

OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

DIRECTORY FOR 2020

PASTOR: Ben Unseth (January-April)
Dan Beattie (April-December)

OFFICE MANAGER: Pam Steckler

CUSTODIANS: Brad & Kylie Stroehrer

OFFICE ASSISTANT: Krystal Albertsen

WORSHIP & MUSIC COORDINATOR: Jane Weber

DIRECTOR OF PRAISE BAND: Jo Beane

THE ROCK YOUTH LEADERS: Nate Vorm, Dan Bierbrodt

CHOIR DIRECTORS:
Sr. Choir — Gary Keller; Accompanist - Kelly Polson
Kids Choir — Patrick Hamilton, Marla Sunberg

ORGANISTS/PIANISTS — Barb Smith, Diane Kleckner, Kelly Polson & Ryan Weber

CHURCH COUNCIL — Meets 3rd Wednesday of the month
President — Kyle Kjergaard
Vice-President — Joe Elmquist
Secretary — Kathy Graeve
Treasurer — Jennifer Bauer
Council members — Colleen Porsch, Megan Kelly, Bruce Andersen,
Curtis Derry, Troy Hagedorn

2020 Completed Executive Committee & Council Members —
Jennifer Bauer, Bruce Andersen, Curtis Derry

COMMITTEES

Building & Property:
Bruce Andersen (Council Rep.) Steve Stetzel
Arch Andersen Bob Sornson
Curtis Derry (Council Rep.) Dan Schmidt
Kurt Nelson

Education:
Katie Bierbrodt (Children & Youth Coordinator)
Tara Hansen Pam Steckler
Megan Kelly (Council Rep.) Heather Toft
Megan Kjergaard Sara Vorm
Kaylene Riebhoff

Evangelism:
Sharolyn Fett Joan Mortensen
Alice Hemmingsen Colleen Porsch (Council Rep.)
Elaine Jorgensen Elayne Sinow
Janell Lowe Lorri Thygesen

Stewardship:
Jennifer Bauer (Council Rep.) Lee Nielsen
Joe Elmquist (Council Rep.) Frank Olsen
Dan Jorgensen Dan Smith
Dan Madsen

Worship:
Judy Baker Linda Keller
Amy Elmquist (Council Rep.) Raydene Mathisen
Genese Hamilton Shelby Jensen
Patrick Hamilton Jane Weber (Worship & Music Coordinator)

Altar Guild Committee Co-Chairs:
Mary Jo Burger Janice Hemmingsen

Koinonia:
Joe Elmquist (Council rep.) Janice Hemmingsen
Chip Hansen

Caring & Sharing:

Krystal Albertsen
Judy Baker
Danielle Derry

Lela Gleason
Ardell Kelly
Norma Nielsen

Mission Ministry Team:

Tim Andersen
Jolene Burns
Barb Christensen
Curtis Derry (Council Rep.)
Danielle Derry

Dan Madsen
Lee Nielsen
Norma Nielsen
Nancy Sand
Dan Smith

Mutual Ministry:

Tim Andersen
Dan Madsen
Marlene Englin

Jenny Smith
Marla Sunberg

Nominating Committee:

Outgoing Council Members:
Members at large:

Sharolyn Fett, Dan Madsen
Tim Andersen, Nancy Hansen,
Melanie Jensen, Kelly Polson

Photography Team:

Alice Hemmingsen
Kelly Polson

Lorri Thygesen

Safety Committee:

Megan Kjergaard
Matt Starmer

Tyler Thygesen

Scholarship:

Lisa Frederiksen
Lyle Hansen, Jr.

