
Thrivent Mission Fund	\$0.00
Ardelle Carlson Fund	\$1,530.00
Note Retirement Fund	\$1,245.11
Copier Lease Fund	\$0.00
Rainy Day Fund	\$7,667.15
Children Ministry Fund	\$2,702.48
Pennies from Heaven Balance	\$1,044.40
Youth Ministry Fund	\$4,737.76
Spark Scholarship Fund	\$60.00
Christian Education Fund	\$3,393.57
Spark Fund	\$1,175.00
Music Ministry Fund	\$2,996.51
High School Scholarship Fund	\$663.00
Youth Mission Trip Fund	\$4,956.03
Mission Ministry Fund	\$300.00
Outreach Fund	\$4,940.99
Hospitality Fund	\$328.48
Women of Peace	\$2,595.12
Altar Care Fund	\$569.98
Good Samaritan Fund	\$270.00
Building Fund Notes	\$155,000.00

## 2017 Estimated Income

Faith Promises (51)	\$195,496
Other Giving	\$17,500
Other Offerings	\$10,000
Total	\$222,996

## 2017 Benevolence Budget

Love, Inc.	\$2400
Friends for Life	\$2400
LCMC	\$1500
Augustana District	\$500
Feed My Starving Children	\$4000
Orphan Grain Train	\$1000
Heifer International	\$1000
New Hope Mission Society	\$2500
Southern Valley Alliance	\$2400

**Total** **\$17700**

## 2017 Budget - Ministry Team Summary

	2017 BUDGET	2016 BUDGET
FINANCE	\$192,910	\$155,458
PROPERTY	\$17,450	\$13,430
EDUCATION MINISTRY	\$3,900	\$5,385
ACTIVITY MINISTRY	\$2,750	\$4,850
MISSIONS MINISTRY	\$500	\$1,000
STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY	\$2,500	\$1,100
OUTREACH	\$4,755	\$4,250
HOSPITALITY	\$3,540	\$1,500
MUSIC	\$1,200	\$2,200
COMMUNICATIONS & TECHNOLOGY	\$1,708	\$2,590
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$231,213</b>	<b>\$191,763</b>



## 2017 Budget & Income Comparison

ESTIMATED INCOME	\$222,996
BUDGET	\$231,213
DEFICIT	-\$8,217

# Special Congregational Meeting Minutes



## Special Congregational Meeting Minutes - July 17, 2016

### Welcome

Call to Order at 10:07am

### Opening Prayer by Pastor Hanson

### Adopt Meeting Agenda

Motion to revise the agenda for the vote to be a verbal vote, not written. With a verbal vote there will be no need for a motion to destroy the ballots. *Motion made by Jake Jacobson/Fred Tesch/No Discussion/Carried.*

### Resolutions are as follows to vote on are as follows

Be it resolved that the members of Peace Lutheran Church of Watertown establish a fund for the Move In Costs in the amount of \$100,000.

Be it further resolved that the funds will be used to purchase required items for the building as defined in the

attached list.

Be it further resolved that the Ministry Board will determine disbursement priority based on the overall needs of the church if the collection falls short of the requested amount.

### Congregation Vote

*Motion to approve the resolutions as defined above by Norm Bauer/Robert Dean/No Discussion/Carried*

### Adjournment

*Motion to adjourn meeting at 10:22 made by Marty Malmin/Mary Barfknecht/No Discussion/Carried*

## I Team

### I Team Report

With the generous donation from the Berg Family Trust Fund, Peace was able to build a much needed addition. The I Team was formed in June 2015 consisting of Tracy Hulley, Kathy Berg, Paul Nesvold, Andy Johnsrud, Norm Bauer and John Weinzierl. Much needed assistance was given by Kristi Mittelstaedt, Rob and Linda Berg. Church ministry teams were consulted to assess their wants and needs. Nor-Son Construction was hired to design and build the addition. Construction started the first week May, 2016 and occupancy/use was granted the first week of September, 2016. One of the big concerns for the project was the handling of the storm water and the cost to do so. Otto Associates civil engineers devised a water management plan that minimized costs. As a result of their plan the church now has a rain garden on the north side of the church and on the east side of the property set aside 1.5 acres of land into a Conservation Easement Agreement with the Carver County Soil and Water Management Organization.

With a strong commitment and cooperation of Nor-Son there was very little disruption of activities at the church. The I Team would like to thank the congregation for their patience and understanding during construction. The congregation stepped up in a big way by providing funds to finish the project with items needed in the addition.

Respectfully submitted by I Team Chair, John Weinzierl



**Proposed to change the term of the Nominating Committee effective January 29 th , 2017:**

CHANGED LANGUAGE

B7.02 A Nominating Committee of six (6) voting members of this congregation shall be elected by written ballot at the annual meeting for a term of one (1) year–two (2) years. The Nominating Committee shall be filled by three individuals elected to a one year term, and three individuals elected to a two-year term. Members of the Nominating Committee are not eligible for consecutive re-election or to run for elected office while serving on the Nominating Committee.

