



MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH OF CAMROSE

*Sharing Jesus Christ with All People*



Live Free

TAKE HOLD OF THE LIFE THAT REALLY IS LIFE

1TIMOTHY 6:18-19

Congregational Annual Report

May 2015 - April 2016



ELCIC

*In Mission  
for Others*

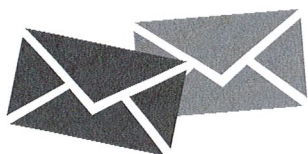


# Your Offering, *In Mission for Others*

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC) functions through **three major expressions**: **NATIONALLY** as the ELCIC, **REGIONALLY** as synods, and **LOCALLY** as congregations. Each expression of the church has unique ministries as well as ministries which are shared with the other expressions. When you give to the ELCIC, you help support **all** the expressions of the church!

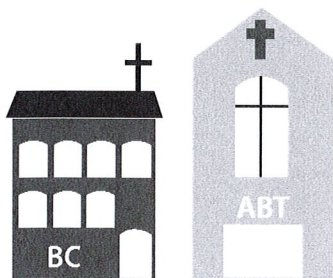
In 2014, ELCIC members gave over **\$63.1 million** in regular offerings to support the call to be *In Mission for Others* through these three expressions of the ELCIC:

**94.4%**



## CONGREGATIONS

**\$59,597,350** was used by congregations to fund **local ministries**. Your weekly offering supports the work of **your congregation** and its **ministry**.



**4.3%**  
**SYNODS**

**\$2,703,538** was shared to support the **ministry done through ELCIC synods**. This includes supporting **congregations** and **leaders within your synod**.



**1.3%**

## NATIONAL CHURCH

**\$834,349** was sent through the synods to the **National Church** to support the **wider mission of the ELCIC**.

Financial data correct as of Nov. 19, 2015.



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**SYNOD OF  
ALBERTA  
AND THE  
TERRITORIES**  
✠ ✠  
Incorporated as Alberta Synod

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***Spirit-Led  
Leadership***

***Hope-Filled  
Discipleship***

***Innovative  
Tradition***

***Collaborative  
Partnerships***

January 2016

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

***May grace and peace be yours in abundance (1 Peter 1:2a).***

I send you greetings in the Name of the One who is the light of the world, Jesus our Lord, as you gather for your Annual General Congregational Meeting.

This past year through each month's *Message for Congregations and Lay and Rostered Leaders*, a reflection and study on select readings of Paul's letter, *to all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi (1:1b)*, I began with these familiar words: *I thank my God every time I remember you... (Philippians 1:3)*.

When you gather together, know that I am filled with gratitude to God for you; that I am thankful for our partnership in the gospel; and, that you continue to be in my prayers as I know I remain in yours.

When you meet together, you will be making decisions about your priorities for ministry. You will be adopting budgets that enable ministry that joins in God's mission in the world. You will be supporting your partners in ministry – the rostered leaders of this Synod, and especially those who serve among you as they, first and foremost, seek to equip you for the work of ministry: the building up of the Body of Christ.

Joining God's mission means that your ministry is among the people with whom you live and move and have your being. Your ministry is done each day in relationships with your neighbours through your words and deeds and the living out of your baptismal identity as God's beloved children.

Ministry continues beyond the neighborhood and congregation through the many faces of the Church and many facets of its ministries: our Synod and its staff, our National Church expression, the Lutheran World Federation, *En Misión con El Salvador: In Mission with El Salvador*, and our Companion Synod – The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Colombia.

Perhaps at this year's Annual General Meeting you might reflect, name and give thanks for the gifts and mission into which God has invited you and your congregation. Consider taking a few moments in small groups to listen to each other and then share with all gathered reflections on the following:

- 1) Share about a time or situation when you or your congregation experienced God's love.
- 2) What resources do you have within your community? Share three gifts God has given you.



As you meet, you might also prayerfully consider forwarding a tithe (1/10<sup>th</sup>) of your annual income as a congregation as your minimal offering for Benevolence for the ministry of the Synod and through the Synod to the wider Church. Some congregations have exceeded this mark already, but I would encourage all congregations to set this goal.

As you gather be sure to join others across the Synod as you:

- + prepare nominations for youth, lay and rostered delegates to the 2017 ELCIC National Convention (<http://albertasynod.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/ABT-Nomination-and-Election-of-Delegates.National-Convention1.pdf>).
- + explore our Synod's Abiding in Right Relations (AiRR) Ministry Team through the information available on the Synod webpage (<http://albertasynod.ca/ministries/right-relations/>).
- + subscribe to our Synod's new weekly e-mail newsletter, Wednesday's Word, which begins January 6 and replaces the Synod mailings. Subscribing is easy on our Synod's homepage ([www.albertasynod.ca](http://www.albertasynod.ca)).
- + discuss our upcoming "Participating in Hope 2.0" gatherings in 15 locations throughout our Synod. When and where have you been invited to gather with other congregational leadership in February? Uncertain? Check with the Synod office or go to the Synod's webpage to find the schedule (<http://albertasynod.ca/missional-formation/participating-in-hope/>).
- + consider the CARE (Congregational Action and Response for Mental Health) Ministry Team's invitation for up to 3, \$100 scholarships *per congregation* in our Synod, so that each of our congregations can send an individual or team (lay or rostered) to train with Mental Health First Aid Canada (<http://albertasynod.ca/ministries/c-a-r-e/upcoming-events/>).
- + determine delegate(s) to the June 16-18 Synod Convention.

And remember Paul's words to the saints in Philippi: *...sisters and brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things (Philippians 4:8).*

My prayer is that your gathering will be a recital of gratitude and praise to God for the signs of the Holy Spirit at work in, through, around, and among you.

*The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen (Philippians 4:23).*

***The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit (Romans 15:13).***

In Christ Jesus-  
Shalom,

+The Rev. Dr. Larry Kochendorfer, Bishop  
Synod of Alberta and the Territories



## **Agenda**

- 1. Welcome and Call to Order:** Odell Olson
- 2. Opening Devotions:** Pastor Calvin Skriver/Diaconal Minister Bev Swanson (back page)
- 3. Consideration and Adoption of Agenda**

- 4. Review of Congregational Meeting Minutes**

- 4.1.** Annual Congregational Meeting of June 7, 2015
  - 4.2.** Special Congregational Meeting of December 13, 2015

- 5. Consideration of Reports**

- 5.1.** Report of the Senior Pastor
  - 5.2.** Report of the Diaconal Minister
  - 5.3.** Officers' Reports
  - 5.4.** Reports of the Committees
  - 5.5.** Reports of the Auxiliary
  - 5.6.** Report of the Call Committee
  - 5.7.** Other Reports
  - 5.8.** Congregational Statistics

- 6. Organizational Matters**

- 6.1. Report of the Nominating Group and Elections**

**Installation** of those elected on Sunday June 19, 2016 10:30 a.m. Worship Service.

The **Annual Planning Meeting** Phase 1: Immediately after the Annual Congregational Meeting. Phase 2: September 15, 2016, 7:00 p.m. This meeting involves all members of Church Council and all Standing Committees: Learning, Service, Support, Witnessing and Worship.

- 7. Mission Endowment Fund**

- 7.1. Interest Allocation:**

**Moved Seconded** (from Council) that Mission Endowment funds for this year go to the Internet Outreach Proposal

- 7.2 Update on the new Endowment Fund**

- 8. Use of Undesignated Memorial Funds**

Currently any undesignated funds go to eliminating the debt.

**Moved Seconded** (from Council) that when the debt is eliminated, the undesignated funds go to the Capital Fund.

- 9. Policy of the Use of Funds to be instituted from this meeting onward (Ivar Saugen)**

Spending of funds is confined to programs and projects approved by Messiah. Should a donor choose to restrict a contribution for use in a particular program or project, Messiah will honour that restriction with the understanding that when need for such a program or project has been met or cannot be completed for any reason as determined by Messiah, the remaining restricted contribution will be used where most needed.



## **10. Financial Matters**

### **10.1. Motions for Borrowing Power**

- 10.1.1.** That any two of the President, Secretary and Treasurer be authorized to borrow up to fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) from a financial institution in Camrose, Alberta, for operating purposes and to execute the institution's form of note or notes in the name of Messiah Lutheran Church for a period of twelve months.
- 10.1.2.** That any two of the President, Secretary and Treasurer be authorized to borrow up to one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) from a financial institution in Camrose, Alberta for the Building Fund and to execute the institution's form of note or notes in the name of Messiah Lutheran Church for a period of twelve months.

- 10.2.** Motion for authorized signators for charitable donation receipts  
That any one of the following be authorized to sign charitable receipts for Messiah Lutheran Church: 1) Norma Branes 2) Mary Broen 3) Bookkeeper 4) Treasurer 5) MLW Treasurer

### **10.3. Motion for Appointment of Auditors**

- 10.3.1.** That Messiah use an Internal Audit for the 2016-2017 fiscal year.
- 10.3.2.** That \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ be appointed to the Audit Committee as auditors for Messiah Lutheran Church for the year ending April 30, 2016.

## **11. Motion for Signing Authority**

That any two of the following be appointed to sign cheques for Messiah Lutheran Church: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Bookkeeper.

## **12. Financial Report and Recommended Budget**

## **13. Concluding Remarks**

## **14. Closing Devotions:** Pastor Calvin Skriver/Diaconal Minister Bev Swanson

## **15. Adjournment**



**Messiah Lutheran Church of Camrose**  
**Minutes of the Annual Congregational Meeting**  
Sunday June 7, 2015

1. **Welcome and Call to Order:** Chair Odell Olson opened the meeting at 12:17 pm.
2. **Opening Devotions:** Diaconal Minister Bev Swanson led in devotions as printed on the back cover of the Annual Report.
3. **Consideration and Adoption of Agenda**  
**CM 15:06:01 MSC (David Dahle/Ron Foshaug)** To adopt the agenda as printed with the addition of item 6.2: Call Committee Report and Diaconal Minister's Contract Extension.
4. **Review of Congregational Meeting Minutes**
  - 4.1 **Annual Congregational Meeting of June 8, 2014**  
**CM 15:06:02 MSC (Ray Blacklock/Frank Hoehn)** To adopt the minutes of the Annual Congregational Meeting of June 8, 2014.
  - 4.2 **Special Congregational Meeting of February 8, 2015** (Formation of Call Committee)  
**CM 15:06:03 MSC (Vi Madison/Jonathan Hawkins)** To adopt the minutes of the Special Congregational Meeting of February 8, 2015.
5. **Consideration of Reports**
  - 5.1 **Report of the Diaconal Minister**

Bev Swanson thanked the staff. She requested prayers for staffing and noted some significant upcoming staffing concerns. Marlys Sorenson has resigned as KidFest Coordinator after 16 years. Our Youth Coordinators, Ben and Stacey Lyster, have also resigned due to an educational opportunity. In addition, as of May 9, 2015, Thai Phong Trieu is no longer the custodian at Messiah Lutheran Church. New casual staff members Ruth Jensen and Lori Mokry cover for Administrative Assistant Doreen Brewer when she needs to be away from the office much to the appreciation of Doreen.
  - 5.2 **Officers' Reports**
  - 5.3 **Reports of the Committees**

**Learning Committee:** Darlene Dahle thanked Marlys Sorenson for her 16 faithful years of service as KidFest Coordinator. Darlene also encouraged all members to consider teaching at KidFest and/or assisting Nora Gilbertson with the Friendship Club.

**Service Committee:** Ray Blacklock made special mention of the Ministry to Seniors which was omitted from his written report.

**Support Committee:** Ron Foshaug stated there was an oversight regarding the Synod allocation (as stated on page 8 of the minutes of the June 8, 2014 Annual Meeting Minutes) and asked for guidance from Council as to how this should be handled. Ron also announced that Lloyd and Carolyn Olson have been handling the custodial duties in Thai's absence and that, as of June 1, 2015, they were hired on a one-year interim basis and will be paid an hourly wage. However, from June 27 – August 18, 2015 the Support Committee is seeking volunteers to cover some custodial duties while the Olsons are away. Ron also mentioned that all of the security cameras are now in place.

**Witnessing Committee:** Gail Stolee reported that more volunteers for Coffee Fellowship are needed and there is a need for cookies for Founder's Days and Big Valley Jamboree Parade day. Erhard Pinno spoke on behalf of the World Mission Group and the Refugee Support Group.

**15:06:04 MSC (Erhard Pinno/Ray Blacklock)** That Messiah endorse the idea of the ELCIC sponsoring 500 refugees to help honour the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation and that Messiah give full consideration to being one of the congregations sponsoring one of these refugee families.

**Worship Committee:** David Dahle referred to his submitted written report in response to a question regarding how we report numbers to the Synod after the discontinuation of using pew communion cards. Since communion cards don't seem to be an accurate way of determining numbers, this item may be further discussed at the Committee, Council and even the Synod level. David reported that the first Hymn Sing evening, coordinated by Donny Loewen, was well attended and the Worship Committee plans to support the continuation of Hymn Sing evenings.

All committee representatives thanked their committee members, the staff and the congregation.

#### **5.4 Reports of the Auxiliary**

Messiah Lutheran Women representative Signe Harder highlighted the MLS Treasurer's report.

#### **5.5 Other Reports**

#### **5.6. Congregational Statistics**

**CM 15:06:05 MSC** to receive the reports as presented.

### **6. Organizational Matters**

#### **6.1 Report of the Nominating Group and Elections**

Carolyn Andersen presented the Nominating Committee's report and thanked the members of her committee: Don Myrehaug, Joanne Myrehaug and Eleanor Kopperud. Carolyn also thanked those contacted for considering a position. She noted that all positions except for one on the Support Committee have candidates. Carolyn asked for any further nominations and receiving none, the following motions were presented:

**CM 15:06:06 MSC (Dave Larson/Frank Hoehn)** That nominations cease.

**CM 15:06:07 MSC (Erhard Pinno/Dave Stolee)** That the Nominating Committee's list of names be declared as elected.

President Odell thanked Carolyn and the Nominating Committee for their diligent work.

