

ANNUAL REPORT

God's
Work.

Our Hands.



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

nebraska
synod

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Where Does Mission Share Go?

In the ELCA and the Nebraska Synod, we like to say that we are the church together. And part of being the church together is sharing our resources to support the ministries that no one congregation could do by itself.

Your Mission Share offerings to the Nebraska Synod support a variety of ways in which we are called into ministry ... together.



54% of all mission share funding is passed along to our partners at ELCA Churchwide. Our support of ELCA Churchwide provides the foundation needed for a number of vital ministries here and around the world. As the church together, we are engaged in efforts to eradicate malaria, combat poverty and hunger, assist people in times of disaster, stand in accompaniment with global mission partners, and start new worship communities.



23% of all mission share offerings are used to support Nebraska Synod specific services and ministries. As the church together, through mission share, we are able to assist congregations with calling pastors and conflict resolution, provide leadership development opportunities and faith formation programming, and support ministries in the community that are multiculturally and socioeconomically diverse.



17.5% of all mission share offerings are passed along directly to affiliated serving arms and organizations. As the church together, through mission share, we are providing direct financial support to Oaks Indian Center, Midland University, Lutheran Family Services, Wartburg Seminary, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, Nebraska Lutheran Campus Ministry, and Nebraska Lutheran Outdoor Ministry.



5.5% Only five and a half cents of every dollar contributed to mission share is used for administrative expense and direct overhead costs in the Nebraska Synod. That is tremendous stewardship of the resources with which God has blessed us to carry out the mission to which we have been called. As the church together, your willingness to pool resources makes it possible to do **God's Work** with **Our Hands**.

**ANNUAL MEETING OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
JANUARY 18, 2015**

The meeting was called to order by President Bill Davis at 9:49 am.

It was determined that a quorum was present with 55 people in attendance.

Pastor Liz gave the devotions.

Paul Anderson moved to approve the Proposed Agenda. Seconded by Karen Sandberg and passed.

Dawn Beckwell moved to approve the 2014 minutes. Seconded by Nancy Marty and approved.

Election of Church Council – nominees are Jessica Cassata, Bill Davis, Norma Nabity and Martin O’Neill.

Election of Endowment Committee – nominees are Perry Adams and Fran Buchholz.

Nominations for both Church Council and Endowment were motioned by Kay Gale and seconded by Karen Sandberg. Nominations were passed and approved.

Pastor John gave the Pastors report. He spoke of the celebration for Trinity’s 100th Anniversary in November. Trinity now has a reading program at four grade schools and we will be starting with the Nelson Mandela School in the fall. It is important that we are a people and place with the 2nd century in mind for Trinity.

Jean Johnson started her report with a “thank you” to all who are involved in all music groups at Trinity.

Danielle Robertson, this is the 6th year Trinity has had a LVC person. Danielle has applied for a 2nd year with the LVC program.

Standing Committee Reports – Dawn Beckwell voted to approve the reports. Seconded by Norma Nabity and passed.

Financial Reports – We finished the year about \$2000 in the red. One of the reasons we finished so strong was the special money we received. Jim Duda moved to accept the reports. Bernice Rowlett seconded and the reports were passed.

Budget – it reflects the 2014 budget. Nancy Marty moved to approve the budget. It was seconded by Karen Sandberg. The vote was taken and the budget was passed.

There was no Old Business.

New Business:

Constitutional Amendment changes. Moved by Bernice Rowlett; seconded by Helen Brasch. This was voted on and passed.

Delegates for 2014 Synod Assembly are Bill Davis and Bernice Rowlett. This was voted on and passed.

Paul Anderson thanked the staff for all that they do for Trinity and its members.

Meeting adjourned by Bill Davis at 10:14 am

Respectfully Submitted,
Jessica Cassata, Trinity Council Secretary

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
2015 ANNUAL REPORT
ANNUAL MEETING—JANUARY 17TH, 2016

1. Distribution of Materials
2. Call to Order (Bill Davis)
3. Quorum Call
4. Devotions (Pastor)
5. Action on Proposed Agenda-Minutes
6. Election of Church Council members and Endowment Committee members
7. Staff Reports
 - Pastors Elizabeth & John Backus
 - Jean Johnson, AIM
 - Hans Hille, LVC Volunteer
8. Standing Committee Reports
9. Report of Treasurer-Financial Reports – report accepted by vote
10. Budget
 - Move & second required for discussion
 - Discussion of budget & vote
11. Old Business
12. New Business
13. Report of Tellers
14. Adjournment
15. Benediction



CHURCH STATISTICS – 2015

At the end of the year 2015, the following members of our congregation were serving on the church council: (Terms expire in January)

Helen Brasch - 2016
Julie Dragon - 2016
Karna Kudirka - 2016
Norm Major - 2016
Rich Sandberg – 2016
Norma Nability - 2017
Jess Cassata - 2017
Bill Davis – 2017
Martin O’Neill – 2017

Our thanks to Helen Brasch and Julie Dragon for their service to the congregation on council.

