



PHOTO BY
FRANKLIN ISHIDA



A message from the presiding bishop



PHOTO BY MICHAEL WATSON

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) is a church with a particular way of understanding the Jesus story. It is not a movement from unbridled freedom to submission, but a story of God redeeming us from sin, death and the devil. This redemption sets us free from our bondage to sin so that, liberated and alive, we may serve God by serving our neighbor. This service is not about our effort or goodness or hard work. It is about God's gracious will to be merciful.

As you review the work you have done this past year and make decisions for the year ahead, remember that we who were dead to sin have now been made alive to who we are: God's people. We engage in dialogue, discernment and action declaring God's work and bringing a clear voice to the public square. We respond to God's deep abiding love by making faithful choices about how to use the generous gifts of time, talent and financial resources entrusted to us.

Whenever you and your leaders engage in planning and decision-making, we are challenged to discern and model a different story from the one culture tells us. It is this much-needed story of love and faithfulness, forgiveness and joy, humility and resolve that shapes the ELCA's role in your community and the world.

Serving together in Christ's name,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elizabeth A. Eaton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Annual congregational meeting opening liturgy

LITANY

The love of God, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Brothers and sisters, God calls each of us by name.

We are a church that belongs to Christ.

Recognizing the diversity among us, we are grounded in God's love and forgiveness to live and serve here and now.

We are a church whose unity is in Christ.

Young and old together, our life in Christ compels and empowers us to be open and accessible within any community, within any context.

We are a church that believes Jesus is God's "YES" to us.

Recognizing each of us has unique gifts and a unique story, we are part of a larger body and a larger story. Together, we achieve things we could not do alone.

We are a church that believes God is calling us into the world – together.

Skilled and unskilled, we do God's work together, restoring and reconciling communities. We pursue justice and seek peace no matter how long the journey or wide the chasm.

We are a church that rolls up our sleeves and gets to work.

Recognizing the differences of perspectives, personalities and practice, we commit to being a force for connecting people, faiths and organizations. We respect the perspectives and strengths of others and share a common vision to uphold human dignity.

We are a church that is a catalyst, convener and bridge builder.

Outspoken and soft-spoken, we continually strive for a deeper understanding of what the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ means in the world while being in the thick of life.

We are a church that is energized by lively engagement in our faith and life.

Recognizing our roots are in Scripture, tradition and the Lutheran Confessions, as well as the vibrant communities and rich history of our congregation, we are a church guided by the Holy Spirit that is both resilient and always being reformed.

We are a church that is deeply rooted in the gospel – and always being made new.

Let us pray: As we live into the church that we proclaim to be, fill us with hope as we engage in the work of serving you. Guide us that we may honor our missional heritage while opening our eyes to new ways of serving others. Steer our thoughts and words away from distraction and toward your will. In our deliberations keep us close to you and fill us with your Holy Spirit, so that we may serve you in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

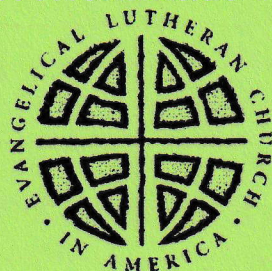
2015 Annual Report of the Congregation

*Emmaus Evangelical Lutheran Church
Parroquia Emaús
1925 Summit Avenue, Racine, Wisconsin*

Phone 262 634-5515

e-mail emmausracine@sbcglobal.net

<http://www.emmaus-racine.org>



A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



Table of contents

Mission Statement..... page i
 Congregational Meeting minutes January 26, 2015 page ii
 Emmaus/Emaús Covenantpage iv
 Covenant of the Congregations of the Racine Mission Cluster page v
 FaithWorks Partnership Covenant.....page vi
 Questions and Answers.....page vii

Pastor Mary L. Janz's reportpage 1
 Pastor Jhon Freddy Correa's report.....page 3

Council president's reportpage 5
 Building & Grounds reportpage 6
 Member Care report.....page 6
 Parish Education reportpage 7
 Stewardship report.....page 8
 Worship & Music reportpage 8

Outreach report..... page 11
 Scrip & Mt. Meru Coffee report page 12
 Stitches report..... page 13
 FaithWorks final report.....page 14
 Green Team report..... page 16

Pastoral report and summary of statistics for 2015..... page 17
 Pastoral Acts page 18
 Memorials and honoraria page 19
 Synod mission support statement..... page 20
 Mortgage annual statement page 20

Treasurer's Report..... page 21

Mission Statement

We thank God for our heritage of faith and for the faithfulness of our forebears that over the years have come to include people of many backgrounds. In response to the grace of God focused in Jesus Christ and poured out by the Holy Spirit, the mission of Emmaus is to carry forward our strong heritage. We are called to affirm, interpret and proclaim the Christian Faith through worship, education, witness, service and fellowship by utilizing effectively, as members of God's family, the many different gifts God gives us. (Adopted 1991)

Agradecemos a Dios por nuestra herencia de fe y de la fidelidad de nuestros antepasados que con los años han llegado a incluir a las personas de diferentes orígenes. En respuesta a la gracia de Dios, centrado en Jesucristo y derramado por el Espíritu Santo, la misión de Emaús es para llevar adelante nuestra fuerte herencia. Estamos llamados a afirmar, interpretar y proclamar la fe cristiana a través del culto, la enseñanza, testimonio, servicio y comunión mediante la utilización efectiva, como miembros de la familia de Dios, la diversidad de carismas que Dios nos da.

Agenda

Opening devotion — Pastor Janz
Approval of Minutes of Congregational Meetings:
 January 25, 2015
Pastors' Reports
President's Report

Recognition of 2015 Church Council
Extension of council terms?
Unfinished Business
New Business
Prayer

Emmaus Congregational Meeting Minutes

Date: January 25, 2015. Time: 10:10 a.m. Place: Emmaus Sunset Room

1. **Opening devotion:** Pastor Mary Janz gave thanks to God for being in our midst. She asked that He blow His spirit of hope and possibility among us, and that He help us to make good decisions.
2. **Minutes:** The minutes of congregational meetings dated January 26, 2014; July 27, 2014; September 14, 2014; and January 18, 2015 were approved as submitted (**Motion 01/2015:01-CM**)
3. **Pastor's report:**
 - a. Pastor Mary recalled that the congregation of Emmaus has been through quite a year during which our experience with St. Andrew culminated in the vote to remain separate for now. She thanked all who have answered the call and said "yes" to act as God's partners here on Earth, and Mary thanked everyone for their prayers and flexibility.
 - b. Mary reported that her status as pastor of Emmaus has gone from $\frac{3}{4}$ time to $\frac{1}{2}$ time, while her status as FaithWorks Champion has gone from $\frac{1}{2}$ time to $\frac{3}{4}$ time.
 - c. The FaithWorks council has narrowed its mission to three key areas of focus: the well-being of kids, food, and homelessness. The National Church wants something measurable before they release the possible grant monies which they have on hold. Meanwhile, others both locally and nationwide are looking at our unique situation. FaithWorks will offer anti-racism training in the upcoming year.
4. **President's report:** Chris commended the congregation for a good job working with St. Andrew. He reminded us that the door is always open to St. Andrew and other churches who may want to partner with Emmaus.
5. **Recognition of 2014 church council:** Chris recognized outgoing members Pat Jensen and Loren Larsen. He also thanked all council members for their service.
6. **Election of 2015 church council:** The following slate of council members for 2015 was presented:
 - a. President: Chris Lamberton
 - b. Vice president: Cindi Larsen
 - c. Secretary: Missy Porcaro
 - d. Treasurer: Art Smith
 - e. Building and Grounds: Jim Larrabee
 - f. Congregational Fellowship: Cheryl Dexter
 - g. Evangelism: Carol Yust
 - h. Member Care: Cathy Meyer
 - i. Parish Education:
 - j. Social Concerns:
 - k. Stewardship: Carolyn Wooster
 - l. Youth: Rich Benson
 - m. Member at Large: Ryan Lamberton