Shannon Nelsen

Finance Committee:

Karen Nelsen
Frank Olsen

Jim Tinker

Wellness Committee:

Barb Jacobsen
Shellie Madsen

Lee Nielsen

Women of Faith Officers:

Co-Chairs: Jolene Burns, Janell Lowe
Treasurer: Sandy Parsons
Co-Secretaries: Carol Albertsen, Mary Kay Lewis
Mission Action: Janice Andersen & Donis Hansen

TABLE OF CONTENTS

2020 Church Directory	Page 1-2
Table of Contents	Page 2
Pastor Dan's Report	Page 3
President's Report	Page 4
Outreach Ministry Reports	Page 4-6
Committee Reports	Page 6-10
The Rock	Page 11
Women of Faith	Page 12
Statistical Reports/Education Fund Balances	Page 13
2021 Proposed Budget/2020 Actual	Page 14-15
2020 Special Fund Financial Report	Page 16
2020 Benevolence Giving	Page 17
2021 Proposed Benevolence Giving	Page 17
Minutes from 2020 Annual Meeting	Page 18
Annual Meeting Agenda	Page 19

ANNUAL REPORT OF PASTOR DAN BEATTIE

The first congregation I served was in Los Angeles County, California. I arrived in 1996 to a dying congregation. The community had metamorphosized over the years. The church had not. When the church was planted the region was dominated by orange groves. When I came on the scene the region was dominated by concrete, boulevards and buildings. While I was there the Lord added to our number many new families and new believers. With all the new people, most from new cultures, change was inevitable. For example, one Pentecost Sunday, six people read the Acts 2 reading in six languages, simultaneously. Some people were disappointed that the church had changed so much. During my exit interview, these folks lamented, “Pastor, all we ever wanted was for you to help us get our church back to the way it used to be.”

What they had hoped for was not possible. We cannot stop change from happening. It is inevitable. A look at old photographs proves the point. All we can do is press on with today into the future, amid the changes around us, adapting to the changes around us and within us.

Similarly, have experienced tremendous amounts of change in the past year. In a sense, the church that was OSLC last January, took a death blow by the end of March. “Death blow,” is a bit strong, an overstatement to make a point. The point being, we are most definitely in a rebuilding process. And as we rebuild, we depend on the powerful work and leading of the Holy Spirit. As we are being rebuilt by the Lord Jesus we are caught up in the strategies of the Holy Spirit. And these strategies are always forward, never backward, always creative, never stagnant. Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church must press forward today into the future, holding tightly to Jesus’ promise, “I will **build** My Church and the gates of Hades will not be able to withstand it (Mathew 16).”

As we continue rebuilding in 2021, or better put - As we are being rebuilt it would be unwise for us to expect Jesus to return our church exactly the way it used to be. We can only press on with today into the future, amid the changes around us, adapting to the changes around us, and modifying according to the changes within us. As we continue studying the Book of Acts, we will see this same pattern. The early church was constantly evolving as Jesus, by His Spirit, continued to build. New territories were conquered. New ministries, new converts, new leaders were raised up. And the same is happening among us. A new pastor has come on board. A new position, Children’s Ministry Director, has been filled by Katie Bierbrodt. A new Worship and Music Director will be put in place as soon as The Holy Spirit blesses us. Over half of our church council positions will be filled by new leaders come February. New small groups have started meeting to study the Bible and pray. This amount of internal change and spiritual progress will inevitably bring new shape and texture onto our old and solid foundation.

As we move forward in 2021 in this rebuilding/being rebuilt process, recognize this truth: *When individuals and congregations surrender to the Lordship of Jesus and submit to his building project, He changes us, individually and collectively. This is the essence of growth.* Therefore, my goal for 2021 is commitment “to equip and prepare God’s people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be **built up** until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ (Ephesians 4:12-13).”

I thank my God, every time I remember you,
Pastor Dan



OSLC PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The year 2020 has presented many challenges not only to our church, but also to our entire country. Since the clock does not stop and we do not get this time back, we have tried our hardest as a council and congregation to make the most of it, while also respecting others and utilizing advice/recommendations from our elected officials. Two words come to mind to help progress forward into 2021- love and together. We will get through these tough times together by showing God's love to one another, often putting others best interests ahead of our own.

This year we welcomed Pastor Dan Beattie to Our Saviour's in late April. We certainly didn't imagine the unique circumstances we would all be dealing with when finalizing his start date with Our Saviour's back in February! I hope Pastor and his family get a chance to meet our members who they have not yet met and get to know one another better in the New Year. Thank you, Pastor Dan, for your service in our church this year.