The pastoral acts of the congregation are as follows:

Baptisms-	4
Confirmations –	3
Funerals-	15
Weddings-	6

The membership of the congregation as of December 31, 2015 is .

Nominations
Nominating Committee:
Bill Davis
Pastor John Backus

For Church Council:
Norm Major
Karna Kudirka
Rodney Weed
Perry Adams

PASTORS ELIZABETH & JOHN BACKUS
ANNUAL REPORT – 2015
BUILDING FOR THE NEXT CENTURY CAMPAIGN

This great effort began in May of 2014 and continues as people continue fulfilling their pledges through 2017. Over \$260,000 of our \$375,000 goal has been contributed already, and projects are underway!

We have a new roof over the Sunday School wing of our building. It now slopes to the south, which makes for better drainage. There were some concerns along the way, but they are all addressed, and the new roof is better than originally planned.

We have a new roof over the Sanctuary. It is beautiful. This massive project also spawned some concerns.

- Capstones on the parapet walls will need to be addressed in the spring. This concern puts other projects off, time-wise, as more heavy equipment will surely be using the parking lot and driving over sidewalks and lawns.
- The way water drains off the roof and into the ground on the south side is problematic and being looked at by our property committee.
- On the north side, damage to the sidewalk and yard was worsened by the amount of drainage water under the soil. We will be addressing this as well.

When all the heavy equipment is gone, we will be addressing the parking lot. We hope also to address the doors, some windows, and consider how we might effectively restore the beauty of our stained glass windows to the outside world.

All this property improvement is made possible by your gifts to *Building for the Next Century*.

In addition, our stated purpose for the campaign was to minister more effectively in the neighborhood. This is so much more than a bricks-and-mortar project. These are the sorts of things that *BFTNC* has accomplished as we faithfully serve in North Omaha:

- Hundreds and Hundreds and Hundreds of hot dogs given out at our two local parades.
- Books in the hands of so many second and third graders in North Omaha. We will distribute and read about \$24,000 worth of books this year in our six local grade schools. We are helped in this endeavor by neighbors who contribute money and by a generous gift from the Hawks Foundation.
- Prison Ministry Drivers, worship leaders and food servers help our incarcerated sisters and brothers know that the Church cares for them. Four times each year this group gathers in Trinity's walls to worship and eat with their families. We share this responsibility with our ministry partners at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Millard.

This has been a remarkable effort on your part. Congratulations, Trinity, and keep it up!

Pastors Liz and John

JEAN JOHNSON, ASSOCIATE IN MINISTRY – MUSIC ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2015

Thank you to all the musicians who have given of their time and talents this year at Trinity. It has been a busy year for everyone, especially this fall with the 100th Anniversary. This year the Chancel Choir participated in a fundraiser concert for the Open Door Mission, and several participated in an American Guild of Organists Hymn Festival to raise funds for the education of church musicians. The Praise Band played at the Gospel Concert in Miller Park.

For the Anniversary, Trinity hosted the Nebraska Brass in the spring, Pastor Paul Oman in the fall, and many guests for the 100th Anniversary. Trinity musicians were involved in all the programs, including a Christmas concert. These events took a lot of extra effort from musicians, and you all were greatly appreciated!

In the summer Dannielle Robertson (LVC), Jennifer Dukes, and I served along with 8 Trinity kids, 4 of their friends and 160 other young people at the Lutheran Youth Serve Omaha. This is a week of hard work, new friends and helping others. I attended the Regional Organ Guild Conference in Indianapolis – which was a great experience. I led a Women's Bible Study and got more involved in making quilt tops. In May I celebrated 15 years as an Associate in Ministry in the ELCA. The congregation held a lovely reception in my honor.

Alleluia Kids did not start again this fall due to the lack of children. Children's Choir and Bells and study have long been a part of the church, and I hope it can come back in some form.

