

# 2012 Annual Report for 2011

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# Agenda

Augustana Lutheran Church  
Annual Meeting Agenda  
January 22, 2012 at 9:15 AM

Call to Order                    Diane Carlson

Devotion                        Pastor Karen Hofstad

Determination of Quorum

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Minutes of January 30, 2011 Annual Meeting

Report of Nominating Committee

Other nominations:

Church Council 4 Three-year Terms

Church Council 1 Two-year Term

Nominating Committee 1 year term

Audit Committee 2 year term

Camp Representative 1 year term

Synod Assembly Representatives Male & Female 1 year term (June 1-2 at Eau Claire)

Prayer and Elections

Pastor's report                Pastor Karen Hofstad

Report Summaries          President's Report  
Audit Committee

New Business: Budget Presentation and Approval of Budget

Report of Election Results

Thanksgiving, Remembering and Prayer      Pastor Karen Hofstad

Adjournment and Lord's Prayer                Diane Carlson

# Annual Meeting Minutes

January 30, 2011

Pastor Karen Hofstad opened with devotions and prayer.

Council President Joe Brown called the meeting to order. It was determined that a quorum existed for the meeting.

**Approval of Agenda:** Ann Bergmann moved to approve the agenda. Craig Friess seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

**Approval of 2010 Minutes:** Dave Evenson made a motion to accept the January 2010 Annual Meeting minutes. Laura Lindquist seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

**Report of the Nomination Committee:** President Joe Brown called for nominations from the floor for each of the offices. President Brown declared as no other names were submitted from the floor all positions other than council were elected by acclamation. Council was voted on 4 seats for 3-year terms.

Election results were as follows:

**Church Council** 4 people needed for 3-year terms  
Karyn Hullinger  
Bill Lussier  
Bill Olsen  
Vonnie Schell

**Nominating Committee** 4 people needed for 1-year term  
Fran Chubb Marge Johnson  
Steve Komarek Cathy Koser  
(Two outgoing Council members will also be assigned to this duty.)

**Auditing Committee** 2 people needed for 2-year term  
Claire Johnson Chad Olson

(Dean Bergstrom and Tyler Lloyd will serve for one more year.)

**Luther Point Bible Camp Representatives** 2 people needed for 1-year term  
Val Anderson DeAnn Walters

**Synod Assembly Voting Members** 1 female and 1 male needed for 1-year term  
Female Delegate: Carol Halverson  
Male Delegate: Joe Brown

## Pastor's Report

Pastor Karen Hofstad submitted a written report. In addition she encouraged the congregation to create new leaders in young adults of the congregation and expressed her gratitude for the leaders and volunteers we do have. A special thank you was extended to retiring music staff, John Westin and Marty Voshell, for their service in music at Augustana Her report is detailed in the Annual Report for 2010.

## Presidents Report

President Joe Brown thanked the congregation for their trust in having him serve in the last year. He discussed the changes in the congregation over the last year and the congregations' desire to be a collaboratively run church. Joe also noted the changes to come in our music staff. President Brown emphasized the need to meet the worship needs of the congregation in terms of style and time. He encouraged on-going discussion of ELCA statements and policies.



Current Committee is Dean Bergstrom (2<sup>nd</sup> year), Tyler Lloyd (2<sup>nd</sup> year), Claire Johnson (1<sup>st</sup> year), and Chad Olson (1<sup>st</sup> year)

Luther Point Bible Camp Representatives  
2 people needed for 1-year term

Current Camp Representatives are Val Anderson and DeAnn Walters

Synod Assembly Voting Members 1 female and 1 male for 1-year term

**The following people have agreed to have their name on the ballot.**

**Church Council (4) 3 year terms:**

1. Val Sutherland
2. Mark Erickson
3. Joan Kraft
4. Maria Krahenbuhl

**Church Council (1) 2 year term:**

Kathy Kreger

**Nominating committee: (4) one year term**

1. Sarah Lundquist
2. Brad Burling
3. Dave Elfers
4. Cathy Koser

**Camp Representatives: (2) one year term**

1. Diane Carlson
2. DeAnn Walters

**Auditing Committee: (2) two year terms**

1. BJ Brenna
2. Connie Harding
3. Claire Johnson (Serving another year)
4. Chad Olson (Serving another year)

**Female Lay Synod Delegate: (1) one year term**

1. Marge Johnson

**Male Lay Synod Delegate: (1) one year term**

1. Claire Johnson

## Pastor's Report – Pastor Karen M. Hofstad

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*O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

[ELW, pg. 301 – Daily Prayer]

I was first introduced to this prayer when I ventured out to Holden Village in 1994 as a first-time summer volunteer. Since that time, it has become an almost-daily prayer for me; it so “clearly” speaks the truth of the journey of faith... of the call of *the church*.

- What does it mean to be *the church* (members of the *body of Christ* in the world) today?
- What is God calling us to do? Where is God leading us?
- Are we courageous in our mission / action? Are we, like Abraham, willing to go without knowing where we will end up... trusting God to lead and support us?

This past year, in my own devotional reading and reflection, I have been re-reading the book of Acts. The full title of this book of the Bible is “The Acts of the Apostles”—however, I think it would be more accurately titled, “The Acts of the Spirit”☺. [If you haven’t read it lately, I highly encourage you to do so!] The book of Acts tells the story of the growth of *the church* from its beginnings in Jerusalem. Reading it, we are reminded of the activities that make *the church* something different than a social club, a gathering of friends, a board, or a business... we are reminded that *the church* is God’s creation—created not just for our good but for the blessing of the entire world (with a special focus on the least, the lost, and the last)... we are reminded that it is God’s Spirit that creates faith and leads *the church* where it would never venture on its own... we are reminded that members of *the church* need to learn and worship together, to commune together, and to pray together in order to discern God’s purpose and plan for us.

It has been more than 2000 years since the Holy Spirit first blew through Jerusalem, through Jesus’ followers—blowing life into *the church* at Pentecost; yet the purpose and plan for *the church* remain the same. *The church* is the body of Christ in the world TODAY (as it has always been); and as members of *the church*, we are called and commissioned **to continue the work that Jesus began** – in our families... in our community... in our nation... and to the ends of the earth. What a gift it is to be used by God in this way! What an incredible trust God has placed upon us—to be *the church* TODAY!

2011 marks Augustana’s 126<sup>th</sup> year as a congregation of *the church*. Clearly, the world we live in TODAY is not the same as it was 125 years ago (or 100 years ago... or 50 years ago... or even 10 years ago). So many things have changed; YET our purpose and mission remain the same—to be *the church* in this time and place... to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ to a world that needs to hear God’s word of forgiveness and grace... God’s word of peace and reconciliation.

This question: “What does it mean to be *the church* TODAY... in this place?” has been an intentional focus for discussion and reflection in council this past year. The conversation began at our council retreat in March; it has been a focus of our devotions and/or “Tool Time” at monthly council meetings; and the conversation is not yet done—we need your thoughts and prayerful discernment as well. How we answer this question will determine where Augustana will put its focus in ministry and mission in the years to come.

As you read through this annual report to the congregation, you will be reminded (or perhaps discover for the first time) that Augustana is involved in many areas of ministry and service that touch the lives of people – both inside and outside the walls of our church building. Let me highlight just a few of these...

