

**THE ANNUAL REPORT
for 2007 - Vol. 25 No. 1**

**ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CONGREGATION
OF
CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
1125 Mahoning Street
Milton, PA 17847**

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**The Reverend Patricia A. T. Pittsnogle, Pastor
Lorei Comerer, Church Office Manager
Nancy Walters, Director of Church Music
Brett Hosterman – Church Organist
Donna Spear, Jr. Choir/Bell Director, Webmaster
John VanKirk - Custodian
Bob Greenly - Groundskeeper
Dale Kriner, Treasurer
Ruth Greenly, Financial Secretary**

The Pastor's Report and Record

50-Year Members

Ministry Group Reports

Report from the Church Council

Annual Congregational Meeting – November 18, 2007

The Church Staff and Congregational Council

Prayer Chain Members

**The Congregation's Financial Stewardship, 2007
Summary of Accounts – Receipts/Expenses**

We are called by God... To follow Christ's example and teachings... through worshipping, witnessing, learning, supporting one another, and reaching out to others.

Dear Friends in Christ,

Take another moment to look above at the words in the decorative box. I'm sure you recognize those words. We say them as we leave worship every Wednesday and Sunday – and Saturdays in the summer. They guide our Council meetings. Our announcements and activities center on them. They inform our ministry – what we do for the Lord. I do it. You do it. WE do that ministry together! As you flip through the pages of this report, you will see it in action in MANY forms!

Some times folks think the only ones who minister are people like me who serve the Lord full-time in the church. “The ministry” is something pastors and other paid leaders in the church do. It is true that my ministry takes place most of the time from a church building, or in homes, work places, or with people who attend or visit Christ Church. It is true that I attend meetings and events that involve the work of the church in other places. It is also true that I am a pastor in the community when I participate in community events. Yes. I do ministry. You'll see a report of the ministry I have done as your pastor this year – just following this letter.

Notice also, as you look through the following pages, the ministry that others have done this year. If I tried to do everything God needed to be done in our congregation and community, it would NOT get done. If “ministers” were only pastors and “churchy” types...this world would be neglected very quickly. God needs all of us to give our time, our talents, and our assets to reach the world for Christ. Your phone calls, visits, work, school, and home relationships, and your serving in the congregation, community, and world all serve God's mission. As members of Christ Church, the mission God has given us together informs the times we gather as a congregation AND our other-six-days-of-the-week lives, too. Every moment is filled with opportunities to worship, witness, learn, support, and reach out.

I want to



THANK all of you for granting me another wonderful year of doing ministry with you. I thank you for living out God's mission with me at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church.

At the end of this report are thank you's to specific persons who have served as leaders at Christ Church in 2007. Let this letter, however, be an offering of thanks to God for ALL of you. Everything we do together helps us worship, witness, learn, support one another, and reach out to others. Jesus called us, as our Baptism promises us, and as our worship around Jesus' table strengthens us every week.

May God bless and keep us in another wonderful year of ministry in 2008!



Pastor's Report – January 1 – December 31, 2007

Stewardship of Call:

Worship and Teaching:

48 Sunday services and 38 sermons
44 Bible studies

10 Saturday services
33 sermon studies
7 worship services at Rockwell's or Kramm's
regular participation in choir
5 Soup & the Word services
5 Midweek Lenten evening prayer services
3 Holy Week services
1 Christmas Day breakfast & service
Healing Services: Oct. 17, Oct. 21, Dec. 23

33 weeks Sunday School participation
41 Wednesday services & 11 extra
sermons
5 Sunday services at Trinity
5 First Communion classes
1 CateQUIZem power point
2 funerals attended – members' relatives
1 evening Ash Wed. service
1 Ascension Day service
1 Christmas Eve service
5 days Vacation Bible School

Funerals & 1 family meal (3 sermons)

Edith Leona Robenolt (2/23/07 – member)
Robert Warren Kline (3/20/07 – member)
(funeral officiated by pastor of Bob's former congregation in Harrisburg)
Bruce Elwood Manning, Jr. (4/21/07 – member)
(funeral officiated by the Rev. Barbara J. Collins)
Myra Alvenia Savidge (5/19/07 - member)
Cyrri Blare Culvey (10/20/07 – Mill Hall, PA)

