

Annual Report 2019

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – JUNE 12, 2019, 6:30 P.M.

House of Prayer Lutheran Church

7625 CHICAGO AVENUE SOUTH, RICHFIELD, MN 55423

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday, June 12, 2019

1. Call to Order
2. Opening Prayer
3. Reports
 - Senior Pastor
 - Associate Pastor
 - Leadership Ministry Team, Staff (See Booklet of Reports)
4. Financial Report & Budget Approval
5. Election of Officers, Ministry Team Leaders, Nominating Committee
6. Congregational Updates: Collaboration process, SDA partnership, Capital Campaign
7. Other Business
8. HOP Foundation Report
9. Adjournment
10. Closing Prayer

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SENIOR PASTOR

2018 - 2019 Annual Report

I continue to serve with great satisfaction, calling, and thanksgiving at House of Prayer. The past year has been one of continued progress as we seek to connect to our community and position ourselves for future growth and development. I am blessed to serve alongside a gifted and committed staff, visionary and strong elected leaders, and a generous and supportive congregation. Thank you! It has been and continues to be a blessing to serve as senior pastor.

The House of Prayer value statement continues to be a measuring stick for all we do as a congregation. As we minister to the spiritual needs within our congregation and participate in God's mission in the world, we do so seeking to reflect the most Christ-like version of these values. *House of Prayer is a gathering of God's people who value: welcoming, relationships, compassionate community, and openness.*

Welcoming: In the past year we have been blessed to welcome many visitors, guests, and new members into the life of House of Prayer. We consistently hear from new people how welcome they feel. Let us keep up the good work! Additionally, I would also commend our congregation to move beyond a mentality of welcoming toward a behavior of inviting. Most people become part of a new church because they have been invited by a friend or family member. If we can all pray for those in our lives who are not part of a congregation to check out House of Prayer it would be a great blessing.

We have also been discussing and discerning the difference between welcoming and inclusion. For people to be included for who they are requires all of us to welcome the whole person. The Reconciling in Christ team has specifically been working on what it means for House of Prayer to openly welcome and include the LGBTQ community. We live into the best version of welcoming when we struggle with these questions and grow as a community of faith.

Relationships: Within the membership of House of Prayer I consistently hear the importance and depth of the relationships people have at HOP. For many, these relationships have been fostered over the years and decades and have been a source of strength and support. In the past few months, Pastor Kelly, Ben Whalen, and I have been undergoing a listening campaign to understand the relational connections at HOP and how they could be strengthened. Moving forward, we will seek to develop new opportunities for long-standing members to connect to newer members, and younger families to connect with one another. This will provide long-term stability and strength for House of Prayer and provide the basis for care and spiritual growth for the congregation.

Compassionate Community: I am in awe of how this congregation cares for one another. The essence of compassion is to walk with those who are hurting and I see examples of this almost

every day at HOP. This is exemplified in times of grief, times of health challenges, and beyond. For every meal that is shared, card that is sent, phone dialed, and every visit made, lies a deep compassion within this congregation. There is genuine Christian love at HOP that extends beyond friendships and family obligations. Moving forward, we seek to ensure that all people receive care and that our compassion would extend to our community. We have made great strides in reaching out to our community. I continue to envision Richfield as our parish, with our deep and abiding concern for all people of the community, with a special heart for those who are hurting. Let us continue to compassionately love and care for all within our congregation and community.

Openness: Change is often challenging for congregations, but House of Prayer exhibits an openness to new ideas and approaches that is refreshing and life-giving. I always seek to support new ideas and passions for ministry and mission. We have been blessed with an abundance of human and material resources which allows us to say “yes” to new opportunities. Let our minds remain open to the work of Spirit in our midst, whether these ideas come from our members or from friends of the congregation. In this spirit, we continue to invest time and energy in the collaboration with our fellow ELCA congregations in Richfield. We have been focusing on plans and goals for both the long and short-term and believe we have important Kingdom work to do together. We also have partnered with many organizations who utilize our building. Most notably, we have been exploring a future partnership with Southview Seventh Day Adventist church. At this point our conversations have been positive but preliminary. As always, we pray for the leading of the Holy Spirit and for our hearts and minds to be open to what God is calling us to.

May God continue to bless House of Prayer!

Ben Sandin

Senior Pastor

ASSOCIATE PASTOR

2018-2019 Annual Report

In the 2017-2018 annual report, as the Interim Minister of Adult Faith Formation and Visitation, I wrote that it “has been a blessing to serve part-time at House of Prayer while I await a call to ordained ministry.” Never could I have imagined it would be at House of Prayer! Thank you for calling me as your ¾ time Associate Pastor in February, followed by an ordination service and reception on April 13. It comes with great joy to say it continues to be a blessing and privilege to serve at House of Prayer! Below are highlights from the past year.

Adult faith formation on Wednesday nights was in a year of transition. A pattern observed from the previous year was that formal Bible studies led by a pastor were the most attended, while other program offerings had lesser turn out. Due to this we decided to provide Bible studies led by pastors or Biblical scholars on selected weeks of the year, rather than trying to provide weekly programming.

In August 2018, Pastor Ben and I co-led a well-attended six-week Bible study on the book of Revelation, and with the use of Discipleship Dedicated Funds we brought in two ELCA pastors/Biblical scholars for the Fall and Lenten season. Professor Mark Tranvik from Augsburg College led a study called the *Challenging Sayings of Jesus* in the fall, and in Lent Professor Kathryn Schifferdecker from Luther Seminary led *Psalms as Tools for Prayer*.

In-between these two studies, a winter Bible study on the book of Job was led by Intern Deanna, which was also well-attended. Though all three studies during the programming year were extended to the Richfield Collaboration of Churches, it remained consistent that Bible studies led by the House of Prayer pastors/intern had more in attendance than paid Biblical scholars. We will continue to assess adult faith formation for the 2019-2020 programming year.

At the end of March, Pastor Ben, Ben Whalen, and I began interviewing House of Prayer members and regular attendees, from long-time members to newer folks in the congregation, for our 2019 Listening Campaign. From these conversations we will look at themes that emerge to help us learn more about the needs/interests/ideas for not only adult education, but for the overall ministries, programming, and spiritual development of House of Prayer.

In February, a Women’s Grief and Resiliency Dinner was held for all who lost a partner. We were blessed to hear from Catherine Duncan who taught about grief and led a variety of meditative practices. Nearly thirty women attended, and a follow-up Coffee and Conversation recently took place at a local Richfield restaurant. There will be more gatherings in the future.

Pastor Ben and I continue to share preaching, leading worship, the general pastoral care of the congregation, and funerals.

Associate Pastor Report, continued

Finally, I am grateful for the wonderful staff, gifted leaders, volunteers, and people of this congregation who tirelessly give of themselves to make House of Prayer the welcoming church that it is. We are a community doing God's work in our midst. Thank you for all you do!

