

2019
East Koshkonong
Lutheran Church
Annual Report for the
Congregation
Annual Meeting



February 2, 2020

East Koshkonong Lutheran Church

Mission Statement



In 2017, we put together a new mission statement for EKLC, developed by the Stewardship Committee and approved by Council. It's inspired from and based on the words from Jesus in his Great Commission, Matthew 28:16-20:

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Gather

East Koshkonong gathered to worship, pray, and celebrate in 2017.

What are new and unique ways we can Gather in 2018?

Be Glad

Living with a joyful and grateful heart is easy when we celebrate the Christmas season or the amazing animals during the Christmas program.

How can we Be Glad for what we have every day?

Grow

By creating and living a mission statement we can focus our work as a church.

How can we as individuals and as a congregation continue to Grow in and Share Christ's Love?

Go with Grace

We aim to be an active congregation that makes a positive difference in the world, knowing that Christ gives us strength, comfort, and purpose. Our work with the community dinner and food pantries are a great start.

2019 Highlights



January

- Flamin-Go with Stewardship! In an effort to get excited about EKLC this winter, EKLC continued focus on the Go part of our mission statement with a flock of Flamin-GOs!
- After worship on January 6th was the first committee meeting to plan the 175th anniversary celebrations throughout the year.
- Pastor Brenda attends ELCA Leading Well Conference in Delray Beach FL and Youth Ministry Extravaganza in Jackson FL for her Continuing Ed.



February

- Valentines Brunch hosted by EKL Youth Group.
- EKLC 2019 Annual Meeting was held February 3rd.
- Feb. 24, 2019 we welcomed Kelby Robert Evenson into Holy Baptism.



March

- Lent began with an Ash Wednesday Service Wednesday, March 6th.
- Invitation to silent prayer in sanctuary Wednesdays at 11am
- Lenten Suppers served by youth Wednesday evenings at 6pm.
- Lenten Services held Wednesdays at Noon and Evenings at 7pm.
- Youth went to UltraZone in Madison for laser tag and Cold Stone Creamery in Fitchburg.



April

- April 14, 2019 we welcomed Rylan Edward Veley & Ahleah Lynn Veley into Holy Baptism.
- Youth hosted a delicious Palm Sunday Brunch!
- Maundy Thursday Worship at 7pm. Community Cross Walk on Good Friday in Cambridge at 12 noon.
- Easter Worship at 6:30am Sunrise Service at Upper Church and 9:00am Worship at Lower Church on April 21st.



May

- Youth led worship on Sunday, May 5th. Followed by a brunch hosted by the youth.
- EKLC celebrated 175th Anniversary with a float in the Stoughton Sytende Mai Parade and the Cambridge Memorial Day Parade.
- Cemetery Walk—Stories from the Stones. Members shared faith stories of their families in the Cemetery on Sat. May 25, 2019.



June

- Graduate Recognition June 2, 2019.
- Twin Cities Youth Mission Trip was June 23-27th. Those attending were Anders Amundson, Emma Nottestad, Isaiah Long, Cody Kaashagen, Natasha Amundson, Debbie Wethal and Pastor Brenda.



July

- Pastor Brenda led bible study: Good God Questions: Taking on Really Tough Issues” Monday mornings April thru July.
- Fireside Christian Concert was July 30, 2019



August

- Members brought into membership Aug. 18th, Yolanda Schultz. Aug. 25th: Tammy Beilke, Eric & Brittany Evenson Family, Luke & Breah Klemp Family, Tom Locchetta, Stephanie McNeal, Mark & Denise Veley Family.
- August 25, 2019 EKLC celebrated 175th anniversary with guest Rev. John W. Eyster. The sermon theme was Why Heritage?



September

- EKLC hosts Cambridge Café Meal September 5, 2019.
- Rally Sunday was September 8, 2019. 42 youth in attendance!
- September 22nd EKLC gathered with St. Paul Liberty & West Koshkonong in celebration of 175 years of ministry with a joint worship service at the Schuster’s Farm.
- Countless quilts and school packs were loaded up at the LWR Boxcar Loading.



October

- Bishop Peter Rogness of the South-Central Synod of WI joined us in worship and gave the sermon at the special 175th Anniversary Worship Service on Oct. 6, 2019. Dedication to the History display followed worship in Friendship Hall.
- We welcomed Rylie Claire Seithamer into Holy Baptism on Oct. 13, 2019
- Confirmation Sunday was October 27, 2019 & celebrated the 50th Anniversary of Confirmation Class 1969. Coffee hour was hosted in their honor following worship.



