

in this issue >>>

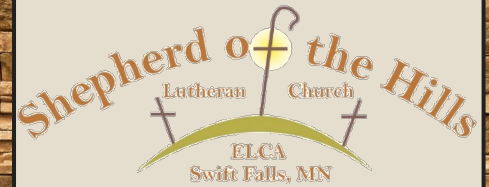
- Council Minutes
- Announcements
- Pastor's Message
- Deadlines
- Financials
- Schedules



FEB
2024

A Monthly Insight into Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church

The **STAFF**



Contacts >>>

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A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR

REMOVING THAT FROST LAYER FROM YOUR HEART...

1st Corinthians 13:2 *".....If I have all faith so as to remove mountains but do not have love, I am nothing."*

As we go through our Annual Meetings this month, I will use this verse from 1st Corinthians 13:2, hopefully to remind us again of what Jesus shows us as our priority.

As we make decisions and choices throughout the year with our time, with our talents, with our finances, with our churches, I hope to lift up this verse and this section of 1st Corinthians 13, hopefully reminding us again and again of what Jesus shows us as our priority.

It's funny how easily we can get sidetracked from this, Jesus's insistence on us loving our neighbors as ourselves. It's funny how we can look at the world through eyes of scarcity and convince ourselves to hold back, or to wish for the past, or to take care of ourselves first.

But in Jesus, we see that **LOVE DOES....** Love does something. Love acts. Love reaches. Love leaps. Love lives.

Without it, we really aren't church, are we? We really aren't who God has created us to be. Let's see where Jesus' love takes us this year!

In Christ – Pr. Steve

ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, February 4 following worship.
Potluck to follow!

CALENDAR

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS...

Each Thursday: Zoom Bible Study @ 7PM

Each Friday: Radio Devotions KSCR 93.5FM

Every Monday-Thursday at 10AM: Facebook Daily Prayer

WELCOME TRISTA NELSON

Trista Nelson will be taking over Jim Ostlie's role as office Secretary beginning in February. Welcome Trista!

Sunday, February 4:	9:30am – SOTH, ANNUAL MEETING, Potluck & Sunday School to follow Third grade bibles given during worship
<i>Sunday, February 11:</i>	<i>WZ 9:30AM, EZ 11AM</i>
Wednesday, February 14:	6:00PM - SOTH, Meal for all by youth followed by Ash Wednesday Service at 7PM
Sunday, February 18:	9:30am – SOTH, Fellowship & Sunday School to follow
Wednesday, February 21:	7:00PM Lenten Service, SOTH
<i>Sunday, February 25:</i>	<i>WZ 9:30AM, EZ 11AM</i>
Sunday, March 3:	9:30am – SOTH, Fellowship & Sunday School to follow
Wednesday, March 6:	7:00PM Lenten Service, SOTH
<i>Sunday, March 10:</i>	<i>WZ 9:30AM, EZ 11AM</i>
Wednesday, March 13:	7:00PM Lenten Service, SOTH
Sunday, March 17:	9:30am – SOTH, Fellowship & Sunday School to follow
Wednesday, March 20:	7:00PM Lenten Service, SOTH
<i>Sunday, March 24:</i>	<i>WZ 9:30AM, EZ 11AM</i>
Thursday, March 28:	7:00PM Maundy Thursday Service, SOTH
Sunday, March 31:	Easter Breakfast at 830AM followed by worship at 9:30AM
	<i>WZ 8AM, EZ 11AM</i>
<i>Sunday, April 7:</i>	<i>WZ 9:30AM, EZ 11AM</i>
Sunday, April 14:	CONFIRMATION/SENIOR RECOGNITION 9:30am – SOTH, Fellowship & Sunday School to follow
<i>Sunday, April 21:</i>	<i>WZ 9:30AM, EZ 11AM</i>

Live stream on Facebook will continue at all 930AM worship services!

