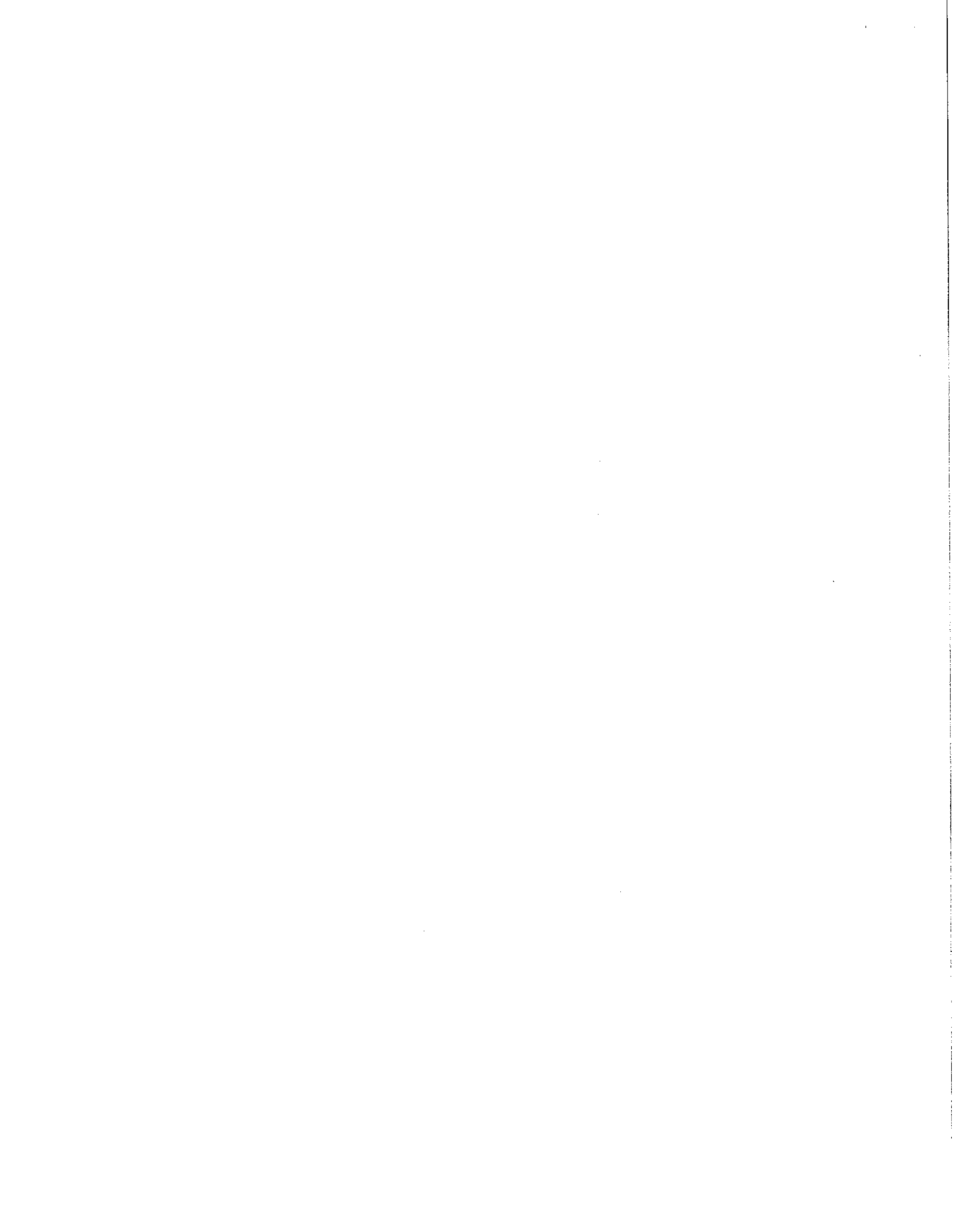




# Annual Report 2019

January 26, 2020



Spirit of Hope Lutheran Church

Annual Meeting

January 26, 2020

Agenda

Welcome Amanda Boucher (Council President)

