



2018 Annual Report of the Congregation

**Annual Meeting Agenda
January 27, 2019**

- Call to Order
- Opening Devotions by Pastor Dennis
- Approval of Meeting Agenda
- Approval of 2018 Annual Meeting3
- Special Congregational Meeting 7
- Ministry Team and Committee Reports
 - St. Paul Area Synod Bishop 9
 - President..... 12
 - Pastor..... 13
 - Children, Youth, & Family Ministry Director..... 15
 - Music Ministry Director..... 16
 - Welcoming Ministry..... 17
 - Worship & Music.....18
 - Stewardship..... 19
 - Property..... 20
 - Serving God’s People. 21
 - Finance Committee..... 22
 - Financial Secretary/Treasurer’s Report..... 23
- New Business
 - Approval of 2019 Budget
 - Nominate New Council Members
 - Election of New Council Members
- Adjourn Meeting
- Lord’s Prayer

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
Annual Meeting Minutes
January 28, 2018
Fellowship Hall
Following Worship

*Holy Cross welcomes everyone as we worship and grow in faith together,
serving God's people in the name of Christ.*

Call To Order

President Pam Sorensen called the Annual Meeting of the Congregation to order at 10:53 a.m. A quorum was present with 58 members in attendance.

Opening Devotions

Pastor Dennis Sepper provided the opening devotion.

Approval of Meeting Agenda

Debby Dellis made a motion to approve the Agenda / Phil Follmer seconded / Motion carried.

Approval of 2017 Annual Meeting Minutes & the Minutes of the Special Congregational Meeting on August 27, 2017.

Terry Holstein made a motion to approve the Minutes of both meetings / Kyle Paulson seconded / After no corrections or additions were noted, the motion carried.

Ministry Team and Committee Reports

Terry Holstein made a motion to approve the reports as published / Frank Max seconded / Motion carried.

New Business

Grant / Dishwasher Project

Gibson Stanton reported that Holy Cross applied for and received a grant through Ramsey County. The grant is for approximately \$8,700 and will cover the cost of a new dishwasher, new recycling and trash bins and new stacking coffee cups.

Mission Site Profile Task Force & Phases of Interim Period

Pastor Dennis Sepper reported that once the new Council gets settled, a Mission Site Profile Task Force will be assembled to document the qualities and characteristics of our church, discern where we think God is calling us in the next five to ten years and identify the gifts needed for our next pastor. It can take anywhere from three months to a year to develop a Ministry Site Profile (MSP). Once that document is drafted and reviewed by the congregation, a Call Committee will be named. The MSP will be used by the Synod to help match pastoral candidates with the needs of Holy Cross. The Call Committee will likely be active for two to four months.

Members asked Pastor Dennis if he could stay at Holy Cross and he reported that he could not. The ELCA has a policy that interim pastors cannot be considered for a permanent call from the church they are serving.

Approval of 2018 Budget

Pam Sorensen reported that our projected income for 2018 is 13% lower than 2017. Through a reduction in staff hours and other line items, there is a proposed 10.5% reduction in expenses from 2017.

- Projected Income: \$157,040
- Projected Expenses: \$202,539
- Net Income: (\$45,499)
- Percentage of Salary to Total Budget: 63.29%

Phil Follmer made a motion to approve the 2018 Proposed Budget as published / Frank Max seconded.

Char Nun reported that our income is historically higher than pledges, and that we brought in close to \$200,000 in 2017.

Some members requested a breakdown of the existing staff hours.

- Children, Youth & Family hours were reduced from 20 to 15 hours per week.
- The combined Music positions were reduced from 20 to 14 hours per week.
- The Custodian position was reduced from 21 to 14 hours per week.
- Hours for the office position were not reduced at this time.

At the close of discussions, the motion to approve the Proposed 2018 Budget carried with one nay vote.

Nominate & Elect New Council Members

President: Pam Sorensen agreed to run for a second term, noting that she will have to step down after 2018 because she will have served on Council for four consecutive years.

Phil Follmer made a motion to elect Pam Sorensen / Terry Holstein seconded / Motion carried.

Vice President: Michelle Gydesen agreed to run for a second two-year term.

Phil Follmer made a motion to elect Michelle Gydesen / Jammie Klingsporn seconded / Motion carried.

