



2019 Annual Report

Senior Pastor's Report

Pastor Kendall Koenig



2019 was a year of strong continuity along with small important shifts that allowed Light of Christ's ministry to thrive in new ways. Together with that, work on our new campus began in earnest, setting us up for a dramatic new future at the end of 2020. This was truly a significant year.

The Council set the following goals for 2019.

- 1) Embrace the vision of being "A Church of all ages" that lives out Christ's mission in this community and beyond, developing strategic plans across congregational areas (worship, ministry, staffing, and technology) for growing into those gaps and begin implementation of those plans.

That is a tall order and it has been the focus of Council and staff now for a few years. Here are some of the steps we have taken in 2019 to live into that goal and focus. We continued our **Worship** Visioning process, making small tweaks to our worship experience, seeking to focus the worship service on our core elements: Scripture, sacraments and music. Through moving the announcements to the end, streamlining the offering, and adjusting lighting we have sought to create a truly engaging, streamlined and focused worship experience welcoming to all. We also made a few important **Ministry** shifts. This year we consolidated our midweek children and youth programming, creating Wednesday Night Live, and added a dinner experience. This has created great synergy and became a place for kids and parents to connect in new and deeper ways. In response to the significant growth in AWANA, we added a part-time coordinator (**Staffing**) position to assure that kids and leaders' experience was high quality. We also made a few key **Technology** shifts this year, providing RightNow Media for all members, so that they could access high quality, spiritually grounded media content through the week. We also updated our outdated computers so that we could stay relevant with current needs, and just at the end of year, shifted our LOC App platform to provide a more updated experience. All of these small but significant shifts were an effort to live our mission to Invite, Nurture and Serve, and grow into the vision of being "A Church of all ages".

2) Begin planning and search for expanded staff in preparation for our move to Light of Christ's new campus. The Council formed a Call Committee that began the search process for our new Associate Pastor (*Pr. Sharon announced that she would be stepping down from FT ministry July 2020, though we have asked her to continue in a PT role through the end of this year and potentially beyond*). The Call Committee completed the Ministry Site Profile in May and awaited names from the wider church. They were slow in coming so a variety of networking and outreach efforts were initiated. Initial conversations with a few potential candidates have begun. We hope to bring a name forward to the congregation in the first quarter of 2020.

3) Finalize plans and launch endowment fund to sustain Light of Christ's long term mission in this community and beyond. We ran into a few challenges with this effort as the Northern Illinois Synod recommended some significant changes to the constitutional language that we have adopted for this effort. We hope to clarify that early in the new year.

4) Move Forward in Faith towards our new campus, finalizing construction drawings, beginning the building process and continuing to cast vision to inspire current commitments and invite new ones so that funding is strong. While we received overall approval from the Village in March for our updated plans, they raised new issues through the summer that delayed the start of construction until October. During that time, we completed the sale and leaseback of 100 Hanson Road to Renacer Church. Construction progress was slowed because of rain and snow, but footings and foundations are in. Much work continues among teams at LOC, finalizing Audio/Visual/Lighting/Acoustics and interior design and furnishings. Tentative timeline has us moving in late fall. Our new space will be a beautiful and effective space to invite our neighbors into an encounter with Jesus and an experience of community.

As we look ahead, 2020 will be a year of dramatic transition with a new Associate Pastor coming (at some point!) and moving onto our new campus and into our new Church/Ministry Center and Preschool. Our core values and commitments and culture will stay the same, but much else will grow and change. Let us stay focused on the mission that God has given to us, and boldly follow where our Savior leads.

Church Council President's Report

Kathleen Long, Council President

As we launched into the Council year, Pastor Kendall suggested we read through a book that he and Pastor Sharon had run across that speaks to the challenges of leading ministry in the 21st century. Council has often used outside resources to help frame our conversations and provide a context for the issues we discuss. "Canoeing the Mountains, Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory" compares 21st century ministry leadership to the Lewis and Clark expeditions; going where no man (or woman) has gone before! The metaphor, and lessons learned, were appropriate as the role of Council is to discern the best ways to navigate missional clarity in a rapidly changing world.

At last year's annual meeting, Pastor Sharon announced her decision to step away from full time ministry leadership in July of 2020. In February, we launched a Call Committee led by Bonnie Cummins to begin the task of compiling our ministry profile and search criteria. While we could never actually *replace* Pastor Sharon and all that she contributes to LOC, we are seeking God's guidance for the next right leader to help us grow into this phase of ministry.

The majority of this Council year was spent on various issues related to the move to our new ministry center. Much of this three-year term for me has felt like *déjà vu*; revisiting issues with the Village we thought we had resolved years, even decades ago. It seemed like things were never really going to move forward. And then in April we were presented with an offer...then there were three (thanks to our 100 Hanson Road team; Jaki Berggren, Tiffany Garcia and Gloria Jenson)! In June we held a Congregational meeting and voted to approve the sale of 100 Hanson Rd. to Iglesia Del Pacto Evangelico

Renacer, our new landlords. And shortly after, in an August Congregational meeting we voted to approve the securing of a mortgage for the new property. And after complaining things weren't moving fast enough, I found myself now having trouble catching my breath!