SCHEDULES >>>

ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

February 4: Hallie Kobbermann
February 18: Kinsley Trump
March 3: Kale Wrobleski
March 17: Dylan Kent
March 31: Logan Hight
April 14: Hallie Kobbermann
April 28: Kinsley Trump
May 12: Logan Hight
May 26: Dylan Kent



COMPUTER SCHEDULE

February 4: Kale Wrobleski & Logan Hight
February 18: Ryan & Camden Davidson
March 3: Kinsley Trump & Lilly Ostlie
March 17: Riley Ostlie & Tanner Nelson
March 31: Maddie & Shelbie Anderson
April 14: Landon Skarsten & Tyler Kent
April 28: Hallee Kobbermann & Emily Reich
May 12: Ryan & Camden Davidson
May 26: Kale Wrobleski & Kinsely Trump



CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE

All classes are from 6:30-7:20PM on Wednesdays until Feb 7. No classes during lent, however youth are asked to attend Lenten services.

1ST COMMUNION SUNDAY AT SOTH MARCH 3

The students and parents of our 4th and 5th graders are planning to have a very special service on Sunday, March 3rd, at 9:30am, in which all of us get to celebrate together the gift of Holy Communion.

We will include our Lent Theme of: *"God Surprises,"* as we share in the Lord's Supper.

Students and Parents will have their 2nd class meeting on Sunday, Feb. 18, follow service that day. Be sure to work ahead on the homework!

FELLOWSHIP SCHEDULE

February 4: Steve & Roxanne Nelson/Scott & Catie Lee

February 18: Jim & Laura Ostlie/Troy & Michelle Nelson

March 3: Jonathan & Sherri Fahl/Erica & Nathan Hughes

March 17: Marshall & Lisa Lagred/Ryan Davidson

March 31: Easter

April 14: Jason & Betsy Anderson/Bobby & Melissa Wrobleski

April 28: Roy & Joyce Lagred/Rick & Jody Davidson

May 12: Jon & Janine Ellingson/Bryant & Ashley Skarsten

June 9: Mark Nelson/Jeff & Leslie Jacobson

June 23: Mark & Emily Showalter/Brian & Karla Showalter

Schedule starts over in July of 2024.



RADIO DEVOTIONS

Fridays at Noon on KSCR 93.5.



DAILY PRAYER TIME

Monday through Friday at 10AM on Facebook.



NEXT CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18** **FOLLOWING WORSHIP**



ALTAR GUILD

January: Gail Svor & Connie Flaten

February: Debbie Flaten & Ashley Skarsten

March: Joyce Lagred & Lori Thompson

April: Melissa Wrobleski & Jenny Trump



SATURDAY KIDS CLUB

EZ, March 2 from 10AM-Noon!

LENT/HOLY WEEK/EASTER: "SURPRISING GOD"

After such an unusual year of weather and other events, of course we have Lent and Easter coming quite early this year.....in fact Ash Wednesday is so early it is on Valentines Day!

Therefore, our Lent theme: *"Surprising God,"* should fit right in with our unpredictable daily lives! Each week we will design our Sunday and Wednesday worship services around various Bible Stories of God surprising the world again and again with his unstoppable heart of love. Therefore, our services will contain some surprises & twists.....(don't worry, nothing too crazy!)

Also, don't be surprised if you are asked to help in some ways with these unique services, even at one another's churches. Let's make this a Lent and Easter to remember!!!

Here's our Lent and Holy Week Worship Schedule:

Wed., Feb. 14th – Ash Wednesday / Valentines Day Meal: SOTH @ 6PM

Ash Wednesday Service: SOTH @ 7pm

Feb. 21, 28; Mar. 6,13, 20..... with no meals) Lenten Services at SOTH

Palm Sunday, Mar. 17, 9:30am – SOTH;

Maundy Thursday, Mar. 28: 4:00pm @ EZ; 7:00pm @ SOTH

Good Friday, Mar. 29: 7:00pm @ WZ

Easter, Mar. 31: 8am @ WZ; 9:30am @ SOTH; 11am @ EZ

GLACIAL RIDGE CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, March 10th, 3pm @ Trinity Lutheran Church, Alberta

Each congregation in our Conference is asked to bring 6 church members. This year, we are especially encouraging members who are involved in the Bible Studies, Christian Education or Sunday School in your congregation.