**Installation** of those elected will be on Sunday June 14, 2015, at the 10:00 am Worship Service. The **Annual Planning Meeting:** Phase 1- immediately after the Annual Congregational Meeting. Phase 2 - September 10, 2015, 7:00 pm. This meeting involves all members of Church Council and all Standing Committees: Learning, Service, Support, Witnessing and Worship.

#### **6.2 Call Committee Report and Extending Diaconal Minister's Contract**

Call Committee representative Art Pfeiffer reported that the committee has met 4 or 5 times; one of these meetings with Bishop Larry Kochendorfer in attendance. The committee compiled a congregational profile and submitted it to the Bishop. The



committee's next meeting is scheduled for June 24, 2015 when Bishop Larry will be bringing names of potential candidates.

Chairperson Odell Olson reported that an evaluation meeting is to be scheduled with Diaconal Minister Bev to extend her contract which was up at the end of April 2015. Bishop Larry supports this extension as Bev has a plan to work towards ordination.

## **7. Council Recommendations:**

### **7.1 Bylaw Amendments**

**7.1.1. CM 15:06:08 MSC** That we amend bylaw Section B.1.5.D to read: *A member of Church Council or of a Standing Committee is elected for a term of two years. No one may serve in more than one elected position at one time. No one may serve in the same elected position for more than **four** consecutive terms.*

**7.1.2 CM 15:06:09 MSC** That Section B.9.11 (*provision for ongoing attention to the requirements of policies related to privacy and the Policy for Protection of Children, Youth and Other Vulnerable People*) **be transferred from the Support Committee to the Service Committee.**

**7.1.3 CM 15:06:10 MSC** That we amend Section B.8.4 to read: *to make provision for local interpretation for matters of social justice within the community and as raised by the National Church or the Synod of Alberta and the Territories and for Canadian Lutheran World Relief. **Note:** the words: Global Hunger Development Appeal have been deleted as this Appeal no longer exists.*

### **7.2. Mission Endowment Fund**

#### **7.2.1. Interest Allocation:**

**CM 15:06:11 MSC** That the Mission Endowment funds for this year go to George and Susan Watts.

#### **7.2.2 Motion to Create a New Endowment Fund**

**CM 15:06:12 MSC** That a second Mission Endowment Fund (to be named) be established in order to enable bequests and planned gifts that are unrestricted to be received.

### **7.3. Financial Matters**

#### **7.3.1. Motions for Borrowing Power**

**CM 15:06:13 MSC (Council/Karen Hansen)** That any two of the President, Secretary and Treasurer be authorized to borrow up to fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) from a financial institution in Camrose, Alberta, for operating purposes and to execute the institution's form of note or notes in the name of Messiah Lutheran Church for a period of twelve months.

**CM 15:06:14 MSC (Council/Norma Blacklock)** That any two of the President, Secretary and Treasurer be authorized to borrow up to one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) from a financial institution in Camrose, Alberta for the Building Fund and to execute the institution's form of note or notes in the name of Messiah Lutheran Church for a period of twelve months.

#### **7.3.2 Motion for authorized signators for charitable donation receipts**

**CM 15:06:15 MSC (Council/Darlene Dahle)** That any one of the following be authorized to sign charitable receipts for Messiah Lutheran Church: 1) Norma Branes 2) Mary Broen 3) Bookkeeper 4) Treasurer 5) MLW Treasurer.

#### **7.3.3 Motion for Appointment of Auditors**

**CM 15:06:16 MSC (Council/Gail Stolee)** That Messiah use an Internal Audit for the 2015-2016 fiscal year.

**CM 15:06:17 MSC (Ivar Saugen/Dave Dahle)** That David Stolee and Max Lindstrand be appointed to the Audit Committee as auditors for Messiah Lutheran Church for the year ending April 30, 2016. Council to approve a third auditor and if Max Lindstrand is unable to serve, Council to find a replacement for a total of three internal auditors.

**CM 15:06:18 MSC (Ivar Saugen/Dave Dahle)** That the auditors appointed to audit the books for 2014-2015 be appointed to conduct the audit for the 2013-2014 fiscal year instead of the previously appointed Grant Thornton.

**CM 15:06:19 MSC (Ivar Saugen/Dave Larson)** That Grant Thornton be retained for any accounting needs required by the Treasurer and/or the Support Committee for the 2015 Accounting Year.

#### **7.3.4. Motion for Signing Authority**

**CM 15:06:20 MSC (Council/Vi Madison)** That any two of the following be appointed to sign cheques for Messiah Lutheran Church: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Bookkeeper.

#### **7.3.5 Financial Report and Recommended Budget**

Ivar Saugen presented the Financial Report and the Audit Committee's report was distributed. Ivar then presented the budget for 2015-16 and stated that an adjustment will be made to increase the amount for Synod Support as discussed at last year's Annual Meeting and as mentioned earlier in the meeting by Ron Foshaug during his Support Committee report.

**CM 15:06:21 MSC (Lois Larson/Doreen Brewer)** That we approve the budget as presented.

#### **8. Concluding Remarks**

President Odell Olson commented that the Annual Congregational Meeting is the most important meeting of the year and thanked everyone for coming and participating. Odell reminded committee and council members to meet briefly following the conclusion of the meeting to establish dates and times for their next meeting(s), appoint their officers and provide their contact information.

- 9. Closing Devotions:** On the basis of the liturgy on the back page of the Annual Report, Marlys Sorenson led in the closing devotions.

#### **10. Adjournment:**

Chairperson Odell Olson declared the meeting adjourned at 2:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted  
Carol Green, Secretary

#### **Attachments:**

2015 – 2016 Council and Committee Members  
2015 – 2016 Budget  
List of Voting Members Present



**Messiah Lutheran Church of Camrose**  
**2015-2016 Council and Committee Members**  
(at the beginning of the program year)

**Church Council**

**President** – Odell Olson to June 2016

**Vice-President** – Carolyn Andersen to June 2017

**Treasurer** – Ivar Saugen to June 2016

**Secretary** – Carol Green to June 2016

**Members at Large**

Dave Larson to June 2016

Sharon Gilbertson to June 2016

Art Pfeiffer to June 2016

Jim Ofrim to June 2016

Darlene Dahle to June 2017

**Learning Committee**

Alice Lindstrand and Derek Gilchrist to June 2016

Marie Olson, Carol Roy, Cheryl Nester, Sharon Ofrim and Tim Schultz to June 2017

**Service Committee**

Usha Manaloor, Connie Bjornson, Ken Skriver, Carol Cherry, Ray Blacklock to June 2016

Rod MacInnis to June 2017

**Support Committee**

Don Myrehaug, Milt Gilbertson and Ron Foshaug to June 2016

Dale Swanson and Lois Larson to June 2017

One Vacancy

**Witnessing Committee**

Gail Stolee, Mary Ellen Eriksson and Shirley Loewen to June 2016

Erhard Pinno, Cecelia Watts and Lavona Broen to June 2017

**Worship Committee**

Gail Pfeiffer and Nora Gilbertson to June 2016

Norma Ferguson, David Dahle, Laverne Hoveland and Elaine Olson to June 2017

## Analysis of Messiah's Proposed Stewardship of its Proposed Resources 2015-2016

			% of Total			
<b>Salaries and Wages for Staff</b>			\$250,000	58%	*Building/Capital	
					AV Capital	2,500
					Custodial Supplies	2,000
					Inspections/maintenance	5,600
					Insurance	15,100
					Repairs & maintenance	8,000
					Utilities-electricity	12,000
					Utilities-heating fuel	13,000
					Utilities-water/sewer	3,000
					Capital purchase/contingenc	700
					Capital Projects	3,500
						65,400
<b>In Support of All Ministries - Support Committee</b>						
Synod			25,000	6%	**Office	
					Advertising	400
Building/Capital*			65,400	15%	Audio/Visual supplies	400
					Audit	3,500
Office**			20,600	5%	Bank charges/op loans	300
					Offering envelopes	500
General Ministry Support***			27,000	6%	Office equipment lease	5,000
					Office library	200
Restore Designated gifts			30,103	7%	Office Supplies	4,500
				100%	Postage & shipping	1,500
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$431,268</b>	100%	Software agreements	600
					Telephone	3,500
Check from Summary Page			431,268		Website	200
						20,600
					***General Ministry Support	
					Chur Coun Miscellaneous	400
					Conference Dues	1,700
					Pastor's Study Conference	1,000
					Counselling Supervision	900
					Conventions	2,000
					Staff/lay development	400
					Volunteer screening	100
					Staff retreat	500
					Call Committee recruiting	20,000
						27,000



# Voting Members Present at the Annual Congregational Meeting Messiah Lutheran Church of Camrose, June 7, 2015

\*Designates a Non-Voting Member (ie. Staff, President of Congregation)

Carolyn Andersen	Frank Hoehn	Gail Pfeiffer
Jane Arial	Judy Hoehn	Erhard Pinno
Lois Aspenes	Agnes Hoveland	Ann Reiten
Wilf Aspenes	Laverne Hoveland	Art Reiten
Marion Bennett	Marilyn Hoveland	Carol Roy
Joyclyn Bergh	Cliff Hoyme	Carole Saugen
Norma Blacklock	Dorothy Hoyme	Ivar Saugen
Ray Blacklock	Peggy Jensen	Doris Skippen
Jim Brager	Ioan Jober	Grant Skippen
Marie Brager	Eleanor Kopperud	Berniece Sogge
Norma Branes	Dave Larson	Len Sorenson
Doreen Brewer*	Lois Larson	Marlys Sorenson*
Jayla Brewer	Audrey Lett	David Stolee
Lavona Broen	Alice Lindstrand	Gail Stolee
Ordean Broen	Dorothy Lysons	Bev Swanson*
Carol Cherry	Rod Madison	Dale Swanson
Darlene Dahle	Vi Madison	Elaine Taylor
David Dahle	Ken Midbo	Lorraine Tennis
Arnell Dahlin	Marion Midbo	Sylvia Tentinger
Greta Dahlin	Lori Mokry*	Cecelia Watts
Mary Ellen Eriksson	Doris Nelson	Kliff Westby
Vincent Eriksson	Frieda Ness	Bernard Williams
Sylvia Engen Espe	Cheryl Nester	Lorene Willing
Hazel Erga	Carolyn Olson	Wilf Willing
Lyle Erga	Elaine Olson	
Ron Foshaug	Karen Olson	
Nora Gilbertson	Kiva Olson	
Carol Green	Lloyd Olson	
Alice Haldorson	Odell Olson*	
Karen Hanson	Susan Paterson	
Signe Harder	Betty Pearson	
Jonathan Hawkins	Carmen Person	
Michelle Kennedy Hawkins	Art Pfeiffer	

# **Messiah Lutheran Church Congregational Call Meeting**

## **Dec. 13, 2015**

### **1. Call to Order :** 11:45 AM by Odell Olson, Council Chair

A count of members present was taken to establish that a quorum was present. Craig Wentland was introduced as the representative of the Bishop and would conduct the meeting.

### **2. Opening:**

- Hymn # 576, verses 1&3
- Scripture Lesson—Matt. 28:18-20
- Prayer
- Charlene Brown, Call Committee Chair-- to provide biographical information about the candidate and read the Letter of Call and the Memorandum of Compensation

### **3. Candidate—Pastor Calvin Skriver:**

- History of post-secondary and previous employment presented on screen
- Cheryl Nester recused herself from the Call Committee to avoid any possible conflict of interest
- Candidate was nominated by a Messiah member as well as was asked by the Bishop if he would consider Messiah since he was filling out a mobility form
- During the Call Committee interview with candidate many of his strengths were evident
- After the Committee decided to name him as a primary candidate, he met with the staff and with Diaconal Minister Bev Swanson which resulted in positive feedback to the Committee.
- The Committee voted unanimously to present the candidate to the congregation for a vote as the Senior Pastor of Messiah

### **4. Voting:**

- Charlene Brown moved that we call Calvin Skriver to be the pastor of Messiah Lutheran Church according to the Letter of Call and the Memorandum of Compensation.
- Vivian Grue seconded the motion. Carried.
- Floor was opened to questions
  - Treasurer Ivar Saugen presented some financial information:
  - Messiah was in debt \$33,500 on loans. A member's loan of \$25,000 was forgiven and so the long term debt is now \$8,000.
  - Auditors' report had a balance of \$60,000 in 2014
  - Savings of \$30,000 on janitor fees and Youth Minister
- Ballots were distributed, marked with circle around either, "YES" or "NO" and then collected to be counted
- Of the 123 ballots handed out, 116 were "YES" with some spoiled
- Prayer for Pastor Calvin as he considers the call from Messiah
- Dave Larson moved and Jonathan Hawkins seconded the motion that the ballots be destroyed. Carried.
- Vicki Olson moved and Audrey Lett seconded the motion that the meeting be adjourned. Carried.

