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# ANNUAL REPORT 2018



 **Elk River** LUTHERAN ELCA  
Trusting in God's grace, an accepting,  
joyful community, serving God & neighbor.



# A message from Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton

Dear siblings in Christ,

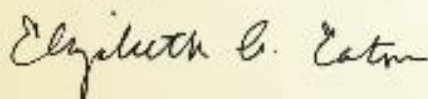
As members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, we are freed by grace to live faithfully, witness boldly and serve joyfully. As communities of Jesus that nurture life-changing relationships with God, one another and the world, we are confident about who we are in Christ and what God is calling us to do. Whether worshiping wherever two or more are gathered, engaging in lively conversations about faith, or rolling up our sleeves and getting to work, we strive to share God's grace and love in Christ for all people and creation. This reflects the vitality we find in Jesus Christ, our own spiritual life and our desire to participate in what God is doing today.



Within each community of Jesus there are leaders who strive to model an attitude of servanthood, trustworthiness, humility, patience and listening first while striving to work with others in healthy ways. These leaders teach all ages, motivate believers, build consensus, share a vision, discern direction and facilitate action. Their attention is focused on growing disciples who are sent into their daily life to love and serve others as friends, neighbors, parents, citizens and workers. Together we recognize the importance of growing disciples and multiplying leaders who serve inside your congregation and beyond your walls.

As our congregations plan their work for the coming year and how to use the resources God has entrusted to them, I invite you all to think about the relationships that bring you vitality and the leaders you nurture for God's mission in the world. While you make many decisions, remember you are not alone. We are all partners in sharing the gospel. Together, by God's grace, we can do what God is calling us to. May you go forth to do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with God.

Serving together in Christ's name,



The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton  
Presiding Bishop  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

You shall love the Lord your God  
with all your heart, and with all  
your soul, and with all your mind,  
and with all your strength.  
Mark 12:30

# ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING OPENING LITURGY

## LITANY

*L. Recognizing that our faith is a living, busy, active and mighty thing, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with each of you.*

**C. And also with you.**

*L. Teach us, O lord, to love you with all our heart, soul, mind and strength.*

**C. Lord in your name we pray.**

*L. Descend on our hearts, O Lord, that we may love others in the way Jesus loves us.*

**C. Christ in your name we pray.**

*L. Empower us. O Lord, to be enthusiastic in pursuing your vision for our congregation.*

**C. Lord in your name we pray.**

*L. Move us, O Lord, to engage in issues in our community in Christ-like ways, and to pursue deep and authentic relationships with those we serve and partner.*

**C. Jesus in your name we pray.**

*L. Strengthen us, O Lord, to face the barriers we encounter in doing your work, learning to work with others although we may not agree.*

**C. Lord in your name we pray.**

*L. Give us, O Lord, the ability to adapt to the cultural, economical and social changes that occur in the neighborhoods we serve.*

**C. Christ in your name we pray.**

*L. Guide us, O Lord, to be a healthy congregation that learns from our failures as well as our successes and offers wisdom to others*

**C. Lord in your name we pray**

*L. Let us pray. As we strive to become the church that we proclaim to be, help us to grow leaders who focus on the gospel of freedom, forgiveness and reconciliation as given to us through God's indescribable act of love in the death and resurrection of Jesus the Christ. Help us to take a fresh look at our baptism each day so we may discover vitality in our relationship with you, each other and those we serve in the world.*

**C. Amen**

## Build Us Up, Lord (ELW 670)

1 Build us up, Lord, build us up; set in  
2 Build us up, Lord, build us up; let our

us live a strong foun - da - tion. Lead us to do your  
lives re - flect your glo - ry. Cast a - way all our

ho - ly will; form and shape your new cre - a - tion.  
doubts and fears; help us tell the world your sto - ry.

Build us up, Lord, build us up; as we  
Build us up, Lord, build us up; help us

guide and teach each oth - er, help us to share your love with the  
bear good fruit for you, Lord, give us vi - sion and keep us

world: ev - 'ry sis - ter, ev - 'ry broth - er.  
sure. Grant us faith that's stead - fast and true.

*Refrain*

Grow - ing in Christ, we plant seeds for the king - dom; we fol - low in

faith what's be - gun! Lord, set in our hearts the pow'r of your

word to spread the news of your Son!

Text: Mark Glaeser, b. 1956, and Donna Hanna, b. 1952  
Music: BUILD US UP, Mark Glaeser and Donna Hanna  
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## ELK RIVER LUTHERAN PERSONNEL DIRECTORY

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### **CHURCH STAFF**

*Pastor:* Nathan Mugaas

*Minister of Congregational Care and Discipleship:*

Jeremy Hallquist

*Director of Children, Youth and Family:*

Martha Herbert

*Director of Music Ministry:* Taylor Quinn

*Office Manager:* Linda Nielsen

*Custodian:* Brian Harding

*Pianist:* Bea Bastyr

*Bookkeeper:* Lori Sundman

*Nursery Attendants:*

Sonja Tesdahl and David McFarlane

### **CHURCH COUNCIL OFFICERS**

*President:* Kari Christianson

*Vice President:* John Natwick

*Secretary:* Matt Rolz

*Treasurer:* Jennifer Stanley

### **CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL**

Jodie Dahlhiemer

Brian McFarlane

Erin Pelletier

Mark Schwarze

Ron Westrum

## ELK RIVER LUTHERAN ANNUAL MEETING

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### ERLC Annual Congregational Meeting Agenda January 27, 2019

*Trusting in God's grace, an accepting joyful community, serving God and neighbor.*

- 1) Call to order and quorum establishment
- 2) Devotion and Prayer
- 3) Old business:
  - a. Review and action on 2018 ERLC Congregational Meeting Minutes: Matt
  - b. Review of finances from fiscal year 2018: Jennifer
- 4) New Business:
  - a. Elections, from ERLC voting members of council officers, council members, nominating committee and mission endowment fund committee
  - b. Review and action on 2019 Budget
  - c. Review and action on ERLC constitutional ratification: Kari
- 5) Presentation of Ministry Report
- 6) Other Business
- 7) Adjourn

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Elk River Lutheran ELCA Congregational Annual Meeting January 28th, 2018</b> <b>DRAFT Minutes</b></p>
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1) ERLC President Greg Pouliot called the meeting to order at 11:55 am

Roll Call: Present: 73 ERLC Members counted by Dan Nelson, Head Election Official and ERLC Communications Specialist Erin Pelletier—see scanned sign-in log for list of names. ERLC President Greg Pouliot called upon ERLC Parliamentarian, Marv Ziner, to determine a quorum. ERLC Parliamentarian established a quorum.