God provided more of a reprieve than I bargained for. In reviewing my notes, I ran across this bullet point: "Target of July 22 for dirt to be moving at the Longmeadow location". The complexity of the Village approval process delayed that significantly, but we are officially moving dirt and working hard to make up the time. I cannot express the Council gratitude strongly enough for our amazingly gifted and faithful Building Team members (Keith Sharlog, Mark Hippler, Rich Bunke, Wes Walker and Cindy Kordecki) and Business Management Team (Marty Holmberg, Jamie Walrack, Adam Cox, Hans Gustaf Ted Orzechoskie and Vicki Barmore). We would not be where we are without their faithful, competent and steady guidance, willing to "rework the plans" at a moment's notice (literally). The words, "Thank You" seem quite inadequate, for our mission has been made possible by your selfless sacrifice.

As I "pass the baton" for the second time, I do so with great confidence and hope. You have elected some of the finest people I have ever had the pleasure of knowing. While I was the veteran these last three years, I have learned so much from my Council brothers and their vision and passion for the future of mission in this place—LOC is in good hands. I count it among my greatest blessings to have had the privilege of leadership, *for such a time as this*.



Church Council Secretary's Report

Stuart Haughee, Council Secretary

Light of Christ's 2019 Council met on a monthly basis and, on occasion, for special meetings to address additional items. The meetings began with prayer, sharing God sightings and a devotional given by one of the Council members.

Council meetings are God-led with trust that He guides our discussions and decisions. Typical meetings included items such as reviewing and approving the prior month's meeting minutes, reviewing and approving the Treasurer's report, staffing and ministry updates, strategic planning and new ways to fulfill our mission.

Council oversees and approves LOC practices, focusing on "what does it mean to be a Lutheran church in a mission field" and how we address "discipleship" in our community, so that we continue to invite, nurture, and serve. We also addressed timely issues, such as, The Forward in Faith Capital Campaign, new church building plans, Sale of the 100 Hanson Road property, charters for new and existing teams, special serving events, the LOC Preschool, stewardship plans, and the annual budget.

Summary of Motions from 2019 Council Minutes

In addition to monthly motions for acceptance of Council Minutes and Treasurers Reports.

January 7, 2019

- Motion to accept 2019 Annual Operating Budget with recommended changes, Seconded, Carried unanimously.

February 12, 2019

- Motion to accept the Annual Meeting Minutes (Kathleen), Seconded, carried unanimously.
- Motion to accept the new officer positions for 2019 Council year (Kathleen), Seconded carried unanimously.
Kathleen Long (President)
Chris Kardys (Vice President)
Matt Cianciarulo (Treasurer)
Stuart Haughee (Secretary)
- Motion to approve a change for Pastor Kendall's housing allowance (\$40,000 of his total 2019 pay be designated housing allowance), Seconded, carried unanimously.

March 12, 2019

None

April 9, 2019

None

April 29 Special Council Meeting (discuss offer for 100 Hanson Road property for Carpentersville Renacer Church)

- Motion was made to have Rick O'Connor present straight sell of LOC with a lease back option and Seconded, carried unanimously.

May 14, 2019

- Motion to accept the Special April 29 Meeting Minutes (Stuart), Seconded, carried unanimously.
- Motion was made to authorize Kendall to work with work with Rick O'Connor to identify counter proposal to meet Council Goal and Seconded and Carried unanimously.
- Motion was made to approve the Ministry Site Profile for Associate Pastor, pending amendments as identified by Council and Seconded, carried unanimously.
- Motion was made sell the 100 Hanson road property for \$950k, including the agreed upon furnishings, with the stipulation that LOC is able to lease back the property for the cost of the monthly mortgage payment, seconded, carried unanimously. *This meeting and voting was done electronically.*

June 10, 2019

- Motion was made to secure Zanck, Coen, Wright & Saladin for a flat fee of \$1,500 to represent LOC in the Closing. Seconded, 6 voted to approve one abstention, motion carried.
- Motion was made for Matt / BMT to engage Mission Investment Fund to execute construction loan agreement pending Congregational approval of the Sales of LOC Building. Seconded, motion carried unanimously.
- Motion was made to provide \$1,000 per year paid out on a bi-annual basis over the 3 academic years of seminary as a Ministry Sponsorship for Trevor Skorburg. Seconded motion carried unanimously.

June 11, 2019 - LOC Church Congregational Meeting

Sam Weyers made motion to approve the sale of 100 Hanson Road to Iglesia Del Pacto Evangelico Renacer for the amount of \$950,000. John Wright III seconded Motion. Results are as follows:

*91 YES, 1 NO, 1 ABSTAIN
Motion Carried*

John Wright made Motion to adjourn meeting, was seconded and passed unanimously; meeting adjourned.

July 9, 2019

- Motion was made to accept Congregational Meeting Minutes June 11 based on revisions, seconded and carried unanimously.
- Motion was made to submit application for \$4 MIL loan from Mission Investment Fund. Motion was seconded, carried unanimously.

August 4, 2019 Special Congregational Meeting

Kathleen Long Read the Motion verbatim from the MIF Loan Document

RESOLUTION: "WHEREAS the Light of Christ Lutheran Church ("Ministry") proposes to borrow the sum of \$4,000,000.00 from the Mission Investment Fund of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America under the following conditions: the loan proceeds are to be used for the purpose of building a new church, the loan is to be secured by a first mortgage, or first lien deed of trust or other security instrument, on the real property of the Ministry, specifically the church buildings and grounds as well as the personal property of the Ministry, the loan will be for a term of 25 years at an interest rate to be adjusted every 5 years, and it is

RESOLVED that the Ministry is authorized to borrow the sum of \$4,000,000.00 from the Mission Investment Fund of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, to be used for the foregoing purpose and to be secured by real property of the Ministry as set forth above; the President and/or any Vice President of the Ministry are authorized to execute the promissory note and mortgage, or deed of trust or other security instrument, to evidence said borrowing, with such changes in those documents as such officers of the Ministry may approve, those officers are also authorized to take all further actions and execute all such further documents as may be necessary to carry out the foregoing borrowing; and those officers are also authorized to agree to any extensions in the payment dates or due dates under that promissory note as are acceptable to the Fund."