Devotions Pr Lance Ferguson

Meeting Amanda Boucher

Quorum

Call to Order

Pastor's Reflection

Parochial Report

Ministry Outlook

Ministry Spending Plan

Voting

Ministry Spending Plan

Council

Synod Assembly

Audit

Closing Amanda Boucher

Closing Prayer Pr Lance Ferguson

## Parochial Report - 2019

New Members: 10/27/19: Scott, Andrea, Camille, Spencer & Graham Ingalsbe; John Rotert;  
Anna Wigtil  
10/28/19: reinstated Randy, Amy, Gracie Garton

Baptisms: 5/19/19; Hattie May Shada  
7/14/19: Greyson Daniel Bax  
7/28/19: Jacob Kevin O'Neill  
12/29/19: Bella Rose Marie Kubes and Beaux Matthew Ryan Kubes

First Communion: 4/18/2019; Chance Cotter, Kian Dannelly, Brexton Geidner, Brilynn Geidner,  
Rylee Kipper, Clara Ladman, Julia Wolfe

Confirmation: 10/13/2019; Samantha Bank, Rhet Cotter, Addyson Hanson, Hayden Nagel,  
Paige Smith, James Watts

Funerals:

Transfers: 5/6/2019; Genene Westerhoff (Nolte)

Marriages:

Terminated Membership:

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Rouse  
Administrative Assistant

## Pastor's Annual Report - 2019

We begin another year of ministry together and as I approach my 10 year anniversary here at Spirit of Hope I am reminded of the Apostle Paul in the first chapter of his letter to the Romans, "First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed throughout the world." Please hear me when I say I truly do give thanks for all of you!

There are many reasons for that but I think it comes down to our shared ministry partnership in faithfully declaring the Good News of Jesus Christ, not just with our words but our actions here at Spirit of Hope and also in our actions in our community and worldwide.

This is what I mean. As I look back over 2019, I'm somehow surprised at how much we accomplished.

We sponsored a youth trip to the Quake Youth Gathering in Omaha in March, supporting them with the 'French Chef – Dining With the Youth' fundraiser as well as setting a record with Cookie Walk 2019 dedicated to the youth fund. In caring for the Spirit of Hope people who found themselves in a crisis, we started the Meal Train to provide meals in their time of need. We had another successful Vacation Bible School, VBS – Pets Unleashed paired with a strongly supported youth lock-in. Not only that, Operation Flamingo came back this year!

We continued strong efforts to make a difference in our community. Kicks for Kids faced a major challenge as Payless Shoes went out of business and we were faced with uncertainty in what our costs would be. Prayers were answered as our new supplier, Converse, worked with us to contain costs as well as our community of faith and our community responding generously to make certain we continue putting shoes on students' feet.

We also continued supporting the hungry and food insecure folks in our community through serving meals at Matt Talbot Kitchen and Outreach, delivering Meals on Wheels, and 548 lbs of food donated to the Food Pantry.

Nebraska was rocked with a combination of weather events that created havoc for many in the face of flooding. Spirit of Hope fielded a couple of teams to help cleanup operations in North Bend as well as supporting the Nebraska Synod flood relief fund.

In July we began a community partnership with Fallbrook Assisted Living Center in providing one of their weekly worship services. Every Thursday afternoon our worship team is there providing worship, beginning with a total attendance of 6 and finishing the year averaging 13-16 people per week. We also have a monthly drum circle that has been very well received. It has been a blessing to them as well as to us as we've gotten to know our community of faith there. One important thing about our connection with FALC is that it truly is a partnership. For example, staff members supported our Kicks for Kids Fun Run by volunteering on the course. This is what being in the community is all about.

The Piecemakers Quilting group made an impact on our community as witnessed by a thank you card we received:

"Dear Piecemaker's Quilting Group,

Thank you so much for the donation of quilts and blankets. It is such a treat for our kids to be able to enjoy these during their time at the CAC. It certainly make being here a better and more comforting experience for them! Again, thank you so much for the donation and supporting our mission and children we serve at the Child Advocacy Center. We look forward to seeing you again soon!

Best,

The Child Advocacy Center Team"

Our quilters also put us on the international stage as the quilts they made travelled worldwide. Your contributions to Lutheran Disaster Response did, as well.

These are the just some of the ways we make a difference in the congregation, the community, and in the world. There isn't enough paper or time to capture everything that happens but this list certainly provides some highlights for how we live our mission in Bringing Christ's Love to Life.

We struggled in 2018 on a number of levels. To be quite blunt about it, our worship attendance tanked as did our revenue. We could have taken our ball home, closed up shop and done something different. But we didn't. Instead, we prayerfully knocked the dirt off our hands, dusted ourselves off, and recovered in extraordinary fashion. Thank God for answered prayers and for all of you!