**Proposed to change to add the Statement on Marriage and Human Sexuality effective January 29th, 2017:**

ADDED LANGUAGE

A2.08 Our Faith Based Policy on Marriage and Human Sexuality

Without hesitation, Peace loves and welcomes all people. We are all children of God. Whether we are straight, gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender – we are sinners in need of God's grace. As a church, we stand against the oppression and bullying of God's people. We know, at times, self-righteous and legalistic Christians can be judgmental, and such behavior is both outrageously unfaithful and a gross misrepresentation of Christ's love. Peace welcomes and loves all people regardless of their sexuality. At the same time, we reject the assumption that love comes with the qualifier of full agreement with all behavioral choices. We believe that – according to Scripture, and in unity with nearly twenty centuries of Christian teaching – God established marriage as a holy union to be shared between one man and one woman.

While we recognize and respect the laws of our government that extend civil marriage privileges to same-gender couples, as a church we are bound to the laws of God, and therefore cannot in good conscience step outside those boundaries to host a same-gender wedding in our church building, or preside at a same-gender wedding offsite.

#### PEACE POLICY REGARDING SEXUALITY

We believe that Christian marriage is a sacred institution ordained of God for the happiness of mankind and the propagation of the race. It is the spiritual and physical union of one man and one woman (as they were born); this is the only legitimate sexual relationship and, according to the scriptural ideal, is to be broken only by death. Accordingly, this Church, it's Pastors, staff and members, will not recognize any other union as a legitimate marriage. Our Church and staff shall not perform or participate in any same-sex marriage or unions of any kind. Church facilities shall not be used for such purposes or any function which may be perceived as "Celebrating the Sin".

Church Practices Derived from This Policy

Applicants for weddings performed by church staff:

1. Applicants wishing to have a ceremony performed by the Pastor of Peace or to use the church facilities for their wedding shall affirm the statement of faith regarding marriage and human sexuality and shall conduct themselves in a manner that is consistent therewith.
2. Applicants shall participate in premarital counseling by the Pastor employed by this church or other persons who, in the sole opinion of the pastoral staff of the church have the appropriate training, experience, and spiritual understanding to provide such counseling. All pastoral staff, counselors or other persons providing premarital counseling shall affirm the Statement of Faith of this church on Marriage and Human sexuality.

Use of Facilities

1. Any marriage performed on church premises shall be officiated by an ordained or duly licensed member of the clergy. Any officiant not employed by the Peace Lutheran Church shall serve at the discretion of the pastor or Ministry Board.
2. Clergy assisting in marriage ceremonies on church premises, and not employed by the church, shall not be required to affirm their agreement with the Statement of Faith on Marriage and Human sexuality adopted by this church. Yet we require that they conduct themselves in a manner that is respectful of the statement.
3. Clergy and staff assigned by the church to implement the procedures contained in this Marriage Policy may, in his or her discretion, decline to provide church facilities for, and/or decline to officiate at a ceremony when in his or her judgment, there are significant concerns that one or both of the applicants may not be qualified to enter into the sacred bond of marriage for theological, doctrinal, moral or legal reasons.

Membership, Leadership and Staff:

1. Every Pastor, board member, or employee, hired by the church shall affirm their agreement with Peace's Statement of Faith on Marriage and Human sexuality and conduct themselves in a manner that is consistent therewith.
2. The Ministry Board will be asked to affirm their agreement with the Statement of Faith on Marriage and Human sexuality and shall conduct themselves in a manner that is consistent therewith.
3. Church leaders, teachers and members are expected to teach and live in a manner that is consistent with this policy.

## 2016 Membership & Worship Stats

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>
◆ Baptized Membership	226	281
◆ Confirmed Membership	170	215
◆ Number of Households	81	98
◆ Members removed - 1 death Phyllis Leaf		1
◆ Average Worship Attend...	97	128
* includes Easter Sunday but not Christmas Eve		
◆ Average Worship Attend...	101	144
* without midweek, Christmas, Easter and Summer (6/1-9/1)		
◆ Average Midweek Worship Attendance		
* Lent -	45	74
◆ Christmas Worship Attend...	308	332
* 3:00 pm -	91	123
* 4:30 pm -	167	166
* 9:00 pm -	50	43
◆ Easter Worship Attend...	172	224



### 2016 Third Grade Bible Presentation Sunday, September 18, 2016

- Tristan Johnsrud
- Sophia Pederson
- Victoria Thorson



## Congratulations! 2016 Graduates

Graduate Recognition Sunday, May 1, 2016

\* **Thea Clark, Belle Hausladen, Jacob Tesch, Brayden Weaver**  
 \* Received Peace Lutheran Church Graduate Scholarships



## 2016 Pastoral Acts

### BAPTIZED

2015 - 2	2016 - 7
• Henrik John Knutson	
• Levi Bradley Knutson	Saturday, Feb. 20, 2016
• Aubrey Lillian Domine	Sunday, Feb. 21, 2016
• Avery James Albert	
Engelke	Sunday, April 27, 2016
• Anna Benson	Sunday, May 29, 2016
• Blake Timothy Ellingson	Sunday, June 26, 2016
• Elise Margaret Schultz	Sunday, Sept. 4, 2016