Kelly Sandin

Associate Pastor

PRESIDENT OF THE CONGREGATION

2018 - 2019 Annual Report

House of Prayer Lutheran Church

Is a gathering of God's people who value:

Welcoming, Relationships, Compassionate Community, and Openness

Looking back over the past 6 years that I've been on the Executive Ministry Team, I can say it's been a worthwhile trip. Personally, it's been time growth in my own faith and abilities. As a congregation, I think we have a lot of great things going for us and we've grown as a community and a congregation. We have a wonderful staff, great volunteers, and members that love and take care of HOP...both its members and facility. I've enjoyed working with the other people on the Leadership Ministry Team. They give a lot of time and energy to HOP and have helped the congregation discern our direction. We've tackled various tough issues that we haven't dealt with in the past. Our financial position is strong through the continued generosity and growth of our members. We've made many inroads to the Richfield community with our work and commitment in Richfield and reaching out and attracting new members. We've been open to new approaches and realizing that change is OK. Is it scary? Yes, but by having faith and always trying to do what's right for all of God's people, I think we're on the right track. The Refuel service has given HOP another avenue for reaching out to people. If you haven't been to the Refuel service lately, please join in and meet some of the new faces at HOP.

House of Prayer is home to me. A place that's comfortable. When I joined 30 years ago, I was joining Donna and Dar's church where Cara was baptized and confirmed. When we got married in June 1989 at HOP, we became members of a "couples club". I said yes to becoming an usher. I said yes to joining the brass group. I would recommend becoming involved, if you're not already. Step outside your comfort zone. Say yes and grow in faith. Thanks to everyone that has been supportive to me during my tenure in leadership at HOP. I appreciate the prayers and confidence you have given me.

Scott Wright

Congregation President

VICE PRESIDENT OF THE CONGREGATION

2018 - 2019 Annual Report

The Congregation VP is House of Prayer's risk management officer. As in Fiscal 2018, the focus stayed on complementing the work of our Director of Operations and Communications.

To that end, the office has continued its efforts toward a simplified internal audit process, with counting / deposit validation cycle audit conducted in January 2019 with no remarkable findings. A further streamlining effort is in process at time of this writing; results of the process and audit outcome is planned for review at the June 12 Annual Meeting.

House of Prayer's AED (Automated External Defibrillator) received a battery refresh in June 2018, and monthly maintenance routine has been established to assure uninterrupted service. An AED/CPR hands-on training class hosted by Richfield Fire Department was conducted on July 19, 2018 with 22 participants.

Brent King

Congregation Vice President

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

2018 – 2019 Annual Report

Children, Youth, & Family Ministry

Sunday School and Wednesday Youth Group continue to be a major part of these ministries and make a big impact on our congregation's kids. This year our Sunday School children learned about Moses, the Lord's Prayer, Jesus Calming the Storm, the Last Supper, Lydia, and more. Mindy Mennicke continues to do an amazing job leading them in song each week and in the Christmas Program. This summer she will be trying out a new opportunity at 11:00 worship for children to help out more in worship through music and other roles. Many thanks also to our dedicated teachers and helpers who lead lessons each week, preppers who plan and set up each week, and the Faith at Home team who creates resources to help families explore the lessons together outside of church.

Youth Group this year was the "Year of Jesus" for both the 5th/6th grade group and the Confirmation group. They explored the stories, parables, and sayings of Jesus and what it means to follow him. The high schoolers this year discussed tough questions like, "Why does God let bad things happen?" and, "How does our faith call us to respond to racism?" We also got to work together on some amazing service projects cleaning up a local park, preparing meals for an LSS house, leading Bingo at Martin Luther Campus, packing toilet paper at VEAP, and Many Hands, Many Meals. We also had quite a bit of fun on the fall Confirmation Retreat, the March Lock-In with Gustavus Youth Outreach, and through activities like laser tag, our annual Halloween celebration, sledding, and kickball. One highlight this spring was pairing up youth and mentors. In addition to adults mentoring Confirmation youth, we also had several high schoolers mentor the 5th & 6th graders which was a fun addition. Together they talked, did a photo scavenger hunt, made pizza dough for Simpson Shelter, and got to know one another in the process.

We also took some great trips this past year: Last summer the high schoolers went to Houston, TX for the National Youth Gathering which was a life-changing experience with over 30,000 other youth. Now this summer we're getting ready to go to Chicago for the high school mission trip. Also last summer, several families from our church, Oak Grove, and Woodlake all went to Superior, WI for our annual Family Mission Trip and we're preparing for another group of almost 50 folks to go back this summer. Finally, we continue to grow our connection to Luther Park Bible Camp with more youth attending summer camp there last year and again this July.

We owe many thanks to all the shareholders who invested in these important overnight opportunities for our kids.

Last summer's VBS – "Shipwrecked" – was a blast once again thanks to the hard work of Heidi Thomas & Cindy Jacobs and all the other volunteers! This year's VBS will take us around the world to find out how God loves everyone and we're all one human family. It continues to be free and open to friends, guests, and neighbors.

One opportunity I want to highlight for current or potential volunteers is the annual ReCharge conference held each January. This year, 6 HOP leaders came along and attended workshops on building youth leaders, children's mental health, involving children in worship, ministering to children with disabilities, preparing youth for adulthood, and more. This is a great one-day commitment to helping better serve everyone we work with!

Lastly, I'll give a teaser that Pastor Ben, Pastor Kelly, and I have been meeting with many folks about what comes next at our congregation to keep growing and improving and some great ideas are coming to the surface. Keep an eye out for opportunities to join in as we move ahead!

Community Engagement

We continue to live into the vision of being a congregation deeply rooted and involved in the community of Richfield! Thank you to everyone who has participated in that vision through:

- Teaching or tutoring for either round of our Citizenship Classes and taking time to build relationships with community members preparing for the Naturalization Exam
- Working with the Richfield Community Housing Team and other community leaders to pass important policies that protect renters and encourage more affordable housing
- Handing out produce and meeting neighbors at The Veggie Table last summer (or helping begin planning for this coming summer)
- Donating toward and/or helping hand out the Sheridan Story weekend food packs for students at Centennial Elementary
- Building connections between the ELCA Collaboration Churches (Woodlake, Oak Grove, and House of Prayer) and beginning to work together with Southview SDA who worships in our building
- Reading once a week with students at the Richfield Dual Language School
- Cleaning up litter twice a year at Christian Park
- Marching in the annual Fourth of July Parade

Director of Youth Ministry & Community Development Report, continued

- Handing out free water & granola bars at Penn Fest
- Serving on the Community Engagement Team to help plan/coordinate any of the above!

Honestly, there is much more than this happening through our congregation to invite, stand with, involve, and enrich our neighbors and the whole community. In writing this I have the marvelous problem of not knowing what to include because this community-oriented value has begun permeating so many areas of what we do. I hope we continue to blur the lines between what is or is not “community work” because we continue to engage our neighborhood in more and more of what we do.

