

*ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL  
MEETING*



*LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH  
LUTHER MEMORIAL ACADEMY  
(A Christian Day School)*

*225 WEST TENTH STREET  
ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA 16501  
(814-454-0106)*

*JANUARY 25, 2015*

***AGENDA***  
***ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING***  
***JANUARY 25, 2015***

**A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

1. Devotions
2. Declaration of a Quorum
3. Appointment of a Secretary
4. Appointment of Tellers
5. Motion to Adopt the Agenda
6. Report on Approval of the January 26, 2014 Annual Meeting Minutes

**B. ELECTION OF COUNCIL**

1. Nominating Committee Report
2. Nominations from the Floor
3. Ballot Distribution and Voting
4. Announcement of Results

**C. APPOINTMENT OF DELEGATES TO THE SYNOD ASSEMBLY**

**D. REPORTS OF CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL, STAFF, COMMITTEES**

1. Reports
2. Motion that Reports be Accepted and Placed on File

**E. FINANCIAL REPORT**

1. 2015 Budget

**F. LUTHER MEMORIAL JOYFUL GIVING**

**G. PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS BY CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL**

Be it resolved:

1. That the proposed budget for 2015 be accepted.
2. That we express our thanks to Almighty God for the blessings we have received during the past year, and that we pledge ourselves anew to dedicated Christian living, worship, and service in this new year of grace, 2015.
3. We express our thanks to all members of the congregation who served so faithfully in our church during 2014, especially those members of Congregational Council completing terms of service; Cheryl Brown, Carol Davidson, Linda Graffius and Elaine Kern.
4. That we also express our sincere thanks and gratitude to our 2014 staff: Julie Baldwin, Susan Belott, Jan Birkner, Jackie Breter, David Buerk, Norma Buerk, Becky Carey, The Reverend William E. Coleman, Michael Donch, Nancy Drury, Kim Evans, Walt Gaber, Linda Graffius, JoAnn Guilianelli, Tammy Hayes, Elizabeth Hokaj, M. J. Howell, Beth Keller, Ron King, Charlie Lintelman, Catherine MacGregor, Eileen Miehl, Janel Murphy, Christopher Paul, Sarah Prylinski, Katie Romba, Marilyn Rositer, Miriam Scheid, Kathryn Schultz, Jill Weber, Natalie Weber, Dawn Weborg, Caryn Wells, Patricia Young.
5. That the Council be authorized to act on the report of the auditor when completed.
6. That the minutes of this meeting be considered for adoption by the Church Council not later than the second regular meeting following this annual meeting.

*LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH STAFF*

THE REVEREND WILLIAM E. COLEMAN	PASTOR
WALTER GABER	CANTOR
BETH KELLER	CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND FAMILY MINISTRY
SARAH PRYLINSKI	CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND FAMILY MINISTRY
LINDA GRAFFIUS	DIRECTOR OF CARE & HEALTH MINISTRIES
MARILYN ROSITER	CARE MINISTRY
MIRIAM SCHEID	PARISH MANAGER
NORMA BUERK	SECRETARY
SUSAN BELOTT	ADMINISTRATOR LUTHER MEMORIAL ACADEMY
PATRICIA YOUNG	SECRETARY LUTHER MEMORIAL ACADEMY
DAVID BUERK	MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR
CHARLES LINTELMAN	SUNDAY MORNING / WEEKLY SECURITY

*LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH COUNCIL*

STAN ROSE . . . . PRESIDENT	LES FOBES . . . . VICE-PRESIDENT
ERIC HEDLUND . . . . SECRETARY	GREG KERN . . . . TREASURER
CAROL SCHAAL . . . . ASSISTANT TREASURER	
PATRICIA BELLINGHAM	RICHARD BRAENDEL
CHERYL BROWN	BARBARA CHAFFEE
EMMA CHAFFEE	REV. WILLIAM E. COLEMAN
CAROL DAVIDSON	LINDA GRAFFIUS
ELAINE KERN	MARK LECHNER
JEFF SWANSON	NATALIE WEBER

PARISH NURSE – LINDA GRAFFIUS

***LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH***  
***MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING***  
***JANUARY 26, 2014***

**A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Council President, Mark Lechner, called the meeting to order at 11:15 AM in Fellowship Hall. Prior to the meeting the annual report was sent electronically to church members and hard copies were distributed at the meeting.

1. Devotions – Pastor Coleman led the congregation in prayer.
2. Quorum – A Quorum was declared.
3. Appointment of a Secretary – Carol Schaal was appointed Secretary of the meeting.
4. Appointment of Tellers – not necessary
5. Motion to Adopt Agenda – A motion was made by Dick Braendal, seconded by Les Fobes, to accept the Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Report on Approval of the January 27, 2013 Annual Meeting Minutes – Approved by Church Council at February, 2013 meeting.

**B. ELECTION OF COUNCIL**

1. Nominating Committee Report – Greg Kern reported that six people agreed to serve on Church Council for the year 2014, they are: Dick Braendel, Mark Lechner, Natalie Weber, Barbara Chaffee, Patricia Bellingham and Jeff Swanson.
2. The President asked for nominations from the floor; none were forthcoming. Ballot was accepted.
3. Ballot Distribution and Voting – not necessary

**C. REPORTS OF DELEGATES TO THE SYNOD ASSEMBLY**

Pastor Coleman asked for volunteers to the annual Synod Assembly to be held at Thiel College in Greenville, PA the second week of June. We need volunteers for one male representative and one female representative.

**D. REPORTS OF CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL, STAFF, COMMITTEES**

There was only one addition to the printed reports, and that was from Mrs. Sue Belott, Administrator of Luther Memorial Academy; she handed out print-outs, showing phenomenal test scores of students, way above grade level, and several acceptances of 8<sup>th</sup> graders to Northwest Collegiate Academy.

**E. FINANCIAL REPORT**

Greg Kern presented a very encouraging 2014 Budget (copy attached to annual report).

**2014 Minutes cont'd.:**

**F. VISION PRESENTATION**

Stan Rose gave a Power Point Presentation prepared by the Vision Planning Committee. The presentation highlighted the following:

1. Our dreams
2. Successes
3. More Successes
4. Help Needed
5. New Ideas
6. Capital Needs

**Matters Discussed:**

Rick Kern, our Operating Chairman for the past 17 years, updated the congregation on various improvements made to the facility, and the ongoing capital needs required. Two million dollars have been spent the past 16 years, and approximately two million dollars will be required for the next 6 to 25 years, or an average of \$100,000.00 per year.

Bill Lasher presented a financial overview with a 5-year illustration.

Kurt Sahlmann brought up the subject of a new organ which is not presently budgeted for at this time, but would probably be paid for outside the budget when needed.

Pastor Coleman reiterated his request that more parishioners should avail themselves of the Adult Spiritual Growth classes and the Adult Forum classes on Sunday mornings.

It was also mentioned there is a need for more volunteers for the Altar Guild, Communion Assistants and Stewardship Committee.

Kurt Sahlmann has prepared two videos for Luther Memorial (one of which was shown at the meeting), and these are now available on You Tube and our website.

**G. PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS BY CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL**

A motion to accept the 2014 Budget and the other five resolutions listed was made by Sandy Barbaro, seconded by Skip MacInnes. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 12:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Carol Schaal*

***NOMINATING COMMITTEE***  
***ANNUAL REPORT – 2014***



The Nominating Committee, formed ad-hoc at the October 2014 meeting of Church Council, was asked to seek church members willing to stand for election to Church Council at the annual meeting on January 25, 2015. The committee members were Greg Kern, Mark Lechner, Jeff Swanson and Pastor Coleman.

Cheryl Brown, Eric Hedlund, Elaine Kern, Stan Rose have finished their first 3 year terms. Jeff Swanson finished his first 1-year term replacing Bill Lasher.

Carol Davidson resigned June 2014 after serving almost 17 months.

Linda Graffius resigned October 2014 after serving almost 2 years because she became a church employee.

A total of 13 members of the congregation were asked directly to run for positions on council. The following members have agreed to become nominees for the seven available positions for Luther Memorial's Church Council:

Frank DiCenzo	Jessie Graffius	Eric Hedlund	Brian Hubbard
Jan MacInnes	Stan Rose	Jeff Swanson	

Respectfully submitted,  
*Greg Kern*  
Nominating Chair



***REPORT OF THE  
CHURCH COUNCIL PRESIDENT  
ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2014***

On the pages that follow, you will read reports of the many activities and accomplishments of the various committees and organizations that have carried out ministry in the name of Jesus and Luther Memorial Church during this past year. I invite you to read them carefully and offer up a prayer of thanksgiving to God for the ministry that is represented in these reports. During this past year, as has been the case for over 150 years, Luther Memorial Church has been a thriving congregation that is constantly challenging itself to grow and expand mission. It has been my honor and joy to serve as president of the church council and to have been a part of so much good work.

Every month during this past year, in the week prior to the church council meeting, Pastor Coleman and I have met together to quietly review and discuss the progress of our shared ministry at Luther Memorial and to prepare the agenda for the upcoming council meeting. It has been our practice to evaluate work that is ongoing; to challenge each other with ideas for new work that we might suggest to the church council and to spend some time in meditation and prayer. We always come away from our time together with a humble sense of thanksgiving for the dedicated members of the congregation who serve in so many ways. In particular, I want to recognize and thank the members of the church council. It has been a genuine pleasure to watch you prayerfully wrestle with issues both large and small and to participate with you as you carefully make decisions and take actions that reflect our shared commitment to furthering God's mission through the ministry of Luther Memorial Church.

It is good for us to periodically pause and reflect on what we have accomplished together as a congregation. That's part of the rationale for an annual congregation meeting. Equally as important as a quick look back though is a positive and challenging look forward. There is much to be done in the name of the Lord here in Erie and beyond, and I would like to take a moment to suggest a few areas that we might consider as we think about the ministry year ahead.

We have taken some bold steps in ministry that impact life in our immediate community. Our participation in several programs that serve the needy and homeless with food and shelter and clothing is a strong witness to our response to Jesus' call to care for the least among us. I challenge us to increase our support of and participation in existing programs and to look for even more opportunities to work in cooperation with community groups and other congregations in caring for those among us who are hurting and in need. In addition, I would challenge us to build upon the very successful "God's Work – Our Hands" project at McKinley Elementary School and look for other opportunities where we can help in similar ways. Finally, I propose that we build upon our close relationship with The Bethany Outreach Center. The church council has been briefed on a reading improvement project that is being considered and I hope that as the project develops, we will offer ourselves in as many ways as possible to enable its success.

I sense a growing understanding at Luther Memorial that we are an integral part of the larger church and that the ministry of The Northwest Pennsylvania Synod of the ELCA and the ELCA itself is, indeed, our ministry. Our gifts to the relief of world hunger, to a school in Africa through a companion synod project and to ELCA disaster relief to fight the Ebola outbreak are examples. There has been some preliminary conversation about the possibility of missionary sponsorship through the ELCA. I propose we continue to explore that opportunity as well as other projects where we can play an active role in reaching those who have not heard the Gospel.