We would not get through these challenging times without our great staff and many volunteers. This year has brought an additional line of volunteer work with the livestreaming of services. We are very thankful for all who have helped make that happen! Jane and Pam in our office have done a great job as always, helping to keep things rolling along as smoothly as possible through all the changes and regulations being dealt with this year- thank you! Thank you, in particular, to Jane for your many years of loyal service, and best wishes in retirement!

We hope and pray that 2021 will bring some "normalcy" back into all of our lives and to OSLC. I would like to encourage everyone to stay active in the church, continue to nurture our children and youth, and keep a mission-based mindset as you go through your daily lives. Thank you for the opportunity to serve as council President this year. We are blessed with a great church body at OSLC, and together let's continue to show God's love to one another in the next year!

Kyle Kjergaard



PRAYER MINISTRY

Peter wrote in his 2nd letter (4:7). The end of all things is near. Therefore be alert and of sober mind so that you may pray!!! "For such a time as this" we surely understand what St. Paul meant when he told us to Pray without ceasing!!!! Our seeking the Lord has become moment by moment—ready to hear from the Lord.

The prayer ministry at Our Saviour's remains the same—"being devoted to prayer" (Acts 2:42) with many opportunities to pray together and alone with our Lord God. There is so much that could distract us from that personal time with Jesus. We are so thankful for those who ask for prayer, knowing that the Lord with His divine power will intercede on our behalf. We invite everyone to join in prayer with us in the chapel before worship (8:30 a.m.)!! A special time of prayer is whenever 2 or 3 are gathered in my name, Jesus said!!! You may find a need to pray for someone in the grocery store, some of us are delighting in prayer at the Broadway bakery or anywhere we gather together!! Never wait for a more convenient time, the time is "here and now".

God's promise remains in the words of 2 Chronicles 7:14, If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and Pray and Seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, THEN I will hear from heaven and I will Forgive their sin and will heal their land!!!! Humbled, then God says Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayers offered in this place!!!!

With gratitude for Our Saviour's House of Prayer,
Barbara Christensen on behalf of our prayer team

2020 MISSION MINISTRY REPORT

OSLC is called to be a mission-focused, Christ-centered faith community. We pray for the Lord's lead as we engage this post-Christian world with the Good News of God's saving grace for all people. We pray for wise stewardship of His resources. Thank you for your participation in mission ministry in your homes, in our community, our state, our nation and globally! This year, in the midst of pandemic, we strive to maintain a positive mission-spirited energy, a sacrificial giving towards mission ministry, and a personal participation with time, talents and treasures!

Some mission ministries and community efforts we share a partnership with include the following:

Caring and Sharing	New Opportunities
CROP Walk	GoServe Global
Audubon County Schools	Hesed International
The Church of the Damascus Road in Rockwell City	Hope Ministries of Des Moines
Compassion International	Lutheran Services in Iowa
Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Ministry	Lutheran World Relief
Blessman International-South Africa Mission	Compassion International
ALWM Awakening Lives to World Mission	Audubon County Jail
Prayer Shawl Ministry	Quilting Ministry
Ingham/Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camp	Community Christmas Dinner
Five LCMC mission churches	Relay for Life
Friendship Home & Exira Care Center	Local churches
Foster Care families/closet	Local Adopt a Child
The Children's Nest	Masks for OSLC & Audubon Schools
Silent Shepherding (praying for the names of our faith community printed in the Upper Room devotionals)	

God Bless you and your witness through word and deed!

Pastor Dan Beattie



KOINONIA

The sharing of monetary gifts brings hope, joy and peace to those who are in troublesome times. We thank God that we have been able to extend help to many who are experiencing a crisis and are in need of funds to receive this help throughout the years. We also extend our thanks to everyone who contributes to this fund. The Koinonia Fund is supported by donations, and is not a budgeted item. If you would like to donate, please stop at the church office and visit with Pam.

Committee: Janice Hemmingsen, Chip Hansen, Joe Elmquist (Council rep.)

2020 KOINONIA REPORT

January 1, 2020 Beginning Balance.....	\$1081.54
2020 Requests for funds.....	\$712.72 (4 requests)
2020 Interest/Donations.....	\$250.07
December 31, 2020 Balance.....	\$618.89

OSLC ALTAR GUILD

It has been my pleasure to serve as Altar Guild chair for over 6 years now. This has most definitely been an unusual year for all of us. We have continued to set up for communion and baptisms and take care of the Altar flowers. Several members have asked to resign from helping, so at some point I will be asking for more help.