### CONFIRMED

Sunday, May 15, 2016	
• Brock Christensen	
• Matthew Clark	
• Matthew Hausladen	
• Nicklaus Juncewski	
• Aaron Perez	

### MARRIED

Alyssa Seefeldt	
& Lance McLay	
Saturday, June 25, 2016	

### FUNERALS

Phyllis G. Leaf	
June 6, 2016	



New Members Are Joining

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>
Baptized members	30	55
Households received	12	21

Sunday, January 24, 2016  
(3 people / 1 households)

- Ben & Kelsie, Hallie, Simon

Sunday, April 17, 2016  
(23 people / 9 households)

- Donald & Mary Barfnecht
- Carl & Julie Choate
- Jamie & Jessica, Peyton Feltmann
- Ron & Helen Gubrud
- Nathan & Mandy, Shelby, Ella, Rylee, Cullen, Grady May
- Louie & Sandra Juncewski
- Julie, Zachary Potter
- Lance McLay
- Faye Rothenberger

Sunday, June 26, 2016  
(15 people / 6 households)

- Anna Benson
- Tyler Ellingson & Amand Jilek, Blake Ellingson
- Mattie Berg
- Joseph & Katie Ostlund, Lydia, Roman, Remington
- Ryan & Leslie Schultz
- Marc & Elizabeth, Faith Schulze

Sunday, September 25, 2016  
(4 people / 2 households)

- Gregg & Clarice Palmer
- Thomas & Kelley Hanson

Sunday, November 13, 2016  
(10 people / 2 households)

- Kevin & Rakel, Olyvia, Vanessa, Dayvin, Karver
- Cade & Melissa Stuntebeck, Casey, Charley

Sunday, December 22, 2016  
(1 person / 1 household)

- Renata Dahl

## Columbarium Committee Annual Report

Due to the fact that the land owners surrounding our property and the City of Watertown are not interested in a traditional cemetery, it made sense to consider the alternatives. In January of 2016, the Ministry Board asked that a committee be formed to consider our options. It was quickly discovered that the popularity of cremation, a columbarium may well be the answer. According to the industry, over 50% of deaths in the State of Minnesota result in cremation. This figure is expected to increase to over 85% within 15 years. It really boils down to economics as the expense of the traditional burial is much more expensive than cremation.

The question then becomes, what to do with the cremains? Three options are possible. The cremains could be stored in one's house, they could be scattered on a favorite lake, park or mountains, etc., or they could receive a very dignified placement into a niche of an impressive columbarium facility.

At the annual meeting this past January, a short presentation was given to the congregation to determine what interest, if any, the congregation had in a Columbarium on the Church property. Several people indicated that although the idea was intriguing they had made other arrangements or had family plots elsewhere. In anticipation of this concern, It was revealed that that a Memorial Wall with a plaque with the deceased's name, date of birth and date of death would be available. It was estimated that a plaque would cost approximately \$500 while a two person niche would cost between \$1,500 and \$2,000.

A survey was distributed to the congregation to measure the amount of interest in the Columbarium idea, how much would they be willing to pay for a niche, how much would they be willing to pay for a plaque and who would be interested in joining the Columbarium Committee? The response was very impressive. Of all the responses, only one indicated that he/they had no interest and 8 people expressed interest in being involved in the committee. These people include the following: Cathy Rieckenberg, Cary and Heidi Thaemert, Doreen Seal, Mary Hausladen, Jerry Hendricks, Paul Knutson and Butch Essig.

Since the plans for the Church expansion were to be submitted

to the City in April, we had a sense of urgency to complete our work so it could be submitted at the same time as the expansion plans as this would save the Church a considerable amount of money. We met weekly during the months of February and March to meet the April deadline. The City asked for our input on the City Ordinance which needed to be revised. Although the Ordinance was changed and the Columbarium received conceptual approval, we still need to go back and request an approval from both the County and the City. However, before this happens the project needs to be approved by both the Ministry Board and the Congregation.

Since the Church expansion was scheduled to start in April, and we needed to generate a significant amount of money to furnish the addition, and the fact that funds needed to be generated for the fiscal year 2017, the Ministry Board asked that we put the project on hold until 2017. Since the Ministry Board was apparently impressed with the work on the Columbarium Project and since we had time one our hands, we were asked to consider options for the rest of the Church property. Jon Peterson and Robert and Karen Lotito joined our newly named group – The Exterior Planning Committee. We conducted a congregational survey for suggestions. The results were as follows: Outdoor wedding area which could also be used for badminton, volleyball, bocce ball court, and croquet area. A play court, fire pit, prayer walk and storage area were also considered. These ideas were discussed with Otten Bros. who very effectively put these ideas on paper. The committee was very impressed as was the Ministry Board. However, these plans are considered Phase Two but will be submitted to you for your perusal and comments. No estimates on costs were developed.

Please note that the Columbarium Committee will have a large plat map on the Columbarium area (Phase One) by the entry of the Church at the Annual Meeting. Thanks to the input of the Ministry Board, several modifications have been made to the project. Any comments, ideas or suggestions you may have will be warmly received. Please feel free to contact any of the above listed committee members.

**Butch Essig**  
 Chairperson Columbarium Committee

