



ANNUAL REPORT

2018



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

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January 2019

Dear Members of United in Faith Lutheran Church,

The Annual Meeting will be held on **Sunday, February 24th, 2019 at 10:30 AM**. There will be one combined service at 9:30 AM. The meeting will immediately follow.

Please review the Annual Report packet before the meeting so you are familiar with its contents. The Annual Report packet is expected to be available by Monday, January 21st, and can be found on our website at www.unitedinfaith.org under the tab "Newsletters and Documents". There will also be a limited number of Annual Reports available for pick up at the church office. The Annual Report will not be mailed. You may reserve one of the copies for pickup by calling the church office 773-283-2326 or emailing uifadmin@unitedinfaith.org.

The 2018 Audit Report will be distributed at the meeting and as such will not be included in the Annual Report packet.

Thank you for your hard work this year in making United in Faith successful. Your energy and commitment are essential in our efforts to achieve our goals of being God's Hands, Feet and Voice in the World. I look forward to seeing all of you at our congregation's Annual Meeting.

Sincerely,

Jeff Jewell
2018 UIF Congregation President

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**UNITED IN FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2019
AGENDA**

- I. Meeting Called to Order
- II. Council VP: Physically count and Establish a Quorum
 - Count provided to Secretary for inclusion in minutes
 - **Members must be present to vote**
- I. Devotions: Pastor Carla
- II. Adoption of Agenda
- III. Approval of the February 25, 2018 Annual Meeting
- IV. Council President's Report to Congregation
- V. Pastor's Report to Congregation
- VI. Approval of the 2018 Audit Report
- VII. 2018 Treasurer's Report
- VIII. Approval of the 2019 Congregational Budget
- IX. Committee Reports
- X. Ministry Reports
- XI. Nominating Committee
 - Election to Council
 - Representatives to Synod Assembly
 - 2019 Nominating Committee
- XIV. Old Business
- XV. New Business
- XVI. Motion to Adjourn

The 2019 Congregational Council will meet following the conclusion of the Annual Congregational Meeting in the Resource Room for the election of Congregational Council Officers. Results will be announced and included in next month's newsletter.

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**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES
UNITED IN FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2018**

The meeting was called to order at 10:43 AM

Quorum: A quorum of 53 voting members was established.

Devotions: Pr. Carla Thompson Powell

Reading from Philippians 3:7-14

Adoption of Agenda: Dave moves to adopt agenda as written. Seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of the February 26, 2017 Annual Meeting Minutes

Annette Cameron moves to accept the Annual Meeting Minutes. Seconded. Motion carried.

Council President's Report to Congregation: Jeff Jewell

Pastor's Report to Congregation: Pastor Carla Thompson Powell

Approval of the 2017 Audit Report: Gary Callgreen moves for Approval of the 2017 Audit Report. Seconded. Motion carried.

2017 Treasurer's Report: Ray Good

The summary of the Treasurer's Report is included in page 13 in the annual meeting packet. The comments explain significant items.

We are under budget by \$40,000.00. Operation exceeded 6,900.00. HVAC funding is complete. 75% of the funds were covered by congregation donations. Not included in the report is \$7,500.00 donated to St. Cyprian's from the congregation. Also, \$3,400.00 was donated towards the Family Crisis fund.

Gary Calgreen moved to accept the 2017 Treasure's Report. Seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of the 2018 Congregational Budget

The Large expense not in the budget is the HVAC unit. We may have to replace at least one soon.

We are still budgeting more than we take in.

Annette Cameron moves to approve the 2018 Congregational Budget as written. Seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of Constitutional Revisions: Rich Guzik

Constitutional revisions were made this year to better emulate the processes that we actually use to run the church. Each revision must be voted on individually.

Item #1: C 10.01-C

This revision is regarding the distribution of the annual meeting packet

Garry Callgreen moves to accept the C 10.01.01-C accepted as the new revision. Seconded. Motion carried.

Item #2: C-10.03

The revision is regarding the Annual Meeting Notice.

Annette Cameron moves to accept C-10.03 as the new revision. Seconded. Motion carried.

Item #3: C12-01 and C-12 02

These revisions are inter-related and were voted upon together.

Annette moves to Accept C12-01and C12 -02. Seconded. Motion Carried.

Item #4: C 13.01.01.c

Electronic Communications. This revision allows the Executive Committee to meet and vote electronically via phone or email.

Annette moves to accept C 13.01.01.c. Seconded. Motion carried.

Item #5: C-13.01.01d

This amendment is to make the Executive Committee the personnel committee and the HR committee for the staff. This was already being done, but not represented our constitution.

Question from Denise Boyer: Are they also responsible for hiring and firing the Pastor?

Clarifications: they will evaluate the pastor and responsible for hiring and firing of personnel (not Pastor). There is a whole procedure outlined for this.

Barbara Patrick moves to accept the amendment item C-13.01.01d as written. Seconded. Motion carried.

Item #6 C13.02.a

This revision is regarding the nominating committee and the number of candidates for each seat.

Annette Cameron moves to accept item C13.02.a. Seconded. Motion carried.

Item#7: 13.04.01

This item is regarding the Mutual Ministry committee that supports both the Pastor and the staff. It is a small group of people who has mutual concerns for Pastor, lay professionals and the congregation.

Question from the floor: Do we have a mutual ministry?

Answer: No. Pastor Carla has to establish this committee.

Annette Cameron moves we accept item 13.04.01 as written. Seconded.

Item #8: C13.06.01

This revision is regarding the Education Endowment and Scholarship fund and the removal of Luther North High School because it has been closed.

Annette Cameron moves that we accept C13.06.01 as written. Seconded. Motion carried.

Item#9: c.13.11.01-1

This item is regarding the Mission Endowment Fund and how the money from the fund is to be distributed and used.

Annette Cameron moves to accept c.13.11.01-1 as written. Seconded. Motion carried.

Item #10: C13.12.01-2

This is to acknowledge that the Mission Endowment Fund now contains the needed \$100,000 that was required before the distribution of funds are allowed.

Annette Cameron moves to accept C13.11.01-2. Seconded. Motion carried.

Item 11: c13.11.01-3

The Luther foundation has become In Faith Community Foundation.

Barbara Patrick moves to accept c13.11.01-3 as written. Seconded. Motion carried.

Item 12: c.13.11.04

This item is regarding the guidelines for Mission Endowment fund in the event of an emergency.

Annette Cameron moved to accept c.13.11.04 as written. Seconded. Motion carried.

Items 13: c.14.01.01

We expanded our description of this congregation to include the working of the RIC statement as an expression of whom we welcome to this church.

Annette moves to accept c.14.01.01 as written. Seconded. Motion carried.

Annette moves to accept changes on bylaws. Seconded. Motion carried.

The updated constitution will be available on the church website.

Committee Reports

Lys Shradeja Moved to accept committee and ministry reports as written. Seconded. Motion carried.

Nominating Committee

There are 3 open church council positions for a two-year term from 2018-2020. The candidates for Council are Dian Hoyem, Dawn Kuswik, and Jeff Jewell. There were no nominations from the floor. Jeff Jewell moves to close nominations. Gary Calgreen moves to accept the nominated slate as the elected slate. Seconded. Motion carried.

There is 1 open position on council for the Representative of Ministry Directors. The candidate for the Representative of Ministry Directors is Bonnie Maginnis. There were no nominations from the floor. Jeff Jewell moves to close nominations. Barbara Patrick moves to accept the nominated slate as the elected slate. Seconded. Motion carried.

The candidates for the Nominating Committee are Joe Childress, Jane Shira, Terry Miller. There were no nominations from the floor. Jeff Jewell moves to close nominations Motion carried. Gary Callgreen moves to accept the nominated slate as the elected slate. Seconded. Motion carried.

Candidates for the Synod Assembly Representatives are Carolyn Doughty and Mary Hass. There were no nominations from the floor. Jeff Jewell moved to close nominations. Motion carried. Annette Cameron moves to accept the nominated slate as the elected slate. Seconded. Motion carried.

Candidates for alternates to the Synod Assembly are Janeen Devine and Marty Devine. There were no nominations from the floor. Jeff Jewell moved to close nominations. Motion carried. Dana Callgreen moves that the nominated slate becomes the elected slate. Seconded. Motion carried.

Gary Callgreen moves to accept the ballot as presented. Seconded. Motion Carried.

Old Business: none

New Business:

Eagle Scout Project

Matthew Callgreen made a presentation about his purposed Eagle Scout project. He is making a plan to landscape the front of our buildings on Irving Park Road. The plan includes new bushes, mulch, and rocks. He estimates that he will need \$750-\$1000 for this project.

Questions:

When will the project be completed?

The project will start April 21 and be complete by May 21.

How are we doing on donations? Accepting donations through the collection plate marker "Eagle Scout Project" and will possibly do fundraisers.

Does this include the ministry center or just the church? Both

Are you looking for labor volunteers? We have 15-20 volunteers already.

20 Year History on Website

Rich Guzik: Early next month we will have our 20-year history posted on the website. We have combined all 20 years into one document along with pictures of our pastors, interns, students, and church.

Dave Quillin moves to adjourn. Seconded. Motion carried.

Closing Prayer: Pastor Carla Thompson Powell

The meeting adjourned at 11: 50 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tricia Dombroski, Council Secretary

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Pastor's 2019 Annual Meeting Report (covering the year 2018) **Submitted by Pastor Carla Thompson Powell**

"I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ."

~ 1 Corinthians 1:4-7

I give thanks for all of you. Truly I do. God has given us grace beyond measure ("the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus"). God has gifted us with words that are greater than our own ("Christ's testimony has been strengthened among you"). God has given us what we need and more ("you are not lacking in any spiritual gift"). Our work together is valuable and important, and God works through us as we seek to know and love Jesus more every day.

Pastoral Acts

This year, we welcomed Bea Goschi into membership through Affirmation of Faith in February and Cora Lynn Stellpflug through baptism in September. During 2018, we grieved the deaths of UIF members: Dawn Constantino, Lorraine Raiman, Marge Weber, Shirley Anderson, Berneta Lestina. In a couple of cases, we only heard months later about their passing, but several of these members were also remembered through services, luncheons, and gatherings at UIF.