- n. Rich Benson and Carol Yust will act as FaithWorks mission council representatives. Representatives for the Synod Assembly in May, 2015 are pending. The slate of council members for 2015 was accepted (**Motion 01/2015:02-CM**)
7. **Approval of the Proposed Budget for 2015:** Treasurer Art Smith reviewed the 2014 budget, explaining that Emmaus started the year with a \$14,000 deficit and then was hit hard with high utility and snow removal costs and flood clean-up costs for the parsonage. He explained that the mortgage refinance during 2014 made it possible to pay off these and other bills as well as pay the city approximately \$30,000 for repaving the alley. Money was also put into a cash reserve account and a capital improvements fund (some of which has been used for an energy efficient lighting project).
 - a. In answer to a question regarding the reduced Latino contribution, Art and Mary explained that Emaús was required to make an unexpected payment to the Synod to repay the National Church for Latino ministry costs over the last few years. Emaús paid \$15,000 and Emmaus paid \$5,000.
 - b. Art then explained the proposed 2015 budget, which is based on an income of \$185K and expenditures of \$200K to run the building and pay salaries. A motion to accept the 2015 budget passed (**Motion 01/2015:03-CM**)
8. **Unfinished Business:** When asked why Wisconsin Fuel was used to repair the boiler rather than a less costly local business, Mary and Loren and Chris explained that the needed repair was immediate and complicated and Wisconsin Fuel is a trusted provider.
9. **New Business:**
 - a. Emmaus-Emaús covenant: Pastor Jhon Freddy feels comfortable that Emaús will provide the Emmaus general fund with \$6,000 per year to defray building and administrative expenses. He hopes to give more. (See #7 of the covenant.) The covenant was approved.
 - b. Proposed FaithWorks Partnership Covenant: Pastor Mary explained that the original covenant was reduced to one page to allow potential new churches to more easily read and understand it. Mt. Pleasant Lutheran Church currently makes a financial contribution to FaithWorks. Mary is in conversation with Holy Communion Lutheran Church and Lutheran Church of the Resurrection regarding how they can work together in mission. A motion to accept the covenant passed (**Motion 01/2015-04-CM**).
10. **Adjourn:** A motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:50 a.m. passed. (**Motion 01/2015:05-CM**)
11. **Closing:** The Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted by Missy Porcaro

Emmaus-Emaús Covenant

The members of Emmaus and Emaús agree to the following:

1. We will provide mutual support to each other in terms of volunteers and expertise.
2. We will respect each other's cultural identity and work toward inclusivity where possible.
3. We will be intentional in developing relationships and improving communications.
4. We will support each other's fund raising activities.
5. Emmaus will provide their facilities to Emaús for worship and other church and community related activities.
6. Emmaus will provide the parsonage or its equivalent to the Emaús pastor.
7. Emaús will provide the Emmaus general fund with \$6,000 per year to defray building and administrative expenses.

Los miembros de Emmaus y Emaús acuerdan lo siguiente:

1. Vamos a proporcionar apoyo mutuo el uno al otro en términos de voluntarios y compartirán los talentos.
2. Vamos a respetar la identidad cultural de los demás y trabajar en pro de la inclusión, cuando sea posible.
3. Vamos a ser intencional en el desarrollo de las relaciones y mejorar la comunicación.
4. Vamos a apoyar las actividades de cada uno de recaudación de fondos.
5. Emmaus ofrecerá sus instalaciones a Emaús para el culto y la otra iglesia y las actividades relacionadas con la comunidad.
6. Emmaus proporcionará la casa parroquial o su equivalente al pastor Emaús.
7. Emaús proporcionará el fondo general de Emmaus con \$6,000 por año para sufragar la construcción y los gastos administrativos.

Covenant
Congregations of the Racine Mission Cluster of the ELCA

Preface: John 17:20-21 (CEV)

“I am not praying just for these followers. I am also praying for everyone else who will have faith because of what my followers will say about me. I want all of them to be one with each other, just as I am one with you and you are one with me. I also want them to be one with us. Then the people of this world will believe that you sent me . . .”

As member congregations of the ELCA in the greater Racine community we are called to be agents of grace in our community and beyond. We celebrate, recognize and value each congregation’s history, ministry and gifts. We acknowledge a deep and profound connection to each other. We promise to seek to be the body of Christ in this place and time. In witness to our Lord Jesus Christ, we unite together in this ministry covenant . . .

1. To focus our corporate lives on the mission of Jesus Christ and to take whatever steps necessary to ensure the flowering of grace in our community and world.
2. To reach out in our respective communities to invite and welcome our neighbors to join with us in worship, mission and ministry.
3. To intentionally seek justice for all people.
4. To stand against racism and all forms of oppression.
5. To serve all those in need especially the unemployed, the aging, the hungry, the homeless, and the abused.
6. To abandon competition among congregations and share the gifts and blessings God bestows on us.
7. To share, as the Body of Christ, programs, ministries and resources to carry out our congregational responsibilities and mission.
8. To affirm our ecumenical and interfaith connection and commitments.
9. To develop common strategies for the future so we may be more effective in our witness and service.

Adopted in 2006

FaithWorks Partnership Covenant

Racine ELCA FaithWorks congregations commit to collaborative mission work among the most vulnerable in Racine. Bound by collective prayer, worship, study of scripture and anti-racism training, these congregations pledge to intentionally partner with and support one another and other faith and community organizations in order to meet in real and tangible ways the brokenness and challenges facing our community. Our common commitment is to seek God's will and partner in God's mission: God's Work Our Hands

Those congregations entering into the FaithWorks commitment for 2015 pledge to:

- Active participation on the FaithWorks Mission Council (two lay mission leaders and all clergy).
- Intentional anti-racism training for at least 75% of 2015 church council members, church staff, and key lay leaders.
- Active involvement in at least one food ministry, which includes other FaithWorks congregations and partners. (e.g. community meals, food pantries)
- Active involvement in a neighborhood/school outreach ministry with children during the academic year.
- Active involvement in a summer neighborhood camp program.
- Active listening to the community outside our doors.
- Active involvement in mission strategy to further define and expand the FW focus of mission in Racine. (e.g. health, homelessness, immigration, environment, peace)
- Financial support based on the number of full-time clergy positions as of February 1, 2015 (\$2,000 per FTE on staff).

We embrace the following core beliefs:

- We exist for mission - God's Mission. God's Work Our Hands
- Our congregations must become examples of the appropriate use of resources so that God's earth is not damaged, but replenished.

This covenant commits Atonement Our Savior's, Emaús, Emmaus, and St. Andrew to a fourth year of profound partnership following the congregational ratification. FaithWorks invites and welcomes other ELCA congregations who commit to the terms of this covenant to become FaithWorks partners.

This covenant is meant to be a living document. It may be modified by action of the Mission Council and ratification by a majority of the covenanting partner congregations.

December 11, 2014

Questions and Answers

What will be our new name? After considerable discussion, the name **Emaus ELCA** is the proposed official name.

Will we still have an English service? Yes, there will still be worship in English Saturdays and Sundays in English.

How is the constitution different than the one we voted on last year? There is both a Spanish and an English version of the constitution. The basic constitution is similar. The new constitution proposes a different structure for council, assuring representation from both the English and Spanish-speaking communities. Some of the by-laws vary.

What will happen to Pastor Mary and Pastor Jhon Freddy? Jhon Freddy begins a new call in Florida January 21, and Pastor Mary's role will be primarily as a support person and advisor during the transition time.

Who will lead the congregation during the interim period? As of February 1 Pastor Steve Wohlfeil will lead the English-speaking community. Discussion is currently taking place about how Pr. Gabriel Marcano and a team of support staff will lead the Spanish-speaking community.