2) Pastor Nathan led Litany and Prayer. Taylor Quinn led the meeting in singing the hymn, “Let Talents and Tongues Employee”.

3) Old Business

ERLC President Greg Pouliot led review of ERLC Annual Meeting Minutes from January 2017.

- Motion by Dale Ziner to accept the ERLC Annual Meeting Minutes as corrected from January 2017. Seconded by Milo Christianson. All in favor. None Opposed. Motion Approved.

ERLC Treasurer, Adam Horner led review of ERLC Finance report for 2017. Question by Larry Cook regarding Hospitality line item with dollar amount in parentheses. Answer from ERLC Treasurer, Adam Horner, in accounting parentheses designate income received.

- Motion by Larry Cook to accept and approve 2015 ERLC Finance Report subject audit. Seconded by Dan Nelson. All in favor. None Opposed. Motion Approved.

4) New Business

ERLC Treasurer, Adam Horner, led discussion of proposed 2018 ERLC Budget. Diane Harding asked why Staff/Volunteer line item is lower in 2018 Budget compared to 2017. Answer from ERLC Treasurer, Adam Horner in 2017, this line was higher due to budgeting for Ministry Consultant. DP asked why the Office line item budget is lower in 2018 compared to 2017? Answer from ERLC Treasurer, Adam Horner subscriptions were shifted to Music line item budget.

- Motion by Marv Ziner, to accept and approve proposed ERLC 2018 Budget. Seconded by Connie Natwick All in favor. None Opposed. Motion Approved.

Vice President Kari Christianson presented ELCA Synod Constitutional updates that the synod is requiring all congregations adopt. Action on ELCA Synod Constitutional updates will occur at future Congregational meeting.

ERLC President Greg Pouliot led review of proposed ERLC Constitutional by-laws: Mission Endowment Fund and Nominating Committee

- Motion by Tom Werk, to approve ERLC Constitutional by-law C5.05 (Mission Endowment Fund) with editorial changes. Seconded by DP. All in favor. None Opposed. Motion Approved.
- Motion by Jim Hecker, to approve ERLC Constitutional by-law C5.05.01-C5.05.04 (Mission Endowment Fund) with editorial changes. Seconded by Larry Cook. All in favor. None Opposed. Motion Approved.

- Motion by Herm Weidner, to approve ERLC Constitutional by-law C11.05.05 (Nominating Committee). Seconded by Lorie Werk. All in favor. None Opposed. Motion Approved.
- 4) Election of ERLC Council Officers, Council and Nominating Committee by ballot. Election ballots distributed to attendees for vote. Election Officials Dan Nelson, Dennis Hove, Ann Hove and Debby Pouliot counted votes—Meeting attendees sang hymns while waiting for results
- Election Results:  
Council: Jennerfer Wornson, Jodie Dalhheimer, Cathryn Lessard, Brian McFarlane and Matt Rotz  
Council Officers: President Kari Christianson, Vice President John Natwick, Secretary Matt Rotz and Treasurer Jennifer Wornson  
Nominating Committee: Greg Pouliot, Nettie DuBouis, Mary Wells, Milo Christainson, Kristy Bose and LuAnn Wingard. One open seat.  
Mission Endowment Fund Committee: Steve Bose, Adam Horner, Debby Pouliot, Kerry Livingston and Brad Tesdahl
- Motion by Marv Ziner to destroy election ballots. Seconded by Erin Pelleteir. 72 Approve. 1-Abstain. Motion Approved.
- 5) ERLC Annual Report  
Presentation of ERLC Annual Report and Vibrant Faith Ministries update led by Pastor Nathan.
- 6) Other Business  
President Greg Pouliot Thanked Out-going Members. John Natwick thanked ERLC Volunteers and Jim Hecker thanked the spouses of the ERLC Council Members.
- 7) ERLC President Greg Pouliot adjourned meeting at 1:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Brad Tesdahl, ERLC Secretary



## PASTOR NATHAN'S 2018 REPORT

My report, and this whole annual report, is a celebration of last year and a look at our goals for the coming year. I could not be more proud of our congregation, members, and staff for the many ways we made our goals for 2018 come to life over the past twelve months. I'd like to celebrate these with you one by one:

### Goals from 2018

1. **Engagement-** *Embrace ways to love and serve our neighbors, show great hospitality within our walls, and welcome new members into our congregation.*

As we celebrated our fifth anniversary of being the church in downtown Elk River, we embraced a wide variety of ways of serving people inside and outside of our walls. Some wonderful examples of this community engagement included: *Beer & Hymns, CAER, Dares Funeral Lunches, Downtown Block Party, Downtown Trick-or-treat and Trunk-or-Treat/Haunted House, Elk RiverFest, Kids Days and Seniors Days at the Farmers Market, Meals on Wheels, and Santa in the Park.*

Thank you to everyone who volunteered, donated, planned, spread the word, and participated in these many forms of engagement!



2. **Programs for All Ages-** *We strive to provide opportunities that help people of all ages connect with each other and grow in their faith.*

I am so thankful for the multitude of ways this happened in 2018 with wonderful ongoing Bible Studies, programs, and events, as well as new opportunities. We were blessed to have Jia Star Brown join our staff and, beyond her role as Interim Visitation Minister, she led us in an Adult Faith Formation program, "Journey to Freedom," where we explored issues of race and culture from a faith perspective. Then this fall Jeremy Hallquist became our first Minister of Congregational Care and Discipleship, focussing member visitation and adult faith formation opportunities. Children, youth, and families continue to be a key priority as we celebrate and

support their faith development through LiFT! (our family Sunday School program), Confirmation (for grades 7-8), and T5 (High School Youth Group).



3. **Identity and Purpose-** *Jim LaDoux is currently working with our ERLC staff and leadership, and beginning in the spring of this year we'll start seeking input from all of you as we seek to better understand "Who is Elk River Lutheran Church and who is God calling us to be?"*

This process of congregational and community listening has led to an affirmation of our mission statement as core to our identity and purpose:

*Trusting in God's grace, an accepting joyful community, serving God and neighbor.*  
We have developed a "Congregational Roadmap," which lays out big picture goals and specific action steps to help us continue to put our mission statement into action.