As the chair of the 100th Anniversary Committee, I want to thank Steve & Jackie Cramer, John & Norma Nabity, Lawrence & Kristy Gilbert, Leah Wyatt, Denise Chapman, Don Orton, Don & Cindy Hiltgen and Lee Johnson for the 3 years of planning we did. For the anniversary, the committee:

- Implemented a Capital Campaign
- Hosted the Nebraska Brass
- Hosted Pastor and Artist, Paul Oman
- Put together a History Book and History Display
- Arranged for a Pictorial Directory of the congregation
- Hosted a banquet where we viewed 2 historical videos and welcomed former Pastors Damon Laaker, Brian Rice, Pam Ciulla and Mike Knudson
- Held a 100th anniversary service, with Bishop Brian Maas as preacher, followed by a reception

The committee was honored to serve the congregation in this way. We were helped in every endeavor by many others in the congregation, and it was truly a wonderful year of remembrance and celebration.

"Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations. From everlasting to everlasting you are God."
Psalm 90:1,2

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Johnson, AIM

HANS HILLE – LVC STAFFER ANNUAL REPORT – 2015

My name is Hans and I am the Lutheran Volunteer Corp Staff member at Trinity Lutheran Church. Lutheran Volunteer Corps is a nonprofit organization, a community of faith, unites people to work for peace with justice across the nation.

In addition to working for justice in and outside their placements, LVC Volunteers live together in intentional household communities of 3-9 people to encourage simple, sustainable living.

The Hillstrom House in Omaha has 9 volunteers this year.

I am the Community Outreach Coordinator at Trinity Lutheran Church. My main task is to organize and coordinate the reading program "Trinity Reads".

We are in 6 Elementary Schools in North Omaha, 2nd and 3rd grade, 22 classrooms with around 550 students total. Volunteers, most of them from the Trinity congregation, read one book each month in front of the classroom. Each student gets a copy and can keep it after the reading session.

My duty is to keep in touch with the schools and teachers, schedule dates for reading sessions and picking up books for our volunteers.

I am also responsible for other volunteer programs in our church, making coffee on Sunday and setting everything up for adult education, writing articles for Bulletins and Tidings, changing the sign and any other things that is going on at and around the church.

LYAMANYAKI ANNUAL REPORT – 2015

We had another successful year with raising money for Lyamanyaki. We started with the Baked Potato dinner during Lent. After a lot of work by many people, we put together a 100th Anniversary cookbook with the proceeds going to the orphans and Milk Project. There are over 400 recipes from current and past members of Trinity. We have sold 300 cookbooks. A special thanks to everyone who contributed recipes, helped put the cookbook together and bought cookbooks. For the year, we raised \$2383 for the Orphans and \$2404 for the Milk Project. Trinity is currently helping 32 Lyamanyaki Orphans go to school. TWELCA gave a gift of \$100 to the Lyamanyaki Women's Group and the Trinity Youth raised money for the Chicken Project.

Respectfully Submitted

Jessica Cassata

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FUND

As of this writing, we have received \$287,000 of the pledged \$365,000. We remain grateful to the work of Pastor Karen Soli our Stewardship Key Leader from the ELCA.

Of the funds contributed, we have paid for the Sunday School Addition roof (\$36,284) and made a partial payment on the Sanctuary Roof. Final payment will be made upon approval of the job. Like the Sunday School Roof, changes to the plan had to be made for the future health of the building.

See the Pastors' report for further information on projects pending.

MEMORIALS ANNUAL REPORT – 2015

We remember those who have died this past year. We name Dwight Dreyer, Joanne Stierle, Sister Violet Stang, Charles Wonder, John Acamo, Rachel Hult, Eleanor Livdahl, Laura Cano, Michael Brabec, Cliff Peppers, Charles Burriell, Joan Hedlund, Bill Buckingham, Loretta Bennett, and Lorraine Palma.

We celebrate and give thanks for: the Adult Education Winther Memorial Lectures, "Spiritual Practices" with staff from Gravity in memory of Don and Betty Winther,

Trinity's float in the Florence Days Parade, in memory of Dorothy Johnson, Gordon Haman, Joyce Markworth, Sue McGill, and Dorothy Conry,

The summer youth trip in memory of Tony Aparo, Sister Ingeborg Blomberg, Judy Cassata, Dorothy Classen, Ann Cordes, Laurene Coordes, Melanie Hatutale, Ralph Lindball, and Bobbi Wingate.

We give thanks for these wonderful gifts that have enhanced our life as a worshipping community. Thanks to everyone who gives a gift in memory of a loved one. Please remember that these purchases are always approved by the council and the families are contacted when possible.