Motion was made to accept the resolution by Cate Welk and seconded by Mary Jane Stoner. Congregation filled out ballots, Council Members collected and tallied. Results are as follows:

62 YES & 2 NO

LOC Council Secretary Stuart Haughee certified the vote count the motion to secure mortgage carried.

August 13, 2019

- Motion was made to accept August 4, 2019 Congregational Meeting Minutes (Stuart), seconded, carried unanimously.
- Motion was made for Council to accept the BMT recommendations that 2 members of building team provide written approval for all invoices related to the new building project, seconded and carried unanimously.
- Motion made motion to approve the Portico Gold Benefits plan for 2020, and increase in the employee contribution from 5% to 7.5% and seconded; 6 approved & one opposed motion passed.

September 10, 2019

- Motion was made to engage Generis over a 6-month horizon for \$6K to assist in the Forward in Faith campaign and seconded, carried unanimously.

October 8, 2019

None

November 12, 2019

None

December 10, 2019 (these notes are still in draft format until approved by Council in the January Meeting)

- Motion to designate \$42,000 of Pastor Kendall's salary as housing allowance, seconded, carried unanimously.
- Motion that LOC contribute \$3,210 into Pastor Sharon's retirement account in recognition of her decision to waive healthcare benefits, seconded, carried unanimously.

2019 Council Members:

Kathleen Long (President)
 Chris Kardys (Vice President)
 Matt Cianciarulo (Treasurer)
 Stuart Haughee (Secretary)
 Rod Wittig
 Sam Weyers
 Pastor Kendall Koenig
 Pastor Sharon Rogers

Kathleen Long and Chris Kardys have completed their terms and will be transitioning after the Annual meeting. The nominees for the 2020 officers to be voted on at the Annual Meeting are listed below.

Nominations for 2020 are:**Financial Review Team:**

Robin Fiorentino

Nominating Team:

Jack Belford
 Mary Gadomski

Synod Assembly Delegates:

Jane Broederdorf
 Doug Broederdorf
 Don Cranston
 Nancy Crimmins

Council (three year term):

Julie Zinger, along with her husband Eddie, have been members of Light of Christ since 1996. They have been blessed with two wonderful daughters, Bailey, a junior at U of I, and Maddie, a senior at Jacobs High School. She has taught chemistry for 25 years at Fremd High School. Light of Christ has provided opportunities for her to share the love and stories of Jesus by teaching in Faithland, journeying with teenagers in PATH, and serving as a leader at VBS. She has attended the Women's Retreat, participated in and was a leader at KW/E3. She has served as a reader, usher and communion server, as well as working on capital campaigns through the years. She and Eddie have hosted several LOC initiated Bible studies in their home, and enjoy attending LOC Couple's events.



Mike Halvorson, along with his wife Suzanne, have been members of Light of Christ for 10 years and prefer the 5PM service on Saturdays. During this time Mike has actively participated in the Praise/worship team, Kingdom Weekend, ASP, and lead the Men's ministries team for most of that time. Mike is looking forward to working on the Council to bring the church into their new home while not losing sight of who we are, the traditions that lead us here and how we can grow into the future.

New Building Team

Keith Sharlog

2019 has been a very active year for the new building team, with many ups and downs along the way. Some of the most significant events/activities include:

- Continued refining the layout and site development from the 2018 re-design, communicated Sept 13, 2018 in Town Hall Meeting
- Ongoing work on drawings to secure bids from subcontractors, getting the project back within our budget
- Engaged with the Village of Algonquin Committee of the Whole to answer questions on the project, and respond to neighbors issues
- Submitted for site development permit in July 2019
- Had to complete a Rusty Patch Bumble Bee and Northern Long Eared Bat survey to address Section 7 Endangered Species Act to receive approval from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources
- Redesigned the cul de sac at the end of Richmond lane to a hammerhead style, saving over \$50K
- Received site development permit from the Village of Algonquin on October 2 (after 3 month delay) and began earthwork excavation on October 6
- Received building permit from the Village of Algonquin on November 26, 2019
- Extremely wet fall weather caused soil issues, leading to a soil stabilization change order to keep work moving forward through the winter (additional cost covered by allowances and contingencies)
- Design Team formed and working very hard to decide on color schemes, room layouts, furniture, fixtures, equipment, etc.
- Signed contract with Audio Visual Lighting Acoustics (AVLA) firm to secure interior lighting and sound, with strong support from Tech and Production teams
- Footings and foundations completed December 30, and structural steel delivered January 6

Still much to do in 2020, including need to secure sign permits, final life safety sign off by Carpentersville fire department, finalize color schemes, as well as furniture, fixtures, equipment and flooring, complete many, many inspections, and work to receive occupancy permit. Keep all the involved teams in your prayers, as we continue to move this project toward completion.

Children's Ministries Report

Jessica Adams, Director of Children's Ministries
Stephanie Bemis, Nursery/Preschool Coordinator

Update from Children's Ministry:

- As children's ministry leaders, we want your children to grow up:
 - Making wiser choices
 - Building stronger relationships
 - Developing a deeper faith
- Orange Curriculum is a children's ministry curriculum created to make a difference in the next generation that's going to last a lifetime! We have fully implemented this curriculum in our FaithLand preschool-5th grade Sunday school rooms.