Twentieth Anniversary

To celebrate our twentieth anniversary as a congregation, Bishop Wayne Miller from the Metro Chicago Synod visited United in Faith as our preacher on Easter Sunday, April 1, 2018. This date was the liturgical anniversary of United in Faith, as twenty years ago on Easter Sunday 1998, United in Faith hosted its first worship service at Taft High School. In October, we had a celebration with a 20th Anniversary Birthday Dinner. We looked back at our history as it informs our congregation's present and future. In 2018, as a way of remember some of our twentieth anniversary projects, I prepared a scrapbook (with a page for each 20For20 event) and informal binder of printed 20for20 project reports (see paragraph below).

20For20 Community Projects

During 2018, a lot of congregational energy was engaged in implementing our twenty 20For20 community projects. In honor of our 20th anniversary, United in Faith embarked on an ambitious challenge to partner with neighborhood organizations and bless the community around us during the year surrounding our 20th anniversary. We wanted our 20th Anniversary to spur us to engage anew with our surrounding community and to reach out to organizations doing great work out there. We built new relationships and partnerships, learned more about our community, and found new resources within our immediate neighborhood. Here is a summary of the 20For20 projects, completed between September 2017 and October 2018.

1. Lifesource Blood Drive (Sept. 2017)
2. Reformation 500 Bethesda Book Fair (Oct. 2017)
3. Veterans Salute (Nov. 2017)
4. NWSHC fundraiser & St. Cyprian Food Pantry volunteer thank you (Nov. 2017)
5. Faith in Place Winter Farmers Market (Feb. 2018)
6. NVAM Ice Breaker (April 2018)
7. Olive's Neighborhood Garden (April 2018)
8. Wright College Study Break (May 2018)

9. Youth Outreach Services staff thank you (May 2018)
10. St. Mary of Providence resident visit (June 2018)
11. Lydia Home Hope Fest volunteers (June 2018)
12. LSSI Refugee Family (June 2018)
13. National Ice Cream Day – ice cream hand out at Portage Park (July 2018)
14. St. Cyprian’s Pantry Baby Shower/Diaper Drive (June 2018)
15. Central Baptist Village monthly birthday party (Sept. 2018)
16. Portage Park Senior Center end of summer social (Sept. 2018)
17. LOMC Bunkhouse fundraiser/bake sale (Sept. 2018)
18. Our Savior Lutheran Preschool/Kindergarten Walk-a-thon snacks (Oct. 2018)
19. Ronald McDonald House (Maywood) Toy Closet toy drive (Oct. 2018)
20. Portage Park Farmers Market help and table (Oct. 2018)

In some cases, these 20For20 community projects helped us to develop ongoing partnerships and plan future work together. The Portage Park Senior Center invited us back for a second social event in December 2018. Another Winter Farmers Market is planned for March 2019. We look forward to new opportunities as well.

New Prayer Room

This year, the small office near the Sunday school room was turned into a Dedicated Prayer Room. In December 2018, the Prayer Team came together to officially do a “blessing” of this room. In this room, you will find prayer ideas, devotional books, a kneeler, a tabletop fountain, but mostly a quiet space to center your heart before a meeting or worship service or church event. More devotional items may be added in the months to come, and suggestions are always welcome.

New Worship Opportunities

The Central Conference Ascension Day worship service took place at United in Faith this year, with a good UIF turnout in May 2018. For the first time, we had a Longest Night (Blue Christmas) service in December 2018, as a way of honoring the experiences of people who are grieving or struggling with the holidays.

REVEAL Survey & Essential Jesus

In 2018, Pastor Dave Daubert coached the Church Health Team through discussions about church assessment and church renewal. United in Faith participated in a Reveal survey during Lent to explore our strengths and weaknesses as a congregation. This asked about our spiritual life and what we want or need, about our satisfaction with the congregation and leadership, and about our own spiritual maturity. Based on those responses, our REVEAL score – 45 – shows us to be a Complacent Church. Typical characteristics of Complacent Churches:

- People rarely pray or reflect on scripture outside of church settings.
- Long-time church, older churchgoers
- Congregants are happy with the church and its leadership the way it is.

United in Faith’s strengths include serving those in need through the church and serving those in need outside the church. Of the five “best practices” (desirable traits), three areas are strong or average: Get People Moving, Create Ownership, and Pastor The Community. One of these “best practices” measured very below average: “Embed the Bible”. Because of this need, we began our congregational Essential Jesus Bible reading campaign in fall 2018. This study continues through March 2019. Working together on our biblical literacy and understanding of the Bible, we will grow in faith together and strengthen our congregation.

Ministry in Context (LSTC students)

The first half of 2018 (through May 2018), we had three MIC students: Liz Koerner, Ruby Myers, and Aaron Silco. Ruby led a Sunday morning book study on Max Lucado's book Traveling Light. Liz led midweek evening *Holden Evening Prayer* services during Lent 2018. Aaron led a class on Buddhism, followed by a visit to a nearby Buddhist temple. Dalton Ruggieri is our MIC student for the 2018-2019 school year. He participates in a Pastoral Ministry class at seminary, which lines up with his participation here at United in Faith. In the second semester (early 2019), he will be sharing his MIC project, so watch for more information there.

Continuing Ed events

Since we are always learning and growing, I am reporting the Continuing Education events that I participated in through 2018. I went to a "Disability Teen Transition" workshop (hosted by Joni & Friends) in February. In April, I attended the synod professional leaders one-day event. In May, I heard "The Camping Experience in the Current Era," a capstone youth ministry presentation at North Park University. Beginning in the fall, I started attending the monthly synod leadership book group, studying Money and Your Ministry: Balance the Books While Keeping Your Balance by Margaret Marcuson. On the day of Halloween, I attended a (required every three years) synod boundaries workshop for clergy (speaker was also Margaret Marcuson). Elderwerks offers a number of relevant continuing ed events, and this year I attended a couple (Difficult Cases, Hoping for the Best but Planning for the Worst). In December, I participated in a one-day Anti-Racism and Anti-Bias training, organized by Chicago-ROAR.

Volunteer Work

In addition to the enjoyable work and ministry I do at UIF, I am currently the president of the Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center board (LOMC is the Lutheran camping ministry located in Oregon, IL). In the last year, this commitment has ramped up a lot as our executive director retired and LOMC hired interim executive directors to serve until the LOMC search committee can call a new executive director.

Outside Work

This year, I did a couple writing assignments for 1517 Media (formerly named Augsburg Fortress). You can read them in the Christ in our Home devotional for January-March 2019 and in The Word in Season devotional for January-March 2019.

This year, I got a part-time job with the Read to Learn adult literacy program in District 214. I had volunteered last year as a tutor, and I now supervise the Thursday night RTL site at Rolling Meadows High School. For each 10 week session (one fall, one spring), I coordinate lesson plans for 18 tutor-student pairs to study literacy and speaking together (most of the students are learning English as a second language). It is rewarding, but there is also a challenging learning curve since I didn't have adult literacy experience prior to this.

I give thanks to God for all the ways in which we serve, learn, and grow together, now and in the days/months/years ahead. May God grant you every day with grace upon grace now and in the future.

With sincere hopes for peace,

Pastor Carla Thompson Powell

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Treasurer's Report 2018

					2018 Annual Budget	Year to Date Actual	YTD % to Budget
Unrestricted:							
	Income (excluding investment activity)						
		From church operations			\$ 155,600	\$ 135,713	87%
		Total			\$ 155,600	\$ 135,713	87%
	Expenditures:						
		Salaries and benefits			115,595	113,396	98%
		Ministry			4,700	4,083	87%
		Administration			27,614	24,462	89%
		Building			70,560	57,410	81%
		Benevolence			15,000	15,000	100%
		Ministry Directors					
		Outside musicians			22,600	\$ 20,750	92%
		Other			\$ 8,800	\$ 5,344	61%
		Total			\$ 264,869	\$ 240,445	91%
		Income over (under) expenditures			\$(109,269)	\$(104,732)	96%
		Special Estate Gifts			\$ 20,000	\$ 59,681	
		HVAC Fund			0	1,314	
		HVAC purchase			0	(22,355)	
		Investment income and changes in market value			20,000	(22,183)	
		Increase (Decrease) in net assets			\$ (69,269)	\$ (88,275)	
	Educational Endowment						
		Investment income and changes in market value				\$ (25,303)	
		Scholarships paid out				6,500	
		Increase (Decrease) in educational net assets				\$ (31,803)	
		<u>Increase (Decrease) in total net assets</u>				<u>\$ (120,078)</u>	
1	2018 income including investments is \$21,075 lower than budget. Regular weekly giving was down \$19,887. The losses above included an estate gift of \$59,681. Regular income compared to expense resulted in a loss of \$104,732 compared to a budgeted loss of \$109,269. Investment losses of \$22,183 compared to a gain of \$42,095 in 2017 resulted in a difference of \$64,278. Investments had a loss of approximately 7%.						
2	Total expenses excluding a new HVAC unit were \$24,424 favorable to budget due to the following:						
3	Total building expense is at 81% of the annual budget excluding the purchase of a new HVAC unit for \$22,355. Gas and electric are under budget by \$4,700 and regular maintenance was favorable by \$9,361. All other areas were close to budget. The cost of the HVAC unit was covered by funds from the Mission Endowment Fund.						
4	Administration is favorable by \$3,152 with the largest variation in equipment of \$1,800 for new computers.						
5	Outside musicians were under budget by \$1,850 and Ministry directors were under by \$3,456.						
6	All other departments are at or favorable to budget for the year.						
7	Cash and investments at year end:				<u>December</u>	<u>Inc/(Dec) from 2017</u>	
		Cash and Money Market			\$ 15,571	\$ (14,387)	
		General investments			43,407	\$ (83,154)	
		Education Endowment			265,039	\$ (34,779)	
		Mission Endowment			271,353	\$ 6,383	
					<u>\$ 595,370</u>	<u>\$ (125,937)</u>	

Treasurer's Report 2018

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001 United in Faith Lutheran Church
6525 W. Irving Pk. Rd.
Chicago IL 60634
Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2018
Income & Expense Statement for Period 12 December
100 General Operating Fund