One thing I’ve been doing somewhat “behind the scenes” that I wanted to share with you all is helping build and support a network of community-oriented church staff members within the Minneapolis Area Synod. When I started, I was one of only five church staff in our synod with a community focus. The five of us have met regularly to support one another while also encouraging more faith communities to engage their local neighborhoods and providing resources for congregations to step into that work. This has included a template job description for community staff, a panel at Bishop’s Theological Conference, conversations with other churches, trainings for potential leaders, and resource videos still underway. In April, I attended a retreat with several community-oriented staff people in our synod (there’s now 12 of us!) to talk about next steps. This is exciting growth for our broader Church, and you should all be proud we’re leading the way! In a recent conversation at a church considering a new community focus, I shared about our work and they said, “Wow! It sounds like you’re already doing what we’re trying to figure out.”

We certainly have room to grow and more to keep figuring out, but THANK YOU for embracing our community vision and leading the way into a faith that is more deeply intertwined with our neighborhood.

Ben Whalen,

Director of Youth Ministry & Community Development

DIRECTOR OF WORSHIP AND MUSIC

2018-2019 Annual Report

Sing the Glory of God's Name! Praise God with timbrel and dance, with the sound of the trumpet! Praise God with strings and pipe, with tambourine and clanging cymbals! Sing Praise to our God, Sing praises!

(This report is largely focused on 9:30 worship – I will leave Refuel in the very capable hands of its outstanding leader, Josh Countryman.)

House of Prayer continues to embody the words of the Psalmist above. Our worship is very much alive, very much engaging and very much inclusive. We are quite intentional about involving as many voices as possible within worship, and all rise to the occasion every time!

Beyond musicians, huge thanks to all who volunteer in SO many ways to make our worship flow so well and display great flexibility and ability to adapt on the fly: ushers, communion assistants, lectors – just to name a few.

Without fail, visitors to House of Prayer come express how much they enjoy the energy, structure, and commitment to detail displayed in our worship; and there are many people to thank or that.

Here is a brief summary of some highlights and descriptions of the program in 2018-19.

Director of Worship & Music: Phil Mennicke. I continue to enjoy collaborating with staff and congregation members in creating, structuring and carrying out worship services that appeal to as broad a base of people as possible. We who are charged with leading the 9:30 service continue to seek the effective balance between tradition and “freshness” of different and new sounds.

Organist: Jon Kietzer; Jon continues to play for services at a very high level, as well as nimbly wearing various other hats within the dept. (see below). Karen Bartz has done her usual superb job of filling in for Jon when he is traveling. Also serving in the “accompanist” area is frequently utilized guitar player Dave Decker, with Kristi Liu occasionally helping out on the keyboard when Jon or Karen aren't as readily available.

Adult Choir: This ensemble has again served as a “worship leader” for the entire year. The group is increasingly flexible with diving into worship elements that go way beyond “the anthem of the day”. We have also enjoyed collaborating with other choirs (more on that later).

Sunday School Children: Mindy Mennicke is finishing her second year as the leader of this group. The kids worked on songs during the Sunday School time and presented music several times for both the 9:30 and 11:00 services at a very high and energetic level. There are a good number of these younger children, and hopefully many will continue to be involved with music in the church as they get older. Also, thanks much to Kristi Liu for regularly accompanying the group.

Handbell Choir: This group plays in worship at a very high level, playing a highly eclectic variety of music. They are also very good about playing many things outside of their “stand alone” anthems, adding a nice and effective touch to hymns and liturgical items.

Brass Ensemble: Jon Kietzer directs this group, which also provides music for services on a monthly basis. We are VERY fortunate to have such an exciting and inspiring (volunteer!) group to give us that occasional edge in worship that only a brass group can, whether it be in their literature or adding extra life to our hymn singing.

HOP Wind Ensemble: Jon also conducts this group, which, like the brass ensemble, can bring our worship experience to a whole different level on the occasions they play for services. They are supplemented by members of the “Northern Winds Concert Band,” a group that rehearses here under the inspired direction of HOP member Joe Speakman. The group also had players from Kennedy HS and the Minneapolis Area Synod Band.

It has also been enjoyable to have the opportunity to work collaboratively with our fellow Lutheran congregations in Richfield. While the other churches may not approach certain elements of worship exactly how we do at HOP, it has been a good experience to get to know these neighbors and work closely with their leadership. We’ve found that perhaps the ideal service for this type of collaboration is Thanksgiving Eve, so the hope is that continues in the future. We also continued the “tradition” of a collaborative outdoor summer service at Veteran’s Park and will do so again this August.

Our choir and congregation also had the privilege for the third time to sing with the choir from Peace Lutheran (Bloomington), with our group joining theirs at Peace on a Sunday, and theirs

joining our choir at HOP a couple of weeks later. Peace is our “daughter” congregation, and this is a truly special and positive connection with those good people.

We have been fortunate this year to have several outstanding visiting groups share their artistic ministry with us for services. Among these groups are the Mark A. David Brass Quintet and the Brass Art Quartet.

One of the greatest blessings we have here at HOP is the beautifully eclectic collection of countless individuals who freely give of their time and skills to provide solo music, both vocal and instrumental, as well as serve in worship leadership roles with cantoring, etc. It is simply amazing to me how much time and energy so many people of HOP selflessly give to contributing to our music and worship life.

And as long as we’re listing our blessings, I’d be remiss to not count the entire congregation as chief among them. Our people engage actively in worship, try new things with positive attitudes, and sing their hearts out with one collective voice. All the planning and structuring and leading doesn’t add up to much of anything if the “people in the pews” aren’t willing to dive in and lend their voice. That’s why it works here!

With the various changes and needed “evolution” of HOP, our worship service remains a rock of the church community, a fire that still burns brightly. Great things are happening in music and worship – more is yet to come – and we have the dedicated people of HOP to thank for that – Kudos to you all!

Phil Mennicke

Director of Worship and Music

REFUEL WORSHIP LEADER

2018 - 2019 Annual Report

Mission Statement: To create an alternative worship experience that is experiential, relevant, participatory, and welcoming!

Music - As before, we continue to expand our catalogue of both sacred and secular songs that we sing in ReFuel. Sacred music grounds us in the traditions and history of our faith, while secular music creates bridges between our church life and our weekly life. We are always trying to find the messages of God in unlikely places, drawing us closer to Him and helping us to find Him where we least expect it.

Our two rotating worship teams are strong, having been joined by Blaine Turk on a regular basis on vocals. As always, we try to keep music fresh and interesting, and I occasionally bring in a few of my musician friends to liven things up. We have acquired two iPads for use by the worship teams, which all but eliminates our need to use paper.

