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*Mt. Olive*

EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH

**Growing in grace. Living in love.**



## Congregational Report

May 2017

### Lay Ministry Report

Thank you to all the people who have worked on the Ministry Expansion effort and also the people who have spent time on the Building project.

Thanks to everyone that has signed up so far for the Lambeau clean up after the Billy Joel concert, with the 20 some people it should earn the youth group around \$500.

John Schoenwalder, Director of Lay Ministry

### Board of Outreach Report

The month of April started with a group of volunteers meeting on the morning of April 1. The task at hand was to deliver Easter flyers with information about Holy Week and Easter for Kids to our neighbors. Over 1,600 flyers were distributed. Additional volunteers handed out flyers after church on April 2, and a good number of members took flyers that day as well to give to family and friends.

Easter for Kids was Saturday, April 8 with an attendance of 30. Fun was had by all. Thank you to all those who helped with the event.

The Outreach Committee will meet to make plans toward the efforts of the new ministry plan.

On May 2 I attended the meeting for our Mt. Olive Expansion Committee. The meeting was attended by the District Board Chairman of the Mission Expansion Committee, Pastor John Dorn. I gained a better understanding of how the Mission District Board is structured and how they operate along with the various categories, such as Subsidized Ministries, Unsubsidized Ministries, New Starts, Enhancements, and Multi Sites. The Outreach Committee will now meet and see how they can help with the new ministry effort pending the outcome of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Call Day held on May 18.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bruce Behnke, Director of Outreach

# Shepherding Committee Report

As a review and restatement of our purpose, the ongoing work of the Shepherding Committee in conjunction with Pastor Snyder, is focused on identifying members who have not been regular in their attendance or participation in Word and sacrament at Mt. Olive. Together, we attempt contacting these members to encourage and strengthen their participation in our fellowship, and to determine if there are actions that we can pursue to ensure that their spiritual needs are being met.

## **Membership Transactions Since January 2017:**

Accepted into membership by profession of faith:

- Sabrina Wojkiewicz, Corbin and Calvin

Accepted into communicant membership by Confirmation:

- Vanessa Bushmaker
- Taylor Gilson
- Ken and Andrea Fischer, Jake (and Jaycie)
- Zoe Zeimer

Accepted into membership by transfer:

- Scott and Laura Treichel, Dominic, Laura and Riley

Grant membership transfer:

- Jeff and Tiffany Edlebeck, Aubrey and Lucas to Beautiful Savior, Green Bay
- Teri and Ross Lawrence, Brittany to St. Paul, Green Bay
- Kris and Mitzi Teske to Beautiful Savior, Green Bay

Transferred to eternal glory:

- Heather Behnke
- Wendy Perleberg
- Bob Ulve
- Carl Wolfgram

## **Removal from Membership:**

The Shepherding Committee's approach to this matter is to err on the side of patience and Christian love. We do not do this lightly, nor is removal to be considered as serious a matter as dealing with someone under church discipline on serious matters of faith and doctrine, which may lead to excommunication.

At this time there are none, as this is a matter normally addressed once yearly, at the January meeting.

Shepherding Committee,  
Dave Winther, Director  
Bruce Behnke  
Brian Henken

# Pastoral Report

The state of our congregation and its ministry will be considerably different by the time of our voters' meeting than it is right now at the time of this writing. That is because between now and then we will find out whether or not we receive a pastor from the 2017 graduating class of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. We have plans for a building project this year to expand our facility (we also should know much more about the details of the construction timeline by the time of our voters' meeting). We also have plans to expand our ministry in ways that will position us for continued growth.

Since, as your pastor, I don't really know anything about building, I prefer to talk about the ministry expansion. Our plan for expanding our ministry is all about sharing the gospel, as it should be. We have a vision of starting a new church that will be part of our congregation. We want to share the gospel faithfully and add to our membership primarily through adult confirmations. At the same time, our church leadership and I believe that our plan for ministry that includes adding a second pastor and allowing both pastors to have a dedicated division of duties will also strengthen our congregation by expanding and enhancing our ministry and strengthening the faith of our members, because we will be able to share God's Word more and better with the people who are here and people who are not.

In a time in our country when churches all around us (and this is especially true for our own church body) and church membership and church attendance is on the decline, we are blessed with a congregation that is healthy, steady, and consistent. And thanks be to God that, even more than that, we are poised with a plan for growth. 2017 is seemingly sure to be a year of significant change for Mt. Olive. That's part of why it's especially important to have a plan for our ministry.

Our mission is to minister Word and Sacrament, to teach God's truth with law and gospel. And the Lord has allowed us to continue to do that. Thank you for your support and for being a part of Mt. Olive.