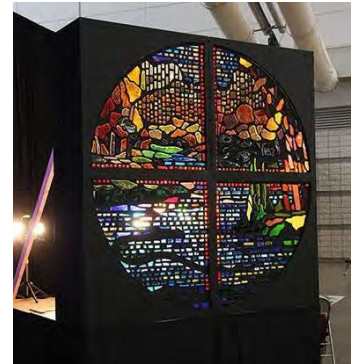


### Goals for 2019

December of 2019 will mark the 10th anniversary of the formation of Elk River Lutheran Church, and so throughout the year we want to celebrate this anniversary as we reach these large and small goals:

**1. Living into our building and location-** *Identify improvements to our facility (inside and out) to better live into the space.*

Our current location and building continue to serve us well, and after five years here we have a more solid grasp of our space needs and dreams. The worship committee is already working on an exciting plan to beautify and improve our worship space, which includes redesigning the the chancel (front of church), incorporating the stain glass window given to Elk River Lutheran by the ELCA, replacing flooring, lighting, and upgrading the sound system and projector. I'm really excited for this! John Natwick, who is a retired architect and has designed many of churches, is doing some great work on this.



Another area we'd like to think about improving is the landscaping in the front of the building (Main St side), which has been well maintained, but is showing its age. This landscaped area could become a gathering space with picnic tables or benches, perfect for our own gatherings or community outreach events. We also want to think about how we could make our main entrance more attractive and visible (make it obvious where our front door is).

The church council is exploring a capital campaign drive to fund these special projects and pay down our current debt on our building.

**2. Improve Communication-** *Embrace upgraded technology to more effectively communicate with the congregation and community.*

A lot of this work has already begun and continues to happen in the background as we upgrade technology in the church office. We have upgraded our church membership database software to help the church staff better communicate with members. We have begun using Microsoft Office 365. Staff, Church Council, and ministry team leaders have access to our "Congregational Roadmap," which serves as a great tool for collaboration and communication, as it is a live Google document. We have begun using Tithe.ly to offer added electronic giving options. The staff have all been set up with "@elkriverlutheran.org" Email addresses. While I understand that these might not sound like the most exciting changes, I am thrilled about how these upgrades and changes will allow us to better communicate and build our joyful, accepting community!

**3. All Ages Practicing a Lifelong Faith-** *Providing opportunities for all in areas of service, learning, and fellowship*

As a church we want to continue to help people of all ages practice their faith. LiFT! Family Sunday School and other Children, Youth, and Family (CYF) Ministry programs are a big part

of this, and so is Adult Faith Formation. Martha Herbert (CYF Director), Jeremy Hallquist (Minister of Congregational Care and Discipleship) and I are excited to work with ERLC's teams and members to meet this goal through a variety of service, learning, and fellowship opportunities.

**4. Continue to Connect with our Local Community-** *We want to love our neighbors and continue to be the church downtown.*

Elk River Lutheran is starting to get a reputation (in a good way!) for participating in and hosting fun, safe community events... making us "the church downtown." This past year we connected with our neighbors in many and profound ways, including:

*Beer & Hymns, CAER, Dares Funeral Lunches, Downtown Block Party, Downtown Trick-or-treat and Trunk-or-Treat/Haunted House, Elk RiverFest, Kids Days and Seniors Days at the Farmers Market, Meals on Wheels, and Santa in the Park*

In 2019 we look forward to maintaining, improving, and expanding these offerings.

Thank you for all the ways you support Elk River Lutheran church! I continue to feel blessed to be a part of this joyful, accepting community. This year of our 10th anniversary promises to be a great year for our congregation and I am glad you are joining us on this journey as we continue to live out our mission together:

*Trusting in God's grace, an accepting, joyful community, serving God and neighbor*



Pastor Nathan Mugaas



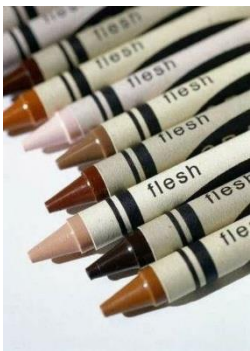
## TEAM ANNUAL REPORTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

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### ADULT FAITH FORMATION

It has been an exciting year in terms of new activities for the Adults in our congregation. **LIFE Groups** (Living in Faith Everyday) were reassembled or a few new ones formed for the second time since October 2017. Eight or Nine groups met in April/May 2018 when the sermon topics discussed were “What do we do as God’s Church; gather, go, give & grow!” Approximately 80 members were involved in the small groups which met once per week either at church or in homes. A third round of LIFE groups was held this October 2018. The attendance and number of groups was somewhat lower than the first round of LIFE groups in October 2017, but the groups were still viable and enjoyable for those involved.

The LIFE groups were held in addition to a regular Men’s Bible Study on Saturday AM’s, the Pastor leads a Bible Study on Tuesday mornings, there is a Women’s Bible Study based upon the GATHER magazine once a month on Tuesday evening.



**Journey to Freedom** was an initiative developed by Jia Starr Brown and involved a book study, “Waking Up White”. Many members read the book but approximately 20 of us met regularly to discuss with Jia the meaning of the book, surrounding issues of white privilege. Jia and several other speakers came to deliver sermons relative to their experiences and a panel of people of different ethnicities discuss biases and what they have experienced in their lifetime. They shared their ideas of how-to better deal with and talk about the issues of racism, white privilege & justice. This was an eye-opening discussion and certainly caused some soul-searching!

ERLC has been working on a **social-justice** issue. Several of our members have been involved with a situation at the Sherburne County jail which contracts with the federal government and ICE for 300 beds here in Elk River. Twenty percent of the prisoners are ‘detainees’ only” and do not have any charges filed against them. One situation that was brought to our attention & caused us to work in concert with the United Congregational Church (UCC) with the leadership of our Pastor Nathan & Pastor Robin from UCC as well as with MIRAC (MN Immigrant Rights Action Committee) to sponsor a DACA recipient who had been jailed without any charges being filed. He ended up in isolation and was discovered to have some mental health issues. He was moved to 5 different prisons during this time and he did not have any legal support. He was pumped full of drugs & was not allowed to refuse them. He did not have access to his family or a Priest.