What are next steps? A Transition Team, composed of three Spanish speakers and three English speakers will be formed. Their tasks will include gathering and articulating information for the Mission Profile Survey of the congregation. That work must be completed before a Call Committee can be formed. The goal for that piece is early March. The Emaus Transition Team will also oversee details including: legal work for incorporation and name change, financial transition and new integrated accounting system, and integration of many of the day-to-day realities of the unified congregation. Pastor Mary and staff members will advise the Transition Team.

How can we afford this new congregation? A comprehensive, unified budget has been prepared, taking into account the past history of Emmaus and Emaús income and the anticipated income from grants. Approximately half the income will be from grants and designated gifts. The budget is a balanced budget.

Who will be on the new council? When will they be elected? The current councils of Emmaus and Emaús will combine and will serve together for an additional four months. At that time, there will be election of a new council, which will be equally represented by the English and Spanish-speaking communities.

How can we have council meetings if everyone doesn't speak the same language? We will need to depend on those who are bilingual in the community to be of assistance. It is still the hope that some of our bilingual folks can be trained as interpreters. The agenda will

need to be carefully created ahead of time, available in both English and Spanish, so that there will be time to be mentally prepared before each meeting.

If we need a bilingual secretary, what will happen to Paul? The Transition Team will work on what is best for the congregation, which very likely will include a reassessment and modification of Paul's responsibilities and time, as well as the addition of a bilingual support person in the office

How will we decide who is to be the new bilingual lead pastor? How long will that take? After the Transition Team has completed the paperwork for the Mission Profile, it will be submitted to the Synod office. Pr. Kristin Nielsen is our Synod connection during the call process. A call committee will then be selected, hopefully before the end of March, and the national search for qualified candidates will begin. The process lasts as long as necessary to find the best person for the position. When that person is identified by the call committee, a recommendation then is made to the congregation who will then cast a vote to call that person.

Will Pastor Marcy and Carol and others still be invited to preach? Yes

Are all members automatically transferred to the new church? Yes, initially they will. With time, there will be a re-assessment of those who are active and have a desire to continue as members of Emaus

Is this a merger, a new start or a consolidation? It is considered a merger that becomes a new start.

What financial help will we get from the Synod, the ELCA and from grants? We anticipate \$50,000 from the Siebert Foundation over a three-year period of time (\$20,000, \$20,000 and \$10,000). We have also been told that the national ELCA will fund the New Start in the amount of \$23,000, an amount that is expected to decrease annually during a three-year period. The Synod will pay a portion of Pr. Gabriel's stipend through August 31, 2016.

Pastor Mary's Report
Listen! Listen, God Is Calling
by Rev. Mary L. Janz

Sometimes, it's through a still, small voice. Sometimes, it is through the rushing winds of Pentecost. Sometimes, it's through a mentor giving advice or encouragement. Sometimes, it's through music. Sometimes, it's through the one who is lonely or hungry or struggling with a chronic illness. Sometimes, it's through the one who goes the extra mile for or with you. Sometimes, it's in the tears of

On this road to Emmaus, we have been called to walk with the resurrected Christ (although we don't always recognize him at the time). We walk down the road, wondering, questioning, and grieving the loss of what was. Sound familiar? How often do we lament the loss of what was the church as we once knew it? How often have we heard that if it's not already dead, it will be soon?



© Work of Art

the one by your side. Sometimes, it's in the smile of one whose language we cannot speak. Sometimes, it's a neighbor or a family member or a complete stranger. Sometimes, it's through prayer and the Word. How has God been calling you—calling us—to love unconditionally and to serve and live in response to the love, compassion, and forgiveness that is offered to each of us in the risen Christ?

As fellow travelers on this road to Emmaus, we have been graced with this "Aha!" moment—this holy time when the "stranger" is invited in, this time of breaking bread together. We now recognize that we are already in the very presence of the resurrected Christ, the One who brings new and abundant life! This is the church!

With so many voices clamoring for our attention and allegiance, it's not always easy. A year ago, I stopped by the store where Carol Yust was the general manager. A voice within me compelled me to make the invitation, on behalf of Emmaus, for her to join us in this journey in a whole new way. While the "yes" wasn't immediate, she heard God's call through my conversations and through listening for God's voice, and her response was affirmative. Listen! Listen, God is calling! Today Carol recognizes new life and is eager to share it, just as were those folks who recognized Jesus in the breaking of the bread at Emmaus.

This past year has been truly amazing as SO many young people have approached Nancy in the EASY and Neighborhood Camp programs ASKING if they can volunteer! They want to be part of what is life giving! They themselves have experienced the fullness of life right here at Emmaus, and they are ready to share it with others! This is far from a sign of a dying church! These young people probably can't even articulate it, but they have heard God's voice and are responding.

Pastor Jhon Freddy, after sharing a demanding, yet fulfilling ministry with the people of Emaus, has been bombarded with a variety of voices in the past couple of years. "What's next for me and my family? How is God calling?" Clarity recently came in the call to Faith Lutheran Church in Lehigh, FL. Just as God called Jhon Freddy to Emaús to be part of a Spanish-speaking mission start, now he is being called to help redevelop an existing congregation that is filled with so many possibilities for the future. Just as eyes have been opened for so many of us in this unique Emaús experience together, we pray that God will continue to lead and bless Jhon Freddy and his family in this new call. We have truly been privileged to walk on this journey together. I personally gained not only a

valued colleague in ministry, but an extended family that I love very much.

And now, what is next on this road to Emmaus? Where and how is God calling us? Listen! Listen, God is calling. We are grateful for the "yes" in response to the interim calls extended to both Pastors Steve Wohlfeil and Gabriel Marcano to lead the people of Emaus during this "in between" time. I am grateful for Paul's commitment in the office and for so many who participate in the many areas of ministry of Emmaus. I am grateful to be able to serve as an advisor, a bridge and a counselor during these coming months as we transition together on the next leg of this journey.

Who is God calling and preparing to lead Emaus into the future? How are you being nudged and called to be part of this life-giving place, Emaus, and to share that message of life and hope with others? My prayer as we enter 2016 is that WE ALL (that includes you, me, and that pastor out there somewhere with just the right gifts to share with this community) listen intently to where God is calling us. Let's hear a collective "Yes!" to that call! Trusting that the risen Christ walks with us, I invite you to be a part of this journey that leads us Forward in Faith together.

In gratitude for a God who never leaves our side,

—Pastor Mary

Pastor Jhon Freddy's Report

by Rev. Jhon Freddy Correa

Dear friends,

It has been quite a journey. A very similar or even better journey than that one is described in Luke 24 (The road to Emmaus). It is amazing to hear the one who is not named in the story (Lk. 24:13, 18) claim her/his voice. It is an honor to be able to witness how Emmaus urges (Lk. 24:29) everyone to come in and sit at the table. They not only know how to claim what is theirs, nor know that we are named, but they have heard their own voices and that has empowered them to go back to those places of oppression and "sing" their own stories.

Others have heard their song of liberation and are curious, like doubting Thomas searching for the one who opens our eyes and feeds us (Lk. 24:30-31). In conversations, I have heard how many are already aware that we need a table to sit, bread to eat, and wine to share. They are becoming stewards, servers, deacons. They are empowered and own their call. Many know what the cost is. Many are responding as kings¹, bringing their lives, families and possessions to the true King.

¹ Let us remember one of the meanings of the three (3) kings. The *magi*, the group of distinguished foreigners who visited Jesus, the *mago*, the one who refers to the priestly caste of Zoroastrianism. Yes these priests who paid particular attention to the stars and gained an international reputation for astrology, the one who sees and thinks differently than we do.

At Emmaus this year, we have learned from each other; we have met the other where they are. Not imposing, but listening, asking questions and not assuming. It is a journey (Lk. 24) where we have discussed, where we have agreed



on our disagreements, where we have lamented and celebrated, where we have cried, where we have been quiet; but most importantly, our eyes have been opened (and that should be scary for some!) and we have been fed!