	<u>Y-T-D</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Prior Y-T-D</u>	<u>%</u>
000 Balance Sheet Accounts				
Sunday Offering	103,205.00	69.16	111,139.68	42.90
Simply Giving	13,885.86	9.31	12,115.66	4.68
Loose Offering	875.46	.59	2,012.58	.78
	<hr/>			
Total General Income	117,966.32	79.05	125,267.92	48.35
Initial Offering	244.00	.16	279.00	.11
Christmas	2,340.00	1.57	1,935.00	.75
Ash Wednesday	351.00	.24	325.00	.13
Advent/Lent - Mid week, folders, suppers	1,377.00	.92	1,614.00	.62
Easter	2,560.00	1.72	1,557.00	.60
Good Friday	276.00	.19	102.00	.04
Maundy Thursday	223.00	.15	236.00	.09
Thanksgiving	375.00	.25	550.00	.21
Other special income	38.78	.03	78.88	.03
Memorials	2,696.51	1.81	10,068.00	3.89
Gifts for the organ	.00	.00	10.00	.00
Gifts for the new HVAC system - West bldg	1,314.00	.88	22,489.45	8.68
Building Fund	.00	.00	7,125.00	2.75
Ministry giving	.00	.00	600.00	.23
Special gifts	59,681.03	39.99	1,727.12	.67
	<hr/>			
Total Special Income	71,476.32	47.90	48,696.45	18.80
Market Change Allocation Advantage	-18,296.00	-12.26	38,965.00	15.04
Market Change-Education Endowment	-25,303.00	-16.96	36,146.00	13.95
Market Value chg.-stck hld.	-6,318.00	-4.23	773.00	.30
Interest & Dividend Income	2,431.13	1.63	2,357.27	.91
Other Misc. Income	16.50	.01	62.02	.02
Wedding Fees	.00	.00	100.00	.04
Thrivent Choice-Grants	49.00	.03	243.00	.09
Fellowship Hall rental	375.00	.25	40.00	.02
Golden Diners	.00	.00	124.28	.05
Outside group donations	975.00	.65	755.00	.29
Donation from St. Cyprians	5,850.00	3.92	5,552.75	2.14
	<hr/>			
Total Other Income	-40,220.37	-26.95	85,118.32	32.85
	<hr/>			
TOTAL INCOME	149,222.27	100.00	259,082.69	100.00

Treasurer's Report 2018

Run Date 1/9/2019
Time 14:13:54

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001 United in Faith Lutheran Church
Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2018
Budgeted Financial Statement for Period 12 December
ANNUAL EXPENSE REPORT

Description	Actual YTD Last Year	Actual YTD	Budget Annual	Var. Actual to Annual Budget Dollar
SALARIES & BENEFITS	108,693.08	113,396.13	115,595.00	-2,198.87
TOTAL SALARIES & BENEFITS	108,693.08	113,396.13	115,595.00	-2,198.87
MINISTRY				
Auto reimbursement	1,729.33	1,654.02	1,200.00	454.02
Supply Pastor	870.76	916.87	1,000.00	-83.13
Continuing Education	956.19	559.00	1,000.00	-441.00
Conferences	525.00	525.00	500.00	25.00
Books	234.93	183.34	500.00	-316.66
Miscellaneous	351.15	244.95	500.00	-255.05
TOTAL MINISTRY	4,667.36	4,083.18	4,700.00	-616.82
ADMINISTRATION				
Supplies	1,006.65	858.36	1,500.00	-641.64
Postage	460.15	447.75	800.00	-352.25
Stewardship	344.68	301.38	400.00	-98.62
Books	.00	.00	100.00	-100.00
Software - Hardware	651.22	258.99	.00	258.99
Internet Service	.00	69.95	100.00	-30.05
Software Support & Training	1,704.00	1,960.00	1,700.00	260.00
Advertising	.00	212.80	500.00	-287.20
Insurance	8,165.11	8,349.70	8,350.00	-.30
Telephone	2,421.48	2,486.29	2,500.00	-13.71
Lease Expense- Copier	3,270.84	3,270.84	3,264.00	6.84
Overage expense for copier	397.76	390.14	400.00	-9.86
Equipment not capitalized	-.80	.00	1,800.00	-1,800.00
Miscellaneous	89.95	55.82	500.00	-444.18
LBBrokerage fee / Bank Fee	5,891.00	5,800.00	5,700.00	100.00
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION	24,402.04	24,462.02	27,614.00	-3,151.98
UIF BUILDING				
Permits & Fees	630.00	2,470.00	700.00	1,770.00
Janitorial services	9,685.00	10,560.00	10,560.00	.00
Janitorial Supplies	945.43	1,819.55	1,800.00	19.55
Snow Removal	420.00	1,592.65	1,500.00	92.65
Floor Care	.00	2,847.00	2,500.00	347.00
Exterminator	852.00	897.00	900.00	-3.00
Fire Extinguisher-Purchase/Mai	.00	194.63	500.00	-305.37
Electricity	12,306.46	13,045.53	14,000.00	-954.47
Gas and water	12,656.11	12,254.72	16,000.00	-3,745.28
Alarm	1,037.64	1,103.64	600.00	503.64
Miscellaneous	.00	158.35	1,500.00	-1,341.65
Maintenance	32,364.49	32,822.13	20,000.00	12,822.13
Landscaping	228.00	.00	.00	.00
TOTAL BUILDING EXPENSE	71,125.13	79,765.20	70,560.00	9,205.20
Benevolence	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	.00
TOTAL CHURCH EXPENSES	223,887.61	236,706.53	233,469.00	3,237.53
Worship Supplies - Altar Guild				
Books	337.21	1,608.73	1,000.00	608.73
Books	1,159.79	1,098.42	.00	1,098.42
Musical Instrument Maintenance	576.00	19.50	.00	19.50
Outside Musicians	20,925.00	20,750.00	22,600.00	-1,850.00
Copyright Licenses	186.08	284.00	.00	284.00
Flowers	41.50	25.00	.00	25.00
Decorative Arts	16.00	348.40	.00	348.40
Miscellaneous	.00	.00	1,700.00	-1,700.00
TOTAL WORSHIP & MUSIC	23,241.58	24,134.05	25,300.00	-1,165.95
Supplies				
Supplies	18.63	19.90	.00	19.90
Vacation Bible School	321.69	414.08	300.00	114.08
Sunday school curriculum	346.58	242.60	300.00	-57.40
Miscellaneous	67.26	.00	400.00	-400.00
TOTAL CHILDRENS MINISTRY	754.16	676.58	1,000.00	-323.42
Supplies				
Supplies	-20.00	.00	.00	.00

Treasurer's Report 2018

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001 United in Faith Lutheran Church
Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2018
Budgeted Financial Statement for Period 12 December
ANNUAL EXPENSE REPORT

Description	Actual YTD Last Year	Actual YTD	Budget Annual	Var. Actual to Annual Budget Dollar
Signage & banners	470.22	1,295.16	.00	1,295.16
Marketing Materials	368.95	-2,474.00	.00	-2,474.00
Advertising	150.00	659.00	.00	659.00
Miscellaneous	83.40	1,073.43	1,150.00	-76.57
TOTAL OUTREACH & HOSPITALITY	1,052.57	553.59	1,150.00	-596.41
Miscellaneous	.00	.00	500.00	-500.00
TOTAL SERVICE & MISSION	.00	.00	500.00	-500.00
Supplies	-605.04	-504.77	.00	-504.77
Fellowship	491.37	.00	.00	.00
Special Events	.00	8.61	.00	8.61
TOTAL FELLOWSHIP	-113.67	-496.16	.00	-496.16
STEWARDSHIP				
Supplies	132.69	.00	.00	.00
Miscellaneous	606.00	.00	500.00	-500.00
TOTAL STEWARDSHIP	738.69	.00	500.00	-500.00
FAITH DEVELOPMENT				
Supplies	79.00	100.00	.00	100.00
Lutheran magazine	-206.00	-46.68	.00	-46.68
Book purchase/resale	-196.00	-28.89	.00	-28.89
Christ in our Home	612.79	481.32	.00	481.32
Miscellaneous	.00	.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00
TOTAL FAITH DEVELOPMENT	289.79	505.75	1,000.00	-494.25
RENEWAL				
Renewal	.00	449.74	750.00	-300.26
TOTAL RENEWAL	.00	449.74	750.00	-300.26
JUSTICE & PRAYER MINISTRY				
Prayer supplies	.00	.00	50.00	-50.00
Justice Programs	-165.73	-91.15	100.00	-191.15
TOTAL JUSTICE & PRAYER	-165.73	-91.15	150.00	-241.15
MEN IN MISSION				
Miscellaneous	.00	.00	100.00	-100.00
TOTAL MEN IN MISSION	.00	.00	100.00	-100.00
GAY STRAIGHT TOGETHER				
Miscellaneous	250.00	300.00	700.00	-400.00
TOTAL GAY STRAIGHT TOGETHER	250.00	300.00	700.00	-400.00
Miscellaneous	141.90	61.15	250.00	-188.85
TOTAL SHEPERDS STAFF	141.90	61.15	250.00	-188.85
TOTAL MINISTRY DIRECTORS	26,189.29	26,093.55	31,400.00	-5,306.45
TOTAL MISSION INVESTMENT	250,076.90	262,800.08	264,869.00	-2,068.92
UIF Scholarships	5,150.00	6,500.00	.00	6,500.00
TOTAL EDUCATION ENDOWMENT	5,150.00	6,500.00	.00	6,500.00

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Year 2019 Budget United in Faith Lutheran Church

Income is being budgeted at a lower level than 2018. Regular giving was down again in 2018 and is expected to increase slightly in 2019.

Special gifts were \$59,681 in 2018 and are budgeted at \$20,000 for 2019.

Investment income was a loss of \$22,183 in 2018. The budgeted gain for 2019 is \$20,000 or approximately 6% of our investable assets at the end of 2018.

Total expense in 2018 was \$24,424 favorable to budget excluding the cost of the new HVAC unit. The \$22,355 cost for the unit was paid for by using the Mission Endowment Fund. All areas were favorable to budget with the building expenses leading the way at \$13,150. This was due to lower than expected expense in maintenance, gas, and electric service.

The expense budget is \$18,195 greater than 2018 actual. Salaries and benefits are up in total by \$3,629 due to salary increases but benefits are actually down by \$1,792 due to a new benefit plan. Admin is up \$3,443 due to insurance and possible new computers for the office. Building is up \$8,250 due to possible increases in maintenance.

Ministry Directors are budgeted to increase spending by \$3,106 in 2019 as they are being encouraged to expand their ministries.

The bottom line for 2019 is a net decrease in assets of \$75,040 and this is lower than the actual decrease in 2018 by \$13,234.

