

HYMNALS—Inspired by this year’s emphasis on worship and praising God, the Worship Committee wishes to pursue use of the cranberry Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) Hymnal to bring new opportunities to enhance our worship. You can sponsor a hymnal for \$22.50. If you wish your gift to be in memory or honor of someone, please indicate that on your envelope. This information will be shown on a book tag on the hymnal’s inside cover.

Weekly Financial News:

General Fund: \$3,070 Noisy Collection: \$34.94 Attendance: 193

OUR FINANCIAL
PICTURE 2016

<u>DECEMBER</u>	<u>Dec. 2016 Receipts</u>	<u>Needed for Adjusted Budget**</u>	<u>RECEIPTS vs BUDGET</u>	<u>ACTUAL SPENDING</u>	<u>RECEIPTS vs SPENDING</u>
General Fund	\$38,877	\$30,858	\$8,018	\$39,557	(\$681)
Building Fund	<u>\$4,355</u>	<u>\$5,076</u>	<u>(\$721)</u>	<u>\$5,076</u>	<u>(\$721)</u>
Total	\$43,232	\$35,934	\$7,298	\$44,633	(\$1,402)

<u>YEAR-TO- DATE</u>	<u>YTD Receipts</u>	<u>YTD Needed for Adjusted Budget**</u>	<u>Adjusted DIFFERENCE</u>	<u>YTD ACTUAL SPENDING</u>	<u>YTD RECEIPTS vs SPENDING</u>
General Fund	\$342,119	\$370,298	(\$28,179)	\$334,087	\$8,032
Building Fund	<u>\$65,957</u>	<u>\$63,616</u>	<u>\$2,342</u>	<u>\$63,616</u>	<u>\$2,341</u>
Total	\$408,077	\$433,914	(\$25,838)	\$397,703	\$10,373

For more information or details on the Financial Report, please contact Sherry Clements, Financial Reporter.

**Adjusted Budget” includes reduction in mortgage payment on 4/1/16 (Monthly mortgage payment reduced from \$5,977.89/mo to \$5,075.80/mo resulting in annual reduction of \$902.09/mo X 9 months + \$8,118.81.

GOOD NEWS FROM GRACE

www.gracelutherantomahawk.org

Praising God + Serving Others + Building Friendships

FEBRUARY 4 & 5, 2017

WORSHIP SCHEDULE (through Memorial Day)

Saturday – 5:00 pm **Sunday** - 8:30 am & 10:45 am

2017 FIRST COMMUNION preparation begins this Sunday, February 5! **Any baptized child** showing desire to receive Jesus in Holy Communion is welcome to come to First Communion preparation! Please speak with Pastor Mark or Patti Gaedtke, Director of Children's Ministries, if you have questions about your child's readiness for Holy Communion.

Two Options for First Communion: A) Three sessions on Sunday mornings, from 9:40-10:40 in the youth room on **February 5, 12, and 19**, or B) onetime retreat format on **Wednesday, February 15**, from 4:00-7:30. It is important for parents to also attend. We appreciate your announcing your plans to the Church Office, so that we can be prepared for your attendance. **Planned time to receive First Communion is Transfiguration Sunday, February 26 at 8:30.**

COMPANION BREAKFAST - SUNDAY, FEB. 5 – BETWEEN SERVICES

The 2017 Grace Wilderness Trippers are hosting a Companionship Breakfast on Sunday, Feb. 5, between services. A free will offering will be accepted to help us defray the cost of our trip to the Bighorn Mountains. Come enjoy some tasty treats and fellowship! Hope to see you there! A Thrivent grant has provided "seed" money to begin fundraising for the Wilderness adventure.



ANNUAL MEETING ACTIONS

Elected Bill Zorr, Keri Kelley, Don Narloch, and Brandon Hafeman to Church Council, approved the Constitutional changes (available in the Gathering Space), and heard the Council report emphasizing the Congregation Retreat on Saturday, April 22 9:00-1:00, six policies approved in 2016 (available in Gathering Space) and three SMART goals that will guide Grace in 2017 as our year of "Praising God." Look for a more complete report in the March newsletter.



GREETING TO A FRIEND

Quite a few folks have called the church office to get Jean Huntoon's address. If you would like to send a card or letter to Jean, her address is: Jean Huntoon, c/o Ann Huntoon, 5195 E. Maria Dr., Stevens Point, WI 54481. Jean would love to hear from you.