Financial Secretary: Bonnie Katzmark agreed to run.

Tom O'Brien made a motion to close nominations / Jim Katzmark seconded / Motion carried / Karen Walsh made a motion to elect Bonnie Katzmark / Pam Klingsporn seconded / Motion carried.

Treasurer: Scott Sorensen inquired about the weekly time commitment for this position. Judi Holstein reported that it takes approximately one hour per week to pay bills, and approximately one hour at the end of the month to reconcile the accounts. The Treasurer must attend three meetings per month. It takes approximately four hours at year end to reconcile the accounts for the year. The Treasurer reports the payroll semi-monthly to Paychex and pays the benefits to Portico.

Pam Hinton made a motion to nominate Scott Sorensen for Treasurer / Scott Sorensen accepted the nomination / Marla Davenport made a motion to close nominations / Phil Follmer seconded / Motion carried / Jerry Vehrs made a motion to elect Scott Sorensen / Frank Max seconded / Motion carried.

Worship & Music: Jim Anderson was the one name on the list of candidates for this position. He was not present at the Annual Meeting but, according to Pam Sorensen, his presence was not required.

Doris Johnson made a motion to close nominations / Phil Follmer seconded / Motion carried / Doris Johnson made a motion to approve Jim Anderson / Jim Dellis seconded / Motion carried.

Property: Benjamin Sawyer had nominated himself. He was not in attendance at the meeting but this was confirmed by Wilton Sawyer.

George Seim made a motion to close nominations / Debby Dellis seconded / Motion carried / Debby Dellis made a motion to approve Benjamin Sawyer / Jerry Vehrs seconded / Motion carried.

Serving God's People: Rose Johnson was nominated for this position.

Jammie Klingsporn made a motion to close nominations / Pam Klingsporn seconded / Motion carried / Jim Dellis made a motion to approve Rose Johnson / Phil Follmer seconded / Motion carried.

Welcoming: Phil Follmer asked what is involved in this position. Joyce Holes reported that this group works closely with Serving God's People. The team coordinates events held at Holy Cross and works with the Men's and Women's Groups. Phil Follmer agreed to run for this position.

George Seim made a motion to close nominations / Tom Nun seconded / Motion carried / Tim Pankonin made a motion to approve Phil Follmer / Pam Klingsporn seconded / Motion carried.

Stewardship: Wilton Sawyer nominated himself for this position.

Marla Davenport made a motion to close nominations / Frank Max seconded / Motion carried / Roxanne Vehrs made a motion to approve Wilton Sawyer / Jim Dellis seconded / Motion carried.

Pam Sorensen asked if there was any other New Business. There was none.

Adjourn Meeting

Frank Max made a motion to adjourn the 2018 Annual Meeting / George Seim seconded / Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:03 p.m. followed by the Lord's Prayer.

Pam Sorensen advised outgoing Council members to turn their keys and key fobs in to Tori in the office ~ and asked incoming Council members to see her directly after the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Hinton
Secretary

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
Special Congregational Meeting Minutes
October 7, 2018
Fellowship Hall
Following Worship

*Holy Cross welcomes everyone as we worship and grow in faith together,
serving God's people in the name of Christ.*

A special congregational meeting was called by the Church Council to decide whether Holy Cross should call a full-time pastor or continue with a part-time pastor. Notice of this meeting was provided in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of this congregation.

Call To Order

President Pam Sorensen called the Special Congregational Meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. and announced that the meeting will consist of (1) a presentation, (2) discussion, (3) motion and (4) vote. A quorum was present with 74 members in attendance.

Opening Prayer

Pastor Dennis Sepper provided the opening prayer that God give us discernment, knowledge and vision.

Presentation & Church Council's Motion

The Church Council's motion is to call a full-time pastor for Holy Cross / Marla Davenport seconded.

Pastoral history reflects that Holy Cross has always had a full-time pastor until the 2014 budget passed only allowing for a 5/8th time pastor.

Pastor Dennis Sepper provided insight into what it means to be a part-time pastor.

