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   /mtolivesuamico



Congregational Report

October 2016

Pastoral Report

Education: An educational highlight since our last quarterly report was our Vacation Bible School this summer. Our goal was 60 (unconfirmed) kids. We had 61! God gave us the opportunity to share the gospel with 61 children at some point during that week. The makeup of how many of these children are from our congregation and how many are not is pretty even. Several children brought friends, which is certainly really cool to see. Two families whose children attended VBS this year have since joined our congregation. VBS also gave us opportunity to be in contact with a couple other families, and we may well see them decide to join before VBS comes again next summer. Many thanks to our adult and teen volunteers who gave of their time to add to the fun and loving week of VBS. To God be the glory.

Another round of catechism instruction is underway for this year. Mt. Olive has a class of 19 students, including three whose families are not formal members (though I pray and anticipate that to not be the case for long) and one whose family recently joined Mt. Olive because of their desire for catechism instruction.

Sunday School began this month along with teen Sunday morning Bible study. Please thank and appreciate our Sunday School teachers (Dena Koehn, Tyna Nowakowski, Shelly Schrader, Sarah Schrader, Heather Behnke, and Linda Swenty) and Deb Miles, who coordinates the leaders for the teen Bible study. If you are interested in leading a teen Bible study and talking about an experience or specific point you are passionate about, mention it to Deb.

The next couple months, things will be a little different for Sunday School and Bible class. There will still be something provided each week with things going on for all ages, it just, for the most part, will not have the structure of a traditional Sunday School class, so we won't be calling it Sunday School. There will still be opportunity for beneficial and uplifting education, fellowship, and service. The schedule of November and December's after-worship activities has been and will continue to be distributed and communicated through other means of regular congregation communication.

Soul Sisters women's Bible study is another regular opportunity for Christian education. All ladies of all ages are welcome to join the group as they study and discuss a variety of topics. The group currently meets at the Mustard Seed Cafe at 6:45pm on the 2nd and 4th Mondays every month.

We had a half dozen small groups make use of the small-group Bible study opportunities during the summer sermon series. That opportunity is available to all throughout the year. The worship review take-home Bible study that is included in our weekly email each Monday gives the opportunity for you to form a small group, discuss as a family, or simply review on your own what was discussed and covered in worship each week. This resource is intended to help the points each week last longer and sink in deeper with additional opportunity to consider the truths that we share.

The weekly emails now also include a week's worth of daily devotions. You are all encouraged to check them out and read them throughout the week as an opportunity to review Bible stories, apply God's Word to your life each day, and take time and set the example of focusing on our Savior every day. Most weeks, there are not devotions included for Saturday and Sunday. The idea is that worship will serve as the devotion time on Sunday, and Saturday's devotion time can be to make use of the "prepare for worship" section of each weekly email. The passages that are included in that section of the email are intended to get you thinking about what we'll be talking about in church. The first one is the sermon text for the week.

Our congregation currently has three children enrolled at St. Mark Lutheran School in Green Bay and two at Fox Valley Lutheran High School.

Harvest Fest: Mt. Olive's third annual Harvest Fest is Saturday, October 29, 2-5pm. Harvest Fest offers us an opportunity to invite our community (your friends and neighbors) to our church for a casual and fun event. We pray that Harvest Fest allows for our community to know who we are and where we are, and for us to be able to show them Jesus. We have carnival-style games and other activities with prizes, crafts, food, and more. The fun of Harvest Fest is ageless. Even if you prefer to have games, crafts, and other activities be enjoyed by those with more energy, there's still plenty of ways you can be involved. You can man a booth, or run a game, or volunteer to serve food, or just help everyone feel welcome and represent Mt. Olive with a good-neighbor smile. If you've never made it to Mt. Olive's Harvest Fest before, why not make this year your first? We are adding more to it and looking to improve every year. The presence and involvement of more people is the most exciting improvement we can ask for. You can go to mtolivesuamico.com/harvest for more information.