I am pleased to announce that Mary Jo Burger had joined me as co-chair.

I would like to thank everyone who serves on the Altar Guild. It is a very important part of worship preparation. If anyone would like to serve, please give me a call. I would love to have a waiting list.

Janice Hemmingsen, Altar Guild chair person

THE BUILDING AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

The Building and Property Committee meets at 6:30 p.m. on the third Monday of each month.

Accomplishments in 2020

- Repaired damaged sidewalk.
- Repaired concrete stoop at southwest entrance to building.
- Cleaned sanctuary, and all other carpets.

Plans for 2021

- Bat control in building.
- Acoustical ceiling in downstairs social room.

Projects under consideration

- Cover outdoor entrance stairwell to gymnasium.
- Install air conditioner in overflow area.

We welcome members to join the Building and Property Committee in keeping the Lord's House in great condition, with your help contributing to make these improvements possible.

Committee members are:

Bob Sornson, Arch Andersen, Kurt Nelson, Steve Stetzel, Dan Schmidt, Curtis Derry (Council rep.),
Bruce Andersen (Council rep.)

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Education Committee's highlights and challenges in 2020:

Winter and Spring 2020 Sunday School curriculum was from Sola. Our Spring session was cancelled due to the Covid-19 Pandemic from March 15 on. This fall grades K-4 used Sola and 5th-8th grade got a new curriculum called Live. This curriculum is a two year curriculum that will be spread out into three years at OSLC. It is biblically sound, versatile and covers a variety of topics that kids can relate to.

Pastor Ben taught five weeks of Holy Communion classes for the 5th grade beginning January 19 & February 2-23 and First Communion was celebrated March 1. The 6th graders received acolyte instruction that started on February 19th and they began their acolyting duties in August (they usually start in June, but COVID delayed the start of acolyting this year). We offered a refresher course for the acolytes since they had a large break in between classes and the beginning of acolyting.

Our annual trip to the Friendship Home to sing for the residents on Palm Sunday was cancelled due to Covid-19.

Vacation Bible School this year was in a Grab n'Go format for 3 year olds-4th grade. We had 42 families pick up bags.

Rally Sunday this year was September 6th. We presented Pre-K students with their beginner bibles and third graders were presented their NIV bibles. We have moved Sunday school classes around to different rooms to help mitigate this fall, therefore the gym is being used to hold a class. This fall we also asked parents/congregations members to donate money and the Education Committee is purchasing snacks/drinks.

We continue to use Sunday School offering to sponsor two children from Tanzania through Compassion International ministry - a girl, Grace, and a boy, Ibrahimu. We have sent letters to these children and are supporting them financially every month. We also have given monetary birthday and Christmas gifts. They have written us back and drawn us pictures many times! It is our goal to keep the OSLC congregation informed and these children visible to them as well. This year we were able to adopt a family within our community from the Sunday School classes with their offering money.

This year the annual Sunday School Christmas program looked a little different and we recorded it during the Sunday School hour, and the program was made available by video for all to watch from their homes. We gave ornaments to the kids. We took a two week Christmas break and resumed classes in January, 2021.

Family Fun Nights have been a great addition for our families. This year we had a pumpkin painting evening in October. It has been wonderful for the kids to enjoy fellowship with all age groups of children, youth & adults. We hope in 2021, we are able to add a few more events for Family Fun Nights.

The Rock Youth Ministry (7th-12th) continues very strong. The kids have enjoyed numerous opportunities of fellowship and fun. Our High Schooler's join together every Sunday evening for Youth Group. Once a month, our JH joins together for Youth Group, and the 7-12 enjoys supper and fellowship together.