11 New members received

Michael Himes (2/18/07)
Frank, Deana, Kyle, Blake &
Courtney Kovilaritch (2/18/07)
Karen Lubrecht (4/18/07)
Barry A. Yeager (7/29/07)
Nevin & Nancy Mensch (8/26/07)
Rose Walsh (10/28/07)

1 Baptism

Gavin Michael Adam Walsh (2/18/07)

21 other Growing Disciples:

Gavin Walsh – beginning Sunday School (2/18/07)
Tatum Brittingham – beginning Sunday School (2/18/07)
Courtney Kovilaritch – 1st Communion (2/18/07)
Lauren Anne Byers – Confirmation (5/27/07)
Lindsay Anne Byers – Confirmation (5/27/07)
Brody William Gray – Confirmation (5/27/07)
Brittany Megan Snyder – Confirmation (5/27/07)
Trent William Wargo – Confirmation (5/27/07)

Recognitions/ blessings:

Dale Kriner's 25th anniv.
Brett Hosterman, organist
Girl Scout Sunday
Mother's Day
Father's Day
Veterans (July 4 & Nov. 11)
Military Packages (Easter/Christmas)
New School Year
Labor

Alyssa Kaye Byers – First Communion (5/27/07)
 Brent Charles Mitch – First Communion (6/3/07)
 Hailey Bartlett – beginning First Grade (9/9/07)
 Alyssa Byers – beginning First Grade (9/9/07)
 Hope Harrington – beginning First Grade (9/9/07)
 Gary Martin – beginning First Grade (9/9/07)
 Kendall Mensch – beginning First Grade (9/9/07)
 Alexa Mitchell – beginning First Grade (9/9/07)
 Linea Brouse – beginning Confirmation (9/9/07)
 Ryan Byers – beginning Confirmation (9/9/07)
 Amanda Johnson – beginning Confirmation (9/9/07)
 Ryan Solomon – beginning Confirmation (9/9/07)
 Grant Wargo – beginning Confirmation (9/9/07)

Home/Office and Hospital Visits:

311 regular visits	1130 visits by phone or written note	24 counseling visits
63 home communions	45 hospital visits	

Meetings/Events:

Congregation

6 Property meetings, 2 Property cottage meetings, 4 Bequest Task Force meetings, 5 Staff Support meetings, 6 Finance meetings, 11 Worship & Music meetings, 2 leadership retreats, 1 Youth meeting, 1 Confirmation meeting, 1 VBS planning meeting, Nominating Committee initial meeting, 2 congregational meetings (call vote August 12, regular meeting November 18), organist interviews, custodian interviews, 13 Church Council meetings, 1 Church Council meeting with Dan May, 2 cottage meetings on 2008 budget, Annual Church Council dinner, Annual meeting potluck, “Love Bag” youth activity, youth overnight program, youth McDonald’s lunch, Mardi Gras night, youth winter BBQ, Linda Shipman farewell party, final interviews with confirmands, office manager interviews, office manager orientation, confirmation potluck meal, youth swimming party, 2 prayer chain gatherings, choir pizza party and planning meeting, new office manager welcome, Family Reunion potluck, gave treats for children at church at Halloween, Affirmation of Call, organ recital, Everybody Birthday Party, Advent pageant & potluck, Christmas party at member’s home

Community

3 Milton Ministerium meetings, Week of Prayer for Christian Unity luncheon, 1 opening prayer at Milton Borough Council, meeting with LOVE, Inc. director, Pastors’ brunch at Meadowbrook Christian School, delivered food to Red Cross, Hospice Grief Conference @ CSIU, Little League Opening Day prayer, American Guild of Organists recital, Godspell musical at Milton High School, Milton High School Baccalaureate, Salvation Army Angel Tree program consultation, Northern Lights Harvest Festival booth, POPS concert, Masonic spaghetti supper, Milton High School Tournament of Bands, Northern Lights picnic & hayride, Follmer spaghetti supper, Milton School District clergy meeting, HandUp Foundation open house, Ministerium Thanksgiving concert, Milton High School Band/Chorus Christmas concert, Ballroom dance Christmas party

Synod/Wider Church Community

Pine Street Lutheran Church: game night, movie night, youth fundraiser dinners, summer festival, Council picnic, food & family event, 2 Wonderful Wednesday events, volunteered at September soup kitchen; everybody birthday party; walked with Danville Halloween parade float, 2 Mission Mall Mini-Bakes, December Council meeting, Christmas Eve service