\*\* This year has been, like every year in the life of *the church*—a year of beginnings and endings... and everything in between. We look back on the lives of our 3 beloved brothers and sisters who died in the faith, giving thanks that God gave them to us to know and to love in our pilgrimage on earth. We give thanks for the 8 new brothers and sisters grafted into God’s family through the waters of Holy Baptism, and we pray that they will be nurtured and loved by this community of faith and by *the church* beyond our walls so that their faith will shine for the world to see. We give thanks for the 7 Confirmands who reaffirmed the covenant God made with them in Baptism as they confirmed their faith in the presence of our congregation, and we pray that they will find *the church* to be a grounding place as they continue to grow in their faith and discover God’s plan for their lives. And we give thanks for the 9 families and 4 individuals who joined our congregation in the past year—for

the gifts they are and for the gifts they bring to *the church*, and we pray that they will find Augustana to be a place of encouragement and support, faith growth, and opportunities for service and ministry for years to come.

\*\* *Worshiping and learning together* has always been a central focus of this congregation; this year has been no different. These are two aspects of my call upon which I place a high priority and commit a significant amount of focus and time to. We have experienced a variety of worship formats and liturgies over the course of the year—to reflect the variety of interests and preferences that make up our congregation. When it comes to worship (which is NOT about ourselves but about the God we come to kneel before in prayer and praise), this truth reigns: “one kind does NOT fit all.” Some members of our community have asked whether a non-Sunday worship opportunity might be a possibility. This is something I think we should explore within *Worship and Music* in the coming year. IF individuals are willing to become involved in the planning and leading of such a service (including all the ongoing “behind the scenes” aspects of worship preparation and implementation), this is a possibility.

\*\* Wednesday night *Confirmation* classes continue to be a highlight of my weeks (most of the time, anyway☺). It is a truly a blessing to get to know our 6<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> grade students and to help them learn about God and grow in their faith. And I am so grateful for the caring adults who have stepped forward to help me with Confirmation by serving as faith mentors small group leaders – Thank you, thank you, thank you! And what a joy it has been, this year, to plan and lead the monthly Bible studies for *the Circles* (exploring the key stories and characters of the Old Testament) and to offer *Advent and Lenten Bible studies* to help focus and prepare us for the central celebrations of our faith: Christmas and Holy Week/Easter.

\*\* *Milestone ministry* will be a primary focus of Youth and Family ministry in the coming years. Naming, marking, and celebrating significant milestones in peoples’ lives (Baptism; Baby’s First Christmas; 1<sup>st</sup> Communion; Confirmation; Graduation; etc.)—intentionally connecting church and home—has proven to be a significant means by which to form and nurture faith in individuals. Many churches across the ELCA and other denominations already do this; it is my hope that Augustana will claim this powerful ministry for itself as well. Under Carole’s leadership and guidance, a team of individuals will be trained and equipped to lead and gradually expand this ministry focus for our congregation.

\*\* *Visitation* to our senior and home-bound members of Augustana is a great need at this time, I believe. The loss of Al Agen (and Hubert Thoe before him) has left behind a gaping hole in our ministry together. I visit these saints of the church as often as I can (to bring them communion), but my schedule does not allow me to visit as often as they need. I have asked Congregational Care to help me to put together a team of individuals who will commit themselves to making regular visits to these members of our church family. If you can give of yourself in this way, please step forward to do so.

2011 has been a good year. I thank not only the staff that I am pleased to work with on a daily basis, but also the Congregational Council and ministry/committee leaders and members for their faithful leadership and service this past year. Please join me in saying “thank you” to the following Council members who are completing their terms of service: Diane Carlson – President; Mark Ruppel – Worship and Music; Bob Chubb – Outreach; and Candace Jacobs (who resigned mid-year) – Secretary; Congregational Care / Youth and Family. As God has richly blessed us in the past, I am certain that God will, in the same way, bless us in the future. God is with us! And I trust that God will continue to lead and guide us in our ministry together as we prayerfully discern and make decisions that will affect the future ministry of Augustana.

It is a privilege to serve as your pastor, working with such a committed and faithful group of Christian servants; and I look forward to continuing to serve with you in the coming year. May the Spirit of God continue to blow in our direction and fill us with life, vision, and a passion for the ministry we are called to do. And may God, indeed, *give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that God’s hand is leading us and God’s love is supporting us.*

Your partner in ministry,  
*Pastor Karen*

## Pastoral Acts

### Baptisms

Avery Johnson 1/23/11  
Indy Brown 2/20/11  
Giavanna Salvaterra 3/20/11  
Trevor Bergstrom 4/3/11  
Cole Catlin 5/29/11  
Scarlett Stuntz 9/18/11  
Carson DiVenturi 11/27/11  
Wyatt Benjamin Goss 12/11/11

### Affirmation of Baptism/Confirmation

Luke Anderson  
Lindsey Bangsberg  
Kalley Bergstrom  
Kyla Bergstrom  
Tess Duncan  
Ryan Ledbetter  
Blaine Stetler

### Weddings

Jenna Girard and Lee Alberson 7/29/11  
Mollie Erdman and Cory Patterson 8/20/11  
Ami Erickson and Joshua Swanson 10/8/11

### Funerals

Al Agen 1/26/11  
Jan Randa 3/14/11  
(Living in Chicago--Funeral in Illinois)  
Marcia Johnson 7/25/11  
Nancy Erickson 9/21/11

### New Members

Jennifer Brown  
Jason Stuntz  
Greg Chafer and Katie Smith  
Brooke, Lydia, and Edward Chafer  
Becky Erickson  
Colin and Kala Green  
Carley, Roy, and Lauren  
Andy and Shannon Johnson  
Marcia Johnson  
Ashley Muench  
Chris and Jenna Munden  
Brian and Jodi Painter  
Elizabeth and Joshua  
Cory Patterson  
Don and Wendy Phernetton  
Chad and Laura Schultz  
Bishop Bloom  
Brenden, Ellyn, and Abbigail Schultz

### Membership transfers/removed

Russell Cook and Lori Foss  
Samantha, Tabitha, and Zach Foss  
Judy Lansin  
Jaylen

## Membership and Worship Statistics Report

	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
Baptized members	626	655
Confirmed Members	522	543
Associate Members	11	14
Baptisms	2	8
New Members Received	5	32
Affirmation/Confirmation	10	7
Members Transferred/Removed	16	7
Deaths (Members)	6	4
Average Worship Attendance	149	164

## Youth and Family Ministry Director Annual Report

As I look back on Augustana's youth and family ministry, we are doing so many things. We have many wonderful people helping to make so many good things happen.  
To sum up the 2011 year just like our puppets said it in worship.  
We are blessed!  
Blessings abound in 2011

We are blessed .....