November

- All Saints Sunday Worship on November 3, 2019.
- Nov. 3, 2019 we welcomed Jonah Gene Wagner into Holy Baptism.
- Sunday School assembled 25 Blessing Bags of necessities for needy & homeless families with prayer card. Bags donated to CART (Cambridge Area Resource Team) and Start (Stoughton Area Resource Team)
- Lefse Bake on Saturday, November 17th.



December

- Advent Worship Services were held at the upper church Wednesday evenings. Holden Evening Prayer was used.
- Children’s Christmas Program Sunday, December 15, 2019
- Christmas Choir Concert held Sunday, December 22, 2019. Women’s Quartet also sang.
- Christmas Worship Services held at 3pm & 6pm Christmas Eve, and 9am Christmas Morning.

2019 CONGREGATIONAL LEADERS

Staff

PASTOR ~ Pastor Brenda Lovick
YOUTH DIRECTOR ~ Debbie Wethal
OFFICE MANAGER ~ Julie Kriedeman
FINANCIAL SECRETARY ~ Judy Lund
Joe Falk (Jan-July)

TREASURER ~ Holly Loomis
MUSICIANS ~ Judy Rusch & Andrew Severson
WINTER GROUNDS ~ Mark Veley
CEMETERY GROUNDS ~ Scott Taylor
CHOIR DIRECTOR ~ Vicki Schuh

2019 Council Members

PRESIDENT ~ Chris Frodel (2018-2020)
VICE PRESIDENT ~ Janelle Dunlavy (2019-2021)
SECRETARY ~ Diane Luginbuhl (2017-2019)
TREASURER ~ Hans Lein (2018-2020)
Johnnie Jacobson (2017-2019)
Sonja Jacobson (2018-2020)
Jason Schlieckau (2019-2021)

Personnel Committee

Chris Frodel
Hans Lein
Jaime Lewellin
Lauren Mancheski

Trust Fund

Kristen Lien (2017-2019)
Ron Knapwurst (2018-2020)
Gloria Fruit (2019-2021)

Audit Committee

Linda Dieckhoff (2017-2019)
Curt Hanson (2018-2020)
Natasha Amundson (2019-2021)

2018 ELCA Synod Assembly

Ron Knapwurst
Nancy Knapwurst
Alternates: Hal and Vicki Schuh

Nominating Committee

(Per Constitution addendum #1)

Judy Lund (2018-2019)
Barb Klemp (2019-2020)
Vicki Schuh (2019-2020)
Nathan Stach (2019-2020)
Bobbie Stach (2019)
Don Hoehn (2019)

Aagot Borge Fund

Curt Hanson (2015-2019)
Dave Repyak (2016-2020)
Lane Taylor (2017-2021)
Bonnie Ehrke (2018-2022)
Johnnie Jacobson (2019-2023)

Cemetery Board

CHAIRMAN: Ken Rockney
SECRETARY/TREASURER: Lane Taylor
TRUSTEE: Bonnie Ehrke
TRUSTEE: Don Hoehn
TRUSTEE: Cheryl Nuenthel

Property Committee

Johnnie Jacobson, Council Liaison
Kurt Klemp Hans Lein
Hal Schuh Lane Taylor
Ryan Terland Steve Wethal
Scott Zahn

2019 CONGREGATIONAL LEADERS

Mutual Ministry

Jason Schlieckau, Council Liaison
Carolyn Lien Hilary Terland
Brian Rosenthal Isaiah Long
Pastor Brenda Lovick Barb Klemm

Worship Committee

Janelle Dunlavy, Council Liaison
Vicki Schuh, Worship Committee Chair
Assisting Ministers
Altar Guild Chairpersons
Judy Rusch
Andrew Severson
Joy Graffin
Trudy Spike
Heidi Woodstock

Assisting Ministers

Gloria Fruit Karen Hayes
Carolyn Lien Holly Loomis
Arvid Mathison Vicki Schuh
Michael Stuve

Altar Guild

Marge Stach Marilyn Gunderson

Women of the ELCA

COMMUNICATOR ~ Carolyn Lien
SECRETARY ~ Beverly Lien
TREASURER ~ Sue Repyak

Education Committee

Chris Frodel, Council Liaison
Ann Nottestad
Jaime Lewellin
Gloria Fruit
Debbie Wethal
Heidi Woodstock

Sunday School Teachers

Shawn Schlieckau
Lindsay Baker
Alyssa Woodley
Denise Rockney
Thianna Wegner
Emma Nottestad
Steve Wethal

Stewardship Committee

Sonja Jacobson, Council Liaison
Lindsay Baker
Gloria Fruit
Kristen Lien
Brenda Schroeder
Hilary Terland