Respectfully submitted, Pastor Liz Backus

PROPERTY COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT – 2015

The big item for 2015 was the replacement of our sanctuary roof. The work on that roof is not yet complete. It was discovered during roof replacement that capstones and tuck pointing issues need to be addressed. Those items cannot be dealt with until warmer weather next spring/summer. The heavy equipment that was needed for the roof install created some damage to the sidewalk and lawn on the north side of the building. There is also damage to the sprinkler system. Some which was due to the heavy equipment and some of it was previous damage. None of this will be addressed until work on the roof is complete and the heavy equipment is gone. Along with this, once the roof is complete we will need some repair work in and possible repaint of the sanctuary.

Ongoing, we still have issues with the parking lot and outside water leaking into the lounge area. Again the work must progress in an orderly manner for the best outcomes. Once the roof work is complete we will be moving toward resolving these other issues.

Special thanks again to our twice a week volunteer men's work group. Major projects for the group this year included replacing the education wing second floor ceiling tiles that were damaged. Also converting and installing updated energy efficient lighting fixtures throughout the building. Routine painting, plumbing, electrical work, and recently decorating the sanctuary for Christmas. Doing whatever needs to be done to keep the building in the best possible shape.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rich Sandberg

TRINITY WELCA ANNUAL REPORT 2015

Trinity Women of the ELCA provides support for world-wide, national, and Nebraska Synodical ministries as well as ministries here at Trinity. Some of these ministries include Lutheran World Relief, the Lyamanyaki Women's Group, Nebraska Luther Outdoor Ministries, Project Hope, Trinity Youth Group and several others.

Meetings are held in the Fellowship Hall at 12:00 noon on the first Thursday of March, September, and December. A luncheon is served, followed by a guest speaker or special program and a short business meeting. This year's programs were: March - Leo Biga told us about his humanitarian trip to Uganda and Rwanda with Boxer Bud Crawford; September - "The Dancing Grannies"; December - we prepared containers of cookies to be delivered to our shut-in Trinity members. On September 8th our TWELCA hosted the Lutheran Women of Omaha at a noon luncheon with Pastor John presenting information about our Reading program.

All members of Trinity are invited and encouraged to attend our General Meetings. There are also three women's circles of TWELCA that meet once a month for Bible study and fellowship. Ladies are welcome to attend as many or as few of these meetings as they wish. More information can be found on the Welcome Desk or by calling the church office.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Bitcon

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT - 2015

In 2015 the Stewardship Team used the theme "A 100 years...A 100 reasons". Our fall campaign intertwined with our 100th Anniversary celebration. Prior to our November 8 Stewardship Sunday our team held small group meetings. The agenda for these meetings was to present our budgeted expenses to the congregation and stress the importance of our pledges. The past 3 years we have fallen short of our giving and have not been able to meet our budgets but we have been saved by an "angel" and the end of the year financial statement has become balanced. We even brought our message to Adult Education and were very pleased with the interest shown by members and the questions they asked.

On Sunday November 8 we enjoyed fellowship between services where we served "mission muffins" and the Youth had a silent auction to raise money to help the women of Lyamanyaki purchase chickens for a source of income.

It is very obvious that Trinity plans to stay here for the next 100 years and the Stewardship Team will continue to be the committee that helps Trinity continue taking it's missions outside our doors and into the local and global community.

Respectfully submitted,
Stewardship Team

FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE ANNUAL REPORT - 2015

It has again been my privilege and joy to serve as your Faith Community Nurse this year. I have continued to provide or assist with the following activities:

- Distribution of Fecal Occult Blood test kits
- Serving as a member of the Adult Education committee
- Assisting with Healing Services
- Providing monthly articles for the Tidings, bulletin inserts for the Happenings, and posting information and events of interest on bulletin boards
- Expanding my client base as I work individually with members and respond to their concerns
- Hosting Flu shot clinic

In the coming year my goals are to increase the number of members who participate in receiving Fecal Occult Blood Test kits in March; and to resume providing blood pressure screening on the second Sunday of each month. If there are other ways I can serve you, please do not hesitate to contact me. My office hours have changed slightly. I am in the office most Mondays from 1-3p.m. and Thursdays from 9-11a.m. These are posted in the both the Tidings monthly, and the Happenings weekly. I am available other times by appointment. Please call Trinity or my cell phone (402-320-2760) if I can assist you in any way.