A large expense that is not in the budget is replacing our HVAC equipment.

We have been repairing the units as needed but two of the units are at least 17 years old. We replaced one in 2017 and one in 2018 and may have to replace another in 2019 but that is not expected at this time.

United In Faith Lutheran Church					
2019 Budget					
Executive Summary					
					Incr (Decr)
		2018	2018	2019	2019 Budget vs
		Budget	Actual	Budget	2018 Budget
INCOME		\$ 175,600	\$ 195,395	\$ 163,600	\$ (12,000)
EXPENSES					
SALARIES & BENEFITS		115,595	113,396	117,025	1,430
MINISTRY		4,700	4,083	4,550	(150)
ADMINISTRATION		27,614	24,462	27,905	291
BUILDING EXPENSE		70,560	57,410	65,660	(4,900)
		102,874	85,955	98,115	(4,759)
BENEVOLENCE		15,000	15,000	12,000	(3,000)
SUB-TOTAL		233,469	214,351	227,140	(6,329)
MINISTRY DIRECTORS		8,800	5,344	8,450	(350)
OUTSIDE MUSICIANS		22,600	20,750	23,050	450
TOTAL EXPENSE		264,869	240,445	258,640	(6,229)
INCOME OVER (UNDER) EXPENSE		\$ (89,269)	\$ (45,050)	\$ (95,040)	(5,771)
NEW HVAC UNIT IN 2018		-	(22,355)	-	-
GIFTS FOR HVAC		-	1,314	-	-
INVESTMENT INCOME		20,000	(22,183)	20,000	-
Total (Decrease) In Net Assets		\$ (69,269)	\$ (88,274)	\$ (75,040)	\$ (5,771)
Cash & Investments at Beg of period		421,488	421,488	333,214	
Year end accruals					
Cash & Investments at End of period		\$ 352,219	\$ 333,214	\$ 258,174	
Education Endowment Investments		\$ 299,818	\$ 265,039	\$ 265,039	
Total Cash and Investments		\$ 652,037	\$ 598,253	523,213	

United In Faith Lutheran Church			
2019 Budget			
Summary			
	2018	2018	2019
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
SALARIES & BENEFITS	115,595	113,396	117,025
MINISTRY			
Salaries & Benefits			
Other Expenses			
Auto Allowance	1,200	1,654	1,500
Supply Pastor	1,000	917	1,000
Continuing Education	1,000	559	1,000
Conferences	500	525	500
Books	500	183	250
Miscellaneous	500	245	300
Total	4,700	4,083	4,550
Total Ministry			
ADMINISTRATION			
Other Expenses			
Office / copier Supplies	1,500	858	1,000
Postage	800	448	800
Stewardship Envelopes	400	301	400
Books	100	0	100
Equipment Maintenance	-	0	-
Software / hardware		259	
Software support & training	1,700	1960	1,900
Communications	-	0	-
Advertising	500	213	500
Insurance	8,350	8350	8,934
Telephone and communication	2,500	2,486	2,500
Lease Expense - Copier	3,264	3,271	3,271
Copier expense for overage	400	390	400
Computers/ New Phone System	1,800		1,800
Internet service	100	70	100
Thrivent brokerage fee	5,700	5800	5,700
Miscellaneous	500	56	500
Total	27,614	24,462	27,905

Total Administration	27,614	24,462	27,905
BUILDING EXPENSE			
Other Expenses			
Janitorial Supplies	1,800	1,820	1,800
Permits & Fees	700	2470	2,000
Snow Removal	1,500	1592	1,500
Floor Care	2,500	2847	-
Exterminator	900	897	900
Fire Extinguisher maintenance	500	194	400
Electricity	14,000	13,046	13,000
Gas and Water	16,000	12,255	13,000
Alarm service	600	1104	1,000
Maintenance	20,000	32,822	20,000
Roof Repair			
Cleaning Service	10,560	10,560	10,560
Miscellaneous	1,500	158	1,500
Total	70,560	79,765	65,660
Total Building	70,560	79,765	65,660
OUTSIDE MUSICIAN EXPENSE			
Outside Musicians	22,600	20,750	23,050
Total	22,600	20,750	23,050
BENEVOLENCE	15,000	15000	12,000
SUB-TOTAL	256,069	257,456	250,190
MINISTRY AREA EXPENSES	8,800	5,344	8,450
	-	-	-
	8,800	5,344	8,450
TOTAL EXPENSE	264,869	262,800	258,640
INCOME	195,600	174,526	183,600
MISSION INVESTMENT	(69,269)	(88,274)	(75,040)

United In Faith Lutheran Church				
2019 Budget				
Revenue				
		2018	2018	2019
		<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Income Stream				
General Income		132,000	117,966	120,000
Holidays		10,000	7,502	10,000
Memorials		6,000	2,697	6,000
Special Gifts		20,000	59,681	20,000
On-going investment inco		20,000	(22,183)	20,000
Building Income		6,500	7,200	6,500
Thrivent Choice		600	49	600
Other		500	300	500
Total Income from operati		\$ 195,600	\$ 173,212	\$ 183,600
Capital Appeal / Ministries		-	-	0
Gifts for HVAC		-	1,314	0
Total		\$ 195,600	\$ 174,526	\$ 183,600
Education Endowment Income			(25,303)	
Grand Total			\$ 149,223	

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REPORT OF THE CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL PRESIDENT
United in Faith Lutheran Church
2018 Annual Report

Greetings! This year, we celebrated *our 20th year* as a congregation. Congratulations to our founding members for building a firm foundation that has thus far been so successful. Thank you to our church staff and sitting council for their wisdom, commitment and guidance this year.

Also thank you to all the members who have joined the church since its founding and whose sweat and tears have made this possible.

Our *20 for 20* campaign was a success! We went outside our walls in an effort to be **God's Hands, Feet and Voice** in this world. It is certainly not easy to be the Voice of God; however, we did make an impact for several community members and organizations. Thank you to all who participated. I hope community service, outside the walls of our church, continues to be a focus in future years.

In council this year, we worked primarily on updating outdated policies and codifying existing practices for clarity. We partnered with Tim Urness to formalize a gifts and giving policy. We established guidelines for charges and use of building for marriages. We also reflected on our *REVEAL* survey results and envisioned what our church will be in the future. We must continue finding ways to stay energized and fight the strong urges of comfort and complacency. We must continue **outreach** activities in our local community. We must also continue having church **inreach** events which allow our congregation to unite in celebration and to United in Faith.

This is truly an exciting time to be a member of United in Faith Lutheran Church. I look forward to your continuing and enhanced support and involvement in our ministries, committees and community outreach activities. It is you and your time, talents and treasures that make this venture a success. Let us celebrate our next 20 years of success together in 2038!

Yours in service,

Jeff Jewell
UIF Congregational President, 2018
United In Faith Lutheran Church

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EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
United In Faith Lutheran Church
2018 Annual Report

This committee has the responsibility of administering United in Faith's Educational Scholarship program. The distribution of all scholarship awards is respectfully kept confidential.

Student Scholarships-

Scholarships are offered to student congregation members who have a financial need and will attend either a Christian pre-school, grade school or high school, or any post-secondary school or have special education needs or gifts at any level of their education. Each applicant and their parent(s)/guardian(s)/care giver(s) must participate in the life of United in Faith.

This year, the committee reviewed the application information along with the level of family participation in church life and determined scholarships based on funds available and the number of applicants.

In the 2017-18 school year, scholarships were presented to three students totaling \$3,500.00. All scholarship checks are made out to the schools the students will attend.

The Educational Scholarship Committee is actively **recruiting new members**. If you are interested, please see George Schultz or Bonnie Maginnis.

Bonnie Maginnis
George Schultz

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MISSION ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE
United in Faith Lutheran Church
2018 Annual Report

The purpose of the Mission Endowment Fund Committee is to provide annual distributions from the Mission Endowment Fund beyond the operating budget of this congregation to its ministry expressions as stated below:

- a. For outreach into local community or synod as the committee determines;
- b. For ELCA Church-wide ministries as the committee determines;
- c. For extraordinary programs or other ministry initiatives within the congregation;
- d. Education, Youth or Senior Citizen programs
- e. Capital projects within the congregation; and
- f. Local, regional and world mission projects.

The Mission Endowment Committee, which consists of Bonnie Maginnis, George Schultz, and Ray and Jackie Good, meets periodically to discuss the distribution of funds. It was resolved by the committee that, in 2018, \$22,355 will be used for a new HVAC unit for the fellowship hall.

We welcome anyone who wishes to be a part of this committee, or any suggestions for distribution of this money following the above guidelines.

The balance in the Fund is approximately \$271,000 at the end of 2018.

George Schultz

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THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE United In Faith Lutheran Church 2018 Annual Report

Did 2018 fly by or is it just us feeling that way? As usual the Property Committee started out the year with a task list and then made those tasks a priority. Even with priority items that need to be addressed, there is always some kind of emergency issue that we always need to add to our lists. Some are big projects, and some are small, but it feels like we never finish before something else pops up. Let's hope that 2019 will be kind to us and our finances, when it comes to projects in and around United in Faith.

We started off 2018 with contracting with Unifirst for our rugs and runners by our entry ways. We previously hired Cintas and found their prices to be much higher than Unifirst, so we switched over in January and haven't had an issue yet. It was also time for a new salt spreader and a new battery for our leaf blower, both minor, but on our task list.

The Food Pantry informed us that they didn't pass their inspection with the City of Chicago in regards to the floor tile in their refrigerated storage room so we purchased new floor tiles. We hired someone to lay the new tiles in that room directly over the old tiles, which may or may not contain asbestos. We didn't want them to be in violation with the City of Chicago.

Property was happy to have Matthew Callgreen complete his Eagle Scout project here last spring. Matthew worked on a landscaping project that included the entire front of both buildings facing Irving Park Road. Matthew added new greenery and mulch to make the front of UIF a beautiful appearance. The sign in front of UIF has had a few issues with boards burning out, so we had the old boards replaced and changed out the bulbs from fluoresce to LED's. Cost was pricey at \$3000.00 but a new sign is estimated at \$27,000-29,000 which is not in our budget right now. Spring also brought us new potholes, so we contacted the City of Chicago to repair the alley way on the east side of our building but they never responded so we filed a complaint online and sent photos. Still, no response.