Fellowship: Our church picnic this year was held at Bay Beach. Thanks to the fellowship committee for reserving the shelter, and organizing and providing the food. It was a beautiful day as dozens of people got to together to share a meal, conversations, and fun. A fellowship event for Reformation is coming up later this month on Sunday, November 6. We will have a Reformation Brunch after worship. Watch for more information from the Fellowship Committee regarding this classic Reformation potluck fellowship opportunity.

In addition to the large, full congregation fellowship opportunities that our congregation has, I also was able to take the opportunity to share some personal fellowship time with several members on a personal basis this summer. Lynn VanBeckum helped me by lining up and scheduling some in-home visits. We started alphabetically at the beginning and the end of our church directory and worked our way toward the middle. We didn't get to everyone, but can try for more next summer. For those of you with whom I was able to visit this summer, I appreciate the time you shared with me. I want to be able to know not only your names, but also what's going on in your life. The best way to do that is to spend time together. I am available for visits (in-home or in my office) throughout the year. If you'd ever like to visit together, please let me know. I'd be glad to spend some time with you and get to know you better.

Planning: We have completed the architectural phase of our plans for a building project to improve our entrance/gathering space and restrooms. This will undoubtedly be one of the main points of attention at the voters' meeting. This building project is exciting and likely to be a very good thing for our congregation. I think it's also important to be aware that the leadership of our congregation is discussing and planning not only to address providing the physical material of a building project intended for the benefit of those who are already here, but also to address opportunities we have to share the gospel with people who are not here and who are not currently being served with a ministry in their community. You, the members of Mt. Olive, have well supported our ministry. The leadership of our congregation has the responsibility to make the most of what we share together and of what God has given us. We believe that God has blessed our congregation in ways that allows us to do more than what we are currently doing. Our church council has and will continue to discuss the options and opportunities we have to do just that. We have decided that we don't want to overwhelm with too much information at once, so we will focus on the building project for now and discuss the plans to expand our ministry soon.

Thank you: A seminary professor who became a professor after decades of ministry as a parish pastor was asked in class, "Pastor, did you ever want to resign?" And the elderly professor said, "Yeah, just about every

day." For all of us, we face challenges in our lives as sinners in a sinful world. And I am certainly not immune to that. The random acts of kindness that I have received this month (since apparently October is pastor appreciation month – who knew?) are recognized, appreciated, and encouraging.

I recognize that our congregation is doing well and we are blessed. I thank you for that, and I thank God for that. God is blessing us and our ministry. When faced with abundant blessing, one of the easiest and most common temptations is the tendency to be complacent, apathetic and to take things for granted. I feel that many of the brothers and sisters of Mt. Olive don't fully recognize and appreciate quite all that we share. Whether it's financial support, faithful leaders, new people, a growing community, rising numbers, increased involvement, growth of sanctification, resources and opportunities provided by our church or just the fact that we still have the freedom to open our doors every Sunday without fear – these are all things to rejoice over and to thank God for. I believe this is an exciting time to be here, and exciting time to serve you. And you support me, as I serve you. For that I thank you and I thank God.

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

Godspeed,
Pastor Snyder

Financial Report

Balance Sheet:

Assets	September 30, 2016	
Current Assets		
Checking/Savings		
First Merit - Dedicated *6987		
5001 Flowers	-868.55	
5002 Gifts/Memorials	21,881.75	
5005 Brown County Fair	276.94	
5008 Charities	190.00	
5009 Confirmation	41.36	
5010 Building Fund	<u>11,500.00</u>	
Total First Merit - Dedicated *6987	33,021.50	a \$ 58,447.07 Total Dedicated Fund
First Merit - General *6979	48,200.21	b \$ 113,341.52 Total General Fund
WELS CEF9772 - 60 mo - Contingency Fun	22,682.48	c \$ 22,682.48 Total Contingency Fu
WELS CEF9773 - 60 mo - Ded Fund	25,425.57	a
WELS CEF9774 - 6 mo - Gen Fund	<u>65,141.31</u>	b
Total Checking/Savings	<u>194,471.07</u>	
Total Current Assets	<u>194,471.07</u>	
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>194,471.07</u>	\$ 194,471.07