DEADLINES >>>

PUBLICATION DEADLINES

NEWSLETTER AND BULLETINS

Email soth2008@live.com or call Trista Nelson at 320-220-2451 with announcements for newsletter by the Monday prior to our last service of the month and by the Tuesday before each service for bulletins.



ANNOUNCEMENTS >>>

BECOME A HEADSTART HERO

Prairie Five Head Start is seeking financial contributions to improve programming. Reach out – 320-598-3118.

CHURCH RENTAL

Make sure to visit the website, speak with a church secretary or grab a facilities use policy contract from the Office door for to reserve the church or its tables and chairs for your special events! There are rental fee's and deposits required for insurance purposes.

ON-LINE GIVING OPTIONS

Shepherd of the Hills has partnered with Tith.le to make it easier to give! Tith.le is recommended by the Southwest Synod of the ELCA and is notably safe. Tith.le offers automatic withdrawals, one time giving and more. Follow the link for easy step by step instructions.

<https://www.shepherdofthehillslc.com/giving>



SIGN UP FOR WORSHIP READING

Sign up in the Narthex if interested.

ELCA FOUNDATION INFORMATION

Those interested wanting to learn more about what the Reverend Keith Pearson discussed during fellowship on Rally Sunday, please visit the Narthex for materials he provided. Keith is a fantastic individual to counsel on estate planning, giving and more! Feel free to contact him with questions at 612-718-4197 or keith.pearson@elca.org.



A THANK YOU FROM LORNA NELSON

Lorna Nelson would like to thank each and everyone that was able to attend fellowship on January 7 to celebrate her 90th birthday! She had a wonderful time and is blessed to have so many wonderful people in her life. The cake was delicious.



MONTHLY COMMUNION TIME IN BENSON

Last month, Pastor Steve held an informal communion service at Scofield Place Assisted Living, next to the Benson Hospital. It was nice to have people from all three of our churches communing together, residents at Scofield Place and others from the community.

We will now make this a monthly time of communion on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, 1:00pm, in the library area at Scofield Place.

All are welcome, past the word!

CALL FOR PRAYERS

Sid & Sandy Nyhusmoen, Karla Showalter



REPORTS >>>

JAN 2024

COUNCIL SECRETARY'S REPORT >>>

JANINE ELLINGSON



The meeting was called to order January 10, 2024, at 7:33 pm by President Stephanie Smith.

Members Present: Those present were, Troy Nelson, Betsy Anderson, Janine Ellingson, Laura Ostlie, Jim Ostlie, Laura Larson, Stephanie Smith, Melissa Wroblewski, Roxanne Carson, Pastor Steve Carmany

Secretary's Report by Janine Ellingson

- Minutes from the December 2023 meeting were read by Janine Ellingson. Betsy Anderson made a motion to approve the minutes as written with a second by Melissa Wroblewski.

Treasurers Report by Jim Ostlie

- Treasurer, Jim Ostlie, presented the treasurer's report. Jim reported no bills have come through yet. Jim will include any new expenses in the annual report. Melissa Wroblewski made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. Betsy Anderson seconded. No further discussion. Motion approved unanimously.

Pastor's Report by Steve Carmany:

- The computer system is now set for livestreaming using both computers hooked together. Pastor Steve will schedule a training for how to use the updated system. There will be some small construction changes in the balcony space to add a ledge to house the computers. Rick Davidson is kindly taking that task on.
 - One change of workflow with the computer streaming, there has to be a power point presentation created and utilized for streaming to work. Melissa Wroblewski kindly volunteered to assist Pastor Steve with preparing these presentations.