The cardboard recycling bins continue to be a thorn in our side, and they are not consistent with picking up when these bins are full from the Food Pantry's deliveries. We can no longer get paid for the cardboard but we don't want to pay for pick ups either. The saga continues with Midwest Paper Retriever.

In October we finally had our back parking lot patched, sealed, and striped with new lines by A & J Paving. Someday we would love to have our lot restored with new asphalt, but once again, too pricey for us now. The east side was patched and striped and we can seal that side in the spring if we ever get the City of Chicago to fix their portion between us and the Jolly Inn.

The final project of 2018 and most expensive was the new HVAC unit that services our fellowship hall. The old unit was beyond repair so we received quotes from three different companies for replacement. The estimates ranged from \$18,000 to \$28,000. We chose a unit that was made in the USA with a reputable name. We had a few snags in having the work completed, but we are happy to report the new unit is in place before the temperatures dipped below freezing. So two new units in two years, with two more units to go. Say some prayers that the other two HVAC units will keep us warm for a few more years. Finally, we set a date for the floors to be cleaned and waxed in the sanctuary and

fellowship hall. This will protect the floors from the harmful salt that might damage them. It has been many years since we have addressed the floors.

We will continue to fix, repair, replace, restore, patch, reseal, and remain your Property Committee at UIF, with God's help. We are your fellow members as brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus. We are Joe Childress, Robert Doyle, Harold Hoyem, Harold Edmonson, George Schultz, and Julie O'Donnell-Lozich. Our sincere thanks and gratitude to Derek Sire for being present at all our meetings. Derek is an integral part of our committee and we can't thank him enough.

God Bless UIF in 2019

*“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others,
faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.”*
~1 Peter 4:10

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2018 CHURCH COUNCIL REPORT
United In Faith Lutheran Church
2018 Annual Report

The purpose of the Church Council is to oversee administrative functions of the Church and to guide the direction of the Church by consulting with Church ministries to help achieve their objectives.

The Council meets monthly. We hear the Pastor's report, and reports of the Treasurer, Ministry Director, Building and Grounds Property Committee, Finance Committee, Stewardship Committee, and Nominating Committee. We discuss and through consensus try to ascertain what actions will best serve the interests of the Church and its members. We advance ideas that may help carry out Christ's mission for our Church, to beautify the Church and grounds, and to be fiscally prudent. During Church Forums, we communicate concerns and activities of the Council to the Church members.

Council members are Pastor Carla Thompson Powell, President Jeff Jewell, Dave Quillin, Dian Hoyem, George Schultz, Nancy Ciecko, Tricia Dombroski, Dawn Kuswik, Bonnie Maginnis, and Pam Marino.

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NOMINATING COMMITTEE
United in Faith Lutheran Church
2018 Annual Report

Nominations for all these positions will also be taken from the floor during our annual meeting. The list of candidates follows:

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL—four positions for a two-year term 2019-2021

Kim Childress
Mary Haas
Pam Marino

NOMINATING COMMITTEE—three to five positions for a one-year term 2019-2020

Dave Quillin – out going council
Julie O'Donnell-Lozich

DELEGATES TO SYNOD ASSEMBLY—two positions for a one-year term 2019-2020

Janeen Devine

ALTERNATE DELEGATES—two positions for a one-year term 2019-2020

Ray Good
Jackie Good

Thank you to all who have assisted in any capacity this past year. We appreciate your willingness to serve. Please keep all those who serve our Lord in your prayers.

Yours in Christ,
2018 Nominating Committee

Joe Childress
Terry Miller
Jane Schira

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SYNOD ASSEMBLY 2018 VOTING MEMBERS REPORT
Metropolitan Chicago Synod, ELCA
United in Faith Lutheran Church
2018 Annual Report

On the weekend of June 8th and 9th, 2018, three members of United in Faith attended the Synod Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America in Tinley Park, Illinois. Those members were Janeen Devine, Mary Haas, and Pastor Carla Thompson Powell.

We learned that Bishop Wayne Miller is stepping down from being the bishop of the Metropolitan Chicago Synod. At the next Synod Assembly the participants will elect a new person to fill that office. Bishop Miller's report was based on the theme of the Assembly, *A New Heaven and A New Earth*. He described the various 'types' of congregations. Our congregation seems to fall into at least one of those categories. Many of our members commute from a distance to United in Faith, although some live rather close to church. The difficulty with a commuting type is that we are not able to connect with our neighbors outside our doors. Many in the neighborhood around United in Faith are Polish or Latino and identify with Catholic, not Lutheran traditions. Bishop Miller suggested that perhaps we could figure out how to reconnect with our neighborhood by talking with the Synod's Antiracism Team to help us with cultural competency issues so we can break through barriers. Of course he wasn't specifically speaking of United in Faith when he made these remarks, but we are not alone in our church 'type'. What he offered is that the Synod has a Turnaround Synod Initiative that can help congregations learn to become stronger Community Churches.

Elections: The Synod elected voting members to the 2019 Church Wide Assembly in Milwaukee, WI. Our **Evan Powell** was chosen as a Youth voting member. Some persons from our congregation's past were elected. Some may remember Rev. Laura Hall-Schordje, who used to be our music director, and Rev. Erin Clausen, who was an intern with us; they were elected as voting members to the Church Wide assembly.

The Assembly approved Memorials and Resolutions on: National Poor People's Campaign; Gun Policy; and Palestinian Children. A budget was approved too.

For more details on the Assembly, please go to <http://www.mtselca.org/assembly>.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Haas

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MINISTRY COORDINATORS

United In Faith Lutheran Church

2018 Annual Report

This year the Ministry Directors decided to meet on a quarterly basis in January, April, July and October. The January meeting will be the most important to set the calendar for the year and the October meeting will be to set the budgets for each Ministry for the next year. There will no longer be any Ministry Coordinators Meetings.

The Calendar for 2018 as set at the January meeting follows:

- February** New Life For Old Bags Anniversary Party
 Indoor Farmers Market with Faith Place
 Justice Ministry will have Fair Trade items available for sale
 Alleluia will be buried
 One new member to be received
 Ash Wednesday services
 Wednesday Lenten services begin
 Pot Luck planned for Annual Meeting
- March** GSTM postcard writing
 Church Spring Cleaning Day
 St. Cyprian's Easter distribution
 Easter and UIF Birthday celebration including Easter Egg hunt
- May** MIC students' last service
 Last day of Sunday School with kids participating in service
 Wright College – snacks for students studying for finals
- June** Summer worship schedule begins
 PRIDE Sunday with some members marching in parade
- July** Vacation Bible School
- August** VBS ends with children participating in worship service
- September** Rally Day with outside worship service, BBQ and community service activities
 Return to two worship services
 MIC student starts
 Sunday School starts
 Central Baptist Village monthly birthday party
 Portage Park Senior Center end of summer party
 GSTM speakers on being an ally to transgender people
 Fall Fest
- October** 20th Anniversary Dinner
 Blessing of the pets
- November** Faith Promises Sunday
 Thanksgiving Eve service with fellowship and pie afterwards
- December** Intergenerational Advent event
 Christmas cookie sale to benefit ELCA World Hunger
 Lessons and Carols service on the 30th

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SUNDAY SCHOOL MINISTRY

United In Faith Lutheran Church

2018 Annual Report

Generally speaking, Sunday School meets each year at **9:30 am** on the Sundays between Labor Day to Memorial Day on which we have two services. All children ages 3-8 are invited to come and be a part of this learning experience.

Sunday School is truly a *team effort*. Katie Jewell works with our teachers to prepare a teaching schedule that everybody is happy with! We appreciate the **teaching talents** of Bonnie Maginnis, Julie O'Donnell-Lozich, Mary Haas, Kerry Monte and Dawn Kuswik. It is a true blessing to have this many teachers.

This year, we continued using the curriculum designed by **Children's Illustrated Ministry**. They are easy to execute, require little preparation and include *beautiful coloring sheets*. The theme for the Spring Sunday School lessons was An Illustrated Earth: Celebrating God's Creation. This set of lessons focused on Bible stories that celebrate water, plants, food, and animals. In the Fall, the children explored a new set of lessons: An Illustrated Invitation: Joining God at Work in the World. This set of lessons highlighted biblical stories of joining God at work in the world from the Hebrew Scriptures and the New Testament.

Besides their scheduled time in Sunday school, we also are reaching out in a variety of other ways to educate our children. We have *Children's bulletins available* for each service that also harken back to the scripture we study each week. We are also providing activities and booklets for special occasions like Advent and Lent. The children get to take them home and share the lessons with their families.

We welcome all and any input for the Sunday School program. We invite all who are interested in helping us to educate our children to participate in this fun ministry.

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VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL MINISTRY REPORT
United In Faith Lutheran Church
2018 Annual Report

“When you pass through the waters, I will be with you.”
~**Isaiah 43:2**

Wow! God was certainly present at VBS this year! We had lots of returning families, and several new families with young children. All in all, it was a lot of fun and was wonderful to see the children learn about God. Every day they heard a Bible story and did crafts, science experiments, games, and service projects that reinforced the daily lessons. It was amazing to ask them questions and see how much they learned each day. As we closed every day with a time of reflection and song, they put together everything they were learning and discussed how *God is with us - everywhere and always*. What a powerful reminder from these little voices!

With your donations, the children were able to pack **48 Emergency Kits** for the teens and youth in need at *Youth Outreach Services*. Each kit included basic hygiene items, clean undergarments, snacks, and drinks. They were a blessing to those who received them. The children also created **Buckets of Sunshine** for members of the congregation unable to attend worship, made critter feeders for wildlife, decorated pencil holders, and made trail mix for *Lydia Home*.

We also shared fun snacks - including campfire crackers and a watermelon carved into a frog - and yummy lunches prepared by our dedicated kitchen team. This year had several first time volunteers, who were much appreciated!

Thank you all for your donations and support making this week possible! VBS is a wonderful service to the children who participate and our community as a whole. Your generosity is a demonstration of United in Faith's effort to be God's Hands, Feet, and Voice in the World!

Respectfully Submitted,
Katie Jewell

P.S. See you all at VBS 2019 when we blast out of this world and into the universe beyond!