The East Koshkonong Lutheran Church Annual Meeting Agenda

- A. Call to order
- B. Adopt agenda
- C. Opening Devotions: Pastor Brenda Lovick
- D. Behavioral Covenant review
- E. Approval of 2019 Annual Meeting minutes
- F. Presentation of Congregational Records Book
- G. Review/Approval of Standing Reports

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Pastor's Report	Page 12-13	Stewardship Committee Report	Page 18
Personnel Committee Report	Page 14	ARK Committee Report	Page 19
Worship Committee Report	Page 15	Mutual Ministry Report	Page 20
Property Committee Report	Page 16	Education Committee Report	Page 21
Parsonage Report	Page 16	W/ELCA Stewardship Report	Page 22
Library Report	Page 17	W/ELCA Financial Report	Page 23

H. Review/Approval of Financial Reports

EKLC Financial Report	Page 24	Good Samaritan Fund Report	Page 32
Parsonage Income/Expense Report	Page 25	Altar Guild Report	Page 32
EKLC Money Market Report	Page 26	2019 Memorials Report	Page 33
Balance Sheet for 2019	Page 27-28	Benevolence Funds Report	Page 34
Bequests to Trust Fund	Page 29	Aagot Borge Report	Page 35
Trust Fund Report	Page 30-31	2019 Audit Report	Page 37

I. Elections

- a. Nominated by the Nominating Committee:
 - i. Two Council Members
 - ii. Three nominating committee members (inclusive of two outgoing council members)
 - iii. One Aagot Borge fund member
 - iv. Synod Assembly delegates (1 male & 1 female) and alternates
 - 1. Optional 2 confirmed member youth/young adult under 30 delegate
- b. Nominated by the church council
 - i. One Trust Fund Member
- c. Elected by Church Council
 - i. One Audit committee member

J. New Business

- a. 2019 Congregation Budget Page 36

K. Cemetery Meeting

- a. Motion to recess
- b. EKLC Cemetery Report Page 38
- c. Motion to adjourn cemetery meeting

L. Reconvene Annual Meeting

M. Thank you to Council and committees

N. Adjourn Annual Meeting

O. Closing Prayer – Pastor Brenda Lovick

NOTE: New council members should meet in the council room immediately following the conclusion of the annual meeting to elect officers and set date for the first council meeting.

EAST KOSHKONONG LUTHERAN CHURCH

2019 Annual Meeting Minutes February 3, 2019

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President Barb Klemp reminded those in attendance that the meeting is being recorded.

1. Call to order by President Barb Klemp at 10:22 am. Quorum of 42 was met by 64 members in attendance.
2. Motion to accept agenda was made by Carolyn Lien, seconded by Steve Lehr. Accepted and passed.
3. Opening Devotions were given by Pastor Brenda Lovick using the Litany from the back of the Annual Report pamphlet.
4. Behavioral Covenant was read by President Barb Klemp (found in the back of the Annual Report pamphlet).
5. Motion was made to approve 2018 Annual Meeting minutes by Gloria Fruit and seconded by Holly Loomis. Accepted and passed
6. Presentation of Congregational Record Book was done by Pastor Brenda Lovick.
7. Review/Approval of Standing Reports

Presidents Report	Page 11
Pastors Report	Page 12 & 13
Personnel Committee Report	Page 14
Worship Committee Report	Page 15
Property Committee Report	Page 16
Parsonage Report	Page 16
Library Report	Page 17
Health Ministry Report	Page 17
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Motion was made to approve all the above reports in Section G, by Carolyn Lien and seconded by Brenda Schroeder. Accepted and passed.

1. Review/Approval of Financial Reports.

EKLC Financial Report	Page 24
Parsonage Income/Expense Report	Page 25
EKLC Money Market Report	Page 26
Balance Sheet for 2018	Page 27 – 28
Bequest to Trust Fund	Page 29
Trust Fund Report	Page 30-31
Good Samaritan Fund Report	Page 32
Altar Guild Report	Page 32
2018 Memorial Report	Page 33
Benevolence Funds Report	Page 34
Agot Borge Report	Page 35

Discussion on the Benevolence Fund page 34 of date to be corrected from 2017 to 2018. Motion was made by Arvid Mathison to approve reports in above H section, was seconded by Gloria Fruit. Accepted and passed.

1. Elections
2. Nominated by the Nominating Committee
3. Two Council Members, Janelle Dunlavy and Jason Schlieckau have been nominated and said yes. There were no more nominations from the floor. A paper ballot was conducted per constitution, Janelle and Jason were voted into Council.