Wednesday Night Live at Light of Christ!

- Children's Ministry is rocking on Wednesday nights here at LOC.
- Children's Choir, Awana, and PATH all meet on Wednesday night and a dinner is being served weekly.
- We average 50+ people per week sharing in this meal and 8 faithful volunteers preparing and serving!
- Awana is a program designed to help raise our children into spiritual champions...believers with unshakeable, lifelong faith in God.
- This year we have been fortunate enough to welcome Jenessa Gober on to our staff as our Awana Coordinator!
- 100 children are registered and attending Awana regularly in 2019-2020!!!
- 30+ adult volunteers are serving this ministry faithfully each week!



Vacation Bible School 2019 Theme: ROAR!

- 1 week camp held June 24-28
- AM (9am-12pm) and PM (1pm-4pm) sessions
- Preschool-5th grade
- Average of 180 Kids in the AM session
- Average of 140 kids in the PM session
- Over 70 volunteers and many generous donations

VBS 320 children registered, 46 new families this year!



FaithLand Sunday programming~Birth-5th grade

Attendance: PreK-5 th grade	Total Registered	9:00AM Avg	10:30AM Avg	Total Avg
Jan - May 2019	180	28	27	55
Jun - Aug 2019	180	19	17	36
Sep - Dec 2019	212	20	22	42

- **12 Third Graders** and their parents attended a **3rd grade Bible** workshop where the kids received a "real words" bible and learned how and why to use it.
- **9 Children K-5** and their parents joined us for dinner and a workshop learning the **Lord's Prayer** and its meaning.
- **28 Fifth Graders** and their parents participated in three workshops to learn about the themes connected with making their **First Communion**.
- **24 Children Baptized** As a part of Baptism, each child receives an age appropriate bible.

FaithLand & VBS Benevolence

- VBS children raised **\$1736.85** to help provide health care for mothers and babies across the world!
- FaithLand also used **\$270** of their weekly offering to cover the cost of shipping the 30 Operation Christmas Child boxes that our Awana groups packed this year!

Youth Ministries Report

Pastor Sharon Rogers, Associate Pastor
Kim Carrera, Director of Youth Ministry, Summer Jam
Jared Skorburg, PATH Manager

MIDDLE SCHOOL MINISTRY

PATH Confirmation Ministry: 2019-2020: 67 students, 37 leaders. School year enrollment for PATH 2018-2019 was 62 students accompanied by 36 leaders. PATH met from 6:30pm-8:00pm. Volunteers help with check-in and a volunteer administrative assistant helps with recording, worship reflections and serving reflections. The 2019-2020 focus is Knowing God. Pr. Sharon is the lead teacher, with Pr. Kendall, Jared Skorburg, and Kim Carrera each teaching several lessons throughout the year.

PATH Retreat 2019: 45 students and 34 leaders attended this annual weekend retreat with the theme of "Ascend: Set your mind on things above", based off Colossians 3:2. We studied The Lord's Prayer. We stayed at Lake Geneva Youth Camp in Wisconsin.



PATH Serving Events: During the course of the year, the PATH students assisted with Saturday Serves for LOC, Northern Illinois Food Bank in Geneva and serving Feed My Starving Children. In December, they helped decorate the church for Christmas and made angel ornaments for the LOC Preschool Angel Tree. The Feed My Starving Children event in January was for all grades along with their families, 48 students and families helped pack 262 cartons which provided 56,502 meals. This will feed 155 children for a year. The 8th graders went to the Northern Illinois Food Bank in Geneva in February and labeled cans of corn, providing meals for hungry neighbors in northern Illinois.

PATH BASH: 52 students participated with their leaders in a long day of fun filled spiritual growth and team building activities. Small groups began the day on a fun scavenger hunt. Following the hunt, there were team building activities, dinner, worship and a powerful message from Kim Carrera around searching, finding, and following God.

PATH Fun Day: In September, we had our Family Fun Day Event. A day for PATH students, parents and leaders to come have some fun with their small groups and get to know each other better, there were 50 people in attendance.



PATH Parent Night: 15 parents attended our first LIFE EVENT entitled, "Help My Kids Are Growing Up Different Than I Did." We had a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and owner of BZA Behavioral Health, Jessica Zaucha and Sarah Wilson, Pastor and Social Worker, speak to the parents about the unique challenge that parents face today.

Rite of Affirmation of Baptism: Following Faith Expression presentations, 17 eighth graders affirmed their baptism at two confirmation services in May.

Summer JAM: An average of 14 middle school age students attended. Kim Carrera and several high school assistants led the weekly devotions, games and activities to strengthen spiritual growth and give students opportunities to make new friends.

HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY

Summit Youth Group: In 2019 Summit saw a lot of new faces. Summit had an average of 34 in attendance, 64 youth attended Summit 3 times or more. Summit has 8 adult leaders. We are using a curriculum from GROW. Some of the series talked about the importance of friendship, putting others first, practicing spiritual disciplines, and worshipping the one True God.

Plunge: Sunday afternoon Bible Study is a place, where teens plunge deeper into God's word as they fellowship with each other. Right Now Media has been a new way to engage lesson in Plunge. Every few months it is student led. Plunge averages 8 students each week.

Winter Retreat 2019: In January, 22 students along with 4 leaders went to Lake Geneva Youth Camp in Lake Geneva Wisconsin for a weekend retreat. The theme of the weekend was "ID." They grew in their faith as they learned the importance of having their identity in Christ and Christ alone.