Members of ERLC, & UCC held a silent auction in order to raise money to help with his legal expenses as well as to raise awareness of the injustice to the community. Rallies have been held at the prison every Wednesday afternoon. On December 19, 2018, a candlelight vigil was held at the jail with Bible readings, songs, prayers for those in prison, the staff & Sheriff. Candy canes were brought to the jail with a Christmas message of love and hope for all. The press has been covering these events.

In August, two **new initiatives** were attempted in coordination with the local Farmers Market and displays were right outside the front of our church.

1. A mini (classic) car show was attempted in August 2018. It was held on a beautiful day and we had about 8 cars to exhibit. However, when people drove by, a couple of people went home and came back with their classic car to display. The final total was 12 vehicles including a couple of old-fashioned snowmobiles, and a current fancy three-wheel motorcycle. It was so well received & there are plans to expand this in 2019.
2. The second exhibit was an art show which allowed several members to display their art work. There were also some local vendors who contributed. It was another amazing day and there was much interest by people passing by to stop to see the display. The hope is to expand this again next September 2019.



Another new initiative built upon Pastor Nathan's open house from last year. This year, there was an Advent Open House where 5 families opened their homes for members to see their Christmas traditions and enjoy some Christmas baking. Those in attendance really enjoyed this opportunity!



Thank you! On behalf of myself, Ellie, Weston and Clayton, we rejoice and give thanks to the Elk River Lutheran Church community. We have been celebrating and rejoicing in the welcome that has been extended to our family in the short few months that I have been on staff. It has been a whirlwind of discovery, activity, and excitement. We are incredibly grateful for the opportunity to grow, learn, and live into the ministry of Congregational Care and Discipleship.



As we continue to explore what Adult Faith Formation and Discipleship Ministries look like you are invited into the dialogue. What would a meaningful faith-forming event look like to you? What would it look like for a community to grow in their faith together in rich and vibrant ways? What types of programs or events could Elk River Lutheran offer that you would like to try or explore?



Part of my goal will be to try some new events and activities that help us live into the mission statement of Elk River Lutheran: “Trusting in God’s Grace, an Accepting, Joyful Community Serving God and Neighbor.” We have already started to try some new events that you will quickly see in 2019 including Financial Peace University, book studies, and some opportunities for social gathering as well as continued work on our social justice and caring ministries. Will you consider joining us as we step into uncharted waters and grow together in this new landscape of Adult Faith Formation? The future is exciting, we are walking together in new ways, and are hopeful about what the future might bring.

Thank you,  
Jeremy Hallquist  
Minister of Congregational Care and Discipleship



### CARING FAITH MINISTRIES

There are also some community services that the ERLC is involved with such as; serving at:

- CAER (Community Action of Elk River), the local food shelf that several people work at 3 days during one week each month.
- Meals on Wheels are delivered by members.
- Also, the GATHER Bible Study serves a birthday bash at the local nursing home for all the birthdays in a given month once per year. This past December we had the privilege of serving for 6 December birthdays and providing a small gift table top decoration as well as ice cream for the celebration.
- The quilting group makes and sends out quilts to those in need annually. School supplies for children including a homemade bag are sent out to needy children in the Fall by the Gather Bible Study.
- Several members knit and crochet prayer shawls and baptismal blankets.



*Guardian Angels Birthday Bash December 2018*



*ERLC-CAER Volunteering*



## CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY

A key element of working with children, youth and family ministry is building relationships through connections. It is my hope and prayer that we, as a church community, can give our families tools to disconnect from the daily pressures of life; work, social media, sports, school and general over-commitment and focus on our relationships and connections with our family, friends, community and, most importantly, God.

In 2018 we have built on the foundation that was begun with our LiFT! (family Sunday school) program in the fall of 2017. Last year was spent learning the basics of our family-style Sunday school with the help of Amy Kippen, our seminary student in residence. While we were sad to see Amy leave, we are continuing to grow and adapt the program to best fit with our Elk River Lutheran community of families. One exciting piece has been introducing the entire congregation to the theme of Faith 5 – a foundational plan that introduces the Christ-centered daily routine of “Share, Read, Talk, Pray, Bless” to each family. In addition, each of our families received a wooden cross that can be assembled at home while going through the Faith 5 ritual (Thank you Jeremy Hallquist and Matt Glasoe!).

Another highlight of 2018 was the trip to Houston, TX for the National Youth Gathering. This event was attended by 8 youth and 2 adult leaders, Joe Livingston & Martha Herbert. Our high school students spent 5 days experiencing worship, music, speakers, service & mission projects and much more thanks to the incredible generosity of this congregation during our many fund-raising efforts. We can't thank you enough for being a part of this life altering, Christ affirming experience for our youth! Other highlights of 2018 that helped connect our congregation, families and community included:

- Hiring our exceptional Nursery staff, Sonja Tesdahl & David McFarlane
- 1st Communion class for 5th grade, including creating their own communion cups





- Club 56 (5th & 6th grade ministry)
- Pancake breakfasts
- Family Game Night
- Senior graduation celebration
- ERLC Block party
- Family VBS, “Shipwrecked” – with the help of many adult & youth leader volunteers
- Luther Crest Bible Camp attended by many young members
- 17 new Confirmation students
- Confirmation retreat & graduation Sunday
- Feed My Starving Children
- Trunk or Treat and (first ever) Haunted House (over 500 attendees!)
- LiFT! parent break-out session
- Parent Night Out
- Elk River Fire Dept. toy drive
- Adopt-a Family (2 families through Hospitality House in Mpls.)
- Children’s Christmas program, “Itsy Bitsy Christmas” with adult choir



We look forward to 2019 and the continued relationships we will be building with each other and Christ as we live out our mission of being an accepting, joyful community serving God and neighbor.



Respectfully submitted,  
Martha Herbert  
Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministry

## ENDOWMENT FUND COMMITTEE

After the generous gift from the Patten Family in 2016 and the work of the ERLC Mission Endowment Steering Committee in 2017, the ERLC Mission Endowment Committee began meeting in 2018. Our initial meetings focused on developing the grant application, fund administration, grant recommendation guidelines and promotion of both grants from and gifts to the Mission Endowment Fund. A timeline for application deadlines and grant awards was established following the goal of awarding grants quarterly.

In December, the Endowment Committee recommended three grants to the council for its approval. The three grant requests approved by the council were for offsetting the costs for Financial Peace University classes offered here at ERLC, a donation to CAER and a donation to the ISD 728 School Lunch Debt Relief program.