### **5. Adjournment:** 12:30 PM

Attachment: Member List of voters  
cc Ioan Jober  
Call Committee Secretary

Respectfully submitted  
Carol Green  
Council Secretar



**Voting Members Present at the Congregational Meeting  
Messiah Lutheran Church of Camrose  
December 13, 2015**

Charlene Brown  
Vicki Olson  
Karen Hansen  
Ed Brewer  
Kiva Olson  
Lavona Broen  
Elaine Schultz  
Lois Pederson  
Marianne Bergum  
Ann Reiten  
Leroy Johnson  
Art Pfeiffer  
Max Lindstrand  
Erhard Pinno  
Michelle Kennedy Hawkins  
Bev Swanson  
Mark Skriver  
Gail Stolee  
Eleanor Kopperud  
Chris Hohm  
Hazel Erga  
Ioan Jober  
Harold Bjorge  
Marion Midbo  
Betty Pearson  
Ray Blacklock  
Clifford Hoyme  
Nora Gilbertson  
Frank Hoehn  
Grant Skippen  
Carol Roy  
Lois Larson  
Arnell Dahlin  
Vi Madison  
Laverne Hoveland  
Everald Olson  
Robin Carson  
Signe Harder  
Mary Ellen Eriksson  
Milt Gilbertson  
Neil Brown

Carol Green  
Carol Haugen  
Ed Grue  
Jayla Brewer  
Ruth Ofrim  
Ordean Broen  
Nils Didriksen  
Connie Bjornson  
Berniece Sogge  
Esther Forre  
Carvel Skaret  
Loretta Foshaug  
Alice Lindstrand  
Cecelia Watts  
Jonathan Hawkins  
Carolyn Andersen  
Dale Swanson  
David Stolee  
Hugh Nester  
Rosanna Hohm  
Arlene Skriver  
Marie Brager  
Gail Bjorge  
Evelyn Dixon  
Audrey Davis  
Joyclyn Bergh  
Audrey Lett  
Margo McPhail  
Judy Hoehn  
Doris Skippen  
Joanne Myrehaug  
Frieda Ness  
Greta Dahlin  
Rod Madison  
Marilyn Hoveland  
Holly Olson  
Loya Steinwandt  
Dean Steinwandt  
Wilf Willing  
Sharon Gilbertson  
Odell Olson

Dave Larson  
Elaine Taylor  
Lori Mokry  
Doreen Brewer  
Vivianne Grue  
Larry Schultz  
Norma Branes  
Keith Bergum  
Art Reiten  
Leroy Forre  
Dale Skaret  
Ron Foshaug  
Carole Saugen  
Wilf Aspenes  
Ivar Saugen  
Maria Skriver  
Jamie Luckwell  
Cheryl Nester  
Klifford Westby  
Lyle Erga  
Ken Skriver  
Ruth Jensen  
Ken Midbo  
Gee Mah  
Norma Blacklock  
Dorothy Hoyme  
Gail Pfeiffer  
Lorene Willing  
Mary Broen  
Sharon Ofrim  
Don Myrehaug  
Dorothy Lysons  
Elaine Olson  
Lorne Broen  
Alice Haldorson  
Shellie Carson  
Karen Olson  
Vincent Eriksson  
Jim Ofrim  
Jim Brager  
Stacey Haugen

## PASTORAL LEADERSHIP ANNUAL REPORTS 2016

### Calvin Skriver – Senior Pastor

**See, the former things have come to pass,  
and new things I now declare;  
before they spring forth,  
I tell you of them.**

Isaiah 42:9

Grace and peace to you from God, our Father and our Lord Jesus Christ.

So, here I am – the “new guy” in your midst. It has been wonderful and full of new things. There are so many “new” people and procedures for me to get to know and to become familiar with; it may take years for me to get everything straight. ☺ I am so thankful for the warm welcome that Lori and I have been given to this new place and situation.

Now, because I am so new, there are not many old things to report on. I haven’t done much: I’ve participated in a few worship services; baptized a couple babies; attended a few (well, quite a few) meetings; visited a few people; and read many documents pertaining to Messiah Lutheran Church. I’ve discovered (not surprisingly) that Messiah is a vibrant and busy place with a huge heart for caring for each other and the community and world around us. Messiah does indeed “share Jesus Christ with all people”. It is good to be here.

Even though I haven’t a lot to report about what I’ve done, there are many things that God has done through others in the fellowship of Messiah Lutheran Church. You will see what others have been up to in the rest of this Annual Report. Enjoy reading and feel pride that God has chosen you to be a part of what is happening in this place.

Since I don’t have much “old” to talk about, I’ll talk about the “new” year we are moving into. I started my report with a verse from the prophet Isaiah. There are many places in scripture where God is up to “new things”. God likes to change things up every once in a while. ☺

But, don’t get too worried about this “new guy” changing everything! There **will** be changes because I am here: for example you’ll see my face in the pulpit regularly, where other faces were before. But not everything will be completely different. Much of what we do will be the same because it works and is helpful in moving towards our mission: “Sharing Jesus Christ with all people”.

I know there are some eager for change; and others who are feeling, “there’s been quite enough change already, let’s just keep things even for a while.” Both of these points of view need to be honoured and valued. I am absolutely certain that God honours each person’s needs; I see evidence of this in what God was saying through Isaiah. Change happens; new things are always springing forth. In the midst of what is happening, God listens and then tells us what’s going to happen soon so that we are better prepared for what is coming. God will be doing that with us here at Messiah.

I intend to spend a lot of time listening – at least for the next year. I want to listen for what people’s hopes, dreams and fears are – both within the congregation and in the community. I want to listen for what God is declaring in our midst – what God has gifted us with to



satisfy the needs we are called to address. At the same time, I will be trying to give voice to those hopes, dreams and fears of yours and voice to what I hear God saying.

I am trusting that I will not be alone in this undertaking. I am hoping that each of you will be listening and trying to voice God's desire for our lives together and the world around us. I know that we also have a wonderfully gifted staff to care for our needs and listen and respond to God's prompting. I know that Bev will be invaluable in sharing what she has come to learn about God's presence in this place and will be with me and Doreen and Tova and Lowell and Lloyd and Carolyn and Sheila and Ruth and Marllys and Lori and all of you in moving towards God's new thing for us.

As I reflect on what God is up to with each "new thing" in the stories from the Bible, I notice that most often (if not all the time) the new thing is built with building blocks of what has been. The "new heaven" and the "new earth", the "new covenant", the "new heart" and "new spirit", and the "new commandment" are all built and depend on what God has first done among us and continues to work on in us. God's action will continue for us here in this place and in this time. God will build some new, vibrant ministries using the wonderful, life-giving ministries that are and have come before. I rejoice in this and know that the way God works among us will bring comfort, peace, joy, love and excitement in just the right measure for each of us.

We, with God's guidance, have declared our mission to be "Sharing Jesus Christ with all people". With God's continued support and prompting we will continue on this path towards whatever new thing Jesus has in mind for us and for those we are called to serve and love. We know and trust in this because "God loves everyone" and "Jesus is Lord". So we continue to "seek to be led by the Holy Spirit", relying "fully on the Word of God" because "God gives everyone gifts to share" (not only ourselves, but also those we are called to serve).

May we continue to live into this mission from God, relying on these core values given and supported by the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

To God be the glory.

Respectfully submitted  
Pastor Calvin Skriver

## **Bev Swanson – Diaconal Minister**

My annual report this year includes in part the time I have spent in the Pastoral Leadership role which officially changed at the end of February as Pastor Calvin Skriver arrived to join our team and the time since my partner in ministry arrived. Due to the amazing detail of the reports of the committees I shall keep my report rather general.

So much has happened over the past three years and this last year was no different. It was an honor to serve in this position in an interim capacity while we as a church found our ground and prepared to bring in a new minister to join and to lead our team.

I wish to take this opportunity to say once again, Thank you... for we have been ministers of the gospel "together", which is such a joy to be a part of. Many of you comment and wonder at how in the world I did this work as one pastor. And to that I wish to say... God's power and strength has indeed been with us. I say "us" because truly I have not been on my own.... WE as a church have lived and moved and ministered together. So my deepest thanks to each one of you.

I have been ever blessed by how we have been empowered by the Holy Spirit as we have cared for our people, worshipped together, camped at Hastings together, met in committees and council meetings together, taught and confirmed our youth, met with our youth and children and their families, married our couples and celebrated the lives of some very old and beloved members and sadly many others far too early in life. These have been just a few of the sacred happenings that have taken place in our midst...all empowered by God's amazing love.

I also wish to note at this time that our staff has been such a wonderful team. Their support and the way they each take on their part in the ministry with such compassion and such willingness to do more than asked without being asked...has been amazing. God has been and continues to be with us on this journey.

It has been a rich time of depending on the Lord as we moved into a call process and opened for who might be the best fit for our parish and ministry to join our team. I wish to give a special note of thanks to our call committee for their diligence and their attention to bringing in not only a new pastor and team leader but also a person who is willing to be a part of our team.

Since Pastor Calvin has joined us, we have been learning a new dance. How do we as two ministers now work together using our gifts for God's glory and then how do we as a church as a whole move forward in ministry together?

Pastor Calvin and I have met regularly while attending to the needs of our people and while leading this place in worship. We have been looking at our gifts and where we will each be responsible for in ministry. We have been getting to know one another. Some of you say... "It must be so much easier now that Calvin is here." In some ways it is easier because there are now two of us ready and willing to serve our congregation. In other ways the time of transition takes perhaps even a bit more time as we figure out how we best work together. Actually now that there are two of us, we are able to get to some things that there has not been time to do before. We truly DO need two pastors in this place and we are both still living very full ministry days. It is a joy to get to know my new partner in ministry and to experience his presence and the gifts he is bringing to our midst.



## **Some highlights I would like to celebrate with you over that last year are:**

**Worship:** Gathering together to worship is one of my highlights of the week. I enjoy planning meaningful worship and leading worship. I love it when people join together in various ways to create our sacred space to make worship a place to connect with our God and with one another. I especially love it when our youth get involved in our worship together and in leading us in various ways. I also enjoyed working with some of you to make our worship space also meaningful in the raising of banners and in celebrating the church year. It is simply a joy to worship with you and to lead worship.

**Confirmation** – We confirmed six youth from Messiah this last year. What an amazing group of youth they are! What a wonderful two years we spent together and soulful weekend we had as they shared their expressions of faith with us and led us in worship. Thanks to the prayers of many including their prayer partners. Our kids need prayer so that their faith may continue to grow. Confirmation is a joint effort with Bethel so we also had four Bethel students and Pastor Deborah Ann Taylor and myself taught them together. I very much enjoy this collaborating teaching ministry.

**Leadership and Staff** – As I have already mentioned our staff are truly amazing in all they bring. I have so enjoyed being their team leader the last three years and another year before that. They are such a great group and so open to serving and using their gifts in whatever ways are needed. I most certainly found that we bonded as a group and enjoyed the flow of daily ministry together.

**Hastings Lake Church Retreat** – This was a highlight for those who attended as we gathered to share in community together in a multi-generational way. It is a time where we can just be in nature and enjoy the company of one another as we gather to study, play, sing, worship and pray together. Those who attend seem to come away with a renewed sense of God's love and of connection with one another.

In the years past I have helped to lead our single parent camp out at Hastings for four days. Last year I took a break from this but will be there again this summer in August for a few days.

**Weddings and Funerals and Baptisms** are times where we grieve and celebrate together. They are moments where families gather to give thanks and be together. Beginnings and endings always offer opportunities to experience God as a church in fresh and new ways. I am always blessed and honored to be a part of these moments with you.

**Youth-** It was sad for our youth to see Ben and Stacey Lyster leave. As they said goodbye, we opened to continuing to gather. Dale and I have worked with the youth over that last year and it has been a rich time. We have recently begun connecting with Bethel to work jointly with our youth. This we hope will continue and grow in a more formal way as we provide opportunities to gather our youth and continue to help them on their faith journey.

**KidFEST** – We have also had another wonderful year with our children. As Marlys Sorenson moved on to spend more time with her own grandchildren and her aged Father, our parents and others have formed a leadership team for our Sunday School. This has successfully continued over the year. (More will be reported on this by the Learning Committee.) I have been the pastoral presence in this endeavor but most of the work and leadership has been carried out by our team of volunteers. I especially enjoy connecting with our children during the Children's Time at worship.

**Young Family Ministry** – We have met with our young families a couple of times this year. However with the heavy parent involvement in KidFEST this group has not met as often. Now that we have two ministers I hope to focus more energy to this group as we move towards fall. Our church retreat is always a good time to connect with this group also.

There are many other areas of ministry that can be highlighted but these are the ones that come to mind to mention at this time.

**Ecumenical Work** – is something that is very important to me. I feel that we have so many gifts to share together and yet at times instead of working together in our strengths we create walls that divide. I am so blessed to be a part of our ecumenical group that shares in some of the ministry here in Camrose together. What a rich experience this is.

**Visitation, Hospital Ministry, Pastoral care and counseling** – Last but not least I want to say that perhaps the most loved part of my work and ministry is spending time with God's people in sorrows, in joys and in the everyday moments and in healing moments. The work of presence is one that comes very naturally to me and I am so blessed to be with each one in our faith community as we are gift to one another as people of God.

#### **COURSE WORK TOWARD ORDINATION:**

As most of you know, I am working towards my ordination with some course work. The church has so generously added two extra study weeks in each year to complete these studies and I thank you for that time. If all flows as it should, I will be finished my course work by the end of February 2017. At this point I would be Collequized for a second time (this time in the ordained track) before being officially ordained. So all should hopefully be finished by next Spring. I am enjoying the studies very much as well as the connections with other students, colleagues who are also taking courses for upgrading or just personal growth.

#### **MOVING FORWARD:**

Again my deepest thanks for joining together as ministers of God's grace in this faith community. It is my honor to work alongside you and to serve you in the pastoral capacity.

As Pastor Calvin and I work together in service of our Lord... I pray God's continued strength and wisdom for this work and I covet your continued prayers for us and our families.

I often tell people what amazing, loving and faithful people we have in church!

May God Bless you as you continue to be such an important part of Messiah's life as a people of God and a place of God's love shared with the world.

IN THE LOVE OF CHRIST

and in humble ministry.

Diaconal Minister Bev Swanson.



## **STAFF REPORTS**

### **Music Ministry Coordinator**

Another year has come and gone. This year started out with a visit by the African Children's Choir from Uganda. While it was quite a lot of work to host, it was very well attended. It could not have been done without the many people from the congregation who helped out with billeting and feeding the choir. Thank you so much.

The year began with the continuation of the Handbell choir, Messiah's Choristers and the Ladies Chorus. Due to a lack of an accompanist, the Ladies Chorus disbanded early in 2016. Nora Gilbertson has faithfully directed this group of ladies for many years and does a fabulous job with them. Hopefully another accompanist can be found this fall so that the ladies can continue singing.

The Handbell choir, while being short four members, managed to pull off some challenging music this year. I am very proud of the work the ladies did in learning some new concepts.

The highlight of the year for the Messiah's Choristers was to surprise the congregation with an arrangement of 'The Holy City'. Richard Near joined us on the trumpet. I'm pretty sure it is the only piece that has garnered a standing ovation in the middle of the service before the last note was finished!

We have a new group of very musically gifted youth emerging and who are wanting to be involved in worship. This is very exciting! They have already lead a few worship services and played a very big role in the Good Friday service as well. We are hoping that this will become a more common occurrence in the following year. They have added so much to our worship and it is great to see them at the front of the church leading.