**Education:** We started an every-other-month rotation of education and service/fellowship this year. We will have opportunity to discuss at our October voters' meeting how this rotation is working out for us. If we continue with this schedule, I expect that we will get better at it, more used to it, and it will improve. That's not to say that things are going poorly now. I think it's, for the most part, going well. Still, it's new and we're somewhat learning as we go how to carry it out with excellence. I believe our Sunday school teachers are enjoying teaching Sunday school more than they were before (but I don't want to speak for them), and that can have great impact on the level of excellence of Sunday school that we provide for our children. Bible class in March was especially encouragingly well attended. These are positive differences from a year ago.

We had four young people complete catechism instruction and confirmed as members. We anticipate 13 for next year.

**Invite:** I want you to value yourself enough to realize that possibly the greatest thing you could do for your congregation is to bring someone to church with you. Can we each give ourselves the goal of bringing even one new person to church this year?

**Worship:** We will have a couple of sermon series again this summer. The first one will be in July, and will cover the book of James, which talks a lot about the good works in the life of a sanctified Christian. James tends to not be a very popular book among Lutherans, so I look forward to spending some time with you considering this relevant book from our God.

**Fellowship:** Check out the after-worship schedule for June. There are some good fellowship opportunities available for us to get to know each other and build each other up with Christian influence and encouragement. In fact, our plans for June 11 should be a great time for fellowship with food and live music.

**Teens:** Five years ago, I suspect that if the members of our congregation had been asked something like, "What more would like to see from our church?" one of the most common answers would have been something like, "I'd really like to see more offered for our teens." Well, guess what. It's happening. We have a solid group of teens who look forward to being here on the first Sunday of every month (6-9pm) and have even been bringing their friends. It's been really great to see. Still, we have a slew of teens who haven't checked it out at all. Any teen is welcome and encouraged to come. Parents of teens, I ask you to please join me in that encouragement.

**Capitol Campaign:** I think it is appropriate to recognize with gratitude what our congregation has been able to do this year in support of the plans that we have. Over \$135K has been given towards the building project while our regular offerings and the rest of our ministry budget have remained on track. Thank you to all who have contributed in any way. Thank you for your confidence and generosity.

**Vacancy:** This month I will begin serving as the vacancy pastor at Calvary Lutheran Church in Abrams. Currently, there are roughly one hundred pastoral vacancies in our synod (almost 10%). Because of this, vacancy pastor situations are becoming common and they are lasting for an extended amount of time. The pastoral vacancy in Abrams could last a few weeks, or it could last over a year.

While this is something I want you to be aware of, my plan and intention is for this added responsibility of mine to not affect you. I am going to try to make it so you don't even notice a difference. That's what I want for you. Since I won't be here before church to greet you or our guests, I ask you all to be sure to show hospitality, warmly welcoming each and all our guests. I also encourage you to come early (8:30) and have a conversation and a doughnut with coffee, juice, or water in the fellowship hall before church. (Feel free to take the coffee or anything else into the church with you if you.) You also can strike up a friendly conversation (not just a greeting and saying "hello," but actually a conversation and saying "how are you?") with whomever you're sitting near once you get into church. Some may prefer that our pre-service time not have such chatter, but I think that most would really like it. I know I would appreciate it if I was sitting with you. Still, please be respectful of everyone around and try not to let your conversations get too rowdy in the sanctuary.

**Communion:** As another confirmation season concluded, I once again had the opportunity to try to impress upon our young Christian confirmands concerning the Lord's Supper, "If you don't take it personally, and you don't take it seriously, then don't take it at all." I know it can be easy to show up to church and then just go through the motions of whatever's happening. When that's the case, the sacrament may be received without deeply considering the weight of your sin, and the sacrifice that was made for it. Now, obviously I can't read your hearts. So I can only trust that such concerning reception of the sacrament is never the case for you. I encourage you to always examine yourself properly and thoroughly before celebrating our Savior's death on your behalf. If there is any sinful behavior you intend or plan to continue to engage in, then do not receive assurance of forgiveness, for forgiveness comes with repentance. Also, I highly recommend that each of you consider announcing your intent to commune online. There is a link at the bottom of our website's homepage ([mtolivesuamico.com](http://mtolivesuamico.com)). Announcing for communion online allows you to examine yourself (with examination questions provided) ahead of the time when you arrive at church. The opportunity with announcing online is there throughout the week. The online option also allows you to conveniently communicate your intent to me, as I receive an email each time someone registers. Communicating that intent with me, allowing me to know that this is on your heart and mind perhaps days in advance, allows me to be comforted and confident knowing that you are anxious to receive the announcement of your forgiveness and the assurance of your Savior's love for you.