**Report of the Council President, cont'd.:**

Luther Memorial Academy continues to be a valuable and important part of our mission and yet I sense that many in the congregation seem to have little knowledge or understanding of the operation of the school. I propose a closer working relationship between the leadership of the school and the leadership of the congregation to the end that both the school and the congregation will grow in support each other's mission.

It has always been my belief that the church either moves forward or falls backward; there is no standing still. Luther Memorial church is strongly moving forward, and I deem it a privilege to be part of the leadership in that movement. Please accept my thanks to all for your support of and participation in the ministry of Lutheran Memorial. We have much more to do! Plan to take an active part as we answer God's call to serve in the years to come.

In service to the Lord,

*Stanley Rose*

Church Council President





***REPORT OF THE PASTOR***  
***ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2014***

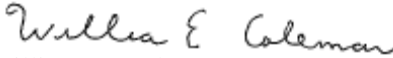
Because I communicate to you in many different forms during the year, from sermons, to council reports, and Parish Banner articles, my report will be very simple and not try to encapsulate the entire year because my memory is not that great! I try, during the whole year, to offer my words of thanksgiving to the staff, council and you as disciples of Jesus. I am very thankful for each of you. My sense of call to this place continues to be affirmed in so many ways, and I hope this sense of call is something you can see in me, which I hope provides stability in the midst of so many life changes. The challenges and opportunities of Christian ministry are significant, but the best things in life are always filled with challenges. I take comfort in knowing that God is present and guiding us, and we have the support of one another. It's hard to believe how quickly this year has passed, and how much has happened, and yet, even though the year was rapid and haphazard at times, as God's children, we were surrounded by the promise of God's love. Our ministry exists to worship God, to grow in our understanding of God, and to love, serve and support those within and outside this ministry.

I count myself fortunate to minister with such a fine staff of Luther Memorial Church and Luther Memorial Academy. I am very thankful for each of them because they are hard-working and go beyond what is expected of them. We really do have a great staff, which I believe you know, and it has been affirmed by so many people from outside the congregation who comment about all the energy and positive things which happen here. We may take them for granted, but so many ministries do not have these positive things happening. I am very grateful. My thankfulness moves beyond the staff to you as well, especially those who have leadership roles within this ministry. So much planning and work happens behind the scenes to bring about a ministry which we hope God is pleased with. Through your leadership and discipleship, you minister to me and my faith in God and the Church is strengthened. What you do, no matter how small and insignificant feeds and supports the Body of Christ.

As you will note in this Annual Report we had a very positive year, in terms of the ministry happening and the gifts you have given as a sign of your thanksgiving to God. We finished positively financially, which happened through your hands and hearts. You will note that we do have a projected budget deficit for the ministry year 2015, and so we are challenged to keep doing what we have been doing, and for those who are able to stretch beyond what feels comfortable. I begin my eighth year of ministry here which means I have fully settled in. This is good, but the initial excitement of having a new pastor is long gone, as now I am an "older" pastor. What I mean to say is that it's easy to lose momentum because the newness is gone, and as a result, the Christian practices of faith could begin to start to fall away, and so I ask you to realize **how much we need you... not just part of you, but all of you.** For the Church to be here for you, in your joys and sorrows, we are all needed to make that continued presence happen. This is an exciting time to be the Church because the old walls and barriers are coming down, so in this time of transition and change we root ourselves into the life of Jesus, our rock and shepherd, through the six marks of discipleship:

- Daily Prayer
- Weekly Worship
- Daily Bible Reading
- Serving In and Beyond the Congregation
- Nurturing Relationships
- Giving a tithe and Beyond

Peace to you,

  
William E. Coleman, Pastor



***REPORT OF THE PASTORAL ASSISTANT***  
***ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2014***

It seems inconceivable, that this is the third annual report I have had to prepare as the Pastoral Assistant. I continue to feel blessed by your vision and willingness to take the Lutheran mission and ministry in Erie in a new and different direction. As we continue to strive to witness to the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ, God continues to bless our work.

St. Matthew's has hosted a neighborhood picnic for the children of the area on two separate occasions, along with a Christmas Party that hosted over 30 children, and also has begun a Friday evening spaghetti dinner (free will donation) for the neighborhood, as we say to them as Philip said to Nathanael, "Come and see." (John 1:46). St. Matthew's continues to host the GECAC Headstart programs that serve 160 children every day during the school year, and numerous 12-Step programs.

Holy Trinity hosts the Tuesday evening Pasta Kitchen (serving 80-100 each week), the Soup Kitchen on Wednesdays and Saturdays at noon (20-40 each day), with a Food Pantry on Tuesday evenings, and a Clothes Closet on Tuesday evenings, and at the Saturday Soup kitchens. The kitchen ministry is coordinated by a volunteer from Immanuel Lutheran, and 95% of the people working in this ministry are from the wider ecumenical community. The food pantry and clothes ministries are coordinated by Holy Trinity members. There is also a "Sloppy Joe" dinner the last Thursday of each month hosted by local congregations (LM is there too!).

We continue to be blessed by our dedicated volunteers and the ongoing financial support from many of the same folks and the community at large. This year through the impetus of our volunteers we started a "GoFundMe" site that raised an additional \$1500+. These contributions help enable the congregation to sustain this important neighborhood outreach.

Holy Trinity continues to host a two week session of the Overflow Shelter (Our Neighbor's Place). There is a Wednesday evening outreach for the young men of the neighborhood that has 10-20 attending each week, and there are 12-step programs that are hosted as well.

The continuation of these ministries is a result of your vision and willingness. Please know that both congregations truly appreciate your witness, and that you are welcome to visit any time the spirit would move you, and are always welcome to volunteer your time and talents in whatever way you are moved, as well.

Thank you again and, peace and blessings to each and every one of you; in Christ,

*Ron King*



*CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND FAMILY MINISTRY*  
*ANNUAL REPORT – 2014*

Submitted by Beth Keller and Sarah Prylinski

The following Christian Education groups, programs, and special events continued in 2014:

Cradle Roll/Baby blanket delivery	Word of Wednesdays/Lenten Studies
Children's Church	Adult Spiritual Growth
Vacation Bible School	Baptism Celebration
Third Grade Bibles	Pineapple Sundays
First Communion	Spring Carnival
Care Squad	Rally Day
Christmas Pageant	Soup and Salad/Cookout Luncheons
Confirmation Program	LYO Service Sunday
Lutheran Youth Organization(LYO)	Camp Lutherlyn

The following were new or significantly changed in 2014:

- The youth are excited with their new space and have already been gathering there for confirmation class, children's church class, and LYO meetings.
- Fundraising for the LYO will continue, and plans will begin in January 2014 for the next National Youth Gathering which will be in Detroit, MI in July 2015.
- 2014 was the second year our youth attended Lutherlyn for their Winter Retreat. The retreat was January 31 – February 2. Luther had 12 youth attending. This year we are looking at a few more. This is our way to provide an outing due to the discontinuation of the Clarion Retreat.
- The LYO (grades 7-12) continues to grow as does our Children's Church.
- The groupings for ministry have been redefined and are as follows: Pre/LYO (kdg.-6), LYO (grades 7-12), YAL (ages 18-25), and MORE (Middle of the Road, ages 25-50).
- The men's and women's softball teams completed a second season. Information will be shared to see if there is interest for 2015.
- A Corn Hole Tournament in September was well attended and enjoyed, as well as an Ugly Sweater Party in December. They were second annual in 2014, and we look forward to the third annual in 2015.
- The Care Squad this school year, 2014-2015, is continuing to work with the Neighborhood Partnership.
- Volunteer opportunities have been available at different times and in different locations this year such as the Second Harvest Food Bank, The Over-Flow Shelter, and ServErie.
- The nursery would like to thank Megan Silvis for her time and care she shared with our young children over the last year. This past August Brennan Coleman was welcomed on board to our nursery. Tyler Keller continues to work in the nursery.
- Service Sundays with the LYO. In the fall 2014 we raked leaves at Loretta Deeds' and Sharon Burke's homes. In the spring we will be having another Service Sunday and hope to have another in the summer and continue in 2015.

**Report of Christian Education, cont'd:**

Just as it takes a village to raise a child, it takes the Body of Christ to raise a person in faith. Volunteers in Christian Education do important work, and we are truly thankful for each and every person who has been a part of the team to help one another know Jesus Christ. You are all so greatly needed. **We will not remember to list everyone, and for that we truly apologize. The following are some of the people who helped in the area of Christian Education in 2014:**

Walt/Jeannie Gaber  
M.J./Mark Howell  
Charlie/Rose Lintelman  
Doug/Emma/Chase Chaffee  
Sarah Lawrence  
Madeline Satur  
Mary Laver  
Lynnette/Lena Donnelly  
Ellie Cadden  
Megan Cunningham  
Christine/Brady Gustafson  
John/Judith Steff  
Natalie Weber  
Christian Sundberg  
Kathy Sahlmann  
Jordan Sturm  
Carol Smith  
Anna Downey  
Vicky Blasco  
Stacie/Tony/TylerShchouchkoff  
Rev. Bill/Amy/Brennan Coleman

Maria/Rebecca Brown  
Norma/Dave Buerk  
Ron/Denise King  
Bronsen Euard  
Rev. Roy Washill  
Jan MacInnes  
Cathy MacGregor  
Dorothy Respecki  
Angie Eagle  
Keri Cooney  
Elaine Kern  
Cathie Dugan  
Shannon McAdoo  
Elizabeth Richards  
Ann Flick  
Miriam Scheid  
Caryn Wells  
Richard/Chase Rowland  
Jessica Copfer  
Frank/Coleen/Caleb DiCenzo

Erica Muhammad  
Colleen Helsley  
Eric/Cindy Hedlund  
Kerri MaKay  
Rev. Brian Moran  
Bonnie/Megan Silvis  
Heidi Heilman  
Renee/Ian Steff  
Jerry/Beth/Tyler Keller  
Noelle Partsch  
Nikki Moyer  
Mike Weber  
Sharon/Tom Burke  
Rose-Marie Rose  
Amy Scott  
Pat/Bob Young  
Kelly Cammidge  
T.J./Sarah Prylinski  
Julia DiPaolo  
Diane Giannelli



**CANTOR'S REPORT**  
**ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2014**

**“We proclaim the Word of God through Music”**

I would like to thank all of those who have participated in and helped lead our worship through music.

