

Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church



2020 Annual Report
(January 1 – December 31)

January 24, 2021

OUR REDEEMER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

Edgeley, North Dakota 58433

January 24, 2021

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January 20th, 2020 Annual Meeting Minutes

President Amanda Cook called the meeting to order. A quorum had been counted by Kathy DeBolt. Pastor Jordan opened the meeting with a prayer. Minutes from last annual meeting read by Amanda. Jerry DeBolt motioned to accept the minutes as read, Dennis Leppert seconded that motion. Motion carried.

Christine presented the treasurer's report. The checkbook balance as of 12/31/19 was \$13,270.93. Jamie Lagodinski & Beth Andrys audited the books and reported they found them in good standing. Kathy motioned to accept the treasure report, and Susie Nitschke seconded it. Motion carried.

Proposed budget: Christine asked the congregation if there was any discussion, or questions on the budget. There was discussion on flooring & paint for the basement. The paint was purchased at Kulm Hardware already because they had a special discount. Total for paint was \$573.42. Water in basement was discussed. Jerry stated there hadn't been a problem since the new gutters were installed. Flooring estimate from Total Home in Oakes was \$8,398.32 which included flooring, installation, leveling for the entire basement floor but not the steps. Several members gave Total Home high commendations. Jerry Lagodinski motioned to approve the budget, and Ron Klein seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Committee Reports: Committee Reports available in annual booklet. Amanda thanked Beth Andrys for putting the annual report book together and Jamie for printing them.

The nominating Committee reported two vacancies. Susie nominated Beth to fill the two year term. Heidi Kaatz motioned to accept, Amanda Huber seconded the motion. Motion carried. Jeremy Nitschke volunteered to fill the three year term. Jerry Lagodinski motioned, Sharon seconded the motion. Motion carried. There was a unanimous ballot to accept.

Old Business: The usual upkeep to the church was done.

New Business: Basement improvements were discussed. Susie brought up the idea to make a safe, comfortable space available for the youth in order to encourage fellowship. Funeral setup was discussed. It was decided to designate an area for the youth that could be tucked away during funerals. Several members volunteered furniture & games. Mary Steele stressed that our church grows only through our youth. Sharon F. brought up the steepness of the ramp in the entryway. Heidi suggested adding a railing.

Nominating committee: Currently made up of Jamie Lagodinski & Jeremy Nitschke. Jamie will stay on & Beth Andrys will join the committee for 2020.

Auditing Committee: Jamie Lagodinski will come off. Cameron Young will join Beth Andrys on the committee for 2020.

Pastoral Committee: Jared Cook & Arden Fuher will remain on the committee for 2020.

Missions Committee: Sharon Fuher & Lori Callahan will remain on the committee for 2020.

Funeral Committee: Linda Heinrich & Randi Kreutsberg will come off. Kathy DeBolt & Mary Steele will go on in 2020.

Susie made a motion to accept volunteers and nominations to the committees. Dennis seconded & motion was carried. Amanda asked for delegates to attend the 2020 LCMC Annual Gathering in Arden Hills, MN on Oct. 4-7, 2020. Pastor Jordan would like to attend if his schedule allows.

Pastor Jordan thanked the congregation for stepping up in his absence & expressed his appreciation of support & health. He thanked the council, youth leaders & congregation for their faithfulness to the church.

Amanda Cook thanked everyone for coming, Lori & Tim Callahan for serving on council, all who did the essential tasks, youth volunteers & the Luther League for brunch following the meeting. Kathy motioned to adjourn the meeting, Susie seconded. Meeting adjourned. Congregation closed in prayer.

SUMMARY OF THE CHURCH YEAR (January - December 2020)