How this reflection translates in numbers:

- Our 50k budget was accomplished in 2015.
- Twenty two (22) kids learned God's stories and unconditional love through the one (1) year program of the first communion instruction.
- Fifteen (15) teenagers walked together discussing their faith experiences and relevance to the world and their lives today in their one (1) year confirmation process.

Their parents were also engaged in their monthly "parents' classes."

- Over a dozen teenagers led by Pablo and Ilse gathered weekly over the year. They participated in different events. Some of these events were national, regional and local. They learned and strength their faith and commitment to the world.

Emmaus has been called and chosen to participate in many local, regional and national initiatives. Some of the most significant partnerships are with the City of Racine, Boy and Girl Scouts, soccer league, banks, politicians, lawyers, Gateway Technical College, Ecumenical congregations, Racine Interfaith Council (RIC), Racine Police, FaithWorks, ELCA Latino association, UWM Extension, Children's Hospital, WBBIC, and of course, most importantly and significantly, the people of Racine!

It is clear to us that on the road we meet different kinds of people, we negotiate, we lose and gain, we compromise, we stop, we may take a detour; but we know who we are and where we are going! We are Emaús! People of faith who work together, laugh and cry, listen and talk; and most importantly, we are people that are in constant movement, their eyes are open, and are fed by a gracious God who always "sale a nuestro encuentro"²

—Pr. Jhon Freddy Correa

² "comes to meet us where we are"

Council President's Report By Chris Lamberton

A few words as we enter into 2016.

Are you surprised by where we are heading and where we have been in the past year? It's been a long year with a lot of challenges for our congregation. As we look into the message of Christmas we look towards the star and wonder where we are being lead into the future of 2016? For now we know we must follow the messages that have been sent down to us.

As for 2015, I would like to begin by thanking each and every one of you for all the hard work that each of you have done throughout the past year. We had a lot of energy to find new ways to strengthen our church and mission.

I would also like to take a moment to thank all the committee members for the extra efforts put in to make this a successful year at Emmaus.

2015. Last year I summed up our mission in three words for our works as Joy, Hope and Perseverance. We worshiped, worked and celebrated God's Presence and now we move into a new year with a new mission to consolidate and begin a new church. While our congregation may be new we will continue our missions that we believe are so critical for our church.

We joined together in many activities:

1. Worship
2. Cool Congregations
3. God's Work our Hands
4. Joint Partnership with Fiesta Mexicana
5. Energy conservation / Energy Star Church
6. Bible Study / Bible Groups
7. Special Christmas program
8. Joint Sunday School program

9. Neighborhood EASY Program: We continue to provide a safe and educational program within EASY.

10. Providing membership and community programs including Knitting, Sewing, Bible studies, After worship coffee hour

11. Partnership with other churches - RIC, St. Patrick's Meals,

This year we will join with the Latino group to combine our strengths with theirs to become a stronger diverse congregation. It may be difficult and a bit challenging but our church is open to change and shows its love and understanding for all people in our community.

Our church continues its worship strength averaging 50-70 worshipping members as well as 125 Latino members.



In 2015 we continue to look forward to:

1. Looking for a partner(s) to work and grow with.
2. Continuing our outreach missions.
3. Strengthening our covenant with our Latino friends.
4. Looking for ways to increase our community.

Thank you again for all your support.

—Chris Lamberton

Building & Grounds Report by Jim Larrabee

A special thanks to members of our Building and Grounds committee: Loren Larsen, Rich Christensen, Rich Benson, Gil Toslek and Dennis Eschmann.

We had an update on our elevator to bring it up to code. We've had numerous plumbing incidents throughout the church; also some work on the boiler system.

In the spring, we purchased nine window air conditioners that are energy efficient.

We've also hired a new crew to take care of our snow plowing.

We also have plans to try to regain our lawn starting this spring.

This spring, we had thirteen members of Emmaus who spent their Saturday morning weeding and edging all of our sidewalks, which were badly overgrown.

Respectfully submitted,
—Jim Larrabee

Member Care Report by Cathy Meyer

There have been few changes in the ministry of Member Care at Emmaus. Visiting homebound, sending greeting cards, updating prayer chain weekly, giving knitted prayer shawls and baptismal shawls, checking blood pressure, and providing transportation to worship services have been continued in 2015. Many people are involved in carrying out these projects.

The quilters have designed a prayer quilt that has been given to several of our members who are in need of healing or special thoughts. These quilts include a pieced cross in the middle on which congregation members can write their names or a message. Full-sized quilts have again been given to EASY families new to the program.

A change in the daily devotions booklet was made during 2014. In place of *Portals of Prayer*, which is no longer available from Augsburg Fortress Press, *The Word in Season* is accessible for

anyone to take home. This publication is written by ELCA clergy and is edited by Diane Melander's daughter, Pastor Rochelle Melander.

Looking ahead, Emmaus Member Care will take a more visible part in the weekly services. We plan to add greeters to the Saturday and Sunday worship experience similar to the former Deacons Committee. In this way, we hope to keep us with congregation members and their needs.

In order for Member Care to be successful, we need your input. Please let the office, a pastor, or Cathy Meyer know when someone is in need of some of our services. We truly want the Spirit of God to be felt by one and all.

Thank you to all who shared their time and talents to provide contact with our Emmaus members.

Respectfully submitted,
—Cathy Meyer,
Committee chair

Parish Education Report by Nancy Smith

Remembering Neighborhood Camp's Walk 4 Water

It was a pleasant warm sunny day. The campers were primed and ready as they arrived at camp wearing their blue shirts emblazoned with the Walk 4 Water logo. Each group of kids stopped at the corner of Summit and English to have their official photo taken. Then they were off each one excited and a bit nervous! They walked towards the lake chatting and laughing. Reaching their destination, the Zoo, they were given some time to relax, eat and explore.

Then the labors of their preparation during the weeks at camp began. As they left the zoo, each camper picked up a gallon or two, some a half gallon of water. The long walk began. As part of their preparation the kids had learned that many people in Africa had to walk miles each day to get water for cooking, bathing and drinking. They had walked day in and day out around the block carrying water jugs. And they raised \$2,215 by going door to door with their decorated fund raising cans. They were ready!

The day had gotten warmer. The walk would prove to be a challenge for many.

The kids were determined but a few moans and groans emanated from their

mouths. Some tried carrying the water on their heads. Others let the jugs hang from their arms. Some would stop every so often to give their hands a rest and reposition the jugs. A few had brought backpacks for their jugs. But, the jugs they were carrying got heavier

The efforts of the campers began to show. The blue line of kids spread further apart and the pace of many of the



campers slowed. The kids had learned a repeat after me chant about the walk. That chant was being repeated along the way as encouragement. Some who had slowed down were given the opportunity to hop into a car and ride back to church,

but they said, "No, I can do it!"

One group who was fading and last was surprised by an unexpected encounter. The kids heard phrases of the chant coming from afar. Next to the railroad tracks was a house gray and quite stark in appearance. On the porch sat two women who were repeating the chant with the kids. The kids stopped and sang the entire chant with them. It was a holy moment. They wanted to hear the story and were moved by what the kids shared. As they continued on their way, the women thanked them and wished all a blessed day!

—Nancy Smith

Stewardship Report by Carolyn Wooster

Pledges*			
Year	# of Pledges	Total*	Average Pledge/yr.
2016	27	\$ 90,408	\$ 3,348
2015	33	\$ 110,004	\$ 3,333
2014	40	\$ 120,836	\$ 3,021
2013	16	\$ 55,400	\$ 3,463
2012	45	\$ 110,724	\$ 2,461
*General Fund and Mortgage Retirement			

Thank you for your commitment to Emmaus. In addition to the 27 pledgers, there are about 30 non-pledgers who contribute consistently.