As part of my other jobs, I travel quite a bit and have a fair amount of contact with music organizations, churches and other musicians. Messiah has been very blessed not only in the calibre of music it has and the worship that we do, but also in the quality of instruments that we have. Just the other day I was practicing on the Winspear organ, which happens to be the biggest one in Canada, and one of the other organists was drooling over our organ here at Messiah. This has happened with our other instruments also in the years that I have worked here. They can't believe the quality and the shape that they are in. I would say the same for the musicians who are involved at Messiah. We have had a rich heritage of great music here and it continues to be so even though the face of it may look slightly different. It is easy to forget, especially if one does not visit other churches, how blessed we are at Messiah in this area.

I am very grateful for all the faithful people who continue to be involved in the music groups at Messiah. We are always looking for new faces to join us and would love to see you in the fall. There is definitely room for you!

Tova Olson

Music Ministry Coordinator

## **Audio-Video Ministry Coordinator**

"Grace and peace to you all through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."

What does the scripture look like?

This is the blessing and challenge I enjoy every week as scripture is presented in worship. The joy for me is that scripture is rich with imagery regarding all manner of things in our faith life. Jesus paints such rich pictures using parables. These parables continue to challenge our notions of the Kingdom of God. I get to put a small frame around and highlight some of these words in scripture using the worship screens. I hope the lens I use is helpful in worship and only draws you closer in relationship to God.

Thank you for the blessing of serving in ministry through Audio-Video technology at Messiah. I see my role in Messiah's mission "To share Jesus Christ with all people" as assisting people in seeing and hearing the gospel through the Audio, and Visual expressions on the screens and in the greater community through Cable 10 TV.

I continue to have faithful and willing volunteers and I thank God for each one who make it possible to share in this ministry. The role of the technician is the art of making the work they do invisible. The technician helps to share the gospel without distracting from the message by highlighting the technical way in which that is done.

This year, we have had some new younger volunteers who have taken on their roles spectacularly. As in many volunteer activities in the church there is always a need for more but God is faithful and there is always enough (kinda like a potluck).

I am always happy to show people what's involved in the tech ministry even if they choose to serve in other ways in the church. You may just know someone for whom this would be right up their alley.

This year we did some upgrades to the way Cable 10 gets our signal and we are continuing to look at ways to improve and reach out even further to "Share Jesus Christ with all people".

I always appreciate your eyes and ears for what is and is not working, I can and do make adjustments (where possible) based on what people tell me works and what does not work.

I again look forward to the year ahead and continuing to work with the volunteers, and congregation in any new and exciting ways we can continue to share the gospel.

Respectfully submitted,

Lowell Dahlman  
Audio-Video Ministry Coordinator



## **Pastoral Acts 2015**

### **Baptisms (12)**

Elizabeth Doig, Sophia Carriere, Coy Luckwell, Nevaeh Campbell, Pacey Kerr, Julie Moseson, Brytton Lyle, Lena Heesch, Cohen Skriver, Heston Storvik, Kinley Bolding, Rya Bolding

### **Confirmation (6)**

Maiya Bentley, Kassia Hohm, Andrew Fletcher, Jada Schultz, Taylor Schultz, Keysha Swanson

### **New Members (2)**

Bill & Margo McPhail

### **Transfers In**

### **Membership Withdrawn**

### **Marriages (7)**

Kathleen Gurr & Gerald Hauser, Eileen van der Dussen & Nicholas Wren, Charlene Bauer & Cody Broughton, Linda Forre & Ken Hale, Leny Vanderjagt & Vernon Hauck, Stacey Adam & Cody Gunderson, Linsday Mosand & David Jacobsen

### **Funerals (18)**

Helen Olson\*, Ruth Fadum, Raymond Samoisette\*, Sing Mah\*, Helga Jacobs, Leona Holyoak\*, Peter Skretting\*, Pearl Grue, Margaret Davis\*, Mary Severson, Alice Rude\*, Brenda Leicht\*, Daryl Skaret\*, George Evenson, Alvin Busenius\*, Art Parsons, Virginia Olson\*, Grace Borgstrom\*.

\* non-member

## **Annual Report of Church Council, 2015-2016**

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same spirit: and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. 1 Corinthians 12: 4 – 6

### **Members of the Church Council, and their lengths of service are:**

<b>Member</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Length of Service</b>	<b>Future</b>
Odell Olson	President	Second year of a two-year term	Willing to continue in a new 2-year term
Carolyn Andersen	Vice-President	First year of a two-year term	Willing to continue for second year
Carol Green	Secretary	First year of a two-year term	Willing to continue for a second year
Ivar Saugen	Treasurer	Second year of a two-year term	Willing to continue in a new 2-year term
Art Pfeifer	Member at Large	Second year of a two-year term	Willing to continue in a new 2-year term
Darlene Dahle	Member at Large	First year of a two-year term	Willing to continue for a second year
Dave Larsen	Member at Large	Second year of a two-year term	Willing to continue in a new 2-year term
Jim Ofrim	Member at Large	First year of a two-year term	Willing to continue
Sharon Gilbertson	Member at Large	Second year of a two-year term	Willing to continue in a new 2-year term

Our Council has people with diverse gifts who have all contributed their share to our effective functioning. We have 8 regular Council meetings per year. This year they were held on the third Tuesday of the month at 4 PM. No regular meetings were held in July, August, or December. Attendance of Council Members was excellent, all were dedicated and reliable. We tried Skype for those away from home but had technical challenges. Our Advisor for the majority of the time has been Diaconal Minister Bev Swanson who has attended every meeting in spite of a very busy schedule. Recently we welcomed Pastor Calvin Skriver who has given us a new perspective on issues. Devotional leadership at each meeting was shared among the Council members, Bev Swanson and Calvin Skriver. We spend time building our relationships through sharing after devotions. We always begin and end the meeting with prayer.



## **Special Council Meetings**

We started this year with the Annual Planning Meeting September 11, about 50% of the Council and Committee members attended. The time was used to set Committee and Council Goals for the year.

## **Messiah Council Accomplishments 2015 2016**

Council deals with policy issues each year; it is one of our main duties. We managed human resource issues with Bev Swanson. This year we dealt with a staff member who did not return from vacation, as we could not establish contact, we began and completed termination procedures. We in conjunction with the Support Committee contracted most of the custodial services using volunteers for snow removal and vacation coverage, the Support Committee did an awesome job in this transition. We, with advice from the Support Committee approved increases and changes to remuneration and expense reimbursement to align with Synod guidelines and maintain equitable treatment for all staff. Modifications to the Music Ministry Coordinator Contract to assure adequate insurance for private student instruction in the church building were made. We assisted the Committees in changing policy and implementing changes to the Facility Use Policy, the charges for funerals, wedding deposits and Lector Guidelines. We looked at the way Council disseminates information from its meetings, in particular making sure that changes in procedure and policy are implemented with advice from those affected.

This year there were changes with the KidFEST Program brought about by the resignation of our long time Children's Ministry Coordinator and to the Youth Program brought about by the move of the Youth Ministry Coordinators. We worked with Bev Swanson and the Learning Committee to replace the leadership in these two programs. A group of interested parents with support from Bev Swanson and the Learning Committee now coordinate KidFEST. Bev and Dale Swanson have been leading the youth group. At their request we formally approved joint meetings between the Bethel and Messiah Youth Groups.

We approved the World Mission Group's recommendation that Messiah move ahead with bringing a refugee family to Camrose, coordinating with CLWR and the Camrose Inter-Church Refugee Committee. The Government's promise to bring the Syrian refugees to Canada has overwhelmed the civil service ability to process any but these.

We supported the Call Committee assisting them in developing a financial package with moving expenses for the pastoral call. We adjusted, in consultation with the Bishop, Bev Swanson's contract on the arrival of a second pastor.

Conventions and the delegates to them are an ongoing responsibility. Remarkably few members seem interested in serving as a delegate. This year we arranged for Pastor David Eriksson to speak to the congregation about the National Synod Convention to which he was our delegate. We recruited and approved Darlene Dahle as our delegate to the East and West Conference Convention. We received her report and agreed to keep the Reformation Challenge and nominating delegates to the National Synod Convention as standing agenda items. Ruth Jensen volunteered to be our lay National Synod Convention nominee. We assisted her in completing documentation. We paid the fees set by the Synod of Alberta and the Territories for delegates to the Synod Convention at Augustana in June. I will serve as lay delegate, our present pastor and diaconal minister as well as all our retired pastors and Pastor David Eriksson qualifies as rostered delegates.

The Secretary Carol Green regularly produced Council Packages, Minutes, and Council Highlights for The Messenger and has kept the Governance Manual up to date with policy change. She and Carolyn Andersen, in conjunction with Bev Swanson and the office staff reviewed and revised paper and electronic filing to assure proper privacy, security and backup of human resource files, contracts and archival papers.



The Treasurer Ivar Saugen has worked diligently providing Council with more timely financial information and forecasting. He has assisted the Audit Committee in their function and he has worked on the proper implementation of the old and new endowment funds collecting information from lawyers, accountants and the Canadian Council of Christian Charities.

The Vice President Carolyn Andersen has ably replaced me when I was absent not only conducting meetings but supporting staff administratively. She conducted a survey of the Committees on how we might improve attendance at and the content of the Annual September Planning Meeting. She chairs the very important Nomination Committee obtaining members, working long and hard on obtaining nominees for all the Council and Committee positions. Thank you to Don Myrehaug, Joanne Myrehaug and Eleanor Kopperud for assisting her in this important task.

The Committee Liaison members were diligent in attending the meetings of their committees and maintaining contact with the Committee Chairs. They operated very effectively communicating from and to these committees.

### **Committees and People serving in other ways**

Thanks to all the standing committees and their members who carry out the programs in Messiah. These are 30 people who plan, organize and carry out the programs that make up the mission of Messiah. It includes everything from regular and special service planning, educational classes for all ages and several special groups. They coordinate our internal and external charitable activities. They arrange for the care and repair of the buildings and all they contain. They are all dedicated volunteers sharing their gifts.

Thanks to the Call Committee who worked through an exhaustive process to bring us a second pastoral team member and for their continuing work in the transition. They brought their gifts to the process with enthusiasm.

### **The Future**

We have a second pastor, the culmination of two years of planning. Our Diaconal Minister has served us admirably through long hours and many joyous and sad occasions. They are working together to form a Pastoral Team. We have asked them, on the advice of the Bishop, to provide us with a written list of how responsibilities will be shared. We look forward to changes in old missions and perhaps some new ones.

### **Conclusion**

I am grateful to have worked with such a varied and dedicated group of individuals this last year. I am also grateful that all of the Council Members have agreed to continue next year. It will be exciting to see what God has in store for us in the coming year.

*I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all of the fullness of God. Now to him who, by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine,*  
Ephesians 3: 16 - 20

Respectfully submitted  
Odell Olson, President



## STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Learning Committee

Members of the Learning Committee were Alice Lindstrand, Margo McPhail (joined in April), Cheryl Nester (Chairperson), Sharon Ofrim, Marie Olson and Tim Schultz. Our Council Liaison was Sharon Gilbertson. This committee met 12 times throughout the course of the year.

Significant change occurred in Children's Ministry this year due to the retirement of Children's Ministry Coordinator Marlys Sorenson. After meeting with the parents of some of our KidFEST children, a volunteer parent group was formed to organize and plan KidFEST for the year. Parent input was excellent during this process and many great ideas were discussed and put into practise. Two changes in KidFEST format were implemented. Instead of meeting downstairs for an 'opening' prior to worship service, children were invited to either sit with their parents or sit together with KidFEST teachers in the front pew at the start of worship. Following the Children's Story, children and teachers would head downstairs together for a quick 'Opening' together and then to classes. The other change was an expansion to three classes instead of two. This decision was made due to the age ranges and number of children involved in KidFEST this year. The *WHIRL* curriculum was used again and was generally thought to be engaging for the students and 'teacher friendly' for our volunteer teachers. The Learning Committee would like to extend a huge thank you to all of the volunteer teachers, snack providers, assistants, story tellers and special presenters for their commitment to our Messiah kids. Special mention must be made of 3 ladies who took on the bulk of the organizing and planning this year; thank you Deanna Didriksen, Michelle Kennedy Hawkins and Shannon Stolee.

We would also like to thank Helen Sather who has continued in her role as *Splash* coordinator. Helen does the record keeping and the necessary ordering of the *Splash* newsletter that is sent to parents whose child has been baptized at Messiah. Families receive these monthly letters until their child is four and old enough to enrol in KidFEST.

We were so fortunate to have Bev and Dale Swanson take on Youth Ministry this year. Youth events generally took place twice a month. Anywhere from 5 to 12 young people attended gatherings sometimes at the church, sometimes at a home and sometimes at a particular location in the community. Most events were activity oriented followed by devotion and discussion to foster spiritual growth. Thanks Bev and Dale!

Six young people from Messiah as well as four youth from Bethel Lutheran Church completed their Confirmation studies with guidance and instruction from Diaconal Minister Bev Swanson (and co-teachers Pastor Deborah Anne Taylor and Pastor Bonnie Arends). On April 17<sup>th</sup>, Maiya Bentley, Andrew Fletcher, Kassia Holm, Jada Schultz, Taylor Schultz and Keysha Swanson were confirmed. Confirmation students attended classes weekly and took part in a retreat at Camp Kuriakos in the fall. These special youth did an amazing job sharing their "Faith Expressions" at their banquet and then sharing their gifts in leading worship on Confirmation Sunday. Congratulations and thanks to these fine youth!

Though Family Ministry this year took place rather informally, young families did meet periodically for social activities. The Learning Committee along with Bev will give this area more attention in the fall. Suggestions for what 'family ministry' should look like are welcomed by the committee.

Diaconal Minister Bev Swanson facilitated a Pre-Marriage Workshop in March which 5 couples attended. Private marriage preparation sessions with Bev also occurred.

Once again we thank Nora Gilbertson for her commitment to the Friendship Club. Thanks also to Jane Arial, Cindy Bentley and Audrey Davis who have assisted her this year.

Thank you to Shellie Carson and Loya Steinwandt who took over the task of maintaining the church library this year.