4 Buffalo Valley conference meetings, ordination of WV colleague, Upper Susquehanna Synod Women of the ELCA Day of Renewal presenter; Synod Winterfest; Steve Shipman installation at United, Lock Haven; Evangelical Lutheran Worship workshop; Lutheran/United Methodist interim sharing of the

Eucharist service (Susq. Univ.); Synod after-school youth grant information meeting; Good Friday Cross Walk; Synod youth event @ Susquehanna University; 3 Northern Lights planning meetings; Northern lights picnic; Mission Seminar at United in Christ, West Milton; Conference Caucus for Synod Assembly; 4 ELCMA Task Force meetings, Synod Assembly, Bavarian Choir concert at St. Luke Williamsport, 1 Milton Ministerium meeting, Lutheran World Relief meeting, Authorized Lay Worship Leaders initial training meeting, installation of Bishop Driesen, volunteer at Mission Mall East

Administration:

office coordination with Linda & Lorei – bulletins/newsletter
bulletins, prayer cards, attendance record keeping and updates in Shepherd’s Staff, and newsletter coordination during office manager interim
labels for M. Snyder card shower & call process mailing 12 Pastor’s reports for Council
7 times on-call for other local pastors recordkeeping in Shepherd’s Staff
Submitted weekly church calendar to Standard Journal prior to hire of new office manager
Souper Bowl national report
Computer email problems (fixed with the help of Donna Spear & Roger Watts!!!)
Letters: invitation to parish nurse program; thank you to organist applicants, Authorized Lay Worship Leader recommendations; bequest recipients draft letter; bequest recipients final letters; Nominating Committee invitations; office manager candidates (those interviewed but not recommended); visitor letter for Lorei to use as needed; Bible School thank yous; leadership retreat; mission project; confirmation students; confirmation mentors; sixth graders; growing disciples, Meals on Wheels (Northumberland County) tithe; invitation for serving to youth confirmed in May; seminary reference for James Bartlett, Sunday School mentor invitation, Theological Education for Youth invitations
follow up with Easter burglary
Certificates for growing disciples and new members
Pastoral support to three seminarians Kramm’s/Rockwell service bulletins
Leadership retreat planning Holy Week planning
Synod workshop planning continuing education planning
Good Friday Cross Walk advertising call process consultation w/ Bp. Main
Newsletter labels (1) call process survey tallying
Picked up order for stewardship notepads

Continuing Education: (certified this year as Healthy Congregations facilitator)

1 continuing education consultation meeting with Sue Lang, author of Our Community (of the congregational leadership series) and chapter in Pastor and People, also part of the congregational leadership series currently being used by Staff Support – to set up continuing education options for 2007.

10 days (includes 1 Sunday):

April 19 – Healthy Congregations Facilitator Training (Christ Lutheran, Staunton, Virginia)
April 24-26 – Fundamentals of Transitional Ministry (St. Luke Lutheran, Devon, Pennsylvania)
May 24 – Healthy Congregations Facilitator Training (Christ Lutheran, Staunton, Virginia)
June 8-12 – Bread for the World Advocacy Event (American University, Washington, DC)

Membership Statistics at End of 2007:

Baptized Members	421
Confirmed Members	306
Confirmed Members who communed and contributed	180

(Keeping accurate records is important but not easy. Our computer records and memory do not agree; people have been here whose attendance and contributions have not been recorded. Voting members are those whose communion and contribution during the current and/or preceding year are on record. Technically we have 180 voting members. It is important for you to fill at least one offering envelope or write a check each year and to record your communion on a pew pad at least once.)

Below is listed those Christ Lutheran members who were received, confirmed and/or baptized in 1957 (50 years ago).

Members at Christ Lutheran Church received 50 years ago:

Harry Berger – 4/14/1957	Lois Berger – 4/14/1957
Thomas Berger – 4/21/1957	Andrew Millett – 4/21/1957
Peggy Neuhard – 1/27/1957	

Members at Christ Lutheran Church confirmed 50 years ago:

Harry Berger – 4/14/1957	Lois Berger – 4/14/1957
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Members at Christ Lutheran Church baptized 50 years ago:

Harry Berger – 4/14/1957	Thomas Berger – 4/21/1957
Andrew Millett – 4/21/1957	Peggy Neuhard – 1/27/1957
Pr. Patricia Pittsnogle – 10/17/1957	