—Carolyn Wooster, Stewardship chairperson

Worship & Music Report By Brenda Trumbauer

The responsibilities of the Worship and Music Committee include Altar Guild, ushers, musicians, readers, communion assistants, hymn selection and planning special worship services.

Barb Larsen joined the committee this year to coordinate the Altar Guild activities assigning participants to set up and cleanup for communion for both Saturday and Sunday worship services. She and the Altar Guild participants are also responsible for caring for altar linens and paraments. The paraments are changed to coordinate with each season of the church year. We are in need of new people to be on the Altar Guild to share the rotation.

Brenda Trumbauer and Joyce Kaiser serve as accompanists. Brenda accompanies worship services on the piano and Joyce plays the organ on the

last Sunday of each month. Both Brenda and Joyce arrange for special music on occasion. Brenda coordinates musicians and rehearsals for the Chicago Folk Service. Since the latter part of the year, vocal leaders are present in services in addition to the Chicago Folk Sunday to lead the singing of the hymns and other responses. Joyce coordinated and played with the Brass Nickel on Easter.

There were several combined services this year with the Latino congregation at which there was music familiar to each congregation used in the services and musicians shared in singing and playing. Brenda also helped the Latino service by playing piano when their musicians were unavailable.

Readers and communion assistants and ushers are assigned for each Sunday. Paul Berge emails all worship participants



during the week prior to their assignments. We are always seeking new volunteers to join the group and we thank and appreciate all who willingly and consistently serve in some capacity.

Special worship services during this past year included: the Passion Story by our EASY children held at Emmaus; Holy Week services shared by the FaithWorks churches; Easter on April 5 with Brass Nickel and brunch; July 26 Mass on the Grass (bilingual); September 13 FaithWorks Festival held at Church of the

Resurrection beginning with an ELCA-wide, community work project called "God's Work, Our Hands" with groups of people all over Racine helping others, followed by outdoor worship and an afternoon of food, fun, games and live streaming of the Packers game; Season of Creation series in September/October; Reformation Sunday service; and a Christmas Pageant service in

December with birthday cake for Jesus; and Christmas Eve service. There was no Thanksgiving Eve service this year.

We continue to listen to God's calling for how we move forward together as one congregation with open hearts, minds, and hands to welcome everyone to learn about God's unconditional love for all of us.

Respectfully submitted,
—Brenda

Outreach Ministry by Carol Yust

As I sit back in my recliner and reflect on 2015, I know that I have truly been blessed this past year.

When Pastor Mary visited my store last Christmas Eve to make me an offer, I had no idea how life changing it could be. After much consideration, reflection and prayer, I made the choice to accept the offer of becoming the Outreach Director for Emmaus. I can say now with certainty, that it was the best decision I have ever made.

I have learned so much in nine short months, from grant writing and budgets to constitutions and by-laws. But the greatest lesson I've learned is to trust and believe – not just in the power of God, but in myself as well.

Today I look forward to the wonders that each new day will present, and I relish the opportunity to be the hands and feet of our Lord Jesus Christ. I no longer fear that what I have to offer is not worthy of being shared. I now believe in the power of the Spirit working within me.

It is my greatest joy to be able to share stories of our mission to serve our kids, as well as being on the cusp of becoming one family united in the love of Christ, serving and worshipping together.

As I look forward to our future, I can't help but think of what we have accomplished and celebrated in 2015:

Neighborhood Camp:

Approximately 250 kids attended Neighborhood Camp (at our three sites) this past summer. They were offered a fun, stimulating, educational environment at no cost to them. Our kids were

energetic, full of excitement, and engaged. The kids here at Emmaus partook in a Walk for Water Campaign that raised over \$2,250 dollars for water systems in Africa.

Fund raisers:

We celebrated our annual Mexican Fiesta, and two Kermés festivals. At one of the Kermés festival, over 63 kids celebrated Mexican Independence and joined in on a soccer tournament, in which all were winners of medals. Approximately \$15,000 was made in profits, supporting our general funds.

Mission support (Grants):

\$149,000 in grants support has been received in 2015. Funders include Outreach for Hope, Siebert Foundation, Racine Community Foundation, and Racine Unified School District..

God's Work, Our Hands:

300 or more engaged in service project within the community, and 400-500 people worshipped and broke bread together. We raised over \$750 in loose offering that was given to local food pantries, as well as support to World Hunger.

Anti-Racism Training:

62 individuals partook in training, surpassing all expectations. Eyes were opened to systemic racism and what role we play in being a part of change.

EASY:

35 kids attend our EASY program Monday thru Thursday. Our neighborhood kids are able to engage in science projects, have one-on-one

mentoring, work on vocabulary and math skills, eat healthy snacks, play games, and work on building positive life skills.

The end-of-year account balance for the EASY is \$46,359.90.

Youth:

Working together to serve our community, we have served at a RIC banquet, our Unity Sunday luncheon, Wednesday dinners, HALO, and the food bank.

As we worked on the assembly line at the food bank, preparing boxes to be shipped to those in need during on Thanksgiving, one of our youth were asked, (by a woman of means judging by her appearance, who also was serving) how she felt knowing she was helping to feed the hungry? Her replied brought those around her, to a new understanding of Grace. She replied with "I am one of them that will receive this box of food; that is why I am here, I'm thankful for what others do for my family, I

want to do for others what so many do for us"

Outreach:

I have been blessed to have been able to spend time working, listening, and preaching the Gospel at the Hospitality Center, in a remote location in the inner city, at St. Andrew, in grocery stores, on street corners, and here at Emmaus. Preaching the Gospel and being open to the spirit that works within me, has been life changing for me.

There is no denying that God is present and working among us. I feel so blessed to be a part of what is happening here at Emaus.

With that being said, I look forward to 2016 and the opportunities that will present themselves. I know there will be challenging times, but I am confident that, together with God, we are up to the challenge.

For that I am grateful beyond measure.

-Carol Yust

Emmaus Scrip & Mt. Meru Coffee report
 by Cathy Meyer

Emmaus continues to participate in Scrip fund raising. Thanks to all of you who have purchased gift cards through the Scrip program, we have realized a profit of \$2,258.89 through the sale of \$56,875 in gift cards. Using profits from this year and the past, \$2,000 was contributed to the Emmaus general fund in 2015. At the end of the year, the Scrip account had no outstanding loans and had a balance of \$4,93.32 between the checking account, cash, and inventory.

Below is a chart of the Scrip profits and the value of Scrip gift cards sold over the past four years:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Profit</u>	<u>Value Sold</u>
2012	\$ 2,183.61	\$ 56,565.00
2013	\$ 2,143.95	\$ 53,770.00
2014	\$ 2,188.31	\$ 53,275.00
2015	\$ 2,258.89	\$ 56,875.00

The Scrip account also handles the Mt. Meru Coffee Project and Rada fund raiser monies. In 2015, \$1,010.00 in coffee was sold. Also, we took in \$268.89 in donations at Sunday morning coffee to

offset the cost of the Mt. Meru coffee used at Emmaus.

Usually, there is no profit from the Mt. Meru Coffee Project because all of the proceeds go to the farmers of the Diocese of Meru. Starting in December of 2015 and throughout 2016, we will be able to purchase the 8-oz. coffee bags at \$1.00 less and use the money to fund one of the missions of Emmaus. The Youth group has been designated to receive our fund raiser profits. In December 2015, \$20 was given to the youth from the Mt. Meru

monies. Profits from the Rada knife sales this year were \$64.75. This amount was included in the money given to the Emmaus general fund.

We will continue to sell Scrip, Mt. Meru coffee and Rada knives after worship services in the coming year. Please see Cathy Meyer, Chris Lamberton or Diane Melander for your Scrip, coffee and Rada needs.

—Cathy Meyer

Stitchers report by Kathy Christensen

On Wednesday mornings in Fellowship Hall beginning at 10:00 one can hear voices talking and laughing amid the whirring of sewing machines and the clicking of knitting needles. The Stitchers group meets every Wednesday from September to June to work on quilts and prayer shawls as an outreach ministry.