Pam Sorensen presented a comparison between Path A (remaining with a 5/8ths time pastor) and Path B (calling a full-time pastor) ~ and explained the meaning of a Yes vote:

1. Financial commitment
 - a. Estimated pastor salary range is from \$90,000 to \$120,000 depending on years of experience and benefit requirements
 - b. Current 5/8ths pastor's compensation is \$59,523
2. Time commitment for additional fundraising opportunities
3. Recruit new members ~ to be done by both the pastor and members of the congregation
4. Bank line of credit as a safety net in the event our financial commitment is not met
 - a. Variable interest rate would apply
 - b. Would only be used for pastoral leadership

Pam Sorensen advised that if members cannot agree with the above four points, that their vote should be No.

Discussion

Questions were asked regarding how the pay range was determined, why we are limiting our search to five to ten years of experience and why don't we go with a Plan C – a two-point parish. Answers were provided by Pam Sorensen and Pastor Dennis.

Motion

While some members seated behind him had their hands raised to asked additional questions,

Frank Max called the question, forcing the vote / Carla Lekang seconded / Members present voted to call the question ~ that Holy Cross moves to call a full-time pastor.

Vote

At the request of Frank Max, blank paper ballots were distributed. Members' ballots were collected by the Executive Committee, who tallied the results in the Fellowship Hall during the meeting.

The motion to call a full-time pastor carried ~ with 48 Yes votes and 21 No votes.

Adjourn Meeting

Frank Max made a motion to adjourn / Char Nun seconded / Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:26 a.m., followed by the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Hinton
Secretary

Bishop Lull's Annual Report to Congregations
January 2019

"From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace." John 1:16

Dear Partners in Ministry,

I was greeted by the eloquent words of John 1 in worship on Christmas Day, reminded at year's end that our lives are swaddled in the grace of God, made fully known to us in Jesus Christ. How fortunate we are to be a part of the church in which God's love, forgiveness, and grace are a daily part of our lives. Grace upon grace.

During 2018 we leaned in to hear the voices of young adults from across our synod. Thirty young adults served as inspirational speakers, discussion group leaders, and provocateurs at the Synod Assembly. They challenged us to live into the fullness of our vocations, reminding each of us that God has equipped us to make a difference in this world. These same young adults spoke at our fall mission support event and wrote blogs for our website about their experiences as part of the church and synod. The Young Adult Initiative, piloted the previous year, has included an exploratory trip to Tanzania, experiential learning in the city, and a civil rights immersion in Atlanta. It is a bright spot in our synod's common work.

We continue to be blessed with the pastors and deacons we need to serve the 112 congregations and mission starts of the synod. This past year 25 rostered ministers were installed within the synod. There were also 3 consecrations of new deacons and 3 ordinations of new pastors. These new colleagues include: Sister Stacie Lightner, deacon at St. Paul-Reformation in St. Paul; Allen Blegen, deacon with Ecumen Hospice in North

Branch; Heather Roth Johnson, associate pastor at St. John's in Lakeville; Lindsey Bina, associate pastor at Shepherd of the Valley in Apple Valley; Kari Olsen, deacon at Christ on Capitol Hill and Shobi's Table, both in St. Paul; and Brice Bloxham, associate pastor at Shepherd of the Hills in Shoreview.

The vocation of each of these new leaders grew through years of nurture and formation – within families and local communities of faith and eventually in seminary. In 2018 the synod has walked with 41 candidates as they prepare to serve as rostered ministers. This includes 19 men and 22 women. Currently our candidates are enrolled in ten different seminaries with the greatest number at Luther, Wartburg, and Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. They come from thirty congregations, reminding us that a congregation like yours is the seedbed not only for raising up pastors and deacons, but also the next generation of church council members, stewardship leaders, and teachers of the faith within your congregation.

In 2018 the synod applied for and was awarded a grant of \$375,000 from the Lilly Endowment for a five-year project to strengthen the ministry skills of pastors within the synod. This generous award will also help the pastor-participants equip their lay leaders with biblical imagination and administrative insights. The first learning cohort will be convened in early 2020.

2018 was an active year for new mission explorations and renewal work across the synod. In Hugo, the Depot Church was launched in September as a partnership between St. Andrew's in Mahtomedi, the synod, and ELCA Churchwide. After a time of restructuring, Shobi's Table was relaunched in October. Lutheran Church of Peace in Maplewood and Christ the Servant in Vadnais Heights both moved into intentional redevelopment status with

support from the synod and ELCA Churchwide. In addition, Hope Lutheran in St. Paul became a parallel new start, embracing a small established congregation and a mandate to form a new congregation alongside the old.