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WORSHIP AND MUSIC MINISTRY

United In Faith Lutheran Church

2018 Annual Report

The Worship and Music Ministry works in collaboration with Pastor Carla to *plan and facilitate* worship services throughout the church year. Music planning for worship services begins with the traditional planning meeting in which Pastor Carla provides the themes for each given Sunday, and music is chosen for the **traditional services**. Then the chairperson, Jane Schira, draws themes, inspiration, and direction from that meeting to work with Richard Trost and Pastor Carla to plan **contemporary worship**. Many *thanks* to the worship planners: Lois Cornils, Denise Boyer, Janeen Devine, Katie Jewell, Elisabeth Wittman, and Richard Trost who all volunteer their time.

Our **bell choir** rings periodically on special occasions. Our **traditional choir** is directed by Lois Cornils who uses a variety of music from our choral library, and makes every rehearsal rewarding and fun. Lois also plays the organ and/or piano at traditional services. New choir members are always welcome. At our Praise and Worship services our band, **Voice of the Turtle**, leads worship with a variety of contemporary music.

The year 2018 was an exciting year at United in Faith. We celebrated *20 years* of ministry as United in Faith Lutheran Church. Some hymns chosen throughout the year were reminiscent of the beginning of our church. Our Decorative Arts volunteers found materials that we haven't used for many years, such as the advent candle banners, and added new decorations as well. Thanks to Joe Childress for the new Christmas tree.

Many thanks to everyone who has participated this past year in the following capacities:

- Worship service planning
- Worship assistants
- Communion assistants
- Ushers
- Altar Guild
- Decorative Arts
- Greeters
- United in Faith Choir and Bell Choir
- All of the musicians who lead us in worship at our worship services.

Thanks to everyone for your time and energy, and we look forward to working together in the coming year.

Yours in Christ,
Jane Schira

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PRAYER MINISTRY
United In Faith Lutheran Church
2018 Annual Report

“Be anxious about nothing, but in everything, by prayer and petition with thanksgivings, let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God surpassing all understanding will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” **Philippians 4:6-7**

United in Faith has Guiding Principles, among which are *Pray and Listen for God’s Guidance*. To that end, several people come to church at **6:30 PM** on the **second Thursday of each month** to pray together.

It is important to note that this ministry was lovingly founded by Gary Constantino several years ago. As of 2015 Gary is now talking with God person-to-person. In his honor, for the last several years Tricia Dombroski and Mary Haas have continued to serve as co-chairs of the Prayer Ministry.

In December of 2018, we dedicated a new **Prayer Room** located in the office that we share with New Life For Old bags. Pastor Carla designed this inviting space as true place for one to reflect, pray, and spend some quiet time.

We invite our community to share their requests with the Prayer Team in several ways. There is a *Prayer Weaving* in the Sanctuary where we encourage people to write their requests on small piece and “weave them” into the wall hanging. Requests can also be made by writing them on the back of church attendance sheets, calling the church office, or talking with a member of the prayer Team.

If there is a need to keep the prayer private, we have a place for that too. There is a beautiful wood box that is called the “*God Box*”. We invite all who feel called to keep their concerns private to write a prayer and put it inside the box. We never read the concerns, but we do pray over the box at our monthly meetings and do a burning of the paper slips when the box is full.

On the second Thursday of every month, we invite the community to join us to pray over the needs of the community. During our prayer meetings we collect and pray over each concern in the prayer weaving. We follow each petition with “Lord, in your mercy” to which the group responds “Hear our prayer.” After praying over these concerns, we then move to personal prayer requests or unwritten requests from those present and praying that night. This is truly a time for us to reflect and share the concerns on our hearts in the midst of God’s loving care. Each person is given the time that they need to share and communicate their prayer needs. When everybody has said the prayers on their hearts, we then turn our attention to the God Box. We put our hands on the God Box and pray for the intentions written within. If the weather permits, we then take the messages out of the box, being careful to not read them as they are private messages to God, and put them into a tin to burn in the parking lot to symbolically send the message to God.

Gary taught us that there are several ways to pray: we can pray in the *quiet* of our hearts, we can pray *with others*, we can write down our prayers for them to be prayed *aloud* during worship service, we can *write a message to God* and put it in the God Box. All of these ways are marvelous ways to **have conversation with our God**. As Gary would say, “Prayer is the Ultimate Wireless Communication”.

We welcome all people to the Prayer Group at 6:30 PM on the second Thursday of each month.

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MARKETING MINISTRY REPORT

United In Faith Lutheran Church

2018 Annual Report

The purpose of MARKETING is to focus our efforts to invite the community to come to the different activities we plan through our ministries. This will tell our neighbors who we are and what we as a congregation consider an important part of our congregational identity, and most importantly, who this God is that we worship and serve. We strive to make sure that our community knows ALL ARE WELCOME!!!

At the end of 2017, Pastor Carla applied for and received the Fund For Mission marketing grant from the synod. They granted us \$2500, so our entire marketing budget was covered for 2018 by the grant. The money from the grant went to printing banners that were hung in the front of the church, on Irving Park Road and in the back parking lot for several events including Easter, Vacation Bible School, Rally Day and many more. It also covered mail invitations for Easter, Christmas and Vacation Bible School along with color posters that were printed and distributed around the neighborhood for these events. This included publicity for some of our 20 for 20 events that commemorated the 20th anniversary of United in Faith. We are very grateful and blessed to be the recipient of such a generous grant.

Most activities that were planned during 2018 at UIF had publicity released about it. Press releases were sent to approximately 40 churches of various denominations in the Dunning neighborhood. Press releases were also sent to the major newspapers, neighborhood newspapers and TV stations. This was done through email and snail mail. Flyers were distributed to stores and other locations throughout the neighborhood. Banners were hung in front of church letting the neighborhood know this is United in Faith Lutheran Church, as well as the info about the event being planned. Neighborhood blogs and the alderman's newsletter had announcements posted as well. Several people helped with developing a process to follow.

Bonnie Maginnis has offered her knowledge and guidance this year. Pr. Darryl continues to create the banners we have used this year. Joe Childress has faithfully put up the banners in front of the church, and changed them when needed. Of course, Rich Guzik, Dave Quillin and Pr. Carla take care of posting the events on UIF's Facebook and Twitter pages. Pr. Carla also makes the postcard invites for several activities. Gretchen Quillin has proofed the press releases before they are sent out. And, to all of you, THANK YOU for helping us let our congregation's presence be known in the community, for inviting a friend on your Facebook and Twitter pages, and your personal, one-on-one invitations to family and friends to come be a part of this wonderful congregation!

At the end of 2018 the Marketing Chairperson of many years, Carolyn Doughty, stepped down from the position. We are currently searching for a new chairperson to help coordinate all of our marketing efforts. We appreciate and are grateful for the many years of service that Carolyn dedicated to United in Faith and all of the activities that she contributed to. She will truly be missed.

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FACEBOOK & TWITTER

United in Faith Lutheran Church

2018 Annual Report

2018 has been a great year for the Social Media Ministry! The ministry consists of three lay members, Gretchen and Dave Quillin and Rich Guzik as well as Pastor Carla. The ministry is responsible for United In Faith's presence and content on Facebook and Twitter. As of December 2018, we have 174 "likes" on Facebook which is up from 161 likes last year. This means that 174 people can see what UIF is up to. Pastor Carla has continued to keep us active on Facebook using this platform to not only talk about events and happenings at UIF but to provide things to think about during the week through spiritual and inspiring messages. If you are not yet following us on Facebook you can find us at <https://www.facebook.com/UIFLC/>.

As of December 2018, we have 109 followers on Twitter (up from 100 last year) and we have sent a total of 1,128 tweets (up from 1,124 tweets last year). We primarily use this platform to tweet out portions of the sermon each week. If you are a Twitter user or want to become one, you can follow UIF directly at @uiflc or by following #uifsunday. We would also encourage you, if you are a Twitter user, to tweet your thoughts on UIF either during church (yes, that is ok) or during the week. A huge thank you to Gretchen and Dave Quillin, Rich Guzik, and Pastor Carla for contributing to our continued online presence! This is another way to help us be God's hands, feet and voice in the world!

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UNITEDINFAITH.ORG

United In Faith Lutheran Church

2018 Website Annual Report

With outreach to the community as its main purpose, the website introduces the viewer to both religious and secular activities at United in Faith. The website is in a continuous state of change. Past events and activities are removed, and upcoming activities and events are added as they are solidified, and the webmaster is notified. Worship, Bible Studies, activity-rich ministries, Congregational Forums and Meetings, and the current major United in Faith activities are highlighted on the Home page.

Please note that the website is *as current as the information* that **you supply**. Please keep those updates coming and **thank you** for keeping our window to the community open, up-to-date and informative.

Richard E. Guzik
Webmaster

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GAY STRAIGHT TOGETHER MINISTRY
United In Faith Lutheran Church
2018 Annual Report

The purpose of the Gay and Straight Together Ministry (GSTM) is to reach out to the LGBT Community, remind them that they are loved by God, and to invite them to worship and participate in the ministry of United in Faith.

We began the year with our Annual Reconciling in Christ (RIC) Sunday Celebration on January 28, 2018. The entire ecumenical welcoming community nationwide joins together to celebrate our unity, generally on the last Sunday in January. In conjunction with RIC Sunday, the congregation wrote our message of love and acceptance on postcards that were distributed to the youth at the ELCA Youth Gathering. These postcards were surely a note of encouragement, especially for our LGBT youth.

In May, GSTM led a 20for20 project with Youth Outreach Services, our neighbor to the east. This organization is a non-profit that partners with at-risk youth and their families. We provided lunch for the staff and a small donation.

In September, we held our third, and final, session in our Transgender: The Forgotten People series. This program was led by Bill and John Guilfoile. They presented information on what we can do as individuals and as a congregation to help with the acceptance of transgender folks.

As our chairperson, Carolyn Doughty, has decided to take a leave of absence from United in Faith, GSTM is looking for a new leader. Please let one of the GSTM members know if you would like to be a part of this ministry.

Peace to all,

Carolyn Doughty, Mary Haas, Gretchen Quillin, Jane Schira, Pastor Carla Thompson Powell

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JUSTICE TEAM MINISTRY
United in Faith Lutheran Church
2018 Annual Report

The Justice Ministry seeks to live out the Gospel of Jesus Christ, by working toward the vision of true peace and justice that God promised. Justice is the manifestation of our faith. We heed the Lord's call through the words of **Micah 6:8** to engage in justice work:

*“What does the Lord require of you but to do justice,
and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God.”*

As a congregation that welcomes the diversity of all people, justice issues come to our doorstep. Our work brings us over the doorstep and into our community.