Actual vs. Budget:

	Jan - Sep 16	Budget	\$ Over Budget
Income			
8000-Income - Gen Fund			
8001 - Envelope	175,167.50	133,700.00	41,467.50
8002 - Other Plate	10,172.18	4,500.00	5,672.18
8007 - Facility Fees	495.00		
Total 8000-Income - Gen Fund	185,834.68	138,200.00	47,634.68
TOTAL INCOME	185,834.68	138,200.00	47,634.68
Expense			
1000-Pastor - Gen Fund			
1001 - Salary/Expense	29,067.55	29,064.06	3.49
1002 - Business Allowance	1,431.00	1,710.00	-279.00
1004 - Pension	2,340.00	2,340.00	0.00
1005 - TSA/Health Expenses	17,426.20	17,415.00	11.20
1006 - Worker's Comp	918.00	955.00	-37.00
1007 - Conference Expense	3,030.08	3,150.00	-119.92
Total 1000-Pastor - Gen Fund	54,212.83	54,634.06	-421.23
1100-Other Staff - Gen Fund			
1101 - Organists	4,159.97	5,989.00	-1,829.03
1102 - Substitute Pastor	1,200.00	1,500.00	-300.00
1103 - Secretarial	10,503.46	11,700.00	-1,196.54
1104 - Choir Assistant	311.06	750.00	-438.94
1106 - Custodian	1,702.69	2,070.00	-367.31
1107 - Faith In Action Team	0.00	9,600.00	-9,600.00
Total 1100-Other Staff - Gen Fund	17,877.18	31,609.00	-13,731.82
1200-Utilities - Gen Fund			
1201 - Church	2,863.11	4,295.00	-1,431.89
1202 - Parsonage	1,456.49	1,720.00	-263.51
1203 - Telephone	1,116.47	900.00	216.47
1204 - Internet	716.60	900.00	-183.40
Total 1200-Utilities - Gen Fund	6,152.67	7,815.00	-1,662.33
1300-Maintenance - Gen Fund			
1301 - Maintenance	7,955.89	3,600.00	4,355.89
1302 - Snow Removal	919.41	750.00	169.41
Total 1300-Maintenance - Gen Fund	8,875.30	4,350.00	4,525.30
1400-Property Improv - Gen Fund			
1401 - Property Improvement	7,906.62	7,200.00	706.62
1402 - Audio Video Upgrade	749.00	11,000.00	-10,251.00
1403 - Building Project Design	4,787.21	14,000.00	-9,212.79
Total 1400-Property Improv - Gen Fund	13,442.83	32,200.00	-18,757.17
1500-Outreach - Gen Fund			
1501 - Outreach	2,746.50	1,350.00	1,396.50
1502 - Easter For Kids	1,145.80	2,500.00	-1,354.20
1503 - VBS	1,221.49	3,000.00	-1,778.51
1505 - Christmas For Kids	59.99		
Total 1500-Outreach - Gen Fund	5,173.78	6,850.00	-1,676.22