**Thank you:** I'm not worthy to be your pastor. None of us are worthy to be the vessels that carry God's saving truth. Yet, by his grace, that is what we are. For the first time this year, I have really started to enjoy being the pastor of Mt. Olive. I am so excited and thankful for the plans that we have. I don't know why, and I'm sorry that it took me years to feel like I can be myself, but I do now. Thank you. For your patience, your encouragement, your support – thank you.

For your passion and participation in the gospel ministry of Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, thank you. To everyone who makes a guest feel welcome, everyone who invites someone to Mt. Olive, everyone who tells someone

about our Savior, everyone who encourages our members, everyone who helps make Mt. Olive a place where sinner/saints want to be and so much more, I thank God for you. And I thank God for the opportunity to work with you, striving to be not only friendly, but a place of friends.

If you have any questions about anything included in this report or otherwise, please never hesitate to communicate with me. My email and phone number are listed in each service folder for exactly that purpose. Feel welcome any time to shoot me a simple text or more.

May God continue to bless us and our congregation to the glory of Christ, our Head.

Godspeed, Pastor Snyder

## Church Property Report

### Completed property projects since January:

- Parking lot lights change to LED
- Several of the interior parsonage doors have been upgraded
- Lawn mowing schedule has been distributed and is posted in the office
- Spring clean up complete - Thank you to all who volunteered their time to help maintain the church property. We are looking for ideas on how to get more people involved next year.

### In progress:

- Sanctuary LED lighting
- List of electrical upgrades to be completed with the addition

Respectively submitted,

John Havemeier, Property Director

## Building Committee Report

The scope of the project includes relocating and upgrading the restrooms to the existing office area. The new construction area will house the Pastor and Secretary offices. Also new will be an expanded entry with a multi-purpose room. Part of the addition will have a full basement for utilities and storage, the remainder will be a slab on grade like the original church structure.

As part of the upgrade, the sanctuary will receive new flooring, along with possible new wall covering over the exposed concrete block walls.

The building prints are completed and released for contractor bids. A contractor review meeting was held on May 16 at Mt Olive. The contractor bids are due back May 25. At that time we will select a contractor based on cost and construction schedule considerations.

Our hope is to start construction right after the Memorial Day weekend.

Building Committee Lead  
Rick Borzych

# Financial Report

	<u>Jan - Apr 17</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Under/Over Budget</u>
Offering			
7000 - CEF Account Transactions			
7001 - CEF Interest	402.02	0.00	402.02
Total 7000 - CEF Account Transactions	<u>402.02</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>402.02</u>
8000-Offering - Gen Fund			
8001 - Envelope	60,550.50	68,000.00	-7,449.50
8002 - Other Plate	3,521.72	2,000.00	1,521.72
8007 - Facility Fees	90.00		
Total 8000-Offering - Gen Fund	<u>64,162.22</u>	<u>70,000.00</u>	<u>-5,837.78</u>
Total Offering	<u>64,564.24</u>	<u>70,000.00</u>	<u>-5,435.76</u>
Expense			
1000-Pastor - Gen Fund			
1001 - Salary/Expense	13,671.95	13,667.76	4.19
1002 - Business Allowance	887.04	378.00	509.04
1004 - Pension	876.00	876.00	0.00
1005 - TSA/Health Expenses	8,464.24	8,464.24	0.00
1006 - Worker's Comp	0.00	0.00	0.00
1007 - Conference Expense	300.00	325.00	-25.00
Total 1000-Pastor - Gen Fund	<u>24,199.23</u>	<u>23,711.00</u>	<u>488.23</u>
1100-Other Staff - Gen Fund			
1101 - Organists	1,728.36	1,925.00	-196.64
1102 - Substitute Pastor	450.00	450.00	0.00
1103 - Secretarial	4,114.36	5,400.00	-1,285.64
1104 - Choir Assistant	115.17	300.00	-184.83
1106 - Custodian	955.17	989.00	-33.83
Total 1100-Other Staff - Gen Fund	<u>7,363.06</u>	<u>9,064.00</u>	<u>-1,700.94</u>
1200-Utilities - Gen Fund			
1201 - Church	1,576.73	2,303.38	-726.65
1202 - Parsonage	822.20	897.52	-75.32
1203 - Telephone	637.82	384.52	253.30
1204 - Internet	217.27	400.00	-182.73
Total 1200-Utilities - Gen Fund	<u>3,254.02</u>	<u>3,985.42</u>	<u>-731.40</u>
1300-Maintenance - Gen Fund			
1301 - Maintenance	1,662.90	1,600.00	62.90
1302 - Snow Removal	1,095.00	750.00	345.00
Total 1300-Maintenance - Gen Fund	<u>2,757.90</u>	<u>2,350.00</u>	<u>407.90</u>
1400-Property Improv - Gen Fund			
1401 - Property Improvement	800.00	6,400.00	-5,600.00
1403 - Building Project Design	3,713.99	10,000.00	-6,286.01
Total 1400-Property Improv - Gen Fund	<u>4,513.99</u>	<u>16,400.00</u>	<u>-11,886.01</u>
1500-Outreach - Gen Fund			
1501 - Outreach	1,426.22	600.00	826.22
1502 - Easter For Kids	97.20	500.00	-402.80
1503 - VBS	0.00	0.00	0.00
1504 - Harvest Fest	0.00	0.00	0.00
1505 - Christmas For Kids	307.91	0.00	307.91
1506 - Ministry Expansion	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total 1500-Outreach - Gen Fund	<u>1,831.33</u>	<u>1,100.00</u>	<u>731.33</u>
1600-Shepherding - Gen Fund			
1601 - Shepherding	522.25	1,100.00	-577.75
Total 1600-Shepherding - Gen Fund	<u>522.25</u>	<u>1,100.00</u>	<u>-577.75</u>