Summer Summit: We spent this summer connecting through fellowship and learning nights. The summer began with an 8th grade welcoming and summer kick-off event. Throughout the summer the group enjoyed Family Feud Night, Mission Impossible Night, and our annual Messy Game Night. We had our first Summit Olympics, that was organized and run by 2 Summit students. A worship and open mic night was an event where we heard how God is working in students' lives. It was a powerful night of sharing and worshipping through many forms. Also this summer, we went through a series called "More Than a Hashtag," as we explored the injustice that we are surrounded by. We were challenged to not just post on social media but to do something, act justly, and walk humbly in this world as believers. We had a Lock-in towards the end of summer where 33 high school students enjoyed a night of fun with no sleep.

Fall Scavenger Hunt: In the fall, 31 students and 7 leaders loaded cars and used team work to solve clues and make their way across, Crystal Lake, Lake in the Hill and Algonquin. It was an amazing night where teens were able to make some new connections with other students. Team building was at the core of the night.

Mission Trip: 48 high school students, 2 college aged student leaders and 8 adult leaders went to Leech Lake Reservation in Minnesota, in partnership with YouthWorks. The theme for the week of serving was "Storyline". Psalm 23:6 was the theme verse that the students lived out. They were split into multiple work crews as they served the community of Leech Lake. They served in many ways; at a kids program, landscaping, at a community garden and scraping and painting a playground. 58 people were God's hands and feet as they were learning that God has given each a unique storyline. 2 youth and Kim Carrera shared in the weekend worship message focused on the serving that was done and life transformation experienced. The students also led music for the LOC congregation the weekend of the mission trip message.

Serving Joyfully: Summit partnered with PATH students to host a food drive in the spring with donations going to FISH food pantry. In the fall collected donations to go to PADS of Elgin. The youth also saw the importance of serving their church family where they painted benches and picnic tables at God's Acres, a church members farm. In November, Summit served at Feed My Starving Children. 43 students, leaders, and families helped pack 164 cartons which provided 35,424 meals in Haiti. This will feed 97 children for a year. In 2019, 5 high schoolers served in Faithland, 3 in AWANA, and 17 for VBS. There are 2 students who helped usher this year on a regular basis. The youth also served on multiple musical teams; 2 are serving on a worship team, 4 in orchestra, and 1 on the Proclaim projection team.



Welcome Ministry Report

Jennifer Alderson, Director of Welcome Ministries

The Welcome Ministry experienced yet another outstanding year, thanks to the combined efforts of a Volunteer Team of over 85 Ushers, Greeters, Communion Servers, Connection Center Hosts and Coffee Station Hosts who serve faithfully. And, we are always looking to add new members —there's always room to serve as a part of the Welcome Ministry Team! Our team consists of multiple serving rotations: 2 Saturday Night teams (1st & 3rd weeks of the month, and 2 & 4th weeks of the month), and 4 Sunday morning teams (Week 1, 2, 3 & 4—with a different team at both 9am and 10:30am). We also have a group of subs who regularly step in when a schedule is "open", and one-time servers who help out occasionally (especially around Easter and Christmas).

Light of Christ had the privilege of welcoming over 100 First Time Guests in 2019. In addition, 73 people decided to make Light of Christ their church home through membership in 2019. We have continued to help connect new guests into Light of Christ through our various Welcome Ministries: Meet the Pastors, Insight: Pizza with the Pastors (New Guest Information Event), and the Membership Class.



This year, we continued to evaluate and adjust our Welcome Ministry programming to best serve people as they progressed through

different stages of connection at Light of Christ. While Meet the Pastors and Insight: Pizza with the Pastors had been working quite well for those in earlier stages of connection, we decided it was time to establish a straight forward, stand alone class for those looking to formalize their membership with Light of Christ. We simply entitled the event "Membership Class", and ensured that our marketing efforts welcomed those from all different stages of connection at LOC—to not only those just starting out at LOC, but also those who had been attending for *any* length of time. This proved to be a tremendous success—the response was overwhelming—and the number of people who chose to call Light of Christ "home" through membership was nothing short of humbling. These Membership Classes allowed us space and time to celebrate how God has used LOC to work in the lives of so many people, and gave us the opportunity to look ahead—together—as One Body with Many Parts—to ask God how He wants to use each and every one of us to make a difference in the lives of others. To Him be the glory!

Another change for the Welcome Ministry came in the way of establishing our first ever "Leadership Team". This team consists of 10 members of our Welcome Ministry—some ushers, some greeters, some coffee station hosts, communion servers, and connection center hosts. The hope is that we would meet 3-4 times annually—to evaluate the inner workings of the Welcome Team, to look ahead to the myriad of change that the new building will bring, to communicate tweaks and changes, etc. Our first meeting was in August 2019, and we will meet again in January of 2020. A special thanks to this exceptional group of people who chose to say "yes" - and joined me in this journey!

welcome ministry
LEADERSHIP TEAM

The Welcome Ministry Leadership Team:

Joe Clark
Scott Bruns
Mary Kolodziejski
Jamie Walrack
Dave Haut
Mike Thorsen
Chris Kardys
Connie Koenig
Don Cranston
Kent Farbelow

Worship and Music Ministries Report

Josh Jones, Director of Music & Worship
Beca Malmgren, Director of Children's Music

Blended Worship

In 2019, blended worship services continued to be held on Saturday evenings at 5pm and Sunday mornings at 9am. Blended worship on Saturday featured a rotation of capable musicians who would lead worship as soloists or in very small ensembles. Sunday blended worship continued to be led by a rotation of 5 praise bands. Worship also involved the Voices of Light adult choir and children's choir about twice a month, and occasionally used the organ, a chamber orchestra, or added a brass section to the praise band. There were also unique worship opportunities provided in May with a Service of Healing Prayer and December with a Blue Christmas service.