The Annual Meeting was held on January 26th. The Luther League served a free will lunch afterwards. Chad and Samantha Schulz were married in the church on February 1st. Luther League is planning a mission trip for June of 2021. Thank you, Beth Andrys, for cleaning the basement and painting the walls and trim. Due to the Covid 19 Pandemic, church was cancelled in March. In April, Jordan and his family began holding church service from their home through Facebook live. In May, we recognized our high school senior: Ethan Ellingson. There was a nice write up about Ethan and Carmel rolls were delivered to his home. Jim Stiles hosted a Zoom video conference with congregation on Saturday, August 8th. Basements Waterproofed from Jud installed drain tile in the north side of the basement. Flooring will be installed next. Pastor Jordan contacted 27 individuals/families about reopening in October: 30% were in favor and 70% were opposed. Christmas Eve service was held over Zoom. The church was opened up for members to stop by and pick up communion wine and wafers. No church service was held on December 27th. A Zoom account was purchased and used for fellowship on December 20. It was also used to conduct council meetings. Sarah organized an online Sunday School Christmas program on December 20th. Pulpit supply was done by Charles Gray. Members of the congregation stepped forward to lead service when Pastor Jordan needed to be gone. Thanks to those who assisted. Katrina Weigel and Christine Henderson played piano and organ throughout the year. During the year, many of our members and their families, and close friends in the Kulm and Edgeley communities dealt with various medical concerns and losses. A service was held for Orris 'Bud' Kipp and Randy Kreutsberg at Our Redeemer's.

~ Amanda Cook

OUR REDEEMER'S LUTHERAN MEMBERSHIP LIST 2020

ANDERSON,Kyle
 ANDERSON,Sandy 2209
 ANDRYS,Charlie
 ANDRYS,Gary&Beth 2983
 Dylan
 APPELDOORN,Cody
 Gwendelynn
 CALLAHAN,Timothy&Lori 2566
 COOK,Jerad&Amanda 2092
 McKenna,Easton,Kinley,Hudson
 DEBOLT,Jerry&Kathy 2911
 DIEDE,Braydin
 ELLINGSON,Cauy
 ELLINGSON,Colter
 ELLINGSON,Ethan
 ELLINGSON,Raymond&Dorothy 2548
 ELLINGSON,Todd&Stacey 2059
 ELLINGSON,Westen
 ELLINGSON,Wyatt&Carrie 2042
 ERICKSON,Jennifer
 ERICKSON,Taylor
 ERICKSON,Mick&Lisa 2089
 FUHER,Arden&Sharon 396-7331
 HEINRICH,Wayne&Linda 2916
 HENDERSON,Abigail
 HENDERSON,Bridget
 HENDERSON,Christine 2096
 HENDERSON,Grady
 HUBER,Austin
 HUBER Bryan&Amanda
 Parker,Megan
 HUBER,
 Kenneth
 JOHANNESSEN,Dean(Tony)&Janelle 2087
 KAATZ,Hailee
 KAATZ,Ryan &Heidi
 Adison Goebel
 KLEIN,Ron&Diane 2698
 KUKOWSKI,Alex
 LAGODINSKI,Jerry&LeAnn 2359
 LAGODINSKI,Tyler&Jamie 7187
 Allie,Austin
 LEPPERT,Dennis&Mildred 396-7841
 LIEBOLD,Steve
 Raylan,Megan,Viktoria
 MADCKE,Erin
 Britta,Briar,Bryson,Brooke
 MUSLAND,Clarence 2778
 MUSLAND,DeLayne 2041
 MUSLAND Keyahna

MUSLAND,McKaden
 MUSLAND,Richard 2336
 MUSLAND,Scott 396-3281
 NESS,Rodney&Cheryl 2785
 NESS,Tharen 2658
 Aspen,Emmitt
 NITSCHKE,Adam
 NITSCHKE,Jeremy&Tina 685-2698
 Jacob,Lucas
 NITSCHKE,Susie
 Dillon
 PETERSON,Janet 647-2629
 SCHIELE,Bryson
 SCHIELE,Jon&Jodie, 2190
 ,Nathan,Camden
 SCHIELE,Kaitlyn
 SCHWEIGERT,Brandon&Tausha
 Brekkin
 SCHWEIGERT,David&Denette 2027
 SEEFELDT,Curwood&Helen
 STEELE,James&Mary 2340
 STILES,Jim
 SYVERSEN,Carleen 2425
 SYVERSEN,Daymond 2250
 Gracie
 WIELAND,William 2740
 YOUNG,Cameron&Jayette
 Brogan,Taygen
 YOUNG,Allison 2412