President's Report by Stephanie Smith:

- No report.

Council Secretary's Report continued on next page...

JAN 2024

COUNCIL TREASURER'S REPORT >>>

JIM OSTLIE

Please see financial spreadsheets at the end of the newsletter.

Trustee, Deacon and Board of Education Reports

- **Trustee Report:** Snow has arrived and thank you to the volunteers for helping with the snow removal.
- **Deacon Report:** No Report.
- **Board of Education Report:** Sunday school resumed after the holidays. Children will be learning a song with the bells for Easter Service.

Old Business

- Annual Meeting.
 - Held on February 4, 2024, following service. Please join us for a potluck after the annual meeting.
 - Jim needs reports from everyone by January 21st to have time to put the Annual Meeting report together and time to print.

New Business:

- Nominating committee. This committee did meet. We will vote on new council members at the annual meeting, February 4, 2024. These new council members will take on their new responsibilities effective in March 2024.
- New Member Approval: Mathew & Melanie Siefkes of Sunburg, MN.
 - Jim Ostlie made a motion to approve the new members. Betsy Anderson seconded. No further discussion. Motion approved unanimously. We would like to welcome Matt and Mel to Shepard of the Hills. Congratulations also for the birth of their baby boy.
- First Communion Classes: The next class is in February (during Sunday School hours).
- Summer Youth Trip Update: A group of kids is interested in the summery youth trip and their choice is to go to Duluth at the end of July. More details to come.
- Council Meeting Dates: Council has been meeting on Wednesday evenings, but we are going to change to have council meetings following service. Here are the dates we will be meeting:
 - February 18th - May: Skip -August 4th
 - March 17th -June 9th
 - April 28th -July 7th
- Important Events to remember:
 - February 4th: Third Grade Bibles given.
 - April 14th: Confirmation and Senior Recognition

Announcements: None.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Motioned to Adjourn at 8:41 pm.

Next meeting will be Sunday, February 18, 2023, following church service.

JAN 2024

WELCA TREASURER'S REPORT >>>

MARGE ANDERSON

No report submitted at time of printing.

JAN 2024

WELCA SECRETARY'S REPORT >>>

SHERRI FAHL

SOTH WELCA Meeting minutes for January 21, 2024

Members present: Marge Anderson, Debbie Flaten, Gail Svor and Sherri FahL.

Meeting was called to order and WELCA purpose statement was read by Marge Anderson, WELCA president. Treasurer's report was read and approved with current balance of \$482.13 in checking. Thank-yous were received from Heartland Girl's Ranch, Safe Avenues, Lutheran World Relief Glacial Ridge Home Care and Hospice and Centra Care Swift County Hospice for our donations.

Old Business:

- 2024 WELCA booklets:** being finalized by Gail Svor.
- Annual Meeting Potluck:** Will be held February 4th. Asking for volunteers to help serve this.

New Business:

- 2024 WELCA officers:** Marge Anderson, President; Louise Ferry, Vice President; Secretary, Sherri FahL, Treasurer, Debbie Flaten, Brenda Nelson, assistant treasurer. Brenda will continue as card lady and Marge Anderson for mission action. Gail Svor will be our new historian and join Debbie Flaten on the kitchen committee. Leslie Jacobson will continue with Congregational Ministry and Jane Petrak with Glenwood Retirement Village. **Need one additional representative for GRV.**
- Altar Guild:** We will decrease apple juice cups in communion trays to 3, to decrease waste. **Reminder:** -
- When candle oil is down to one full gallon, notify WELCA treasurer so can be reordered.**
- Lutheran World Relief Projects for In-Kind donations:** These are to be ready to donate at the SW MN Synod Convention on May 4th.
- Personal Care Kits:** In need of 50 additional bars of bath size soap and light weight bath towels (between 20" x 40" and 52" x 27"), dark color recommended.
- Back Packs:** In need of blunt scissors, black pens (not ball point), pencil sharpeners, erasers and rulers. We will order sting back packs.
- Quilts:** Terri Jergenson is working on these and will need help with finishing them.