I offer my heartfelt thanks to the Pastors, our Health Minister Bernice Rowlett, and each of you for your unwavering support, encouragement and prayers which have made this ministry successful. I look forward to continuing to serve you in the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Hiltgen, RN, FCN

GREEN THUMB
ANNUAL REPORT - 2015

*Rec'd
2016 - John*

Trinity recycles!

Green Thumb prides itself on being financially independent. This is made possible by selling coupon books, gifts in kind, and recycling. Our funds are used for garden supplies, plant material, and the 5-step lawn program for the Church. The landscaping on the north side of the Church (to be completed this spring) was provided by Green Thumb. We wish to express our gratitude to the congregation for all the support. Our efforts will continue as long as there is a need.

Peace -- John Nabity

Can a zucchini be a blessing? It can when it is shared through love. Green Thumb produce was shared most Sundays during the growing season in our narthex. Produce was also shared with Project Hope, friends and neighbors. Green Thumb also organizes a spring cleanup before Easter and uses donations to purchase lawn care items for the Church lawn. Thanks to out to all who helped Green Thumb this year, especially Jim for setting up and taking down the water system and Trish for spending many evenings working in the garden.

Respectfully Submitted - Heather Thompson

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH ENDOWMENT FUND
ANNUAL REPORT - 2015**

The Endowment Fund was created by the membership of Trinity at the 1997 annual meeting. The Endowment fund was initially funded by a gift from Richard C. Lundgren in the approximate amount of \$105,000. Based on the bylaws a specific amount of income generated is available to be distributed. The fund has distributed through 2015, **\$156,410** to a variety of organizations and individuals. The current value of the Fund is approximately **\$146,000**. It has spread Trinity's name and message of caring worldwide. During 2005 the Endowment Fund began opening savings funds in the amount of \$50 for each new congregational baptism thru a program of Mission Investment Fund of the ELCA called "Mission Future 4 KIDZ". This year the committee approved grants totaling **\$6,950** and they are listed here in this report.

Below is a list of the gifts received for Memorial Day 2015 (\$925):

- In Memory of William Gonzales - Perry and Barb Adams
- In Memory of Pastor John's Parents - John and Liz Backus
- In Memory of Leroy and Marcella Lutz and Jewel Baxter - Jean Baxter
- In Memory of Leroy & Eva Stride, David L Stride, Sandra Stride, and Ione and Norm Borchman - Ellen Bresnahan
- In memory of Judy Cassata - Jess Cassata
- In Memory of my husband, John Carlson - Betty Carlson
- In Memory of The Family of Earl S. Jensen - Christie A. Gehringer
- In Memory of Charlene Muir & James E. Watkins, III - Lawrence and Kristy Gilbert
- In Memory of Al and Angelina Maddalena - Sandra and John Johnson
- A gift from Richard and Marilyn Christensen
- A gift from Joanne Givens
- In Memory of Joanne Stierle And Sister Violet Stang - Bill and Laura Lyles
- In Memory of our parents and siblings - Rick and Karla Nejd
- In Memory of David Prochnau - Harlene Prochnau
- In Memory of Ward & Esther Sandberg and Sam & Judy Navarrette - Rich and Karen Sandberg
- In Memory of all our loved ones - Jon and Linda Roeder
- A gift from Jane Wendland
- In loving Memory Walt Romey - Dixie Romey
- In Memory of Officer Kerri Orozco - Betsy Scott
- In Memory of Eleanor Livdahl - Lucy Hansen

Below is a list of the gifts received for All Saints Sunday 2015 (\$761):

- In Memory of Pastor John's parents and Pastor Liz's Dad - Elizabeth and John Backus
- In Memory of Loved Ones - Nancy and John Marty
- In Memory of her mom, Judy Cassata - Jessica Cassata
- In Memory of Loved Ones - Kristy and Lawrence Gilbert
- In Memory of Loved Ones - Jackie Cramer
- In Memory of my husband, John Carlson - Betty Carlson
- In Memory of Bill & Eliene Wagner - Rodney and Joanne Givens
- In Memory of Carl and Catherine Christensen - Richard and Marilyn Christensen
- In Memory of Dee's brother Walt Cotton - Jim and Dee Marshall
- In Memory of Dan's mother, Alice - Daniel Lighty