Active Totals
Baptized: 116
Confirmed: 87

INACTIVE MEMBERS

(records kept not in statistics)
 ALBRECHT,Paul
 Megan
 ANDERSON,Bernadette
 ANDERSON,Cari
 Dustin
 ARMITAGE,Erika
 ARMITAGE,Jason
 ARMITAGE,Kaia
 ARMITAGE,Siri
 ARMITAGE,Michael&Sherri
 BALDWIN,Rebecca
 BJUGSTAD,Austin
 BJUGSTAD,Brandon
 BJUGSTAD,Cayla
 BOYER,Julie
 CARROLL,Jason&Tristy
 Darynt,Shea,Brooks
 CLEMENS,Elizabeth
 COOK,Wayne&Lynette
 COOK JoDee
 DEBOLT,Brandon
 ELIASSEN,Todd
 ELLINGSON,Mark
 ERICKSRUD,Autumn
 ERICKSRUD,Jarred
 ERICKSRUD,Steve&Twila
 FREDENBURG,Cheryl

FUHER,Joel
 FUHER,John
 FULLER,Keith
 GEINGER,Keith
 HAUFF,Jamie
 HAUFF,Kelsey
 HEHR,Victor
 HEINRICH,Wade
 HERRLEIN,Kevin
 HOCKING,Laura
 Isaac,Anna
 HULM,Ron
 JENSEN,Donald
 JOHANNESSEN,Eric
 JOHANNESSEN,Jeremy
 KLUUDT,Paul
 KREUTSBERG,Randi
 LAGODINSKI,Blake
 LAGODINSKI,Ryan
 LEE,Laurie
 Amy Tyler,Teddie Lee
 LEPPERT,Andrew
 LIEBOLD,Amber
 LIEBOLD,Amy
 LIEBOLD,Bruce
 LIEBOLD,Karen
 LOEN,Tim
 LUTTSCHWAGER,Lance
 MUSLAND,Jolene
 MUSLAND,Justin
 MEYER,Beverly
 Meza
 NESS,Jean
 NESS,ReNee
 OLSGARD,Wendy
 OLSON,Glenn
 PETERSON,Kirby
 SEITZ,Carolyn
 SETNESS,CJ
 SYVERSEN,LeRoy
 TYLER,Nick
 WALDO,Brian
 WALDO,Pauline
 WEGENAST,Gary
 WEGENAST,Hollie
 WEGENAST,Keven
 WEGENAST,Paul
 WEGENAST,Shawn
 WEIGEL,Janet
 WIELAND,Cheryl
 ZORTMAN(Musland),Suzanne
 Jaden

Inactive Totals
 Baptized: 86
 Confirmed: 75

OUR REDEEMER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH OFFICIAL RECORDS

BAPTIZED: NONE

CONFIRMED: NONE

MARRIAGES:

Chad and Samantha Schultz 2/1/2020

FUNERALS:

Patricia Olson d. 3/1/2020 Brownsville, TX

Orris "Bud" Kipp 10/9/2020

Randi Kreutsberg 12/19/2020

TRANSFERS IN:

TRANSFERS OUT:

MOVED TO INACTIVE LISTS:

Jolene Musland

PASTOR VISITS: Communion was given at home to those who, because of illness or injury, were unable to join us at Sunday worship.



SUMMARY

2019 Baptized members 119 plus 0 baptized, plus 0 transferred in, less 2 deceased, less 0 transferred out, less 1 moved to inactive

2020 Baptized Membership 116

2019 Confirmed members 90 plus 0 confirmed, plus 0 transferred in, less 2 deceased, less 0 transferred out, less 1 transferred to inactive

2020 Confirmed Membership 87

2019 Inactive Baptized total 86 plus 1 moved to inactive, less 1 deceased, less 0 transferred out
2020 Inactive list 86

2019 Inactive Confirmed total 75 plus 1 moved to inactive, less 1 deceased, less 0 transferred out
2020 Inactive list 75

2020 CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS & COMMITTEES

2020 Church Council (changed to 7 person council 2007)

Amanda Cook (2020)

Jim Stiles - resigned 2/20 (2020)

Susie Nitschke - resigned 12/20 (2021)

Beth Andrys (2021)

Heidi Kaatz (2021)

Christine Henderson (2022)

Jeremy Nitschke (2022)

ALTAR GUILD

Lori Callahan

Denette Schweigert

WORSHIP ORGANIST/PIANIST

Katrina Weigel

Christine Henderson

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Parents

NOMINATIONS/ELECTION FOR CHURCH COUNCIL 2021

1) 2021-2024

2) 2021-2024

3) 2021-2022

2020 Nominating Committee: Jamie Lagodinski & Beth Andrys

2020 Auditing Committee: Beth Andrys (2nd Year)

Cameron Yong (1st Year)