Committee Reports:

Kitchen Committee: Need Kool-Aid or Crystal Light. Debbie will check for additional supply needs.

Upcoming Events: SW MN Synod Convention: will be held May 4th at the Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Redwood Falls. We will cohost the Glacial Ridge WELCA Spring Gathering at Chippewa Falls, date pending.

Prayer Concerns: Harold, Harriet and Mike Jacobson and their families, Sid and Sandy Nyhusmoen, Karla Showalter.

Next WELCA meeting: February 18, 2024 following church service.

Respectfully submitted by Sherri FahL, Secretary.

JAN Financial Report

Checking Account

Line Item	Date	Check #	Vendor #	Description	Payment	Deposit	Balance
	1/1/2024			Beginning of Year Amount			(\$368.10)
1800	1/2/2024	Auto		Transfer from Savings		\$15,000.00	\$14,631.90
1407.4	1/11/2023	14589	0054	GPC (propane budget billing)	\$260.00		\$14,371.90
1608	1/24/2023			Offering-Regular		\$150.00	\$14,521.90
1608	1/2/2024			Tithe.ly - Offering-Regular		\$40.34	\$14,562.24
1201	1/3/2024	14583	0085	Stephanie Smith (January custodial)	\$507.93		\$14,054.31
1203	1/3/2024	14583	0085	Stephanie Smith (January organist 2X)	\$101.59		\$13,952.72
1202	1/3/2024	14584	0007	Betsy Anderson (January secretary)	\$242.42		\$13,710.30
1202	1/3/2024	14585	0076	Jim Ostlie (January Secretary)	\$242.42		\$13,467.88
	1/4/2024			Zosel's True Value	\$7.47		\$13,460.41
1407.3	1/5/2024	Auto	0048	Federated Telephone	\$90.26		\$13,370.15
1608	1/8/2024			Tithe.ly - Offering-Regular		\$89.84	\$13,459.99
1407.5	1/11/2024	14587	0042	Driessen Water Supply	\$73.60		\$13,386.39
1304.1	1/11/2024	14588	0057	Great American Financial Services	\$211.89		\$13,174.50
1407.2	1/11/2024	14589	0054	GPC (Dyed Fuel)	\$753.07		\$12,421.43
1309.1	1/16/2024	14590	0068	Laura Larson (Xmas program)	\$188.50		\$12,232.93
1608	1/16/2024			Tithe.ly - Offering-Regular		\$215.34	\$12,448.27
1407.1	1/19/2024	Auto	0003	Agralite	\$320.00		\$12,128.27
1608	1/22/2024			Tithe.ly - Offering-Regular		\$314.84	\$12,443.11
1204.4	1/23/2024	14591	0044	East West Zion Parish (Pastoral Salary)	\$2,368.66		\$10,074.45
1204.1	1/23/2024	14591	0044	East West Zion Parish (Portico)	\$967.46		\$9,106.99
1302	1/23/2024	14591	0044	East Zion Parish (Zoom)	\$36.03		\$9,070.96
1402	1/24/2024	14592	0080	North Star Mutual Insurance	\$277.86		\$8,793.10
1407.3	2/5/2024	Auto	0048	Federated Telephone	\$90.20		\$8,702.90

Total Income to date 2023:	\$961.36
Total Income to date 2024:	\$3,070.36
Ahead/Behind	\$2,109.00