In Memory of her husband Walt Romey and brother-in-law Bill Buckingham -Dixie Romey
 In Loving Memory of her father, Donald Finch and her sister, Cathy Finch Short and his
 father Donovan Weed - Caren and Rodney Weed
 In memory of Ellen's parents Leroy and Eva Stride, brother David Stride, sister Sandra
 Stride and Ione and Godparents Norm and Ione Borchman -Ellen and Roger Bresnahan
 In Honor of the wonderful family of Trinity Lutheran Church - Jon and Linda Roeder
 A gift from Lee and Jean Johnson

Below is a list of the gifts received as Anniversary Gifts 2015 (\$1100):

Loren & Pam Johnson
 Harlene Prochnau

2014 Distributions:

Name of Ministry	Amount	Date
Nebraska Lutheran Outdoor Ministry	\$400	2/22/15
Oaks Indian Mission	\$200	2/22/15
Omaha North Post Prom	\$500	2/22/15
Nebraska Lutheran Campus Ministry	\$100	2/22/15
Lutheran Service Corps	\$1,000	5/17/15
Followers of Christ Prison Ministry	\$325	5/17/15
Guest Speaker - Caroline Keenan	\$300	5/17/15
Baptisms - 2	\$100	Various
Lyamanyaki Milk Project	\$250	5/17/15
Lyamanyaki Orphans	\$250	5/17/15
Trinity's Anniversary	\$1,000	5/17/15
Trinity's Operation Funds	\$1,725	5/17/15
Trinity Reads Program	\$200	10/18/15
Community Children Christmas Gifts	\$600	10/18/15

Trinity Lutheran Church Endowment Fund Committee Members 2015

Perry Adams - 2015-2017
 Fran Buchholz - 2015-2017
 Bill Davis - 2013-2015
 Nancy Marty - 2013-2015
 Steve Cramer, Chair - 2013-2015
 Pastor Liz Backus - Advisory Member

Trinity Income and Expense 2014-2015 Comparison

	Jan - Dec 14		Jan - Dec 15
Income			
4400 — CURRENT	331,174.03		330,292.71
4100 — BULLETINS & ALTAR FLOWERS	2,866.00		2,966.00
4300 — CHURCH RENTAL & MISC	22,025.28		21,854.32
5000 — SPECIAL OFFERINGS RECEIVED	5,675.95		2,721.14
Total Income	361,741.26		357,834.17
Expense			
6000 — CHURCH SUPPLIES	9,724.97		13,829.44
6300 — EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	98,762.81		108,432.93
6400 — INSURANCE PROPERTY	12,851.25		10,693.75
6450 — MAINTENANCE/REPAIR	15,168.17		13,228.93
6500 — MISSION SHARE	33,075.86		51,029.27
6520 — MUSIC	658.54		92.92
6530 — OFFICE SUPPLIES	5,674.49		7,117.18
6540 — OTHER EXPENSES	1,621.66		2,883.93
6800 — SALARIES	155,125.48		140,554.50
6825 — SPECIAL OFFERINGS	5,650.88		2,203.19
6900 — TRAVEL	791.13		433.82
7900 — UTILITIES	24,836.99		23,324.85
Total Expense	363,942.23		373,824.71
Net Income	-2,200.97		-15,990.54

Trinity Balance Sheet as of Dec. 31, 2015

ASSETS			
	Current Assets		
	1003	— MISSION SAVINGS ACCOUNT	379,865.52
	1005	— SAVINGS ACCOUNT	112,437.29
	1004	— FIRST NATIONAL	99,616.47
	1100	— MONEY MARKET-CHURCH IMPROVEMENT	50,034.75
	1200	— MONEY MARKET-OTHER	10,514.42
	1300	— MONEY MARKET-ENDOWMENT	149,251.00
	1400	— PETTY CASH	25.00
	Total Current Assets		801,744.45
	Fixed Assets		
	1500	— CHURCH, ELEVATOR, AND CONTENTS	951,335.59
	1600	— 6338 NORTH 30TH STREET	82,000.00
	Total Fixed Assets		1,033,335.59
TOTAL ASSETS			1,835,080.04
LIABILITIES & EQUITY			
	Liabilities		
	2450	— Mrs. Bruce Estate	379,623.56
		100th Anniversary	2,997.05
		2975 — Green Thumb	508.28
		2725 — Capital Campaign	177,858.39
		2990 — Community Outreach	16,855.30
		2925 — Badeng Education	-3,449.28
		2100 — Payroll Liabilities	1,124.03
		2200 — YOUTH	142.76
		2400 — ENDOWMENT FUND	152,011.00
		2500 — JEAN JOHNSON - MUSIC	869.78
		2600 — PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND	-1,933.51
		2650 — STATE WITHHOLDING	409.45
		2700 — MEMORIAL FUND	35,553.31
		2800 — IMPROVEMENT FUND	63,414.61
		2900 — SUDANESE NILE CHURCH	3,475.05
		2950 — LYAMANYAKI PROJECT	60.00
	Total Liabilities		829,519.78
	Equity		
	3900	— NET WORTH	1,021,550.80
		Net Income	-15,990.54
	Total Equity		1,005,560.26
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY			1,835,080.04