2020 Pastoral Committee: Jerad Cook & Arden Fuher

2020 Mission Board: Lori Callahan and Sharon Fuher

2020 Funeral Committee: Mary Steele & Kathy DeBolt

DELAGATES LCMC ANNUAL GATHERING

OCTOBER 3-6, 2021

Upper Arlington Lutheran Church

Hilliard, OH

CHURCH COUNCIL

The council met on February 3, 2020 to reorganize after the annual meeting and election. Council positions for 2020 are as follows:

President	Amanda Cook
Vice President	Susie Nitschke
Secretary	Beth Andrys
Treasurer	Christine Henderson
Worship	Heidi Kaatz, Christine Henderson
Property	Jeremy Nitschke, Amanda Cook
Fellowship	Susie Nitschke, Beth Andrys
Stewardship	Christine Henderson, Jeremy Nitschke
Youth	Amanda Cook, Susie Nitschke
Evangelism	All
Technology	Jim Stiles

The council met monthly (except for July) for regular meetings.

* * * * *

CHURCH PROPERTY

The usual upkeep of the church was done this year. Members either mowed themselves or hired Charlie Andrys or Gene Hanson. Snow removal was also done on a volunteer basis. The property is in good shape. The basement gathering room & classrooms have been painted. Drain tile was installed on the north side of the church in hopes to fix the water problem. A railing has been installed. Corrugated foam has been installed in the gutters to help with plugging. Some fence posts were removed on the south side - will possibly be replaced in 2021

Thanks you to all who donated time and money for upkeep of the building & grounds.
~ Jeremy Nitschke

* * * * *

STEWARDSHIP

Despite the challenges that 2020 presented for many congregations to meet their expenses, the members of Our Redeemer's continued to faithfully support the mission of our church through generous giving. Many of you mailed in your offering regularly. Some people embraced the new option of using PayPal through our website. When former members who had moved away returned to worship online with us on Sunday mornings, they mailed in offerings from afar.

We ended the year with a \$556.39 shortfall. It is impossible to know what the coming year brings, but as always we will have faith that God will provide for our church, our families, and our community. When comparing our proposed budget to the 2020 earnings, we may have a \$9,000 deficit. However in most years our budget is a worst-case scenario when it comes to expenses. In 2020 for example, Our Redeemer's expenses were \$6,000 less than what was budgeted. If all households who gave to Our Redeemer's this past year would increase their giving by \$10 each month, we would have nearly \$4,500 more in income than we realized this year.

We ask our members to prayerfully consider what they are able to give to continue to support our church and its ministry, realizing that not all are able to give as freely some. May God bless all who give of their time, their talents, and their prayers.

~Christine Henderson

BIBLE STUDY

During the past several months COVID-19 has presented many challenges, but it has also presented many opportunities for creativity. In October, the decision was made for the Early Bird Women's Bible study group to begin meeting via zoom. With moving to a technology-based study we lost some of the faithful members, but the technology opened the door for others to attend. The group has expanded to include members of the local Catholic, Methodist, and Baptist churches as well as members of Our Redeemers Lutheran Church.

The focus of the study has been "Seamless" authored by Angie Smith. The study begins with Genesis and the story of creation and will conclude with the study of Revelation. The goal is "to take familiar stories of the Bible and understand how they fit into the bigger picture. How the familiar stories tell one seamless story about the God who made us, loves us, redeems us and has a future for us" (Angie Smith]

Our zoom group meets every Wednesday morning from 7 AM to 8 AM. Anyone who is interested in participating is welcomed to join at any time. Participation from the beginning of "Seamless" is not required.

~Linda Heinrich

FINANCIAL REPORT

Savings \$ 645.05 as of 12/15/20

MISSIONS REPORT 2020

The Mission Committee is made up of Lori Callahan and Sharon Fuher

Our Daily Bread Ministries \$100

LCMC \$800.00

Donation of toiletries to the Veteran's Home in Lisbon

Aiden Strong Benefit \$277.00

World Vision (Sunday School project) \$840.00

Wycliffe Bible Translators/Jessica Kusler \$1,750.00

Thank you to everyone who has helped to make our mission projects successful.