The current financials as of January 2019 are as follows:

Endowment Fund Principle - \$179,182.00  
Cash for Grant Disbursements - \$3,372.00  
Total Fund Assets - \$182,554.00

2018 Award Disbursements - \$1,000.00

Keeping with the goal of awarding grants quarterly, applications are due January 15th, April 15th, August 15th and October 15th. The Endowment Committee will notify applicants of the committee's decision within 60 days of each submission deadline. The application form is available in the church office or it can be downloaded from the ERLC Mission Endowment Fund page on the ERLC website. Information regarding "Leaving a Legacy of Faith" by donating to the ERLC Mission Endowment Fund is also available in the ERLC Office.

Direct website link: <https://www.elkrivlutheran.org/mission-endowment-fund.html>

ERLC Mission Endowment Committee Members:

Kerry Livingston, Chair  
Adam Horner, Treasurer  
Debby Pouliot, Secretary  
Steve Boese  
Brad Tesdahl





## FACILITIES TEAM

The Facilities Team is a group that focuses on maintaining the physical integrity of the building. We also review some of the contracts the church has in place as they come up for renewal. We mainly work from a “to do list” completing what is possible for us to do and contracting out what we feel needs professional attention. Our group at present includes: Greg Pouliot – chair, Lee Davies, Vance Zehringer, Jim Acers, Brian Harding, Taylor McFarlane, Mike Roden, Bob Wolff, Bob Krumwiede, Chuck Naig, Kirby Paulson and Brian McFarlane as council liaison.

We meet on an “as needed” basis and when a large project such as fall or spring cleanup occur, we will ask for volunteers to help out. Maintaining the defibrillators and checking the fire alarms is also some of our routine. We also monitor the utility bills and make suggestions as to where we could possibly save extra dollars.

This year we replaced two of our rooftop A/C units which were just plain wore out. The pump for our irrigation system died so getting bids to convert over to city water for that system was another project for us.

The use of the building keeps growing which is fantastic but also means more wear and tear and upkeep. This group is happy to do what we do and asks for your continued support and input.



## HOSPITALITY TEAM

The mission of our ERLC Hospitality Ministry Team is to *create an atmosphere of love, fellowship and community*. We carry out this mission by coordinating and hosting Sunday Fellowship Coffee Hour, other food related special events, member funeral luncheons and Dare funeral luncheons.

We currently have eight members of our Ministry Team who along with Jennifer Tesdahl are also Sunday morning coffee coordinators. The team members are Karen Acers, Sue Hecker, Toby Moe, Barb Overbye, Peg Davies, Garnet Novotny, Sandy Krumwiede and Barb Burandt.

In addition to hosting special events such as celebrations for Confirmation, Graduation and Rally Sunday, we monitor the kitchen and Cafe' areas, and purchase kitchen and Cafe' supplies. We supply paper products, condiments, coffee and lemonade for member and Dare Funerals.

Our team is supported by many faithful volunteers who generously give their time to serve coffee and provide treats on Sunday mornings, serve and/or provide bars/cookies at our member funeral luncheons and other special events.

We are always looking for more funeral luncheon volunteers and Sunday Fellowship Coffee hour coordinators, servers, and bakers to help support our ministry.





## MUSIC MINISTRY

There's much to celebrate in the music ministry from 2018.

ERLC's choir welcomed 7 new singers throughout the year, which helped maintain its roster of 25. They also combined efforts with the choirs of *Union Congregational Church UCC* and *Holy Trinity Episcopal* to sing at each other's services in Feb, July, and October. For community outreach, members of the choir and the congregation started to provide hymn-sings to the residence of *Guardian Angels Care Center* and *Guardian Angels By the Lake*. Another outreach involving all the members of ERLC is our annual caroling events. 2018 was the 4<sup>th</sup> year we provided caroling for both the *Downtown Tree Lighting* ceremony and *Santa in the Park* at the River's Edge Commons.

In the Fall of 2018 we brought back our handbell choir. With plans of purchasing in 2019, we rented a 3-octave set of handbells from Malmark Bellcraftsmen, and played them during our 10:30 am Christmas Eve service and our December 30<sup>th</sup> Lessons & Carols service. 15 ringers were on the roster. They named themselves "Riverside Ringers" and Patty Herbert generously agreed to be their director.

July marked the 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of Beer & Hymns. Since 2017 we have been co-hosting a monthly community sing-along with Pour Wine Bar and Bistro, and attendance has been very positive. While most of the patronage had been ERLC members, this year we welcomed a loyal contingent of enthusiasts from the greater community. Every month an average of 40 attendees came to B&H.

In our worship services we welcomed more volunteers to share their gifts with us on the sanctuary chancel and in the sound booth. 11 new musicians joined the "Special Musicians" roster, including four for our Easter instrumental ensemble. Three more volunteers



started running the sound board. Plus we welcomed back the *Land of Lakes Choirboys* as they sang for us in November.

There truly was much to celebrate in the music ministry for 2018. Let us be glad for the variety of talented volunteers who generously contribute to both our inner and outer church lives.



Taylor  
Quinn  
Director of  
Music  
Ministry





## QUILTING TEAM

As part of our outreach ministry, the ELCA quilters made 80 quilts this year that were given to Lutheran World Relief to be shipped to places in need. We also made quilts to wrap around our graduating seniors as they continue on their life journeys. With the help of the evening Bible Study Group and others, 39 school backpacks were filled with basic school supplies and given to LWR, so that children in need can attend school.

We repurposed some unusable quilt materials and made decorative pillows. Donations for these and cash received for LWR shipping and additional quilting supplies brought in a very generous \$702.25. Thank you to all!

Quilters meet every Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. All are welcome!





## RECONCILING IN CHRIST (RIC)

The RIC Team had our annual celebration of becoming a Reconciling in Christ Congregation on February 4th. RIC is the designation of becoming fully open and welcoming to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning people into the life of our congregation. Our guest preacher was Aubrey Thonvold of ReconcilingWorks using the scripture of Mark 1:29-39 in her sermon entitled “God Finds Us at the Margins”. She briefly shared her story and talked of reaching out to those who are marginalized in our community and our church and shared more between services and responded to questions.

The Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall were decorated with a rainbow flag and 40 stoles from the “Shower of Stoles Project” of LGBTQ+ clergy which documented their stories of struggles and/or joys.