Instead of collapsing under the weight of our struggles we set some records. Over the years our average Sunday worship attendance has been right at 120 per week. Some years 119, other years 121 but generally not moving much since the day we started. That is until 2018 when we dropped to 115 on an average Sunday. We came back in incredible fashion in 2019, jumping our average Sunday attendance 8% to 124 per week. Similarly, our overall worship attendance, which includes Wednesdays in Advent and Lent along with other ancillary worship services, jumped from the year over year average of around 130 to 138. When our Fallbrook worship service is factored in, our overall average weekly worship attendance jumped 11% from 128 in 2018 to 142 in 2019. Not only that, we set a single day worship record on Christmas Eve of 262 here at Spirit of Hope and 275 when including FALC. That's some kind of rebound.

Financially we had an all time high in giving for the year. We also set records in the amount of money donated to cover Kicks for Kids expenses, as well as the number of participants in the K4K Fun Run. Cookie Walk support of our youth was also a record number.

We're carrying a lot of enthusiasm and energy into 2020 so the question is always 'What now?' Your council and I will have our annual retreat on Feb 1 at Camp Carol Joy Holling and we'll be working on sorting out the specifics. I think we will probably continue our focus on being a community of faith so that we are strengthened to serve our community. We did some good work in this area with caring for our folks with the Meal Train as well as being attentive to welcoming people and using names without fear of asking or being reminded. I also think that Kicks for Kids is expanding rapidly and will need some innovation for us to be able to scale up to the support we're receiving.

As always, prayerful consideration will be our guide. As I have 'preached and taught' many times, not to mention in our Sunday prayers every week, being intentional about following God's will instead of our own is the only approach to take. We haven't always done it perfectly but we're doing pretty well.

In Christ!

Lance Ferguson, Pastor

Spirit of Hope Lutheran Church  
 Ministry Spending Plan - 2020  
 Sunday, January 26, 2020

|   | 2019<br>(Plan)       | 2019<br>(Actual)     | 2020 (Proposed)      | Change<br>from 2019<br>MSP |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
| <b><u>Income</u></b>                        |                      |                      |                      |                            |
| Total General Offering                      | \$ 229,000.00        | \$ 249,418.95        | \$ 238,300.00        | 3.9%                       |
| Advent/Lent Offering                        | \$ 2,000.00          | \$ 6,108.00          | \$ 4,000.00          | 50.0%                      |
| Total Miscellaneous Income                  | \$ -                 | \$ 100.00            | \$ 100.00            | 0.0%                       |
| Thrivent Choice Income                      | \$ -                 | \$ 428.00            | \$ 400.00            | 0.0%                       |
| Total Faith Formation Ministry Team Income  | \$ 1,000.00          | \$ 550.00            | \$ 670.00            | -49.3%                     |
| Total Worship Income                        | \$ 1,000.00          | \$ 1,326.00          | \$ 1,326.00          | 24.6%                      |
| <b><u>Total Income</u></b>                  | <b>\$ 233,000.00</b> | <b>\$ 257,930.95</b> | <b>\$ 244,796.00</b> | <b>4.8%</b>                |
| <b><u>Expenses</u></b>                      |                      |                      |                      |                            |
| Total Miscellaneous Expense                 | \$ 50.00             | \$ -                 | \$ 50.00             | 0.0%                       |
| ELCA NE Synod Mission Share                 | \$ 1,000.00          | \$ 916.63            | \$ 2,000.00          | 50.0%                      |
| Confirmation Outreach Expense               | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | 0.0%                       |
| Total Property Expense                      | \$ 92,850.00         | \$ 96,166.04         | \$ 96,077.00         | 3.4%                       |
| Youth Fund Expense                          | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | \$ -                 | 0.0%                       |
| Staff/Misc Expense                          | \$ 100.00            | \$ 38.76             | \$ 100.00            | 0.0%                       |
| Total Compensation Expense                  | \$ 113,775.00        | \$ 118,970.51        | \$ 124,715.12        | 8.8%                       |
| Total Faith Formation Ministry Team Expense | \$ 1,250.00          | \$ 2,198.32          | \$ 1,250.00          | 0.0%                       |
| Total Hospitality Expense                   | \$ 600.00            | \$ 457.89            | \$ 600.00            | 0.0%                       |
| Total Worship Ministry Team Expense         | \$ 3,100.00          | \$ 4,135.24          | \$ 3,100.00          | 0.0%                       |
| Total Worship Music                         | \$ 1,550.00          | \$ 2,173.73          | \$ 1,550.00          | 0.0%                       |
| Total Worship Tech Systems                  | \$ 800.00            | \$ 80.86             | \$ 800.00            | 0.0%                       |
| Total Administrative Ministry Team Expense  | \$ 7,800.00          | \$ 10,358.80         | \$ 10,306.87         | 24.3%                      |
| <b><u>Total Expenses</u></b>                | <b>\$ 222,875.00</b> | <b>\$ 235,496.78</b> | <b>\$ 240,548.99</b> | <b>7.3%</b>                |
| <b>Difference</b>                           | <b>\$ 10,125.00</b>  | <b>\$ 22,434.17</b>  | <b>\$ 4,247.01</b>   | <b>-138.4%</b>             |