Contemporary Worship

In 2019, contemporary worship services continued to be held on Sunday mornings at 10:30am. Contemporary worship continued to be led by a rotation of 5 praise bands. Worship also involved the children's choir about twice a month, and occasionally added a brass section to the praise band.

LOC Worship Music Ensembles

Music ministry involved over 100 musicians in 2019. The music ensembles continue to be a substantial and effective way for musically blessed congregants to serve in worship and nurture their relationship with Jesus Christ! LoC Praise Bands include about 40 dedicated and talented musicians, including high school and college students. Adult Choir continued to build this year, performing more sophisticated literature, and contributing to worship about twice a month. The chamber orchestra grew in size and sound as it added several young brass players and contributed to the Christmas and Easter services.

LOC Music Reaching Out

In 2019, LOC praise bands took several opportunities to reach beyond Hanson Road to affirm our church's mission and invite people into our community. In March, a band played the PATH retreat. In July, a band played the Algonquin Founders Day Parade, and in September, a small ensemble provided musical accompaniment for an immersion baptism event.

LOC Children's Choirs

The children's choirs had a busy, wonderful 2019 offering music in both the contemporary and blended services on a monthly basis. The combined choirs involved 47 children, and met weekly on Wednesday evenings during the school year to prepare music for weekend services. Highlights included LOC's fall kick-off, Thanksgiving Eve and Christmas Eve. The children's choir ministry also prepared two musicals this year. The casts,

which included 32 kids, met on Tuesday evenings to rehearse for the shows in spring ("Agape League") and at Christmas ("Christmas Hang-Ups").

LOC Worship Support Ministries

There are dozens of dedicated people who serve the worship ministry behind the scenes, operating technology, and preparing and caring for different elements of worship and welcome. These impressive servers continue to be generous with their time and talents week after week.

Altar Care, led by Carrie Weyers, continued to involve about a dozen women in 2019, and always welcomes new members and bread bakers. They continue to prepare elements for worship and beautify the worship space, providing coordinated décor for special events and services. Marty Kaiser, a member at Light of Christ, shared his passion for wine with the creation and the donation of "Martin's Vintage", named for Martin Luther. We're currently using the fourth batch of this wine for communion, soon to move on to the fifth.

Production Team, led by Jack Belford, provides sound engineering, A/V, Proclaim, and lighting expertise for all worship services. The LoC Production Team is part of the structure that strengthens the message by faithfully producing the best possible atmosphere for worship. The team's purpose is articulated in a worship song that is commonly used in LoC worship, "Holy Spirit." The chorus lyrics, written by Bryan and Katie Torwalt, are, "Holy Spirit, You are welcome here. Come flood this place and fill the atmosphere. Your glory, God, is what our hearts long for, to be overcome by your presence, Lord."

Proclaim Techs Glen Swanson and Cate Welk diligently built all of our worship services in Proclaim Projection software, incorporating announcements, videos, song lyrics, and various themed backgrounds.

Worship Projection Team, led by Scott Morgan, continued to provide excellent support in worship, facilitating congregational participation each service. The team had about 10 members in 2019, and continues to seek opportunities for more growth.

The Video Ministry, led by Hinrich Schmidt, continued to record the sermon each week, making these recordings available online. They take special care in memorializing special events like baptisms or children's musicals.



Adult Ministries Report

Bonnie Kautz-Prasse, Director of Adult Ministries

Pastor Sharon Rogers, Associate Pastor

Adult Ministry at Light of Christ offers opportunities for adults to grow in their faith, find Christian friendships with others and serve beyond themselves. We are continually encouraging adults to find places to connect in all three areas living into our Mission Statement of Invite, Nurture and Serve. The ministries below were designed to help adults grow closer to Jesus, find or grow in Christian friendships and serve in meaningful ways.

GROWING

DISCIPLESHIP WITH ADULTS

- **Explore God**

In January and February we joined 100's of churches across the Chicagoland area to participate in the 5-week Explore God Initiative. Through sermons, devotionals and small groups we tackled the tough questions of our Christian Faith. There were 26 small groups that took this journey.

- **Classes**

Pastor Kendall's Wednesday Morning Bible Study – This study continued meeting weekly from September through May. Pastor led the group through various books of the Bible with teaching and small group discussion.

- **Small Groups**

Light of Christ had small groups in 2019 that dug into God's word through studying various books of the Bible, and Christian Book studies. These included men's (8 groups), women's (8 groups) and couples groups (8 groups).

- **Monthly**

Men's Breakfast – This event continued to serve many men at Light of Christ. Meeting the second Saturday of the month offering a combination of friendship and faith growth opportunity. This year from September through December the Breakfast was held at Southern Belles, a restaurant in Carpentersville. Average attendance was between 20 -25 men. The men studies different topics with the fall study being Tim Tebow's "This is the Day" through Right Now Media.

Women's Breakfast - This event continued to serve many women at Light of Christ. Meeting the first Saturday of the month offering a combination of friendship and faith growth opportunity. Average attendance was between 15 - 20 women. They reflected different topics to address real needs that Christian women face in today's society.

Couple's Night Out – This event met the first Sunday evening of each month from October through May,

offered a combination of friendship and faith growth experience. Valentines Party and Trivia night, When Your Engine Overheats, Secrets to an Awesome Marriage, Starting and Stopping and a Christmas Party are some of the events that occurred this year.