Stewardship of Self:

Hours worked: 2137 (52 weeks)	Goal: 45/week (40 hours + 5 hours tithe)
Weekly average (48 work weeks): 44.5	37 medical visits
Family visits: 23 (including vacation & emergency days for children's accidents; includes 1 Sunday)	
5 special joys: marriage of middle son, Jeremy, and Cecily, August 18; birth of great-niece, Ava May Ross, in April; birth of great-niece, Annsley Elizabeth Triplett, in October; celebrated 50 th anniversary of my Baptism, October 17; celebrated my Dad's 80 th birthday, December 8	
Vacation: 26 days (includes 4 Sundays)	Sick Days: 5 (April 30 surgery & medical tests)
Holidays: 9 (New Year's Day, Monday after Easter, Memorial Day, July 4, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, day after Thanksgiving, December 26 & 27)	
Days off schedule: normally Friday afternoons & Saturdays (usually varies with ministry needs)	
Goal: 2-4 full days per month with NO work agenda	# Days off—January-December: 35

We have the joy of sharing in ministry with faithful, dedicated leaders of Christ Church. I give thanks for these folks who helped us all do the Lord's work in 2007:

Staff:

Lorei Comerer, Office Manager	Bob & Debbie Greenly, Groundskeepers
Ruth Greenly, Financial Secretary	Brett Hosterman, Organist
Dale Kriner, Treasurer	Donna Spear, Webmaster and Jr. Choir Leader
John VanKirk, Custodian	Nancy Walters, Director of Church Music

Council:

Kellie Brouse, President
Rose Deaner, Secretary
Carol Conrad
Don Fisher
Judy Schneider

Michael Lazor, Vice-President
Rose Bolich
Kay Dunn
Stephen Moll

Ministry Leaders:

Rose Bolich, Evangelism/Witness
Penny Coup, Social Ministry
Don Fisher, Finance
Frank Hartzel, Property

Kellie Brouse, Worship; Christian Education
Kay Dunn, Staff Support
Larry & Barbara Gray, Youth
Betty Morgan, Hospitality

Authorized Lay Worship Leaders (or Leaders-in-training)

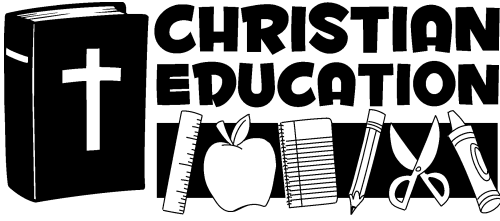
Rose Bolich, ALWL
Kellie Brouse
Ed Coup

God bless you!

Respectfully and Faithfully Submitted,
Your Partner in Mission and Ministry,

The Rev. Patricia A. T. Pittsnogle ☺
January, 2008

Christian Education Annual Report



Christian Education is alive and well here at Christ Lutheran. We have eight Sunday School classes. There are three active Bible Study groups – Wednesday afternoon, Thursday afternoon, and Sunday evenings. Mary Lazor “conducted” a very successful Vacation Bible School this summer. Finally, Steph Byers and Kim Mitch directed a wonderful Advent Pageant with our children. Thank you to all who have directed and cared about the Christian Education of both young and old in this place.

With our Growing Disciple program we recognized these young people for completing their confirmation course and entering the world as adult voting members here at Christ Lutheran: Lindsay and Lauren Byers, Brody Gray, Brittany Snyder, and Trent Wargo.

A big thank you goes out to our Sunday School teachers:

Judy Schneider & Jen Harrington - Nursery
Pam Walsh - grades 1 and 2
Kay Dunn - grades 3 through 5
Nancy Mensch - grade 6
Pastor Pat - confirmation
Larry Gray - High School
Kellie Brouse - “The Young and Restless” Adult class
Rose Bolich - Adult Class
Donna Spear and Ed Coup - Youth Sunday School subs
Rose Deaner - Adult Sunday School sub

Respectfully Submitted,

Kellie Brouse
Christian Education Committee

Worship and Music Annual Report

This year again was an interesting year as we hired a new Organist, Brett Hosterman. Louise Botto and Chris Kehoe again provided music for our Wednesday services. Garrett Baker and Chris Kehoe provided music for our Saturday services. We thank these talented people who lead our musical selections at our worship services.