EAST KOSHKONONG LUTHERAN CHURCH

2019 Annual Meeting Minutes February 3, 2019

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4. Three nominating committee members inclusive of 2 out-going Council members.
5. One Aagot Borge Fund member was nominated, Johnnie Jacobson, motion to close nominations made by Don Amundson seconded Janelle Dunlavy. No discussion, passed.
6. Synod Assembly delegates (1 male and 1 female) and alternates, First couple is Ron and Nancy Knapwurst, Alternate couple Hal and Vicki Schuh. Motion made by Brenda Schroeder and seconded by Holly Loomis. No discussion, passed.
7. Nominated by Church Council
8. One Trust fund member is Gloria Fruit, a motion to accept made by Arvid Mathison and seconded by Bjorn Kaashagen. No discussion, passed.
9. Elected by Church Council
10. One Audit Committee member is Natasha Amundson, motion made to accept made by Arvid Mathison and seconded by Ryan Terland

New Business

1. 2018 Audit Report as found on page 37 was reviewed and a motion to approve made by Arvid Mathison and seconded by Ryan Terland. No discussion, passed
2. 2018 Treasures Report as found on page 24 was reviewed and a motion to approve made by Arvid Mathison and seconded by Denise Rockney.
3. 2019 Congregational Budget as found on page 36 was reviewed and a motion to approve budget was made by Brenda Schroeder and seconded by Janelle Dunlavy. No discussion, passed.

Cemetery Meeting

1. Motion to recess was made by Denise Rockney and seconded by Holly Loomis
2. EKLC Cemetery Report was given by Bonnie Ehrke. One correction on report needed of correct year on top. All board members remain with the exception of Ron Andersons resignation.
3. Motion to adjourn cemetery meeting made by Johnnie Jacobson and seconded by Chris Frodel.

Reconvene Annual Meeting by President Barb Klemp, motion made by Gloria Fruit and seconded by Denise Rockney.

Thank you to Council and committees made by Barb Klemp.

Adjourn Annual meeting motion made by Arvid Mathison and seconded by Denise Rockney at 11:07 am.

Closing with Lords Prayer led by Pastor Brenda Lovick.

NOTE: New council members should meet in council room immediately following the conclusion of the annual meeting to elect officers and set date for the first council meeting.

Submitted by
Secretary
Diane Ehrke Luginbuhl

President's Report

Dear Congregation:

It was a pleasure to serve as your Council President in 2019, a year full of celebrations for our congregation. I would like to start by saying "Thank You" to all of our dedicated volunteers, circles and staff that we have here at EKLC. Being involved in Council has made me more aware of all the work and time it takes by so many to make things flow here! So again, a huge thank you to you all for your service this past year.

2019 – What an exciting year here at East Koshkonong! We celebrated 175 years here on the Koshkonong Prairie this past year. We spent much of the year celebrating this milestone in various different ways. Our history is now displayed proudly in fellowship hall, courtesy of those that donated to the Heritage fund. Bonnie Ehrke, Marilyn Gunderson, Judy Taylor, Linda Hanson, and Johnnie Jacobson all dedicated their time and talents to finish our beautiful historical displays. Thank you to all that made this possible for both members and visitors to enjoy our rich history for years to come.

So many members and visitors participated in the various wonderful celebrations this year held around our 175th. From the Syttende Mai parade, the Cemetery walk, joint worship with West, and Liberty Churches to our worship celebration in October, there was no shortage of ways to be involved. Thank you to all of you that organized, and dedicated your time and talents to the success of these various events.

We all should continue to take immense pride in our history here at East Koshkonong. But, as we start a new decade, I challenge us all to think about the future of EKLC. What changes will happen over the course of the next 175 years? How do we ensure we continue to be a growing and welcoming congregation for new community members, just as we were so many years ago? Obviously looking out 175 years is hard as none of us will be around! But, how about the next 5 years or 10 years? I pray that each of us can think of ways to enrich the lives of others through Gods word, both inside, and outside of the walls of EKLC.

For EKLC to continue to prosper and grow in the future, we will need to all think about the financial gifts we have to share, as well as what time and talents can be used in various roles in EKLC. I challenge us all in 2020 to perhaps step out of our comfort zones, and be open to being more involved and active. Whether that means participating in worship services, educational opportunities or volunteering for service projects – let's all work together to do more! May God Bless you all.

In Christ,

Chris Frodel

Council President, 2019

Pastor's Report

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Our Faith in Focus: 2020 Vision

Gather, Grow, Be Glad, and Go - with Grace

Friends in Christ,

I am so grateful for the many events we had in 2019. We celebrated our 175th anniversary very well.

As we visualize "Our Faith in Focus: 2020 Vision," we have much to celebrate. Thank you to those who have contributed time, talents, financial support, and prayer support at EKLC. I want to especially thank our staff, our council, and all of the committees that find their creativity for our ministry through hours of work. The Spirit is moving through us working together as a team on this holy hill. That's the greatest gift of all!