With a congregation that supports our youth and their families.  
For the 21 mission trip volunteers that joined us in Montana to help others in need.  
To have a group of kids that do puppets in worship.  
By the Summer Stretch staff that feeds and leads our group.  
To have 25 summer stretch kids in a Gospel and serviced program.  
For our Liturgical Dancers who share the good news of Christ.  
To have a group of "dancing bags" to help in worship.  
For a terrific Milestone Ministry Committee.  
To have the 13 go to Middle school Gathering.  
For the men who build faith chests for baptisms.  
To have an active Youth & Family Committee  
For the active High School Youth group.  
To have had 21 attend Godstock this year.  
For the 13 people going to New Orleans in 2012  
With Tess Duncan serving on the LYO (Synod Lutheran Youth Board)  
By congregational members willing to feed our youth on Wednesdays.  
To be able to serve others, by rolling bandages and to pack boxes for our service personnel.  
To go Christmas Caroling.  
For the High school kids who served as Summer Stretch counselors.  
To have kids that care.  
To have Adults that care.  
With the AAA-adults( Authentic, Available, Affirming -Adults)

To have Families who welcome other families and kids into their homes for a Bible study.  
For the members willing to drive the bus when needed.  
To have others who will pray for us.  
For the group of people who move and fix things that need some TLC.  
To have a loving and grace filled God to love each and every one of us.  
WE ARE BLESSED.

Thank you all for a truly blessed 2011 year  
Carole De Jardin  
Youth and Family Ministry Director

## President's Report

January 2012

I feel it. Do you? I feel excitement, energy and enthusiasm to share God's love with others through the faith community of Augustana Lutheran Church.

As a council, we have been asking the question: What does it mean to be a missionally focused congregation in the 21<sup>st</sup> century?

We began with a Saturday council retreat where we got to know each other, participated in Bible study, and challenged ourselves as leaders to help Augustana focus on our purpose and mission.

The Walking Together Congregational Resource event at Chippewa Falls Middle School in March was another learning opportunity. In his keynote address, Bishop Duane Pederson shared that congregations need a clear sense of purpose and challenged each congregation to define their purpose. He emphasized the importance of providing opportunities for members to deepen their spirituality as well as being outwardly focused on the needs of others. This event is open to all and I encourage you to attend this event in 2012.

At council meetings, we began "Tool Time" at each meeting as another learning and growing opportunity. We completed a 3 part Bible study prepared by the Northwest Synod entitled "Beyond Our Doors: Congregational Mission Planning." Session one explored "Who are we," Session two, "Why are we here," and session three "Who is our neighbor?"

We worked to apply our "tools" to our assigned committees by setting short term goals. The committee reports will allow you to see what was accomplished. Read on!

As we begin a new year, I challenge each of you to ask yourselves questions. What gifts do you have? How can you use your gifts to strengthen the mission of Augustana? Try something new! Do something old! Get involved, be a part of the energy at Augustana.

Thank you for the privilege of serving as the president of council in 2011.

Diane Carlson

## Christian Education Committee

The 2011 Christian Education committee included Pastor Karen representing Confirmation, Elaine Olson representing Adult Education, Diana Ostness representing Library, Val Anderson representing Camp, Connie Lussier representing Milestone Ministry and Rachael Stuntz as the committee chair and Sunday School representative. This is a very dedicated group that is committed to trying to meet the educational needs of all of Augustana's members.

Here is an overview of all of the sub-committees:

**Sunday School:** We continue to use the SPARK rotational curriculum which the children seem to enjoy and allows many adults to be involved without having to make a huge time commitment. Last spring we were breaking the children into four groups and completed four weeks during each rotation. When planning for the fall session we decided to only have three groups of children and three week rotations due to the decreased class sizes. There is still a great need for volunteers for Sunday School teachers. We are very lucky to have Tim and Libby DeJardin lead our music each week and thank them for all the time they volunteer with the Sunday School children. This year we are spending more time on Old Testament stories like Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebekah, and Baby Moses. We also just had another wonderful Christmas program lead by Kirsten Sandman and thank her for all the time she put it. The offering from Sunday School this year is going towards the ELCA Good Gifts program to purchase animals for families in need throughout the globe. So far they have raised enough money for some ducks, chickens, rabbits, a pig and are working on a goat next.

**Vacation Bible School:** We again participated in the ecumenical VBS at First Lutheran Church and the theme was “Son Surf”. We would like to thank Jody Painter for helping to lead the music portion of VBS. There was a significantly smaller group of Augustana members that participated in VBS this year.

**Confirmation:** Pastor Karen has continued to do a wonderful job working with our confirmation youth. She provides a very structured program and helps makes the experience meaningful by having small group leaders work with the students. Confirmation students continue to have the freedom to choose their areas of service within Augustana throughout their confirmation experience ( i.e., acolytes, greeters, ushers, Sunday School helpers). This was the first year that 8<sup>th</sup> grade students were able to choose a faith mentor and completed a 7 week one-on-one faith conversation program with their mentor. In October we confirmed 7 wonderful young adults. Once again at the confirmation banquet the students shared their projects and faith statements. It was a great evening.

**Library:** Augustana has a wonderful group of volunteers in the library. They continue to organize and purchase new useful materials for the library. They are always looking for ideas on new materials. This year Evelyn Brown has stepped down as the chair of this committee and we would like to thank for her for all of her service. Diana Ostness has stepped up as the new chair. Their goal for the next year is to purchase a stained glass piece to put in the library window. The Library Committee continues to convert the library items to the Dewey Decimal System. The adult and youth fiction and nonfiction have been entered into the computer. We focused on items for youth. Many donations were received.

**Adult Education:** Companions in Christ, Sunday morning adult Bible study, and Tuesday morning men’s bible study have all been active throughout the year. Thank you to the leaders of all these groups. This committee is always looking for current social issues to hold small group studies on. If you have a good topic idea or would like to lead the conversation please contact Elaine Olson.

**Camp:** This year Augustana had an outreach group from Luther Point Bible Camp visit the Sunday School Students and the Confirmation students to try to help peak interest in camp. We had 6 members attend camp this year which was double from last year.

**Milestone Ministry:** It was decided this summer to move this committee to Youth and Family Ministry. This will allow Carole DeJardin, our Milestone Ministry expert, to more closely work with the committee and help develop this ministry.

**Thank you again to the many volunteers that have helped throughout the year to make our Christian Education programs successful.**

Rachael Stuntz, Chair

## **CHURCH IN SOCIETY COMMITTEE**

God has been at work in Augustana, Cumberland, Barron County, Wisconsin, the United States and in the world at large. Thanks to you, the members of Augustana, for your generous giving of time and monies.

Through your offerings, Augustana was able to provide support of \$1500 to the Grow-Hansons, who were ELCA missionaries in Senegal and who have returned to the United States to begin a new chapter in their lives. We look forward to continued support of an ELCA missionary in the coming year.

Your offerings allowed us to give:

- \* \$300 to the Benjamin House, a homeless shelter in Rice Lake that serves all of Barron County.
- \*\$100 to Lutheran Social Services
- \*\$100 to Habitat for Humanity
- \*\$100 to the Boys and Girls Club of Cumberland
- \*\$100 to Shooting Stars, a program that makes items available to parents and children who are very ill and need to be treated in a larger facility.
- \* \$300 to the Augustana Habitat Mission Trip
- \*\$300 to the Malawi Growing Mission Academy. This is a program run through the Northwest Wisconsin Synod.