3:44 PM

01/07/20

Accrual Basis

## Spirit of Hope Lutheran Church

## Balance Sheet

As of December 31, 2019

|   | Dec 31, 19       |
|---|------------------|
| <b>ASSETS</b>                           |                  |
| Current Assets                          |                  |
| Checking/Savings                        |                  |
| 1001 · Cornhusker Bank Checking         | 79,597.93        |
| Total Checking/Savings                  | 79,597.93        |
| Total Current Assets                    | 79,597.93        |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>                     | <b>79,597.93</b> |
| <b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>         |                  |
| Liabilities                             |                  |
| Current Liabilities                     |                  |
| Other Current Liabilities               | 0.00             |
| Total Current Liabilities               | 0.00             |
| <b>Total Liabilities</b>                | <b>0.00</b>      |
| Equity                                  |                  |
| 3000 · Unrestricted Net Assets          | 18,313.37        |
| 3200 · Building Fund Balance            | 9,082.92         |
| 3300 · Main Mission Fund Balance        |                  |
| 3301 · Mission/Outreach Fund Balance    | 1,301.20         |
| 3305 · Confirmation Outreach Balance    | 78.78            |
| 3308 · Matt Talbot Kitchen & Outreach   | 1,177.45         |
| 3311 · Kicks for Kids Balance           | 15,473.12        |
| 3312 · Youth Fund                       | 3,200.33         |
| 3314 · Lutheran Disaster Response Fnd   | 270.00           |
| Total 3300 · Main Mission Fund Balance  | 21,500.88        |
| 3316 · Nebr Disaster Relief             | 270.00           |
| 3317 · Fallbrook Grant Equity           | 368.51           |
| 3325 · Good Samaritan Fund Balance      | 913.90           |
| 3400 · Continuing Ed Fund Balance       |                  |
| 3401 · Pr Lance Continuing Ed Balance   | 3,639.39         |
| Total 3400 · Continuing Ed Fund Balance | 3,639.39         |
| 3600 · Thrivent Choice Fund Balance     | 603.00           |
| 3700 · Worship Equipment Balance        | -101.95          |
| 3900 · Memorial Funds Balance           |                  |
| 3901 · Memorial Gift Balance            | 2,573.74         |
| Total 3900 · Memorial Funds Balance     | 2,573.74         |
| Net Income                              | 22,434.17        |
| Total Equity                            | 79,597.93        |
| <b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>   | <b>79,597.93</b> |



SPIRIT OF HOPE  
WELCA  
TREASURER'S REPORT

1/10/2020

Balance as of 12/31/2015 810.86

**RECEIPTS**

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| 1/20/16 Fair Trade Items                        | 15.75  |
| 2/27/16 Pinterest Party 271.00/Fair Trade 16.50 | 287.50 |
| 3/18/16 Fair Trade Items                        | 33.85  |
| 4/23/16 Folts Funeral 200.00/Fair Trade 39.00   | 239.00 |
| 5/14/16 Fair Trade Items                        | 30.75  |
| 7/9/16 Fair Trade Items                         | 16.00  |
| 8/20/16 Fair Trade Items                        | 37.00  |
| 9/11/16 Women of Faith Funds from SOH account   | 238.86 |
| 12/4/16 Thankoffering                           | 594.49 |
| 2017 No activity                                |        |
| 10/13/18 Praying w/Art Workshop                 | 140.00 |
| 11/10/18 Praying w/Art Workshop (from SOH)      | 60.00  |
| 11/18/18 Thankoffering                          | 261.10 |
| 11/27/18 Thankoffering                          | 26.93  |