We encourage fair trade, raise awareness of world and local hunger and poverty, advocate for justice issues through offerings of letters and lobbying, and are alert to current events that require immediate action or advocacy.

Justice events held during the year:

- Fair Trade products sales including at the Faith in Place Winter Indoor Farmers Market at UIF
- Earth Day table display of environmental resource information
- LSSI Good Shepherd Sunday bulletin inserts and envelopes
- Serving Fair Trade coffee, tea and cocoa on Sunday mornings (donated by a member)
- Season of Creation liturgy in September
- Bread for the World bulletin inserts

Planned for 2019:

- Fair Trade products sale at the Faith in Place Winter Indoor Farmers Market at UIF March 23rd
- Continue serving Fair Trade products on Sunday mornings (purchase)
- Continue Fair Trade products sales

Members of the ministry are: Denise Boyer, Carolyn Doughty, Bonnie Maginnis, Pam Marino, Pr. Carla Thompson Powell, and Elisabeth Wittman. Everyone is invited to participate in our meetings and events.

Go forth and do Justice!

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Marino, Convener

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COMMUNION VISITATION MINISTRY
United in Faith Lutheran Church
2018 Annual Report

Communion Visitation - *bringing the church to members and friends* who are unable to attend Sunday morning worship services on a permanent or temporary basis, and *enabling all to remain connected* to the ministry of United in Faith.

Communion Visitation ministry activities demonstrate all of our **Guiding Principles**: proclaiming Jesus is Lord and *Savior*, reflecting God's *love*, praying and *listening* for God's guidance, continuing to strengthen *faith*, including *all* in God's work and ***meeting people where they are***. Our main activity is visitation during which communion is given, printed devotionals are provided, and information regarding United in Faith is shared. In some cases, telephone calls are routinely made instead. Weekly bulletins and monthly newsletters may also be mailed or delivered. Those visited are included on the *Prayer Weaving*. In these ways, we are being "*God's hands, feet and voice*" as we care for each other.

Approximately **90 visits** - most on a regular monthly basis - were made to **11 individuals** during the year. These visits were made by Bernice Malmanger, Pamela Marino, Terrie Miller, Barbara Patrick, and Barbara Piggott. In addition to regular monthly visits, visits are made as needed to others in situations such as hospitalization. Pastor Carla also makes these special visits.

Anyone with a passion for helping those unable to attend worship services stay connected to United in Faith is invited to join us in our 'caring, communing, listening, loving and providing' ministry. You can **become involved** in a number of ways:

- ***become a visitor*** - a wonderful opportunity to share your faith, listen to life stories, pray with others, sit and visit awhile, bring the bread of life and cup of blessing;
- ***notify*** the church office when you or someone else is no longer able to attend worship on a permanent or a temporary basis so a visit can be scheduled if it is desired;
- ***pray*** for those visited (all are listed on the Prayer Weaving) as well as for those who are doing the visiting; and,
- ***telephone, send a card or visit*** someone who is unable to come to church.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Marino, Director

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SHEPHERD'S STAFF MINISTRY
United In Faith Lutheran Church
2018 Annual Report

The Shepherd's Staff Ministry was formed to maintain communication with all church members and to assist the Office Administrator with any assigned tasks. Shepherd's Staff will contact any visitors, members who have regularly missed worship and fellowship, and maintain communications with members who are unable to attend services. Shepherd's Staff also maintains background checks for all volunteers for Vacation Bible School, Sunday School, Youth and Confirmation. They also send birthday cards and anniversary cards to all members and make sure any members that are hospitalized or ill receive a card. They also maintain the One Call Now program to notify members by phone and/or email regarding any member news or church activities. They are also available to fill in for the Office Administrator for vacation and sick days.

Bonnie Maginnis
Mickey Bligh
Dian Hoyem

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STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY
United In Faith Lutheran Church
2018 Annual Report

The congregation of UIF is a generous one! Thank you for all the gifts you bring to the ministries and vision of United in Faith.

One of the most visible reminders of the Stewardship Ministry is the **offering envelopes**. Last year, we removed the building fund line from the offering envelopes to avoid confusion as to where that money was being allocated and tracked in the budget. This year, we added a line for the HVAC Fund. In 2017, we replaced one of our HVAC units, but we have another unit that will likely need to be replaced in the next few years. By creating a fund specifically for the HVAC, we can attempt to get ahead of those expenses.

Thanks to all of you who turned in a written **faith promise**. As of the beginning of December, we received 18 forms, which is down from last year's 27 promises. There's still time to turn in your faith promise forms (and we typically get a handful of forms between mid-December and mid-January). We encourage every family unit to complete a faith promise form as a way for you to be deliberate about giving your time, talents, and treasure. Additional faith promises forms are available in the Stewardship mailbox. Please complete your faith promise form if you haven't done so already.

Please always fill in the lines on the outside of the envelopes to help the counters ensure your donated funds are allocated in accordance with your wishes. If you have any feedback or ideas for us, please share them with the members of the Stewardship Ministry: Denise Boyer, Nancy Ciecko, Richard Guzik, and Gretchen Quillin.

Respectfully submitted,
Gretchen Quillin, Chair

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COFFEE FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY
United In Faith Lutheran Church
2018 Annual Report

The Fellowship Ministry oversees our Sunday morning coffee hour. Volunteers are asked to sign up to bring desserts each Sunday during the year so members can enjoy some fellowship and coffee between services. *Thank you* to all the wonderful coffee hour volunteers who, in addition to bringing us fabulous baked goods for coffee hour, stepped up in Steve's absence and came in a little bit earlier to make the coffee and set up and stayed a few minutes later to empty and clean the coffee pots and clean up the kitchen and start the dishwasher. Our prayers are with Steve and his family for his improving health and his return to work soon.

Bonnie

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VOLUNTEER COORDINATION – GREETERS
United In Faith Lutheran Church
2018 Annual Report

Greeters are the friendly people who come half an hour early to greet you as you enter the church for worship at both the 8:30 AM and 10:30 AM Sunday services. They also hand everyone a bulletin and attendance sheet. Greeters are able to make a new friend each and every time they say “Hello” or “Welcome to United in Faith”. You can sign up to be a Greeter at any time using the sign-up sheet on the Coffee Hour table, no special training required!

Thanks to all who help greet during the year.

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ALTAR GUILD
United In Faith Lutheran Church
2018 Annual Report

The primary purpose of the Altar Guild is to prepare the altar for worship services and specially to see to the preparation of Holy Communion.

The paraments are changed in accordance with the liturgical calendar. Additional responsibilities include: Seeing to the cleaning of the paraments and laundering of sacramental linens. The supplies such as wine, grape juice, bread, and candles are purchased as needed. Gluten and dairy free wafers are available for persons who suffer allergic reactions to wheat or dairy.

Another concern is the care of the Baptismal Font and preparing it for the Sacrament of Baptism. The Altar Guild is also responsible for replacing votive candles.

A *thank you* goes to Steve Chobot for keeping the Sanctuary Lamp burning and to Joe Childress for changing the banners in accordance to the liturgical calendar. Joe has also been a big help by purchasing and pick up supplies for the guild as needed, such as wine and appropriate candles.

To our faithful members a big *thank you* goes to Adrienne Childress, Bernice Malmanger, and Sue Wilfong. *Thank you* goes to Fran Johnston and Judi Schira for cleaning up the communion after the second service.

The Altar Guild is always looking for members who would like to join us. It doesn't take much time and the rewards are uplifting!

Yours in Christ,
Kim Childress

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DECORATIVE ARTS
United In Faith Lutheran Church
2018 Annual Report

The primary purpose of the Decorative Arts committee is to decorate the Sanctuary for various seasons and holidays.

This year the Decorative Arts committee said goodbye to its chairperson Lys Shradeja. We wish her well at her new church and hope that she will help them as much as she did United in Faith.

For our 20th Anniversary the committee went into the cabinets and found some old banners to use to decorate the church. Along with the colorful wreaths and other decorations that were put up the church looked very festive for Easter Sunday and our Anniversary. We also want to thank everyone who purchased flowers which added to the color and wonderful smells on that day.

The committee is exploring the cabinets in the church and finding all kinds of treasures that we can use to decorate the church. Watch to see what we come up with next!

The new committee is: Linda Smith, Lori Ann Powrozek, Myrna Powrozek, Carol Arnswald, Joe Childress and Pastor Carla. Special thanks go out to Dion, Maya, and Evan Powell for also helping us. We could never navigate the high places in the church without you!

The Decorative Arts group is looking for members who would like to join us. It doesn't take much time and the rewards are uplifting!

Yours in Christ,
Kim Childress

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CHURCH HEALTH TEAM MINISTRY
United in Faith Lutheran Church
2018 Annual Report

The Church Health Team took a fresh approach to strengthening our spirituality with the **REVEAL tool**. The first step using the tool was to encourage all United in Faith members/friends/participants to complete a survey to determine the starting point of: our spiritual life and what we want or need, our satisfaction with the congregation and leadership, and our spiritual maturity. The *results* showed that we are a Complacent Church - where people rarely pray or reflect on scripture outside of church settings, with longtime and older churchgoers, and with congregants happy with the church and its leadership the way it is. As individuals we struggle to find our faith impacting our daily life choices and few read the bible or pray for guidance daily. Very below average is our ability to embed the Bible in everything we do. Our relationship with Jesus is not strong.

Those results pointed us to the *Essential Jesus* program to strengthen our relationship with Jesus. The 100 scripture readings over a 20 week period will help us discover who Jesus is and why he is so significant and even life-transforming. Each week the participant reads 5 related texts of a theme at home. A weekly blog by Pastor Carla provides reflection and thought questions. A class is held between Sunday worship services to discuss the texts. The sermon is usually based on one of the readings. The program began in October and took a break at the half way point in December and will resume at the end of January. If you have fallen behind in the program, it is not too late to catch up during the break. If you have not begun the program yet, it is not too late to start. Catch up or just join us as we begin the second half.

In **2019**, the team will also focus on the some of the things people asked for in the survey: relationships and accountability, and a relationship with Christ as a reality.

The members of the team during 2018 were: Nancy Ciecko, Rich Guzik, Jeff Jewell, Pam Marino, Kerry Montes, and Pr. Carla Thompson Powell. We are very grateful for the coaching and consulting provided by the Rev. Dave Daubert who has been involved with this team since its inception.