Quilts and Kits mission projects were placed under the direction of the Church In Society committee this year. Thanks to your generous giving of time to sew, to tie and knit and your gifts of items for kits, Augustana was able to create and give quilts and school and health kits to Lutheran World Relief. Newborn kits and hospice kits were taken to Global Health Ministries in Fridley. (See list below) This ministry will be continued in the summer months. Watch for announcements of what is to be collected and times to bring them to church. Fair Trade Coffee and chocolate continue to be hot items at Augustana. Thanks to the tireless effort and tremendous amount of time by Carol and Jim Wallin, the sale of fair trade coffee at the Farmers' Market was very successful. This is so good in many ways—for evangelism for Augustana, and it helps the coffee grower coops in foreign countries get a fair price for their coffee beans.

Those little hunger boxes were filled to overflowing. \$1922.69 was sent to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. Thank you for your participation.

We are hoping in the New Year to have an Augustana presence at the Boys and Girls Club of Cumberland.

God has blessed us richly. It is our hope that in the coming year we may continue to make the presence of God known in the world around us.

Committee members: Diane Carlson, Elaine Olson, Evelyn Brown, Jan Schweiger, Carol Wallin, Shirley Anne Evenson, Barb Garling, and Carol Halverson

We are always open to new members who have a passion for mission.

#### MISSION ITEMS SENT YEARLY

	2010	2011
<b>Lutheran World Relief</b>		
Layettes	10	6
Baby Care Kits	0	12
Health Kits	35	15
School Kits	20	40
Quilts	204	212
Made by Summer Stretch Kids	14	17
<b>Quilts for Mission Trip</b>	2	3
<b>Quilts for Haiti</b>	18	10
<b>Quilts for Fire Victims</b>	0	5
<b>Quilts for Foster Children</b>	5	0
<b>Global Health Ministries</b>		
Newborn (Midwife) Kits	12	8
Hospice/AIDS Kits	8	11
Rolled Cloth Bandages	87	644
	(Made by Summer Stretch Kids)	(Made by Youth Groups)

## **Communications Committee**

In 2011 we had some new members join our group. The committee now consists of Sally Landstrom, Jene Morey, Carol Rohl, Donna Olson, Fran Chubb, Corrine Thoe, Pastor Karen, and Bill Lussier. We would welcome anyone else who would like to join us. We meet once a month in the week before the council meeting.

The highlight of the year was the completion of a new church picture directory. The directory was completed and distributed to all members who had their pictures taken or requested one. We do have a small quantity left for those who have not yet received one but wish to.

The committee continues ongoing work on church archives. Many nice comments were made about the archive material and some enjoyed looking it over. Carol has organized and filed most of the material and it is available to anyone to look through. A bookshelf was purchased with Memorial Monies and the display is in the Friendship Room. Also, look for the framing of the collage, and the framing of two other pictures.

## **Congregational Care Committee**

### On-going work of the committee

The Congregational Care Committee has responsibilities for several areas such as Greeting Card Ministry, Visitation and Sunday Fellowship.

### Sunday Fellowship and Kitchen

Sunday Fellowship provides opportunities for fellowship by organizing coffee and treats between services on Sunday. Cathy Koser has done this very successfully and will continue to do so. Mary Jean Jergenson keeps the kitchen organized. A huge thankyou.

### Visitation

Due to the death of Al Agen, who did an excellent job with visitation, this is an area we need to get organized again.

### Greeting Card Ministry

Sandi McHenry does a fine job with Greeting Card Ministry. Many people volunteer to take a one-month turn to send greetings of various kinds—birthdays, get-well, sympathy, etc. to our parishioners.

### Hopes for 2011

Thanks to everyone who helps out with any part of the Congregational Care Committee. We will try and get the visitation portion back on track. Marty Voshell will also be looking into providing monthly blood pressure checks after the first of the year.

Vonnie Schell

## **Finance Committee Report**

The financial condition of Augustana has been good throughout 2011. We entered the year with a budget that anticipated a deficit. Through the financial support of the congregation and the church's adherence to the budget, we anticipate finishing the year with a lower shortfall than was budgeted. We have had generous participation in the next 2-year debt reduction drive and are likely to retire the debt within the two year target.

The proposed 2012 budget plans for a deficit that is less than the 2011 deficit. Prudent management of the church's finances, and the reduction of debt, will allow us to continue toward our goal of directing more of our resources to our defined missions.

I thank the Finance Committee for consistent oversight and management of the church's financial health. Specifically, I would like to recognize the work of the treasurers, Carol Wallin and Shirley Anne Evenson, and Brenda Kupferschmidt who perform the administration and transactions of our financial affairs.

Dan Shoemaker

## **Mutual Ministry Committee**

The Mutual Ministry Committee has begun the process of re-grounding and re-focusing after several starts and stops in its attempt to become a viable group in and for our congregation. As a part of this process we are learning about its very important role of supporting and envisioning the mutual ministry of Augustana - of which we are all a part.

Our group continues to work to affirm and strengthen the mission of Augustana Lutheran and the ministry of our staff. The group will work to intentionally and intensively nurture and strengthen relationships and communication with and between the pastor, staff, and congregation. All of which means that most of what we hope to do will be accomplished quietly and in the background. We are presently at 5 members and are in the process of recruiting 1 or 2 people to join us.

I'd like to thank our current members; Millie Carlson, Joel Kreger, Heather Friess, and Pastor Hofstad for their commitment of time and attention as we continue to build this new committee.

Submitted by Karyn Hullinger

## **Outreach Committee**

Members of the Outreach Committee are: Bob Chubb (Council Representative), Ann Bergmann (Chairperson), Marty Voshell, Nicole Donatell and DeAnn Walters

### **GOAL OF THE OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

- To continually strive to be known as a welcoming community of faith

### **SPECIAL PROJECTS COMPLETED IN 2011**

- Friends & Neighbors Sunday Event. Augustana refrigerator magnets were given to all worshipers that day
- Fourth Annual Augustana Cookie Walk Fundraiser
- Christmas Closet Store Fundraiser
- New Augustana brochure developed and distributed
- New in 2011 was providing a meal at New Member Classes to all prospective new members.
- New in 2011 was the creation of a new event, "Scandinavian Day of Baking".

## ONGOING OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

- Provide publicity for special events: Friends & Neighbors Sunday, Cookie Walk, Christmas, Easter, Rally Day
- The Outreach Committee continues to provide a “bread call” to new individuals and families in our community who visit Augustana .

## PRIORITIES/PLANS FOR 2012

- Committee members attend Synod Outreach Educational Event.
- Collaborate with Communications and Worship & Music Committees to further the message of who and what the community of faith is at Augustana Lutheran Church.
- Build upon the success of 2011 Cookie Walk, Scandinavian Baking Day and the Christmas Closet

Thank you to the entire congregation for being “welcoming faces” to those who enter our doors. You are all a part of Augustana’s Outreach Ministry.

Ann Bergmann, Chairperson

## Personnel Committee

Members: Sue Jungerberg, Joe Brown, Tom Hallgren

The committee finished the employee handbook and continued with job descriptions. Youth and Family Ministry Director and Music Ministry Director were completed. Sue assisted in the hiring of our new music director. Next year we will finish our job descriptions and institute employee planning sessions

Tom Hallgren, Chairman

## Property Committee Report

The Augustana Property Committee concluded an active year. We have monthly meetings. We walked through the property and formed project lists broken down into major and minor projects. Committee members are Craig Friess, Bill Lussier, Todd Sandman, and Dean Bergstrom. I thank them for their hard work and hope you all will thank them for their efforts.