As a part of the “Journey to Freedom” series in June our congregation welcomed quest preachers, 2 of which were LGBTQ.

Members of the RIC Team are: Pastor Nathan, Taylor Quinn, Carol Vikstrom, Phyllis Scroggins, Diana Schansberg and Sonja Tesdahl.



### *Elk River Lutheran Affirmation Statement*

Here at Elk River Lutheran Church—ELCA—we are committed to being a loving and welcoming community of faith, centered in the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Therefore, in faithfulness to the Gospel and consistent with our Mission Statement, to the best of our ability, we promise to provide worship opportunities, programs, ministries, leadership opportunities and pastoral care to all who seek God in this place. We all belong to the Priesthood of All Believers.

As a community striving to serve God and neighbor and to be open to all people, we at Elk River Lutheran Church welcome all to join us as we struggle to better understand the mysteries of God's teachings. We are challenged by Christ to care for, to love, to understand and to listen to each other, regardless of race, ethnicity, age, gender, marital status, physical and mental abilities, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin or economic status. We celebrate together our unity as God's people. ERLC is a place where all are welcomed to participate fully in the life of this congregation and each person is invited to share his or her own unique gifts.

To this end Elk River Lutheran Church is officially now a Reconciling in Christ congregation and affirms our position of Welcome and Ministry with the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community.

## STEWARDSHIP TEAM



The Stewardship Team, working with Pastor Nathan, is responsible for the Elk River Lutheran Church stewardship program, including the Fall stewardship campaign. Stewardship of time, talent and financial resources is a commitment and response that we celebrate at ERLC throughout the year. Members of the committee this year were Milo Christianson and Kari Christianson.

The 2019 Fall stewardship campaign theme was "Abundant Joy, Flowing Generosity." The campaign began on Sunday, November 4 with a stewardship sermon from Pastor Nathan and a temple talk given by Adam Horner, who spoke about how and why he and his family became involved in volunteer activities at ERLC. On Sunday, November 11, the many people who serve our congregation as volunteers were recognized and honored. A second temple talk was given by Pam Black, who spoke about the importance of volunteerism. On Sunday, November 18, designated Stewardship Sunday, members made their commitments of time, talent and financial support for 2019.

As part of the 2019 program, stewardship articles were included in the September, October and November newsletters. On October 22, a letter regarding the 2019 program was sent to all members. Included with the letter were copies of the 2019 Giving Card, a 2019 Time and Talent Sheet, an insert entitled "Celebrating Five Years in Downtown Elk River," an insert entitled "Financial Giving Options," and an Authorization Agreement for Recurring Giving.

Our thanks to all the members who have made, and continue to make, commitments to the mission of ERLC. Of course, it is never too late to complete a 2019 Giving Card. The Giving Cards give our staff and church council a more accurate way to determine what resources will be available in 2019 and therefore a better idea of what future programming is possible.

Soon we will begin planning the 2020 program. As always, the goal of our stewardship activities will be to expand the participation of all our members in the mission and ministry of Elk River Lutheran Church. Included in this goal is a recruitment plan to expand the membership of the Stewardship Committee. In this area and all areas of the mission and ministry of ERLC, you are needed!

## WORSHIP AND MUSIC TEAM

The Worship and Music Ministry team proclaims our Lutheran heritage through our Music, the Word, the Sacraments and God's Grace. We strive to incorporate a sense of welcome for all and to create a worship experience that is inviting, inclusive, uplifting, Christ-centered, and deeply spiritual.

Our sanctuary is the centerpiece for all our efforts, whether through Music, decorating or the assistance in worship by nearly 200 volunteers. We want to create a vital, flowing, and engaging worship experience. We are continually working on innovative ways to worship.

Dinner church during Lent was a huge success. It was meaningful in substance and fellowship. And the food was delicious.

The sanctuary and entryway have been enhanced with paraments, posters, an entry table, and artwork. Our committee is planning for a redesign of the sanctuary. The goal is to improve the acoustics, the video projection and incorporate the stained glass window. The window was created especially for Elk River Lutheran Church in gratitude of our commitment to the ELCA and in celebration of the ELCA's 25th anniversary. Delegates to the 2013 ELCA convention in Pittsburgh PA each put in a piece of glass for the window. The artist, Dennis Roberts of Fredericksburg Texas, finished it. Because of its size, special design considerations will need to be made. We are excited about the project.



*Stained Glass Window given to ERLC by ELCA*

## STATISTICAL REPORT 2018

	2018	2017
TOTAL MEMBERS (AS OF DECEMBER 31)	698	708
BATIZED	630	662
CONFIRMED	499	478

ACCESSIONS	2018	2017
Received by Baptism	3	6
Confirmed	4	11
Received by Transfer	45	26
Total	52	43

Losses	2018	2017
By Death	6	7
By Transfer	8	0
Inactive	70*	0
Total	84	7

Net Gain/Loss		
	52/84*	43/7

AVERAGE WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	2018	2017
	233	232

EDUCATION ENROLLMENT	2018	2017
Sunday School (LIFT!)	45*	65
Confirmation	17**	12

HOLY COMMUNION	2018	2017
Communion Services Held	109	118

PASTORAL ACTS	2018	2017
Baptisms	4	6
Confirmations	4	11
Funerals	8	9
Weddings	1	3

\* Membership data clean up of Inactives took place in 2018

\*\* Actual number attendees.



## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

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### **Financial Report Introduction by Pastor Nathan Mugaas**

I'm writing an introduction to the financial section of our annual report for two reasons: First, at the time of this printing our current Treasurer, Jennifer Stanley, was with family grieving the death of her uncle, so please keep Jennifer and her family in your prayers. I also want to write an introduction here because I am exceptionally excited about how this budget is a clear representation of our mission priorities for this coming year!

Elk River Lutheran Church's ten-year history is a story of a joyful, accepting community on the move; moving between several worship locations and also experiencing many staff transitions. Now we are firmly planted in our downtown location with an amazing and committed staff. We're poised and ready for God to do some amazing things! This is the first year since I have arrived that we are budgeting for a full staff, for the full year. That means financially we have a challenge set before us (you'll see that noted here), but more importantly, it means the table is set for a spectacular year of ministry!