Plans for 2021 and upcoming challenges facing the Education Committee are:

- ~Small class sizes
- ~Classrooms are not big enough for some of our larger classes
- ~Keep the Compassion Child ministry going and growing with SS offering
- ~Holy Communion instruction for 5th grade offered in the Spring of 2021
- ~6th grade acolyte instruction in the Spring of 2021
- ~Prepare for VBS
- ~Recruit SS teachers, VBS leaders, and new members for the Education Committee
- ~Budget needs and requests
- ~Family Fun Night

The Education Committee gained no new members this year, and we all would like to offer our appreciation to our teachers, parent volunteers, and music leaders. The many activities of the Sunday School students would not be possible without the outstanding support of our volunteers. Contact the church office or a member of the Education Committee to find out how you can be involved in this ministry or any youth ministry at OSLC. We look forward to working with the youth of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church and to a rewarding 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Megan Kjergaard
Pam Steckler
Heather Toft
Kaylene Reibhoff

Tara Hansen
Katie Bierbrodt (Children's Youth Coordinator)
Sara Vorm
Megan Kelly (Council Representative)

OSLC WORSHIP COMMITTEE

2020 Annual Report

The Worship Committee joins in coordinating many activities and services at OSLC by working with the pastor, church council, altar guild, ushers, Praise Band, choirs, organists/pianists, projection system/sound/video/live-streaming operators, children message volunteers and assists with all regular and special worship services at our church, Friendship Home, and Exira Care Center. Our thanks go to those who so graciously serve the Lord by participating in or by overseeing these many areas of worship.

In late April of 2020, Pastor Ben Unseth ended his time as OSLC intentional interim pastor (August, 2018 – April 2020) as Pastor Dan Beattie began his call as OSLC Pastor. We thank God for the leadership of both Pastor Ben and Pastor Dan.

2020 has proven to be a challenging year as COVID-19 pandemic restrictions began in March and continued throughout the year. March 22 through May 17 OSLC offered live-streaming only of worship services. On May 24th we began open worship services by implementing COVID safety restrictions along with continuing to live-stream worship services. New equipment and trained volunteers were needed to provide live-streaming. [During COVID restrictions, worship attendance dropped from an average of 200 per service in 2019 to an average of 80 in 2020 as many chose to join in worship online rather than attending in person.](#)

Following is a summary of the many special services and events coordinated in 2020: Nursing Home Vesper and Communion services through mid-March, Church Music Sunday, First Communion Sunday, Wednesday Lenten worship, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter, Confirmation Sunday, Senior Recognition, Praise in the Park, Rally Sunday, Quilting Ministry Blessing, Consecration Sunday, All Saints' Sunday, Staff Appreciation, Fall and Advent decorating, Wednesday Advent worship, and Christmas Eve/Day services. Beginning in mid-March many OSLC services or activities were modified or cancelled due to the pandemic. Nursing home services have not been held since mid-March.

Music has always been an important tradition at Our Saviour's and we are grateful to the directors, accompanists, musicians and singers who share their musical gifts throughout the year. "Behind the Cross" Praise Band typically leads worship once a month (Aug.-April), provides AHS Baccalaureate music in May and plays occasionally at area churches. The Praise Band currently consists of eight youth under director Jo Beane's leadership, along with "sound man" Gary Keller and pianist Melissa Hill, and is enjoyed by youth through adults both in our church and in the community. The Senior Choir (director Gary Keller and accompanist Kelly Polson) sang the first and third Sundays during worship and for several special services before COVID-19 restrictions began in March. Kids Choir (2nd – 6th graders) is under the leadership of Kids Choir team Patrick Hamilton and Marla Sunberg and sang at the second Sunday worship service October - March. Due to COVID-19 restrictions the Senior Choir and Kids Choir were unable to resume singing in the fall.

Our Saviour's is blessed with many faithful volunteers who commit themselves to carrying out the work of the Lord!

OSLC Worship Committee

Raydene Mathisen
Judy Baker
Amy Elmquist (Council Rep.)

Linda Keller
Shelby Jensen

Jane Weber (Music/Worship Coordinator)

Patrick Hamilton
Genese Hamilton

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

Ephesians 4:11-12 “It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists and some to be pastors and teachers to prepare God’s people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up”.