**TOTAL RECEIPTS** 1981.23

**DISBURSEMENTS**

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| 1455 2/13/16 Heather Ladman/Pinterest Supplies          | 109.00 |
| 1456 12/30/16 Women of the ELCA/Thankoffering           | 594.49 |
| 1457 4/7/18 Women of the ELCA/Spring Gathering offering | 100.00 |
| 1458 6/24/18 Katie Bencken/scholarship                  | 200.00 |
| 1459 10/6/18 Lora Ferguson/tablecloths                  | 67.42  |
| 1460 10/6/18 CWS/Crop Walk                              | 100.00 |
| 1461 10/13/18 SOH/Kicks for Kids                        | 100.00 |
| 1462 10/27/18 Heather Ladman/Praying w/Art supplies     | 92.95  |
| 1463 1/6/19 Women of ELCA/Thankoffering                 | 288.03 |
| 1464 7/13/19 Nancy Witters-Honorarium/Buzz gathering    | 25.00  |
| 1465 7/13/19 Deb Bush-flowers/Buzz gathering            | 12.45  |
| 1466 10/5/19 NSW0 offering/Fall Conference              | 200.00 |

**TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS** 1889.34

Balance as of 1/10/2020 902.75

Designated Funds: 10.00 WELCA Scholarship -10.00

**AVAILABLE BALANCE** 892.75

Sharlene Blaine  
Treasurer

Prince of Peace  
December 2019  
Cornhusker Mission Investment Account

| Number | Date        | Line Item                              | Issue To                  | Deposit | Ck Amt    | Balance   |
|--------|-------------|--|---------------------------|---------|-----------|-----------|
|        | <b>2018</b> |  |                           |         |           |           |
|        | 9/17/18     |  | Praise Chapel             | 500.00  |           | 29,313.42 |
|        | 9/28/18     |  | Interest                  | 2.23    |           | 29,315.65 |
| ACH    | 10/13/18    | Bldg Insur                             | Brotherhood Mutual        |         | 369.25    | 28,946.40 |
|        | 10/22/18    |  | Praise Chapel             | 500.00  |           | 29,446.40 |
| 1126   | 10/29/18    | Budget shortfall                       | Spirit of Hope            |         | 20,000.00 | 9,446.40  |
|        | 10/31/18    |  | Interest                  | 2.65    |           | 9,449.05  |
|        | 11/27/18    | Pd late fee                            | Praise Chapel             | 525.00  |           | 9,974.05  |
|        | 11/30/18    |  | Interest                  | 0.78    |           | 9,974.83  |
|        | 12/17/18    |  | Praise Chapel             | 500.00  |           | 10,474.83 |
|        | 12/31/18    |  | Interest                  | 0.87    |           | 10,475.70 |
|        |             |  |                           |         |           |           |
|        | <b>2019</b> |  |                           |         |           |           |
| ACH    | 1/5/19      | Bldg Insur                             | Brotherhood Mutual        |         | 369.25    | 10,106.45 |
| ACH    | 1/5/19      | Safe deposit box                       | Cornhusker Bank           |         | 20.00     | 10,086.45 |
| 1127   | 1/5/19      | Campaign Support<br>(for 2018/#3 of 5) | NELCM-Linc Cross at Heart |         | 1,000.00  | 9,086.45  |
|        |             |  |                           |         |           | 9,086.45  |
|        | 1/22/19     |  | Praise Chapel             | 500.00  |           | 9,586.45  |
|        | 1/31/19     |  | Interest                  | 0.84    |           | 9,587.29  |
|        | 2/19/19     |  | Praise Chapel             | 500.00  |           | 10,087.29 |
|        | 2/28/19     |  | Interest                  | 0.75    |           | 10,088.04 |
|        | 3/18/19     |  | Praise Chapel             | 500.00  |           | 10,588.04 |
|        | 3/29/19     |  | Interest                  | 0.82    |           | 10,588.86 |
| ACH    | 4/6/19      | Bldg Insur                             | Brotherhood Mutual        |         | 403.75    | 10,185.11 |
|        | 4/15/19     |  | Praise Chapel             | 500.00  |           | 10,685.11 |
|        | 4/30/19     |  | Interest                  | 0.93    |           | 10,686.04 |
|        | 5/20/19     |  | Praise Chapel             | 500.00  |           | 11,186.04 |
|        | 5/31/19     |  | Interest                  | 0.92    |           | 11,186.96 |
|        | 6/24/19     |  | Praise Chapel             | 500.00  |           | 11,686.96 |
|        | 6/28/19     |  | Interest                  | 0.87    |           | 11,687.83 |
| ACH    | 7/6/19      | Bldg Insur                             | Brotherhood Mutual        |         | 403.75    | 11,284.08 |
|        | 7/29/19     |  | Praise Chapel             | 500.00  |           | 11,784.08 |
|        | 7/31/19     |  | Interest                  | 1.04    |           | 11,785.12 |
|        | 8/19/19     |  | Praise Chapel             | 500.00  |           | 12,285.12 |
|        | 8/30/19     |  | Interest                  | 0.99    |           | 12,286.11 |
|        | 9/30/19     |  | Interest                  | 1.04    |           | 12,287.15 |
| ACH    | 10/6/19     | Bldg Insur                             | Brotherhood Mutual        |         | 403.75    | 11,883.40 |
|        | 10/21/19    |  | Praise Chapel             | 500.00  |           | 12,383.40 |
|        | 10/31/19    |  | Interest                  | 1.03    |           | 12,384.43 |
| 1128   | 11/10/19    | Campaign Support<br>(for 2019/#4 of 5) | NELCM-Linc Cross at Heart |         | 1,000.00  | 11,384.43 |
|        |             |  |                           |         |           | 11,384.43 |
|        | 11/18/19    |  | Praise Chapel             | 500.00  |           | 11,884.43 |
|        | 11/29/19    |  | Interest                  | 0.96    |           | 11,885.39 |
|        | 12/16/19    |  | Praise Chapel             | 500.00  |           | 12,385.39 |
|        | 12/23/19    | Pd up Sept & late fee                  | Praise Chapel             | 525.00  |           | 12,910.39 |
|        | 12/31/19    |  | Interest                  | 1.08    |           | 12,911.47 |
|        |             |  |                           |         |           |           |
|        |             |  | Sharlene Blaine           |         |           |           |
|        |             |  | Treasurer                 |         |           |           |