The quilters originally planned to make quilts for Lutheran World Relief but soon discovered a need in our own community. Bed quilts have been presented to every family involved in the EASY program both in 2014 and 2015. We have also donated quilts to the Bethania Thread by Thread ministry, the FaithWorks Food Pantry, the Lutherdale quilt auction and other needs as they came to our attention.

Prayer quilts are smaller items we make to bring to folks in need of healing

or comfort. We encourage our Emmaus family to sign them before they are delivered so the recipients know we keep them in our thoughts and prayers.

Prayer shawls made by the knitters in our group are also a welcome gift to folks who need to feel the warmth of God's love and care. Baptismal shawls are given to

every child at their baptism as a reminder that they are wrapped in God's love as well as the love of their Emmaus family.

Another project we accomplished in 2015 is the nativity banner which was hung on the east wall in the sanctuary during the Christmas season. The panel was purchased, Carol Eschmann was responsible for adding the border and



binding from donated fabric and Dennis Eschmann created the dowels for hanging it. Credit is also due to June Beck and Boots LeRoux. Several smaller banners made previously can be seen in the Sunset Room and the narthex throughout the year. We look forward to working with Pastor Gabriel and members of the Latino congregation in creating more of this type of artwork.

There is a job for everyone in the quilters group. Some cut the fabric into squares, some enjoy laying out the squares to create the quilt tops, some do the stitching and others iron and sort fabric. Several folks bring a lunch and stay to either sew until 2:00 or attend the Bible study at 1:00. Anyone who enjoys fellowship is welcome to join us. We accept donations of fabric and yarn.

FaithWorks Final Report by Rev. Mary Janz

Four years ago, as an outgrowth of lengthy Racine Area Mission Strategy (RAMS) discussions among leaders of eleven ELCA congregations, the profound mission partnership of FaithWorks was formed. These congregations (Emmaus, Emaús, St. Andrew, Our Savior's and Atonement), bound by an annual covenant, financial commitment and a strong focus on outreach mission in the community, anti-racism work and care for creation, have, as a result, built strong relationships with one another.

Consultation and financial support has come from the Synod and from ELCA churchwide throughout the history of RAMS and FaithWorks. The Mission Council, comprised of two lay leaders and the clergy from each congregation, met monthly and was responsible for the many outcomes of the collaborative work.

Many involved in the original visioning process for FaithWorks had dreamed that the FW congregations would eventually come under one umbrella, combining assets and restructuring for the sake of mission in Racine. Several leaders had hoped that there would be the willingness to

establish ministry and worship sites in Racine with a shared staff and shared resources. However, there was resistance to letting go of individual assets, including buildings, for the sake of the whole, and the financial situations, the histories and the cultures influencing each of the congregations also impacted directly.

What resulted has been work on the Our Savior Atonement merger, including the anticipated sale of the Our Savior building in early December 2015. Although Emmaus and St. Andrew alternated worship for eleven months, the decision in September 2014 was to continue as separate worshipping communities. Since that time, Emmaus and Emaús, with the help of Synod and churchwide staff, have been working on becoming a new unified bilingual congregation with worship services in both English and Spanish, but with combined governance, finances and leadership. The members of St. Andrew will be reassessing their future direction at a December congregational meeting.

Leading the November meeting of the FaithWorks Mission Council, Pastor Mary informed the group that there

would be no future funding from the ELCA and that decisions had to be made regarding the future of FaithWorks. In the past year resources have been used for the following: stipends for the positions of FaithWorks Champion and Communications Director, honoraria for guest preachers for the Season of Creation, honoraria for the FW Bible study leader, expenses for God's Work Our Hands Sunday and expenses for the October Anti-Racism training. Those expenses, totaling nearly \$6,000, included registration fees, interpreters and food for the three-day training for the 32 FaithWorks participants attending.

Facing the reality that FaithWorks funds would be depleted by December, members of the Mission Council voted to suspend the current structure of FaithWorks, including the annual covenant, financial support by member congregations, monthly meetings and the stipends paid to a Champion and Communications Director. At the same time, strong sentiment was expressed about the desire to continue to be in relationship with one another and to not abandon the richness of joint worship services, fellowship and shared opportunities for service in mission together in Racine.

The group identified the following areas of future commitment: ministry with neighborhood kids (especially after school and Neighborhood Camp programs), homelessness, ongoing anti-racism work, food ministries (especially FW Food Pantry, the Sunday night meal program and Pan de Cielo food pantry for Latino families), joint worship opportunities, and God's Work Our Hands. There is a hope that there be quarterly lay led gatherings

where representatives of all interested ELCA congregations be invited to join together in mission. Margaret Robinson, head of the FaithWorks Food Pantry, has consented to convene the first of these meetings after the first of the year. It is also the intent that current pastors of FaithWorks congregations, together with other interested active Racine ELCA clergy, will begin to meet on a regular basis.

The members of the FaithWorks Mission Council celebrate the seeds planted by the hard work and dedication of so many during the past four years, and it is our prayer that all that we celebrate will truly take root and continue to grow and flourish:

- Relationships built – clergy, individuals, congregations, cultures, and community
- Anti-racism work, communication between English and non-English speakers
- Radical hospitality model for the food ministries
- God's Work Our Hands – service, worship and fellowship together
- Strong ministry with neighborhood children and families
- Joint worship, especially Holy Week and God's Work, Our Hands Sunday
- Emphasis on the poor, the vulnerable and the marginalized
- Bible studies that feed, push and challenge

We pray that God's Spirit grace us with passion and renewed energy and lead us into the next chapter of this venture filled with so much opportunity!

Green Team report by Sandy Strini

The 2015 Green Team spent many hours maintaining the outdoor green spaces by gathering once a week during the growing season of Wisconsin. Our congregation continues to work on projects to reduce their carbon footprint in their homes and in our church building. The Racine Urban Garden offered 22 garden plots on our property to provide neighborhood families the opportunity to plan, grow and harvest their own fresh produce.

Thank you to all who continue to bring in their printer cartridges, CFL bulbs, rechargeable batteries, and aluminum cans for our recycling project. Thanks to everyone who has participated in outdoor and indoor "green" projects. We are all part of God's Creation and we need to continue being good Stewards of the Earth.

— Sandy Strini



Pastoral Report and Summary of Statistics for 2015

Pastoral acts:

Baptisms (child).....11
 Baptisms (adult).....0
 Funerals11

Weddings7
 Confirmation (youth)..... 12
 Affirmation of faith (adult) 1 or 3

Church services:

Sunday worship services at Emmaus
 Regular Sunday worship.....101
 (all with Holy Communion)
 Regular Saturday worship services 49
 Midweek worship services
 Lenten midweek worship.....6
 (2 with Holy Communion)
 Easter Vigil (Spanish)..... 1
 Thanksgiving Eve0
 Advent services (Spanish)..... 18
 Christmas Eve (w/Holy Communion)..2
 New Year's Eve (Spanish) 1
 Other midweek worship.....4
 Family/special/other services
 Baptismal services 3

Presentaciones..... 1
 1st communion services..... 1
 Quinceañeras7
 Confirmation 1
 Weddings/vow renewals in church6
 Funeral/memorial services in church....4

Total number of services at Emmaus 205

Racine Miss'n Cluster GWOH service..... 1
 Services at St. Andrew 1
 Latino Sunday service at Lutherdale 1
N. Sra. Guadalupe service at Bray 1
Total number of services off campus..... 4

Total attendance:

	Sat.	Sun. English	Sun. Spanish
Average weekly worship	13	41	143
Average weekly worship, Sept.-May	13	43	146
Average weekly worship, June-Aug.	13	35	135

Members received and removed:

	Baptized	Confirmed
Total membership as of January 1, 2015	380	191
<u>Members received:</u>		
a. by baptism: children	12	0
b. by baptism: adult	0	0
c. by affirmation of faith	2	2
d. by transfer from other ELCA	0	0
e. by transfer from other Lutheran	0	0
f. by transfer from non-Lutheran	3	3
g. baptized members confirmed	-	11
h. renewed membership	-	-
i. statistical adjustment	-	-
Total members added	17	16

Members removed:

	Baptized	Confirmed
a. by death	4	4
b. by transfer to other ELCA	2	2
c. by transfer to other Luth. congregations	-	-
d. to non-Lutheran congs.	-	-
e. Moved/no transfer/inactivity	15	7
<u>f. Statistical adjustment</u>	-	-
Total members removed	21	13

Total membership as of December 31, 2015

376 194

Pastoral Acts in 2015

BAPTISMS.