Thanks to all those who contributed to our AdultFEST sessions. A variety of interesting and inspiring presentations were made by members of our faith community here at Messiah. Other presenters included people from our local community as well as special guests from outside of Camrose. Thank you to the following people who willingly shared their personal "Faith Journey": Donnie Loewen, Ray Blacklock, Marie Olson, Robin Carson, Cece Watts, and Pastor Calvin Skriver. Other presenters included Pastor David Eriksson, Pastor Brian Rude, Bev Swanson, Dale Swanson, Darcy Albers, Lavona Broen, Sharon Gilbertson, Darlene Dahle, Peter LeBlanc, Rev. Ryan Andersen, Bill Harder, Phil Watts, and Pastor Bonnie Arends. Thanks to all.

The Learning Committee offered another adult learning opportunity in the form of a 'Book Club'. This five week study started in February with an introduction to Richard Rohr's book entitled Breathing Underwater, Spirituality and the Twelve Steps. Thanks to Marie Olson for leading the introductory evening and for providing us with background on "The Twelve Steps". Between 20-25 people attended Book Club. Meetings featured a focus on particular chapters followed by questions and discussion. The Learning Committee felt this style of adult study was appreciated by those who participated and will likely offer another Book Club study or something similar next year.

Men's Bible Study continues to meet on Saturday mornings at 8:45 in the Lounge. These fellows take a look at the readings for Sunday and discuss their implications for daily living. Lectio Divina is another group that meets on Monday mornings at 10:30 in the Lounge. Jane Arial leads this meditative session. The Wednesday morning prayer group continues to meet at 8:30 in the Chapel. Contact Berniece Sogge with prayer requests.

The Learning Committee is committed to ...*"assisting the congregation in realizing its nature and mission in the area of learning..."* and so we value feedback from the congregation. We welcome your comments on what's currently happening as well as suggestions and ideas for future offerings.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Nester  
Chairperson of the Learning Committee



## Service Committee

"...faith without works is... dead." (James 2:26)

**Membership:** Connie Bjornson (Secretary), Carol Cherry, Usha Manaloor, Rod MacInnis, Ken Skriver, Ray Blacklock (Chairperson); Member at Large from Council: Art Pfeiffer

**Main Purpose:** To assist the Congregation in realizing its nature and mission in the area of service as defined in the Constitution: Article 3, Section 5.

### 1. Activities undertaken by the Committee:

- a. **Volunteers:** Although other committees, groups and individuals recruit and train Messiah members for service in support of Messiah's worship activities, education programs, outreach, and physical building care, the Service Committee seeks to affirm and promote these activities in a more general way. The main affirmation took place on Sunday, April 10, when volunteers were thanked by President Olson with the help of special cake, at the pot-luck lunch.
- b. **Adult Education:** In cooperation with the Learning Committee, Service organized three sessions in February on topics of importance to many Messiah members: February 7: "Hospice in Camrose" presented by Joy LeBlanc; February 21: "Public Transport in Camrose" presented by Tony Hladun; February 28: "Service Options for Seniors" presented by Donna Coombs.
- c. Under the title, "**Strengthening our Relationships with our Aboriginal Neighbors,**" the Committee organized five Tuesday evening sessions (March 29 through April 26 in the Basement Auditorium) during which portions of the DVD series "8th Fire: Aboriginal Peoples, Canada & the Way Forward" were viewed. The objectives were to build knowledge, understanding and empathy in regard to our aboriginal neighbors. The fifth evening included a presentation by residential school survivor, Eva Tourangeau, a Camrose resident. Many thanks to Dale Swanson (twice) and Pastor Calvin Skriver (three times) for facilitating the discussion at the end of each session. Thanks to Lowell Dahlman for technical assistance. Between ten and fifteen people took advantage of these sessions.
- d. **Other:** The Service Committee:
  - i. assisted at the Family Camp in June
  - ii. prepared and served lunch on September 13
  - iii. facilitated the ELCIC Praise Appeal in April
  - iv. worked with the confirmation class for the delivery of Christmas hampers
  - v. worked with the Office for the collection of food for the Rock Lutheran Inner City Society of Edmonton

### 2. Activities overseen on behalf of the Congregation:

As per its mandate in the Bylaws, the Service Committee affirms and supports specific activities by Messiah members in the community, both locally and internationally:

- a. **Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR):** Marilyn Hoveland is Messiah's formal connection to CLWR. Marilyn solicits, receives and disseminates promotional materials from CLWR. This promotion is also done in connection with Messiah Lutheran Women (MLW) who are strong CLWR supporters. A CLWR Sunday was held on April 24.

- b. **Neighbor Aid:** Over the past year, Messiah has assisted the Camrose Neighbor Aid Centre through a monthly \$200.00 donation, the Sunday food cart collection and with a member on its Board, Diane Scarisbrick. Diane would like to relay a thank-you message from the Board to Messiah members for the cash donations, food donations and the various volunteers for the support given again this year. "It takes a community working together for the success of the Camrose Neighbor Aid Centre in assisting the less fortunate families in our community."
  - c. **Martha's Table:** For two months each year, (May and September, one day per week) about 30 Messiah members take their turns at preparing and serving noon hour lunches at St. Andrew's and the United Churches, respectively. Lavona Broen and Elaine Taylor are the persons who coordinate these acts of service.
  - d. **Meals on Wheels:** During 2015-16, thirteen drivers and/or assistants delivered meals for one week in June, November, February and May. Leona Norenberg as Coordinator scheduled the drivers, and liaised with the Meals on Wheels coordinator at Camrose and District Support Services. Regrettably, Leona is stepping down from her role as Messiah Coordinator. We thank Leona for her competent and friendly service, and also the drivers/assistants for their faithful service toward those needing meals in their homes. "Service" will be recruiting a new coordinator. Any volunteers?
  - e. **Ministry with Seniors Group:** Under the leadership of Carole Saugen, and more recently Frieda Ness, this Group gives special attention to the needs of Seniors through spring-season teas, visits on birthdays, and a special communion service in December. On the recommendation of the Seniors Group, Service is reviewing some aspects of the *Policy for the Protection of Children, Youth and other Vulnerable People*.
  - f. **Good Samaritan Fund:** "Service" oversees this Fund which is outside the regular congregational budget, and is built up on the basis of needs advertised in the Messenger and Bulletin. Providing for emergency monetary needs as evaluated by the pastoral team, Service is available to assist in this evaluation at the request of the pastors. Service recommends that monthly and annual reports on income and expenditures be made available to the congregation.
- 3. An Area in the Camrose Community which has been identified as a need:**  
Accommodation for homeless on winter nights: This area of need, previously identified, continues as a need which the Service Committee wishes to address.
- 4. A challenge for Messiah Congregational members:**  
By its mandate, the Service Committee provides unique opportunities for Messiah members to serve in ways not available on other Committees.
- 5. Thanks**  
The Service Committee thanks the individuals who provide leadership for the several areas which fall under its mandate. They are named above. As Chairperson, I extend my sincere thanks for the enthusiasm, talent, and concern which the Service Committee members have brought to our meetings and have used for the benefit of others.

*To God be the Glory !*

Respectfully submitted,  
Ray Blacklock, Chairperson



## Support Committee

Ron Foshaug, Chair; Lois Larson, Secretary; David Larson, Council rep  
Members: Milt Gilbertson, Don Myrehaug, Gordon Myrehaug, Dale Swanson

Repairs and capital expenditures have been done as needed throughout the year. The Committee has determined a list of capital priorities:

1. North door entrance roof (leaking/possible rot) - \$500-5,000
2. Reseal crack between west sidewalk and sanctuary - \$2,000
3. Cement sidewalk and pad at north entrance door (has sunk several inches \$20,000
4. Youth room and Fellowship Hall roofs - cost under review
5. Replace flooring on stairs to balcony, Tova's office and basement carpet to sanctuary basement - \$2000-5,000
6. Completion of link door opening system - \$1,000-2,000
7. Sanctuary roof (good for 8-10 years) - \$30,000-50,000
8. Screen projectors - \$10,000
9. Speakers for sanctuary area - \$15,000
10. Repaving parking stalls on west side of sanctuary - \$20,000-30,000
11. Repair or replace pews - \$1,500 per pew to repair and pad
12. Sanctuary lighting (fixtures and bulbs) - \$500-5,000 each
13. Electronic sign (outside) - \$30,000
14. Fellowship Hall boiler - \$12,000-20,000
15. Sanctuary boilers (two) - \$10,000 each
16. Youth room elevator - \$80,000-250,000

The Committee wishes to thank all those who have helped us accomplish our mandate. Thanks to the snow shovelers, the Wednesday workers, the office staff, Erhard Pinno for mowing and looking after the flower beds, MLW for their services, Ruth Jensen for editing the Messenger, Doreen Brewer for going above and beyond, the custodians for their great care of our building, Loretta Foshaug for scheduling, Tova Olson for keeping our instruments in good repair, Sheila Becker for keeping all our finances in order, Lowell Dahlman and all those who worked on our audio visual needs, and those who diligently opened and locked up our building. Thank you!

Respectfully submitted,  
Lois Larson, Secretary

## **Internet Outreach Proposal from the Support Committee for New Mission Endowment Funds**

Imagine an outreach from Messiah to anyone with internet access. Imagine a chance to share the good news with people beyond the range of our Channel 10 viewers. Technology makes it possible for us to interact with people with the gospel around the world. Imagine an online ministry that enables us to reach far beyond Messiah's geographical borders. Imagine sharing not only our Sunday services, but our recorded Bible studies, educational programming – even online prayer forums would be possible. Truly an opportunity to Share Jesus Christ with all people!

The proposal takes advantage of our existing video cameras for our Channel 10 broadcast and would stream via the Internet to anyone with Internet access.

The Support Committee recommends this new outreach ministry – a new mission for Messiah – be considered for the Mission Endowment funds for new missions.

This new outreach ministry will be accessed through a new website that will build a community of interested viewers locally, across the province, across Canada and the world.

Should the technology costs be greater than the funds available from the Mission Endowment Fund, a small direct appeal will be made to the congregation. It is proposed that the technical kinks be ironed out this summer and the outreach goes live with a full launch in the fall.



## **Witnessing Committee**

The Witnessing Committee is made up of the following awesome people: Lavona Broen, Mary Ellen Eriksson, Shirley Loewen, Jim Ofrim (Council Representative), Erhard Pinno, Gail Stolee (Secretary), and Cece Watts (Chair).

A huge thank you to the members of the committee who have each done so much in furthering the Kingdom. This year we have focused not only on being a welcoming church, but also on being an inviting church. We listened to some DVDs of Michael Harvey as he gave sessions on this, and in April we were privileged to attend a session at the Anglican Church where he challenged us personally to be an inviting church.

So we have been given different opportunities to be a presence in our church as well as in the community. Every Sunday the members of the congregation extend hospitality through coffee fellowship following the Worship Service. Special thanks goes to Elaine Schultz who faithfully draws up the schedule for this important ministry. We have been reminded lately that some of our older members have found it necessary to step down, so we encourage others to take their place. It is not a big commitment, but it is important.

Not only do we have coffee fellowship every Sunday, but for 10 months a year we have lunch on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday. The five committees take turns providing and serving the lunch, and on the alternate months we have a potluck. These fellowship times are a chance for us to visit our friends and welcome any visitors. We also have someone at the Welcome Centre each Sunday to greet new and old members and visitors. In conjunction with this, we encourage all of our members to wear name tags so we can get to know each other better and help new people get acquainted with us. We tried something new at our potluck in October. Everything was donated. We roasted 3 turkeys and served a dinner with all the trimmings to 120 people. Thanks to all who worked so hard to pull this off. A very special thanks to Lavona Broen and Jenny Gilchuk who were overwhelmed with the task at hand! (We will reconsider if this will become a tradition!).

Other opportunities for outreach over the summer were hosting a "tea house" in the front entry of the church to welcome people to Founders' Day. Also, once again, we were overwhelmed by the cookies from members of the congregation when we made our presence known as an inviting church at the parade. We had a tent set up at the corner of our property and served coffee, juice and cookies for anyone who wished to stop by. We also invited anyone to join us on the lawn at 10 a.m. on Wednesday mornings in July and August for coffee and cookies. We had to move inside only once. Also close to Christmas as part of our coffee fellowship we served oranges and nanaimo bars after the wonderful Christmas pageant put on by the Friendship Club in December.

Also, opportunities for service include sponsoring Samaritan's Purse shoeboxes at Christmas (while also encouraging people to be involved with Gifts from the Heart of CLWR) Also we donated the money we received as a prize for our scarecrows to the food bank. We try to assist our members who are no longer able to join us at church for our Worship Service on Sunday by delivering the Sunday bulletin to five lodges on Fridays. That way they can feel a part of us as they follow the service on TV.

We are also mindful of the important work of the World Mission Group and the Refugee Group. These hard-working groups assist our congregation in proclaiming the Good News as well as answering the call to help those who are in need. Their reports follow.

A new challenge has been presented to us to have a new sign placed in front of the church to let those who pass by see what we have to offer. We feel that it is important for any who are looking for a church home, or would just like to join us for some of the opportunities we offer.

We wish to thank you all for the opportunity of working alongside all of the members of the congregation in "Sharing Jesus Christ with all people."

Respectfully Submitted,  
Cecelia Watts (chairperson)

## **World Mission Group**

Sharing Jesus Christ, *Cross Culturally*, with all People

### **Annual Report to the Witnessing Committee, May, 2016**

*"How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"* Romans 10:15

Existing for the purpose of keeping before the congregation Jesus' command to go into all the world with the Gospel, the World Mission Group normally met on the first Monday of each month to study, pray, plan action, and have fellowship.

The Biblical basis for our opening study and meditation was drawn from several books of the Bible, and from related publications, usually with a mission outreach theme.

Although our most important activity is regularly praying for missionaries, the Group also directed its energies to other activities:

1. Messiah's most specific connection with a missionary is to Rev. Brian Rude who serves in El Salvador among marginalized people, particularly gang members in prison and "at risk youth" on the streets.

Rev. Rude is a full-time missionary of the Alberta Synod. All support of Rev. Rude is through designated givings from Alberta Synod members, and from people in other Synods. People in other synods may send their support directly to the Alberta Synod. For the period 1 May, 2015 through 30 April, 2016, individuals in Messiah and the MLW contributed just over \$6,000 toward the goal of \$10,000. Special thanks to contributors to "In Mission with El Salvador."