Volunteers - A HUGE thank you to all the volunteers that make this service run. Cara Wright has done a wonderful job recruiting and scheduling volunteers and has now handed off the baton to Kielyn Simonson. Thanks for stepping up Kielyn! As always, we need more volunteers, so please consider connecting with Kielyn or myself to find ways to volunteer. We are not asking anyone to volunteer every Sunday, but many hands make light work and this service belongs to all of us, so please help us make it an inviting place for all! In particular, we are in need of some new volunteers willing to run sound and screens. It may sound daunting, but it's actually pretty easy, so don't hesitate to step forward. We will help you be prepared!

Space - We updated the Parish Hall this year with new wall mounted speakers and TVs. It makes the entire space seem much bigger and cleaner and creates a more welcoming environment. We will soon have a sound desk in the Parish Hall, which will allow us to secure our equipment without the need for constant set up and tear down, which takes its toll on the equipment. Thanks to Pastor Ben's dad for making that desk for us!

Also, I dialed in the sound in the sanctuary, so we shouldn't have any problems moving forward.

If anyone reading this has the desire to come and volunteer as a musician for ReFuel, please come talk to me or send me an email at countryman@hoplc.org.

Josh Countryman

ReFuel Worship Leader

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS & COMMUNICATIONS

2018 - 2019 Annual Report

It's amazing how busy our church office is every day! Just when I think things will start to slow down, more opportunities arise to support our congregation, community, rental partners, and to do God's work with our hands in every way possible. In April, I started my third year on staff at HOP. My four main areas of focus continue to be: Facilities/Operations Management, Volunteer Coordination, Office/Congregational Administrative Leadership, and Communication/Marketing Management, – with a healthy dose of “other duties as assigned.”

Facilities/Operations Management: Our building is a wonderful resource and we are doing our best to use it to its full potential for our members, renters, and community. This year, I have focused more time and energy on managing our operations and facility in the following areas:

- Rental / Community Partnerships – While our HOP congregation regularly uses our large building for many ministry opportunities during the week, I estimate that we use between 30%-40% of the time and space available. This gives us a great opportunity to partner with 11 other groups to rent or regularly use our facility. Currently,
 - 3 other congregations worship here (Southview Seventh Day Adventist Church, Iglesia Apostolica, and Great & Might Works Ministry),
 - 6 music ensembles rehearse here (Northern Winds Concert Band, Augsburg Centennial Singers, Mark A. David Quartet, Brass Art Quartet, Sunrise Brass, Mary Parker Soloist),
 - other community-based groups like Just for Kix dance classes and Floralia flower designers meet here, and
 - we host our community by providing rental space for events like birthday/anniversary/graduation parties, family reunions, weddings, meetings/ recognition events, recording sessions, and community forums.

As of April 30, 2019, our budgeted rental income was \$59,480 (with a YTD goal of \$72,000). So far this year, rental income as of April 30, 2019, has exceeded our goal by \$6,905 (YTD rental income \$66,385). For next year, we are setting a goal of \$84,000 in rental income. That's a big number! It takes a lot of coordination and cooperation from our members, staff, and renters to make this happen. Thanks to all.

- Building Improvement/Maintenance and Cleanliness – Along with increased usages and an aging facility, we continue to experience a need for substantial ongoing maintenance, building improvement and attention to cleanliness.

Director of Operations & Communications Report, continued

- We have developed a list of capital projects and have started to research costs to present to the congregation. This list partially includes: heating and air conditioning system renovation, Fellowship Hall renovation (including commercial kitchen and ADA compliant bathrooms), upstairs bathroom remodel, building entrance upgrades (canopy/carpet), and office windows. You will be hearing more about these projects soon.
- We are extremely fortunate and thankful for our Maintenance Manager, Ramo Zejnilovic. His commitment to House of Prayer facilities and members is unparalleled. Ramo's skill and ability to maintain the building daily and fix ongoing HVAC maintenance issues, roof leaks, elevator flooring, and install carpeting in the Large Muscle Room/Ed Hall conference room has saved HOP a great deal of money in contractor fees.
- In addition to Ramo's daily building cleaning, we have worked with Southview and Iglesia to designate custodians to assist with facility cleaning, hired Elver's Cleaning Service for twice weekly cleaning, and thank our Altar Guild volunteers, Spring clean-up crew, HOP members, and other renters for their ongoing efforts to maintain a clean space for all to use.
- Vendor Contacts – I've paid special attention this year to understanding and analyzing vendor contracts. As contracts renew, I receive bids from several companies and scrutinize the best value and service level needed for HOP. This has resulted in changes in almost every contract reviewed. Also, as a result of the Richfield ELCA Churches Collaboration listening project that was completed last fall, the business administrators from each congregation have been meeting monthly to compare best practices, including a thorough review of processes and contacts which has resulted in new learning and efficiencies.

Volunteer Coordination: I'm blessed to work with many wonderful HOP volunteers in many capacities. I'm especially thankful for our Church Office Volunteers and Funeral Meal Volunteers.

- The Church Office runs because of our awesome team of volunteers! They are the friendly faces that greet you and our office visitors Mondays – Thursdays and Sundays. They faithfully help with everything from congregational mailings, attendance and membership tracking, Narthex monitor updates, worship service volunteer reminders, worship bulletin and Community News preparation, and help with all the weird stuff that makes a church work. A big thank you to all the office volunteers for their willingness to "learn new things" and do whatever needs to be done with a smile.
- We have an awesome team of more than 20 volunteers that minister to families by providing kind, caring service by setting up, serving, and cleaning up meals for funerals.

These folks dedicate many hours so that families and their guests have a delicious meal and space for support and fellowship at a difficult time.

Communication and Marketing Management: What's going on at HOP? How do you know? Who's who? To be in the know, hopefully you've:

- Checked out our church website at www.hoplc.org,
- Signed up (in the Church Office or website-News/Events, Announcements) to receive the weekly electronic E-News and other HOP announcements in your email,
- Added your name to the monthly HiLines newsletter list (available either in paper form mailed to your home or via email),
- Read the Community News Sunday bulletin insert,
- Volunteered or signed up for events on the Attendance Card in the Sunday bulletin,
- Visited the HOP Facebook page (@hoplcMN) which is updated daily with Simple Supper menus, upcoming events, pictures from HOP happenings,
- Looked up at the TV monitor inside the parking lot door to find out about upcoming events or where your meeting will be that day,
- Glanced at the messages and puns on the 76th Street electronic sign,
- Reviewed the HOP calendar on our website (News/Events, Calendar),
- Picked up or purchased your new HOP Picture directory. There are still more available in the church office if you'd like one (\$10). Thanks to all that got your photo taken for the directory and all the volunteers that helped with scheduling, check-in, and photo sessions. In addition to working with LifeTouch to design this shiny new book, I worked to update HOP membership records and contact information across several databases. Please let the Church Office know if your name, address, phone numbers, or email addresses changes so we can stay in current contact with you.