Alicia Chavez
Kimberly Garay
Nora Larsen
Wesley Larsen
Miguel Mateo
Dylan Mercado
Maylen Moreno
Ashley Mota
Yamilel Olvera
Jameson Palmgren
Nateley Villalobos

Veronica Medina
Fernando Rojas Luna

MARRIAGES.

Marisela Castañeda & Luis Marin
Esperanza Castañeda & Trinidad Sanchez
Maria Gamarro-Bran & Kenneth Fronsee
Danielle Tussler & Shawn Love
Virginia Garcia & Lazaro Garcia
Maria Gonzalez & Luis Soto
Ma Landy Caro & Luis Maciel
Erica Huarota & Jose Villegas



FIRST COMMUNION.

Jasmin Gutierrez

CONFIRMATION.

Jonathon Calderon
Maria del Rosario Calderon
Alicia Chavez
Ramiro Flores (adult)
Yesenia Garcia
Michelle Gervacio
Jasmin Gutierrez
Kenia Herrera
Jose Lopez
Adair Rojas Luna
Anthony Luna

TRANSFERS OUT.

ELCA:

Laura Bernett
Patricia Jensen

Non-ELCA Lutheran:

none

Non-Lutheran Christian:

none

FUNERALS/MEMORIAL SERVICES.

Jeanette LeClair Bertram
John Demant
Stephen Devine *
James S. Martinsen *
Lorraine Roberts Miller *
Erasto Montes *
Lillian Zavoral Mowris
Arvilla Marquardt Nemer
Erwinsito Garcia Reyes
Jacob Anthony Rodriguez, Jr.
James Simonsen
Janis Nemer Sukus

*Non-member

Italics indicate a child or infant.

Emmaus 2015 Memorials and Honoraria

DESIGNATED MEMORIALS & HONORARIA

Outreach, EASY

James Martinsen \$300.00
 Dennis Eschmann \$25.00

Sunset Room/Fellowship Hall

Kerry Hunter \$300.00
 James Martinsen \$890.00
 Arvilla Nemer \$1,085.00

Giving Tree

Eschmann grandchildren \$80.00

Children's Library

James Martinsen \$400.00

Lillian Mowris..... \$400.00

NON-DESIGNATED MEMORIALS & HONORARIA

Lyle Andersen \$1,025.00
 John Demant..... \$960.00
 Arvilla Nemer \$145.00
 Lael Richter \$20.00
 Janis Sucus \$985.00
 Ervin Worgull \$25.00
 Rev. Mary Janz..... \$100.00
 Nora Larsen..... \$100.00
 Wesley Robert Larsen..... \$100.00
 Nora & Wesley Larsen \$100.00

The above memorials and honoraria have come through the general checking account. Memorials and honoraria given directly to Neighborhood Camp and Latino Ministry may be published in separate reports.



**Greater Milwaukee Synod - ELCA
 Mission Support Statement**

STATEMENT DATE: 12/31/2015

DATE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	BALANCE
01/31/2015	Balance forward		0.00
2/1/2015	INV #14778-11. 2015 Intent	11,000.00	11,000.00
9/3/2015	Pmt. #21867, Jan.-Jul. 2015	-5,600.00	5,400.00
12/24/2015	Pmt. #22031, Aug.-Dec. 2015	-5,400.00	0.00
	BALANCE REMAINING FOR PRIMARY SUPPORT		\$0.00
1/6/2016	Pmt. #1545 Latino Ministry account	-2,273.76	2,273.76

The donor has not been provided with any goods or services connected with the above contributions.

**Emmaus Mortgage Annual Statement
 by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans™**

Loan information:

Loan number: 204571000
 Maturity date: 10/1/2029
 Interest rate: 5.250%

Principal and interest information:

Principal balance at 12/31/2014..... \$ 119,229.73
 Principal paid \$ 5,498.90
 Interest paid \$ 6,105.10
 Principal balance at 1/7/2016..... \$ 113,285.46

Treasurer's Report by Art Smith

Fiscal Year 2015 was interesting. We approved a budget in January that had \$14K more projected expenses than income. We were able to manage that discrepancy and end the year with a \$33K deficit. Besides the smoke and mirrors, we were able to do this because of the cash reserve from re-mortgaging our building. We have completely drawn down that cash reserve. However, we still have some of that money left to do some additional capital improvements and a reserve of one month of mortgage payments.

The accompanying pages show a summary of the actuals from 2015 and our balance sheet. The largest expense of the year does not show on these tables. That expense was our share of the alley. This expense came in lower than expected which will allow us to do some additional concrete work on the back sidewalk. The Latinos contributed the \$6000 that they promised as well as paying benevolence to the synod, which is included in the benevolence line of the 2015 actuals. We also paid what we promised to the synod, \$11,000.

The feature to understand about this year's proposed budget is that it is a comprehensive budget that includes the entire operation of the new congregation. It folds in the requirements of both the Anglo and Latino communities. The budget looks complicated because it is. The grants that will be supporting our programming need to be shown separately because they support different

aspects of our operation - mainly salaries, wages and benefits. By becoming a new congregation, we will be realigning our bank accounts to support this operation. However, from the congregation's view this should be transparent - the envelope and electronic giving will maintain the same. The statements you receive will look the same except for the new name of the congregation.

The other feature of this year's budget is that it reflects a transition year. In other words, there are line items that will not appear in subsequent year budgets such as interim English and interim Spanish pastors. Hopefully we will have a bilingual pastor by next year. There are also transition expenses this year that involve calling a new pastor and legal fees necessary to start a new congregation.

Through all of this it should be noted that we will be getting significant financial support from not only the ELCA and the Greater Milwaukee Synod but also from the Siebert Lutheran Foundation. For this we are truly blessed and appreciative. It is exciting, and a bit scary, to start with a blank sheet as we will be doing this year. It is impossible to anticipate all the details that will need to be addressed, but we should be on good footing financially, so let's go!