Worship Committee

We had a number of Special Services from Ash Wednesday and Easter through Advent and our Christmas Services. We also had a number of events and Blessing Sundays; to name just a few - Veterans Recognition, Family Reunion, and the Blessing of Labor. Pastor Pat led three Healing Services with a number of Land and Seasons Sundays. We had Lenten prayer cards and added straw to Jesus' cradle when we did good deeds. We have three Home Bound Communion teams who go out and give communion to our shut-in members once a month with the possibility of adding more teams. We continue to be a busy place!

We continue our Wednesday Quiet Communion Services and our Saturday Night Worship during July and August and also our joint worship with Trinity.

This is a listing of just a few things Worship and Music did over the last year. We would like to thank all the people who work to make all of our worship services here a blessing. The sound guys, altar guild, ushers, youth worship participants, our musicians and choirs, those who decorate at Christmas time...you all have a special place with this committee, and thank you.

Also thank you to **you the people** who come to give glory to God.

Yours in Christ,

Kellie Brouse
Worship and Music Committee

Property Committee Annual Report



We have had a very busy year keeping our property in repair and with new projects.

We first hired a new janitor and got him oriented to his duties.

On Easter morning, we had a break in with property damage which we had repaired and filed a claim with the Insurance Company. We did receive enough money to cover our losses. We also had some vandalism in the parking area with broken lights and some car damage to deal with.

We have received approval for a new unisex restroom, handicapped accessible. This was cheaper than remodeling the present restrooms.

Also, we will be replacing the lights in the Sanctuary.

In March, we will be asking your permission for two projects – constructing a pavilion east of the church, and installing a security and smoke/fire detection system. These projects are needed for the advancement of the congregation and protection of our property and personnel. The cost of these projects will be paid for with funds from the Bequests.

We try to keep up with emergency repairs at all times. If you see something that needs attention, tell us, and we will look into it.

Future plans are for redoing the parking lot as soon as the Township officials tell us where the new sewer line will be placed.

We do not hire out all of the repairs as we are able to do some of them ourselves.

Respectfully submitted,

P. Franklin Hartzel
Property Committee Chairman

Social Ministry

2007 was an active year of giving for our Social Ministry program and supported our mission to reach out and support one another.

First, let's highlight two of our fund raising events, both of which were matched by Thrivent Financial. As always the year began with another successful Souper Bowl event, part of a nationwide effort on NFL Super Bowl Sunday to bring awareness to the issue of hunger. This event resulted in \$1,304.00 being donated to our local Red Cross Food Bank. And then in August, our congregation pulled together to collect donations to support the children of Pastor Pat and Pastor Keith who had been faced with serious illnesses or injuries. We were pleased to be able to present a check for \$4,000.00 to Pastor Pat to support their family.



We also added our support to some community efforts including placing a collection barrel in the narthex for used clothing, shoes, etc. to support the ongoing ministry of HandUp Foundation; participated with a donation of 28 coats to the Coat Ministry conducted by Bethany Methodist Church and Love, INC. and helped the Salvation Army Angel Tree project by providing 22 gifts for local children.

We continued our commitment to 8-11 family and friends of our members who are serving in the military by putting together and mailing care packages twice during the year; raised \$2,113.90 for the American Cancer Society through our participation in Relay for Life; raised \$631.50 for World Hunger during the Crop Walk and sold CD's totaling \$180.00 to support Diana Luscombe who is recovering from a serious car accident.

Within our congregation, we added our Holiday Angels, members of the congregation who signed up to deliver our Easter and Christmas flowers to our shut-ins, conducted our first Holiday Card Shower which collected 100+ Christmas cards for our shut-ins, and put together 3 Holiday Food Baskets for 3 families in our congregation who were grateful for these special gifts.

As busy as we were with all of the above, we also continued our partnership with Pine St. Lutheran in Danville by providing 20+ Love Bags for the Geisinger Children's Hospital; made and provided to local agencies 124 Winter Wrap items; made and distributed several Prayer Shawls, and continued our Mile of Pennies and Campbell's Soup label collections.

We hope to continue our momentum in 2008 and look forward to having new people step forward to head up some of our ongoing projects as well as add new projects to our ministry.

Submitted by Penny Coup, Social Ministry Chairperson

Staff Support and Parish Relations Ministry Group



Statement of Purpose: "A ministry group appointed by the Congregational Council which provides continuity and stability between the Pastor, Church Staff and Congregation by serving as staff liaisons to evaluate work conditions, personal growth, financial support, in-staff working relationships and mediate and attempt to resolve conflict."