| Type                                | 01/01/19   | 12/31/19    | Comments    |
|-------------------------------------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| 3200 - Building Fund                | \$9,682.92 | \$9,082.92  |             |
| 3301- Mission/Outreach              | \$1,410.50 | \$1,301.20  |             |
| 3305 - Confirmation Outreach        | \$97.77    | \$78.78     |             |
| 3308 - Matt Talbot Kitchen          | \$855.91   | \$1,177.45  |             |
| 3311 - Kicks for Kids               | \$7,814.12 | \$15,473.12 |             |
| 3312 - Senior High Outreach (Youth) | \$1,624.00 | \$3,200.33  | Name Change |
| 3313 - Hear the Music               | \$50.70    | \$0.00      |             |
| 3314 - Lutheran Disaster Response   | \$245.00   | \$270.00    |             |
| 3316 - Nebraska Disaster Response   |            | \$270.00    | New         |
| 3317 - Fallbrook Grant              |            | \$368.51    | New         |
| 3325 - Good Samaritan               | \$245.74   | \$913.90    |             |
| 3301 - Pr Lance Continuing Ed       | \$4,792.37 | \$3,639.39  |             |
| 3500 - Youth Fund                   | \$751.04   |             | See 3312    |
| 3600 - Thrivent Choice              | \$603.00   | \$603.00    |             |
| 3700 - Worship Equipment            | -\$101.95  | -\$101.95   |             |
| 3800 - Endowment Fund               | \$398.75   |             | Moved       |
| 3900 - Memorial Fund                | \$2,573.74 | \$2,573.74  |             |

# Spirit of Hope BALLOT

1. Ministry Spending Plan      0 Yes      0 No

2. Council Member (vote for 2)

0 Leann Wiese

0 Geoff Grothen

0 \_\_\_\_\_

3. Audit (vote for 1)

0 Kevin O'Neill

0 \_\_\_\_\_

4. Synod Assembly Representative (vote for 2)

0 Stan Schimdt

0 Pat Schmidt

0 \_\_\_\_\_