The core of our music ministry is found in the adult choir, which rehearses over two hours a week. The following participated regularly for all or part of 2014:

Bob Banks	Molly Dugan	Janice McInnes	Solveig Santillano
Doug Chaffee	Ken Kraut	Skip Meyn	Carol Smith
Emma Chaffee	Mary Laver	Kathy Sahlmann	Pat Young
Loretta Deeds	Mark Lechner	Kurt Sahlmann	
Cathie Dugan	Cathy MacGregor	Ella Santillano	

The handbell choir also faithfully rehearses every week. The following participated regularly for all or part of the year:

Bob Banks	Molly Dugan	<i>Substitutes:</i>
Pat Bellingham	Les Fobes	<i>Zach Byers</i>
Emma Chaffee	Jeanne Gaber	<i>Jonathan Gaber</i>
Lynette Donnelly	Mark Lechner	<i>Denise King</i>
Cathie Dugan	Pat Young	<i>Mary Laver</i>
		<i>Kathy Sahlmann</i>

We are always looking for new choir members. Please know that many of our singers do not read music and have not had formal music training. One component of choir participation is the friendships that are formed as we give back to God what He has first given us – our love and voices. Also know that you do not need to commit to full participation – we would welcome a shorter commitment by joining the choir for a single season (e.g. Advent/Christmas, Lent/Easter).

I would like to thank the instrumentalists that have added color to our worship. During 2014, these included:

Bob Banks	Saxophone
Cathie Dugan	Timpani
Jeanne & Jonathan Gaber	Cello
Linda Melaragno	Violin
Laura Nelson	Alphorn

If you have similar instrumental skills (or know others in our fellowship that do), please contact me as I have a special fondness for the use of instruments in worship beyond the organ, handbells and piano.

This year, Kathy Sahlmann and Rose-Marie Rose have continued working with the children's choir. Throughout 2014, the children have sung regularly in the 10:30 service – often on “pineapple” Sundays. Rose-Marie Rose has also provided solo vocal selections for the Blue Christmas service and funerals.

Noelle Partusche has regularly brought dance students from Mercyhurst to add liturgical dance to some of our services including processionals on Palm Sunday and Reformation Sunday. She also has interpreted the Lord's Prayer via dance.

*Report of the Cantor, cont'd.:*

I thank those who serve on the Worship & Music committee, especially Cathy Dugan for her leadership and organization. The decisions and work of this group greatly contribute to the quality and completeness of our worship together. Cathie has also been diligent as the librarian of our choral library.

Mark Lechner provides the weekly commentary in our bulletins for all of the hymns that we sing. He suggested this feature after a year or so of commentary on the organ prelude and postlude, and has faithfully researched and written the notes that provide interesting background to poetry and music of each hymn. Kurt Sahlmann has recorded videos of some of the Luther Memorial music events and services which have been used for both publicity and study by the choirs.

Thanks to David Ruler for serving as substitute organist during my vacation this past year.

Our Concert Series continues to be the only one of its kind in the region. Its mission statement ends with "We believe art feeds the spirit." Committee members during 2014 include: Pat Bellingham, Molly Dugan, Brian Hubbard, Greg Kern, Mark Lechner and David Ruler.

Music is strong at Luther Memorial; indeed it is one of the ministries that draw people to our congregation. The success of this ministry is due to the dedication and hard work of the people involved in the program. As you can see, there are many individuals involved in making our corporate worship possible and enriching our lives through music. I apologize for any that I have overlooked in this report. I thank all of those that have offered words of encouragement and appreciation over the past few months.

As your Cantor, I look forward to leading our worship together in the coming months and years. And I thank God for calling me to serve this congregation.

Grace and Peace,

– Cantor Walt Gaber –



## **CARE MINISTRY**

### **ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2014**

2014 was a year of transition for Care Ministry at Luther Memorial Church. On October 1, we welcomed our colleague in Christ, Linda Graffius, who brings enthusiasm and special gifts as the new Coordinator of Care and Health Ministry. I am grateful to Linda for sharing her position with me thus allowing me to continue to serve our congregation. The following services and support continue to be part of Care Ministry:

- Assisting Pastor with hospital and home visitation;
- Coordinating Communion/Visitation Care Ministry and Friends of Care Ministry;
- Providing “after care” phone calls, cards, and visits;
- Sending or delivering the four part series, *Journeying Through Grief*, to families who experienced the loss of a loved one;
- Arranging meetings and socials for OWLS, Older and Wiser Lutherans (we are a Covenant Congregation of Adult Lutherans Organized for Action “an inter-Lutheran organization dedicated to ministries by, for and with mature adults”);
- Providing leadership for the Growing in Soul Monastery of the Heart Grace Group;
- Offering support when and where needed (delivering food, cheer baskets, flowers, assisting with Blue Christmas Service, etc.)

The essence of Care Ministry is rooted in Christian relationship. We are a community of caring for one another. Discipleship matters. You, the members of Luther Memorial Church, answered the call to discipleship in many ways and we are thankful for your support. A heartfelt thank you to the following committees and individuals who have made our time as Coordinator of Care Ministry a blessing:

- Congregational Council, Pr. Coleman, and our co-workers who provided leadership, spiritual direction, and administrative support;
- Communion/Visitation Care Ministers who visited and/or communed those on our Sunshine List;
- The Sunshine Committee who faithfully sent cards to those on our Sunshine List;
- The Prayer Shawl Ministry who made prayer shawls, lap robes, and baby blankets;
- The Feed My Sheep Ministry who provided food for delivery to those in need;
- Friends who provided financial support through monetary gifts and donations;
- Disciples who purchased fruit and packaged Cheer Baskets for delivery to senior adult members;
- Disciples who delivered Easter lilies, Cheer baskets, Poinsettias, and food;
- Disciples who hosted events, assisted with programs, and helped set up and clean up;
- The Congregational Life Committee who provided opportunities for fellowship;
- Members of LYO, the Care Squad, the LMA Girl Scout troop, and Perseus House staff and students, who purchased gifts, baked cookies, made crafts, delivered Cheer Baskets and/or sung Christmas Carols for residents of Sarah Reed.

Thank you, again, for your support throughout the years. We are so grateful to be part of the Luther Memorial Church community.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Marilyn Rositer and Linda Graffius, RN, Faith Community Nurse*



***REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATOR  
LUTHER MEMORIAL ACADEMY  
ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2014***

Academic year 2014/2015 is Luther Memorial Academy's 39<sup>th</sup> year in existence. We are proud of the accomplishments of our students. Their success is a result of hard work and love of parents, families, LMA family, and this congregation. Please continue to pray for our success.

**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF:**

REV. BILL COLEMAN, Pastor  
SUSAN M. BELOTT, Administrator  
PATRICIA A. YOUNG, Secretary

**TEACHING FACULTY:**

KATHRYN SCHULTZ – Kdg.  
KATIE ROMBA – Grade 1  
BETH KELLER – Grade 2

KIM EVANS – Grade 3  
ELIZABETH HOKAJ – Grade 4  
BECKY CAREY – Grade 5

JULIE BALDWIN – Grade 6 Homeroom, English, Reading  
CHRISTOPHER PAUL – Grade 7 Homeroom, Math, Social Studies, Study Skills  
CATHERINE MACGREGOR – Grade 8 Homeroom, Science, Math, Art  
DAWN WEBORG – Music  
CARYN WELLS – Middle School Health and Guidance  
CARYN WELLS – Kindergarten – Grade 5 Guidance  
CARYN WELLS – Physical Education, Spanish  
JAN BIRKNER - Library  
NANCY DRURY – Speech  
TAMMY HAYES – Pupil Services, Reading  
JANEL MURPHY – Pupil Services, Math  
DAWN WEBORG – Children's Choir  
MIRIAM SCHEID – Tech Support

**SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS:**

RICH STROBEL – President  
ANNA MEZZACAPO – Secretary  
M. J. HOWELL  
SHANNON MCADOO

DIANE BANKS – Vice-President  
MIRIAM SCHEID – Treasurer  
DR. KEVIN RAMEY  
GEORGE VACTOR  
BOB HORN

PASTOR BILL COLEMAN  
SUSAN M. BELOTT, LMA Administrator  
CATHERINE MACGREGOR – Teacher Representative

\*Board Projects: Pulakos Candy Bars, Raffle



Report of the LMA Administrator cont'd.:

**VOLUNTARY HELEN SCHADE LIBRARY STAFF:** JILL WEBER – Library Aide

**VOLUNTARY PRIMARY AIDE:** MARION (M.J.) HOWELL

**VOLUNTARY CLASSROOM READER:** DOROTHY RESPECKI (Grandma Dot)

**COORDINATOR OF SPECIAL EVENTS & INITIATIVES:** NATALIE WEBER

**BEFORE SCHOOL PROGRAM:** CARYN WELLS

**AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM:** BETH KELLER – Coordinator  
BECKY CAREY - Substitute  
KIM EVANS  
NATALIE WEBER  
CARYN WELLS  
KATHRYN SCHULTZ

**VOLUNTARY INCENTIVE PROGRAMS:** COLLEEN DICENZO & NATALIE WEBER

Print Cartidges                  Cellphones                  Boxtops for Education  
Campbell, Swanson, Betty Crocker and Pepperidge Farms Labels

**MEMBERSHIPS:**

American Lutheran Education Association  
Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit #5  
Erie Y League and Catholic Diocese Sports, Play Athletics  
Drug Free Schools  
Earth Force  
Jr. Lego League  
First Lego League

**PARENT/TEACHER LEAGUE:**

ROBERTA PAUL – President  
STACIE SHCHOUCKOFF – Vice-President  
AMANDA FRIED – Secretary  
PAM CHRISPEN – Treasurer  
NATALIE WEBER – Fundraising  
LATECE JONES – Book Fair  
PAM CHRISPEN – Playground  
HEIDI HEILMAN – Sports  
BETH KELLER – Teacher Representative

**PTL ACTIVITIES:**

Christmas Fair, Label/Tape Counting, Lunch Counting, Ice Cream Social, Speakers, Fundraisers, Ice Cream Sales, Graduation Reception, Middle School Parties, Hot Dog Lunches, Refreshments, Thanksgiving Dinner, Kids for Kids, Fall Fundraiser, Spring Flower Sale, Capital Purchases for Classroom, Playground.

Spring Fling – Annual evening dance/auction planned by Natalie Weber with help from the PTL Board and members.

**Report of the LMA Administrator cont'd.:**

**SCHOOL ACTIVITIES:**

Science Fair, Class Plays, Thanksgiving Dinner, required attendance at LMA Sunday, Christmas Program, Spring Program, Girl Scouts & Brownies, Geography Bee, Earth Force, Challenge 24, Read Across America, Middle School Popcan Recycling Project, Caring Team, Sports Programs. School Spirit Days, Kindergarten and Grade 5 Buddies, Field Day, Talent Show, Lego Leagues, Forensics, Brownies, Girl Scouts.