2020 BENEVOLENT GIVING = \$3,767.00

TECHNOLOGY 2020

Since March 22, our services from Pastor Jordan's home have been on Facebook Live, and the resulting videos have been processed and transferred to our You Tube channel. The links have then been placed on our website, along with the bulletins. This has allowed those folks not on Facebook to participate. We now have viewers in all parts of the country, and individual views on some weeks exceeds 100. This summer we held a church social on Zoom for members, with over 20 attending – including one from a boat in the middle of a lake. Two funerals were conducted on Facebook Live, with the videos then transferred to our You Tube channel and website. Each had over 100 individual views both on Facebook and the You Tube channel. Our Christmas Kids program was assembled on video and transferred to our You Tube channel. While it was incorporated in our December 20 service, it was also made available separately on both Facebook and You Tube (through our website). Again there were over 100 individual views at each venue, from various parts of the country. Many positive comments were left. As of October 26, our church has been able to accept donations online through PayPal. Links have been placed on both Facebook and our website. This system is fully secure, simple to use, and is receiving attention. Recently, a Zoom Fellowship time has been established immediately following Sunday service. Church Council meetings are held on Zoom and approved minutes and budgets are posted to our website. Our Facebook group now has 169 members, doubling in size this year. Investigation and implementation of new technology continues, in support of church programs and missions.

~James Stiles

During the past year, I dabbled in a variety of technologies new to me. Services were presented via Facebook Live during the majority of the year, and bulletins were uploaded and posted as PDFs to ORLC's Facebook page. While preparing for the children's Christmas program, the group met for practices on a platform called Streamyard, which I also tested for Sunday morning; however, my laptop proved to have lesser quality audio equipment than my iPhone (which could not run Streamyard), so I did not continue the experiment. I used a program that came with my laptop to make the Christmas program video, and Jordan downloaded guitar music from a membership website called Ultimate Guitar.

Many thanks,
Sarah

SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook is an easy way to follow the events of our youth & have access to other activities & events happening in the church, simply click the "like" button on the page. If you click on the "notifications" tab, new information will automatically be sent to your FB page. Please feel free to post new items as well. It's a quick and easy way to get the word out to a lot of people at one time.

WEBSITE

Our website is edgeleyorlc.com. Jim Stiles is the administrator. Here you can find general information, copies of the bulletins & recordings of our services, when available.

ADOPT-A-ROOM CLEANING SHEET

UPSTAIRS

Narthex (entryway/raised greeting area): Jodie, LeAnn, Jayette & Beth

Nave (worship area): Amanda, Carrie & Tina

Chancel (altar area): Lori

Council Room: Lori

Nursery (cry room): Kathy

Office & Hallway: Lisa

Bathrooms: Diane

DOWNSTAIRS

Kitchen: Denette & Mary

Basement Dining Area & Stairs (mopping): Linda

Weekly Maintenance of Basement Dining Area & Stairs: Amanda H.

Classrooms: Jamie

Bathrooms: Sandy

Storage Rooms: Sarah G.

Furnace Room: Cheryl

If you're not signed up to clean a room, please consider doing so to help lighten the load of others.

**OUR REDEEMER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
JANUARY 1, 2020 – DECEMBER 31, 2020
(Adjusted as of January 10, 2021)**

CHECKING ACCOUNT #101-485

Beginning Balance—(01/01/2020)—— \$13,270.93

03/31/20——— \$10,733.82

06/30/20——— \$ 7,985.15

09/30/20——— \$ 8,923.79

12/31/20——— \$10,722.05

INCOME

Tithes/Offerings	\$ 41,309.00
Loose Donations	\$ 612.00
Lenten Offering	\$ 158.00
Benevolent Giving	\$ 877.00
Investment Income	\$ 2,956.42
Designated Bldg Income	\$ 10.00
Christmas Offering	\$ 50.00
Luther League	\$ 210.00
Sunday School/Youth	\$ 0.00
TOTAL INCOME:	\$ 46,182.42

FINANCIAL ASSETS

BANK-\$5000.00 CD	\$ 5,000.00
\$10,000 CD	\$10,404.56
BLDG. FUND	\$11,081.11
MMDA ACCT	\$48,313.60
WOW/ELCA	\$ 645.07
LUTHER LEAGUE	\$ 4,659.87
TOTAL:	\$80,104.21