**Projects completed:** Re-landscaping  
Fixed Sewer Line  
Repaired Bus Radiator  
Fixed Ceiling over Flooded Hall

**Projects planned for 2012** Replace sign in east lawn  
Tuck point brick work  
Replace window sills  
Repair Cracks in Parking Lot

We still have much to do and will welcome all the help we can get. If you like to do projects and not attend meetings there is a place for you to help at Augustana on the property committee.

Respectfully submitted,  
Craig Friess, Property Committee Chair

## **Stewardship Report**

This year's stewardship theme was "Hooked on Mission." The theme helped to remind us that Augustana's true mission is to reach out to others by sharing the Gospel and ministering to their earthly needs. In October the Church Council hosted a ministry fair that recognized the many different ways Augustana people fulfill this mission. It is truly amazing to see all of the service that is done by our members. At the ministry fair, fish hook lapel pins were handed out as visual reminders that we are to be "fishers of men." A congregational potluck was also held on Commitment Sunday to celebrate Augustana's many blessings.

We are appreciative of the many people who pledged and of those who supported and who will continue to support Augustana with their words, actions, and monetary gifts throughout the year. The number of people pledging this year was very similar to last year. However, the amount pledged was an increase over last year.

As I joined the Church Council midstream this year, replacing Bill Olsen, I am very grateful for the work of my committee. They graciously got me up to speed on what needed to be done and were diligent in accomplishing our goals. These committee members are: Karyn Hullinger, Marty Voshell, Donnis Mullen, and Mervin Olson. And of course, a big thank you to Pastor Karen for all of her support. They truly ministered to me with their guidance.

Our committee looks forward to experiencing the blessings our congregation will receive in 2012 through our shared generosity.

## **Worship and Music Committee**

Augustana had a busy year in our Music and Worship Committee. We note with deep gratitude the service of John Westin as choir director and Praise Team Leader after 25 years of dedicated service. We have been blessed with talented leadership. Jill Molls has been hired to fill both roles and is doing an outstanding job in her first year. Please extend your best wishes to John in his leaving and Jill in her new role.

We also note that Marty Voshell has retired from her accompanist/organist role at Augustana. We thank her for her service. Laura Lindquist has ably taken on all the organist/accompanist duties.

Our goal of expanding the committee has gone well. Terri Brown and Carol Wallin have been faithful in representing altar guild at each meeting. Jan Schweiger continues to recruit and organize people to lead each service. She comes to all our meetings. Pastor Karen, Laura Lindquist, Ann Ethen, Ann Bergmann, Marty Voshell, John Westin and Jill Molls also faithfully attend. I appreciate their dedication to serving Augustana. In addition to our regular services this group successfully planned and held Friends and Neighbors Sunday and our special Thanksgiving Eve Service. Please give them feedback as to what makes worship meaningful for you.

Goals for our future include:

Starting an off site summer worship

New Choir robes

More new singers in all groups

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Ruppel

Chair, Music and Worship Committee

## **WOMEN OF THE ELCA**

As you have doubtless heard or read, we no longer have an organization called Women of the ELCA (W.E.L.C.A.), otherwise known as Women's Ministries. However, we do still have women doing ministry at Augustana. We just do it as part of several other organizations of the church, especially, Church in Society and Congregational Care. One such ministry has been in existence since the beginning of this church; namely Circles (formerly called Ladies' Aid.) We now have just one such group, called the Mary Circle. We meet on the third Thursday of each month at 9:30 a.m. in the Great Hall. We have coffee and treats and most importantly, a Bible study, skillfully led by Pastor Karen. We are currently in the book of Exodus and will continue throughout the entire Old Testament. All women are invited and encouraged to join us for an enlightening and pleasurable time each month.

## **Augustana Youth and Family Committee**

As we close out 2011, the Youth and Family Committee is thankful to everyone in our congregation for the continued support of our mission. Without your support, the activities and fellowship that our youth get to participate in would be lost. With the leadership and guidance of our Youth Ministry Director, Carole DeJardin, the youth programs continue to grow and be a tremendous success with Augustana youth, as well as youth outside our congregation. Our committee continues to focus on our goals of nurturing young adults, providing a safe environment for them to learn about their faith, and giving guidance on being examples of good Christians in our society.

Our activities once again included HEY and YEH nights, GODSTOCK, WAPO (Formerly Telemark), Summer Stretch, 5<sup>th</sup> Quarter, Middle School Lock-In, and of course the Montana Mission Trip. More information and detail is provided in the Youth Ministry Director's report, but needless to say the young adults and youth of Augustana are being given opportunities to share their faith and embrace a Christian lifestyle through these activities. We are particularly proud of Tess Duncan, who was elected to the Secretary position of the Lutheran Youth Organization board. For the next two years, Tess will represent Augustana and the youth of the Northwest Synod and our committee looks forward to supporting her fully.

This year also brought about the slight change to a more family oriented approach to our fellowship and activities focused on Passing on Faith. Our committee became the Youth and Family Committee and we worked on planning more activities where adults could share and affirm their faith with our youth. We were successful in putting together several family fun nights, including a bonfire night and a golf night. We are continuing to look at more activities and encourage your fellowship ideas.

As we move into 2012, the Youth and Family Committee once again has a full calendar of activities planned, including 13 of our youth attending the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans in July. For many of these kids, this is a once-in-a-lifetime trip and our committee would like to once again thank the members of the Church Council and the Congregation for your continued support of these youth activities.

Tyler Lloyd  
Youth Committee Chairperson

## Financial Reports Camp Fund

Balance January 1, 2011	\$2,373.17
Income	0.00
Disbursements	
Luther Point Bible Camp—Camperships	\$1,002.50
Balance December 31, 2011	\$1,370.67

### Debt Retirement Fund Treasurer's Report

Beginning Balance January 1, 2011 \$13,018.97

**Receipts:**

Debt Retirement Fund Pledges	\$69,226.70
Debt Retirement Prepayment for 2012	\$60,800.00
Interest	<u>\$14.16</u>
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$130,040.86</b>

**Disbursements:**

Monthly Loan Payment	\$38,700.00
Payments to Principal in 2011	\$30,600.00
Prepayments to Principal	\$60,800.00
Pledge to Millie Carlson Scholarship Fund	\$696.00
Pledge to Luther Point Bible Camp	\$696.00
Pledge to Fund for Leaders	\$696.00
Return to General Fund—Deposited in Error	<u>\$150.00</u>
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>\$132,338.00</b>

Balance December 31, 2011 \$10,721.83

Commercial Loan Balance January 1, 2011	\$281,606.86
Commercial Loan Balance December 31, 2011	\$159,166.20

Thank you to everyone that gave so generously to the Debt Retirement Fund.

Special thanks to the 2-year Pledge Drive Committee.

Members of the Committee are Claire Johnson, Dan Shoemaker, Tom Hallgren, John Westin, and Mervin Olson.