2. In its 21st Anniversary of organizing World Mission Months, the Group chose the theme, *"Jesus said, 'Go!' What does that mean today?"* for January, 2016. The sessions attracted between 33 and 55 people to the adult classes in the basement auditorium. The featured speakers and their topics were: on January 10, Audrey Lett, Cece Watts, and Ray Blacklock sharing, respectively, in regard to Dr. Ron Lett, George Watts and family, and Ryan Cole, describing the varied ways in which these three are responding to the Great Commission; on January 17, Erhard Pinno chaired a session in which people who had been refugees told their stories of life since first coming to Canada: Alejandra Rios from Colombia, Norman Mah (whose father had come as a refugee from China), Mrs. Irving on behalf of Vietnamese



refugees, and Erhard as an immigrant from Europe, having previously been a displaced person; January 24, Christian Chavarria from El Salvador; January 31, Ron Downie from Calgary speaking on behalf of the persecuted church.

3. The congregation has had strong contact with George Watts and family who have gone to Burundi for a two year tent-making ministry of sharing the Gospel. Although George started as a teacher at a University there, political unrest necessitated a move within the country, this time to a rural hospital where he has become administrator.

4. For promotional purposes, the bulletin board in the Link regularly features world mission issues. In particular, in November, congregational members posted on a world map the names, locations and ministries of people in cross-cultural ministry for whom they were praying. The *Messenger* contains regular reports of mission activity, especially from or about Rev. Rude.

5. We appreciate the support received from the Witnessing Committee as it oversees our activities.

The Chair acknowledges with appreciation the active participation in the World Mission Group of Vincent and Mary Ellen Eriksson, Nora Gilbertson, Erhard Pinno, and Cece Watts.

We give thanks for the faithful involvement over many years of Marie Tveit who has had to withdraw from the Group for medical reasons.

This Group, which is neither appointed nor elected, is open to others who would like to share in its activities.

To God be the Glory.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ray Blacklock, Chairperson

## Refugee Support Group

Messiah's long tradition of sponsoring refugees was enthusiastically affirmed when we agreed to sponsor another family. On November 25, 2015, the Refugee Support Group agreed that we apply for a family from Eritrea and begin to raise \$15,000.00 for their support as soon as we were notified of their coming. We chose Eritrea because the oppressive government in Eritrea was forcing many to flee and secondly, there are Eritreans in Camrose that could assist us in welcoming the family. For whatever reason Canadian immigration did not provide CLWR (Canadian Lutheran World Relief) with any family profiles for our consideration. Mr. Fikre Tsehai, who manages the refugee sponsorship program for CLWR in Vancouver hoped that once the Canadian government met its commitment to resettle 25,000 Syrian refugees, it would focus on processing refugees from other parts of the world. A government memo in March sounded encouraging. But it appears that the Sponsorship Agreement Holders like CLWR, are still waiting on the government to provide them with family profiles for consideration by waiting sponsoring groups like Messiah. Mr. Tsehai knows our history and desire to sponsor a family. He is asking us to wait patiently. I would not be surprised if we have a family in time for our annual meeting. We need to be sure that we have enough oil in our lamps so that we will not be unprepared when the family suddenly arrives!

Camrose Refugee Coordinating Committee: Since Messiah is a member of the CRCC and Messiah members have been participating in the mission of sponsoring refugees at the community level, a brief summary of the work of the CRCC needs to be included in this report. A few years ago the Camrose Inter-Church Refugee Committee was established to sponsor refugees. Last fall at our first community-wide meeting it was agreed that we should include other organizations and individuals in order to sponsor more refugees. Our mission remained: "CRCC will encourage and facilitate the sponsorship of refugees". We were all encouraged by the attendance at our monthly meetings (about 40) and the deep commitment and enthusiastic support for sponsoring refugees. The possibility of assisting government-sponsored refugees was received as a timely opportunity consistent with our mission. We sent an offer to sponsor 10 families. Unfortunately, we were left with the impression that our offer to house these families in Stoney Creek was impractical because of the distance (from Edmonton) involved. Perhaps our offer will still be considered. In the meantime we are back where we started – encouraging private sponsorships. Let's hope and pray that the Government of Canada will remain committed to resettle refugees and get on with the processing. We all know that there are many desperate refugees who are waiting, some for 10-20 years in refugee camps. We need to be ready to help.

Thank you to: our congregation for the ongoing support of refugees; to members of this Refugee Support Group; the MLW for the many things they do to help refugees in all parts of the world; those who have prayed and shared many kindnesses with Edna as she continues her treatment for leukemia; those who provided funds for Paula to purchase a car; those who shared the refugee updates and stories at the January 17 Adult Forum; and finally thanks to Jesus for giving us a soft heart for refugees.

Erhard Pinno  
Coordinator Refugee Support Group



## **Worship Committee**

Members of the 2015-16 Worship Committee were: David Dahle (chairperson), Norma Ferguson (secretary), Nora Gilbertson, Laverne Hoveland, Elaine Olson, and Gail Pfeiffer (vice-chairperson). The Church Council liaison was Darlene Dahle. Diaconal Minister Bev Swanson met regularly with the Committee, and Pastor Skriver also met with the committee beginning in April.

The Committee is thankful for the many individuals who work behind the scenes to support worship at Messiah. Among these individuals is Loretta Foshaug who has continued to prepare the lists for communion preparers and servers, lectors, greeters, and ushers, and in consultation with Lowell Dahlman also prepares a list for audio, video, and worship screen technicians for the Sunday TV broadcast. We are thankful for the many volunteers who have served as communion preparers and servers (both at Messiah and at the Lodges), lectors, greeters, ushers, and audio, video, and worship screen technicians.

Also appreciated is the assistance provided to Bev by Bill and Margo McPhail in beautifying the chancel area including placing of banners. Thanks also to the Wednesday Workers and Lloyd Olson for assisting in banner placement on occasion. Deanna Didriksen had previously worked on preparing the chancel for worship, and we appreciate the work she did to prepare a guide to assist us in the future by cataloguing with photos all previous chancel designs with which she had been involved over the years.

We are thankful to the individuals who assisted Bev and Pastor Calvin as part of a Worship Planning Team, including Nora Gilbertson, Tova Olson, and KIDFEST leaders Deanna Didriksen, Michelle Kennedy Hawkins, and Shannon Stolee.

The Committee appreciates the work of Tova Olson who, as principal organist and Music Ministry Coordinator, has enhanced our worship experience. Also appreciated is the work of Doreen Brewer in preparing the materials used in every worship service.

The Committee wants to thank Donny Loewen for organizing "Hymn Sings" at Messiah, and occasionally at Rosealta to support those interested in singing the old favorite hymns.

The Committee is appreciative of the work of a sub-committee made up of Marilyn and Laverne Hoveland, and Eleanor Kopperud who planned special music for Sunday services during the summer months as well as during the regular year when Tova did not have special music planned. This sub-committee has consented to continue working to plan special music during the summer months this year.

The Committee prepared name tags for all those involved in the service as ushers or greeters. The Committee also revised the Lector Guidelines.

At the time of this report, the Worship Committee is involved in planning some of the worship experiences for the congregational retreat to be held at Hastings Lake Lutheran Bible Camp, June 24-26, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

David W. Dahle, chairperson

## **Messiah Lutheran Women**

Continuing with our Mission statement, "Sharing Jesus Christ with all people through Bible Study and Service"; MLW promotes opportunities for Worship, Bible study, gift giving and encouraging expressions of faith in individuals, community as well as promoting acts of service in the name of Christ.

2015 Executive: President: Mary Broen; Vice President: Karen Hansen; Secretary: Norma Blacklock; Treasurer: Signe Harder; Project-coordinator: Marie Brager; Quilting Coordinator: Judy Foote; Funeral Lunch Coordinator: Marilyn Hoveland.

The "Circles" met monthly for Bible Study, using a book entitled: Faith, "Depending on God", by Dale and Sandy Larsen.

General meetings with the Circles participating, had a variety of programs with speakers from Messiah and the community, emphasizing areas where we can reach out.

PROJECTS supported: The gift of quilt making for CLWR continues. Also included in our shipments is the generous donation of items for a number of "We Care Kits". Thank you to the Wednesday Workers for transporting our packed items to Home Hardware, Camrose. Sent were 229 quilts of various sizes, 95 kits, 2 large teachers kits, & 16 girls "pillow-case" dresses.

Thanks to Susan Busch for sewing the Baptismal cloths.

Many helped with the garage sale which generated funds for the congregation to have a weekend retreat at Hastings Lake Bible camp.

Several members sewed tote bags for the National Church convention last June.

A large group worked together to do an annual washing of the hand rest area on back of the pews in the sanctuary, and to wash the white folding chairs. The sanctuary nursery walls and curtains were washed.

World Day of Prayer Service attended.

Bibles were given to the grade three Sunday School class (5). Cards were given to the confirmation class and Messiah youth of the grade 12 High School graduating class.

Four Groups served funeral lunches for member families, and several individuals acted as a liaison when non Messiah groups used the basement auditorium/kitchen for funeral lunches. June we had a supper outing to HLLBC, attending the evening service and giving a \$500 donation to the camp.

September we had supper with students at CLBI. \$500 was given to CLBI, plus a \$500 student bursary was given to Elyse McInnis

The October Thank Offering of \$3658.00 was given to the Syrian Refugee Fund (CLWR). Speaker was Marlys Sorenson telling of her YWAM experiences.

October 27, 42 ladies enjoyed a Birthday Tea with cakes supplied by the Executive.

November - Our "Sharing gifts" offering (\$1900.) went to establish a well through CLWR. A number of other donations were given in November. See Treasurers report following.

December 7, our Christmas program with readings and carols was shared by 52 members. Thanks to all the members that volunteer and financially support our many projects

Respectfully submitted

Marie Brager  
MLW President



MESSIAH LUTHERAN WOMEN  
OPERATING STATEMENT  
January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015

**INCOME**

Circle /General Offerings	\$ 10079.80
CLWR	644.10
Study Guides	740.00
Funeral Lunches and Co-op dividend	4543.50
Ocean Freight	25.00
Cookbooks	60.00
Gifts	458.65
Specials	3658.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 20209.05</b>

**EXPENSES**

Sharing Gifs	\$ 6819.65
CLWR	2465.00
Gifts	6435.00
Kitchen Useage	397.40
Quilting	553.86
Funeral Lunches	1090.20
Postage	0.00
Bldg	0.00
Bank Charges	17.77
Specials	3658.00
Cookbooks	0.00
Ocean Freight	0.00
Study Guides	938.88
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 22375.76</b>

Profit (Loss)	-2166.71
December 31, 2014 balance forward	6902.71
December 31, 2015 General Ledger Balance	\$ 4736.00

**GIFTS**

Hastings Lake Bible Camp	500.00
CLBI-Student Bursary	500.00
Messiah Lutheran Church	1750.00
Refugee Fund	700.00
Brian Rude Fund	1000.00
Garage Sale	50.00
Weiner Roast for Choir	50.00
Merry Christmas Fund (adjust for 2014, cheque lost)	250.00
Grade Three Bibles	110.00
Augustana Chaplaincy	500.00
Staff	550.00
Family Violence	500.00
Lutheran Bible Translators	500.00
Merry Christmas Fund	225.00
Lutheran Theological Seminary	1000.00
Total Gifts	\$ 6435.00

**SHARING GIFTS**

On Eagles Wings	\$ 1500.00
CLBI	500.00
CLWR	900.00
Messiah Lutheran Church	2019.65
Youth	500.00
Samaritan Fund	500.00
Music Scholarship	500.00
Tables Downstairs	519.65
CLWR-Gifts from the Heart Water Well	1900.00
Total Sharing Gifts	\$ 6819.65

**Specials**

CLWR Thankoffering for Syrian Refugees	3658.00
Total Specials	\$ 3658.00

Submitted by Signe Harder-Treasurer Messiah Lutheran Women



## **Call Committee Report**

Members: Charlene Brown (chairperson), Ioan Jober (secretary), David Larson, Ruth Ofrim, Cheryl Nester, Art Pfeiffer, Ruth Jensen, Johnathan Hawkins, Marie Brager.

Upon vote of the congregation, the Call Committee was formed in March of 2015. By the time of last year's annual meeting we had put into place our congregational profile and met with Bishop Larry Kochendorfer regarding the process going forward.

The Call Committee began at that point exploring nominations for Pastors that had come from the congregation and also those that had come from the Synod office for consideration. Overall we considered 3 candidates. Of those three, one we decided not to pursue past initial consideration of their mobility form. For one candidate we conducted an initial skype interview. However a further face to face meeting did not occur. The Call Committee agreed unanimously to pursue an official interview process with the third.

The process from this point began with the first interview in late October. Following that interview the Call Committee voted to name the candidate as our primary candidate to which he agreed. The Bishop was informed of the step. The candidate came a second time to meet with the staff and following that meeting the staff was asked for and supplied their feedback. The candidate met a third time with Pastor Bev and again feedback was given. The Call Committee met a final time in this process to consider all information, feedback and references and voted unanimously to present Pastor Calvin Skriver for the position of Senior Pastor at Messiah Lutheran Church. On December 13, 2015 a congregational meeting was held and the members voted to officially extend the call to Pastor Calvin. In early January that call was accepted and on March 1, 2016 Pastor Calvin Skriver began his role as our new Senior Pastor.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members of the Call Committee for their dedicated and prayerful work in this process. It was a pleasure to walk alongside you in discerning what God's plan for Messiah Lutheran was. I would also like to thank the congregation and staff for their prayers, support, patience and trust in us during this important time and exciting time!

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene Brown  
Chairperson

## Faith Life Chapter Report

On Easter Sunday, March 27, 2016 Messiah's Faith Life Chapter sponsored and supported the Easter morning breakfast. There was \$518.00 raised from the event (after all expenses were paid). The chapter applied and received a matching grant of \$500.00 from Faith Life Financial. The money will be used to help with Messiah's congregational camp out at Hasting Lake Camp on June 24-26, 2016.