DO YOU FEEL GOD CALLING YOU to a deeper relationship with Him? Do you want to be energized in your faith life? If so, consider attending the next **Via de Cristo weekend, March 16-19, 2017**. Over 35 people from Grace (and others from Tomahawk) have attended this event, and come back with a new vision of how they can make a difference in their environments. The cost of the weekend (all meals and lodging included) is \$75, and a sponsor will drive you to and from Forest Springs Camp near Westboro. The weekend starts Thursday evening after supper and ends Sunday afternoon. Please take a brochure from the special display in the gathering space and fill out an application. (Give it to Debbie with your payment or put in VDC mailbox **by March 1**.) Married couples are encouraged to attend together if possible. Scholarships are available-see Pastor Mark. If you have questions, contact Nancy Kind at (715) 612-6034 or check out the website: www.northernlightvdc.com

COLORING BIBLE STUDY will begin on Monday, February 6th from 6:00 to 7:30 pm. Please contact Margie Welke with any questions.

SOUP, SOUP, WONDERFUL SOUP!! It is time once again to start planning for six weeks of Lenten soup meals. ***With your help***, Grace will be serving soup meals during Lent. Beginning Ash Wednesday, March 1, two meals will be served every Wednesday – ***lunch starting at 11:30*** and ***supper at 5:30***. Please prayerfully consider your role and how you can help. Help is needed in many different ways: by making your favorite soup, helping in the kitchen, or providing needed supplies. The sign-up sheets are located in the Gathering Area. Thank you from the Fellowship Committee



SAVE THE DATE – GRACE CAMP WEEK – JULY 9-14!!! More details about registration coming soon.

MARRIAGE MILESTONE will be celebrated on Sunday, February 19, (*not Feb. 11 & 12*) as stated in the newsletter.) Refreshments will be served in Fellowship Hall between services. All are welcome.



VALENTINE SHOPPING could be a breeze at our Debt Reduction Dinner next weekend; Sunday, February 12 @ 4:00 pm! If you have not purchased your ticket yet, you will want to do that asap.

REV. CLAY SCHMIT will be installed at 9:00am on Sunday, February 12, 2017 at Trinity Lutheran Church located at 1410 Rogers St., Stevens Point. Along with the good people of Trinity Lutheran Church our Bishop Gerald Mansholt and our East Central Synod of Wisconsin welcomes and prays for Clay and Carol as they transition here to start his ministry at Trinity. You may send your greetings to Clay at clayschmit@gmail.com, and you can see Trinity's worship and Clay's preaching at www.trinitysp.com

SPEICAL OFFERING FOR FEBRUARY – ELCA WORLD HUNGER

By providing immediate relief to those who are hungry, we meet basic needs and recognize the universal human right to food. But ending hunger is about more than food. By connecting people with the resources they need to produce food and gain access to clean water, education, health care and sources of income, long-term, sustainable change can be accomplished.

We start with relationships marked by conversation and listening. We believe people know their own communities best. It is our congregations and our global companion churches that first identify the local needs and related solutions to help make a difference. Then, we partner with communities to help make those solutions a reality. Working through ELCA congregations, global companion churches, The Lutheran World Federation and other partners like Bread for the World, Church World Service, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service and Lutheran World Relief, the ELCA reaches more places more effectively than we could ever do alone. In addition to funding relief and development projects that assist our sisters and brothers in need, we engage members of the ELCA in education and advocacy to help change the systems that perpetuate poverty.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

In 1 Timothy 6:7 we read, *“We brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world.”* Billy Graham said, “You never saw a hearse going to cemetery pulling a U-Haul.” We are not going to take anything with us. The money and things that God entrusts to us while on earth are tools that can be used for good or evil. They can build or destroy. While on earth, we are in control of what God has entrusted to us, and it is up to us to do things either God's way or the world's way. The decision is ours. May God help us understand that He owns all things and that we are the stewards to manage faithfully and wisely all that He entrusts to us.

Women & Justice: One in Christ: Conversations toward a Social Statement

The Appleton Conference is hosting study and conversation to give input to a new ELCA Social Statement on Women & Justice. Come for any one of the sessions or all, to participate in the process and to preview the materials for your own congregation. Saturday mornings Feb. 11, 18, 25 -- 9:30 am to 11:00 am at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 2330 E Calumet Street, Appleton. Pre-registration is appreciated. Contact Pastor Mark or the church office for study materials, questions and for registration.