

2016 IN REVIEW



WITNESS

Helping churches and pastors conduct Word and Sacrament ministry

- Pastor made 23 hospital visits (58% of all hospital calls) to non-members (mostly on behalf of out-of-town LCMS pastors).
- Pastor served as Vacancy Pastor at St. Paul's Lutheran/Chatfield (September-November).
- We raised \$3,139.80 to support the following organizations:
 - LCMS Missionary Rev. Tom Aadland (Kenya) \$500
 - LCMS Missionary Rev. Joel Fritsche (Dominican Republic) \$500
 - Adopt-a-Seminary Student (Concordia Theological Seminary) \$500
 - People of the Book Lutheran Outreach (POBLO)--Rochester \$500
 - RCLS Tuition Assistance Fund \$500
 - Minnesota South District (St. James Lutheran Fire Recovery) \$500
 - Lutheran Women's Missionary League (Mites) \$139.80

Led by the Missions Committee, funds were raised by the January Mission Luncheon, Voters Meeting Lunches, Sunday School, Rochester Outreach Center Clothing Barrel, Youth Activities, and other gifts.

Throughout the year, we provided opportunities for our members to meet Rev. Tom Aadland (April 17) and Rev. Larry Wright (Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne) (January 24).

- We hosted a LEGO Creation Fair which gave us the opportunity to witness (using a LEGO white cross surrounded by church year colors) to about 20 children and their families. The Fair received good publicity.
- Through Concordia Theological Seminary—Fort Wayne, Indiana, we hosted a three day Continuing Education Class for pastors. The topic was “The Gospel of John: A Sacramental Catechesis.” Eighteen pastors and church workers attended.

MERCY

Showing compassion and care to people outside our congregation

- Members collected \$206.57 for New Life Family Services.
- Quilters provided 26 quilts to community organizations (Ronald McDonald House and Veterans). The Quilter also sold 12 quilts to church members.
- In April and October, we served the Saturday noon meal for the LCMS Rochester Circuit Campus Ministry at the University of Minnesota—Rochester.





LIFE TOGETHER

Living together in unity as Christ's Body, the Church

At the end of 2016, Christ Lutheran numbered 114 Baptized Members and 98 Communicant Members. Pastor administered 1 infant baptism, confirmed 1 youth, and conducted the funeral for 1 member. In 2016, Sunday attendance averaged 47 people per week, a decline of 5 people when compared to 2015.

- **Worship:** We finished purchasing and dedicating new altar paraments. We began offering the Lord's Supper every Sunday. Pastor performed an organ recital at Trinity Lutheran. A choir chime choir assembled to enhance music for Christmas Eve.
- **Youth:** Eric Adams, Isaac Ackerman, and Carter Adams attended the annual Higher Things Youth Conference (University of North Iowa, Cedar Falls). We conducted a "one-day" VBS for children in grades K-5; eight children (5 members, 3 friends) learned about Noah's Ark. Youth in grades 6-12 enjoyed an afternoon at Tews Corn Maze (October).
- **Building Maintenance:** Trustees handled ongoing repairs and building improvements for both the church and parsonage. Examples: church locks changed, new dishwasher installed at parsonage, church sign repaired (due to storm damage) and upgraded, RPU backflow preventer installed, church and fellowship hall floors waxed. The Trustees also hosted a Spring Clean-up Day (April).
- **Fun Things:** We enjoyed family movie nights (March, November).
- **Synod/District/Circuit:** To support the work of the Minnesota South District and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, we donated \$750 to the Minnesota South District (half remains in Minnesota South, half is forwarded to Synod headquarters in St. Louis). To support the work of our Rochester Circuit, we gave \$97 (the amount we were assessed). Pastor served as the Circuit's pastoral delegate to the Synod Convention in Milwaukee. As part of that responsibility, Pastor served on a Synod Convention Floor Committee.
- **Care for Members:** Several times per year, the Mission Committee sends cards and provides gift baskets to homebound members and to members with ongoing medical conditions. The Committee also coordinated meals for the Lucas and Hintermeister families. Get-well cards and HyVee gift cards were distributed to members recovering from illness. Two families sang Christmas Carols for many of our homebound members.
- **Quilts for Members:** Quilters provided quilts to hospitalized members, in addition to newly baptized members and members graduating from high school.
- **Miscellaneous:** Using Gift and Memorial Funds, we improved Fellowship Hall audio/visual technology. A new office copier/scanner was purchased using Gift and Memorial Funds. Also using Gift and Memorial Funds, new tables and an artificial Christmas Tree were purchased. Furthermore, the church office was repainted and "spruced-up." The Minnesota South District approved our updated Constitution and Bylaws. The State of Minnesota approved our updated Articles of Incorporation.