Some of the most significant work for congregational vitality occurs as congregations enroll in a year-long process of renewal. The 2018 participants in the Year of Renewal cohort included Living Waters in Lino Lakes, Trinity in Stillwater, House of Prayer in Oakdale, Cross of Glory in Mounds View, First in Harris, Lutheran Church of Peace in Maplewood, Amazing Grace in Inver Grove Heights, and Shepherd of the Hills in Shoreview. Each committed to a year-long process of discipleship formation, engagement with the surrounding community, and active stewardship training.

A second strategy for strengthening our congregations uses a model for shared ministry in which two or more congregations agree to share programming or staff while maintaining a unique congregational identity. In 2018 five congregations in mid-Chisago County (Zion in Chisago City, Trinity in Lindstrom, Chisago Lake in Center City, First in Taylor Falls and Immanuel in Almelund) coordinated a joint "God's Work, Our Hands" service day, sharing in worship, a meal, and fellowship. In a more formal way, Atonement in New Brighton and Cross of Glory in Mounds View are preparing to call one pastor to serve both congregations. St. Mark's and St. Luke's, both in the city of St. Paul, are sharing an interim pastor and Spring Lake in North Branch is being served during their interim by the pastor of Calvary in Stanchfield. There are many other examples across the synod and I hope your congregation is one that has discovered ways to be stronger by working together with other congregations.

In September the synod hosted a Partnership Building Event to bring together those with interests in global and local mission for a common conversation. This group began exploring ways to address hidden biases and cultural and racial stereotypes so that the gifts of all neighbors might be received and respected.

It's no longer a surprise to be reminded that the word synod means to walk together; it is what we do so that others will know the grace and mercy of God. We walk together with our companions in the Iringa Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania and in La Iglesia Luterana Augustina de Guatemala. Walking together is what we do at conference meetings and in consultation with congregations in conflict or transition.

Walking together is also what members of the synod staff do when invited to preach in your congregation. In 2018 the bishop and the four assistants to the bishop preached 93 times. If you were not one of the congregations that invited a synod staff member to preach, please do so in 2019. We are eager to share God's Word with you and to experience the life of your congregation.

At the end of one year and the start of the new, I am grateful for the work and witness of your congregation. Thank you for being bearers of God's grace upon grace to one another and in your witness in the wider

community. I am also grateful for the members of the synod staff and all that they do. They include Michael Gold, office assistant; Alicia Rodriguez, office manager; Chloe Ahlf, communications coordinator; Greg Triplett, financial administrator; Joe Lees, assistant to the bishop for vital congregations, vital partnerships; Justin Grimm, director for evangelical mission and assistant to the bishop for next generation ministries; Krista Lind, assistant to the bishop for vocational formation; Anna Marsh, executive assistant to the bishop; and Peter Harrits, director of Bega Kwa Bega and assistant to the bishop. What a joy it is for all of us to serve with you in the Saint Paul Area Synod.

Yours in God's service –
Bishop Patricia Lull

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

We are putting 2018 to bed, and time to reflect on what Holy Cross has done and looking forward into our bright future. As I conclude my time as president at Holy Cross, I am blessed to worship and work amongst many amazing people. My three years as president has stretched me as a person, and as a leader. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve this congregation.

We entered 2018 with our interim, Pastor Dennis Sepper. He has continued to serve and guide Holy Cross through this interim period, and for that I am very grateful. The Ministry Site Profile (MSP) team worked hard at completing the MSP, and we are excited to be able to present that on January 13th and move into the call process with Krista Lind, assistant to the bishop leading us through that process. Fingers crossed, we will have a full-time settled pastor before summer 2019.

We saw the departure/retirement of our musical directors, Tuka and Charlotte in April 2018. It is extremely difficult to find this kind of talent out in the “world” and the search continues. We have been lucky to find many talented subs to fill in over these last few months, but I am hopeful we will find a permanent replacement.