MOPS – This ministry met the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month between September and May, and is geared toward mothers with preschoolers. There were 25 women participating in 2019. MOPPETS is the childcare arm' of the ministry and they care for 20 children this year. A combination of "Real Life" topics with outside speakers, crafts and great conversation made for an important year.

Women's Ministry – This year the Ministry offered weekly and monthly events for the women of LOC. Some of the events were: Craft Fair, Yoga, and serving opportunity.

Men's Ministry – This year the Men's Ministry continued to offer small groups with a kick-off in the fall, a Brisket and Baggo Board Kickoff event. This kickoff was in conjunction with the Women's Ministry as the winner of the men's and women's Baggo competition, played each other. They also sponsored the serving event for Turning Point in Woodstock.

Freebirds - This is a play group for middle aged or older people who don't need childcare, and would like a moment to get away from cares and duties and just have some fun. This year they went to summer concerts, restaurants and a comedy club. We have had 30 people involved in the ministry.

- **Support**

Griefshare - This eleven week small group was offered in the spring of 2019. It was for those going through a time of grief. There were 13 people that participated.

Hope for Parents - This is a very special weekly group offers support and encouragement to parents whose children are facing substance abuse and mental health challenges.

- **Discipleship**

"Summer Devotionals": This summer we sent devotionals to the congregation every Monday and Thursday mornings. They were an opportunity to stay connected in Scripture and grow in their relationship with Jesus over the busy summer months.

- **Discipleship (con't)**

"Christmas Devotionals": This Christmas Season we sent devotionals to the congregation every Monday and Thursday mornings. We looked at the history behind nine different Carols and then reflected on the amazing message given to us through those Carols to help us stay grounded in our faith during the full season of Christmas.

- **Special Events**

E3: Explore, Engage, Experience – A very special weekend on February 22-24, 2019 was experienced by 78 people. This event was held at Inspiration Ministries in Walworth, Wisconsin. E3 also had a Reunion Night, Bake Sale, and lead worship the weekend of January 5/6, 2019.

Life Event – Our first of three Life Events kicked off on October 30 for PATH and AWANA Parents as well as the whole congregation. The topic was, "Help, My Kids are Growing Up Different than I Did". We had two speakers, Jessica Zaucha and Pastor Sarah Wilson, present on this important topic. This Life Event was geared toward people in the midst of raising elementary, middle and high school children. We had 60 people attend.

Women's 2019 Retreat – "Break the Mold" – The Joy of Being Perfectly Imperfect". Fifty women of all ages took a beautiful fall weekend, November 8-10 to celebrate our imperfections and our great need for our God in our lives. The Retreat was set at Lake Delavan Resort in Delevan Wisconsin.

Couples Events: Secrets to an Awesome Marriage – Don't Settle for Average!

On January 19, eighteen couples enjoyed a day where we looked at four "secrets" to having the kind of relationship you want to have or the kind of relationship you have and want to keep.

Care Moms and Dads – This quarterly event is geared towards moms and dads of college age students. They pack care boxes for their students and take time to connect with each other as well. We had 15 parents involved in this Ministry. The ministry was held the first half of the year and "sunsetted" for the 2019/2020 serving year.

Camping – We headed back to Camp Timberlee over Memorial Day Weekend and 10 families had beautiful weather and a wonderful time.

- **Referral for Care** – Referrals for individuals and families for counseling and other human services' needs.

FRIENDSHIP/INVITE

- **Seasonal**

Bowling – Our bowling league continued to be a place for great fun and connection...and some exercise too. It ran between September and May at Liberty Bowling Lanes in Carpentersville. There were 39 people involved in this fun event.

Softball – Another fun year of Crusader softball with all three teams playing well and representing Light of Christ and ultimately Jesus to the teams they played. We had 62 people involved. The Ministry had a kickoff barbecue and an end of the season picnic to bring the teams together for fun and connection.

SERVING

- **Algonquin/Lake in the Hills Food Pantry:** Monday mornings a devoted team from LOC gleans food from local grocery stores, sorts and stocks it to the pantry shelves at the Pyott Road pantry. Team members also assist guests on Tuesday/Thursdays/Saturdays when the pantry is open. Ongoing donations dropped off in the LOC vestibule bin are delivered regularly to the pantry.



- **Angel Tree:** 206 gifts helped make Christmas brighter for others connected with:



- Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI),
 - Turning Point,
 - Home of the Sparrow,
 - It's Our Little Story,
 - Refuge for Women,
 - Safe Families for Children,
 - Angel Tree Prison Fellowship,
 - Friends/family of LOC.
- Tree ornaments with gift request tags were decorated by Faithland children.

- **Appalachia Service Project Mission Trip** 15 adults served in our 7th annual weeklong serving event as we returned to serving making homes warmer, safer and dryer in Guyan Valley, West Virginia in June. Team members shared their faith stretching and growth experiences as the message in weekend worship in late July.



- **Garden Ministry** Hundreds of pounds of organic produce were grown onsite at Hanson Road provided to the Algonquin/Lake in the Hills Food Pantry. We continued to harvest sweet corn and deliver it to area food pantries.
- **Golden Diners** Our partnership with Catholic Charities continues with a faithful team from LOC delivering hot nutritious mid-day meals in the months of March, July, and November to homebound seniors.

- **Habitat for Humanity:** Several build days occurred involving LOC teams in McHenry Counties this year with McHenry County Habitat for Humanity.