If you have any questions about these publications or want to add your news, please contact me in the Church Office (612-866-8471 or cwright@hoplc.org) and we'll get it done.

Office/Congregational Administrative Leadership: Along with day to day management of everything from building scheduling, to supply purchasing (coffee to paper to computers to carpet), to tech troubleshooting, to "treasure/junk" sorting, to rodent searching, comes "other duties as assigned." Every day is full of exciting challenges and I thank God for the opportunity to do God's work in this place. Many thanks to all of you for your support and partnership!

Cara Wright

Director of Operations & Communications

FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATOR

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This year we decided to publish the Dedicated Funds along with the Operating Budget in order to provide you with a more complete picture of the finances. Although we strive to have the operating budget alone absorb all the predictable expenses, we do reserve money in the Dedicated fund for large building repairs and any unplanned program needs, which requires LMT's approval. Please see the Dedicated Funds Balances on page 32.

2019 marks my 5th anniversary with House of Prayer. When I started as a temp to fill a gap in staff, I never imagined I would be here for the long term! Making a home for myself here at House of Prayer is a decision I will never regret. I am continually grateful to be part of such a strong and caring community. I have grown personally and professionally in my time here, for example I am no longer intimidated to lead the pastoral staff in devotion (THAT took a while), I also have a renewed interest in learning other cultures as a result of taking the IDI Assessment, and each day I learn subtle lessons from those I work with, staff and congregation included.

As for the Monday morning counting team, I'm so happy to announce we have a new counter! Beth Lawrenz joined us last fall and boy am I glad she did! Beth was a quick learner and has become a solid team member --thank you Beth! Fortunately for us all, Beth was an addition to the team and not a replacement, so I still get to work with the same fantastic group of women including Judy Erickson, Sandy MacKenzie, Shirley Moen, Irene Sable, Roberta Sanders, and Mary Settles-Kroeplin. Thank you for all your time, hard work, and advice on a myriad of topics. You guys are the best!

Jo Shoberg

Financial Administrator

SIMPLE SUPPER COORDINATOR

2018 - 2019 Annual Report

Simple Suppers

What a wonderful season for Simple Suppers! It was my first shot at a full year fraught with interesting weather, new helpers and delicious food! We still strive to provide healthy and balanced meals for our guests including tacos, tater tot hotdish (a favorite), scalloped potatoes and ham and broccoli salad. If you have a special request, please let me know, I still love a challenge!

First and foremost, let me thank ALL of my help for the season. Elayne Gilhousen, Maxine Dahl, Karen Stohl, Cathy Shromoff, Aidan and Kyleigh Zent, Jim and Sharon Bauer and my every week server, dishwasher and music enthusiast, John Diercks!

During Lent, my extra cooks are to be thanked and welcomed again next year if possible! Elayne Gilhousen, Shirley Moen, Karen Steenson, Jeanne Lindstrom, Jo Shoberg, Sharon Bauer, Jill Larson, Ruth Nordholm, Abby Whalen, Diane Casey, Cathy Shromoff and Gretchen Swenson! Everything was SO TASTY and welcome!

2019 special events have included: Many Hand/Many Meals, the Youth Banquet and the Annual Meeting.

Simple Suppers doesn't run itself but it takes all of my wonderful volunteers each week and our guests and members. Thank you, diners, choir, youth activity, Bible Study and Richfield Tower guests! Anyone who has contributed food, helped set up, tear down, washing dishes and scouring pans, your faithful service and talents know no bounds! I'm so very blessed to have your help each week!

Sunday Morning Coffee Service

Each Sunday, the Fellowship Clubs provide coffee and wipe down support. Thank you to Zetas, Alphas and 35 or Soss for all of their ongoing and unwavering support! Special thanks to Ramo who makes coffee each Sunday early and Sally Boyd who alternates with me to pick up donuts at Sunrise.

Thank you ALL for all of your help, support and unbounded Grace and time for making every week and year so very successful!

DuAnn Thompson

Simple Supper Coordinator

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

2018 - 2019 Annual Report

Budget & Finance works closely with the ministry teams, financial administrator, pastors, and staff to ensure that House of Prayer's resources are managed wisely and in support of our mission to do God's work in this community.

Highlights from the 2018 - 2019 fiscal year:

- One year ago, the congregation approved a budget of \$654,560 in expenses with \$622,000 of income. This left us with a 5% Faith and Growth deficit and the budget changed over the course of the year for a very exciting reason, extending the call to Pastor Kelly Sandin.
 - Our projected fiscal year income is \$663,868 and our estimated expense is \$664,274.
 - The congregation has done a wonderful job in growth from many different areas. It has been exciting to see existing congregation members, new members, and increased rental opportunities all improve to allow House of Prayer to grow over the last year.
- Rental income has increased by nearly \$16,000 this year. Many groups have been using our facilities including South View SDA. Cara Wright does a great job maximizing the use of House of Prayer for the benefit of the congregation and the entities we partner with.
- We made an additional payment of \$4,000 towards the mortgage principal to help pay it off within 7 years; current balance is around \$185,000

Looking forward to the 2019 – 2020 fiscal year – Please see Page 30 of the Annual Report for the budget; ***new for this year following the budget are the dedicated fund balances as well:***

- We are proposing a budget for the new fiscal year 2019 - 2020. We should be going forward with a projected \$6,000 balance from previous years. The proposed budget calls for \$670,420 in income and \$704,704 of expenses.
 - We are seeking a continued commitment from the entire congregation to support HOP ministries financially, pray for our staff and the leaders, and to support membership growth initiatives.
 - Benevolence has been brought into the general operating budget as we did last year. 7% of projected offerings have been proposed to benevolence after starting with 6.5% last year. Our goal is to grow benevolence allocation by .5% each year until we contribute 10% of our offerings.
 - The budgeted shortfall is a realistic "Faith and Growth" amount that we can expect to achieve through the growth of new members, other income that exceeds expectations, and additional offerings that current members may give over the course of the year.

- Most of our financial news and information is very positive, but as we move into the future it is important to think of the impact of two more difficult topics:
 - We have been seeing a consistent outpouring of money to repair the building. The boiler, HVAC system, roof, and other issues that develop have been consistent over the past few years.
 - Our more established members account for largest part of our giving and it is important that we anticipate how we look to the future and strive to create an atmosphere that will be attractive to new people in the community so that the cycle will continue.
- Preschool operations are currently excluded from the budget. Nicole Olson has done a fantastic job in taking over the preschool program and it has been budget-neutral and is expected to continue in the same manner.
- New in the budget illustration this year are our dedicated fund balances. This shows money available to support designated activities and initiatives and is an important part of our financial picture.

In summary, we have a generous congregation that has been wonderful with financial support that benefits House of Prayer and our greater community. We can take great pride in being part of a congregation that is growing in an age where many others are seeing the opposite. This comes in large part from a congregation that strives to live its faith and a staff that fosters opportunity for the congregation to find new ways to challenge itself.