(continued)	Jan - Sep 16	Budget	\$ Over Budget
1600-Shepherding - Gen Fund			
1601 - Shepherding	3,257.38	1,800.00	1,457.38
Total 1600-Shepherding - Gen Fund	<u>3,257.38</u>	<u>1,800.00</u>	<u>1,457.38</u>
1700-Supplies - General Fund			
1701 - Worship/Choir	1,596.24	900.00	696.24
1702 - Education	1,212.29	1,350.00	-137.71
1703 - Office	2,857.45	2,880.00	-22.55
1704 - Stewardship/Envelopes	127.31	500.00	-372.69
1705 - Misc	74.14		
Total 1700-Supplies - General Fund	<u>5,867.43</u>	<u>5,630.00</u>	<u>237.43</u>
1800-Meditations - Gen Fund			
1801 - Meditations	542.26	825.00	-282.74
Total 1800-Meditations - Gen Fund	<u>542.26</u>	<u>825.00</u>	<u>-282.74</u>
1900-Multi-Peril Ins - Gen Fund			
1901 - Multi-Peril Insurance	3,597.00	3,597.00	0.00
Total 1900-Multi-Peril Ins - Gen Fund	<u>3,597.00</u>	<u>3,597.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
2000-Outside Mt. Olive-Gen Fund			
2001 - Synod Missions	14,175.00	14,175.00	0.00
2002 - Tuition	7,313.21	16,129.00	-8,815.79
2003 - Mission Partners	2,416.19		
2004 - Misc. Charities	0.00		
Total 2000-Outside Mt. Olive-Gen Fund	<u>23,904.40</u>	<u>30,304.00</u>	<u>-6,399.60</u>
2200-Bank Charges - Gen Fund			
2201 - Bank Charges	171.63	80.00	91.63
Total 2200-Bank Charges - Gen Fund	<u>171.63</u>	<u>80.00</u>	<u>91.63</u>
TOTAL EXPENSE	<u>143,074.69</u>	<u>179,694.06</u>	<u>-36,619.37</u>
	42,759.99	-41,494.06	84,254.05

Church Property Report

- All plumbing updates/repairs have been completed.
- One of the two air conditioners has recently been replaced and the second AC unit will be evaluated when units are moved for the church addition project.
- Window replacement in church parsonage is complete.
- Estimates for parsonage deck have been submitted and contractor will be determined with plans to proceed in 2017.
- Estimates for converting church lighting to LED lighting are currently in progress.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Miles, Property Director

Lay Ministry Report

Thank You to the people who shared their time and talents serving their Lord and our congregation in various ways.

The Member Visitation Team continues to visit our members that are recovering from an injury or illness, or are home bound. Marcia Brodhagen serves in the role of volunteer coordinator in this effort. She also is coordinator of the Circle of Friends (formerly known as Mt Olive Seniors).

The new church pictorial directory portrait days are set for October 20, 21, and 22 with Lifetouch Photography. Sign up can be done at church each Sunday until October 16 . Sign up can also be done online at bit.ly/mtolivedirectory. Receive \$10 off a portrait package purchase just for signing up. You will also receive a free 8x10 portrait and directory just for having your picture taken! Plus, bring in a non-perishable food item to your portrait appointment and receive \$5 off a portrait package purchase.

We are in need of volunteers to help with sign up, staff a Welcome Center and complete check-in paperwork. We are hoping for 2-3 hosts/hostesses per 3 1/2 hour shift during actual portrait times.

Portrait times are as follows: Thursday, October 20, 2pm – 9 pm

Friday, October 21, 2pm – 9 pm

Saturday, October 22, 10am-5pm

Big Thank You to Sarah Schrader, and Lori and Jill Schoenwalder for all thier help with the new directory!

Respectfully submitted,

John Schoenwalder, Director of Lay Ministry

Outreach Report

The Outreach Committee which also consists of the Charity Sub-Committee has been involved in the following activities from June 2016 to present:

- Vacation Bible School awareness and involvement in handing out fliers that were created and prop materials acquired and assembled. Our goal of 60 participants was met with 61 in attendance!
- The Outreach Committee met September 20 to plan for Harvest Fest which is to be held Saturday, October 29 from 2-5pm. Sarah Schrader is heading up the Harvest Fest planning with willing congregational volunteers.
- At the time of writing this report, Harvest Fest canvassing is to take place Saturday morning at 9am.
- Planning has begun for the Howard-Suamico Christmas Parade to be held Saturday December 3 at 1pm.