Speaking of new staff, we welcomed Heidi Kult as our new office manager/communications manager in September and Patrick Handt as our new custodian in November. I am excited to see these positions filled and the staff operating at “full capacity”. I am also super grateful to Gibson for filling in when Tori left and being our wealth of knowledge and trainer for Heidi.

With 2018 being what is was, I hope 2019 brings more people to Holy Cross and we out to the community. Let us reach out to our neighbors, old and new, and think of new ways to engage in our community. 2019 is full of new possibilities, and I for one, am looking forward to them.

God Bless each and every one of you. Thank you for giving of your time and resources to Holy Cross this past year. This year, more than ever, We Need You!

Blessings,

Pam Sorensen
Council President

PASTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

As I write this annual report, I reflect on the fact that I have been the Interim Pastor at Holy Cross for a year and two months. As I said in last year's report, it has been an honor to be asked to fill this vital role. All in all, it has been a very good and yet challenging year. Below are my reflections on 2018 at Holy Cross Lutheran.

OUTREACH

The members of Holy Cross had another stellar year of reaching out beyond the church walls to the greater community. Volunteering at Loaves and Fishes, contributing to the South St. Paul Food Shelf, contributing to the Tanzanian Scholarship, and the giving tree are just a few examples of carrying on the work of God through Holy Cross community members. An effort was made to make Holy Cross visible to the Oakdale Community through the Craft and Food Fest, the Women's group participation in the Oakdale Summerfest parade and the three events where the church's food trailer was turning out cheese curds and corn dogs.

COMMUNITY AND FELLOWSHIP

Participation in the coffee and conversation fellowship time following Sunday services was strong and community building. There was the Lenten Soup and Sandwich time, a fall potluck and the first turkey dinner. It is important for the Holy Cross community to come together to better know one another. I would also add to this list the Holy Cross Prayer Chain which is excellently managed by Sheryl Max.

STAFFING

Staffing has been a real challenge in 2018. April saw the retirement of Tuka and Charlotte, our Music Director and Organist. June saw the resignation of Tori, our Communication Director and Office Manager as she prepared to enter seminary. Then our Custodian Kevin had to go on long term medical leave. Their work had to be covered, job descriptions needed to be written and interviews conducted. Hats off to Holy Cross President Pam Sorensen who took the lead to make sure the aforementioned items were done.

CONGREGATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Due to various reasons, several of our committee chairs were forced to resign or leave their leadership roles. We were without direct leadership of the Worship and Music, Property, and Stewardship Committees. Fortunately others stepped into the void to help out and some of the responsibilities of these committees were given to staff and others. Holy Cross really needs to fill these vital positions at the Annual Meeting. We need to have our leaders and Church Council members in place before the new Pastor arrives. We do not want to burden them with the need to fill positions when they have other pressing issues to attend to.

EXCITEMENT AND HOPE

Granted some of the challenges of 2018 have prevented the congregation from addressing some of the items that were on the list to be addressed when I came on board as Interim Pastor. However, having said that, the future looks bright and 2019 is full of possibilities and reasons for excitement and hope. In September Heidi Kult was hired as the Director of Communication and Office Manager. We were blessed to have Melinda Hoelscher as a long-term substitute organist, and in November Patrick Handt was hired to do our custodian work. Also, the congregation voted at a special congregational meeting to take the leap of faith and call a full-time Pastor. That will increase the pool of candidates and give the Pastor more time to

spend on outreach, education, and cultivating new members. The Ministry Site Profile is complete and will soon be in the hands of the St Paul Area staff. Names have been suggested for the Holy Cross Call Committee which will be formed shortly by the Church Council. All in all, there is a lot to be thankful for moving into 2019.

As we prepare for elections at our annual meeting some thank yous are in order. First to those who will leaving the Executive and Church Council: Pam Sorensen, Scott Sorensen, and Kyle Paulson. Also to those who volunteered but who needed to resign from Council for various reasons: Jim Anderson, Wilton Sawyer and Ben Sawyer. Finally, our thanks to those who will continue serving the congregation as leaders: Michelle Gydesen, Pam Hinton, Bonnie Katzmark, Rose Johnson, and Phil Follmer.