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. – Matthew 6:21

Charley Simonson

Treasurer

HUMAN RESOURCES MINISTRY TEAM

2018 - 2019 Annual Report

Members of the HR Team include – Diane Casey, Nick Freiheit, Dave Steenson, Les Bauer, Jon Lankey, and Pastor Ben Sandin. Monica Dorow serves as chair. Thank you to the team for your time and service in support of our dedicated House of Prayer staff.

We are thankful for our hard-working and committed staff, whose work helps keep House of Prayer going on a day-to-day basis!

Key accomplishments this past year include:

- Developed and managed the HR budget.
- Worked with Tim Boys of Boys and Tyler Financial Group Incorporated to answer insurance questions for staff and meet government requirements.
- Recognized Ramo Zejnilovic's contributions to HoP and revised his job title to Sexton.
- Assisted in the development of a contract with Numerics, LLC (Jo Shoberg's company) regarding HOP's ongoing Financial Administration needs.
- Helped in the call process to develop the role of Associate Pastor and then to call Pastor Kelly Sandin.
- Assisted in planning and hosting the reception following Pastor Kelly's ordination/installation.
- Provided feedback to the Collaboration efforts with Oak Grove Lutheran and Woodlake Lutheran regarding general HR operations at HOP.

The vision for HR in 2019-2020 and beyond:

- Continue the ongoing duties of the HR Ministry Team.
- Continue to assure that the goals and talents of our staff are aligned with HOP's strategic goals.
- Continue recognition of the commitment and talent our staff brings to HOP.

Respectfully submitted,

Monica Dorow

Human Resources Ministry Team Chair

CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2018 - 2019 Annual Report

Congregational Development is the umbrella which represents ministry teams that operate within and for the benefit of our congregation. These teams are Adult Ministry, Life Together Ministry, Youth & Family Ministry, and Worship Ministry. As I gather this year's team reports, I am thinking about Intern Deanna's recent sermon challenging us to think about our Vocation defined for us as "a divine calling to God's service". I feel so blessed to see so many people sharing their gifts as part of a calling to serve God at House of Prayer. Below are brief summaries from our Congregational Development teams.

Worship Ministry

Our Worship Ministry Team is led by Sandy Williams. The team is made up of leaders from several groups dedicated to making the worship experience at House of Prayer meaningful for everyone. These leaders are supported by legions of talented, dedicated and reliable volunteers. Here is a brief summary of this team:

- Altar Guild - represented by Sandy Jensen. This group of volunteers cares for the communion ware, the altar, paraments, and sanctuary. They keep everything looking lovely. They also prepare and clean up communion each week.
- Choir and Bell Choir - represented by Kim Houle. These groups spend many hours rehearsing and preparing such beautiful music for our worship services. We are grateful for their gifts, time and talents.
- Ushers - represented by Steve Sather. Steve also does all the recruiting, and scheduling of the ushers for our traditional worship service. Thanks to Steve and all our ushers.
- Thanks to Cara Wright who scheduled Refuel volunteer Greeters, Communion Assistants, Audio and Visual Operators for the past several years. Kielyn Simonson will take over the volunteer coordination effort starting in June.
- Josh Countryman coordinates and schedules the musicians for the ReFuel Worship Service,
- Phil Mennicke coordinates and schedules all the Sunday morning Traditional Worship Volunteers, Communion Assistants, Lectionary Readers, and Prayer Leaders and Musicians.

Adult Ministry

This year has been filled with meaningful and provocative opportunities provided to us by our talented Adult Ministry team led by Mary Markes and Karen Steenson. This team operates in a task force structure as ideas develop and present themselves. They continue to offer ways for

people within our congregation and for the outside community to learn and grow. Below are some of the great events from the past year.

- September 23 - a Flu Shot Clinic was held where 30+ members received their flu shots (2019 clinic is scheduled for Oct. 27).
- November 11 - members who turned 90 years old during 2018 and our Military Veterans were honored between worship services with cake and gifts.
- April 24 - Charlie Robbins presented a Defensive Driving refresher class for those 55+.
- “An Afternoon with Janet Letnes,” the author of books that inspired the “Church Basement Ladies” plays, is scheduled for Sept. 9 this coming fall.
- The Adult Ministry Team sends Get-Well cards to members, Sympathy cards to families, Anniversary cards to couples celebrating 50+ years, and Birthday cards to those age 85+.
- This past year the Creation Care Team was formed. Below are the events organized and hosted by this group.
 - Last Summer they organized and led a 6-week, Wednesday evening, Bible study, “Earthbound.”
 - January 3 & 10 a showing and group discussion of Al Gore’s documentary “An Inconvenient Sequel: Truth to Power” about climate change was hosted.
 - February 20 meteorologist Paul Douglas joined us to speak and answer questions about his book “Climate Change: Natural Cycle or Troubling Trend..
 - Currently the team is working with church staff to find ways to be more environmentally conscientious in relation to our use of energy and recyclable/compostable products.
 - Members of this team are involved with our community garden.
- The church library is now under the umbrella of the Adult Ministry Team. We have 1500 Books, DVD’s, and DD’s in our collection. Stop in or visit our online catalog at <http://www.librarything.com/catalog/houseofprayer> to choose a book or two!
- The Adult Ministry team encourages anyone who might have interest in volunteering to get involved on our team or with any of the events that might interest you to contact us. Also, if you have ideas for future interesting topics, bring them to us for consideration.

Life Together Ministry

This team of volunteers is led by DuAnn Thompson. Her love touches all of us here at House of Prayer every week. We are blessed by her leadership and ministry. Here are some of the ways this team supports the work being done here at House of Prayer.

- Door Greeters – Sally Boyd coordinates our Sunday morning greeters for the 9:30 am worship. Everyone appreciates the smiling welcome that meets us at the door each Sunday morning. Thank you to all the many volunteers help serve in this ministry. A special thanks to Sally for her dedicated service!
- Sunday Morning Desk Coverage – Life Together team also coordinates the Sunday morning volunteers at the Information Desk and Church Office Desk. Thanks to this group of knowledgeable volunteers who staff these positions so skillfully.
- Simple Suppers – See the DuAnn Thompson’s Simple Supper Report earlier in this booklet for an update on our weekly meal ministry and Sunday morning coffee service. Thanks to DuAnn for everything she does to minister to our congregation through food.

Thank you ALL for all of your help, support and unbounded Grace and time for making every week and year so very successful!

Youth & Family Ministry

Our Youth & Family Team is led by Director of Youth & Community Development, Ben Whalen. We operate in small task forces guiding projects and events that support and enhance Youth and Families at House of Prayer. Ben works tirelessly to steer forward and support these task forces. He is always prepared, making volunteering more accessible. We are so blessed to have such an organized, thoughtful, creative, sincere, ethical and kind leader for House of Prayer, especially for our kids and youth.