Co-Treasurers

Shirley Anne Evenson

Carol Wallin

## Memorial Fund

### **Balance in Designated Memorials**

Bob Howe in Memory	\$20.00
Delbert Ekenstedt Family in Memory	\$2055.00
Eleanor Carlson Nordby in Memory	\$200.00
Hazel Nystrom in Memory	\$1339.20
Hubert Thoe Family in Memory	\$53.24
Lillian Hegg Family in Memory	\$504.00
Michelle Mullen Mulvihill in Memory	\$200.00
Music and Worship	\$3.10
Nancy Erickson in Memory	\$85.00
Patty Komarek Sunday School Fund	\$644.98
Rev. Paul Landstrom Memorial	\$3389.97
Video Projection System for Great Hall	\$3065.00
Vi Lundquist and Alan Agen in Memory	\$100.00
Balance in Undesignated	\$359.08
Interest	<u>\$78.88</u>

### **Other Designated Giving**

Evenson Family for Building Improvements	\$250.00
Siemers Family for Bulletins	\$365.01
Bus Fund	<u>\$74.59</u>

**Total Income** **\$12,787.05**

### **2011 Receipts in Memory of:**

Sunday School Offerings	\$210.89
Thrivent Fund for Video Projection System	\$596.00
Ann and Pete Bergmann in Memory of Bob Howe	\$20.00
Susie Caughey and Tom Schaffer in Memory of Vi Lundquist and Alan Agen	\$100.00
David and Shirley Anne Evenson for Building Improvements	\$250.00
Thrivent Fund for Video Projection System	\$94.00
Allan and Margaret Siemers	\$450.00
Linda Nordby Simpson and Dean Simpson in Memory of Eleanor Carlson Nordby	\$200.00
Donna Hallgren, Kerwin and Marilyn Cordes, and Tim and Mary Jean Jergenson in Memory of Nancy Erickson	\$85.00
Thrivent Fund for Video Projection System	\$300.00
Interest	<u>\$32.25</u>
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$2,338.14</b>

**MEMORIAL FUND CONTINUED**

**2011 Disbursements**

Northwest Synod of Wisconsin Resource Center	\$200.00
Augsburg Fortress	\$200.00
David Evenson for Name Plates	\$26.76
Daylight Cabinet Company for Display Cabinet	\$750.00
Sunday School Fund	\$404.14
Augsburg Fortress for Bulletins	\$34.20
The Hermitage Art Company for Bulletins	<u>\$50.79</u>
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>\$1,665.89</b>

Beginning Balance January 1, 2011	\$12,114.80
Total Receipts	2,338.14
Total Disbursements	<u>\$1,665.89</u>
Balance December 31, 2010	\$12,787.05

Bruce Jungerberg, Memorial Fund Treasurer, Augustana Lutheran Church

## Millie Carlson Scholarship Fund

Passbook Balance on Hand January 1, 2011		\$10,554.79
<b>Receipts</b>		
Memorials and Donations	\$5050.08	
Interest	\$24.38	
One Percent of Debt Retirement Fund Receipts	<u>\$570.42</u>	
Total Passbook Income	\$5644.88	
<b>Disbursements</b>		
Seven Scholarships of \$750 Each	\$5250.00	
Total Passbook December 31, 2011 (Compiled on January 5, 2012)		\$10,949.67
One Year CD (Cumberland Federal) January 1, 2011		\$28,072.46
CD interest	\$305.54	
CD Balance December 30, 2011		<b>\$28,378.00</b>
Total Funds December 31, 2011 (Compiled on Jan 5, 2012)		<b>\$39,327.67</b>

**Dave Evenson, Treasurer**  
**Millie Carlson Scholarship Fund**

## Women of the ELCA Treasurer's Report

Balance January 1, 2011		\$2,496.26
<b>Income</b>		
Offerings (Circle, WELCA)	\$373.50	
Events (Funerals, Luncheons, Etc.)	<u>\$1,732.07</u>	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$2,105.57</b>	
<b>Disbursements</b>		
Offerings	\$186.75	
Gifts (Baptisms, Graduation)	\$157.73	
Advertising	\$26.00	
Events (Funerals, Luncheons, Etc.)	\$718.83	
Subscriptions	\$12.00	
Outreach Programs	\$2,500.00	
Check to Augustana to close WELCA Account	<u>\$1,000.52</u>	
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>\$4,601.83</b>	
<b>Balance December 31, 2011</b>		<b>\$0.00</b>

**Kris Girard, Treasurer, Women of the ELCA**

## Youth and Family Ministry Fund

Balance on hand January 1, 2011 \$4,528.46

### **Receipts**

General Fund	\$4,700.00
Godstock/WAPO	\$1,325.00
Habitat Mission Trip Donations/Fees	\$9,622.52
Family Fun Days	\$706.00
Summer Stretch	\$2,143.26
HEY/YEH	\$104.20
National Youth Gathering donations	\$9,315.00
Undesignated gifts and donations	\$1,239.00
Kid's Sermons	\$18.75
Account Interest and Miscellaneous	<u>\$1,340.62</u>
Total	\$30,514.35

### **Disbursements**

Godstock/WAPO	\$3,225.17
Habitat Mission Trip	\$7,845.82
Family Fun Days	\$1,121.26
Summer Stretch	\$2,727.88
HEY/YEH Activities	\$488.95
National Youth Gathering	\$1,800.00
Small Group Ministries	\$481.39
Milestone Ministry	\$106.23
Kids Sermons	\$66.71
Postage	\$180.75
Miscellaneous	<u>\$908.05</u>
Total	\$18,952.21

Balance as of December 31, 2011 \$16,090.60

Although the Youth and Family Ministry account is showing a large amount of carryover funds into 2012, these funds are the result of fundraising and generous donations throughout 2011. These funds will be used for the upcoming National Youth Gathering, Habitat Mission trip, and other projects and mission work in 2012.

## Report of Income and Expenses for 2011/Proposed Budget for 2012

	<u>2011 Budget</u>	<u>2011 Actual</u>	<u>2012 Budget</u>
<b><u>Income</u></b>			
General Pledge	\$223,458.00	\$219,704.00	\$237,691.00
Non-Member Known Givers	9,000.00	8,995.00	9,000.00
Loose Offering	2,000.00	2,852.36	3,000.00
Holiday Offering for General	5,000.00	5,516.81	5,000.00
Money Market Interest	0.00	83.06	0.00
Returned Salaries	1,722.00	1,722.00	1722.40
Church Use Income	1,000.00	2,293.00	2,500.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$242,180.00</b>	<b>\$241,166.23</b>	<b>\$258,913.40</b>
<b><u>Expenses</u></b>			
Synod/ELCA Benevolence	\$17,000.00	\$17,000.04	\$17,000.00
Synod Resource Center	100.00	100.00	100.00
Luther Point Bible Camp	500.00	556.00	1,300.00
Lutheran Social Services	250.00	250.00	250.00
HON Conference	0.00	30.00	0.00
<b>TOTAL BENEVOLENCE</b>	<b>\$17,850.00</b>	<b>\$17,936.04</b>	<b>\$18,650.00</b>
Pastor's Base Salary	\$32,002.00	\$31,571.97	\$32,619.00
Housing Allowance	21,500.00	21,937.44	21,500.00
Social Security Allowance	4,092.00	4,084.59	4,140.00
Pension and Health Insurance	15,204.00	15,479.19	15,204.00
Professional Expenses	300.00	344.67	300.00
Continuing Education	900.00	848.07	900.00
Sabbatical Leave Study	500.00	0.00	0.00
Meetings and Conferences	600.00	435.00	600.00
Mileage Reimbursement	3,500.00	3,851.34	3,500.00
<b>TOTAL PASTOR STAFFING</b>	<b>\$78,598.00</b>	<b>\$78,552.27</b>	<b>\$78,763.00</b>
Youth Director Salary	\$19,153.24	\$19,153.20	\$21,707.00
Payroll Tax Expense	1,465.22	1,465.21	1,660.00
Youth Director Continuing Education	450.00	450.00	450.00
Disability and Administration Fees	716.00	808.84	716.00
Pension	1,915.00	1,912.44	2,170.00
Mileage	1,000.00	502.72	1,000.00
<b>TOTAL YOUTH DIRECTOR STAFFING</b>	<b>\$24,699.46</b>	<b>\$24,292.41</b>	<b>\$27,703.00</b>
Choir Director Salary	\$2,888.00	\$2,887.96	\$2,888.00
Praise Team Director	1,015.00	1,014.98	1,015.00
Organist and Accompanist	4,821.00	4,844.05	6,250.00
Payroll Tax Expense	667.00	644.37	776.00
Supply Organist	300.00	65.00	300.00
<b>TOTAL MUSIC STAFFING</b>	<b>\$9,691.00</b>	<b>\$9,456.36</b>	<b>\$11,229.00</b>