Highlights of 2019:

- We celebrated the anniversary of the church with many special occasions.
- We took seven people to Minneapolis to complete a mission trip through Service Learning Camps.
- We continued to grow and develop our youth program with the youth director position.
- We started a fuller giving program for those who would like to contribute through online giving.
- We collected a lot of food in partnership with the Cambridge Food Pantry.
- We welcomed new members through baptism and affirmation of baptism, and we said goodbye to some dear friends as they transitioned to the eternal kingdom.

This is the work of the church. We have so much to thank God for. We are truly blessed.

You've likely heard this Bible passage before, from Jeremiah 29:11, CEB. *I know the plans I have in mind for you, declares the Lord; they are plans for peace, not disaster, to give you a future filled with hope.*

It's a message of comfort, but we often ignore the context of the passage. The people God is speaking to were completely displaced. They were carried off to a different land, displaced by the enemy. And God told them to carry on with their lives. God basically said, "Build houses, have babies, bury your dead, do good for your society, and in 70 years, you will go back to the place you came from. You will prosper because you belong to me."

So what? I think too often we get wrapped up in all that we don't have. We don't have enough people or enough money or enough youth or enough volunteers or enough... You fill in the blank. It's like we are displaced in a time where we grieve what once was. On one hand, that's okay because we miss those who have gone before us and have some incredible memories to honor them.

You know what the problem is? Our young people are listening. We are creating our young people's "what once was."

Think about that. After all of us are gone, there will still be a church here. We hope there will still be people here. We are creating the memories for the children and for generations to come. When we say

Pastor's Report

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there's not enough, we are creating an environment for our young people to think they should have more. When really, all we need is faith in God through Jesus Christ.

Reread that Jeremiah 29:11 passage above. And then from Proverbs 19:21: *Many plans are in a person's mind, but the Lord's purpose will succeed.*

This year, in 2020, we will focus on the faith for the future. My hope is that we will make plans for our future, knowing that God already has plans for us. I hope that we can decide together what impact we would like to have on our community so that God's faith is active in love through us. My hope is that we make positive memories for our young people to reminisce and aspire to do the same for their own children.

This year, we are focusing on the "Gather" part of our mission statement. Already, we see the fruits of this gather emphasis through delightful fellowship with one another, intergenerational worship, and doing things together like playing euchre and taking it to members who can't get to us. We have children learning and adults growing and people taking care of one another. It is truly beautiful!

So, come along with celebrating and visioning into the future. Let's remember the past, knowing that this present time is also the past for our future church.

In Christ's love,
Pastor Brenda Lovick

Congregational Statistics for the Year 2019

	<u>Baptized Membership</u>
December 31, 2018.....	473
Members received during 2019	
By baptism, youth (15 yrs & younger).....	4
By baptism, adults (16 yrs & older).....	1
By adult affirmation of faith.....	4
By transfer	3
By other sources/statistical adjustment	
Members removed during 2019	
By death.....	5
By transfer	
By other sources/statistical adjustment.....	2
December 31, 2019.....	481

Youth members confirmed in 2019: 6

EKLC members who received communion and contributed in 2018-2019: 272

Average Sunday Weekly Attendance: 101

Prayers for Our People Tuesday Weekly Average Attendance: 4

Ash Wednesday Service Attendance: Noon - 16 7pm - 56

Midweek Lent Services Average Attendance: Noon - 8 7pm - 30

Maundy Thursday Service Attendance: 34

Good Friday Service Attendance: 25

Easter Services Attendance: Sunrise - 45 9am - 200

Midweek Advent Services Average Attendance: 22

Christmas Eve/Day Services Attendance: 3pm - 110 6pm - 96 9am - 21

Personnel Committee Report

Council Executive Officers:

Chris Frodel

Hans Lein

Committee Members:

Lauren Mancheski

Jaime Lewellin

In August of 2019 the personnel committee was happy to welcome member Judy Lund, into the position of Financial Secretary. Judy replaced Joe Falk who had been contracted for the position since January 2019. Judy brings her financial knowledge, attention to detail, and commitment to the position. We appreciate all she has already helped accomplish since starting the position in August.

In the spring of 2019, church staff was given performance reviews. Thank you for all the input received from members during this process.

Our grounds both around both churches and cemetery looked beautiful all year round. We had a lot of snow to remove in 2019 - thank you to Mark Veley for keeping the properties as safe as possible from the ice and snow! Several events took place on our grounds this past year. We are grateful for employees, Mark Veley, and Scott Taylor, and additionally, all of the volunteers on the property committee that dedicated their time to ensuring all our grounds were well maintained.