Thank you to the congregation for your support and continuing efforts to keep United in Faith healthy.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Marino

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BOY SCOUT TROOP 166
United In Faith Lutheran Church
2018 Annual Report

The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

The Troop had an active program in 2018. We currently have 8 registered youth participating in the program. During the year; one our Scouts completed the week long National Youth Leadership Training and 2 of our youth moved from youth member to adult leadership.

We had the honor of bestowing the Eagle Scout Award on another of our Scouts this year. Our Scouts participated in the district ski trip, did roller skating, rock climbing, and continued our orienteering program. We participated in **Matt Callgreen's Eagle Service Project** which was landscaping the front of UIF.

The Troop spent numerous weekends under canvas throughout the year. We attended Camp Blackhawk at Owasippe Scout Reservation during the summer, along with an overnight stay on the *USS Silversides*, a veteran WWII submarine berthed in Muskegon. While at camp we erected a brand new flagpole in site 12, as well as The Throne 2.0. In addition, a gift received from our past Scoutmaster, Mr. Sparks, has allowed us to invent the game of *extreme tetherball* (ask a Scout about it).

Our Scouts constructed a second little library to augment the one we constructed in 2017.

As many of you will be aware, beginning in 2019, girls will be allowed into the Boy Scouts of America as youth. The program, now slotted to be renamed to *Scouting, BSA*, will cater to both young men and women and allow them both to experience the joys, skills and camaraderie that come with a troop. Many of the families that participate with us know women that would have loved nothing more than to learn the skills of camping, pioneering, and all the hearty outdoor education the BSA has provided for more than a century. Because of the pilot nature of this program - we were the first troop in the area to announce that we will accept girls into our youth activities. Another equally important development of a similar vein; Troop 166 has long been without a *Cub Scout Pack*. Cub Scouts, essentially a Boy Scout program for youth 6-10 years of age, is an excellent precursor to Scouting, and allows a more diverse age group to benefit from Scouting's teachings. While Boy Scouts will not allow girls into its program until 2019 officially begins, Cub Scouts has already included girls successfully.

The Troop continues to clean-up the parking lot on a regular basis.

Cub Scouting is for boys and girls age 6 (Kindergarten) through 10 (fifth grade). Scouting BSA is for boys and girls age 11 (6th grade) through 17. For more information, contact Eric Friedl at (773)-685-4333; email to Eric.Friedl@comcast.net.

In addition to sponsoring the Troop; United in Faith continues to provide monthly meeting space for the Indian Trails Roundtables (a meeting for leaders to exchange ideas, pickup the latest information, and learn new skills).

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew C. Witt
Charter Organizational Representative

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GIRL SCOUTS REPORT

United In Faith Lutheran Church

2018 Annual Report

This year we have 6 Daisys, 12 Brownies, only 9 Juniors, 12 Cadettes, and 4 Seniors:

- ❖ The Daisy & Brownies are from age 5 through 8 years old. They meet Thursday evenings from 6:00-7:30 PM. They enjoy everything we do.
- ❖ The Juniors are ages 9 & 10. They meet Tuesday evenings from 6:45 until 8:30 PM.
- ❖ The Cadettes are ages 11-13. They also meet Tuesday evenings from 6:45 until 8:30 PM.
- ❖ The Seniors are 14-18 years old and also meet on Tuesday.

For January, we begin and end taking cookie orders. We also had a Movie Night Workshop for the girls in our neighborhood. We had over 75 girls in attendance. Everyone had a great time. In February, we had our neighborhood Bowling Party for 100. During March, we had Girl Scout Sunday here at United in Faith. We served coffee "And" to our congregation. May was camping for our Daisy & Brownies. We had our ending ceremony in May too. The girls received all their badges, and awards!

We had a couple of months off and by September, we were anxious to get back to a routine. The Juniors, Cadettes, and seniors went to camp in October. The older girls had a great weekend. Also in October: we sold candy, nuts and magazines from October 1st to the 20th.

We made up 125 kits for battered women. Thanks to all of our congregation for their help with gathering our health kit supplies. We really appreciate *all your help during the whole year*. You help us so that we can help others.

Badge work, crafts, trips, Christmas crafts, Outings, parties during the year, pizza, zoo lights, and ice skating with hot chocolate, depending on the weather.

Thanks for allowing us to meet here year after year. We all appreciate that: especially the girls and leaders.

Love, and Thanks

Annette, Leaders and All Our Girls

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GOLDEN REBELS REPORT
United In Faith Lutheran Church
2018 Annual Report

The Golden Rebels formed in July 2017 when the Golden Diners program at United in Faith was canceled by the City of Chicago.

Some of the seniors went to a location of Golden Diners that has remained open, while 8 of us have continued to play Bingo and cards every Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 10 a.m. to approximately 1:30 or 2 p.m. We bring our own lunches, tea and cookies are provided for energy. Bingo is \$1.00 for 3 cards. You can play as many as you like.

We are always looking for new faces to join us!
Everyone is welcome to
join us in the Resource Room for fun and fellowship.

Respectfully,
Lorraine Enderle

P.S. Like classic films or modern films? Some of us from Golden Rebels like to go together to see **free films** at the Eisenhower Library (4613 N. Oketo Avenue & Wilson, Harwood Heights). Free parking. Classic Films - Thursday at 1:00 pm. Modern Films – Tuesday at 2:00 pm. 408-867-7828.

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NEW LIFE FOR OLD BAGS
United in Faith Lutheran Church
2018 Annual Report

New Life for Old Bags (NLOB) is a collaboration of folks working together to make sleeping mats for the homeless. The creation of each mat takes 80 volunteer hours and repurposes 500-700 used plastic bags. The handmade mats provide the homeless *with some cushion, water resistance, and love*.

NLOB was founded in Chicago in February of 2010 and has its headquarters at United in Faith (UIF). It has grown, and now we have Chicagoland Chapters at Bethesda Home and Retirement Center, Midwest Buddhist Temple, Friendship Village in Schaumburg, LaGrange Park, Plano, and Plainfield. There are also "chapters" all over the United States such as Wooster, Ohio and Las Vegas, Nevada, and beyond.

NLOB is very grateful to UIF for providing office space for what we like to call our "**international headquarters**" and space for monthly NLOB work day parties (which, also, serve as the *training grounds* for new "chapters").

By the end of 2018, NLOB volunteers will have
donated **363,600 hours** (*47,040 of those given in 2018*),
creating about **4,545 mats** (588 of those made in 2018), sharing love with local homeless
by giving them a mat to sleep on, while *repurposing over 3.1 million plastic bags to date* (keeping them
out of landfills and water sources).

UIF has provided us with a home office, storage space, resources, and support that has allowed us to continue to grow, collaborate, serve the homeless, benefit the environment, develop relationships, and build community. Thank you.

Christina Batorski
NLOB Board President

Mary Moy
NLOB Board Vice President

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SENIOR CLUB MINISTRY
United in Faith Lutheran Church
2018 Annual Report

There are no meetings scheduled for the coming year due to our declining membership. Sorry to everyone who came during 2018.

Over the year we have lost Shirley Anderson, who passed away on August 3rd, 2018. She will be missed.

Annette is in a nursing home - the Danish Home at 5656 N. Newcastle Ave., Chicago, IL 60631.

We believe that this will be the end of the Senior Club.

Love,
Annette

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ST. CYPRIAN'S FOOD PANTRY
United In Faith Lutheran Church
2018 Annual Report

During 2018, St. Cyprian Food Pantry continued their mission to supply food to hungry residents. The pantry is open on Monday and Thursday mornings to distribute food to residents of zip codes 60634, 60641, 60656, 60631, 60639 West of Central, and 60707 Chicago only.

The pantry works in cooperation with the Greater Chicago Food Depository and can order food from the Depository at greatly reduced prices and also receives generous donations of canned food items from many area churches, schools, and organizations.

This year the pantry was able to give out approximately **150 Easter baskets** for children along with food to prepare Easter dinner.

The pantry also gave out approximately **100 backpacks** filled with school supplies in August for Back to School.

For Thanksgiving **205 food bags** were distributed that included whole turkeys, cut up turkeys, chickens or small hams.

In the Spring, the pantry held a **Diaper Shower** to collect diapers and money to purchase diapers. Diapers cannot be purchased with SNAP benefits and they are also only rarely available from the Greater Chicago Food Depository. The pantry's generous supporters donated 40 packages of diapers and wipes and \$755 cash to purchase diapers.

71 people signed up for the bus for **the Hunger Walk** in September, but only 21 showed up so we may have to pay for the bus (GCFD picks up the cost of the bus if at least 50 people attend). We earned \$67.00 from the walk but raised \$1517.00 for the Food Depository which earns us \$100.00 in our account.

This Christmas, **gifts** were purchased by pantry supporters **for 81 children**. The pantry also distributed food for Christmas dinner to about **300 families** that included turkey, ham, or chickens.

St. Cyprian Food Pantry

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United In Faith Lutheran Church 2018 Audit Report

January 27, 2019

TO: Church Council, United in Faith Lutheran Church

We have audited the financial records of United in Faith Lutheran Church (UIF) for the year ended December 31, 2018.

Our audit consisted of examining, on a test basis, all disbursements of \$300.00 and above, select cash receipts, bank reconciliations and payroll tax records. We believe that examining records within the above parameters will allow us to decide if the financial records are free of material misstatements.

We have audited three areas: Receipts, Disbursements and Payroll. Our audit results are as follows:

Receipts:

Select deposits during 2018 were compared to the bank statements, deposit slip, and the counter sheets. All deposits were in agreement with counter reports. Bank reconciliations were reviewed for accuracy and completeness, and were found to be in order.

Disbursements:

All disbursements over \$300.00 were examined for approval of invoice/expenditure, and agreement with the check for the amount paid. All payments appear to be proper.

Payroll:

Payroll expenses were reconciled to the budget detail report and the tax reports. There were no material differences.

Recommendations:

That the Audit Committee meets after the books are closed at the end of June each year, to review the 1st six months of financial records for discrepancies.

Summary:

The Audit Committee of UIF believes that the financial records present fairly, in all material respects, the financial condition of United in Faith Lutheran Church as of December 31, 2018.

Respectfully Submitted,


Mary Haas


Pete Herberg


Elizabeth Wittman

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