	<b>2011 Budget</b>	<b>2011 Actual</b>	<b>2012 Budget</b>
Custodians Salary	\$13,955.00	\$13,955.04	\$13,955.00
Payroll Tax Expense	1,067.00	1,067.53	1,067.00
<b><u>TOTAL PROPERTY STAFFING</u></b>	<b>\$15,022.00</b>	<b>\$15,022.57</b>	<b>\$15,022.00</b>
Secretary Salary	\$22,398.00	\$22,398.00	\$22,398.00
Payroll Tax Expense	1,713.00	1,713.38	1,713.00
Health Insurance/Pension	9,146.00	9,242.35	9,326.00
Continuing Education	400.00	160.00	400.00
Mileage Reimbursement	200.00	99.90	200.00
<b><u>TOTAL SECRETARY STAFFING</u></b>	<b>\$33,857.00</b>	<b>\$33,613.63</b>	<b>\$34,037.00</b>
Treasurer's Salary	\$1,600.00	\$1722.00	\$1,600.00
Payroll Tax Expense	122.40		122.40
<b><u>TOTAL FINANCING STAFFING</u></b>	<b>\$1,722.40</b>	<b>\$1,722.00</b>	<b>\$1,722.40</b>
Advertising—Job Openings		\$398.20	
<b><u>TOTAL ADVERTISING—JOB OPENINGS</u></b>		<b>\$398.20</b>	
Supply Pastors Salary	\$1,000.00	\$1,144.42	\$1,100.00
<b><u>TOTAL SUPPLY PASTORS</u></b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>	<b>\$1,144.42</b>	<b>\$1,100.00</b>
Community Outreach	\$400.00	\$490.63	\$400.00
Visitors/New members	300.00	202.65	200.00
Women's Conferences/Conventions/Retreats			300.00
Brochures			300.00
Synod Assembly Expense	400.00	340.00	400.00
Cookie Walk	0.00	71.50	
Advertising	500.00	569.50	500.00
Kitchen Expenses	0.00	70.09	
<b><u>TOTAL OUTREACH</u></b>	<b>\$1,600.00</b>	<b>\$1,744.37</b>	<b>\$2,100.00</b>
Kitchen Supplies			\$500.00
Congregational Care	\$400.00	\$35.97	400.00
Congregational Gifts	300.00	476.40	300.00
Coffee/Hospitality/Meals	250.00	377.72	250.00
Greeting Card Ministry	160.00	245.82	300.00
Devotion Books	250.00	178.72	250.00
<b><u>TOTAL CONGREGATIONAL CARE</u></b>	<b>\$1,360.00</b>	<b>\$1,314.63</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>
Events	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Mission Project Support	1,000.00	700.00	1,000.00
Sponsored Missionary	3,100.00	1,850.00	2,800.00
Mission Trip	300.00	300.00	300.00
Care Fund	300.00	174.96	300.00
Fair Trade Coffee	0.00	-76.05	0.00
Quilts and Kits	0.00	73.33	200.00
Church in Society Committee Expense	50.00	-50.00	50.00
<b><u>TOTAL CHURCH IN SOCIETY</u></b>	<b>\$4,850.00</b>	<b>\$3,072.24</b>	<b>\$4,750.00</b>

	<b>2011 Budget</b>	<b>2011 Actual</b>	<b>2012 Budget</b>
Stewardship Materials	\$200.00	\$383.45	\$200.00
Stewardship Postage	400.00	176.00	200.00
Offering Envelopes	1,000.00	752.73	700.00
<b><u>TOTAL STEWARDSHIP</u></b>	<b>\$1,600.00</b>	<b>\$1,312.18</b>	<b>\$1,100.00</b>
Sunday School Materials	\$550.00	\$454.38	\$600.00
Vacation Bible School	300.00	0.00	300.00
Confirmation	925.00	517.91	1,025.00
Adult Education	200.00	393.40	200.00
Library	750.00	522.49	700.00
Milestones Ministry	775.00	891.94	0.00
<b><u>TOTAL EDUCATION</u></b>	<b>\$3,500.00</b>	<b>\$2,780.12</b>	<b>\$2,825.00</b>
Summer Stretch			\$1,200.00
YEH			600.00
HEY			600.00
Habitat Mission Trip			1,600.00
Youth Scholarships			0.00
Milestones Ministry	0.00	0.00	
Confirmation			168.00
1 <sup>st</sup> Communion			581.00
Baptism			677.00
Graduation			100.00
College Blessings			260.00
1 <sup>st</sup> Christmas			150.00
New Milestones			200.00
Small Group Ministries	300.00	300.00	250.00
Social Concerns	100.00	100.00	100.00
Family Days	500.00	500.00	500.00
Postage	250.00	250.00	250.00
Food and Supplies	150.00	150.00	150.00
Synod Youth Gatherings	1,900.00	1,900.00	
Synod Middle School—WAPO			400.00
Synod High School—GODSTOCK			375.00
National Youth Gathering			1,000.00
<b><u>TOTAL YOUTH AND FAMILY</u></b>	<b>\$4,700.00</b>	<b>\$4,700.00</b>	<b>\$9,161.00</b>
Altar and Worship Supplies	\$1,300.00	\$1,278.61	\$1,300.00
Music	1,200.00	886.82	1,200.00
Visual Arts	200.00	157.72	200.00
Licensing and Copyrights—Onelicense	300.00	160.00	300.00
Worship Planning	250.00	42.15	250.00
Instrument Maintenance	2,200.00	957.50	2,200.00
Instrument Emergency Repair Fund	0.00	0.00	1,500.00
<b><u>TOTAL MUSIC AND WORSHIP</u></b>	<b>\$5,450.00</b>	<b>\$3,482.80</b>	<b>\$6,950.00</b>