JAN Financial Report

Savings Account

Line Item	Date	Description	Withdrawal	Deposit	Balance
	1/1/2024	Beginning Balance			\$30,663.01
1800	1/2/2024	Transfer to checking	\$15,000.00		\$15,663.01
	1/3/2024	Offering-Regular		\$500.00	\$16,163.01
	1/3/2024	Offering-Regular		\$400.00	\$16,563.01
1608	1/17/2024	Offering-Regular (1/7/24)		\$2,030.00	\$18,593.01
1608	1/17/2024	Offering-Loose (1/7/24)		\$84.00	\$18,677.01
1609	1/17/2024	Offering-Lunch (1/7/24)		\$46.00	\$18,723.01
1605.2	1/17/2024	Offering-In memory of Jeff by Veronica Khan		\$50.00	\$18,773.01

Mission Investment Funds

6 Year Term Building Fund	\$74,282.63
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Demand Checking Building Fund

\$9,145.53	
\$0.00	<i>Sub-Account Roof</i>
\$255.01	<i>Sub-Account Sound System</i>
\$8,890.52	<i>Sub-Account General</i>

Demand Checking Memorial Fund

\$127.82	
\$80.00	<i>Sub-Account Chimes</i>
\$47.82	<i>Sub-Account General</i>

2024 Budget

				2024 Budget	Spent to date
1100 Missions/Donations/Memberships				\$1,040.00	\$0.00
1101	Benson Fire Department			\$50.00	\$0.00
1102	Glacial Ridge Conference			\$100.00	\$0.00
1103	Glenwood Retirement Village			\$200.00	\$0.00
1104	Luther Crest			\$100.00	\$0.00
1105	Lutheran Social Service			\$100.00	\$0.00
1106	Misc. Missions	<i>Based on donations</i>			\$0.00
1107	SW Minnesota Synod			\$300.00	\$0.00
1108	Love Fund	<i>Carryover from 21=\$190</i>		\$190.00	\$0.00
1109	Other			\$0.00	\$0.00

Note Love Fund budget is carryover from previous year plus any new money given in current year

1200 Staff and Ministry				\$62,205.00	\$4,430.48
1201	Church Custodial Salary			\$5,800.00	\$507.93
1202	Office Secretary Salary			\$5,820.00	\$484.84
1203	Organist Salary			\$1,700.00	\$101.59
1204	Pastoral Salary			\$45,865.00	\$3,336.12
1204.1	Pastoral Benefits			\$11,340.00	\$967.46
1204.2	Pastoral Mileage			\$1,800.00	\$0.00
1204.3	Pastoral Professional Development			\$525.00	\$0.00
1204.4	Pastoral Salary			\$32,000.00	\$2,368.66
1204.5	Other (Zoom, Headwaters Media, etc)			\$200.00	\$0.00
1205	Pulpit Supply (sub Pastors)			\$300.00	\$0.00
1206	Employee Quarterly Taxes			\$2,400.00	\$0.00
1207	Sub organist fees			\$220.00	\$0.00
1208	Tax Prep			\$100.00	\$0.00

1300 Congregational Life				\$6,470.00	\$436.42
1301	Altar Supplies			\$500.00	\$0.00
1302	Church Worship Material			\$700.00	\$36.03
1303	Convention (Synod Assembly)			\$700.00	\$0.00
1304	Office Supplies/Rentals			\$3,710.00	\$211.89
1304.1	Copier Lease			\$2,600.00	\$211.89
1304.2	Copier staples/paper			\$400.00	\$0.00
1304.3	Other			\$250.00	\$0.00
1304.4	Postage			\$250.00	\$0.00
1304.5	Website Fee			\$210.00	\$0.00
1305	Other reimbursements			\$0.00	\$0.00
1306	Living Lutheran			\$60.00	\$0.00
1307	Transfer to Building Fund			\$0.00	\$0.00
1308	Transfer to Memorial Fund			\$0.00	\$0.00
1309	Youth Programs (\$800 + youth offering)			\$800.00	\$188.50
1309.1	Sunday School			\$400.00	\$188.50
1309.2	Confirmation			\$200.00	\$0.00
1309.3	Graduation			\$200.00	\$0.00