The design of this report and budget is different than past years as we are in the middle of streamlining our financial accounting process by adopting a new chart of accounts, which will allow us to print reports directly from Quickbooks (our accounting software). Over the past few months Jennifer and our bookkeeper, Lori Sundman, have spent many hours working with a professional accounting firm to make this happen. This process will bring us into line with current accepted accounting practices and eliminate unnecessary duplication in producing reports that had become a part of the Treasurer's role. The new 2019 budget was created using our new chart of accounts and I am excited for the ways these improvements will make reporting and interpretation of the church's finances much easier.

In this financial report you'll see the tremendous generosity of the people of this congregation, and the whole rest of this report is a testimony to how you all support this congregation and what we can do together. In 2018 we also gave \$43,219.09 to support programs and ministries beyond Elk River Lutheran Church. The ministry we are able to do when we pool our resources is amazing!

Please bring questions about this financial report or the budget to the informational meeting on January 20th at 11:45am in the sanctuary, or the annual meeting on January 27th at 11:45, also in the sanctuary. I am not exaggerating when I say that we are entering what I think will be one of the biggest, most important chapters of our church's history as the hopes and dreams of those first faithful founders of this church are being realized! Thank you for coming on this journey with us and supporting the mission and ministry of Elk River Lutheran Church.

-Pastor Nathan Mugaas



## FINANCIAL REPORT

### 2019 Proposed Budget and 2018 Actual/Budget

	2019 Budget	2018 Actual	2018 Budget
General Income	\$ 455,720.00	\$ 438,646.47	\$ 459,400.00
General Expenses	\$ (478,388.00)	\$ (453,853.54)	\$ (458,435.00)
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ (22,668.00)</b>	<b>\$ (15,207.07)</b>	<b>\$ 965.00</b>
Restricted Income	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 99,138.09	
Restricted Expenses	\$ (60,300.00)	\$ (78,854.79)	
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 19,700.00</b>	<b>\$ 20,283.30</b>	
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$ (2,968.00)</b>	<b>\$ 5,076.23</b>	

### 2019 Proposed Expenses Versus 2018 Actual Expenses

EXPENSES	2019 Budget	2018 Actual
Offic/Admin	\$ 34,175.00	\$ 35,935.28
Worship	\$ 6,460.00	\$ 6,331.58
Hospitality	\$ 4,975.00	\$ (1,783.15)
Music	\$ 3,105.00	\$ 2,881.81
CYF	\$ 5,080.00	\$ 3,417.31
Adult Faith	\$ 1,970.00	\$ 1,366.16
Facilities/Building	\$ 76,950.00	\$ 83,238.59
Staff	\$ 307,673.00	\$ 287,861.99
Benevolence	\$ 38,000.00	\$ 34,603.97
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 478,388.00</b>	<b>\$ 453,853.54</b>

### Current Assets and Liabilities

<b>Current Assets (Not Including Dedicated Accounts)</b>	
General Checking	\$ 76,880.07
Building Fund	\$ 107,825.74
Reserve Savings	\$ 15,031.16
MIF Account	\$ 212,994.94
ERLC Endowment	\$ 183,612.86
CYF Account	\$ 3,520.36
Hospitality	\$ 3,985.72
Total Current Assets (Not Including Dedicated Accounts)	\$ 603,850.85
<b>Dedicated Accounts</b>	
Capital Improv.	\$ 37,305.04
CYF	\$ 200.00
Memorial	\$ 14,451.75
Comm Outreach	\$ 1,000.00
Equip. Purchase	\$ 2,089.40
Good Samaritan	\$ 147.30
Other	\$ 2,976.41
Total Dedicated Accounts	\$ 58,169.90
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$ 662,020.75</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
MIF Loan Payable	\$ 1,621,011.36

**Proposed Amendments to the Bylaws and Constitution of  
Elk River Lutheran Church ELCA for  
the ERLC Mission Endowment Fund Committee**

***ERLC Constitution***

***C5.05. This congregation may have a ~~foundation fund~~ mission endowment fund that will operate as specified in this congregation's bylaws. The purpose of the ~~foundation fund~~ mission endowment fund is to provide for mission work beyond the operational budget of this congregation.***

(The ERLC Council recommends to the congregation for vote at the annual meeting that the name of the fund in the Constitution at C5.05. be consistent with the bylaws.)

**C5.05.01. Mission Endowment Fund Committee Membership**

The committee shall consist of five members, all of whom shall be voting members of Elk River Lutheran Church ELCA. Except as herein limited, the term of each member shall be three (3) years. Upon adoption of this resolution by the congregation, it shall elect five (5) members to the COMMITTEE: two (2) for a term of three (3) years; two (2) for a term of two (2) years; and one (1) for a term of one (1) year. Thereafter, at each annual meeting, the congregation shall elect the necessary number for a term of three (3) years. No member shall serve more than two consecutive three (3) year terms. After a lapse of one (1) year, former COMMITTEE members may be re-elected. The senior pastor and the president/vice president of the congregation council shall be advisory members of the COMMITTEE. The congregation council of the congregation shall nominate the COMMITTEE and report at the annual congregational meeting in the same manner as for other offices and committees. In the event of a vacancy on the COMMITTEE, the congregation council shall appoint a member to fill the vacancy until the next annual meeting of the congregation, at which time the congregation shall elect a member to fill the term of the vacancy.

The COMMITTEE shall meet at least quarterly, or more frequently as deemed by it in the best interest of the FUND.

A quorum shall consist of three (3) members. When only three (3) members are present a unanimous vote shall be required to carry any motion or resolution.

The committee shall elect from its membership a chairperson, recording secretary and financial secretary. The chairperson, or member designated by the chairperson, shall preside at all committee meetings.

The recording secretary of the COMMITTEE shall maintain complete and accurate minutes of all meetings and supply a copy thereof to each member of the committee. Each member shall keep a complete copy of minutes to be delivered to his or her successor. The recording secretary shall also supply a copy of the minutes to the church council.

The financial secretary of the COMMITTEE shall work with the congregation's treasurer in maintaining and coordinating complete and accurate accounts for the FUND and shall sign checks and all other necessary documents on behalf of the congregation in furtherance of the purposes of the FUND. The books shall be audited annually by a certified public accountant or other appropriate person who is not a member of the COMMITTEE.

The COMMITTEE shall report on a quarterly basis to the congregation council and, at each annual or duly called special meeting of the congregation, shall render a full and complete audited account of the administration of the FUND during the preceding year.

The COMMITTEE may, at its discretion, authorize an independent audit of the FUND every three years.