1700-Supplies - General Fund			
1701 - Worship/Choir	763.50	400.00	363.50
1702 - Education	235.12	600.00	-364.88
1703 - Office	1,741.27	1,400.00	341.27
1704 - Stewardship/Envelopes	122.90	0.00	122.90
1705 - Misc	125.12		
Total 1700-Supplies - General Fund	<u>2,987.91</u>	<u>2,400.00</u>	<u>587.91</u>
1800-Meditations - Gen Fund			
1801 - Meditations	542.26	550.00	-7.74
Total 1800-Meditations - Gen Fund	<u>542.26</u>	<u>550.00</u>	<u>-7.74</u>
1900-Multi-Peril Ins - Gen Fund			
1901 - Multi-Peril Insurance	3,685.00	3,650.00	35.00
Total 1900-Multi-Peril Ins - Gen Fund	<u>3,685.00</u>	<u>3,650.00</u>	<u>35.00</u>
2000-Outside Mt. Olive-Gen Fund			
2001 - Synod Missions	6,360.00	6,360.00	0.00
2002 - Tuition	0.00	0.00	0.00
2004 - Misc. Charities	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total 2000-Outside Mt. Olive-Gen Fund	<u>6,360.00</u>	<u>6,360.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
2100-Debt Payments - Gen Fund			
2103 - 2017 Church Remodel	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total 2100-Debt Payments - Gen Fund	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
2200-Bank Charges - Gen Fund			
2201 - Bank Charges	51.10	40.00	11.10
Total 2200-Bank Charges - Gen Fund	<u>51.10</u>	<u>40.00</u>	<u>11.10</u>
2300-Contingency Fund -Gen Fund			
2301 - Contingency Fund	4,000.00	4,000.00	0.00
2302 - Ministry Expansion	50,000.00	50,000.00	0.00
Total 2300-Contingency Fund -Gen Fund	<u>54,000.00</u>	<u>54,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total Expense	<u>112,068.05</u>	<u>124,710.42</u>	<u>-12,642.37</u>
Net	<u>-47,503.81</u>	<u>-54,710.42</u>	<u>7,206.61</u>

### April 30, 2017 Balance Sheet Items

Huntington - General \*9525                      52,318

63,757 Total General Fund Balance

Huntington - Dedicated *9538	
5001 Flowers	-81
5002 Gifts/Memorials	
5002-1 - Sunday School	1,000
5002-2 - Worship & Choir	250
5002-3 - Meditations	250
5002-4 - Communion Ware	500
5002-5 - Ministry Expansion	500
5002 Gifts/Memorials - Other	1,260
Total 5002 Gifts/Memorials	<u>3,760</u>
5005 Brown County Fair	402
5009 Confirmation	41
5010 Building Fund	98,068
Total Huntington - Dedicated *9538	<u>102,191</u>

123,928 Total Building Fund

102,191 Total Dedicated Fund Balance

50,000 Ministry Expansion Reserve

WELS CEF\*1471 - 12mo MinExpRsrv              50,000

WELS CEF\*1473 - 24mo Contingency              4,000 Contingency

WELS CEF\*1474 - 6mo General Fund              11,439 General Fund

WELS CEF9772 - 60 mo Contingency              23,070 Contingency

27,070 Total Contingency

WELS CEF9773 - 60 mo - Ded Fund              25,860 Building Fund

268,877

268,877 Total of all monetary assets