Proposed Budget 2016
Annual Meeting January 17, 2016

Category	2015 Budget
Church Supplies	\$9,675.00
Office Supplies	\$5,400.00
Church Insurance (3 types)	\$12,300.00
Mission Share	\$32,000.00
Travel	\$600.00
Music	\$1,000.00
Other/ Miscellaneous	\$2,500.00
Utilities	\$24,000.00
Maintenance/ Repairs	\$17,000.00
Salaries & Benefits	\$255,525.00
Totals	\$360,000.00

Notes:

- We have had the same budget for three years.
- Three insurance types are: Multi-Peril, Umbrella Liability & Workmen's compensation.
- Maintenance & Repair includes things like the photocopier, trash, elevator inspections, fire inspections, & Terminex.
- Salaries included for Pastors Liz & John Backus, Jean Johnson, Secretary, Jeff Scheffler, and Julie Sandene.

STANDARDS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2015

2015 Standards Committee members are Pastor John, Helen Brasch, Bill Davis, Rose Marie Davis and Rich Sandberg . The Standards Committee meets monthly unless building use issues need to be addressed sooner.

The Standards Committee administers oversight of basic standards for everyone who uses the church facility and assist them with any support prior to and when they are in the building.

2015 property agreements were:

A new agreement for 2015 was approved and executed with the Ruth K Solomon Girls Center. Trinity hosted over 100 girls from June 1st through July 31st .

A.A. and C.A. continue to use Trinity for weekly meetings.

There were 9 Nile member functions

The North Omaha Arts Crawl used the building.

Lutheran Service Corps Spaghetti Feed was held at Trinity.

There were 3 prison ministry worship and meals held at Trinity

There were 3 additional private gatherings by individual members of Trinity

The Standards Committee has decided that only members or community related groups may rent the facility for a non-church related function at this time.

A reminder for anyone interested in renting the facility, the first step is to sign an agreement reserving the date at least 2 weeks prior to the use date (no exceptions). A one-time use fee of \$25.00 for members of Trinity and \$75.00 for non- members is payable at the time the agreement is signed and the reservation is made. A Standard's Committee member must sign and approve this agreement. Anyone that has not used the facility previously must complete a kitchen training session.

Respectfully submitted

Rose Marie Davis

Strategic Mission Vision Plan

Endorsed by the 2015 Synod Assembly, the Nebraska Synod Strategic Mission Vision Plan is organized around three principal charges to us as the people of Christ together: to *Hope* (rooting our vision in the Good News of Jesus Christ), to *Connect* (joining ourselves to one another and to our mission as the Body of Christ) and to *Go* (actively pursuing the Great Commission). From these principal charges come the following broad strategies and goals.

Strategy A—Identity and Purpose (Hope)

To develop a four-year emphasis that engages the congregations of the Nebraska Synod to grow in their understanding of and commitment to what it means to be the Church as congregations, the Nebraska Synod, and the ELCA, through efforts organized into the following annual themes:

Goal A-1: We Are Church—Uniting the congregations and ministries of the Synod into a common understanding of what it means to be church, utilizing new metrics for measuring vitality and mission.

Goal A-2: We Are Lutheran—Renewing individuals' and congregations' identity as ELCA Lutherans, through shared study, gatherings and activities.

Goal A-3: We Are Church Together—Increasing partnership and investment in shared and cooperative ministries, and increasing opportunities and skills for engaging in challenging conversations and conflict resolution.

Goal A-4: We Are Church for the Sake of the World—Deepening congregations' commitment to existing for the sake of others, and expanding resources for assessing and responding to needs in their communities.

Strategy B—Calling and Connection (Connect)

To strengthen connections between and beyond the congregations of the Synod through a deeper sense of call and vocation, through communication, through synod structures and relationships, and through ecumenical ties. Specific goals include:

Goal B-1: Revising the congregational call process, strengthening integration into new calls, providing resources to assist rostered leaders' well-being, and continuing to support and enrich the candidacy process and "God's IDEA."