Please refer to Ben’s report for all the Youth and Family news!

We are grateful for all the many volunteers and staff who spend hundreds of hours serving to serve God at House of Prayer. There are opportunities to serve in big and small roles. Think and pray about what your Vocation or “Calling to serve God” is. If it fits with the work of any team at House of Prayer, reach out for information about getting involved.

Heidi Thomas

Congregational Development Leader

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

2018 - 2019 Annual Report

As the Community Development Leader, I have come to realize the importance needed in Richfield's Community to provide our neighbors with a sense of security, support, and meaningful relationship building to help our neighbors. Below is some of the work in progress that would not have been possible without all our generous members and other church friends.

Sheridan Story

Money raised to provide food on the weekends for students at Centennial Elementary and their families. We have a few volunteers who helped distribute this food Friday mornings to kids' backpacks. The whole goal is to help with the "food gap" on the weekends for families who rely on free and reduced meals from school during the week. Each session starts in the fall, please contact the Community Development Leader if you are interested in being a part of this experience.

Conversations with Friends

This is an opportunity to visit or write letters to folks being detained in immigration jails.

Adopt a Park

We clean Christian Park twice each year, usually scheduled in the spring and the fall.

Tutoring in the Schools

We have 4 tutors that continue to read with students once a week at RDLS.

Richfield Community Housing Team

The team continues to meet monthly to discuss how we can be advocates for affordable and accessible housing, a much needed focus for our Richfield neighbors. Although policies have been installed this past year, there are many more opportunities to continue our mission to protect the residents of Richfield.

Citizenship Classes

Citizenship classes run from September through November benefitting 5-7 students at each session.

Lutheran Social Services

Lutheran Social Services (LSS) is one of the mission partners for HOP. This year we began working with two LSS group homes for people with disabilities that are in our neighborhood. We have engaged with these homes in the following ways: visiting with residents, inviting the residents to a simple supper, providing Christmas gifts and outside Christmas lights, having a Valentine party, painting, and sending cards to the residents. The congregation had a special

offering where money was collected to be used by the homes for things that they need. We also need volunteers to provide for requests such as: providing rides, preparing a meal, playing bingo or other games, visiting with residents, taking walks, baking or other projects, yard work, and other needs.

In September HOP collected new and slightly used clothes for the LSS store. We also filled a table at 2 LSS events: the LSS Celebration for Changing Lives Gala and the Benefit for Youth Luncheon.

We also had our 6th annual Many-Hands-Many-Meals intergenerational pack-a-thon. We packed over 22,000 meals for those in need.

Jean Robbins

Meals on Wheels

It has been a good year, Richfield Churches United have done a great job providing Healthy-Meals for our Residents. We have great volunteers. However, we could use more volunteers to drive once a month. Please let us know if you are interested in being a part of this wonderful service.

Sue Burt

Simpson Shelter

We have a group of folks who look forward to serving meals at Simpson Housing Services 10 months of the year. They have been serving for a long time- over twenty years. We try to mix up the menus to keep it interesting. We did BBQ last month and homemade pizza the month before. We have noticed that food gets donated and are going to try to incorporate that into our meal plans so that it gets used with as little waste as possible. Thanks for the opportunity!

Steve Pierson

Loaves and Fishes

House of Prayer Loaves and Fishes Team served five meals in 2018 and we served approximately 500 neighbors. The meals are served at Hope Church in Richfield. Meals are served Monday through Thursday throughout the year in many locations in the Twin Cities area by a host of volunteers from churches, families and companies. Our team consists of: Sally Boyd, Jim and Sharon Bauer, Carolyn Brunner, Sue Burt, Jean Robbins, Steve Johnson, Curt and Rosalie Jensen, Laura Carlson and family, Jeanne Lindstrom, Nancy Bungert, and Wayne and Gretchen Swenson. Some of the team members prepare the meal and others serve and clean up. We can always use an extra pair of hands, so if you are interested in lending

a hand, please give me a call. My sincere gratitude goes out to our dedicated group of volunteers. You are making a difference in someone's life every time you serve. Thank you!

Gretchen Swenson, Loaves and Fishes Coordinator, 952-474-7417

ISAIAH

The ISAIAH core team at House of Prayer was very busy in 2018. We built relationships within our community and collaborated with neighboring worship centers to bring people together around our shared values. As ISAIAH mission partners, we are working to create a Minnesota that ensures all Minnesotans can be healthy with access to quality healthcare, childcare, and senior care.

Kim Houle

Ongoing

- VEAP - Basket in the narthex for needed supplies.
- Monthly serving a meal at Simpson Shelter.
- Gift certificates for \$25 for groceries and gas available in the Church Office.
- Many involved with Isaiah events.

Communications

Welcome to the Neighborhood packet- HOP sends a letter, HOP values brochure, and neighborhood map to new Richfield residents about 90 days after they close on their house. The packet invites them to visit our website and click the link on the homepage to receive a "New Resident Welcome Basket" from HOP. The basket includes homemade cookies, a Caribou gift card, a Twin Cities Adventure Guide, and a Chinook Book discount card (local, sustainable coupons on your phone). Our visiting team contacts those that have responded and makes appointments to visit. If you have a new neighbor, encourage them to visit our website and click the "New Resident Welcome Basket" link if they are interested in a visit from HOP. Many thanks to Mike Finstad, realtor with Re/Max Advantage Plus, for the weekly Richfield home closing list.

Thank you to all our leaders of these teams and the volunteers that give the gift of their time, compassion, and love for others. This is not possible without your help! Please let us know if you are interested in any of the groups dedicated to reaching out those in those in need!

Paula Hall

Community Development Leader

CONGREGATIONAL MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Below you will find membership information from the Congregational Report to the ELCA for the year ending December 31, 2018, which was submitted to the ELCA February 2019, as well as HOP congregational membership updates from the program year 2018-2019.