Respectfully Submitted,  
John Person

## Hastings Lake Lutheran Bible Camp

Hello to All of you in support of Hastings! **Thanks be to God for your caring support.**

Spring is a great time, to remember and awaken. The nice weather is God's way of inviting us into the great outdoors to enjoy and be inspired by all of his creation. We remember that God kept his whole creation safe through the winter and that the fresh scents of spring awaken and revive us. Hastings has been awakening for some time in its preparations for a new camping season. We dearly hope you will be part of summer at Hastings directly yourselves or at least you will specifically invite and encourage family and friends to attend Hastings this summer.

We have a challenge this year to meet or exceed our all-time recorded amazing record of 639 registrations that occurred just this last year. Everyone who comes has had great things to say about our new Solomon's Lodge and how it has improved the camping experience for many of our campers. Financially our contingency fund in our operating budget was able to handle any unanticipated needs last year, Praise God. Therefore the Board is breathing a sigh of relief and is grateful to be feeling that we are in a good and solid position to begin this camping season.

Now is the opportunity to make sure our future needs are being planned for and addressed with good stewardship. We are aware that our West Campground being on the other side of the athletic field is not being utilized very often because it seems so far from the main buildings. So we are taking steps to enlarge the number of and the size of sites in our main East Campground, so that we can pursue annual rentals of West Campground sites in a similar way to how Mulhurst Camp has been doing it. Therefore by building a revenue stream of West Campground annual rentals we can further stabilize our annual budget to handle much needed upgrades and improvements. Our Future Planning Committee and our Maintenance Committee concur that Noah's Ark needs desperate attention as soon as we can develop a plan and a funding strategy. Please help us to find the ways and means to improve Noah's Ark in a similar way that Solomon's Hall transitioned into the amazing new facility called Solomon's Lodge.

As God has always led us through all of the difficult transitions in the past, we will hold high our mission of **Making Christ Known** as our steadfast guiding light. We gather in prayer with you as we prepare for our camping season 2016. We give thanks for all that God has very lovingly accomplished in our facilities and more importantly in the hearts of every camper who attends.

Thank you so much for your continued support and prayers for the ongoing ministry of Hastings

Respectfully submitted with God's Most Abundant Blessings,

*Dale Swanson*  
HLLBC Board Chair



## Statistics

**January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015**

<b>Members Received</b>	<b>Baptized</b>	<b>Confirmed</b>
By Child Baptism	11	
By Adult Baptism	0	0
By Affirmation of faith, transfer, or from non-Lutheran	2	2
Total New Members Received	13	1
Baptized Members Confirmed		2

<b>Members Removed</b>	<b>Baptized</b>	<b>Confirmed</b>
By Death	7	7
By Transfer	1	1
By Request and to Responsibility List	5	3
Total Members Removed	19	16

	<b>Baptized</b>	<b>Confirmed</b>
Membership Dec. 31, 2014	635	519
Membership Dec. 31, 2015	616	503
Active Members	258	
Adherent list (active but not members)	73	
Responsibility List	649	

Households ..... 335

## Services

Total number of Sunday Worship Services (a.m. & p.m.).....	52
Total number of Weekday Worship Services.....	7
Total number of Services with Holy Communion .....	27
Average Sunday worship attendance .....	157

## 2016 Report of the Nominating Committee

<b>Church Council</b>	<b>Nominated to Serve until June 2017</b>	<b>Nominated to Serve a One-Year Term, 2016-2017</b>	<b>Nominated to Serve a Two-Year Term, 2016-2018</b>
<b>President</b>			Odell Olson
<b>Vice-President</b>	Carolyn Andersen		
<b>Secretary</b>	Carol Green		
<b>Treasurer</b>			Ivar Saugen
<b>Member at Large</b>			Dave Larson
<b>Member at Large</b>			Sharon Gilbertson
<b>Member at Large</b>			Art Pfeiffer
<b>Member at Large</b>	Darlene Dahle		
<b>Member at Large</b>	Jim Ofrim		

<b>Learning Committee</b>	<b>Nominated to Serve until June 2017</b>	<b>Nominated to Serve a One-Year Term, 2016-2017</b>	<b>Nominated to Serve a Two-Year Term, 2016-2018</b>
	Marie Olson		
	Cheryl Nester		
	Tim Schultz		
	Margo McPhail		
	Sharon Ofrim		
			Alice Lindstrand



<b>Service Committee</b>	<b>Nominated to Serve until June 2017</b>	<b>Nominated to Serve a One-Year Term, 2016-2017</b>	<b>Nominated to Serve a Two-Year Term, 2016-2018</b>
	Rod MacInnis		
	Carol Cherry		
			Donny Loewen

<b>Support Committee</b>	<b>Nominated to Serve until June 2017</b>	<b>Nominated to Serve a One-Year Term, 2016-2017</b>	<b>Nominated to Serve a Two-Year Term, 2016-2018</b>
			Gord Myrehaug
			Don Myrehaug
			Milt Gilbertson
	Dale Swanson		
	Lois Larson		
	Ron Foshaug		

<b>Witnessing Committee</b>	<b>Nominated to Serve until June 2017</b>	<b>Nominated to Serve a One-Year Term, 2016-2017</b>	<b>Nominated to Serve a Two-Year Term, 2016-2018</b>
	Erhard Pinno		
	Lavona Broen		
			Mary Ellen Eriksson
			Shirley Loewen
			Cecelia Watts
			Gail Stolee

<b>Worship Committee</b>	<b>Nominated to Serve until June 2017</b>	<b>Nominated to Serve a One-Year Term, 2016-2017</b>	<b>Nominated to Serve a Two-Year Term, 2016-2018</b>
	David Dahle		
	Elaine Olson		
	Laverne Hoveland		
	Norma Ferguson		
			Gail Pfeiffer
			Nora Gilbertson

Thank you to those who have agreed to serve on Council or on a Committee.

Our Council and Committees serve a vital role in Messiah's Ministry. They strive to guide our faithful witness to the Gospel.

Submitted by the Nominating Committee:

Carolyn Andersen, Vice-President; Chair of the Nominating Committee  
Eleanor Kopperud, Don Myrehaug Joanne Myrehaug



## **Treasurer's Report**

Messiah Lutheran Church's financial reports 2014, 2015 and 2016 have shown excess in net income of \$22,400, \$55,000 and \$80,000 respectively. Messiah's long term debt in the form of investment certificates held by members is \$8,000 and Council is recommending that funeral undesignated donations be directed to the Capital Fund. Revenue and expenses unaudited for the 2015-16 year are summarized in the budget tables. Schedule 8 summarizes designated funds for year 2015. As of March 31, 2016 designated revenue was \$89,930.

While auditors may move some income and expense numbers to different schedules, the reports generated by our bookkeeper, Sheila Becker, illustrate the excellent job she does. The day to day management of dollars, distribution of funds and generating monthly income and balance sheets fall on her shoulders. Thank you Sheila.

Respectfully submitted,

Ivar Saugen  
Treasurer



Financial statements  
(Unaudited)

Messiah Lutheran Church

April 30, 2015



## Notice to Reader

On the basis of information provided by management, we have compiled the statement of financial position for Messiah Lutheran Church as at April 30, 2015 and the statements of operations and changes in net assets for the year then ended.

We have not performed an audit or review engagement in respect of these financial statement and, accordingly, we express no assurance thereon.

Readers are cautioned that these statements may not be appropriate for their purposes

*Grant Thornton LLP*

Chartered Professional Accountants, Chartered Accountants

November 2, 2015  
Camrose, Canada

# Messiah Lutheran Church

## Statement of Operations

(Unaudited - see Notice to Reader)

Year ended April 30

2015

2014

	Budget	Actual	Actual
Revenue			
Envelopes	\$ 339,800	\$ 346,555	\$ 326,575
Plate	4,700	6,011	4,781
MLC General	3,000	5,495	2,392
Easter	12,500	8,434	12,743
Thanksgiving	9,000	3,365	6,182
Christmas	17,000	13,079	15,865
Festival	2,300	1,540	1,925
Sunday School	-	16	60
Interest	-	407	-
Facility use and fees for service	8,500	13,265	13,615
Other expense recoveries	<u>1,300</u>	<u>390</u>	<u>1,563</u>
	398,100	398,557	385,701
Designated	-	97,773	42,751
Other designated revenue	<u>700</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>398,800</u>	<u>496,330</u>	<u>428,452</u>
Expense			
Benevolences - Schedule 1	26,200	28,328	27,319
Learning - Schedule 2	13,115	7,865	2,297
Service- Schedule 3	1,100	161	265
Support - Schedule 4	96,900	90,171	88,646
Witness - Schedule 5	200	74	71
Worship - Schedule 6	3,700	3,886	3,259
Salaries and benefits - Schedule 7	<u>224,458</u>	<u>213,543</u>	<u>206,444</u>
	365,673	344,028	328,301
Designated - Schedule 8	<u>-</u>	<u>97,773</u>	<u>42,751</u>
	<u>365,673</u>	<u>441,801</u>	<u>371,052</u>
Excess of revenue over expense	\$ <u>33,127</u>	\$ <u>54,529</u>	\$ <u>57,400</u>



# Messiah Lutheran Church

## Statement of Financial Position

(Unaudited - see Notice to Reader)

April 30

2015

2014

### Assets

#### Current

Cash	\$ 163,105	\$ 122,941
GST receivable	1,241	1,294
Prepaid expenses	<u>14,050</u>	<u>14,373</u>
	<u>178,396</u>	<u>138,608</u>

Endowment term deposits	88,207	88,207
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Fellowship Center	<u>676,743</u>	<u>676,743</u>
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	<u>\$ 943,346</u>	<u>\$ 903,562</u>
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### Liabilities

#### Current

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 14,626	\$ 12,789
Current portion of long term debt	<u>32,500</u>	<u>33,500</u>
	<u>47,126</u>	<u>46,289</u>

Deferred contributions for designated expenditures (Schedule 8)	<u>68,944</u>	<u>86,681</u>
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### Net assets

Net assets invested in Fellowship Center	644,244	643,244
Net assets restricted for mission endowment	88,589	88,208
Building debt retirement fund	17,932	17,157
Unrestricted net assets	<u>76,511</u>	<u>21,983</u>
	<u>827,276</u>	<u>770,592</u>

	<u>\$ 943,346</u>	<u>\$ 903,562</u>
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Approved on behalf of Council



# Messiah Lutheran Church

## Schedules

(Unaudited - see Notice to Reader)  
Year ended April 30, 2015

### Schedule 8 - Deferred Contributions

	Balance beginning of year	Receipts	Expenses	Internal transfer	Balance end of year
<b>Designated Expenditures</b>					
Small group	\$ 150	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 150
Youth fundraising	11,858	1,609	842	-	12,625
TV ministry	9,020	1,480	3,343	-	7,157
World mission group	348	-	100	-	248
Bequest interest	1,671	1,636	-	-	3,307
Samaritan fund	2,604	240	924	-	1,920
Youth gathering and tithe	4,248	-	-	-	4,248
Music	3,765	500	500	-	3,765
Campus ministries	-	80	80	-	-
Music coordinator	-	150	-	-	150
Refugee fund	9,448	6,760	10,950	-	5,258
VBS	195	-	-	-	195
Family Camp	232	3,887	2,562	-	1,557
Coffee fund	100	990	990	-	100
Capital projects	20,255	40	7,463	47	12,879
Agencies	-	13,791	13,791	-	-
Friendship club	60	-	-	-	60
Senior pastor initiatives	2,520	-	-	-	2,520
LunchFest	300	856	900	-	256
Sunday school	40	134	151	-	23
Drama group	777	-	-	-	777
Other	2,202	-	(1)	-	2,203
Building access fund	518	-	-	-	518
Major projects	6,795	1,600	-	-	8,395
Hospitality grant	166	-	70	-	96
Automatic door	-	-	420	420	-
Computers	537	-	-	-	537
Flood repair	-	15,425	15,425	-	-
Sanctuary flooring	8,870	30,860	39,263	(467)	-
	<u>\$ 86,679</u>	<u>\$ 80,038</u>	<u>\$ 97,773</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 68,944</u>



**MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH**
**2016/17 BUDGET**
**April 30, 2016**

 (last year  
modified)

	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>
	<b>2014/15</b>	<b>2015/16</b>	<b>2015/16</b>	<b>% of Bud</b>	<b>2016/17</b>
<b>Revenue</b>					
Envelopes	319,406	314,800	327,930	104%	328,000
Envelopes NSNO Declared	27,149	30,000	32,820	109%	33,000
Envelope total	346,555	344,800	360,750	105%	361,000
Plate	6,011	5,500	4,696	85%	4,700
MLC general	5,495	6,000	5,341	89%	5,400
Easter	7,712	15,000	7,730	52%	12,000
Lent	722	1,500	265	18%	1,500
Thanksgiving	3,365	9,000	7,015	78%	9,000
Christmas	13,079	17,000	11,645	69%	15,000
Festival NSNO Declared	1,540	3,000	3,320	111%	3,400
Music performances		-			-
Facility use and fees# for service	13,265	9,500	8,595	90%	9,500
Expense recoveries	-	1,300	-	0%	1,300
Other recoveries	813	700	641	92%	700
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>398,557</b>	<b>413,300</b>	<b>409,997</b>	<b>99%</b>	<b>423,500</b>
<b>Designated</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>0</b>		

**Total Revenue 398,557**
**409,997**

# changed in 2016 not checked /reconciled

**Expenses**
**Budget**

Neighbor Aid	1,200	1,200	1,200	100%	1,200
**Synod Benevolence	27,128	25,000	28,179	113%	34,656
Salaries & benefits	213,543	250,000	204,236	82%	280,000
<b>Program expenses</b>					
Worship - schedule 1	3,886	3,700	2,968	80%	4,300
Learning - schedule 2	7,865	7,165	3,269	46%	5,585
Witness - schedule 3	74	200	65	33%	200
Service - schedule 4	161	900	254	28%	1,000
Support - schedule 5**	89,064	107,000	85,232	80%	84,100
*Capital projects - schedule 5	-	36,103	581	0	14,000
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>342,921</b>	<b>431,268</b>	<b>325,985</b>		
<b>Designated</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>		<b>-</b>
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>342,921</b>	<b>431,268</b>	<b>325,985</b>	<b>76%</b>	<b>425,041</b>