- **KidsHope USA** This new partnership joined 10 adult mentors with at risk children at Westfield Elementary School through KidsHope USA whose mission is to build life-changing relationships one at a time: One Child. One Mentor. One Hour. One School. One Church.



- **Operation Christmas Child** Our annual participation in this worldwide ministry brought 250 boxes of gifts and the Good News of Jesus to kids around the world.



- **Team World Vision** 33 Light of Christ folks joined Team World Vision and trained together for 17 people who fundraised and ran or run/walked the Chicago Marathon, 16 people who trained, fundraised, and participated in the Run for the Hills half marathon, and 1 New York City marathoner. The LOC team raised \$41,014.13 for clean water (not including 16 NYC monthly child sponsorships)! This was our 2nd year partnering with Team World Vision Algonquin Runners.



Property Report 2019

Our annual spring and fall cleanup events occurred in May and October (respectively) with the assistance of volunteer youth and adults. We formed a new Property Team during 2019, members of who were instrumental in fixing items in need of repair at LOC and receiving in-depth information regarding our new facility.

We are thrilled to have been given the opportunity to collaborate with the Jacobs High School Vocational Program. This program combines classroom and on-site job training experience for students who receive special education services. Three students from this program spend time at LOC twice a week, ensuring our preschool and Faithland toys are cleaned on a weekly basis.

LOC Preschool Report

Michele Niehoff, Director of LOC Preschool

The mission of the preschool is to show and share God's love with young families. 2019 was an amazing year at Light of Christ Preschool! We served 95 families showing them God's love each and every day.

We welcomed our families back in August with the **Blessing of the Back Pack**, a wonderful way to start off the school year receiving school bags and blessings.

September was a busy month as the children are introduced to new routines, the teachers and are beginning to make new friends. We celebrated the LOC fathers with **Dad's Day**— a great time was had by all.

The autumn celebrations continued with **LOC Fall Fest**. We welcomed over 300 community members to Light of Christ Church. The day was filled with fun activities and wonderful food.

The winter season began and we heard the sweet sound of

young children praising God with song on a Sunday morning as many families joined us for the **Preschool Christmas Sing**.

Showing and sharing Gods love with the gathering of gifts for **The Home of the Sparrow**.

In January it is time for **Preschool registration**; a super exciting time to welcome new families to our program.

February was fabulous celebrating **Grandparents' Day** and spent time with some of our favorite folks who joined us for breakfast and a celebration of family.

We continued to share Gods love with music and song as we praised the Lord with an **Easter Sing** at Light of Christ Church. The school year came to an end with a **Mother's Day Tea** and **Preschool Graduation**. We are grateful for the blessings that we received and look forward to another year!



Light of Christ

2020 Proposed Budget

General Fund

	<u>2019 Budget</u>	<u>2019 Actual</u>	<u>2020 Budget</u>
General Income			
General Offering	\$964,000	\$930,842	\$949,000
Loose Change	\$13,000	\$12,429	\$13,000
Pre-School & Other	\$40,450	\$50,886	\$39,720
Total Income	\$1,017,450	\$994,157	\$1,001,720
General Expenses			
Council Expenses & Staff Compensation	\$828,261	\$770,822	\$816,252
Operations & Maintenance	\$122,119	\$121,129	\$144,504
Ministry Discretionary & Support	\$66,350	\$66,115	\$77,019
Total Expenses	\$1,016,730	\$958,066	\$1,037,775
<i>Staff & Operating - % of total expense</i>	93%	93%	93%
General Fund Surplus / (Deficit)	\$720	\$36,091	(\$36,055)
Transfer from Staff Expansion Restricted Fund			\$36,100
General Fund Surplus / (Deficit)			\$45
Fund Balance - Beg of Year	\$187,178	\$187,178	\$223,269
Fund Balance - End of Year	\$187,898	\$223,269	\$223,314

Light of Christ

2020 Proposed Budget

Expense Detail - General Fund

Expense Detail	<u>2019 Budget</u>	<u>2019 Actual</u>	<u>2020 Budget</u>
Staff & Operating			
Council (<i>Mortgage, ELCA Tithe, Pastors</i>)	\$457,014	\$422,533	\$449,619
Staff Compensation & Benefits	\$371,247	\$348,289	\$366,633
Operations (<i>Office Related, Utilities, Cleaning</i>)	\$94,867	\$91,379	\$112,204
Maintenance (<i>Bldg, Snow Removal, Small Repairs</i>)	\$27,252	\$29,750	\$32,300
Staff & Operating	\$950,380	\$891,951	\$960,756
	% of income>>	93%	90%
Ministry Discretionary & Support			
Sr Pastor (<i>Evangelism, Stewardship, Staff Dev't</i>)	\$21,120	\$23,811	\$22,515
Assoc Pastor (<i>Community Care</i>)	\$3,780	\$3,853	\$4,881
Worship & Music (<i>Music & Supplies</i>)	\$16,400	\$16,400	\$17,000
Adult Ministry	\$9,500	\$6,841	\$10,950
Youth Ministry	\$3,380	\$3,299	\$3,580
Childrens Ministry	\$8,420	\$8,407	\$10,580
Welcome Ministry	\$3,750	\$3,505	\$7,513
Total Ministry Discretionary & Support	\$66,350	\$66,115	\$77,019
Total Expenses	\$1,016,730	\$958,066	\$1,037,775



Worship Schedule

Saturday: 5:00PM Blended
Sunday: 9:00AM Blended
10:30AM Contemporary

Offices open Monday-Friday 8am-4:00pm
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Church Website: www.locchurch.com