Respectfully submitted,
Pastor Dennis G. Sepper

CHILDREN, YOUTH, & FAMILY MINISTRY DIRECTOR

I am continually amazed at the work the Holy Spirit is stirring up in us at Holy Cross. Each year at this time, we have the opportunity to reflect on our experiences and look with anticipation toward new opportunities. The Children, Youth, and Family team (CYF) is dedicated to the growth of our ministry programs; focused on building up youth leaders, laying down faith foundations, and exploring new and exciting methods. Thank you Melanie Accola, Marla Davenport, Paula Grau, Michelle Gydesen, Melissa Kohel, Jen Mallinger, Kyle and Heidi Paulson, and the many committee guests for your partnership in this ministry!

“2018 was another amazing year for the CYF team. This past year the children of Holy Cross have seen God’s work in many ways and have learned how to take the gifts we have and put them to work. The children have taken God’s word out of the classroom and immersed themselves in stewardship through several service immersion activities. We continue to work closely with Beaver Lake and House of Prayer for those of our children continuing their faith in confirmation. Faith with those confirmed continues to shine during high school youth group, and help with the ROCK. We look forward to another exciting year to come as we explore our faith.” – Kyle Paulson, CYF Ministry Chair

- 2018 was a year of change. Through time reduction, program locations, and lay leadership, God continued to show us the strength of community. We are grateful!
- During our confirmation retreat and again at the confirmation banquet, the confirmands of 2018 inspired us with their authentic statements of faith, trusting us to join them in this new chapter of their life.
- The 2nd Flea Market and Food Truck Fest was a wonderful community engagement event and fundraiser that was made possible by a team of people. New this year was a kid’s activities area led by the Girl Scouts and a Relay for Life village. We saw a 1,000 more people than last year, welcoming nearly 3,500 visitors.
- The R.O.C.K. (Rely on Christ the King) continues to be led by a team of dedicated youth and young adults. We are able to serve more elementary age youth through our Wednesday night partnership with Beaver Lake and House of Prayer. Confirmation was the jumping point for this partnership and continues to be an exciting collaboration rooted in creating a safe place to explore our faith.
- Vacation Bible School was an intergenerational success. For the fourth year in a row, we were able to provide a free week of outreach, thank you! Shipwrecked was enjoyed by over 50 children, youth and volunteers. A National Night Out event was hosted and we welcomed nearly 100 people from Holy Cross and the surrounding community.
- Senior High Youth Group just entered its fifth year. Twice a month we connect through coffee, conversation, fellowship, and support.

2019 marks the beginning of our preparations for the 2020 ELCA National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis, continued partnerships, and development of sustainable ministry opportunities. Thank you to the many people who work to share Christ’s love with our children & youth. You are a gift and a blessing.

Peace and Joy!
Gibson Stanton
Children, Youth & Family Ministry Director

MUSIC MINISTRY DIRECTOR

(No report submitted due to vacant position)

WELCOMING MINISTRY REPORT

Welcoming Committee members are myself, Phillip Follmer, Karen Walsh, Rose Johnson, Dorothy Frank, Marlaine Freeman, Anne Haggstad.

I am working hard on keeping my job as the Welcoming Ministry in keeping it going strong.

We had the food truck and flea market in May 2018, which was a success. The Women's Group put on a turkey dinner in the first week in November 2018, which was a big success.

The Men's Club had a wonderful success for Oakdale Days and Woodbury Daze with our corn dogs and cheese curds.

The Dellis Family had a great success at their fall barbeque in September 2018. The food truck and brisket was delicious.

The Men's Club also us to the Minesota Twins Ball game in June 2018.

Thank you.

Submitted by Phillip Follmer

WORSHIP & MUSIC

(No report submitted due to vacant position)

STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship is an important part of any church – it's members give of their time, talent and treasures. Holy Cross has once again been fortunate to have members that are generous with stewardship. There have been many projects done this year that have benefitted our members and community, giving testament of our members willingness to give their time and talent. Thank you each and everyone that was a part of this commitment. The last part of the Stewardship triangle is the treasure. The year of 2019 will bring a change to Holy Cross. We will have a full time pastor, which means a bigger financial commitment. Each member can contribute in various ways.... Stewardship again – time, talent or treasure. Various ways to contribute: increase your financial contributions and/or help on the fundraising campaigns and projects that will be held this coming year. Do you have a good fundraising idea? Let anyone on the Council know. No idea is too big or too small!!! WE NEED YOU to make 2019 an exciting year for Holy Cross.