1309.4	Other			\$0.00	\$0.00
1309.5	Youth Mission Trip			\$0.00	\$0.00

1400 Church Building/Property **\$22,030.00** \$1,864.99

1401	Dept of Labor (Elevator Inspection)			\$100.00	\$0.00
1402	Insurance			\$5,000.00	\$277.86
1403	Mowing			\$700.00	\$0.00
1404	Repairs/Maintenance			\$1,500.00	\$0.00
1405	Supplies (custodial)*			\$500.00	\$0.00
1406	Utilities*			\$14,180.00	\$1,587.13
1407.1	Electricity			\$3,000.00	\$320.00
1407.2	Fuel			\$5,000.00	\$753.07
1407.3	Phone/Internet			\$1,150.00	\$180.46
1407.4	Propane			\$4,200.00	\$260.00
1407.5	Water			\$830.00	\$73.60
1408	Flowers			\$50.00	\$0.00

1500 Fundraiser Expenses **\$700.00** \$0.00

1501	Harvest Dinner			\$700.00	\$0.00
1502	Other			\$0.00	\$0.00

Proposed Operating Budget:

\$92,445.00	\$6,731.89
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1600 Income **\$95,445.00** **\$3,070.36**

1601	Youth Programs			\$800.00	\$0.00
1602	Church Rentals			\$0.00	\$0.00
1603	Grants			\$0.00	\$0.00
1604	Interest			\$0.00	\$0.00
1605	Memorials			\$0.00	\$50.00
1065.1	Love Fund			\$0.00	\$0.00
1605.2	Other			\$0.00	\$50.00
1606	Missions			\$0.00	\$0.00
1607	Mowing			\$700.00	\$0.00
1608	Offering-Regular (includes loose offering & online)			\$87,345.00	\$2,924.36
1609	Offering-Lunch			\$500.00	\$46.00
1610	Offering-Harvest Lunch			\$800.00	\$0.00
1611	Other Income			\$3,000.00	\$0.00
1612	Harvest Lunch			\$1,300.00	\$0.00
1613	Thrivent Funds			\$1,000.00	\$0.00
1614	Youth Mission Trip			\$0.00	\$0.00



LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF



PERSONAL CARE KITS

SOME IMPORTANT GUIDELINES TO REMEMBER

- Be sure to shop for light- or medium-weight towels, which are easier for Kit recipients to hand wash and air dry, take up less storage space and are considerably less expensive than the fluffier towels we may prefer to use.
- Bath towels vary in size. The 52" X 27" size listed in the guidelines is the maximum size. 20" x 40" is a good guideline for a minimum size.
- Please give new items only.
- Please do not donate items with any religious symbols, messages or your group's name.
- Please do not donate any items decorated with a U.S. flag, patriotic or military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage.
- Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed.
- All items should be new and in good condition.
- Do not enclose the Kit or any of its contents in plastic bags.

INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN EACH PERSONAL CARE KIT

- ONE** light-weight bath-size towel (between 20" x 40" and 52" x 27"), dark color recommended
- TWO** or three bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping
- ONE** adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging*
- ONE** sturdy comb, remove packaging
- ONE** metal nail clippers (attached file optional), remove packaging

* *Toothbrush multi-packs may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business-size envelope; no plastic bags or wrap*

HOW TO PACK YOUR PROJECT PROMISE KITS

- Fold the towel in half. Place the rest of the items in the towel, fold and roll so nothing falls out, and secure with yarn, ribbon, string or rubber bands.
- Pack completed Kits, like items together, in boxes. Label contents in **LARGE, BLOCK LETTERS** on the outside of the boxes.
- Use strong cartons secured with packing tape, not to exceed 40 pounds.
- Do not use plastic or paper bags to pack donations.
- Include the name and address of your group or congregation on each box and label the contents