We are happy to report that we had a very good year with no problems. Pastor Pat has started leading us through a series making mutual ministry work and building our human resources. We look forward to learning more in 2008.

We have two members that their term has ended effective 12/31/07. Mike Lazor and Penny Coup both were a big help and team players on this committee. Thank you Penny and Mike; we appreciated all you did, and you will be missed!

We have a new member whom we welcome aboard - Karen Lubrecht - and we look forward to working with her. Other members on this committee are Penny Ulmer, Janie Bloom, Bob Greenly, and Kay Dunn.

In 2008, we plan to work on a Staff Handbook and revise the job application forms.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay Dunn
Chairperson

Hospitality Ministry Group

The Hospitality Ministry accomplished the following in 2007:

- ❖ Served a funeral dinner
- ❖ Served lunch at the “ELW” workshop
- ❖ Served refreshments after the Ascension Service, the Organ Recital, and for the Meet & Greet for the Office Manager



Respectfully submitted,
Betty Morgan
Hospitality Ministry Group

Evangelism Ministry Group

I am sorry to say that no core group met at a formal meeting in 2007 but very pleased to report that evangelism and witnessing still took place in many forms throughout the year by faithful servants of this ministry group and others of our congregation. Thank you for your service, commitment and dedication. The following projects were sponsored in 2007:

- Publicized worship times and events in the local newspapers and church sign
- Wonderful messages on our church sign
- Visitor's table with coffee mugs and info for distribution to visitors
- Bulletins sent to shut-ins and baptized children out of the area
- "Splash" information for newly baptized children
- Fabulous church web page
- Sponsored "Christ in our Home" devotionals
- Advertisement in "2007 Susquehanna Valley Visitor's Guide"

Friendship Ministry:

- On-going communication through calls, cards, direct contact and prayers with assigned church members

Homebound Communion Ministry: 6 Ministers (3 sets)

- Distributed monthly communion to a small group of shut-ins

Prayer Team Ministry:

- Sponsored Sunday morning Prayer Ministers
Assigned Ministry member prayed for the congregation before each worship service. Also they conducted prayer with service participants, choir, organist, and pastor before Sunday service began.
- Sponsored "Prayer and Events" card inserts in weekly bulletins
- Sponsored worship service prayer writing for Sunday and special worship services

Prayer Chain Ministry:

- Sponsored prayer and passing special prayer requests from one prayer chain minister to another

I am also very pleased to report that a group of members has made a commitment to participate as a special advisory committee for 2008 to restart some discontinued forms of witnessing as well as sponsor new projects. Please pray for this group, and, if the spirit moves you, please don't hesitate to join us. All are welcome to participate in the Lord's ministry.

Respectfully submitted,
Rose M. Bolich, Acting
Chairperson



Jr. Choir Director Report 2007

During the spring of 2007, the Junior Bell Choir played for Palm Sunday and Church Music Sunday. The children improved their ringing skills and really enjoy rehearsals and playing in church. The group reorganized in the fall of 2007 with some new faces joining the group. The following children participated in the Junior Bell Choir in 2007: Linea Brouse, Alyssa Byers, Brody Gray, Hope Harrington, Joseph Martin, Brent Mitch, Julia Spear, Rachael Spear, Ashley Winner, and Cody Winner. It's been my pleasure to work with these children and to continue this ministry at Christ Lutheran.



Respectfully submitted,
Donna Spear
Director, Jr. Bell Choir

Webmaster Report 2007



The design, development, and maintenance of the church website has been under my direction since October of 2005. The current cost of hosting a website for our church is \$56 per year, which I continue to donate.

The website is updated each week with the church bulletin, weekly events, the prayer page, photos, and other pertinent changes. An addition to the website this year includes the pastor's sermon each week.

I enjoy doing this work for the church and am open to suggestions for additions and changes to our church website. You can view the church website at: <http://www.christlutheranmpa.org>.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Spear, Webmaster

Bequest Task Force Meetings

The Bequest Task Force consisted of the following members: Stephanie Byers, Frank Hartzel, Bonnie Hauck, Ann Johnson, Heather Martin, Kim Mitch, Stephen Moll, Pastor Pat, Donna Spear, John Wargo, and met on the following dates during 2007: January 14 and 21, February 4 and 18, April 22, June 3.