	<b>2011 Budget</b>	<b>2011 Actual</b>	<b>2012 Budget</b>
Bus Maintenance and Insurance	\$1,000.00	\$3,023.22	\$1,300.00
Insurance	7,000.00	7,313.75	7,000.00
Heating-Church	6,000.00	6,445.58	6,000.00
Utilities-Church	6,000.00	6,591.75	6,000.00
Cleaning Supplies	400.00	39.23	400.00
Maintenance Supplies & Repairs	5,000.00	3,657.13	5,500.00
Elevator Security	200.00	362.00	700.00
Garbage Service	600.00	615.00	600.00
Snow Removal	300.00	240.00	300.00
Property Tax	0.00	5.00	
City Curb and Gutter Assessment	1,986.00	2,479.50	0.00
Loan Payment—Boiler	2,832.00	3,068.00	
Property Loan—Contributions for Interest	0.00	0.00	-5,000.00
Property Loan Interest			9,000.00
<b><u>TOTAL PROPERTY</u></b>	<b>\$31,318.00</b>	<b>\$33,840.16</b>	<b>\$31,800.00</b>
Lutheran Magazine	\$40.00	\$79.80	\$45.00
Subscriptions	100.00	253.90	120.00
Office Equipment	300.00	0.00	1,300.00
Computer Software	300.00	0.00	300.00
Computer Repair-Maintenance	700.00	399.00	700.00
Copy Machine Rental	4,500.00	4,141.15	4,500.00
Copier Supplies	600.00	782.41	700.00
Bulletins	600.00	246.74	250.00
Postage	400.00	303.90	100.00
Office Supplies	2,500.00	3,095.25	2,500.00
Telephone/Internet	3,500.00	3,390.61	3,300.00
Sundays and Seasons.com	479.00	528.55	479.00
<b><u>TOTAL OFFICE EXPENSES</u></b>	<b>\$14,019.00</b>	<b>\$13,221.31</b>	<b>\$14,294.00</b>
Finance Committee Postage	\$300.00	\$264.00	\$300.00
Bank and Post Office Fees	250.00	486.85	300.00
Outside Accountant Fees	1,700.00	1,525.50	1,800.00
Finance Committee Expenses—Other	75.00	0.00	75.00
<b><u>TOTAL FINANCE</u></b>	<b>\$2,325.00</b>	<b>\$2,276.35</b>	<b>\$2,475.00</b>
World Hunger Donations		\$-2,018.36	
World Hunger Transfers		2,127.02	
Hand in Hand—Congregational Renewal		-170.80	
Hand in Hand		171.46	
<b><u>TOTAL OTHER NON-BUDGETED</u></b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$109.32</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>OTHER INCOME/EXPENSE</b>			
Building Fund Deposits		\$1,000.00	
Building Note—Interest		-739.62	
<b><u>TOTAL EXPENSES</u></b>	<b>\$253,186.86</b>	<b>\$249,991.38</b>	<b>\$265,681.40</b>



Dear Congregations of the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin,

How quickly we complain when we are unhappy or disappointed. How seldom we say "thank you" when we are appreciative. Perhaps you've heard that it takes over 20 positive affirmations to counter-balance the effect of one negative criticism.

Because of the office I hold, I am often caught in the crossfire of whatever complaints members, congregations, or rostered leaders might have. This isn't surprising because when we are unhappy or up-set, we tend to be highly motivated to express ourselves, especially in this era of internet anonymity. But when we are appreciative, we too often remain silent.

Thus, at a time when expressions of thanks seem to be few and far between, I think it is important as the pastor of the synod that I express my thanks to *you*:

- **Thank you** for all the ways you live out your baptismal vocation in everyday life, living for Jesus in whatever arena you find yourself, following the Lord as a disciple Monday through Saturday, not just on Sunday.
- **Thank you** for every effort your congregation makes to live beyond itself in Jesus' name for the sake of neighbor. Keep centering everything you do in God's call to engage the world.
- **Thank you** for seeking to be a transformative community dedicated to witness and service, healing the fractures of the world, and living for the sake of others through Gospel witness and work.
- **Thank you** for the countless ways that you have blessed me and my staff as we support one another in living as God's missionary people.

As you review your congregation's annual report celebrating your mission of the past year, and as you gear up to worship, witness, and serve in 2012, may the Spirit blow mightily in and through you!

Duane C. Pederson, Bishop  
Northwest Synod of Wisconsin - ELCA

Walking together † for the sake of mission † in God's world.

# Annual Executive Director's Report

One of the things I wrote about in my fall ask letter this year is the idea that "Luther Point is a treasure". God has entrusted all of us with the care of this place. It truly is a privilege to come and be a part of a ministry and a ministry setting that is beautiful. The one component that makes the camp ministry complete is having people enveloped by this natural beauty. My greatest concern is that I am witnessing less and less people coming to be a part of this awesome treasure. It appears that there needs to be a renewed emphasis and push for ownership and stewardship of this great treasure that our corporation churches have been entrusted to manage and care for. My hope for the coming months and years ahead is for a renewed sense of stewardship for this ministry that has dramatically touched so many lives over the years.

The OMDT Capital Campaign made some good progress this year. Bill Stafford, Development Coordinator for the campaign has been working diligently with several congregations. Congregational leaders have been trained, councils have been visited, and congregational campaigns have been conducted. Several churches conducted campaigns this year. Results were mixed. I believe we have now exceeded \$800,000 in pledges and gifts.

The "Memorial and Honors" program is very close to being off the ground. We have scaled back the initial phase of the program in order to see strong results and solid volunteer involvement up front. We now have 12 congregational chairs with another 5-6 vice chairs. Each volunteer team will be responsible for distributing and promoting the "Memorial and Honors" materials and maintaining displays. Displays will be located in churches, law offices, funeral homes and other key places where significant remembrance opportunities exist. Anniversaries, birthdays, graduations, memorials, weddings are just a few of the many remembrance opportunities that exist that could be recognized with a naming gift to Luther Point. Temple talks will be a regular event at the (alpha group) churches to lift up the program and the ministry of Luther Point.

As I mentioned in last years report, I am still quite concerned about the steady decline in camper participation. The camp simply cannot afford to see this decline continue. We are being stretched to our limits with resources and staffing responsibilities. With declining camper participation, comes less revenue, which puts more pressure on other areas of revenue sourcing.

Thank you to our congregations who have continued to support the camp faithfully with your benevolent support. One of the encouraging aspects of the work and ministry this year is that congregations are still keeping Luther Point as a priority in the mission support.

I also mentioned last year that there seems to be a trickle down affect. What affects our congregational base also affects the camp, aging congregations, budget constraints, strife due to internal or external factors. Some or most of these factors are completely out of the control of Luther Point. We are looking at ways to be more proactive and looking to be more ecumenical in our outreach to youth, families and other user groups. These are some of the things we can control in the sense being proactive and future oriented.

Our primary mission remains the same, "Forming Faith, Pointing to Christ". People's lives and faith continue to be nurtured, molded, and shaped by their experiences here at Luther Point. I have the privilege of visiting with folks all over the region. Some of those people came to camp 50-60 years ago and some who have participated recently. All of them speak fondly of their experiences and memories here at Luther Point. We faithfully continue in that tradition and that mission of sharing the good news of Jesus. Reaching out with hospitality, grace and acceptance, in order that people might come to know Jesus as Lord of their life.

Thank you for your partnership and ownership in this vital ministry of the church.

Rev. Craig M. Corbin, Executive Director