Blessings,
Debby Dellis
Stewardship Ministry

PROPERTY

The things I accomplished this year as fill in Property Manager:

- The dishwasher was installed and paid for by a grant.
- Installed a new compressor in the freezer which was paid for by the Men's Club.
- Gary Nason and I did lawn maintenance and fertilizing, patched woodpecker holes and painted over the patches.
- Put in air conditioner for Head Start. Head Start paid for installation.
- Air conditioner was repaired in the Fellowship Hall.
- Gutters were installed in play area at church. Also laid 4 yards of dirt and sod in play area with help from Gary Nason, Tom Nun, Frank Max, Jerry Laska, Jim Katzmark, and Ted Carlson.

I would like to thank Tom Nun and Jim Katzmark for helping shampoo the fellowship hall carpet. Also thank you to Gary Nason and his son for installing the new kitchen cabinets. Thank you to Tom O'Brien for getting the painters for the basement. Men's Club paid for that.

John Johnson

SERVING GOD'S PEOPLE

It has been an interesting year for me.

- I served coffee and conversation on Wednesday mornings from 9-12.
- Served for Loaves and Fishes every other month at Gethsemane Lutheran Church.
- Helped bag groceries for the North St. Paul Food Shelf.
- Had the old cupboards in the kitchen to match the new ones. Paid for by the Women's Group.
- Attended the Cluster meeting and the speaker spoke about homeless teens in our area. Planning to help in some way.
- Put the giving tree up for Oakdale school, Bridgeview and Tubman. We received a great number of merchandise and gift cards. We donated some of the hats, socks, sweatshirts, etc. to the homeless teens.
- Gave out Hershey candy bars to the Veterans and their spouses on Veterans Day. Girl Scouts helped pass them out.
- We did a turkey dinner in November for a fundraiser for the Women's Group and for the Pastoral fund. It was a great success, served 110 people.

Thank you,
Rose Johnson

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

(Report not available at time of printing)

FINANCIAL SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT

In 2018, 107 households contributed vs 105 households in 2017

Total of all funds received for 2018 were \$227,225.60 compared to \$247,383.81 in 2017.

The breakdown of funds is listed below.

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018.</u>
Sunday Worship	\$168,827.54	\$159,702.01
Rental Income	17,200.00	20,950.00
Holiday Offering	7,368.00	6,686.65
Loose Offering	2,534.23	2,740.60
Misc. Income	<u>7,044.50</u>	<u>6,032.37</u>
Total General Fund Income	\$202,974.27	\$196,111.63
Total Expenses	<u>(207,896.11)</u>	<u>(172,749.20)</u>
Total Income (loss)	\$ (4,921.84)	\$ 23,362.43

2018 breakdown of annual giving

- 8 families contributed \$5,000.00 or more
- 11 families contributed \$2,500.00 or more
- 33 families contributed \$1,000.00 or more
- 16 families contributed \$500.00 or more
- 9 families contributed \$250.00 or more
- 14 families contributed \$100.00 or more
- 7 families contributed \$50.00 or more
- 9 families contributed \$49.99 or less

In 2017, 63 households pledged a total of \$131,837.

In 2018, 52 households pledged a total of \$116,955, \$14,822 (12.724%) less than 2017.

The actual vs. pledged information for 2018 is below.

	<u># Giving Units</u>	<u>Total Pledge</u>	<u>Giving</u>	<u>Over/Under</u>	
Pledge Non Givers	1	\$ 0.00		\$	0.00
Pledge Givers	52	\$ 116,955.00	\$125,217.68	\$ 8,262.68	
Non Pledge Giving	<u>54</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>	<u>\$ 34,484.33</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>	
Total	107	\$ 116,955.00	\$159,702.01	\$ 42,747.01	

2019 pledges as of year-end are \$113,810.00 annually, with 50 households pledging, this is a decrease of \$3,145.00 or 2.763% from 2018 pledges.

2019 pledges for Pastoral Leadership are \$21,175.00 annually, with 21 households pledging

A huge thanks to all the volunteers that counted this past year.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bonnie Katzmark,
Financial Secretary

(Treasurer's portion of report not available at time of printing)