2020 Expenses and 2021 Proposed Budget

Category	Actual	2019 Budget	2020 Budget	Proposed 2021
Cemetery Dues	\$ 200.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Insurance	\$ 2,463.00	\$ 2,410.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
Music Ministry	\$ 1,685.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Pastor Jordan	\$ 24,346.56	\$ 22,581.98	\$ 24,400.00	\$ 28,220.00
Supply Pastors	\$ 152.20	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00
Repairs/Upkeep	\$ 10,226.99	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
Benevolent Missions	\$ 3,767.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
Church Supplies/Funerals	\$ 625.00	\$ 950.00	\$ 950.00	\$ 950.00
Office Expense	\$ 434.96	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Education - SS/Conf	\$ 625.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 2,200.00
Utilities	\$ 4,063.10	\$ 5,100.00	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 5,500.00
Pastor Mileage	\$ 150.00	\$ 1,900.35	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Congregation Mileage	\$ 0.00	\$ 950.17	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00
Total	\$ 48,738.81	\$ 51,242.50	\$ 54,800.00	\$ 55,350.00

OUR REDEEMER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Submitted 01/12/20
Christine Henderson, Treasurer

JANUARY 1, 2020 – DECEMBER 31, 2020

INTEREST INCOME

WOW	\$ 0.50
6 MO. \$5000 CD	\$ 82.72
24 MO. CD	\$ 204.56
BLDG. FUND	\$ 6.56
MMDA ACCT.	\$ 68.55
Total	\$ 362.89

INVESTMENT INCOME

Qtr. 1	\$ 737.20
Qtr. 2	\$ 652.44
Qtr. 3	\$ 643.87
Qtr. 4	\$ 560.02
Total	\$2,593.53

BENEVOLENT GIVING \$3,767.00

LCMC \$800.00
Our Daily Bread Ministries \$100
Aiden Strong Benefit \$277.00
World Vision (Sunday School project)
\$840.00
Wycliffe Bible Translators/Jessica
Kusler \$1,750.00

EXPENSES

PASTOR JORDAN \$24,346.56

UTILITIES \$4,063.10

Electricity \$2,106.44
Water,sewer,garbage \$1,129.71
DRN – phone, internet \$826.95

REPAIRS/UPKEEP \$10,226.99

Lawn Care: \$100.00
Basement Tiling \$5,490.00
Plumbing: \$117.78
Misc. \$219.21
Basement Flooring Deposit \$4,300.00

OFFICE EXPENSES: \$434.96

Bulletins \$216.20
Safe Deposit Box \$20.00
P.O. Box Rent \$120.00
Sec. of State \$10.00
PayPal admin fees \$ 68.76

EDUCATION EXPENSES: \$625.00

Zoom Sunday School Christmas
program/related expenses to Gackle
family

Worship Report/Review 2020

Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church of Edgeley, ND

As of the beginning of 2020, Pastor Jordan was granted a set number of "PTO Days" per year. The council felt that it was no longer necessary for him to report what he was utilizing these days for, nor to categorize them for record keeping. These 12 yearly PTO days would be tracked by the council member responsible for finding replacements /fill-ins & shared with council regularly after reconciling with Pastor Jordan. Pastor may also carry over 2 unused days to the next year, thus he may be entitled to a total of 14 PTO days for a given year if he were to carry over 2 unused days from the previous year.

As of 1/4/2021 - Pastor Jordan ended the 2020 Our Redeemer's Church year having utilized 9 of his 14 PTO days (carry over of 2 unused days from 2019 into 2020). He has again carried over 2 unused days into 2021, thus he has 14 PTO days granted for utilization in 2021.

Under normal/routine circumstances, Pastor Jordan informs Heidi Kaatz of his request of PTO day/days. Heidi then finds a replacement/fill-in (if able) and reports back to both Pastor Jordan & Christine Henderson for update and payment purposes. Christine kindly offered to assist with finding leads for services when Pastor Jordan was utilizing PTO time at the start of 2020. According to my records, the last service where a fill-in was utilized is documented 1/5/2020.