**SPORTS COMMITTEE CHAIR: HEIDI HEILMAN**

**COACHES – 2013/2014 SCHOOL YEAR:**

BRIAN NASH	Basketball, Soccer
HEIDI HEILMAN	Basketball, Soccer
JOHN HOPKINS	Basketball
JOE RIVERA	Basketball
JEFF WILLIAMS	Basketball

**COACHES – 2015/2015 SCHOOL YEAR:**

RICH STROBEL	Basketball
BOB HORN	Basketball
BRIAN NASH	Soccer
JOHN HOPKINS	Basketball
HEIDI HEILMAN	Basketball

**SCHOOL PROJECTS:**

Target Sponsor Program  
Giant Eagle Advantage Card Program  
Campbell, Swanson, Betty Crocker, and Pepperidge Farms Labels (saved for educational materials)  
“Kids for Kids”  
School Store  
School Spirit Days sponsored by Kindergarten and Fifth Grade Buddies to support Luther Lion at the Erie Zoo  
Used Printer Cartridges Collection  
Field Trips

**GRADUATION AWARDS:**

George E. Black Award for Most Outstanding Student  
J.David Mumford Award for Academic Excellence  
Helen Schade Award for Academic Fitness  
Alice Engel Extraordinary Effort Award  
Susan M. Belott Christian Service Award

*Report of the LMA Administrator cont'd.:*

**THRIVENT GIFTING PROGRAM:**

Thrivent Financial no longer provides matching funds from donations given to Luther Memorial Academy on LMA Sunday. The company will continue to help LMA in a different manner, based on request of product owners. We will be dependent on a "Thrivent Choice". This program allows members to direct funds to LMA. It is no longer a matching program, but rather a direction donation to our school. We will count on members to keep us in mind. We are very grateful for support.

**SCHOLARSHIPS/MEMORIALS:**

Library development, improved curriculum, and financial aid to students are dependent upon the generosity of others. LMA is indebted to the Women of the ELCA, Thrivent, and individuals and families who have been generous to us. The EITC Program is crucial to us. In this program businesses contribute to us solely for the purpose of financial aid for our families.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Susan M. Belott*  
Administrator

**BETHANY OUTREACH CENTER**  
*Annual Report for 2014*



254 East Tenth Street  
Erie, Pennsylvania 16503

Phone: (814) 456-6254  
Fax: (814) 456-6255

E-Mail: [diane@bethanyoutreachcenter.org](mailto:diane@bethanyoutreachcenter.org)  
Website: [www.bethanyoutreachcenter.org](http://www.bethanyoutreachcenter.org)

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS & BLESSINGS OF 2014**

*Volunteers*

***“Volunteers are unpaid, not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless”***

The center is operated by two part time paid staff. Volunteer Services were provided by, not only our neighborhood and friends from the community, but a large part from: Careerlink/Sr. Aide Program, Dept. of Corrections, Gaudenzia, and Opportunities Unlimited. 2,018 volunteers served our center 8,148 hours and according to figures from the Erie Community Foundation, we saved Bethany \$182,330.

*Services Provided*

We are in a very diverse neighborhood including refugees from Nepal, Somalia, Iraq, Ukraine, Bhutan, Sudan, Burma, Russia, Burundi and the Congo.

- FOOD PANTRY served a total of 4,867 in family visits or 9,734 bags of groceries
- CLOTHES CLOSET served 5,593 in family visits or 11,186 bags of clothes  
\*\*\*We began weighing clothing in July of this year. 12,898.5 pounds of clothes were donated from July to December.
- SEW WHAT: Our professional seamstress completed her assignment with Career Link's Senior Aide Program, however, volunteers are providing mending services. We are still in search of a sewing instructor.

**OTHER CLASSES OFFERED:**

- Computer Classes
- Job Readiness Classes – **90% job success rate**
- Money Management Classes are one on one?

*Blessings*

**INCOME:**

**GRANTS:** CWS/ERIE CROPWALK, ELCA, ERIE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION, ERIE INSURANCE AND THRIVENT

**CHURCH SUPPORT:** Cathedral of St. Paul, East Erie Cluster of Lutheran Churches, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Luther Memorial, Messiah Lutheran Church, St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception

**LUTHER MEMORIAL      14% of our annual Budget**

LM Final Gift of 10,000 from the sale of BOC \$10,000

LM Members through the Food Pantry      12,185

**\*\*Thank you for your clothing donations. We receive our highest amount from LM**

**\*\*Thank you for the mitten tree gifts. They were all gone on the first day of the Clothes Closet after Christmas.**

**Bethany Outreach Center, cont'd.:**

**CORPORATE MATCH:** Erie Gives, Erie Indemnity (Erie Insurance), GE United Way Campaign and Thrivent

**SMALL GROUPS AND BUSINESS:** Champion Cheer Central, Cornerstone Construction, LCBA Branch 49, Lord Employees Good Neighbor Fund, Red Hot Mamas of Erie, VASA, Welca

**MEMORIALS:**

Wilma Ackerman

Calvin Baxter  
Rev, Randall Peters, Jr.  
Kurt Schenker  
Wright and Goldsmith Families

**ORGANIZATION GIFTS:**

1. Toilet paper and toiletries from the Millcreek and East Erie Kiwanis
2. Books for Kids 400 Books
3. Christmas Gifts:  
5 Baskets from the Millcreek Kiwanis  
30 gifts from Home Instead for our Seniors who would be alone for Christmas
4. Neighborhood Christmas Party for Children sponsored by LCBA Branch 49  
The Presque Isle Women's Club provided gifts for Moms



**Board of Directors for 2015**

**Executive Director:** Diane Giannelli

Administrative Assistant: Luanne Churchill

**Officers:**

Chairman: Debra Galloway  
Vice Chair: James Reese  
Treasurer: Rev. Bill Coleman  
Secretary: Eric Hedlund

**Members:**

Mark Howell  
Bryan A Lee  
Douglas M. Massey  
Edward Whitbred

*LMC PROPERTY COMMITTEE*  
*ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2014*



As the winter of 2013-14 began, all of the LMC heating systems were fired up in anticipation of a severe winter. It didn't take long to observe that our aging boiler was burning so poorly that soot was clogging half of the burners. This prompted a full system shutdown and cleaning which required the installation of a temporary forced air furnace to aide in battling the cold temperatures in the main church. Thank you to all for your tolerance and patience. This service cost \$3,426.00 and got us through winter. During this past summer, an annual required boiler safety inspection uncovered leaks which had developed since the cleaning. It was determined that repairing the old boiler would cost nearly as much as a new boiler. After working through a bid process, Bill Morewood Plumbing was selected to replace the boiler for \$ 30,699.00. While waiting out the lead time for ordering and unanticipated parts shortages, the old boiler was removed and the new boiler installation began. Inspection and certification proceeded the new boiler being put into service in late December of 2014. An annual preventive maintenance program should assure us that we will not have to revisit the boiler issues for many years to come. The best part of this agonizing boiler situation came when we were notified that our insurance carrier had agreed to pay \$23,584.00 towards the replacement costs leaving LMC to pay \$7,115.00. Who doesn't believe in miracles now!

The other significant project completed this past year was the beautiful meditation garden conceived by Bob Banks, Les Fobes, Brian Chafee and the Art Committee. The old cornerstones from Bethany and LMC were configured as a bench, and the large stainless cross from Bethany was located in a place of prominence. This project was made possible by the Bunny Britton memorial fund. Dedication was this past November, honoring our Pastor William Coleman for his extraordinary service.

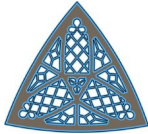
Missing slate shingles on the main church roof were replaced this past fall. The copper flashings were inspected at the same time. In the next few years some additional flashing work may be required, however, the roof in general is in good condition for its age and should serve us for many years to come.

The balance of the year consisted of regular maintenance items such as carpentry, carpet cleanings, light bulb replacements, elevator inspections and maintenance, summer painting and snow plowing. All things considered, Property successfully worked through a rather difficult year but not without some impact on the 2014 budget. LMC Services cost \$14,183.92 against a budget of \$10,000.00. LMC Repairs and Maintenance cost \$19,483.22 against a budget of \$18,000.00. The total over budget for both accounts combined was \$5,667.14 as the result of the unexpected challenges that LMC Property faced over the year.

Projects that are being considered for the future include the replacement of the tiled side aisles of the church and repairs to some of our stained glass windows. Staying current with maintenance is a daunting task offering little respite every year! All bequests and gifts to LMC Property needs are so gratefully appreciated!

The best part of every annual report is the opportunity it provides to mention our appreciation to those who help to keep our highly used facility in such good condition. Thank you to all who contributed their time and talent to our facilities over this past year, it makes a difference! A special thank you to Miriam Scheid, Dave & Norma Buerk and Charlie Lintelman for their extraordinary service.

*Rick Kern*  
Chairman



## ***LUTHER MEMORIAL CONCERT SERIES*** ***ANNUAL REPORT 2014***

During 2014, the Luther Memorial Concert Series (LMCS) committee members included: Pat Bellingham, Molly Dugan, Walt Gaber, Brian Hubbard, Greg Kern, Mark Lechner & David Ruler. All committee members continue to serve diligently to deliver each successful season: planning, finances & budget, program logistics, etc.

The continuation of the “**Second Sunday Family & Friends Preludes**” (SSF&FP) has been a success. On the second Sunday of every month, at the 10:30 service, an extended prelude is offered by a member or friend of Luther Memorial. This addition to our programming provides a venue for those family and friends to offer their talents as part of the LM worship experience. It is the desire of the LMCS that we recognize and support those that have been given music talents and have invested the time, finances and energy to develop those talents – especially when they can be realized to the glory of our Creator.

We continue to “host” well-known area performing groups. The LMCS has provided the venue for performances by the Erie Chamber Orchestra and Erie Renaissance Singers. The intent of these “sponsored events” is to bring the Erie community to Luther Memorial to hear local music talent and to raise the visibility of Luther Memorial as an active host of the arts. This also enabled the LMCS to advertise our own programming to audiences that have a known interest in music.

The annual **Bach Festival** continues to draw a large audience. This year, members of the Erie Lutheran Parish churches were invited to join the Luther Memorial choir to sing a full Bach cantata and several chorales appropriate for Holy Week. Approximately 30 individuals prepared the choral music which was sung entirely in German. This performance added nearly 20 singers to the Luther Memorial choir for music, worship and fellowship. Bach organ “chorale preludes” associated with the sung chorales were performed by Walt Gaber and other invited organists including: Vicki Baldwin (Mount Calvary), Bill Lasher (Luther Memorial), Sue Mohnkern (Faith Lutheran), Kathrine Swanson (St. John’s) and Bryan Timm (Immanuel).

Due in part to the popularity of the Bach Festival choral presentations, we have begun a series of **Bach Cantata Vespers** programs. These feature a cantata by J. S. Bach performed on the liturgical date for which they were originally composed. The first of these was presented on Reformation Sunday and included many of the singers from the previous Bach Festival choirs and a small orchestra. John Chacona of the Erie Times-News included an interview in the October 23, 2014 ShowCase prior to this Reformation presentation (*see below*).

Two more Bach Cantata Vespers are being prepared for the 2014-2015 season:

- February 15 – Last Sunday before Lent
- May 14 - Ascension

Some of our events have been enhanced by post-concert receptions hosted by the LM Congregational Life committee. These have encouraged fellowship beyond the performances and are greatly appreciated by the LMCS.

Our website, [www.lm-concerts.com](http://www.lm-concerts.com), has continued to be a primary marketing tool. The website is regularly updated and many of our past performances are also available on YouTube. The LM Concert Series thanks all those who continue to support the series with their attendance and financial gifts. This continued support has enabled us to present a full and varied season. The following is the listing of events during the 2014 calendar year. This list encompasses the second half of one season (2013-2014) and the first half on another (2014-2015).