At its June 3, 2007 meeting, the Bequest Task Force Group unanimously decided to make the following recommendation for use of the funds from the Johnson and Yagel bequest monies:



Donate up to \$20,000 (to be added to the previously earmarked \$20,000) to the pavilion fund to bring this project to completion and with the remaining monies (approximately \$530,000) in the Johnson and Yagel bequests, split the funds into thirds for the following purposes:

1. Invest
2. Facility Ministry
3. Church Growth

The committee also suggests that this “thirds” recommendation be set as a standard for any future “unspecified” bequests.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Spear



Report of the Congregational Council 2007



The responsibility of the Congregational Council is the general oversight of the life and activities of the congregation. Leading the congregation in stating its mission, long-range planning, setting goals, and priorities are all part of this process. To this end, Council:

- Held a Church Council retreat and invited all the leaders in the church
- Approved hiring Bret Hosterman as our organist
- Approved a one time distribution of \$62,000 from the Bequests:
 - \$20,000 – As our congregational contribution to the Synod
 - \$32,000 – to be distributed to local charities
 - \$10,000 to be given to support ELCA Outreach ministry programs such as World Hunger and/or Missions
- Provided support to the congregation in the following:
 - ⇒ Annual Congregational Meeting
 - ⇒ Approved increase in Church Camp scholarships from 50% to 75%
 - ⇒ Approved delegates Carol Conrad and Stephen Moll to represent the congregation at the Upper Susquehanna Synod Assembly in June. Approved Kellie Brouse as the Alternate delegate.
 - ⇒ Welcomed new members Michael Himes; Frank, Deana, Kyle, Blake, & Courtney Kovilaritch; Karen Lubrecht; Barry Yeager; Nevin & Nancy Mensch; and Rose Walsh to the congregation
 - ⇒ Supported Vacation Bible School which was a success
 - ⇒ Supported the Advent Pageant which was a success
 - ⇒ Held a new and improved Family reunion Sunday this year
 - ⇒ Held Cottage Meetings to allow the congregation to express their opinions on the Pastoral Call and the 2008 Church Budget. This gives the congregation ownership in their Church.
 - ⇒ Supported the development of an Endowment Fund for faithful bequests from those who have passed on and provided guidelines for administering this fund.
 - ⇒ Approved the construction of a handicapped accessible uni-sex restroom
- Called Pastor Pat as our permanent Pastor this year. We are so blessed. Provided faithful and financial support for her family members who were going through some serious health issues.
- We said “Good Bye” to Linda Shipman, Church Secretary, and were led to Lorei Comerer as our new Church Secretary. We are truly blessed.

We the Congregational Council of Christ Lutheran Church strive always to follow our Mission Statement below:

“We are called by God to follow Christ’s example and teachings through worshiping, witnessing, learning, supporting one another, and reaching out to others.”

Respectfully submitted,
Rose Deaner, Council Secretary

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES

November 18, 2007

Meeting was called to order by Church Council President Kellie Brouse.

First item on the agenda was the 2008 budget. Church Council recommended the Challenge budget of \$152,458, which included \$8,400 in mission and benevolence support. This was an increase of 8.4% over the 2007 budget so the congregational giving would have to increase 8.4% to support this budget. Stephanie Byers seconded the recommendation. There was no discussion from the congregation. Ballots were cast. Recommendation was approved with 53 “yes” votes to 4 “no” votes.

Second item on the agenda was the Bequest Recommendation. The Bequest Task Force recommended and Church Council approved the following recommendation:

The Johnson and Yagel bequests totaling about \$600,000 be divided into three equal parts to be distributed to the Building Fund, the Investment Fund portion of the Endowment Fund, and the Social Missions and Program Fund portion of the Endowment Fund.

Nancy Walters seconded the recommendation. There was no discussion from the congregation. Ballots were cast. Recommendation was approved with 55 “yes” votes to 3 “no” votes.