The COMMITTEE may request other members of the congregation to serve as advisory members and, at the expense of FUND income, may provide for such professional counseling on investments or legal matters as it deems to be in the best interest of the FUND.

Members of the COMMITTEE shall not be liable for any losses which may be incurred upon the investments of the assets of the FUND except to the extent such losses shall have been caused by bad faith or gross negligence. No member shall be personally liable as long as he or she acts in good faith and with ordinary prudence. Each member shall be liable only for his or her own willful misconduct or omissions, and shall not be liable for the acts or omissions of any other member. No member shall engage in any "self-dealing" or transactions with the FUND in which the member has direct or indirect financial interest and shall at all times refrain from any conduct in which his or her personal interests would conflict with the interest of the FUND.

All assets are to be held in the name of the Elk River Lutheran Church Mission Endowment Fund. Recommendations to hold, sell, exchange, rent, lease, transfer, convert, invest, reinvest and in all other respects to manage and control the assets of the FUND, including stocks, bonds, debentures, mortgages, notes or other securities, as in their judgment and discretion they deem wise and prudent, are to be made by the COMMITTEE for approval by the congregation council, with subsequent execution by the delegated member of the COMMITTEE."

#### **C5.05.02. Define Principal and Income**

The COMMITTEE shall determine what is principal and income according to accepted accounting procedures. Gifts and bequests to the fund shall accumulate and credited to principal. The income generated from the investment of the principal shall be expended.

#### **C5.05.03. Distribution of Income**

Income from the FUND shall be distributed annually and at such other times as deemed necessary or feasible to accomplish the purposes outlined in attached Policies and Procedures.

Programs for support shall be recommended by the COMMITTEE and approved by the congregation council for funding according to the guidelines established by the congregation.

Disbursement of income from the FUND need not occur annually in the event causes and programs have not been approved by the COMMITTEE sufficient to utilize total income available, or if in the judgment of the COMMITTEE total annual disbursement of income is not recommended.

#### **C5.05.04. Distribution of Principal**

When, in the opinion of the COMMITTEE, circumstances are so dire and of such an emergency nature that the future of the congregation is at stake, and that the only recourse seems to be the use of the FUND principal, the COMMITTEE may, upon a two-thirds majority vote, recommend such authorizing action to the congregation. The congregation, with a two-thirds majority vote, may approve the recommendation of the COMMITTEE for the use of the FUND principal.

## COUNCIL BALLOT 2019

### Terms for Current Council Members:

Kari Christianson (2020)

John Natwick (2020)

Mark Schwarze (2020)

Jodie Dahlheimer (2021)

Brian McFarlane (2021)

Jennifer Stanley (2021)

### Outgoing Council Members

Erin Pelletier (2019)

Cathryn Lessard (2019-resigned in October 2018)

Matt Rotz (2019)

Ron Westrum (2020-retiring early)

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Congregation Council: (Four needed, three 3-yr terms and one 1-yr term)  
**(Vote for 4)**

- ☐ John Auel
- ☐ Sarah Chur
- ☐ Ryan Herbert
- ☐ Michele Smith
- ☐ Betty Zehringer
- ☐ \_\_\_\_\_

Council Officers: (1-yr. term)  
**(Vote for 4)**

- ☐ John Natwick, President
  - ☐ Mark Schwarze, Vice President
  - ☐ Jennifer Stanley, Treasurer
  - ☐ Kari Christianson, Secretary
  - ☐ \_\_\_\_\_
-

## **NOMINATING COMMITTEE BALLOT 2019**

### **Current Nominating Committee Members**

Christy Boese (2020)  
Greg Pouliot (2020)  
LuAnn Wingard (2020)

### **Outgoing Committee Members**

Milo Christianson (2019)  
Nettie DuBois (2019)  
Mary Wells (2019)

Nominating Committee: (2-yr. term)

**(Vote for 3)**

- ☐ Pauline Kuhn
  - ☐ Harry Maher
  - ☐ Conni Natwick
  - ☐ \_\_\_\_\_
- 

## **Mission Endowment Fund Committee Ballot 2019**

(3-yr. term)

**(Vote for 1)**

- ☐ Steve Boese
- ☐ \_\_\_\_\_



# Reflections on understanding a living and vital faith

In Mark 12:28 Jesus is asked by a scribe: "Which commandment is first of all?" Jesus responded with "the Lord is one," and went on to say, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength" (Mark 12:30). These words are very similar to those that served as Israel's central confession of faith (Deuteronomy 6:4-5). Joshua (22:5) later reminded the people of Israel to observe these words. With this text as a guide, how do we begin to explore the ways we will nurture a living and vital faith in each person and the congregation?

Within the work of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, congregational vitality is defined as "communities of Jesus where there are life-changing relationships with God, one another and the world." These are three important dimensions of our work together. But it is the way in which we bring our heart, soul, mind and strength into our life and work that shows how the light of Christ shines in and through us. Our heart is the way we feel and sense God's presence in and through emotions. The soul is our mindful awareness of the presence of God within us and the world. This awareness encourages us to find meaning and purpose in life, both individually and as a community of faith. The mind is how we learn our beliefs, perspectives and practices that shape our understanding, knowledge and expressions of faith. And strength is the way we use our abilities, passions and skills to shape and live a life of faith.

The vitality of our faith as Christians, and as a church in the Lutheran tradition, finds meaning and purpose in Jesus' words from Mark 12:30. As we engage our strategic directions for the future, we find both power and insight by reflecting on what brings us vitality. Please consider the following:

## Heart

- When are the times you feel or sense God is present?
- How are these experiences different when you are with others rather than alone?
- How do these emotions bring vitality to your faith and relationship with God?

## Soul

- What Scripture passages give you an awareness of life or "living faith"?
- How does this awareness of a living faith help you find meaning and purpose in life?
- What about your life experiences brings a sense of vitality to your faith?

## Mind

- What motivates you to continue growing in your relationship with God?
- What have you found helps you learn more about God?
- Where do you find vitality through your learnings and spiritual practices?

## Strengths

- What God-given abilities, passions and skills have you discovered in your life?
- How does your faith guide you in using these?
- What about using these abilities, passions and gifts gives you vitality?

May your responses to these questions help you gain new insight and vitality into your relationship with God, each other and the world.

## ***We All Are One in Mission***

Thank you to all who have shared their gifts, time and talent to deepen relationships and to expand *ERLC* ministry opportunities that serve our neighbors and the World.