Report of the Concert Series, cont'd.:

## 2014 Event Calendar

<u>Month</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Genre</u>
Jan	12	10:15	SSF&FP	Walt Gaber	Jazz & Gospel Piano
Jan	26	4:00	CS	Shirley Yoo & Joseph Kneer	Piano & Violin
Feb	9	10:15	SSF&FP	Molly Dugan	Soprano
Feb	16	4:00	CS	Organ & Dance <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Walt Gaber,</li><li>• Noelle Partusche</li><li>• Mark &amp; Solveig Santillano</li></ul>	Organ & Dance
Mar	9	10:15	SSF&FP	Kurt Sahlmann	Singer/Songwriter
Mar	30	4:00	CS	Bach Festival VIII	Choir, Orchestra & Organ
Apr	13	10:15	SSF&FP	Noelle Partusche	Mercyhurst Liturgical Dance
May	11	10:15	SSF&FP	Andrija Andjelić	Piano
Jun	8	10:15	SSF&FP	LM Choirs	Choir & Handbells
Sep	14	10:15	SSF&FP	Joseph Kneer & Walt Gaber	Violin & Piano
Sep	15	7:30	CS-Sponsored	Erie Chamber Orchestra	Violin/Piano Recital
Oct	12	10:15	SSF&FP	Laura Nelson	Alphorn
Oct	26	4:00	CS	Bach Cantata Vespers	Cantata for Reformation
Nov	9	10:15	SSF&FP	David Ruler	Organ
Dec	14	10:15	SSF&FP	Molly Dugan & Emma Chaffee	Sopranos
Dec	24	5:30 & 10:00	CS	Walt Gaber	Christmas Eve - Organ

SSF&FP=Second Sunday Family & Friends Prelude
CS=Concert Series
CS-Sponsored=Sponsored Event

Respectfully submitted,  
*Walt Gaber*

*“We believe art feeds the spirit.”*



*Report of the Concert Series, cont'd.:*

PUBLISHED: OCTOBER 23, 2014 12:01AM

## **Luther Memorial features Bach Cantata Vespers concert on Sunday**

By John Chacona, Erie Times-News  
Contributing writer

On Oct. 31, 1517, an Augustinian friar approached All Saints' Church in Wittenberg, Germany, and nailed to the door his 95 Theses. The friar was Martin Luther, and the act of defiance marked the beginning of the Protestant Reformation.

This Sunday, his heirs at Luther Memorial Church will mark the anniversary of that occasion with a concert of music for Reformation Sunday by J.S. Bach and Luther himself.

The occasion is a significant celebration on the Lutheran ecclesiastical calendar and the featured music, Bach's cantata "Gott der Herr ist Sonn und Schild" ("God the Lord is Sun and Shield") is as stirring and celebratory as any music in Bach's stupefyingly massive catalog.

But the appearance of the chamber orchestra, Luther Memorial Church Choir and soloists Molly Dugan, soprano; Mary Laver, alto; and James Bobick, bass; signal a reformation of sorts in the music programming at Luther Memorial.

"We're concentrating on local musicians, building the choir and providing meaningful vocal music from a worship standpoint," said cantor Walt Gaber, who will conduct the concert.

Gaber explained that the Luther Memorial Concert Series had previously brought in touring artists, putting the church's programming somewhat into competition with other music series in Erie.

"The focus on Bach is something that we could do, and in the context of how the music might have been presented in Bach's day," he said.

The orchestra will be small, though the music will be appropriately large in ambition and scope with selections from Bach's Orchestral Suite No.1 in C Major and his chorale prelude for organ on Luther's hymn "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God."

Gaber plans two more concerts -- one the Sunday before Lent in February, and the other for Ascension Day in May. In the Lutheran tradition, both concerts will feature music for the liturgical occasion.

"Not all people will get that level of meaning," Gaber said. But he may be underestimating the universality and power of a composer whose faith and music were a mighty fortress indeed.

### **HEAR IT**

Bach Cantata Vespers will be presented on Sunday at 4 p.m. at Luther Memorial Church, 225 W. 10th St. Free. For more information on the Luther Memorial Concert Series, visit [www.lm-concerts.com/2014-2015-series.html](http://www.lm-concerts.com/2014-2015-series.html).

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**WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE**  
**ANNUAL REPORT - 2014**

The mission of the Worship and Music Committee is to *“plan the meaningful celebration of Word and Sacrament according to the Lutheran tradition.”*

Members who served on the committee during 2014 include:

- |                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Pr. Bill Coleman  | Cantor Walt Gaber |
| Joanne Dahlstrand | Barb Holcomb      |
| Mike Daniels      | Betty Pletz       |
| Cathie Dugan      | Lois Smith        |
| Les Fobes         |                   |

The committee met six times this past year, reviewing past practices and considering new ideas in order to enhance the worship experiences at Luther Memorial. The committee is also responsible for coordinating the decorating of our worship spaces and for ensuring that needed resources are in place for the conduct of liturgy. The Committee thanks the following volunteers for their continuing hard work:

- Acolytes..... Norma Buerk
- Altar Flowers..... Rita Reichard
- Altar Guild..... Norma Buerk
- Assisting Ministers..... Norma Buerk, Lois Smith
- Communion Assistants..... Norma Buerk
- Greeters..... John Steff
- Lectors..... Loretta Deeds, Norma Buerk
- Ushers..... John Steff

A special note of thanks to all who have given of their time and talents to decorate the sanctuary and chapel for the Advent and Christmas seasons. It was glorious!

Respectfully submitted,

  
Cathie Dugan

**EVANGELISM / HOSPITALITY**  
**ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2014**



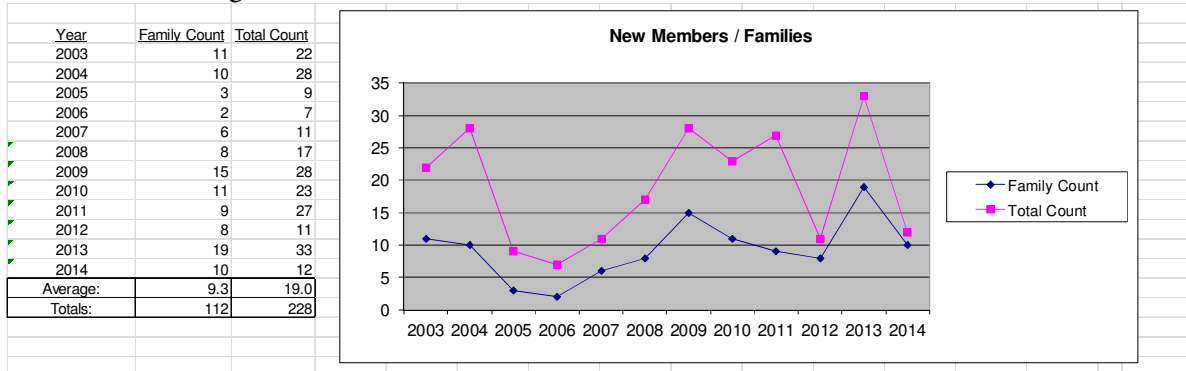
Evangelism / Hospitality Committee Members Who Served in 2014:

Pat Bellingham	Lois Fobes	Jan MacInnes	Thomas Schlecht
Vicky Blasco	Casey Fye	Cathy Meyn	Jeff Swanson
Marilyn Bohn	Danie Graffius	Skip Meyn	Linda Swanson
Cheryl Brown	Jesse Graffius	Rita Reichard	John Swenson
Mike Daniels	Eric Hedlund	Marilyn Rositer	Lee Swenson
Lynnette Donnelly	Michael Hedlund	Mary Alice Ross	Natalie Weber
Ann Flick	Peyton Kinnear	David Ruler	Pat Young
Les Fobes			

1) New Luther Memorial families and members received in 2014:

Helen Bellingham	Brandon Fritze	Brian Hubbard	Linda Soles
Tara Durian	Terry Hokaj	Ashley Shade	Martha Stickner
Steve Durian	T.J. Houston	Megan Silvis	Sean Stone

2) New Members Progress



***Thanks to Everyone who invited their friends and family members to join us!***

3) Baptisms in 2013:

Eden Gael Wojciechowski	Joseph Ryan Sajdak	Adison Olivia Brown
Benjamin Ryan Shchouchkoff	Hunter Jeffrey Dube	Adalynn Louise O'Leary
Tessa Jeanne Bartlett		

4) Some Activities This Year:

- a) Thanks go to Staff members and Congregation members who took the time to invite acquaintances from the school, their friends, and family members to join us.
- b) Thanks go out to every one of our committee members, who've all taken their turn at greeting guests at the Welcome Centers – before and after the services.
- c) Thanks go to the following for helping with the New Member Classes and Receptions, including Church Picture Directory updates:  
Pastor Coleman, Norma Buerk, Charlie Lintelman, Ann Flick, Pat Young, Pat Bellingham, Natalie Weber, Peyton Kinnear, and Eric Hedlund.
- d) Thanks go to Beth Keller and Norma Buerk who kept the Children's activity bags stocked in the Welcome Centers.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Eric Hedlund*



*STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE*  
*ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2014*

The Luther Memorial Stewardship Committee has four members who have met periodically through the year to plan and carry out stewardship ministry activity and education. The current members are Stan Rose, John Tell, Mark Kay and Pastor Coleman. We would like to have at least one or two more members and encourage anyone with interest to step forward.

One of the desires of the Stewardship Committee is to regularly lift up members of the congregation who offer themselves in service to the mission of the church. This project is entitled "Recognition Sunday." On the last Sunday of every month, the names of those who serve in various ways are thanked and recognized in the prayers at worship. The committee feels strongly that this type of recognition is important, and we will continue to make the congregation aware of those who serve and to thank God for them and their ministry.

As was planned last year and carried out in February of 2014, a representative of Thrivent Financial provided a financial planning seminar for an invited group of Luther Memorial members. The seminar focused on some estate planning ideas as well as some tax saving techniques that might benefit members. The seminar was offered twice on February 4, with approximately 12 in attendance. The committee is considering a follow-up seminar that will focus more specifically on planned giving ideas and techniques.

The offering through members' time and talents continues to be an important part of the work of the Stewardship Committee. The time and talent commitment form known as "Disciples in Action" is regularly reviewed and is made available to the congregation at least twice a year. This year, June 8 and Sept. 7 were the dates that the "Disciples in Action" forms were made available at worship. The information received through the forms is collated and entered into the "Shepherd's Staff" software and then made available to committee chairpersons who are in need of names of people willing to serve.

The "Witness Sunday" project continues to be an important event sponsored by the Stewardship Committee. On May 4, Pat Bellingham was invited to speak to the congregation at both worship services and John Tell did the same thing on October 5. Both responded to the invitation with presentations that focused on their own faith journeys and both were well received by the congregation. The project will continue in 2015.