Respectfully submitted,
—Art Smith
Treasurer

Emaus ELCA 2016 Proposed Budget

	"Inside Money"								"Outside Money"							Notes		
	2015 Actuals*	Offerings	Previous Year Carry Over	Building Use	Designated Gifts	Undesignated Memorials	Fund Raisers	Partnerships	GMS Outreach For Hope	Neighborhood Camp	Siebert Neighborhood Minister	Siebert New Start	Siebert EASY After School For Youth	ELCA New Start	GM Synod Intern/Latino Interim Minister		Racine Community Foundation	2016 Proposed Budget
INCOME																		
Offerings	162,135	161,465															\$161,465	A
Carryover Emaus / Emaus Checking Accounts	**		13,000														\$13,000	B
Building Use		6,002		6,000													\$6,000	C
Designated Gifts	**				13,476												\$13,476	D
Undesignated Memorials	**					6,500											\$6,500	E
Fund Raisers	26,163						15,000										\$15,000	F
Partnerships	2,300							2,000									\$2,000	G
GMS Outreach For Hope	**								35,000								\$35,000	H
Neighborhood Camp	**									10,200							\$10,200	I
Siebert Neighborhood Minister	**										20,000						\$20,000	J
Siebert New Start	**											20,000					\$20,000	K
Siebert EASY After School For Youth	**												25,000				\$25,000	L
ELCA New Start	**													23,000			\$23,000	M
GM Synod Intern/Latino Interim Minister	**														8,400		\$8,400	N
Racine Community Foundation	**															12,000	\$12,000	O
Total	\$196,599	\$161,465	\$13,000	\$6,000	\$13,476	\$6,500	\$15,000	\$2,000	\$35,000	\$10,200	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$23,000	\$8,400	\$12,000	\$371,041	
EXPENSES																		
Salaries & Wages																		
Lead Bilingual Pastor (Salary/Benefits) - 4 Mos	56,771	\$2,000				\$1,000								\$23,000			\$26,000	1
Interim Pastor (English) - 7 Mos	**	\$15,000													\$2,500		\$17,500	2
Intern (Spanish speaking) - 2 Mos	**														\$5,000		\$5,000	3
Interim Pastor (Spanish) - 5 Mos	**										\$20,000						\$20,000	4
Pastoral Assistant (Spanish) 11 mos	**	\$11,189			\$2,411			\$2,000							\$900		\$16,500	5
Guest/Visitation Pastors	3,550	\$8,400															\$8,400	6
Outreach Director / Neighborhood Minister	**								\$11,800	\$10,200	\$16,000						\$38,000	7
Benefits (Outreach Director)	7,200								\$8,800		\$4,000						\$12,800	8
Custodians	6,505	\$8,570															\$8,570	9
Secretarial Staff	27,862	\$26,000															\$26,000	10
Musicians	12,066	\$9,300			\$2,700												\$12,000	11
EASY - Children's Ed / Family Outreach	**				\$8,365				\$14,400				\$25,000			\$12,000	\$59,765	12
Transition Expenses																		
Legal Fees	**		\$1,500														\$1,500	13
Consultation (MLJ)	**		\$3,000														\$3,000	14
Checking/ Banking/ Admin	**		\$1,500														\$1,500	15
Travel for Candidates	**		\$2,000														\$2,000	16
Moving Expenses	**		\$5,000														\$5,000	17
Other Direct Expenses																		
Payroll taxes	3,196	\$6,561															\$6,561	18
Worship Supplies	2,934	\$1,400				\$500											\$1,900	19
Stewardship	674	\$700															\$700	20
Administration	18,600	\$15,658															\$15,658	21
Utilities	23,486	\$25,982															\$25,982	22
Maintenance	14,956	\$13,880		\$6,000													\$19,880	23
Mortgage	11,604						\$11,604										\$11,604	24
Insurance	7,555	\$7,460															\$7,460	25
Benevolence	13,980	\$9,365				\$5,000	\$3,396										\$17,761	26
Total	\$210,939	\$161,465	\$13,000	\$6,000	\$13,476	\$6,500	\$15,000	\$2,000	\$35,000	\$10,200	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$23,000	\$8,400	\$12,000	\$371,041	

* in Emmaus and Emaus budgets
 ** Not in 2015 Budgets

Notes

- A Plate offerings, Holiday Offerings, Adopt-A-Bill, Mortgage Retirement
- B Non-Dedicated Cash from previous year (TBD)
- C TOPS, Quinceras, Other outside groups
- D Gifts designatedd for budget items
- E Memorials without any designation
- F Scrip, Fiesta Mexicana, Potlucks, Festivals
- G Gifts from Local ELCA congregations
- H Grant to support EASY program
- I Neighborhood Camp's contribution for admin support
- J Seibert Foundation support of Outreach Director
- K Seibert Foundation support of new congregation
- L Seibert Foundation support of EASY program
- M ELCA's support of new congregation
- N Synod's support of interim pastor
- O Racine Community Foundation's support of EASY program

- 1 Bi-lingual pastor starting in September 2016
- 2 Interim pastor for English speaking community
- 3 Interim pastor until he becomes a Lutheran pastor
- 4 Interim pastor for Spanish speaking community
- 5 Spanish speaking pastoral assistant
- 6 Guest pastors to support interims and bi-lingual pastors
- 7 Outreach Director (paid by Outreach in 2015)
- 8 Outreach Director Benefits (partially paid by Emmaus budget in 2015)
- 9 Custodian wages
- 10 Secretarial staff salaries
- 11 Musicians including Saturday, guest organist, and special music
- 12 EASY includes EASY staff and supplies
- 13 Legal fees to incorporate the new congregation
- 14 Transition support provided by Pastor Mary
- 15 Admin expenses involved with the transition
- 16 Travel to bring in pastor candidates
- 17 Partial support for moving new pastor
- 18 Payroll taxes are 7.65% of wages and salaries of non-pastors
- 19 Altar supplies plus copyright fees and instrument tuning
- 20 Stewardship drive materials plus online giving fees
- 21 All supplies used in the office and Synod Assembly fees
- 22 Gas, electricity, trash removal
- 23 Repairs for both church and parsonage
- 24 Both the principal and interest payments on the mortgage
- 25 Liability, fire, workers comp insurance
- 26 Contributions to synod and local cluster

Not in 2015 Emmaus or Emaus budget

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms



- 1 What a fel - low-ship, what a joy di - vine, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms;
- 2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil-grim way, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms;
- 3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms?



what a bless-ed-ness, what a peace is mine, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.
 oh, how bright the path grows from day to day, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.
 I have bless-ed peace with my Lord so near, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.



Refrain



Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se-cure from all a - larms;



Lean - ing on Je - sus, lean - ing on Je - sus,



lean - ing, lean - ing, lean-ing on the ev - er - last-ing arms.



lean - ing on Je - sus, lean - ing on Je - sus,

Text: Elisha A. Hoffman, 1839-1919
 Music: SHOWALTER, Anthony J. Showalter, 1858-1924

Do not be conformed to this world, be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God - what is good and acceptable and perfect. For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another.

Romans 12:2-5

ELW #774 (Evangelical Lutheran Worship)
 TFF #220 (This Far by Faith)
 WOV #780 (With One Voice)

Copyright Notice
 Text and Music: Public Domain
 Arrangement: © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
 Reprinted by permission under OneLicense.net
 All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission
 under OneLicense.net A-704750 license.

Why participation in the ELCA makes a difference

- We believe we are among God's chosen people – called to make disciples and do God's work. Through this calling we find lives of meaning and purpose. As part of the body of Christ, we discover there are many ways we do this work better together than alone.
- We understand ourselves to have first received from God, and then respond to God. The practice of responding freely is based on recognizing God's grace and our freedom to participate in God's generosity to others.
- We share a living daring confidence in God's grace. We believe our faith comes through the good news of Jesus Christ and gives us the freedom and the courage to wonder, discover and boldly participate in what God is up to in the world.
- We embrace the development of people who are faithful, wise and courageous. Understanding the perspectives of abundance, grace, gratitude and generosity, we express our support for God's work through the sharing of the time, talents and resources entrusted to us.

How our missional partnership makes a difference

- We grow the ELCA in the United States – 350+ new starts in progress.
- We grow the Lutheran church around the world – 220+ missionaries in more than 40 countries.
- We develop current and future leaders – eight seminaries plus 26 colleges and universities.
- We coordinate and support synod and churchwide ministries – strive to connect and collaborate with 3.7 million people within the ELCA.
- We strengthen our Lutheran identity – publications and communications within and beyond our church.
- We provide leadership – organize and coordinate 10,000+ leaders across the church.
- We work for justice – support social ministry organizations reaching 1 in 50 Americans.
- We grow financial resources – promote stewardship education, financial literacy and mission interpretation in 10,000+ locations.
- We engage in research and strategic planning – analyze trends and monitor innovative ministries in a changing world.
- We sustain ecumenical and interfaith relationships – seek unity in faith and life with all Lutherans and six full communion partners.