Due to Covid-19, we were unable to do some of our activities this year. Our regular Evangelism Opportunities include:

- Confirmation reception.
- Graduation reception.
- New member receptions and give flowers and gifts to new members and their families.
- Keep Cradle Roll updated and the Cradle Roll board that hangs in the entry way. Joyce Taggart manages this project.
- Baptismal crosses are presented to the newly baptized.
- Honor Mothers on Mother’s Day with a flower. This includes Moms that are in the Friendship Home or shut-ins.
- Honor Fathers on Father’s Day with Hershey bars. Also includes Dads in the Friendship Home and shut-ins.
- Hand out treats or small gifts for the various holidays for the Sunday School students.
- Hand out sacks of goodies to all children on Christmas Eve.
- Line up greeters for the extra services during the church year.
- The military board honoring our military men and women serving our country. Pictures are located on the hallway bulletin board.
- Newspaper ads are placed in the local newspaper announcing Holy Week, Easter, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services.
- The lawn banner announcing various church functions, Vacation Bible School, Rally Sunday or “Jesus Lives”!

Members:

Alice Hemmingsen, Joan Mortensen, Elayne Sinow, Janell Lowe, Lorri Thygesen, Elaine Jorgensen and Sharolyn Fett, Colleen Porsch (Council Rep.)

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

2020 has been an incredibly challenging and trying year for many people in our community, state, nation, and world. Stewardship is the act of utilizing and managing the time, talents, and treasures God has bestowed upon us for his glory. 1 Peter 4:10 states, Each one, as a good manager of God’s different gifts, must use for the good of others the special gift he has received from God. This is as important as ever in the current times we are in, and the Stewardship committee wants to challenge all of Our Saviour’s members to identify their individual gifts and use them to uplift our brothers and sisters in Christ in a way that is pleasing to God.

This year saw many changes to the usual activities the stewardship committee is involved in. Praise in the Park worship service was held with modifications and the Advent supper we normally host was cancelled. We helped plan the annual consecration Sunday, and the committee worked with the office manager to distribute commitment cards to help with the budget planning process. The newly formed financial committee worked with us to form a budget proposal for the council’s consideration. In 2020, the wellness ministry that we help fund was inactive, however this is something the committee would like to see become active again to help with the health and well-being of our members so we budgeted funds for this ministry.

The Stewardship Committee would like to thank all of the members at OSLC for their gifts of time, talents, and treasures in 2020. We are also excited to see the new ways God will use our gifts to glorify him and uplift our neighbors in 2021. 2 Corinthians 9: 6-7 Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

In His Spirit,

Joe Elmquist, Jennifer Bauer, Dan Smith, LeRoy Nielsen, Frank Olsen, Dan Madsen

2021 NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

President - Kyle Kjergaard
Vice President - Joe Elmquist
Secretary - Jeanne Schwab
Treasurer - Colleen Porsch

Council Members

Kathy Graeve-(one year term)
Megan Kelly-(one year term)
Rod Hansen-(one year term)
Patrick Hamilton-(two year term)
Allie Brooks-(two year term)
Janet Collins-(two year term)

Nominating Committee Members for 2021 are:

Outgoing council members - Curtis Derry, Bruce Andersen

Members at large - Sue Edwards, Jeff DeBower, Mark Baier, Sara Vorm

LCMC Annual Gathering, Arden Hills, MN. October 4th-7th - _____ & _____

Heartland District Conference - Barb Jacobsen

Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camp Annual Meeting, April - LaDona Jergenson



“THE ROCK” YOUTH GROUP

The Rock has been keeping as busy as possible with COVID-19 putting a damper on a lot of the activities we would usually do. We have adjusted and gotten a lot accomplished with the time we have had.

In January the Rock attended Winter Jam in Des Moines which was a ton of fun for the kids as well as the adults. We had 10 youth and 4 adults attend the concert in which the Rock paid for the tickets and the kids paid for any extras they wanted.

In March we went to the Ignite Youth Conference in Des Moines and had a great turn out of youth there. This conference is a great thing for our youth as they can learn from some of the best minds in the area with different topics. The students get to choose which breakout sessions they attend so it is more of their choice type of event. We feel that this gives them control of their faith and the way they communicate with God and connect to his word. We were able to praise God with our voices and our minds and reflect on ourselves which is a great thing.