Thank you to the Charity Committee for their efforts in building the Community Garden plot on our Church property and for their continued efforts to reach out to needs of the community and WELS awareness requests.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Behnke-Director of Outreach

Shepherding 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:

Accepted into membership by transfer:

- Karl and Kirsten Peters; Kollin and Kolton from St. Matthews, Pound
- Craig and Melissa Nowak; Tyler, Brady and Harper from St. Paul, Oconto Falls

Received into membership through adult instruction and confirmation:

- Lyndsay Larson
- Bill and Lisa Palomaki
- Kathy Walsh

Received into membership by profession of faith:

- Sandra Alicia
- Andy Krueger
- Lori Thompson; Ben, Andrew and Cora

Received into membership through baptism:

- Sydney and Samantha Palomaki
- Owen Zimdars (expected November)

Grant membership transfer:

- Dan Henselin to First Lutheran, Lake Geneva
- Denise Karnowski to Christ the Lord, Brookview
- Doug and Merry Suring to Calvary, Abrams
- Ben and Gloria Otis to Beautiful Savior, Green Bay

Release from membership by personal request:

- Alex Shorey
- Jim and June Stern

Thanks goes out to the Fellowship Committee for their involvement in organizing the Church Picnic held Sunday, September 11 at Bay Beach. We had just over 50 in attendance.

Respectfully Submitted,

David H. Winther, Director of Shepherding Mt. Olive Lutheran Church

Voter's Meeting Agenda

October 18, 2016

Call to order

Opening devotion

Minutes from previous Voters' Meeting

New Voters – accept as new voters any male members of the congregation age 18 or over (in keeping with I Corinthians 15 and our constitution and bylaws) wishing to become voters

Reports

- Finance
- Outreach
- Property
- Shepherding
- Lay Ministry
- Pastor
- Other

Elections

- President –
- Director of Finance – Darren McDougal
- Director of Outreach – Bruce Behnke
- Property Director – John Havemier
- Secretary – Cameron Teske (*second half of a two-year term*)

Old Business

The Council recommends that the Voters

1. Approve the Building Project Proposal.

New Business

Adjournment

Close with the Lord's Prayer

Building Project Proposal

The Church Council Recommends that the Voters:

- Grant the Building Committee the authority to continue working with Dimension IV, and to begin engaging a builder and contractors to complete the building expansion project presented to the congregation, with a budget of \$450,000.
- Direct the Director of Finance to:
 - Move \$45,000 from uncommitted Gifts/Memorials (Dedicated Fund) to the Building Fund.
 - Initiate a Phase 2 Fund for significant Outreach activities in 2017 and following, and move \$50,000 from budget surplus into the fund.
- Authorize a capital campaign with the goal of increasing the Building Fund to \$150,000 before groundbreaking (Spring 2017).
- Authorize the Church Council to borrow the funds needed for the building project.

Support of the Recommendation:

The estimated total cost of the building project (Phase 1) is \$450,000 and includes remodeling the sanctuary.

Dimension IV anticipates that construction could begin in the spring of 2017.

A building fund has already been established. It contains \$11,500. The goal of \$150,000 could be reached with \$93,500 of new gifts and the proposed \$45,000 transfer from Gifts/Memorials.

If a building fund target of \$150,000 is reached before groundbreaking, the remaining \$300,000 could be financed. A 25-year loan at 4% would require a monthly payment of approximately \$1600.

The proposal leaves the current Contingency Fund (approximately \$22,700) available for unforeseen expenses related to the current property.

The budget account is forecast to end 2016 with \$30,000 of surplus/reserves (after using \$50,000 to establish a Phase 2 fund).

Phase 2 refers to plans (not yet approved) to begin a second site, likely in Hobart or Pulaski.

The members of the Building Committee are Rick Borzych, Harold Peterson, Joe Albers, Ellery Gulbrand, Darren McDougal, Dave Winther, Sarah Schrader, Carter Boldt, Pastor Snyder.