 \*add back in deficit recovery  
expensed throughout year

<b>Excess (expense)income</b>	<b>55,636</b>	<b>(17,968)</b>	<b>84,012</b>	<b>(1,541)</b>
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 \*\*printed as \$25000 budget but  
meant to be \$26,601.12

# MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

## 2016/17 BUDGET

April 30, 2016

	Actual	Budget	Actual	Actual	Budget
	2014/15	2015/16	2015/16	% of Bud	2016/17
<b>Schedule 1: Worship</b>					
<b>Program expenses</b>					
Chancel care (old "altar guild")		-			-
Choirs new music	678	350	0	0%	350
Choirs program expenses		-	15		-
Choirs student bursary		-			-
Continuing education		-			-
Copyright license	1,172	1,200	682	57%	1,200
Eternity for Today	243	350	272	78%	350
Instrument maintenance	397	900	337	37%	900
Organ scholarship		-			-
Worship supplies	1,396	900	1,663	185%	1,500
<b>Total program expenses</b>	<b>3,886</b>	<b>3,700</b>	<b>2,968</b>	<b>80%</b>	<b>4,300</b>

## Schedule 2: Learning

### Program expenses

Adult education	59	500	122	24%	500
Splash (old "baby ministry")	618	500	477	95%	500
Confirmation	433	975	898	92%	975
Kidfest	1,307	1,500	863	58%	1,000
Family programs	357	500	191	38%	200
Library	75	100			100
Prayer		-			-
Professional development CMC		580	0	0%	-
Stewardship programming	3,918	500	0	0%	500
Training/miscellaneous	0	250	0	0%	250
Video license	543	660	661	100%	660
Vacation Bible school supplies		-			-
Yth Leadership Prof Dev		600		0%	400
Youth transportation		-			-
Youth visitation		-			-
Youth program expenses/misc	555	500	58	12%	500
<b>Total program expenses</b>	<b>7,865</b>	<b>7,165</b>	<b>3,269</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>5,585</b>



**MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**2016/17 BUDGET**

April 30, 2016

	Actual	Budget	Actual	Actual	Budget
	2014/15	2015/16	2015/16	% of Bud	2016/17
<b>Schedule 3: Witness</b>					
<b>Benevolence</b>					
Missionary sponsorship	-	-	-		-
<b>Program expenses</b>					
New members	74	100	0	0%	100
Ministry to inactives		-			-
Outreach		-			-
Programs/Alpha		-	65		-
World Mission Group		100		0%	100
<b>Total program expenses</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>200</b>
<b>Total witness expenses</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>200</b>

**Schedule 4: Service**

**Benevolence**

NeighborAid	1,200	1,200	1,200	100%	1,200
<b>Program expenses</b>					
Community programs	0	200	41		200
CLWR promotion		100			100
New Ministries		200			200
Refugee support		0			0
Issue exploration		0			0
Small group leadership		0			0
Materials & supplies		0			0
Marriage preparation	56	0	77		0
Ministry with seniors	60	200	77	39%	200
Resource care leaflets		0			100
Volunteer appreciation	45	200	58	29%	200
<b>Total program expenses</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>1,000</b>
<b>Total service expenses</b>	<b>1,361</b>	<b>2,100</b>	<b>1,454</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>2,200</b>

**MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**2016/17 BUDGET**

April 30, 2016

	Actual	Budget	Actual	Actual	Budget
	2014/15	2015/16	2015/16	% of Bud	2016/17
<b>Schedule 5: Support</b>					
<b>Benevolence</b>					
Alberta Synod*	27,128	25,000	28,179	113%	34,656
Seminary student assistance	0	-	0		-
<b>Total benevolence</b>	<b>27,128</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>28,179</b>	<b>113%</b>	<b>34,656</b>
<b>Program expenses</b>					
Advertising	285	400	304	76%	400
Audio/visual supplies	443	400	501	125%	500
Audit/Accountant	4,100	3,500	2,768	79%	3,500
Bank charges/op loans	255	300	206	69%	300
Capital purchase/contingency**	0	700	1,455	208%	700
Conference dues	524	1,700	510	30%	1,700
Conference-other/pastors' study	595	1,000	587	59%	1,200
Counselling supervision	775	900	341	38%	900
Convention-synod/national	1,310	2,000	2,423	121%	2,500
Custodial supplies	2,457	2,000	1,904	95%	1,000
Church Council miscellaneous	810	400	1,404	351%	900
Inspections/Maintenance	6,510	5,600	6,621	118%	5,600
Insurance	15,258	15,100	15,294	101%	16,000
Offering envelopes	455	500	519	104%	500
Office equipment lease	4,612	5,000	4,612	92%	5,000
Office library		200		0%	200
Office supplies	5,830	4,500	5,151	114%	5,000
Postage & shipping	1,502	1,500	1,508	101%	1,700
Repairs & maintenance	12,082	8,000	6,150	77%	8,000
Software agreements	509	600	665	111%	700
Staff/lay development	26	400	0	0%	400
Stewardship New Proj to Learning		-			-
Taxes & improvements		-			-
Telephone*	3,390	3,500	3,557	102%	3,500
Utilities-electricity*	9,642	12,000	8,190	68%	10,000
Utilities-heating fuel*	14,634	13,000	10,267	79%	10,000
Utilities-water & sewer*	2,902	3,000	2,435	81%	3,000
Volunteer screening	15	100	176	176%	200
Website	143	200	57	29%	200
Staff retreat		500		0%	500
Call committee recruiting/moving^		20,000	7,628		-
<b>Total program expenses</b>	<b>89,064</b>	<b>107,000</b>	<b>85,232</b>	<b>80%</b>	<b>84,100</b>
Capital projects	0	3,500	0	0%	3,500
AV capital	0	2,500	581		2,500
Use des funds avail (deficit recovery)	0	30,103	0	0%	8,000
<b>Total capital projects</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>36,103</b>	<b>581</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14,000</b>
<b>Total support expenses</b>	<b>116,192</b>	<b>168,103</b>	<b>113,411</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>132,756</b>

\*categories that  
are incomplete for  
expenses  
\*\* vacuums/snow  
blower (pack)

^accountant used  
YE2015 number



## Analysis of Messiah's Proposed Stewardship of its Proposed Resources 2016-2017

Salaries and Wages for Staff		\$280,000	66%	*Building/Capital	
				AV Capital	2,500
				Custodial Supplies	1,000
				Inspections/maintenance	5,600
Program	Learning Committee	5,085		Insurance	16,000
	Stewardship Plans	500		Repairs & maintenance	8,000
	Service Committee	1,000		Utilities-electricity	10,000
	Neighbor Aid support	1,200		Utilities-heating fuel	10,000
	Witnessing Committee	200		Utilities-water/sewer	3,000
	Worship Committee	4,300		Capital purchase/contingency	700
	Total	12,285	3%	Capital Projects	3,500
					60,300
In Support of All Ministries - Support Committee					
	Synod	34,656	8%	**Office	
				Advertising	400
	Building/Capital*	60,300	14%	Audio/Visual supplies	500
				Audit	3,500
	Office**	21,500	5%	Bank charges/op loans	300
				Offering envelopes	500
	General Ministry Support***	8,300	2%	Office equipment lease	5,000
				Office library	200
	Restore Designated gifts	8,000	2%	Office Supplies	5,000
					100%
Total		\$425,041	100%	Postage & shipping	1,700
				Software agreements	700
				Telephone	3,500
Check from Summary Page		425,041		Website	200
					21,500
				***General Ministry Support	
				Chur Coun Miscellaneous	900
				Conference Dues	1,700
				Pastor's Study Conference	1,200
				Counselling Supervision	900
				Conventions	2,500
				Staff/lay development	400
				Volunteer screening	200
				Staff retreat	500
				Call Committee recruiting	0
					8,300

<b>Messiah Lutheran Church</b>					
<b>2015-2016 Financial Report(unaudited)</b>					
	<b>At</b>				<b>At</b>
DESIGNATED FUNDS	Apr 30, 2014	Received	Disbursed	Internally transferred	Apr 30, 2015
Building Access Fund	518.38	0.00	0.00		518.38
Capital Projects Upgrades	20,254.78	40.00	1,050.00	-4,067.64	15,177.14
CP Automatic Door/Security	0.00	0.00	419.99	419.99	0.00
CP Sanctuary Flooring	8,870.00	30,860.00	39,262.67		467.33
Coffee Fund	100.00	1,112.18	1,392.18	180.00	0.00
College & Careers	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
Computers	536.65	0.00	4,184.30	3,647.65	0.00
Drama Group	777.28	0.00	0.00		777.28
Education	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
Endowment Fund (new mission	88,207.48	382.37	0.00		88,589.85
Interest Endowmt Fund-Missi	1,670.92	1,636.31	0.00		3,307.23
Endowment Fund (panoptic)	0.00	24,500.00	0.00		24,500.00
Interest Endowmt Fund-panoptic	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
Friendship Club	60.00	0.00	0.00		60.00
LunchFEST	300.00	1,591.68	1,546.76	-180.00	164.92
Major Projects Fund	6,795.00	1,600.00	0.00		8,395.00
Misc/Other	2,202.34	0.00	0		2,202.34
Music Fees	0.00	150.00	0.00		150.00
Music	3,764.60	500.00	500.00		3,764.60
Project Flood Repair	0.00	15,425.00	6,838.46		8,586.54
Project (DB Hospitality)	166.25	0.00	69.57		96.68
Proj Sen Pastor initiatives	2,520.00	0.00	0.00		2,520.00
Refugee Support	9,447.51	6,760.00	10,949.99		5,257.52
Proj Family Camp	232.20	3,887.05	2,561.86		1,557.39
Samaritan Fund	1,919.56	2,850.00	2,073.03		2,696.53
Small group resources	150.00	0.00	0.00		150.00
Sunday School (KidFEST)	39.99	133.90	150.66		23.23
TV Ministry/Sound System	9,020.42	1,480.00	3,342.97		7,157.45
VBS	194.73	0.00	0.00		194.73
World Missions Group	348.02	0.00	100.00		248.02
Youth Fundraising	11,857.56	1,608.65	841.50		12,624.71
Youth Gath/Missions trip	2,373.04	0.00	0		2,373.04
Youth Tithe	1,875.06	0.00	0.00		1,875.06
					0.00
Current yr reserves Bldg Debt ret	17,931.70	4,110.00	0.00		22,041.70
Other:					0.00
Outside charity	0.00	7,440.00	7,440.00		0.00
Campus Ministry		80.00	80.00		0.00
CLWR		6,350.70	6,350.70		0.00
					0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>192,133.47</b>	<b>112,497.84</b>	<b>89,154.64</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>215,476.67</b>

Note: Designated fund reserves less endowme 85994.29 80,345.12

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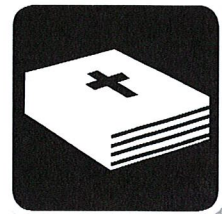
## Notes

**When you give through your weekly offering,** you support the wider mission and ministry of the ELCIC.

In 2014, the **\$834,349** received by your **National Church** helped support the following:

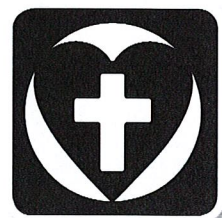
## Spirited DISCIPLESHIP

- Develop and grow the Call to Spiritual Renewal.
- Speak publicly and witness for the gospel as a National Church.
- Undertake corporate leadership by encouraging energy for Spiritual Renewal for communities.



## COMPASSIONATE Justice

- Challenge the causes and respond to the consequences of injustice through effective partnership with Canadian Lutheran World Relief.
- Continue to pursue right relationships with Indigenous Peoples.
- Continue and increase Stewardship of Creation initiatives.
- Promote responsible resource extraction.
- Support and work for justice and peace in the Holy Land.
- Address issues of homelessness and affordable housing.



## Effective PARTNERSHIPS

- Enhance the church's ability to be *In Mission for Others* internationally, in the North American Region of the LWF, in Canada and through partnerships.



## HEALTHY Church

- Articulating a common vision for the church.
- Develop and promote a culture of mutual trust and accountability.
- Improve the financial health of the church.
- Improve communications concerning the National Church.





# Worship for a Congregational Annual Meeting

## OPENING

**ACKNOWLEDGE:** *We gather today on traditional territory of the \_\_\_\_\_ [Indigenous People] who have called it home for thousands of years.*

**READ:** 1 Timothy 6:18–19

**SING:** *Evangelical Lutheran Worship #715*  
Christ Be Our Light

### PRAY:

We are called to practice spirited discipleship, confident that each member of this church has a particular way of participating in God's mission.

***Liberated by God's grace, we pray "Come Holy Spirit."***

We are called to nurture a healthy church, committed to leadership, communication and stewardship that promote mutual trust and strengthen the body of Christ.

***Liberated by God's grace, we pray "Come Holy Spirit."***

We are called to practice compassionate justice, bringing solidarity, a desire to learn, service, advocacy and prayer to the work of reconciliation and peace-making.

***Liberated by God's grace, we pray "Come Holy Spirit."***

We are called to practice effective partnership, celebrating how the diverse followers of Jesus both enrich and encourage our participation in God's mission.

***Liberated by God's grace, we pray "Come Holy Spirit."***

We are called to be a church *In Mission for Others.*

***Liberated by God's grace, we pray "Come Holy Spirit."***

## CLOSING

### PRAY:

We give you thanks for each one here today; for each voice, each heart, each mind, each disciple:

***God of Grace, we give you thanks!***

We give you thanks for the work of this meeting; for conversation, discernment, decision and direction.

***God of Grace, we give you thanks!***

We give you thanks for being called into mission; for good works, generosity, sharing and reconciliation:

***God of Grace, we give you thanks!***

We give you thanks for life that really is life; for diversity, community, relationships and grace:

***God of Grace, we give you thanks!***

**SING:** *Evangelical Lutheran Worship #879*  
For the Beauty of the Earth



Devotions written by Rev. Paul Gehrs, Assistant to the Bishop, Justice and Leadership, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC).  
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