As soon as we got back from Ignite, we were closed because of COVID-19 and had to rethink what we had been doing. Our usual Sunday night high school youth had to find a new way to meet which took place via Zoom calls. Still happened every Sunday just looked a little bit different. We feel that the kids responded well and while we did not have the same numbers we had in person, we had a good amount of kids attend the Zoom calls.

We did do a couple of fun videos that we posted on our Facebook page as well as showed one during service. This was a great time for the kids to be able to get involved while not being able to meet in person as well as the leaders to have some fun. We did a leader viewpoint of a typical Sunday night; we did what youth group means to us as well as a “faith draft” that we had some fun with.

We were able to start meeting in person at the church in July and we have been following the guidelines of that as close as possible. We did meet at the Audubon Recreation Center before our Seniors left for college and watched the movie I Still Believe and eat pizza. After the movie, the kids had ice cream and we prayed over our seniors for good health and well wishes.

In October we started doing a Jr. High youth group on the first Sunday of every month. We do a lot of the same activities as the high school youth where we play games and have a short lesson. We took this as a time to get the Jr. High and High School kids to interact with each other and before one is over and the other starts, we provide a meal to both groups and welcome the Jr. High to stay for some games with the High School kids. This has been a great addition to the youth group and we look forward to that first Sunday every month!

In November we went shopping for Operation Christmas Child packages and packed those. We added 10 packs to our church number and the kids were very enthusiastic about it! The kids cannot wait to be able to help with more shopping in the future.

It has not been the most amazing year for anyone, but we have been working to make the most of the time we have been able to share together.

Sincerely,

Daniel Bierbrodt and Nate Vorm



OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN WOMEN OF FAITH

Officers for 2020:

Co-leaders: Jolene Burns and Janell Lowe

Co-secretaries: Carol Albertsen and Mary Kay Lewis

Treasurer: Sandy Parsons

Mission Action: Donis Hansen and Janice Andersen

Committees:

Caring and Sharing: Norma Nielsen, Judy Baker, Lela Gleason, Ardelle Kelly, Danielle Derry, Krystal Albertsen

Meals on Wheels: Shellie Madsen and Judy Baker

August 5, 2020 the Red Cross held a blood drive at St. Patrick's Parish Center hosted by OSLC. Sandwiches were served in baggies and sweets were pre-wrapped donated by Red Cross. There were about 50 people.

World Day of Prayer was held at the Methodist Church on March 6, 2020 with Our Saviour's leading the program. There were 18 ladies that joined in.

September 10, 2020 a meeting was held for officers and co-chairs. Our Women of Faith booklets were updated. The postcard reminders were discussed and it was decided to continue to offer them to the co-chairs and reminders of who is in charge each month.

The officers met November 2, 2020 to discuss Advent Suppers, final update in the booklet and to approve benevolence. Our treasury was much lower this year because of COVID. We were unable to hold our Annual Fundraiser this year because of COVID. Pastor Dan talked to the Council, and because the Council generously gave Women of Faith \$1,000, we were able to meet most of our benevolences. We thank the Council so much for supporting us.

The following was distributed:

Okoboji Camp Ministries: \$200

Caring & Sharing: \$200

New Opportunities: \$100

Good Neighbor Center: \$100

New Hope: \$100

Oaks Indian Mission: \$100

Family Crisis Center: \$100

OSLC Vacation Bible School: \$100

OSLC Bible Campers: \$200

Operation Christmas Child: \$150

Lutheran World Relief: \$100

OSLC Scholarship Fund: \$250

Prison Storybook Project: \$100

Hope Ministries: 100

Audubon County Foster Closet: \$100

OSLC employee Christmas gifts: Pastor Dan \$100, Pam \$75, Jane \$75, Brad and Kylie \$75

Due to COVID we were only able to provide assistance for part of the year. January through March and July through November we provided greeters and served funeral lunches. We served Sunday morning coffee and snacks up until March. We continued to help with Meals on Wheels all year. Our mission Action team was not able to meet as a group but several continued to sew at home. That same group gave our school supply collection to New Opportunities for Audubon County schools. They also gave each graduate a quilt and several women of our church helped sew masks. Again because of COVID, we were unable to serve Birthday Parties at the Friendship Home. We were only able to serve communion in January and February at Exira Care Center and the Friendship Home.