The committee offered some stewardship education for the Sunday school children in the fall of 2014. Utilizing some stewardship materials offered by the ELCA entitled "Kids, Money and Stuff," Stan Rose and Jack Tell met with the children on three consecutive Sundays in September to discuss some basic stewardship ideas. Plans were also discussed to make offering envelopes available for the children as a way of teaching regular thank offering behavior.

Although they were not particularly projects of the Stewardship Committee, we did strongly encourage the congregation to participate in the Crop Walk in September and in the "God's Work – Our Hands" project at McKinley Elementary School.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Luther Memorial Stewardship Committee*



*LITURGICAL LIFE*  
*ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2014*

The Liturgical calendar is followed for paraments and hymn boards in Faith Chapel and the main church. Additional preparations are needed for holidays; Pentecost, Easter, Christmas, etc.

Thank you to our volunteers for assisting at our weekly services, as well as their help with special services.

**LECTORS ~ 10:30AM**

Diane Banks	Pat Bellingham	Ellie Cadden
Amy Coleman	Emma Coleman	Anthony Cimino
Mike Daniels	Loretta Deeds	Lena Donnelly
Lynnette Donnelly	Cathie Dugan	Jack Elliott
Ann Flick	Les Fobes	Linda Graffius
Eric Hedlund	Cindy Henry	Bill Lasher
Mark Lechner	Mark Lechner	Julie Marzullo
Cathie Meyn	Mary Mumford	Krista Partusch
Noelle Partusch	Stan Rose	Marilyn Rositer
Chase Rowland	Christine Satur	Madeline Satur
Lois Smith	John Steff	Judith Steff
Abigael Treiber	Alexsandra Turkowski	Mackenzie Weber

**ASSISTANT MINISTERS ~ 8:15 & 10:30AM**

Diane Banks	Pat Bellingham	Rob Benacci
Barb Holcomb	Kate Logan	Jan MacInnes
Noelle Partusch	Dorothy Respecki	Stan Rose
Lois Smith	Judith Steff	Christian Sundberg
John Tell		

**COMMUNION ASSISTANTS ~ 8:15 & 10:30AM**

Communion Assistants are needed during each communion service. They also assist the altar guild following the 10:30 service, which makes things go much quicker.

Cheryl Brown	Joanne Dahlstrand	Mary Daniels
Cathie Dugan	Ann Flick	Christine Gustafson
Cindy Henry	Barbara Holcomb	Sylvia Johnson
Beth Keller (substitute)	Elaine Kern	Martha Klomp
Jan MacInnes	Skip MacInnes	Sally McAfee
Skip Meyn	Dorothy Respecki	Stan Rose
Marilyn Rositer	Mary Alice Ross	Jack Tell
Linda Young		

*Liturgical Life Committee, cont'd.:*

**ACOLYTES**

A number of our young people took part in Acolyte Training in 2014, and we now have a wonderful group of acolytes.

Allison Brown	Emma Coleman	Jessica Copfer
Brady Gustafson	Anna Keller	Jeffrey Logan
Chase Rowland	Sutton Rowland	Tommy Schlecht
Zach Shchouchkoff	Alexsandra Turowski	

**ALTAR GUILD**

Altar Guild volunteers prepare for the celebration of communion and assist the Care Ministers. Communion is by cup the first Sunday of each month and designated festivals; by intinction on the remaining Sundays.

Diane Banks	Nancy Benacci	Marilyn Bohn
Sharon Burke	Helen Collins	Joanne Dahlstrand
Mary Daniels	Barb Holcomb	Sylvia Johnson
Cecelia Muhanna	Rita Reichard	Dorothy Youngman

**Thank You to:**

- ❖ All those who assisted with Easter flower and Christmas poinsettia arranging;
- ❖ Phil and Sally McAfee for decorating the Christmas trees in Faith Chapel;
- ❖ David Buerk and Charlie Lintelman for their continued assistance throughout the year with numerous items;
- ❖ All the women who participated in the Wednesday Lenten Luncheons;
- ❖ All those who prepared meals for our Super Wednesday gatherings;
- ❖ All those who assist with special luncheons, dinners, and funerals that take place throughout the year.

Many thanks is extended to all the volunteers for their help; our church needs each of you. Your dedication always glorifies God and makes Luther Memorial Church a warm and beautiful setting for worship. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Norma Buerk*



***'FEED MY SHEEP' FOOD MINISTRY PROGRAM***  
***ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2014***

Our Food Ministry Program, successfully implemented in March of 2012, continues to meet our goal of reaching out to our members in need. This year over 50 meals were prepared, averaging around four (4) meals per month, from our 10 participating volunteers. If you are interested in joining our cause, contact the church office (454-0106) or Elaine Kern at (392-7189) or [elaine.kern@roadrunner.com](mailto:elaine.kern@roadrunner.com). We are always looking for more participants!

A big thank-you to the following participants this year who generously donated a meal for someone in need:

Diane Banks  
Cathy Meyn  
Jane Kinzig  
Mary Laver

Jeff Swanson  
Amy Coleman  
Kate Logan  
Elaine Kern

Betty Pletz  
Carol Smith

Also, three (3) Funeral Luncheons were held in 2014.

This is a valuable service we provide that many of our members are very grateful for. A special thank-you to all who participated by either preparing a dish, helping with set-up, serving, and clean-up. Your help was greatly appreciated!

I look forward to working with Linda Graffius who is the new liaison between Care Ministry and Food Ministry.

Respectfully submitted,

*Elaine Kern*

'FEED MY SHEEP' Food Ministry Coordinator



**CONGREGATIONAL LIFE COMMITTEE**  
**ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2014**

Your Congregational Life Committee met 8 times this year planning and implementing the following:

- January ~ Blue's Party for Committee Volunteers / 'Souper' Bowl Tasting
- February ~ Special Coffee Hour celebrating Pastor Billy's 95<sup>th</sup> Birthday
- March ~ Bach Festival Reception / Tureen Dinner in Fellowship Hall
- April ~ PIZZA with the PASTOR EVENT
- May ~ Bake Sale / Mother & Daughter Banquet
- June ~ Reception for 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Pastor Coleman's Ordination / Beach Service & Picnic
- September ~ Sale of Cookbook Supplement (150 additional recipes)
- October ~ OCTOBERFEST Dinner / Bach Festival Reception
- November ~ Fall Tasting
- December ~ Holiday Coffee Hour

Proceeds from 'OCTOBERFEST' and our Bake Sale were used to support the following:

- Bethany Outreach Food Bank
- Bethany Children's Christmas Party
- LMC/LYO Family Christmas Donations
- LMC Military Family Fund
- Purchase of new microwave oven for the Fellowship Hall Kitchen

Our sincere thanks to all who attended and supported our events. Please talk to one of our committee members if you would like to become involved.

We look forward to what is to come in 2015 including:

- Valentine Coffee Hour in February
- Tureen Dinner in March

A big 'THANK YOU' to all committee members for their hard work and dedication through-out the year: LES & LOIS FOBES, SKIP & CATHY MEYN, LOIS SMITH, JUDY JOHNSON, BONNIE SILVIS, SANDY BARBARO and our faithful leader always there to help and guide us along the way....Pastor Coleman.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Elaine Kern*

*'To serve is an act of love...this is the highest work you can do in the world.'*





*WOMEN OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA  
OF THE LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH UNIT*

*ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2014*

*Our motto: As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, our society, and the world!*

ALL Luther Memorial women are always welcome and encouraged to attend any of our monthly Circle meetings or the two General Meetings held each year in April and October. W/ELCA members continue to support and serve coffee hours, special receptions, funeral luncheons, and other functions as called upon to serve.

Fundraisers have included noontime Lenten luncheons at Luther Memorial, selling RADA Cutlery and other products, and other small projects. Profits help assist the work of the W/ELCA at Luther Memorial and on the Synod and National level. Thank you to all who participated in any of these events. Donations have been given to: City Mission, Bethesda (Meadville), Holy Trinity Community Center, Second Harvest Food Bank, Luther Memorial Academy, and the Fellowship Hall renovation

Besides the fundraisers and meetings, several members attended the Spring and Fall Conferences. We continued our “Pennies for Poverty” Collection, which goes to help women and children in poverty - and thanks ALL for their donations. We also collect funds for the Warren State Hospital patients and Migrant Workers in November of each year. We also made and filled 20 Christmas stockings to give to Church Women United – who in turn took a large load of stockings to the men and women patients of Warren State Hospital. Many thanks to all the congregation for your support. Tea Bag Invites were given to women who joined Luther Memorial Church during the year.

This past July 5 members (Pat Bellingham, Betty Pletz, Sandra Brindle, Sylvia Johnson, and Pat Young) journeyed by bus to Charlotte, NC for the Triennial Convention of the national officers and members from all over the U.S.A. The highlight of the Convention was meeting Bishop Eaton and listening to her as she gave a wonderful talk on the ELCA and its members.

Officers in 2014 were: Re-elected - President: Patricia Young; and Vice President: Mary Mumford; Treasurer: Betty Pletz; and Sandra Brindle, Secretary. Committee members were: Mission/Action: Marilyn Bohn; Publicity: Barb Holcomb. Leaders for Tuesday Evening Circle – Barb Holcomb, and for Deborah Circle – Judy Johnson.

Thank you to all our members, officers, and friends for their service and dedication to W/ELCA and Luther Memorial Church.

We invite any woman, regardless of age, to join one of our active Circles – come see what we’re about! Check out the “Parish Banner” for news and times of meetings.

God bless one and all,

*Patricia Young*  
President, Luther Memorial  
Congregational Unit

***HEALTH CARE MINISTRY***  
***ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2014***



**Members:**

Linda Graffius, RN, Faith Community Nurse  
Jeanne Gaber, BSN, RN, Faith Community Nurse  
Lee Swenson, Health Minister  
Mary Daniels, Health Minister

**Supporting Members:**

Pastor Bill Coleman  
Marilyn Rositer  
Ann Flick, Resource Member

**Overview:**

In February, a heart healthy soup was provided for the Soup and Salad lunch. Heart health information and recipes were made available. Quite a few people showed an interest in this material.

Jeanne Gaber organized the Road to Emmaus program. We didn't meet our goal but those who did participate benefited in many ways.

The Community Blood Bank Donor Van was here on Good Friday. The staff was happy with this program and wants to return.

Linda contacted St. Vincent Hospital about having their Mobile Medical Unit come to Bethany Outreach Center on a regular basis. They worked with Diane and have been coming on a regular basis to provide care to those in need.

Reminders were again put in the newsletter about Durable Medical Equipment that we have available to loan. A few people have taken advantage of this program.

As part of the Northwest Pennsylvania Faith Community Nurse/Health Minister Advisory Team, Linda participated in the Blessing of Hands at St. Vincent Hospital during Nurses week in May. This team also did Blessing of the Feet before the Crop Walk in September. In October this committee organized a Pastors Appreciation Breakfast at SVHC. Pastor Coleman was part of the program. He spoke about the impact Health Ministry and Faith Community Nursing has had on the LMC congregation.

Jeanne Gaber, RN attended the Faith Community Nurse Course and was commissioned on October 4. Linda also took part in helping with the course and teaching the class on Advocacy. Jeanne was commissioned at LMC and our Health Ministers were re-commissioned.

Linda and other team members continue to attend the Mind, Body, Spirit series quarterly at SVHC. Linda's daughter, Cyndi Treiber, and Sandra from the Vets Center presented a very informative and moving program on PTSD among Veterans.

In October, Linda accepted the position of Coordinator of Health and Care Ministry. Jeanne will take over leading the Health Ministry Team.

We hope to provide some interesting programs in the coming year. If you have any programs that you think would be interesting and beneficial to our members. Please contact me or Jeanne.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Linda Graffius, RN*  
Faith Community Nurse

***PRAYER GROUP***  
***ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2014***



*Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. Then he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me." And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, "My father if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I will but what you will."*

**Matthew 26: 36-39**

*"Daily Prayer is the first mark of Discipleship. This is the habit of living in relationship with God in Jesus of Nazareth. Prayer is a habit because it only comes naturally as we practice it. Though prayer is natural to the soul, we stutter and stumble in approaching the throne of God and in articulating our desires and needs, hopes and dreams. Daily prayer affirms the relationship between Creator and humanity, bringing heaven to earth in the life of the disciple of Jesus. In prayer we rediscover and claim God's love and promises for our lives. We live eternity in the here and now."*

**Michael W. Foss.**

The prayer group was formed to pray for people in need, and to gather and get updates on those people upon our prayer list. This prayer group was created for Luther Memorial disciples to offer words of concern, thanksgiving and gratitude. The prayer group has a dedicated prayer station at the entrance to the main church sanctuary. Cards are located at the station which may be filled out and deposited in the mailbox. **You may request the prayer be kept in confidence within the prayer group, or shared with the congregation on the prayer list.** To better respond to the needs of your prayer requests you will receive a follow-up call from the prayer group. The prayer group meets once every six weeks, and prays for and receives updates about those names we have received. Each prayer group member is asked to pray daily for the intentions we receive. Those serving within the prayer group are: **Jane Kinzig, Mary Mumford, Pat Young, Pastor Coleman, Linda Graffius, Mary Daniels, Melanie Cadden, Rita Reichard, Sylvia Johnson, Maureen Montero, M .J. Howell, Emma Braine.**

The prayer group asks you to commit yourselves to prayer in two ways during the ministry year of 2015. First, use the daily devotion "The Word in Season", and second, pray for those names on our Sunday prayer list by taking the prayer list home each week.

Submitted by,

*William E. Coleman*

William E. Coleman, Pastor



***ALTAR FLOWERS***  
***ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2014***

Thank you to everyone for their donation of altar flowers during the past year. Our weekly flower schedule continues to be coordinated by **Rita Reichard**, and we thank her for her time and wonderful selection of flowers.

If the altar flowers are not taken by those who sponsor them, they are then delivered to those in the hospital, homebound or to celebrate an upcoming birthday. A visit and a smile go a long way for those who are unable to join us in church.

Altar flowers that are delivered:

- Betty Pletz delivers flowers on the second Sunday of each month.
- Diana Alvaro delivers flowers for the remaining Sundays.

Thank you to:

- Diana Alvaro for the preparation of containers for weekly deliveries.
- All those who delivered Easter lilies, Christmas poinsettias, cheer baskets and cookie bags to our homebound.
- Our LMA Care Squad for delivering Christmas cheer baskets and gifts to residents at Sarah Reed Retirement Center, and singing a few carols.
- Our Care Ministers for their visits, care and friendships formed with our homebound. They are able to share with us the needs of our homebound members, who would like to receive flowers, as well as the types of food that can be included in their cheer baskets. Because of this information, our homebound are better served.

**Donations** of flower vases, juice containers and contact paper are always welcome for the weekly deliveries and may be dropped off in the church office.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Norma Buerk*

***SUNSHINE COMMITTEE***  
***ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2014***



The Sunshine Committee for 2014 was/is composed of volunteers: Ann Flick, Norma Buerk, Melanie Cadden, Natalie Weber, Lois Smith, Jane Kinzig, Coleen DiCenzo, and Pat Young, organizer of the group.

The main purpose of the Sunshine Committee of Luther Memorial Church is to try to give a little “sunshine” to our homebound folks with a few greeting cards, including birthday cards, throughout the year. We also try to get cards sent to those who are hospitalized and sympathy cards to families who have had a loss in their family.

We are always glad to receive donations to our card supply. About 400 cards were sent out this past year – and with postage continuing to go up, we would also be happy to receive any monetary donations to help with this mailing. Any monies or cards may be given to Pat Young or to the Church Office, earmarked for “Sunshine Mailing”!

Respectfully submitted,  
*Patricia Young*  
Committee Chairperson

***Benevolent Allocation Group (BAG)***  
***Annual Report for 2014***

**1.) Why Are We Doing This?**

**A.) Our Giving is an Act of Worship**

- Our giving back to God through our gifts to others is an act of worship, an instance in which we are invited to give up something that we value as a sacrifice to God.
- Matthew 6: 21 says: “Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”
- We are invited to give our offerings to God because *we want and need to give it*. We have a spiritual need to worship God, and through our offerings we are able to express our love and devotion for God in a way that is simple and sincere. The motivation of the giver is what counts the most.

**B.) Our Giving is an Expression of Faith**

- The position of Scripture is that we *are* stewards, and it is not something we choose to be. God has chosen us to have dominion over all that God has made, to care for God’s creation, while at the same time we are “a little lower” than God and the angels. Beyond that God has entrusted Christians with the precious gift of the Gospel.
- The biblical teaching about stewardship is good news, for the recognition that we are *only* stewards and not owners is actually quite liberating.
- The basic principle of biblical stewardship is that everything we are and everything we have belongs to God.
- We also recognize we receive far more through our giving than the recipients receive. It is far better to give than receive.

**C.) Our Giving is a Spiritual Discipline**

- “Generosity with gifts is the way to spiritual maturity. Sacred and secular history and literature are replete with examples of the crippling effects of gifts hoarded and unshared. People are not naturally disposed to giving, yet, the life we all prize, filled with joy and spiritual depth is closely tied to giving generously and with thankful hearts.” *By Donald W. Hinze*

**2.) What are the responsibilities of the group?**

BAG prays, researches and discusses ways to return our blessings to others. When the group makes a “decision” in where and how much to give, BAG makes a recommendation to council. Council then needs to approve the gift(s). BAG is also responsible for communicating the blessings we receive through giving to others and in particular the disciples of Luther Memorial. BAG will create ways to more deeply connect Luther Memorial with those we serve.

**3.) Who serves in BAG and how is it structured?**

Stan Rose, Jim Fried, Diane Banks and Pastor Coleman serve on BAG. BAG determines how the recommendation to council will be made. For instance, when a gift comes in, will BAG wait to make a large gift at the end of the ministry year (anticipating other gifts coming to Luther Memorial), or will it give away smaller gifts throughout the year as gifts come in.

**Benevolent Allocation Group Report, cont'd.:**

**4.) What monies were tithed during 2014?**

The money tithed came from money given to Luther Memorial Church which was unrestricted. This would **not** be money which would be assigned to annual budget income, but money given *which has not been budgeted*. Generally, the money assigned to BAG be would come from estate gifts. It is money which would be assigned to the budget line "Special Gifts".

Total Monies Received from Estates for 2014	\$100,711
Tithe	<u>10%</u>
Allocation	\$ 10,071

**5.) How the Tithe Was Shared during 2014**

**The local allocation of \$5,035.50** went to two local ministries:

**\$2,517.75** - *Community Shelter Services* to support the homeless shelters set up in area churches during the winter (and specifically designated for the shelters at St. John's and Holy Trinity Lutheran Churches)

**\$2,517.75** - *Habitat for Humanity* to support the ministry of building new homes in the Erie area.

**The global allocation of \$5,035.50** will go to two ministries:

**\$2,517.75** - *Lutheran Disaster Response* and earmarked for Ebola Outbreak Response.

**\$2,517.75** - *ELCA Global Ministries* to support missionary work in Tanzania which is in partnership with the Northwestern Pennsylvania Synod.

Submitted by,

*William E. Coleman*

Pastor Bill Coleman



***IN MEMORIAM***

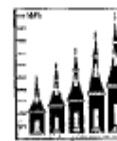
***NOVEMBER 1, 2013 – NOVEMBER 1, 2014***

HELEN ALTENBERGER  
ROBERT C. CHRISTENSEN  
ROY M. GLOVER  
BETTY J. HOLBERT  
EVELYN MALLICK  
WILLIAM L. NYSTROM  
MARY G. REES  
NANCY M. SHUTTS  
JAX E. STONE  
IRENE ZIMMERMAN

EVELYN ADAMS  
LINDA M. COLLIN  
DANIEL HEDLUND  
JOAN A. HUDSON  
RUTH MALLORY  
ARTHUR OLSEN  
LAVANDA L. SCHAAF  
ROSEBUD A. SIMONIAN  
DANIEL SUTTON

VIRGINIA C. CHIARIZIO  
EVELYN L. FARVER  
CHARLOTTE HILBERT  
HARRY W. JOHNSON  
MIKE NOEL  
CHARLES R. PERRY  
JOAN SHAFFER  
JOAN SONNENBERG  
BILL WEBORG

*LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH FOUNDATION*  
*ANNUAL REPORT – 2014*



The LMCF (Luther Memorial Church Foundation) Fund was established in 1997 for the purpose of maintenance, improvement, acquisition of property or any other specific uses as the donors may mandate.

**Financial Summary**

Fair market value, Dec. 31, 2013	\$530,576
Additions to principle during 2014	\$110,281
Distributions made in 2014	\$21,223
Market growth during 2014	\$28,992
Fair market value (FMV), Dec. 31, 2014	\$648,626
Approximate rate of return*, 2014	5.5%
Adjusted principle, Dec. 31, 2013	\$464,520
Inflation rate, 2014	1.3%
Adjusted principle* (AP), Dec. 31, 2014	\$590,130
Amount available for distribution (FMV – AP)	\$58,496
Distribution allowed for 2015 (4% of FMV)	\$25,945

\* Approximate rate of return is net of any fees paid by the account. Adjusted principle is calculated by taking the previous year's value and increasing it by 2% plus the rate of inflation, then adding additions to principle.

The Committee gratefully expresses its appreciation to those donors who have supported the Foundation, and we pray that all members of our Congregation consider supporting the Foundation through Estate Planning, Memorial Contributions, or Annual gifts.

*Rob Benacci*

*Robert L. Lasher*

*William C. Lasher*

**LUTHER MEMORIAL ACADEMY**  
**INCOME & EXPENSE FOR YEARS ENDED AUGUST 31,**  
**ANNUAL REPORT – 2014**

LUTHER MEMORIAL ACADEMY		
INCOME & EXPENSE FOR YEARS ENDED AUGUST 31,		
	2014	2013
<b>INCOME</b>		
TUITION-PRIOR	16,109.28	9,457.50
TUITION-CURRENT	413,099.74	395,748.91
REGISTRATION	725.00	780.00
LATE FEE	640.00	950.00
ENDOWMENT TRANSFERS	11,428.84	3,102.03
INTEREST INCOME	142.54	222.68
PTL COPIER REIMBURSEMENT	1,400.00	3,509.22
UNDESIGNATED GIFTS	3,170.45	2,430.25
LM CHURCH REIMBURSEMENTS	10,489.92	31,469.76
EITC INCOME	2,900.00	4,800.00
GENERAL CANDY FUNDRAISER	522.50	503.00
EASTER CANDY FUNDRAISER	2,746.37	1,285.41
LMC SPECIAL OFFERING	2,532.00	1,356.00
THRIVENT MATCHING FUNDS	3,715.00	1,581.00
SCHOOL STORE INCOME	117.00	197.00
SPRING FUNDRAISER	6,559.21	11,408.84
BEFORE SCHOOL INCOME	2,981.50	2,904.25
AFTER SCHOOL INCOME	10,848.70	15,612.34
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>490,128.05</b>	<b>487,318.19</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
TEACHER & ADMINISTRATOR SALARIES	335,818.10	335,007.84
SECRETARY SALARY	27,987.36	26,948.88
FICA TAXES	28,372.23	27,701.33
403(B) CONTRIBUTION	16,592.52	19,352.93
HEALTH INSURANCE	11,119.19	10,886.32
DISABILITY INSURANCE	6,101.84	5,759.16
CHRISTMAS BONUS	750.00	725.00
CHORAL DIRECTOR	322.95	311.49
HOME VISITS/MILEAGE	200.00	1,820.70
SUBSTITUTE WAGES	16,132.27	5,632.00
SUBSTITUTE FICA	1,276.28	419.25
OFFICE SUPPLIES	2,688.09	3,335.15
CLASSROOM SUPPLIES	2,276.07	3,601.16
ELEA	272.00	245.00
WORKMAN'S COMP	835.00	2,505.00
RENT	4,144.56	12,433.68
NAT'L FUEL REIMBURSEMENT	3,333.32	9,999.96
ELECTRIC REIMBURSEMENT	500.00	1,500.00
CUSTODIAL SERVICES	14,683.00	15,000.00
TRASH	328.32	984.96
BSP & ASP WAGES	9,196.33	9,476.96
BSP & ASP FICA's	659.50	724.96
REPAIR & MAINTENANCE	1,638.03	702.45
COPIER MAINTENACE AGREEMENT	3,850.50	3,668.00
OTHER MISC. EXPENSE	1,268.38	1,761.87
CREDIT CARDS FEES	61.03	20.60
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>490,406.87</b>	<b>500,524.65</b>
<b>NET PROFIT/(LOSS)</b>	<b>(278.82)</b>	<b>(13,206.46)</b>



*LUTHER MEMORIAL  
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FACTS  
ANNUAL REPORT – 2014*



During 2014, we paid off our mortgage from MIF. We received enough money from our members to pay \$16,746 before we ran into a cash flow problem. We still had a balance due of \$48,326. We used \$21,223 from the LM Foundation and borrowed \$23,317 from the Endowment Fund to add to the checking balance we already had to pay the mortgage off. Paying the mortgage off early saved us approximately \$1,094 in interest.

We are still collecting on the pledges and have received enough to repay the Endowment Fund \$9,000 in December.

There is still \$7,445 in outstanding pledges. 22 members make up this amount. There are 2 members who have made no payments on their pledge.

**LUTHER MEMORIAL  
ERIE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION  
ANNUAL REPORT – 2014**



The Erie Community Foundation

*Helping today...Shaping tomorrow*

459 West Sixth Street • Erie, Pennsylvania 16501-1215 • ph: 814.454.0842 • fx: 814.454.0905 • www.eriecommunityfoundation.org

President

Michael L. Betscher, mbetscher@eriecommunityfoundation.org

<b>Luther Memorial Church Fund</b> <i>Fund Statement: 01/01/2014 - 11/30/2014</i>	<b>Fund ID:</b> <b>Luth</b>	<i>Ms. Miriam Scheid</i> <b>Luther Memorial Church &amp; Learning Center</b> <b>225 West 10th Street</b> <b>Erie, PA 16501</b>
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**Fund Activity**

<i>Balance as of 01/01/2014</i>	2,599,909.28
Contributions	0.00
Refund of Prior Year Grants	0.00
<b>Investment Activity</b>	
Interest & Dividends	27,512.01
Unrealized Gains (Losses)	17,502.19
Realized Gains (Losses)	90,363.37
<b>Disbursements</b>	
Grants/Scholarships	75,000.00
Investment/Management Fees	26,253.48
Other Fund Expenses	0.00
<i>Balance as of 11/30/2014</i>	<b>2,634,033.37</b>

**Detail**

**GRANTS APPROVED:**

Grantee	Date	Amount
Luther Memorial Church & Learning Center	03/03/2014	25,000.00
Luther Memorial Church & Learning Center	06/02/2014	25,000.00
Luther Memorial Church & Learning Center	09/03/2014	25,000.00
*** Total Grants:		75,000.00





## **REPORT OF THE TREASURER**

### **ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2014**

**WE DID IT. WE HAD ANOTHER SURPLUS LAST YEAR.** We now have **THREE** surplus years in a row. 2014 ended up as a very good year for Luther Memorial. At last year's annual meeting we adopted a budget with a **\$9,082 surplus**. We ended the year with a surplus of **\$10,148**. That's **\$1,066** better than expected. Here's what happened.

#### **2014 RESULTS**

##### **INCOME**

Our total income came in over budget by **\$16,623**. This included our giving being over by \$2,812 and our other income being over \$13,811. Our investment income came in over budget by \$9,164.

##### **EXPENSES**

Our total expenses came in over budget by **\$15,557**.

##### **UTILITIES & TELEPHONE**

We were **over budget** in total utilities and telephone by **\$7,915**.

##### **REPAIRS, MAINTENANCE & SERVICES FOR LM BUILDING**

These line items were over budget by **\$7,564** had a lot to do with the boiler. Special thanks go to Rick Kern, Dave Buerk, Charlie Lintelman and Miriam Scheid for taking care of our facility for us.

##### **SALARIES AND STAFF SUPPORT**

Total salaries and staff support came in under budget by **\$3,674**. Staff support was under budget by \$4,734.

#### **THE 2015 BUDGET PROJECTS A DEFICIT OF \$19,939**

**We are expecting a small deficit in 2015.**

Our estimate of our 2015 total income is \$22,816 less than 2014 actual. Our total giving is expected to be \$18,005 less than 2014 actual. Our estimate of our total expenses is \$7,271 more than 2014 actual. Adding these two amounts means we are expecting a \$30,087 **decrease** from last year. \$10,148 surplus minus 30,087 equals expected deficit of \$19,939.

The 2015 budget has a 2% increase for Pastor and staff and keeps their benefits at the same level as before. We have budgeted all other expenses as close to 2014 actual expenses as possible with adjustments made as necessary.

Our priorities are still new members and to increase the surplus. The evangelism and stewardship committees did a great job last year in getting additional commitments. We have very good control of our expenses; it is the top two lines of the budget that drives this organization.

Respectfully Submitted

*Greg Kern*  
Treasurer

**LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH**  
**STATEMENTS OF INCOME AND EXPENSE FOR YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 2013 AND 2014**  
**PROPOSED 2015 BUDGET**

<b>LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH</b>					
<b>STATEMENTS OF INCOME AND EXPENSE FOR YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 2013 AND 2014</b>					
<b>AND PROPOSED 2015 BUDGET</b>					
	<b>ACTUAL</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>ACTUAL</b>	<b>VARIANCE</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>
	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>
<b>INCOME</b>					
ENVELOPES PLEDGED	148,627	174,829	178,406	3,577	159,188
ENVELOPES NO PLEDGE	174,796	142,818	140,415	-2,403	144,816
ENVELOPES SPECIAL	10,231	8,500	6,928	-1,572	6,000
PLATE SUNDAY	3,275	3,000	6,287	3,287	4,000
PLATE SPECIAL	148	100	39	-81	50
SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL	24	25	9	-16	25
<b>TOTAL GIVING</b>	<b>335,101</b>	<b>329,272</b>	<b>332,084</b>	<b>2,812</b>	<b>314,079</b>
<b>INVESTMENT INCOME</b>					
INVESTMENT INCOME	5,361	3,500	12,663	9,163	8,700
ERIE COMM FOUNDATION	100,000	100,000	100,000	0	100,000
RENTAL INCOME & JANITOR	16,976	0	0	0	0
WEDDINGS, AA & MISC INC.	5,812	4,000	3,875	-125	4,000
SECURITY INCOME	0	1,500	2,408	908	2,000
ESTHER SODER MONEY	5,400	5,000	5,495	495	5,000
JAGEMAN MONEY	3,413	0	3,380	3,380	3,300
SPONERSHIP INCOME	320	250	240	-10	250
<b>TOTAL OTHER INCOME</b>	<b>137,282</b>	<b>114,250</b>	<b>128,061</b>	<b>13,811</b>	<b>123,250</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>472,383</b>	<b>443,522</b>	<b>460,145</b>	<b>16,623</b>	<b>437,329</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>					
ACCOUNT FEES	889	750	3,395	2,645	3,400
CHURCH ACTIVITIES	5,409	6,000	5,852	-148	6,000
SYNOD APPORTIONMENT	36,000	36,000	36,000	0	36,000
OTHER BENEVOLENCE	7,650	5,850	5,850	0	5,850
CARE MINISTRIES	1,272	1,200	941	-259	1,500
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	6,007	6,500	5,874	-626	6,500
ERIE LUTHERAN PARISH	1,968	2,000	1,960	-40	2,000
EVANGELISM & OUTREACH	2,042	2,500	2,492	-8	3,000
INSURANCE PROGRAM	15,722	17,224	17,616	392	17,500
OFFICE EXPENSE	14,936	13,000	13,845	845	13,000
PROPERTY R&M	10,345	10,000	17,564	7,564	13,300
SALARIES	191,513	192,213	190,827	-1,386	198,416
SCHOOL (NET)	4,498	0	0	0	0
PROPERTY SERVICES	18,390	18,000	19,483	1,483	19,500
STEWARDSHIP	450	1,000	0	-1,000	1,000
SUPPLIES	6,508	7,000	5,916	-1,084	7,000
STAFF SUPPORT	67,639	66,903	64,615	-2,288	69,302
UTILITIES & TELEPHONE	41,652	43,300	51,215	7,915	49,000
WORSHIP & MUSIC	4,931	5,000	6,552	1,552	5,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>437,821</b>	<b>434,440</b>	<b>449,997</b>	<b>15,557</b>	<b>457,268</b>
<b>NET (LOSS) / SURPLUS</b>	<b>34,562</b>	<b>9,082</b>	<b>10,148</b>	<b>1,066</b>	<b>(19,939)</b>