Thank you to all staff and volunteers for your work throughout this past year, we appreciate you all, and all you do for EKLC!

Submitted by: Chris Frodel

Worship Committee Report

The Worship Committee consists of all Assistant Ministers, a member of the Altar Guild, accompanists, organists, choir directors and schedulers. We meet on the first Wednesday of the month at 7p.m. Decisions are made as to which setting is used for liturgy, extra services during Lent, Holy Week, Advent and Christmas. We also schedule the use of the Upper Church for Easter Sunrise, services in the Spring and Fall, Holden Prayer Evening Advent services and special events.

This committee hosts coffee hours for Confirmation Sunday and the Sunday for honoring graduates. We typically get a special cake for these occasions. Another task of this committee is seeing to the tuning and upkeep of the pianos and organ. Judy Rusch works diligently to find people to provide special music throughout much of the summer. When Pastor Brenda needs a sub, Vicki contacts someone through the Pulpit Supply list.

We welcome ideas that may make for meaningful worship services and also will listen to concerns that we will try to address. Anyone is welcome to join this committee. We thank the congregation for trying new hymns, liturgy and the narrative lectionary.

Submitted by Vicki Schuh, Chairman

Property Committee Report

Property Committee Annual Report
East Koshkonong Lutheran Church
2019

General maintenance and custodial duties have been fulfilled and/or delegated by two members of the congregation. These individuals work hard to keep the building clean, do maintenance and repair projects, and work to make the building energy efficient. Thank you for your help, Lane Taylor and Johnnie Jacobson!

An enthusiastic group of people were able to help with the outside landscaping maintenance: the Hoehns, the Terlands, the Taylors, the Schuhs, the Jacobsons. Thank you!

We installed the historical display this year. Thank you to Johnnie Jacobson, Marilyn Gunderson, the Hansons, the Ehrkes, and the Taylors.

We have continued to repair and maintain the brick and mortar in the church building with tuckpointing services. This will take a couple of years to complete. We plan to continue in 2020 with the tuckpointing maintenance and prepare for a new roof on the education part of the building.

We are concerned about the windows in the building and want to look in the future of replacing windows around the building.

At the parsonage property, we have taken down a large tree that was dying. Many hands helped in removing the wood from the property.

In 2018, the parsonage was surveyed and zoned for property taxes. This year, we begin paying property taxes for the parsonage property.

Thank you to our members who have worked hard. We are always looking for people to help with the ongoing property work, so please come join the committee! Here are the members of the current committee: Chris Frodel (ex officio), Johnnie Jacobson, Pastor Brenda Lovick (ex officio), Jason Schlieckau, Hal Schuh, Lane Taylor, Ryan Terland, Steve Wethal, Scott Zahn.

Respectfully submitted,

EKLC Property Committee

EKLC Parsonage Report

Not much new to report with the Parsonage in 2019. We did remove the large tree on property before it caused any damage to the house! No major repairs were needed inside the parsonage in 2019. We will have conversations in early 2020 about any projects that may be needed in the coming year.

Respectfully,

Chris Frodel
Council President

Library Report

Library Report

Thank you to all who helped in building the history corner and display cases in fellowship hall, which allows the showcasing of our congregation's history and artifacts. I don't want to list names as I'm afraid I will miss someone – but many hands turned out a truly beautiful display area. Anyone who finds old photographs or articles (e.g. confirmation, picnics, concerts, etc.) and would like to share them, let Bonnie Ehrke or Marilyn Gunderson know and they can put them in the display.

Please remember the EKLC library is open for all ages to enjoy and read with a wide range of books, articles and topics. There are comfortable chairs to relax in and tables to read at while you wait to pick up youth from Sunday School, confirmation, practice or any event. There is a children's corner also so encourage your children to visit the library.

Johnnie Jacobson will be building additional shelves in the library to hold our many items in 2020, so please thank Johnnie for volunteering of his time and talents to do that.

If you are interested in volunteering to help in the library, you can contact Bonnie, Marilyn or myself. We would love to have you.

Report submitted by Gloria Fruit

Health Ministry Team Report

Our group is currently maintaining our parish first aid kits located in the second floor of the education wing, the narthex, Friendship Hall/kitchen and in the upper church kitchen; we also provide the sanitizer/hand wipes in the narthex and Sunday school areas. We are also mindful of any health issues in the community that might affect our congregation and beyond, especially any influenza or other contagious outbreaks and how that affects our worship.

We maintain the AED (automated external defibrillator) located near the restrooms on the second floor of the educational wing. We also do training on the defibrillator for anyone interested in learning or refreshing their use of the device. Our most recent training was held in November 2019 using a mannequin and AED trainer with good attendance and participation.