Thank you to all the Women of Faith for your continued generous giving from your hearts.

THANKS
FROM THE
HEART

**Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes
January 26, 2020, 11:32 am**

Devotions and Opening Prayer – Pastor Ben Unseth (Psalm 103)

Approval of Agenda (Any Additions or Corrections)

Motion to Approve: Kelly Polson, 2nd: Ed Collins Motion Carried.

Pastor Annual Report

Pastor Ben reiterated in his annual report that God has changed his perspective and hopes that he has changed ours as well. That we perceive our daily work or study as a special arena for Christ to display his goodness and glory. Pastor Ben thanked everyone for their encouragement day by day, week by week, month by month. He is confident that we will support the next pastor in the same way. Together: *Know Jesus! Grow in Jesus! Share Jesus!*

Approval of January 27, 2019 Annual Minutes and 2019 Committee Annual Reports

Motion to Approve: Steve Stetzel, 2nd: Dick Baker Motion Carried.

Report of Financial Review Committee and Approval of their report

Kyle Kjergaard reported the 2020 budget was reviewed & approved.

Elections:

Dan Madsen read through the Elections per nominating committee. President: Kyle Kjergaard. Vice President: Joe Elmquist. Secretary: Kathy Graeve. Treasure: Jennifer Bauer. At large council: Kandi Tague, Curtis Derry, Bruce Andersen, Colleen Porsch, Amy Elmquist, Megan Kelly. Lee Nielsen made the motion to unanimously approve the list of offices, Okoboji Bible Camp Annual Meeting delegate: LaDona Jergenson, LCMC Heartland District Meeting delegates: Kandi Tague, Barb Jacobsen and the LCMC Annual Gathering delegates: Lyle & Paula Hansen. Seconded by Marla Sunberg. Motion carried.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Recommendations of 2020 Budget by Stewardship Committee

Dan Madsen noted a few changes that were made to the 2020 Budget: The Ministry Staff had a 1.5 salary increase. Insurance has gone up. Plate offerings grew in 2019. Pastoral Ministry budget may fluctuate once a call offering is in place. Organ maintenance has been done in 2019. A Youth Coordinator position has been added but the budget has been reallocated to create this salary.

Motion to approve: Janet Collins, 2nd: Ed Collins Motion carried.

Report of Election Tellers - Verbal vote: Unanimous ballot cast and approved.

Dan Madsen thanked all those who have served and thanked everyone for making things happen. Installation of all 2020 Council Members and Officers will take place on Sunday, February 2, 2020. Potential Call: Feb. 9th a pastor recommendation may be presented. It may be bumped back a week or two. They will give the congregation a two weeks notice before meeting. Thank you to the Call Committee for all their work and dedication.

Pastor Ben thanked Dan Madsen for his 6 years of serving on the council and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Motion to Adjourn Meeting: Lee Nielsen, 2nd: Sharolyn Fett. Motion Carried.

**OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA
JANUARY 24, 2021**

1. Devotions and Opening Prayer – Pastor Dan Beattie
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Pastor Annual Report
4. Approval of January 26, 2020 Annual Meeting Minutes and 2020 Committee Annual Reports
5. Report of Financial Review Committee and Approval of their Report
6. Elections:
 - A. Report of Nominating Committee
 1. Congregation Officers (1 year terms: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer)
 2. Council Members at Large (Terms as indicated on Ballot)
 3. 2021 Nominating Committee (Six voting members of the congregation, two of which are to be outgoing Church Council Members)
 - B. Okoboji Bible Camp Annual Meeting, Okoboji, IA (1 or 2 delegates)
 - C. LCMC Heartland District Meeting (1 or 2 delegates)
 - D. LCMC Annual Gathering, October 3-6, 2021, Hilliard, OH (2 delegates)
7. Old Business
 - A.
 - B.
8. New Business
 - A.
 - B.
9. Recommendation of 2021 Budget by Stewardship Committee
10. Report of Election Tellers
11. Announcements
 - A. President's comments
 - B. Installation of all 2021 Council Members and Officers will take place on **Sunday, January 31, 2021**
12. The Lord's Prayer and Adjournment