During the unfortunate shut down period the routine has changed and varied. After a PTO request is received, request for permission to publicly direct Our Redeemer's congregation & other potential viewers to another Church Worship via Facebook is obtained per that specific Church. A Facebook post is then created & posted on the Church Facebook page directing congregation & potential viewers to another Church Worship Service. There have also been several Sundays with a notification of "No Services", at times a recommendation to perhaps watch a service that one may have missed previously or re-watch a service previously posted.

Respectfully submitted the 4th day of January 2021

Heidi Kaatz - ORLC Council Member

Pastor's Report – Annual Meeting – Jan. 24, 2021

This past year will be remembered as one filled with great challenges. But if we look closely, there is much evidence of God's grace woven through it. As I mentioned in the sermon "The Dappled Dance", sometimes our periods of darkness allow the light to shine ever more brightly.

As a church community, we were unable to meet in person for the majority of 2020, yet the experience illustrated the truth that the church is not only a building but rather the community of believers bound in the Holy Spirit. We've had the unlikely opportunity to live that reality for the past 10 months! Thank you to each and every member for your continued commitment to the church in an unprecedented time. I applaud everyone for the willingness to adjust how we've done church for the past year; it was genuine act of loving one's neighbor, a central theme of Christian ethics.

Although the physical doors to the church have not been open, we have seen many new people come through our virtual doors to worship with us on Sunday mornings. We celebrate the opportunity to reach more with the good news of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, whether it's in person or online!

Although the worship experience has been quite different for everyone, I am personally grateful for the opportunity to have a good reason to have the whole family involved in leading the worship service! It has offered us an opportunity to build a memory that will last forever.

Lastly, thank you to so many!

- Thank you to the council for continuing to meet regularly and run the month to month business of the church. I want to especially thank Amanda Cook for the many years she has served on the council, most recently as President.
- Thank you to Jim Stiles for running the technology infrastructure of the church during the pandemic. From posting services to YouTube, informing the church of important announcements, and hosting Zoom fellowship, his expertise and willingness to help is greatly appreciated.
- Thank you to the many who helped keep the church clean and contributed time and effort for the ongoing basement project. Thank you also to those who cleaned and prepared the church for the two funerals that were held there in 2020.
- Although there are many more, just know that your care for and commitment to the church is appreciated.

God bless you all in 2021!

~ Pastor Jordan Gackle

ORLC YOUTH

(9 Sunday School, 5 Pre-Confirmation, 4 Confirmation)

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We began classes after winter break on January 12, 2020 and went until church closed in March due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Sunday school was held in the basement during the church service. The classes were taught together with the older group helping with the younger group of children: pre-school – kindergarten and grades 1 – 4. Grades 5 – 7 were in pre-confirmation class. The teaching schedule was divided evenly among all the parents. Sarah Gackle was our music leader. We used a curriculum found on the internet:

<https://www.kidssundayschool.com/gradeschool/lessons>. The goal of this curriculum is to teach our children through Sunday school lessons that use familiar items to help get the Word of God into their hearts. It uses activities that help keep the kids interested as they learn and grow spiritually. We are continuing to look at both the new and old testaments of the bible. A craft went along with each story. Also, a skit or activity went along with each lesson.

Listed below are all the *special* activities and events that took place from September to May.

1/12/2020 Sunday School begins again

12/20/2020 Christmas Program "The Tortoise, The Hare, and The Manger"

~ Amanda Cook

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Sadly, due to COVID-19, VBS did not take place this summer.

PRE-CONFIRMATION CLASS

Our first class of the 2019-20 season began on 9/22/19 with 5 students (two six graders & three 5th graders). We studied major stories from the Old Testament up until the Christmas break. In January 2020, we dove into parables from the New Testament. Classes ended early when we stopped having church in person due to COVID-19.

~ Beth Andrys

LUTHER LEAGUE (5th – 12th grade)

The group met in January & February of 2020. Susie Nitschke baked & sold kuchen to raise money for the mission trip to Washington, DC which was scheduled for June 2021. Other fundraising plans for the trip were put on hold due to COVID-19. We still hope to visit Washington, DC to participate in a mission & visit the Bible Museum. The kids collected personal products for the Veteran's Home in Lisbon. Plans to deliver & help with bingo in July were also terminated but the items were delivered & much appreciated. Thanks to everyone for your continued support!

FINANCIAL REPORT

Savings \$4,659.87 as of 12/15/20

~ Jamie Lagodinski