Congregational Report to the ELCA – December 31, 2018

Baptized Membership at the end of 2017.....	957
Baptized Members received during 2018	
By Baptism: children (15 yrs. And younger).....	8
By Baptism: adults (16 yrs. And older).....	0
Affirmation of Baptism (New Members).....	5
By Transfer:	0
From other sources and statistical adjustment.....	8
Total members received this year.....	21
Baptized Members removed during 2018	
By death.....	17
By transfer.....	3
Total members removed this year.....	20
Baptized Membership, end of 2017.....	958
Total Confirmed Membership, end of 2017: <u>899</u>	
Number of baptized youth who were confirmed in 2017: <u>3</u>	
Average weekly attendance in 2015: <u>243</u>	

From Congregation Records 2018-2019

Funerals done under House of Prayer ministry from June 2018-May 2019:

Charlotte Johnson	Robert Steenson	Brian Stewart	Andor Henrickson
C.R. (Buzz) Moen	Dorothy Cook	Shirley Erickson	Myrtle Wickstrom
Floyd Peterson	Allen Ludvigson	Ruth Thompson	Beverly Bolsinger
Thomas Scharping	Beatrice Videen	Dorothy Jackson	
Eleanor Amundson	Judith Houdek	Nancy Gullikson	

The names below are of those who were confirmed in 2019:

Rachel Bonebrake	Jamie Mennicke	Mason Myers
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The names below are of those who were baptized from June 2018-May 2019:

Sam Allison	Kaia Anderson	Rolanda Sayon
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The names below are of New Members from June 2018-May 2019

Stephen Molitor	Esther Konney	Stacia Leavitt	Jeff Desannoy	Beth Buswell
Alison Molitor	Melvin Konney	Matthew Van Horn	Kate Desannoy	
Eric White	Isabel Konney	Ray Van Horn	Thea Desannoy	
Amy White	Shawn Barneson	Millie Van Horn	Mabel Desannoy	

2019-2020 PROPOSED BUDGET

Income	Actual FY 2017	Actual FY 2018	Projected FY2019	Budget FY2019	Budget FY2020
Offerings*	539,621	511,246	558,218	550,000	580,680
Rental	29,945	62,648	78,905	72,000	84,000
Ministry	14,100	37,020	11,283	6,100	5,740
Benevolence Reserves	-	-	2,094	-	-
Special Offerings	-		13,368		
Total Income	583,666	610,914	663,868	628,100	670,420
Expenses					
Benevolence**	-	-	36,284	35,750	40,648
Special Offerings	-		13,368		
Human Resources Support	364,131	392,786	421,897	424,857	463,455
Finance / Insurance	50,060	48,905	48,178	50,550	48,537
Utilities	63,969	70,752	77,313	70,600	76,016
Property***	25,607	15,957	18,307	19,235	23,175
Office Administration	41,874	30,545	25,641	34,275	30,747
Ministry					
Community Engagement****	-	11,830	4,637	5,000	5,500
Congregational Development****	18,262	39,557	18,649	19,750	16,626
Total Expenses	563,903	610,332	664,274	660,017	704,704
	19,763	582	(406)	(31,917)	(34,284)

* Offerings are for Operating Fund only

** Benevolence 6.5% for 2019 and 7% for 2020

*** New to Support Budget is cleaning cost of \$5,775

**** Moved many "pass through" expenses to Dedicated Funds

		<i>Proposed</i>	<i>Budget,</i>	<i>Continued</i>
	Operating Fund	# Pledges	Benevolence	# Pledges
FY2017	363,790	133	37,446	57
FY2018	360,456	126	34,172	47
FY2019	398,246	123	-	0
FY2020	412,252	120	-	0

DEDICATED FUNDS

	Jul 2018 Bal.	Receipts	Disbursements	Apr 2019 Bal.
Benevolence	6,870	357	(2,843)	4,384
Debt Reduction*	40,535	37,336	(71,629)	6,242
OPR Reserves*		40,000		40,000
Discipleship	10,805	2,570	(3,220)	10,155
Worship	26,018	335	(12,190)	14,163
Youth & Family	7,714	8,953	(4,969)	11,698
Evangelism	7,350	8,251	(1,635)	13,965
Facilities Fund	22,901	21,797	(7,411)	37,287
Fall Festival	13,396	5,983	(1,994)	17,385
Funeral Lunch	6,251	10,762	(11,226)	5,787
Total	141,840	136,344	(117,117)	161,066

**Debt Reduction transferred \$40,000 to create Operating Reserves.*

HOUSE OF PRAYER FOUNDATION

2018 - 2019 Annual Report

Our Foundation was started in 1986 and has grown in assets to around \$600,000. We received over \$114,000 in contributions and memorials for the 2018 calendar year. Since 1995, we disbursed over \$126,000 to help with the mission of HOP and the church worldwide. This year, we received memorials/contributions in memory of/or honor of:

Shirley Medin, Joe Berryman, Larry Alm, Bill Howard, Joyce DeVries, Warren Schultz, Bob Dahl, Buzz Moen, Floyd Peterson, Eleanor Amundson, Tom Scharping, Rose Marie Chell, Dorothy Cook, Al Ludvigson, Steve Bjurman, and many other gifts.

The HOP Foundation exists to provide monetary support to HOP ministries, facility needs, and programming that are not included in the annual budget. It also supports God's work outside of HOP through organizations like VEAP, Luther Park Bible Camp, Many Hands, Many Meals, and an ELCA Missionary. We've continued to only spend earnings, keeping all gifts received into perpetuity. For 2018, we disbursed \$14,154.40 of earnings to the following:

\$3,000 to HOP ELCA Youth Gathering, \$3,500 to Luther Park Bible Camp (Retreat Center), \$1,500 to Many Hands/Many Meals food pack, \$3,904.40 to HOP (1/2 the cost of a floor scrubber and vacuum), \$1500 to HOP Preschool, \$500 to HOP Women's Grief Ministry, and \$250 to HOP confirmation research project (gathering/organizing/framing pictures).

The Foundation can receive contributions of money, real estate, property, memorials, and honorariums from individuals, groups, and organizations. It can also accept insurance policies, gift annuities, stocks, bonds, and IRA distributions. If you would like to discuss a never-ending gift to HOP, please contact your attorney or a member of the Foundation. Your gift to the Foundation is stewardship for tomorrow. It really works.

Officers and Directors of the Foundation are:		<u>Term Expires</u>
Treasurer	Scott Wright	5/2020
Secretary/Legal Counsel	Ernest Lindstrom	5/2020
Board Member	Steve Pierson	5/2021
Board Member	Charles Robbins	5/2021
Board Member	Zack Olsen	5/2022
Board Member	Sandy Williams	5/2022
Board Member	Jill Johnson	5/2021
Board Member	Charles Hatfield	5/2021
Pastor Liaison	Pastor Ben Sandin	(non-voting member)

All members serve a 2-year term, with the ability to be reelected if they so choose (Zack and Sandy are new members and for continuity, they're first term is a 3-year term).

As the Foundation Board, at our last meeting, we decided to make the process for requesting funds more formal, along with specific meeting dates. Guests or people interested in joining the Foundation Board are welcome to attend. Information below in **BOLD**.

a) that there be four quarterly meetings to be held on the second Monday in January, April, July and October at 7:15 p.m.

b) that the Board use a similar funding request application; and

c) that funding requests be considered twice a year at the second and fourth Board Meetings (but be submitted by applicants to the Treasurer well before the meeting).

The Foundation provides an opportunity for people to express their gratitude to God for the blessings they have received. It gives us a way to continue Christian stewardship and financial support to House of Prayer Lutheran Church beyond our lifetime.

Thank you for supporting the HOP FOUNDATION!

Scott Wright

HOP Foundation Treasurer