Third item on the agenda was the resolution to implement the Endowment Fund. Church Council recommended that an Endowment Fund be created to administer the Investment Fund portion and the Social Missions and Program Fund portion of the Johnson and Yagel bequests. In addition the current Leiby Trust would be combined with the Social Missions and Program Fund portion of the Johnson and Yagel bequests. The Leiby Trust had a current value of about \$132,500 and \$104,000 of this was the original bequest. The approximate \$200,000 portion of the Johnson and Yagel bequests is to be invested in the investment fund and only the returns on the investment fund can be used for any purpose (no restrictions) pending approval by the Endowment Fund Administration Committee. The original \$104,000 from the Leiby Trust is to be invested and only the returns on the investment can be used for Social Missions and Program Fund purposes pending approval by the Endowment Fund Administration Committee. The balance of the Leiby trust is earnings and that \$28,500 plus the \$200,000 of the Johnson and Yagel bequests is available for immediate use. All of the earnings in the Endowment Fund will remain fully invested until they are to be used. Frank Hartzel made a motion to accept the recommendation. The motion was seconded by Kellie Brouse. There was no discussion from the congregation. Ballots were cast. The motion passed with 50 “yes” votes and 5 “no” votes.

The fourth item on the agenda was the Property Committee’s recommendation for a new unisex, handicapped accessible restroom. The Property Committee recommended and the Church Council approved the use of money from the Building Fund portion of the Johnson and Yagel bequests to build a unisex, handicapped accessible restroom in the east-end of the cloakroom at a cost of \$12,191. The new restroom would also include an infant-changing table. Nancy Walters seconded the recommendation. There was a short congregational discussion concerning explanations of some details. The ballots were cast. Recommendation was approved with 51 “yes” votes and 3 “no” votes.

The fifth item on the agenda was the Property Committee’s recommendation for new lighting fixtures in the sanctuary at a cost not-to-exceed \$60,000. The Church Council approved the recommendation and the use of money from the Building Fund portion of the Johnson and Yagel bequests. A firm price for the lighting was not yet available because some details needed to be resolved. George Bolich seconded the recommendation. There was as short congregational discussion concerning energy efficiency, energy cost, new wiring, and dimmers. The ballots were cast. The recommendation was approved with 48 “yes” votes and 9 “no” votes.

The sixth and last item on the agenda was the election of new council members to replace the term expiration of Rose Deaner, Carol Conrad, and Kellie Brouse. The Nominating Committee recommended with the Church Council's approval Stephanie Byers, Donna Spear, and Tim Walsh. Frank Hartzel made a motion that the ballot be closed. Nancy Walters seconded the motion. No ballots needed to be cast. Nominees were accepted without opposition.

Pastor Pat thanked all people who worked so diligently and faithfully on the items presented and the congregation for their faithful participation.

Laurie Fisher made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Nancy Walters. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Rose Bolich

THE CHURCH STAFF

The Reverend Patricia A. T. Pittsnogle	Pastor Pat's Cell	570-768-6705
Lorei Comerer	Church Office Manager	570-523-6057
Nancy Walters	Director of Church Music	570-742-4924
Brett Hosterman	Organist	
Donna Spear	Jr. Choir/Bell Director	570-742-2117
	Webmaster	
John VanKirk	Custodian	
Bob Greenly	Groundskeeper	570-742-3277
Dale Kriner	Church Treasurer	570-742-9322
Ruth Greenly	Financial Secretary	570-742-9825

OFFICERS OF THE CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

PRESIDENT	Don Fisher
VICE PRESIDENT	Michael Lazor
SECRETARY	Donna Spear
TREASURER	Dale Kriner
FINANCIAL SECRETARY	Ruth Greenly

THE CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TELEPHONE #</u>	<u>TERM EXPIRES</u>
Pastor Patricia A. T. Pittsnogle	768-6705	
Kay Dunn	524-6868	2008
Michael Lazor	724-7138	2008
Stephen Moll		2008
Rose Bolich	568-8433	2009
Don Fisher	742-7503	2009
Judy Schneider	742-8830	2009
Stephanie Byers	742-3583	2010
Donna Spear	742-2117	2010
Tim Walsh	742-3528	2010
Dale Kriner	742-9322	
Ruth Greenly	742-9825	

Prayer Chain Members

Edith Gray	742-9808
Mae Jones	742-7570
Betty Brown	742-9442
Evelyn Dewire	568-1522
Betty Baumer	742-7334
Fay Engleman	742-8158
Mae Keefer	568-2452
Evelyn Campbell	742-6071
Ida Shuck	568-0023
Pam Walsh	742-3528
Barbara Gray	568-0022
Mary Steeley	742-7746
Rose Bolich	568-8433