We are also open to any suggestions for learning opportunities or concerns in regards to the health of our fellow congregants.

We would like to welcome anyone to our committee who has an interest in the health and well-being of our congregation—no health background is required.

Respectfully submitted,

Trudy Spike

Stewardship Report

Stewardship Report 1/1/2020



The Stewardship team is focusing on the **Gather** part of our mission statement in 2019-2020.

We gather to worship and serve, knowing that Christ gives us strength, comfort, and purpose.

We collected ways that you gather during worship this fall/winter and posted them in the Narthex. There are so many ways that we are getting and staying connected as a congregation.

Euchre with Youth - We have spent coffee hours teaching our confirmands and older youth how to play euchre. It has been a fun way to get connected with folks. We will be playing at Home Again in February. Join us!

Mission Minutes - During the fall, we have had representatives from various groups talk about How We Gather. We have lots of existing opportunities to meet as a congregation. Join a group!

Food Pantry/Community Meal – We help serve the larger community in which we live by supporting food initiatives. Bring on the pudding!

Community Dinner – We served 250 people with our Lutheran potluck!

Bluejay Backpacks – As the pudding church we supply 90 backpacks with a calcium option each month.

Thanksgiving and Christmas Baskets – We supported the Food Pantry's basket drive by donating butter and onions for 80 baskets.

Christmas Caroling - A group of intrepid singers went to Home Again and Our House in December to share carols with the residents there.

Supporting our Mission

In 2019, general offerings supported stewardship work in several ways. The most obvious in paying Pastor Brenda's salary and supporting her work for our church. We have a great place for our members to gather and grow in Christ.

Outside of the general fund, our members have been generous in supporting our stewardship projects with both money, time, and food!

Do you have ideas how we can live our Mission Statement more fully? Come to our next Stewardship meeting (4th Sunday of the month after church) and let us know. We would love to hear your ideas and help implement them!

The Stewardship Team

ARK Report

ARK is a group of volunteers who plan events for outreach. These events are for our members and the community around us.

One ongoing activity is Food, Fellowship and Fun. This is an 11:30 lunch followed by Euchre. The event typically lasts from 11:30 to 2:30. We encourage members to bring friends and the group size averages around 16.

Many members of ARK were busy this year with projects celebrating our 175th Anniversary. There was work on the directory, the float in Stoughton for Syttende Mai, the Cemetary Walk with refreshments, A historical service in August, many beautiful displays in the Friendship Hall, the joint service at Schuster Farm and the October service with our interim Bishop.

We are always looking for ways to serve our church community. Please feel free to suggest an activity or event that would interest you. ARK aims to help in providing a welcoming atmosphere at East Koshkonong.

Those that took part in ARK activities this year were:

Vicki Schuh
Bonnie Ehrke
Judy Taylor
Peggy Luther
Karen Hayes

Submitted by Vicki Schuh

Mutual Ministry

Chapter 13 of the *East Koshkonong Lutheran Church Constitution* states that the congregation has a mutual ministry committee: “**C13.04.** A *Mutual Ministry Committee* shall be appointed jointly by the president and the pastor. Term of office shall be two years, with three members to be appointed each successive year.”

Mutual Ministry Committee members for 2019 are Pastor Brenda Lovick, Barb Klemp, Carolyn Lien, Isaiah Long, Brian Rosenthal, Jason Schlieckau and Hilary Terland.

The Mutual Ministry Committee is the committee in our organization that is intentionally set apart to process how we are church together. The committee talks about specific scenarios and how the scenarios can be addressed. If you have ideas that you would like us to discuss, please bring them to the attention of a committee member.

Submitted by Brian Rosenthal

Education Committee

The Education Committee is devoted to our Sunday School children as they learn Bible stories and grow in their faith; following our young people as they confirm their faith; and encouraging all members to continue to learn and grow in their faith and lives.

The Committee oversees the EKL Youth Group, selects curriculum for the Sunday school and Confirmation, as well as adult forums and Bible study opportunities for the adults of the congregation. Committee members consist of the Pastor, a Council liaison, the Youth Director, the Sunday School Superintendent, the Sunday School Music Coordinator, a Confirmation representative, and any additional member/s of the congregation interested in developing education opportunities for the members of EKLC.