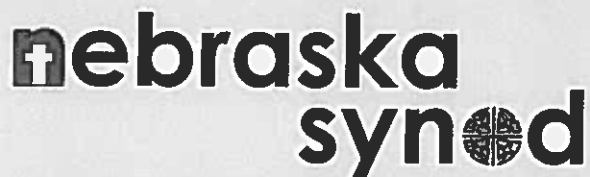
Goal B-2: Enhancing communications in and of the synod, including transition of the Director of Communications into a full-time position.

Goal B-3: Revitalizing synod clusters and leadership networks.

Goal B-4: Continuing to grow in awareness of and cooperation within ecumenical relationships.

Goal B-5: Fostering opportunities for conversation and cooperation among lay and rostered leaders.

Goal B-6: Facilitating the development of new Area Mission Strategies.



EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Strategy C—Faith and Discipleship (Go)

To assist congregations and individuals in deepening their faith and living out the fullness of discipleship through the following goals:

Goal C-1: Providing opportunities and resources for enriched individual and congregational faith formation.

Goal C-2: Revitalizing stewardship ministries in order to build a culture of generosity and excitement through resources and events for congregations and leaders, including the call of a Stewardship Director. Nebraska will join other synods in experimenting with and exploring new sources and means of support for ministries, and will call a Director of Development to coordinate and lead these efforts.

Goal C-3: Evangelizing, leading, training and exciting individuals and congregations so that they will reach out and witness, through resources and events, and through special emphases with young adults and with seniors/retirees. Calling a Synod Evangelist to provide coordination and leadership for these efforts.

A Prayer for the Congregational Annual Meeting...

Gathered by the Holy Spirit and united in Christ, let us pray:

O God, you have blessed us with this community of faith. We are all one, knit together by the Holy Spirit. We remember today our Christian sisters and brothers around the world. O God, we praise you in a variety of settings and in many languages, and yet we find our unity in Christ.

O God, in your mercy... **unite us in faith. Make us one in Christ.**

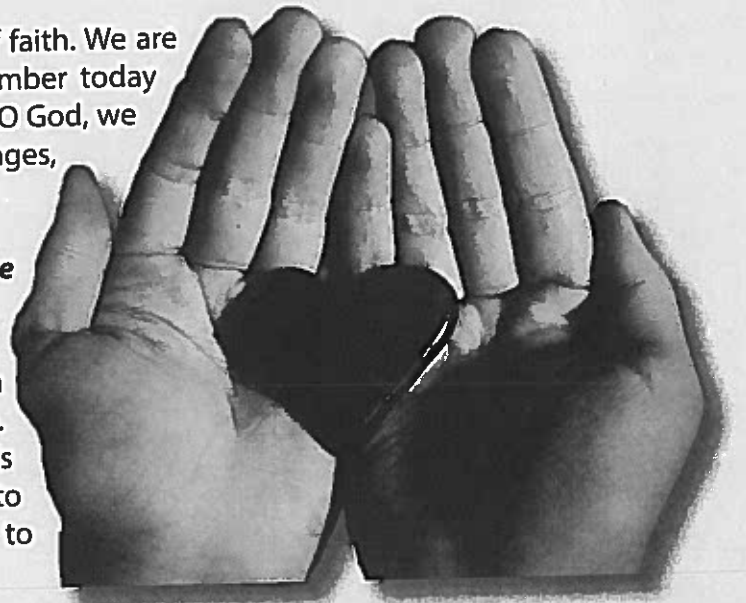
O God, your love has accompanied us through seasons of scarcity and times of abundance. Your grace is greater than our fears; your love is stronger than our uncertainties. Give us open hearts to respond to the needs of our neighbors, both close to home and around the world.

O God, in your mercy... **unite us in hope. Make us one in Christ.**

O God, your presence is constant and your grace is persistent. We pray for the gift of your Holy Spirit as we prepare for this annual meeting. May we remember that all gifts we have are from you. Into your hands we commend this time and the tasks we will do together.

O God, in your mercy... **unite us in love. Make us one in Christ.**

O God who calls us to be one body, we offer these prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



2016 Nebraska Synod Assembly:

“Called in Hope, Diverse in Mission, United in Christ”

June 2-4, 2016 - Younes Conference Center - Kearney, Nebraska

featuring



Rev. Peter Marty



Rachel Kurtz



Bishop Brian Maas

For more information, go to: NebraskaSynod.org/assembly