Throughout the year, the committee worked on various tasks related to adult study, confirmation, a revitalized youth group, and Sunday school. Highlights from the year:

Adult Study

The Education Committee encourages the adults to study throughout the year. This can be in the form of a Bible study or a book study. Is there anything that you would like to study? Please let us know about it! Study is an important piece of faith development and personal spiritual growth. How can God's word and Christian life and faith challenge you? We did have a study called "Good God Questions" that started in March and carried into the summer. We met at Kitty Epperson and Mickey Farrar's house and had good attendance throughout the study. There were deep and difficult questions that helped us think about how God works in our world today.

Youth Group

The EKLC Youth Group had a fun fifth year. The highlight was our service mission trip to Minneapolis/St. Paul. There were 4 youth and 3 adults that attended a busy week of community service projects and devotions. We also completed many service projects and fun activities for middle- and high-school youth. Some other activities from 2019 included hosting Valentine's Day and Palm Sunday brunches, a day of laser tag and ice cream, participated in Youth Sunday, had our second annual Halloween party, as well as created the triple panels craft to sell as a fundraiser for the upcoming mission trip in Denver this summer (2020).

Confirmation

- Six ninth graders were confirmed in October of 2019, and our current class has 4 eighth graders who are on track to being confirmed in 2020, and 2 seventh graders.
- Pastor Brenda and Debbie Wethal (youth director) are using the *Faith 5* curriculum, which switches focus each year between "Lutheran Living" & "Lutheran History & Catechism" (2020-2021) and the Old and New Testament (on track for 2019-2020).
- The students packed care packages for the EKLC members who are currently in college and those stationed in the military. This happens twice annually, in the spring and fall.

Sunday School

- The Spirit & Truth Curriculum is being used this year for PreK-5th grade ~ separated into 4 classes: PreK focusing on The Lord's Prayer, K-1st grade, focusing on The Ten Commandments, 2nd-3rd grade focusing on the Apostles' Creed, and 4th-5th grade focusing on the Books of the Bible. The 6th graders are participating in the "Pre-Confirmation" which reviews all the focuses of Sunday School, before formally entering the Confirmation program. The pre-confirmation program is new this year, and has seen much success so far!
- The Sunday School year starts with Rally Day in September, and finishes with Youth Sunday in May. The Christmas Program and monthly service projects are the highlights in between.

The Education Committee would especially like to thank Debbie Wethal for spearheading and supervising the Youth Group activities, as well as her leadership over the Sunday School Program. Another special thank you to all the dedicated teachers: Shawn Schlieckau, Lindsay Baker, Alyssa Woodley, Thianna Wegner, Denise Rockney, Emma Nottestad, Erica Lien, Mallory Wallace, and Ilsa Lund. Finally, those involved with the youth programs especially would like to thank the entire congregation for their incredible support & look forward to more fun activities in 2020.

Submitted by Debbie Wethal & Pastor Brenda Lovick

Congregational Behavioral Covenant

As members of the Christian community of East Koshkonong Lutheran Church in January, 2009, we, being sinners and falling short, agree, with the help of God, to relate to each other through Christ, and thus hold ourselves and each other to:

1. Listen to each other. "Let everyone be quick to hear and slow to speak..." James 1:19. Dietrich Bonhoeffer has stated: "The first service that one owes to others in the fellowship consists of listening to them." See, for example, Dietrich Bonhoeffer's *Life Together* p. 97
2. Respect the Privacy of Those Who Confide. "A gossip betrays a confidence, but a trustworthy person keeps a secret." Proverbs 11:13
3. Challenge each other with the truth. Be willing to confront when it is important. "Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined with which it is supplied, when each part is working properly, makes bodily growth and upbuilds itself in love." Ephesians 4:15-16
4. Deal with people directly; don't complain to others. "If one of my followers sins against you, go and point out what was wrong. But do it in private, just between the two of you." Matthew 18:15. If someone complains to you about another member, help that person follow this principle.
5. Strengthen each other. "[Speak] only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen." (Ephesians 4:29) Likewise, the test of true fellowship is to "make the individual free, strong and mature," not "weak and dependent." Bonhoeffer, p.88
6. Be gentle with one another. "My friends, you are spiritual. So if someone is trapped in sin, you should gently lead that person back to the right path. But watch out, and don't be tempted yourself." Galatians: 6:1
7. Do not speak ill of others in the fellowship. "Do not grumble about each other or you will be judged, and the judge is right outside the door." James 5:9
8. Do not judge each other. "Some of you accuse others of doing wrong. But there is no excuse for what you do. When you judge others, you condemn yourselves, because you are guilty of doing the very same things." Romans 2:1
9. Pray for one another. James 5:16
10. Confess One's Wrongs to Another. James 5:9
11. Forgive One Another. "Give and it will be given to you." Luke 6:38
12. Freely participate in the Body of Christ according to our gifts and talents. "Freely you have received, freely give." Matthew 10:8

Sign and date below:
