

ANNUAL REPORT

2020

*Connecting more
people to
Christ Jesus*

Silverdale
Lutheran
Church



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Silverdale Lutheran Church Annual Meeting Minutes

Nov. 17, 2019

Meeting called to order by Council President David Soine

- A. A quorum was met by those in attendance
- B. The 2019 Annual Report to the Congregation was distributed to all. It includes the 2018 Annual Meeting Minutes, Pastors' Reports to the Congregation, President's Report, Council Reports, Statistical Report, Financial Report and 2020 Budget. Ballots, Annual Meeting Agenda and the Annual Endowment Committee input to SLC Church Council were also distributed.
- C. Opening liturgy, read responsively by Bruce Kramer
- D. Opening remarks by President David Soine

Approval of 2018 Minutes

- A. Motion by Greg Patterson to approve the minutes as accepted; seconded by Ken Day. Unanimously approved.

Financial Report by Treasurer Mark Barga

- A. Financial Comparison 2017-2019.
 - 1. Offerings to date are \$654,157. Ministry expenses so far are \$680,999.
 - 2. Showing a -\$26,842 balance as of Oct. 31.
 - 3. Balance is similar to previous years, with benevolences recently paid for third quarter.
 - 4. Giving has been very generous for 2019; average per Sunday giving is an average \$15,213.
 - 5. In December, recent years have ended in the black despite a negative balance during annual meeting.
- B. Questions from meeting attendees
 - 1. Bob Brien asked us where we would stand if we don't get enough general giving (addressed by Mark Barga)
 - 2. Barb Smithson asked if it is accurate to say that we're farther behind than we've ever been (addressed by Mark Barga)
 - 3. Linda Day asked about weekly designated giving and what happens to those funds (addressed by Mark Barga)
 - 4. Don Budden asked about how money is spent from equity accounts (addressed by Mark Barga)
 - 5. Wade Randall asked if he should be concerned as a member of the church if we should be concerned (addressed by Mark Barga)
 - 6. Betty Koster asked if we needed to think about a contingency fund (addressed by Mark Barga)

Pastors' Reports

- A. Pastor Bill
 - 1. Report distributed and "A Leap of Faith: Connecting More People to Christ" presentation.
- B. Pastor Jonathan
 - 1. Report distributed and "Connecting More to Christ" presentation.
- C. Pastor Paula
 - 1. Report distributed. Expressed gratitude for congregation for supporting sabbatical.

Listening and sharing stories have been identified as past and future goals. This includes through retreats and all-church servant trip. Working on deepening connections within families.

Nominations by Nominating Committee member by Ann Cummings

- A. Executive officer ballot for 2019 (1-year term)
 - 1. President David Soine (second term)
 - 2. Vice President Denyse Hemmersbach (first term)
 - 3. Treasurer Mark Barga (second term)
 - 4. Secretary Rebecca Bauer (first term)

- B. Council member ballot for 2019 (2-year term)
 - 1. Evangelism and outreach: Kim Grasmck (second term)
 - 2. Fellowship: Travis Feiring (first term)
 - 3. Social concerns: Katie Shaw (first term)
 - 4. Youth: Kurt Thompson (first term)

- C. Nominating committee (1-year term)
 - 1. Rick Cotter
 - 2. Ann Cummings
 - 3. Joyce Barry

- D. Lutherhaven Board and Alternate (2-year term)
 - 1. Bob Arper
 - 2. Jeff Ottenbacher (Alt)
 - 3. David Soine (Alt)

- E. Martha and Mary delegates (1-year term)
 - 1. Barb Smithson
 - 2. Marcia Anderson
 - 3. Ann Cummings

- F. Endowment committee
 - 1. Kelley Sutherland
 - 2. Ann Phillips

- G. Additional nominations from the floor
 - 1. None

- H. Motion by Bob Brien to accept the ballot as written; seconded by Burt Clark.
Unanimously approved.

2020 Budget Presentation by Treasurer Mark Barga

- A. Benevolences
 - 1. Goal to give 9% of undesignated giving; 7.5% goes to ELCA and 1.5% goes to other benevolences. 9% of restricted giving goes completely to other benevolences.

2. Went through benevolences for 2019 and proposed for 2020 by church council. Addressed change to Hearty Meals and the decision to not direct benevolences and to increase amount given to Backpack 4 Kids and Empowering Life prison ministry.
 3. Ken Day asked whether free-will offering was collected (David Soine addressed).
 4. Wade Randall asked for clarification of donations directed to Hearty Meals (David Soine addressed).
 5. Linda Day asked whether we are required by ELCA to donate 7.5% (David Soine addressed).
 6. Question asked about why “Homeless Outreach” line item was changed to “Council Outreach” (Mark Barga and Pastor Bill addressed).
 7. Bob Brien brought up a concern about having line items with benevolences. Endowment Committee is not allowed to give money to line items for budget (Chris Love addressed).
 8. Lisa Ottenbacher asked about how benevolences are listed in the budget (as “First Fruits” giving) and clarified that list is “flexible” (Mark Barga and David Soine addressed).
 9. Barb Smithson moves to accept the suggested list of benevolences; seconded by Chris Love. 97 approved; one nay. Motion carries.
 10. David Gitch points out that council is seeking endorsement of council priorities for benevolences (noting that a motion isn’t always made to approve benevolences).
- B. Proposed 2020 budget, approved by church council
1. Reviewed budget areas
 2. Budget calls for \$927,211 in spending in 2020 — a 7.17% increase in spending (\$62,030) from 2019 to 2020.
 3. Increases come in Salaries (75%), Facilities (16%), Programs (1%), Benevolences (9%) and Administration (1%).
 4. Chris Love gave an explanation about salary changes in response to Synod guidelines as well as minimum wage law.
 5. Question from Joyce Barry about going rate of senior pastor at ELCA level and changes to pastor compensation in regards to changes in medical coverage (Chris Love and David Soine addressed).
 6. Request from Lisa Ottenbacher to have health ministries line item reinstated for 2020; also request for parish nurse to be included in budget as a staff member (David Soine addressed)
 7. Wade Randall asked about general increase in facilities line item (David Soine addressed)
 8. Linda Day asked about expenses for parish nurse (David Soine addressed)
 9. Kay Kersten says she is “appalled” that we don’t pay our parish nurse (David Soine addressed)
 10. Betty Koster talks about endowment fund and the possibility of paying for a parish nurse (Pastor Bill addressed parish nurse generally)
 11. Motion by Chris Love to add \$250 to the 2020 budget for health ministries; seconded by Kim Grasmick. Unanimously approved.
 12. Ann Pebbles asked about line items for shipping quilts and school supplies (Mark Barga addressed).
 13. Motion by Suzanne Love to approve the 2020 budget; Wade Randall seconded; Unanimously approved.

President’s Comments and Other Business

- A. Recognized departing council and trustees, Chris Love (vice president), Tim Quigley (social concerns), Kim Rubenstein (secretary), Sue Starks (fellowship), Kara Willis (youth).
- B. Nancy Williams, preschool director, will be retiring after 23.5 years.

- C. Lisa Ottenbacher, parish nurse who has donated her salary, is retiring in 2020. The council will have to decide whether to replace her, which would amount to a line item of approximately \$8,000 for the hours Lisa has claimed.

Adjournment

- A. Prayer by Pastor Bill
- B. Motion to adjourn by Chris Love, seconded by Dennis Enebo. Unanimously approved.

Kimberly Rubenstein, Secretary

Annual Report 2020

Rev. Bill Crabtree, Lead Pastor



Connecting more to Christ and loving Kitsap and the world. A simple and profound mission but now in an especially complex and challenging time. COVID – 19 has dramatically affected all our lives and certainly SLC’s ministry. Then there is the volatility of societal issues and challenges. All of which make our mission more urgent than ever. Moreover, the transition of Pastor Paula, and of our Small Group Connector and Intern Marietta, are real losses for us. So let’s talk about where we’ve been and where we are headed.



As our President David Soine has said, we went from being an in person-on sight church to a digital church overnight. We’ve had to adjust, adapt, and innovate. Yet, we have remained dedicated to delivering the goods – the forgiveness and grace of our Lord Jesus in Word and Sacrament but have done so using digital media. Producing a high quality worship video has been a big task and our Music Director Justin, our Zoom choir & John Ackenhuseen (John produces the Zoom choir videos) and our pastors, all stepped up big time to make it happen.



As pastors, we have moved all our classes, Bible studies, meetings, programing, and administrative meetings to Zoom or been creative with in-person physically distanced gatherings. Our audio devotionals have become cherished parts of your week. Moreover, a wonderful development this year thanks to Darcy Lund is our Joy Brigade that has stepped up our lay and pastoral support of more isolated households in our congregation. Our quilters and hearty meals have restarted but in a limited, physically distanced fashion.

Then there is the financial support and response that you have made in this time of crisis. Because of your faithful support, SLC is in a good place and ready to adapt to the new realities ahead as we prayerfully emerge from this pandemic in the next year. Ultimately, when we think about 2020, it is a testimony to the power of the Holy Spirit keeping us engaged in connecting more to Christ and loving Kitsap and the world. You’ve done a good job SLC!



Where are we headed? First, let me address the staffing plans our Council, PJ, and I have made for the coming year. Our first decision was related to whether or not we call another pastor. We have heard from many of you how much you have appreciated Pastor Paula’s ministry (I mean there really is no replacing someone of her caliber) but also how much you appreciate having a female clergy person on staff. We completely agree. However, because of COVID-19 and the uncertainties of the future, we have decided this is not the time to start the process of extending a Call to a third pastor but rather add a number of part-time positions to address

the areas of need. One of those areas is visitation and pastoral care. We are blessed to have a very gifted layperson in Kim Holmes Grasmick who has a certification in Lutheran studies and is enrolled in our Synod’s PSALM program who will come on board at 15 hours a week as our Pastoral Care Assistant. She will

work with Pastor Bill and Care ministry. Kim will also be our support person for women's ministry – specifically our Ladies Night out events and our women's retreats.

The other area of need and importance is our outreach to families with children and military families. We have experienced a down turn in numbers of children and we are excited to bring Jessica Voigt on, a Navy mother herself, as well as someone who has a long a wonderful history at SLC, as our Children's Ministry and Military Families Connector. Jessica's energy, passion for outreach, creativity, and love for the Lord will be a great asset in attracting and blessing families with children.



What else? Well, I still believe strongly in our break the barrier positions created a number of years ago and we will continue with those. They are not new additions but I want to highlight them. Cathy Bohman, our current Community Connector will continue in a voluntary capacity and will now focus

specifically on our work with the Cottage Bay apartments and Esquire Hills elementary school. Moreover, I still believe in the need for paid staff support of our Small Group ministries and am excited to announce that Chris Love, a long time participant in SLC's small group ministry, will come on board at the first of the year as our Small Group Connector (position previously held by Intern Marietta). We will continue to support this position from our Break the Barrier fund.



Before I go on to some other developments, I need to stop and address the effects of this pandemic on congregations – changes that may not go away after it is over. The Barna research group has done extensive research that indicates there seems to be a warming up to digital and hybrid ministry. Hybrid being a combination of physical in-person and digital ministry. One in five churchgoers has what Barna calls "high digital openness." Looking ahead, millennial churchgoers say hybrid church, just as much as physical church, will be a good fit for them. Therefore, the challenge comes: How much of a congregation's resources can be put into providing digital content in the future? Making a full

worship video each week is difficult but we have done this primarily through our current staff, Justin & pastors, pivoting and incorporating the filming and production of the video into our weekly ministry. Let me just stop here to tip my hat to our whole staff and especially Justin our Music Director in how they have adjusted in this year. We've received so much gratitude on our work in this year and we are thankful for that and I want to say to all our staff – great job!



Now going forward, we don't see producing the worship video as sustainable now that we have started up in-person worship and some other in person programming. However, we know that there will be a need for **not** only our worship service to be available digitally, but also other aspects of our ministry. For this reason, the Council and Trustees have contracted with two professionals to support a Livestream experience of our Sunday worship: a worship media producer and sound technician. Sound has to be mixed differently for the in-house and livestream requiring one person for that job and then another person to be running the cameras, inserting media, and producing the Livestream. The Trustees are also making a significant financial investment in equipment, cameras, computer, switcher, and projectors for the sanctuary to help do this ministry well. We know going into the future, we will need to provide a high quality digital worship for those who cannot be with us in person.





Our paid staff – in particular Kathleen our Communications Connector and Bruce our Business Manager, are also pivoting to work into the digital world. Kathleen and Bruce are working extensively with our new SLC church app that will eventually be the “one stop shop” for all of our digital communication and content. But don’t worry, for those who don’t use smart phones, our content will continue to be available the way it is now. We now get to do ministry in two different worlds – digital and in person. BTW – some larger congregations allocate a full 50% of their finances to the digital side of ministry. Hybrid of digital and physical church is certainly going to be part of our future.

As we also continue to prioritize ministry to and with our youth, we are planning to add some part time support for our youth ministry. Given we have one less pastor now, in addition to PJ’s preaching, worship leadership, and focus on youth and family ministry, he will be working with me more in the area of pastoral care. To support this, we are hoping to add a part-time layperson who will both work directly with our youth and provide administrative support.

Now you may be thinking a number of things at this point. Wow, this seems like a lot of moving pieces! Yes, there are always pluses and minuses to decisions like this but we have set up a good system of oversight and getting more lay leadership involved in our ministry we feel is a very good thing – if you want to see an organizational chart – it is available on our website. You also might be wondering what the difference is between volunteer positions and our part-time paid positions. Well, part of the difference is we are expecting more time than is typical for a volunteer position but there is also more accountability for a paid position. Yet, ultimately, when we have someone who wishes to do some of these ministries in a volunteer capacity, we of course welcome and celebrate that. A great example is our bookkeeper position currently wonderfully done by Rick Cotter. Most churches our size would need to pay someone for the time and expertise that job takes. Another important job for which we are blessed to have volunteer support is our Sunday School Superintendent. Dawn Rittenbach has also done a wonderful job in adjusting and pivoting in this year. I’ve already mentioned Cathy our Community Connector but another example was our Parish Nurse position that Lisa Ottenbacher did for many years. What about that parish nurse position? Up to now, we haven’t found someone with the health credentials interested in that position but we are certainly open to that. I also know that some are wondering if we could have another intern at some point. Supervising an intern is both a significant time commitment on my part as well as a significant financial and time commitment on SLC’s part. I would love in the future for us to re-engage with this ministry but I want to get a little further down the road before we consider that.



Finally, I bet you are wondering how much all this will cost. All of these positions will be less than the compensation we had previously allocated for Pastor Paula’s position and our budget for next year is just about the same as 2020. I’ll let you check out the proposed budget for the details.

I’m sure there are more questions – I hope if you do have questions you’ll feel free to email us or attend our upcoming informational ZOOM meeting or call in to talk to one of our Executive Officers.



As I close, I want to say what a great job your leadership, our Church Council and Executive Officers, have done this past year. They have been so supportive of us as pastors and of the whole staff. They have asked hard and important questions and shown great resiliency during this pandemic. I'm delighted David Soine as President, Denyse Hemmersbach as VP, and Mark Barge as Treasurer, are all open to serving another term. Special Thanks to Becky Bauer for her service this year as Secretary. Please do check out our list of nominees for the election at our annual meeting. We are thankful for all who have served and for those who will serve in 2021. Alicia Keys, a famous singer, has a wonderful song called "Good Job." I encourage you to check out this [YouTube Cover of the song](#). I would like to sing this song to our staff, leadership, and all of you SLC. What we are doing matters, more now than ever. Good job!



Finally, as always, I want to thank my family for their amazing support in my ministry. I am so blessed by them and so blessed to get to be SLC's lead pastor.

I've looked back and forward in this report. It's a different report than usual but nothing this year is "usual." As challenging as the future promises to be, I know I can speak for PJ and for all our staff, we are excited to continue in ministry with you. One thing is for sure: Our Lord has us in his hands and will bring to completion what he has begun in us! Therefore, we look forward to another year of Connecting more to Christ and Loving Kitsap and our world.

Pastor Bill Crabtree

Annual Report 2020

Pastor Jonathan Sansgaard



Gearing up for games at the Spring Retreat



Praying for the world at the Spring Retreat

I am mindful as I begin a report that will be dominated by what did NOT happen this past year due to COVID-19 and physical isolation/distancing, that the very last thing we did in youth ministry was attend a wonderful and very wet spring retreat with many of our middle schoolers, March 6th-8th. Just one week before EVERYTHING seemed to shut down, we gathered together at a camp in Pierce County, singing, praying, playing, eating, and worshipping together. When I was a kid, I relished pizza nights, gorging on candy bars, and drank pop by the gallon (translated soda or coke or...). I winced when we had roast beef and fresh veggies grown on our small farm. Now I look back at that kid and think, “You fool!” What I would give to eat such healthy and fresh foods every night! That’s how I feel about that last retreat, like a savory, rich meal that I/we didn’t appreciate fully at the time, even though it was fun and meaningful. And I hold that thought as I hope we will hold thoughts of opportunities/connections/events that we have taken for granted or missed altogether in favor of lesser “junk,” not so that we can say, “You fool!” to ourselves, but so that we might see those chances to connect and grow with new eyes and long for them like we long for our favorite home-cooked meal. I guess my hope that we will hold hope before us, or rather, look to the *future filled with hope* (Jeremiah 29:11) and *the hope that does not disappoint* (Romans 5:5) that IS held before us by a loving Savior who actively heals and renews and redeems.



Fundraising at Applebee’s Breakfast

The first “didn’t happen” came the Sunday after our last retreat, which was supposed to be the *Youth Auction*. We scrambled to postpone and re-scheduled for this fall, but it has seemed best to us for a number of reasons to put several items online for sale and be at the ready for an in-person gathering when that becomes possible. The reality is that if we cannot gather for the auction, we are not going on a trip. So we will tie the excitement and energy of both together when our hope is realized. We obviously had no choice but to cancel our 2020 *Summer Servant Trip* to Costa Rica, but the group decided they wanted to keep that important international trip for 2021, or whenever we can travel together once again. We also put a backup plan to possibly do another visit with the Blackfeet Nation in 2021 if we can travel locally but not internationally.



Hiking on the Dungeness Spit during Fall Campout



Amazing dinners at Fall Campout

middle camp was another on the list of “didn’t happens,” even though we postponed our original June dates to August. In fact, Lutherhaven closed for the summer this year as did most other camps in our region. I found it ironic that both our original June week and our hoped for August week had the best weather we would have had in 5 years, but again, that makes our hope all the more fervent for gathering when we can. I am also excited by a new collaboration with the young couple that run All Church Camp for Lutherhaven. We will be working together to use our strengths to make both camps a richer experience. Generally, they will take care of most staffing and programming, and I will head up devotions and spiritual formation. I look forward to making this collaboration a reality!



Reindeer Games at *the middle*



Reflecting after Meditation Night

Our *middle wednesdays* took an obvious turn this spring as well, meeting in Zoom rooms instead of in person from mid-March on, but we also decided to extend our gatherings through July instead of breaking in the middle of June for the summer. We did have a few in-person gatherings around the fire pit, and are now gathering on Zoom for the fall with some changes in our format and in leadership. David and Stephanie Sweeney are stepping up to not only lead small groups, but also take on some teaching and other leadership for this time of pastoral transition and into the future. Ali Wermager is also continuing to lead this group. We said a distant goodbye this spring to faithful leaders, Kara and Zach Willis, who moved back to South Carolina after Zach’s stint with the Navy ended here. Of course our fall and winter pre-COVID gatherings were a blessing as we added back a great fall campout and the spring retreat in early March.



Camp fire at the Corn Maze



Serving at Esquire Hills’ Trunk or Treat

middle sundays continued to meet on the same schedule as our wednesdays through the spring and summer, and we also continued to have small group leadership from Katy Crabtree and Brian McGuire. This group is a building block for youth who will later work toward affirming their faith (Confirmation). This past year we looked at the New Testament and some of the Life of Jesus. This year we are starting into Luther, the Catechism, and the Sacraments. We are excited to welcome some guest teachers along the way, and are planning to worship virtually with a congregation in Tacoma.



Waterfall hike at the Confirmation Retreat



Confirmation Sunday in October 2019

I explained our new format for **Confirmation** in my 2019 report, but seeing it lived out last October was a real treat. We had several 10th and 11th graders and one 9th grader affirm their faith on Reformation Sunday 2019 in a wonderful and packed worship service. Earlier in October we had done our first Confirmation Retreat, which ended up being a fun and focused weekend of opening up the faith of our youth. The faith statements that emerged from that weekend led to a powerful worship. That retreat will have to wait this year, and so will the Reformation Sunday worship. Right now the plan is in place and the pieces are coming together to offer a virtual monthly check-in with this year's 10th graders to nurture them toward affirming their faith this coming spring (or at least explore the possibility). Like most things, this plan will evolve with the families and youth involved, but COVID cannot stop them from making their claim on the faith that has claimed them in baptism. One of the elements of this track is to connect with an older adult around the Eucharist. Two of our students were able to do a visit and build a connection – one on their own and one through our Joy Brigade.



Youth setting up for Socks and Sundries service in Seattle



Youth posing during the Lock-In Scavenger Hunt

Silverdale Lutheran Youth (SLY) is what we call our high school youth group, and they have gatherings on Wednesdays and Sundays as well. I am very thankful to Sue Shultz, who has been teaching the high school class for years now amidst a busy commute and work schedule. I am also thankful to David and Stephanie Sweeney, who almost completely took on the Sunday nights with high schoolers this spring and summer and will continue into the new program year. Wednesdays continued to be dominated this past fall and winter by collaborative explorations into deep questions about prayer and sin, while our COVID spring and summer centered around biblical connections to social issues and LOTS of connecting virtually with each other. We also had a few in-person gatherings at the fire pit. This fall and into the winter we will continue our collaborative learning with a focus on mission, the bible, and salvation. Again, the Sweeneys will take some leadership in teaching this group, and Ali is helping as well as we have critical mass for some small group work together along the way.



Blessing of grads (Aaron Phillips pictured)



Cooking with Chef Sandra and Young Adults online

We continue to have wonderful *young adults* engaged in everything from music to council to youth group leadership to working with their own young adult peers to service. But we seek to serve this growing population with their own small group as well. We were able to gather this past winter for some fun and conversation and then a couple of times over the spring and summer, including a great virtual cooking night with Chef Sandra. I am working with Katy Crabtree and Andrew Thorsen to continue this group for a once to twice gathering each month as we move into the fall.



Blessing quilts at Preschool Chapel

With the departure of Pastor Paula to new and exciting adventures, I am thankful for the amazing leadership of our Council and partnership with Pastor Bill. We are putting in place a team of lay leaders who will help us to not miss a beat in our ministry with young people, many of our shut-ins, young families, and the women of our church. I am especially excited to be working closely with Jessica Voigt, who will bring many skills to our ministry with the Moms' Group KFC, 3rd Grade Bibles, and First Communion Classes. She will also bring skills for connecting with military and preschool families. Please join me in welcoming her to our staff along with the very insightful and talented Kim Grasmick. Look for some additional team members as well as we begin 2021!



Youth participating in the Joy Brigade visits organized by Darcy Lund



In all things, I am holding the word CONNECTION ever before me. We really have, and are, and will continue to seek ways to stay socially and spiritually connected no matter how long we must be physically distant. For, in doing this, we strengthen our collective hold on hope.

Pastor Jonathan Sansgaard



President's Report

Dear Silverdale Congregation

It's been a remarkable year!

Every preparation we made last year at this time, was quickly shelved and replaced with COVID related decisions. We struggled at times to understand and more importantly plan for every eventuality, only to have those plans changed in midstream. We went from a brick and mortar church to a web based church nearly over night.

Thank you to our amazing Pastoral staff, our terrific church staff and maintenance folks, and the many talented musicians and volunteers who have done such an outstanding job! Thank you to our Council members and Trustees who have worked so hard this year.

I cannot overstate my gratitude to a congregation that lovingly supports all the efforts of these individuals.

As we progressed through the year we looked for signs! We listened for instruction, read, watched, planned and prepared. The only sign that made any sense was the one that sends you as you leave our parking lot.

YOU ARE NOW ENTERING YOUR **MISSION FIELD**



Coincidence perhaps...that sign was commissioned by my wife and me nearly 20 years ago to replace the original sign that had become worn down by the weather. Looking back, I am certain that we had the words "**Mission Field**" made larger and in bold letters for a good reason! It's really the only thing we need to remember.

As I look forward to next year, I assure you that there are going to be even more exciting challenges as we work to maintain the focus on our mission. There will be stirring changes to our worship practice and communication. We will focus on amplifying our voice and augmenting our current services. Our mission cannot be compromised and it will continue to be the driving force behind each and every decision.

None of this can be done without you-and none of this is done without you in mind. I again challenge every one of our church members to be courageous in your faith, welcoming in spirit, and continue to look for new opportunities to strengthen our message to the community as we build on the Lord's work in 2021.

I close with a prayer found in an SLC church bulletin from the late 1980's.

“Do not pray for an easy life-pray to be a stronger person. Do not pray for tasks equal to your powers, but for powers equal to your tasks. Then the doing of your work shall be no miracle, but you will be the miracle. Everyday you shall wonder at yourself and the richness of life which has come to you by the grace of our Resurrected Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.”

Grace and blessings to each of you,
David C Soine
Congregation President

Education

Due to COVID – 19 educational activities were suspended for in person gatherings. Several groups decided to meet online via Zoom. Sunday School, and Vacation Bible School held classes online and was well received. We at Silverdale Lutheran Church are blessed with wonderful leadership to ensure our youngest members are a priority to the teachings of Jesus.

Blessings,
Carmen Meherg



Education Council Member

Silverdale Lutheran Preschool



The Preschool is celebrating its twenty sixth year of being a ministry of Silverdale Lutheran Church. Due to COVID-19 things have changed a bit this year. We currently offer an A.M Pre-Kindergarten class on M/W/F, one A.M. M/W/F Pre- Kindergarten mix three and a half year old class, one T/Th three year old class and one M/W two year old class. To follow current COVID-19 guidelines each class is limited to 9 children and 1 teacher no more than 10 in a classroom. The two year old class has 8 students a teacher and a teacher's aide 10 total in the classroom. We are starting our school year remotely following the Central Kitsap School District. To see a list of all the COVID-19 changes please our website at silverdalelutheranpreschool.com.

During this time we offer a remote learning program that consists of weekly activity packages and once a week ZOOM meets at a tuition cost of \$50.00. As of September 10th, we have an enrollment of 15 students in our Remote program with 14 students on pause until we return to in-person classes. Our program has many Navy families who hear about us through word of mouth (which is the best advertisement) and are looking for a new home church. Through the ministry of the preschool we can help connect military and non-military families with the church.

The Preschool has a staff of five, which works very hard together as a supportive team. Teaching the M/W/F Pre-Kindergarten AM class is Debbie Kramer teaching at SLP for twelve years. New to our Preschool family this year Charlene Blanford she will be teaching the M/W two year old class and T/Th three year old class. My name is Teresa Corigliano, I have been teaching at SLP for 14 years. This is my first year as Preschool Director as well as teaching the Pre-Kindergarten three and a half mixed class. Our Preschool Office assistant is Carol DeRusha and this will be her twentieth year with us. Our staff provides a safe, hands on and loving environment through the Grace of Jesus Christ,

The 2020-2021 Preschool Advisory Board members are: Mary Lou Trent, Karen Rowley, Cathy Hunt, Jane Rhodes, Lisa Ottenbacher and Rick Cotter. Kelly Komondor is our Parent Representative from our Preschool. Our Board meetings are on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in room 4, currently held by ZOOM. The Board meetings are open to the church congregation and preschool parents.

The Preschool has been enrolled in the Thrivent Choice Program now for seven years. We so appreciate any donations that are given. All donations made through The Thrivent Choice program go into our Tuition Aid Fund. The Preschool received \$832.93 in total donations as of September 2020. This fund allows us to offer help to families that may need help with tuition or emergency situations.

The Preschool has been a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Education Association, (ELEA) since 1995. The purpose of the association is to promote and support quality education programs. These are Christ-centered programs in early childhood centers, elementary and high schools.

We had fund-raisers to help support our community with an ongoing food drive for Kitsap Food Bank and clothing and toy drive for Eastside Baby Corner. In the 2019-2020 school years we helped families by giving \$210.00 of tuition aid.

Communication and visibility of the Preschool within the congregation is a very important part of our ministry. When we return to in-person classes we will enjoy having you visit our classrooms, reading to the children in the classroom, taking a look at the bulletin boards in the halls and joining us for Preschool Sunday. Your welcome any time to stop by.

We are blessed to provide a nurturing Christian Environment for God's special gifts, the children. We hope to make the experience of Preschool a positive one for the whole family.

**Respectfully submitted,
Teresa Corigliano, Director**

Evangelism

But mouse-friend, you are not alone
in proving foresight may be vain:
the best-laid schemes of mice and men
go oft awry,
and leave us only grief and pain,
for promised joy!

Still, friend, you're blessed compared with me!
The present only toucheth thee:
Only present dangers make you flee
But, ouch! behind me I can see
On prospects drear! grim prospects drear!
While forward-looking seers,
we humans guess and fear!



From “To a Mouse On Turning her up in her Nest, with the Plough”, by Robert Burns, November 1785

Just as the poor mouse didn’t expect her house to be destroyed by Burns’ plough that day, we did not expect our hopes and dreams for evangelism in 2020 to be ploughed under! And, like Burns, we have done our best to try to discern what the future will bring but uncertainty can sow despair – 215 years later, we see that some things never change!

The Evangelism 2020 plan was to be a continuation of the good work we started in 2019, which included large community fellowship and outreach events. Obviously, the pandemic has made gathering impossible, but we met some first quarter goals and have retooled the rest of the year as best we could.

Evangelism – Getting the Word Out

- March 7’s Military Appreciation Day was actually the last event at the Kitsap County Fairgrounds before everything shut down. We had a beautifully decorated double booth staffed with 3 people from SLC and several from SLC’s Boy Scout Troup. We had content and gifts from the Girl Scouts who were prohibited from coming by their national organizations because of the virus. We had games, snacks, prizes and lots of information about the church. We saw at least 200 military families, handed out 70 brochures, received 36 new names and addresses who we can send event invitations to, and 2 prayer requests.
- I have been posting information about the Church Year, Lesser Festivals and other Lutheran Christian content on Facebook and Instagram to increase awareness. We have 617 Facebook page followers as of 9/9/20, an increase of 121 followers over last year’s report and 244 since the start of our improvement campaign. Please continue to “like” and “share” SLC content – you are doing evangelism when you do!
- I wrote and recorded 6 devotionals and stood in for the pastors’ Bible Studies a few times.
- Advertising
 - I found a free application called Canva that has free graphics and photos that has made content creation on Facebook and Instagram much more dynamic and much easier to do, along with honoring the legal use of licensed images. I created all of the Wednesday Lenten content for Facebook and Instagram using Canva and tailored it for each week’s theme. I strongly recommend this tool if you are in a role where you create digital or hardcopy content.
 - I created content for Virtual VBS and posted it to Kitsap Kids Magazine, Facebook and Instagram.
 - I posted several of the pastors’ blogs to an ELCA Facebook group. This is not the synod’s authorized page, but a group of 17,000 ELCA Lutherans who have gathered informally – It’s called ELCA if you would like to join.
- Joy Brigade



- I have participated almost weekly in Joy Brigade visits, working with the pastors and other Joy Team members to take the Love of Christ into the homes of those who are the most impacted by the isolation brought on by the pandemic. We have visited dozens of our members, bringing cheer, prayer and the Sacrament of the Altar. Darcy Lund has done an amazing job of planning and organizing these weekly visits – this isn't necessarily an Evangelism effort per se, but it's where I have felt I could be most useful during these months.



Welcoming Visitors to Experience Word and Sacrament

- The Sacred Grounds Coffee Ministry started out the year with more people enjoying fellowship than ever before. We had a wide variety of food, such as one Sunday's baked potato bar and a very well attended new member reception. More people had begun to host and we were successful in inviting several visitors into the Fellowship Hall after the second service to show SLC's welcoming hospitality. One especially lovely story is the day that Les Peterson sat by a young woman who was newly stationed here by the Navy. They began to talk, and they realized that Les is Ali's great uncle! They now are attending Park and Praise services together in Les' car!
- Greeters
 - The Greeter Ministry continued to be challenged while we were worshiping on site with the continual need for more volunteers.

PSALM (Program for Strengthening Active Lay Ministry through the SWWA Synod)

- I have completed my first year in the program and have started the second and final year. The first year focused on church history, the Old and New Testaments, worship, The Sacraments and caring for God's world among other topics. This program is designed for congregation members who have discerned a call to more intentional and public lay leadership in their congregation and community, and I highly recommend it!



Looking Forward

I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. (Phil 1:3-6)

The one important difference between us and Bobby Burns' mouse is the hope we have in Jesus Christ. Even though we may despair of when we can all gather again and can only guess when that might really be, we have a wonderful staff, pastors and volunteers who have knocked themselves out to keep us worshipping and fellowshiping together, whether it be at home or now at Park and Praise. Silverdale Lutheran Church has not lost its partnership in the gospel. I am confident that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Ro 8:38-39)

When we do worship together in person again, Evangelism's biggest short-term focus will be on supporting the safety of gathering. The Greeter Ministry falls in our bailiwick, and we are going to have to retool in a big way. When the time is right, an urgent call will go out for volunteers, which we will need more than ever to work with our ushers in ensuring safe distancing and movement through the facility. More information and a detailed role description will be forthcoming as reopening plans progress, but please prayerfully consider this important ministry in the meanwhile.

Thank you to everyone who has supported Evangelism at Silverdale Lutheran Church.

The following are the tactical accomplishments that support the strategic goals:

Kim Grasmick
Evangelism Committee Chair

Fellowship (N/A)

Property and Grounds

COVID-19 Impacts:

As the result of restrictions to help prevent the spread of COVID-19, the following changes were made at Silverdale Lutheran Church by Lisa Gregg: Installed motion activated soap dispensers in all restrooms, installed motion activated paper towel dispensers in all restrooms, installed one motion activated faucet in each restroom, and Lisa rented a raised platform for the Park and Praise worship service. A new faster computer was purchased to enable faster compilation of the recorded worship services. We are in the process of purchasing equipment for live streaming our in-door worship when the weather will prevent us from doing the Park and Praise service. In addition, a Worship Production person is being hired through December to record the in-door live worship services. That person will also train 2 or 3 or more people to do the recording after December. The air filters in the HVAC system will be upgraded from MERV 8 to "COVID-compliant" MERV 13 by the time indoor worship resumes and will be used at least until COVID becomes less of a threat.

The maintenance staff has been using their time since April to complete deeper cleaning and maintenance projects, sometimes with the help of volunteers such as: new coat of paint on damaged wall in the fellowship hall and main office hall, deep cleaning fluorescent light fixtures, stripping and waxing tile floors, spreading bark on the island garden (thanks to help from Seabeck Bible Group), pressure washing and resurfacing some of the concrete walkways (thanks to help from Tom Hawks, Scott Slocum, Cathy Ford, Bob Arper).

Gathering Place Roof:

The southern portion of the Gathering Place roof has leaked this past fall and winter so we received estimates from three companies to replace the roof. Integrity Roofing was chosen as the contractor. The roof replacement date has slipped a bit but is currently scheduled for mid-October 2020.

Hearty Meals Kitchen:

From last year you may recall that the Kitsap County Health Department gave us requirements for a hand washing sink and a food preparation sink and we determined that we didn't meet the requirements. We resolved this issue by installing a hand washing sink so that the center island sink can be used for food preparation only. This year a leak developed at the hand washing sink which appeared to be a problem with the shut-off valve. After replacing the shut-off valve the leak was still there when we noticed that the problem all along was simply the supply line from the valve to the faucet somehow wasn't tight enough. The leak is now fixed.

Vandalism & Security:

The church property was vandalized three times in 2018 and in 2019 stolen vehicles were left in our parking lot and unlocked vehicles were burglarized. The plan was to purchase a surveillance camera system to monitor not only the parking lot but critical areas around our buildings. A six camera wireless surveillance system was purchased and four of the motion activated battery operated cameras were installed. Two at the main building and two at the Gathering Place. COVID-19 came along and slowed further progress plus homeless groups started camping in our Parking Lot. Therefore, to deter any further camping out, the current plan is to try installing a chain across the entrance driveway along with new signs establishing no entry without permission to the parking lot from 10 PM to 7 AM. A picture taking camera with flash has also been suggested as an additional deterrent. The surveillance cameras have shown that unknown groups are using our Fellowship Hall patio and the Gathering Place (GP) entrance area for meetings or just to hang out. In addition, there have been skateboarders skating down the GP sidewalk and then jumping down the steps.

Security Alarm Calls:

There have been fewer security alarm calls this year compared to 2019 with the significant drop off starting in March when COVID-19 restrictions were imposed. Some calls have been the result of people entering at the wrong door, or simply people either not remembering their disarm code quickly enough or simply forgetting their code. There was also one Alarm Center call with an code that the Alarm Center did not recognize. The code ended up being the result of a low battery in the Nursery motion detector.

ADA Doors for Gathering Place Restrooms & Front Door:

Now that we have ADA openers on the main building restrooms and front door, there have been questions on whether we will be doing the Gathering Place also. I had contacted the company that installed the ADA openers in the main building but did not get a response plus COVID-19 hit. If funding is available, this is a project that we should attempt to get accomplished in 2021 along with a handicap access ramp to the Gathering Place entrance from the parking lot.

Room 4 Upgrade:

Using Irene Neseth memorial funds a new conference table and chairs were purchased and installed in Room 4. Plans are to identify and refer to room 4 as The Conference Room in the future. Darcy Lund is working on replacing the sofa bed and other furniture with storage and other furnishings more appropriate to the way the room is used.

Gathering Place Foyer Upgrade:

Thanks to Carrie Auernhamer, the Gathering Place foyer has been significantly improved using Darlene Britt Memorial funds. The upgrades made the space much more welcoming and include a new coat of paint, living room style seating and storage, commercial carpeting in part of the space and improved lighting.

Breckinridge Fence:

A letter was sent in 2018 to Matt Berg of Reid Property Management who represents the Breckinridge complex to let them know we are in concurrence with re-installing a fence in the SW corner by the retention pond area. We stated the fence must be on the property line or on their side of the property line. In 2019 we left messages and visited Matt's office to ask of the status but thus far have not received a single response. It is my opinion that we need to write another letter to get this resolved and perhaps even install a fence ourselves to help prevent the dumping of lawn clippings and other items onto our property.

Other Property Issues:

Landscape Changes:

Lisa Gregg installed bark to replace some of the grass area between the mailbox and the sidewalk to the Fellowship Hall due to poor irrigation with the sprinkler system. We are also considering trimming and/or removing trees around the perimeter of the church. The purpose around the church buildings is to reduce the need to clean out the gutters, reduce roof maintenance, and to enhance security by making the church more visible to both Ridgetop Boulevard and Ridgepoint Drive. Trees would also be removed or trimmed along the western border to improve our view while also keeping headlights out of the Breckinridge apartments by planting dense but limited height shrubs.

A Rain Garden was installed in the parking strip by the gathering place as an Eagle Scout Project by HS senior and longtime member Nathan Johnson and with help and materials and equipment grant from Kitsap Conservation District. This rain garden will absorb rainwater runoff from the lower half of the parking lot, filtering it, keeping it out of the detention pond and the stormwater system as well as improving the groundwater ecology of the surrounding area.

Island Lake Cemetery:

You may recall that in 2018 some vandals used a shot gun to put a hole in the side of the water tank structure. Our review of the damage did not find any damage to the actual water tank inside the structure so we patched the exterior hole. In late 2019 shortly after the Fire Department filled the water tank, we discovered the tank was in fact leaking. Therefore, this year we removed some of the siding again in an effort to find the leak. We called the Silverdale Fire Department to have the water tank filled to about half full. Prior to their arrival the valve and pipe into the tank was removed and resealed. After filling the tank no further leak was found so the siding was re-installed.

Bob Arper

Property and Grounds Chair

Olympic Lutherhaven Inc

If you didn't use Olympic Lutherhaven this past summer, you weren't alone since it has been and still is closed due to COVID-19 restrictions combined with many maintenance issues that couldn't be resolved due to COVID-19 restrictions. The Annual Work Party was canceled, the Father's Day Picnic was canceled, and all camps and picnics were canceled. In addition, the Caretakers, Mollie & Ward Erickson, gave notice at the April Board meeting that they would resign effective May 31st. Fortunately, the Board of Directors acted quickly to advertise for replacements. As a result, Stephanie and David Sweeney were selected from the three applicants

and in late June moved into the Caretaker residence. Stephanie and David have been attending Silverdale Lutheran for about a year and helping Pastor Jonathan with the Youth.

Stephanie & David are basically newly-weds and came with few possessions after living in an apartment thus Lutherhaven purchased a new washer and dryer for the Caretaker house. Lutherhaven had been considering replacing the land line with a cell phone and improving the internet so this was the perfect opportunity to also accomplish this and reduce costs at the same time. Maintenance issues being addressed by Stephanie and David with some help from the Board include clean-up of accumulated trash, mowing lawns, trimming brush, establishing a volunteer maintenance list, cutting up a danger tree that had been fallen by a Lutherhaven maintenance crew earlier in the year before it fell by itself and hit the Picnic Pavilion, improving the website, and putting together a new Newsletter.

Silverdale Lutheran Church is one of six **owning members** of Olympic Lutherhaven and has been since 1955 when Emil Sunderland and others from SLC and Our Saviours Lutheran Church helped turn Rosey's Roost Resort into Emil Sunderland's vision of a Youth Bible Camp on Wildcat Lake. With your help and the help of many other volunteers, we are continuing to maintain the Bible camp and picnic area for summer use.

Maintenance projects to consider for 2021 include the following: 1) Improve downstairs Caretaker house bathroom; 2) Stain/paint Camp Cabins; 3) Convert Lodge exterior doors to push bar emergency exit doors; 4) Install insulation in the Caretaker house attic; 5) Replace the swimming beaches' sand and the Picnic Volleyball court sand. These projects are dependent on funding and/or volunteer labor. If you can volunteer for any of the volunteer maintenance issues please contact Olympic Lutherhaven by phone (360-830-4445) or email (olympiclutherhaven@gmail.com).

Did you notice that we used the term volunteer a number of times? We need volunteers at Olympic Lutherhaven since we own it! We ask you to donate your time and talents to help provide a beautiful and fun place for youth of all ages to enjoy the outdoors and hear God's word. Olympic Lutherhaven belongs to our Father Almighty and all of us have a responsibility for good stewardship. Jesus asked that we teach the children and that is our task. There isn't much more rewarding than seeing children enjoying themselves while learning at Bible Camp or Family Camp. Come share the rewards!

Your representatives to the Board:

Don Dungjen, Bob Arper and Alternate: Jeff Ottenbacher

Social Concerns

Most activities have been suspended due to COVID.

At the beginning of the year, Chuck McQuillan gifted SLC with six Amazon Alexa Dot devices, with associated licenses and Amazon accounts for music, programmed to work currently with Northwoods and Martha & Mary's networks. Unfortunately, due to COVID, visitation at these care facilities was suspended, as has progress on the project at the present time.

I worked with Tom Hawks to find a suitable charity to distribute excess Benevolence Funds of \$2,170. We ended up splitting the money between the Kitsap Rescue Mission and the Birkenfeld-Stella Maris House Domestic Violence Shelter.

Finally, just recently I joined the Justice Small Group, being led by Lisa Gregg, where we educate ourselves and discuss issues surrounding racial justice in the United States, and how we as a congregation and church can make ourselves better allies to our brothers and sisters of color.

This has been a year of listening to and learning from the various groups and passions present in our community.

Katie Shaw

Social Concerns Chair

Care Ministry

*I have spoken these things to you **THAT MY JOY** may remain in you.
And that **YOUR JOY** may be made full. John 15:11*

I was honored to be asked to step in the role as coordinator for **Care Ministry**... I took some time to say yes, Lisa left some large shoes to fill when she stepped down. Her added role as Parish Nurse was a gift I was not going to be able to offer. I agreed after a bit as I love helping, my passion is to care for my community, to be a connector. As Covid hit, I saw Care Ministry in a whole new light and was honored to accept the role.

I immediately started brainstorming for ways to connect our community while being separated and isolated. Working with Pastor Paula, the creation of '**Joy Brigade**' came to be. Kim Grasmick, Pastor Paula & I headed out that first Tuesday in June... from that day forward, we didn't look back! Jessica, Kinslee & Mila Voigt joined us soon after, eager to spread Joy... to hear a child pray for you and to ask for God to get rid of Covid so that we can be together in church again, there is nothing more pure & joy-filling than that. Cindy Dodge & Betty Maples joined in on our front porch pop-in visits to share a few moments of JOY and to connect. Pastor Bill & Pastor Jonathan didn't want to be left out, PJ invited many from the youth groups to join in too. Barb Smithson suggested the beautiful gift of fresh flowers, Barb & Del Pennington added a few weeks of lovely bouquets. We brought home-baked treats offered by Cindy Dodge, Nancy Conley, the Voigt Girls & myself. Sharing single serve communion packages that were blessed at the previous Sunday's Park Praise service brought our focus to being the church where we were gathered, it is such a gift! With posters, pompoms & smiles, Joy Brigade visited 225 SLC Members to date! We'd love to have you too share in the Joy! We are just as blessed to be filled with joy each Tuesday too, think about it and let me know.

Prayer Shawl Ministry fits perfectly under the Ministry of Care! Wrapping each receiver in a lovely hand made shawl blessed with many prayers woven in is just the gift each creator holds dear while crocheting or knitting the shawls. We met the request by our Intern Marietta to create shawls for each 1st Responder and Healthcare worker at SLC. Forty-two shawls were shared over the summer to bless, thank and serve as a place of respite & comfort to each recipient.

We are forever thankful to Evy Randall for her care and dedication to our **Grief Comfort Ministry**. She faithfully follows a family who has had a loved one die, for a full year, offering our packets faithfully written to offer support and care at each stage of grief. Our volunteer faithfully send out four individual Grief Support Books to 21 different families this year. What balm these words are to families during the stages of their grief.

Our **Touchstone Bear Ministry** is a quiet Ministry that is offered to families after the memorial service of a loved one. Our seamstress carefully takes an article of clothing of the family's loved one to create a Touchstone Bear or a Memory Pocket Pillow out of that cherished fabric as a loving way to remember and honor them. This is done at no charge to the family. We commemorate the gift of sixteen Bears and five Pillows were lovingly crafted for families this year.

This past month, I have been working with Pastor Bill to reignite the **Eucharistic Ministers**. Pastor Bill trained a few of the Care Ministers to be Eucharistic Ministers as well to bring communion regularly to our more isolated members. Again, the single-serve Communion packets blessed each Sunday are perfect and safe. If you would like to be a Eucharistic Minister, we will be having training soon. To bring this gift from the altar to a member, see the tears in their eyes, to hear their appreciation and just the treasured time connecting is so important.

Care Ministry is also gearing up to support our **Cancer Care Ministry**, our **In-Touch Ministry** and our **Comfort Callers Ministry**.

As you can see, the umbrella of Care Ministry is never ending. I am thankful to our SLC members who share in my passion to Care, Connect & Serve our Community. Thank You to; Marilyn & Tom Hawks, Jill Slocum, Barb Smithson, Evy Randall, Kim Grasmick, Jessica, Kinslee & Mila Voigt, Betty Maples, Greg Patterson, Mark Lund and to all of you who bring comfort, love & joy to others!

Grace, Peace, Comfort & Joy,
Darcy Lund
Care Ministry Coordinator

Hearty Meals

Since 1994 our church has provided a hearty meal to people in our community who are looking for a nourishing, filling hot meal. Each Wednesday at about 8:30AM you will find people in the kitchen wiping down counter tops – getting ready to start prepping and cooking lunch for our community. Everyone is welcome to our table for a meal.

Lunch is served at noon. At the present time we have 19 volunteers; of which, seven are chefs.

As of March 11th we had served 500 meals, then COVID-19 stopped everything.

On July 1st, we were able to start preparing sack lunches to be picked up at covered entrance to the church. The team created signs saying “FREE Meals,” which team members held on Ridgetop and directed cars to the church for pick up.

Each sack lunch contains: a sandwich (with lunch meat, cheese and lettuce), cookies, potato chips, some type of fruit and a bottle of water.

In July Hearty Meals began providing sack lunches to Kitsap Rescue Mission (KRM).

During the month of July, Hearty Meals served 142 sack lunches and provided KRM 200 sack lunches. In August Hearty Meals served 144 sack lunches, and provided KRM 2080 sack lunches.

Church gardeners have provided Hearty Meals their extra produce, which we have given to families as they come to pick up meals.

Yvonne Dean
Hearty Meals Coordinator

Lutheran World Relief (LWR)

Due to COVID-19, there have been some adjustments to the delivery days. LWR opted to set aside 4 days in the month of October 2020 to accept supplies and they will be stored at Queen Anne Lutheran Church in West Seattle. At some point, they will be loaded onto box cars and delivered.

Quilts = 103
Personal Care Kits = 24
School Kits = 87

In Christ's Service
Julie Harpel

Worship & Music



Last year in my end of the year report I mused that the upcoming year was a time for us to see where we could grow. The “nuts and bolts” of the worship service were strongly in place and thriving. The following teams were keeping worship running smoothly each week: Acolytes, Altar Care, Communion Assistants, Eucharistic Ministers, Kid’s Corner, Liturgists, Scripture Readers, Sound Team, Ushers, and a Visual Arts Team. We went into the year with an amazing pastoral team and a thriving music ministry led by a full time music minister. What next? 2020 happened and we have found opportunities to grow beyond our wildest imaginations.

Since COVID-19 came into our lives we have transitioned many of our long held traditions into innovation. Keeping the elements of worship that we hold dear has been first and foremost on our minds, while also finding new ways to meet the challenges of an unprecedented time. We now have devotions and worship available online as well as our park and praise services. We are looking into starting onsite services again and will hopefully have those safely in place, following all state guidelines, by the time this goes to print. Our staff has done an absolutely AMAZING job planning and implementing worship services under challenging circumstances. Many hours were spent figuring out our new “nuts and bolts” for a whole new worship paradigm. Our music minister, Justin, has led amazing volunteers, keeping our music inspiring and relevant. A zoom choir helps with the online services, along with many others willing to show their faces and/or share our services online to help remind each other that we are a family and we are still worshiping together despite challenging times.

Last year I mused “how can we grow?” and “how do we fulfill the charge of “grace filled and spirit led?” I think we can pat ourselves on the back for a job well done on that one! This year, I think we should be asking ourselves “what have we as a congregation learned?” and “what can I as an individual do to be passionate about worship at SLC?” As we come back together for in-person worship, I know our passion for worship will be in full flame as we welcome back the familiar while also embracing some of the new lessons we have learned.

Kate Alcock
Worship & Music Chair

Music



Advent in 2019 began our church year similar to years past with ongoing programs in full swing. The Christmas Variety show brought in a great crowd and lots of fun acts. Advent and Christmas Services were marked with bountiful music participation from the Choir, Alleluia Rings, SLC Brass, SLC Strings, SLiCk Pickers, and the yet to be named, electric band.



Our newly visioned “Assistant Music Director” internship blossomed into a fruitful first half of the year with Emmanuel Moes playing Piano, Sax and Bells. He also directed the choir at the Christmas Variety Show and helped with sound and set up duties. His poised presence would have been plenty, but he was accompanied by his doting family who all became members this year. Jenna Kramer has now assumed the revised position to assist in filming and video editing for our online worship videos.





Our first few weeks of the pandemic time started with simple video production as we all learned what we could do and how we could meet in small groups and stay safe. It was a big learning curve and I am happy to be a part of a team that handled it so well and a church committed to responsibly practicing safety and maintaining connection. We were able to quickly purchase necessary equipment and improved our production quality and increased the amount of member participation quickly.



As the pandemic loomed on, it provided us with an opportunity to demonstrate our ability to adapt and maintain the vital connections of our community and ministry. The image above shows how Terri Randolph, Pastor Bill and I first improvised a method that became the way we do Virtual Choir. It is a practical method that has enabled us to have virtual choir for several songs in every week's videos. The traditional way that you may see large churches or universities produce virtual choirs takes between 40 and 100 hours of editing per song, therefore they make one video per month or reserve them for Easter. Our way takes about 4-6 hours per song. This is still a lot of work and I want to give a big thank you to the fabulous John Akenhusen, who took over this work once it was established. He has faithfully produced our virtual choir videos for every week for months now and we have big plans for the coming months. Many other churches have taken advantage of our virtual choir method, several with the help of John, who even started an International Rotary Virtual Choir. Our SLiCk pickers joined with their members from every continent besides Antarctica for a rendition of "All God's Critters Got A Voice In The Choir."

Justin Cormier
June 13 · 2

Need something to do while stay at home continues? Join our Virtual Choir. Since "All God's Critters Got a Place in the Choir," You need not be a member of the church. All you need is a web cam to join the video Tuesdays at 6 and an smartphone or audio recording device to record your singing to be synced up. We usually sing the hymns for the upcoming Sunday service but we have done a few anthems as well. I make rehearsal tracks with each part so you don't have to rea... See More



The Virtual Choir enjoyed the holidays. In the above picture you can see the singer's fathers pictured for the first verse. Can you guess whose dad goes with each choir member? We didn't fill our sanctuary with songs, but we kept as many traditions as we could and started some new ones. Pentecost showed us wearing red and in this medium, we were able to feature our multilingual members and since it was recorded with subtitles there were tongues and interpretation, so we were of biblically sound practice.



The SLiCk Pickers continued to meet during the pandemic as was allowed. We eventually spread further apart and donned masks. We teamed up with the choir and added some new members.



The SLC Brass also maintained presence in worship. The day before the original stay at home orders we met to record the Palm Sunday and Easter hymns. Then after a few months we participated in the Park and Praise services on Holy Trinity Sunday and others.



Summer programs were also different but fun. Here we are keeping our tradition of spoof songs to send off our Pastoral Intern. Our Maintenance Manager Lisa Gregg has joined the group of fabulous wordsmiths to write the one that got Bruce to rap, also offering some beautiful flute music and singing in French, such a bunch of talented folks here. Can you guess who's name rhymes with Saint and Sinner, tough, and bright and brittle? Pastoral Intern Marietta Nelson-Bittle-Hamilton.





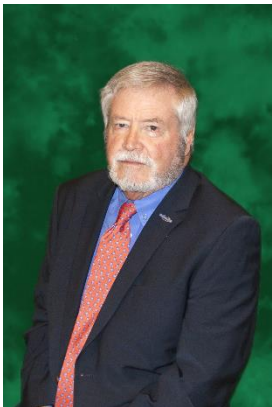
Some say Pentecost was the birth of the church, for us it was the birth of the Park and Praise church. Personally, if you asked me 2 years ago if we would hold weekly services in the parking lot, rain or shine, I would have accused you of being drunk on new wine at 9 am. We were not sure what to expect but it became the highlight of many of our congregant's week. It started with closed car windows and sound transmitted to car stereos and a Psalm 150 litany from Pastor Paula that encouraged praising god with flashing headlights and windshield wipers, and as the restrictions were loosened, we had folks in lawn chairs worshiping together by August. I must encourage, however, when we come back to the sanctuary that we refrain from honking our horns after a moving message or piece of music ☺ Holding weekly services outside took a whole team of folks to pull off. Special thanks to Lisa Gregg and Mark Lund for our stage.





The largest lesson I learned this year is that We are the Church! Though we had to learn how to say that from distance and worship detached from the sanctuary space we are accustomed to. We did and We are the Church!

Justin Cormier
Music Minister



Stewardship

Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

The last time I reported to you in matters concerning stewardship we were not experiencing the incredible impact of the pandemic. At that time, we had just successfully staved off the ravages of experiencing our chronic 3rd quarter slump with a successful pledge drive that saw our contributions rise by an impressive 33% increase.

Oh how things change!

In early Spring, we spent a month carefully crafting a 2020 pledge drive that was intended to continue our rising trend in congregational giving. After we had sent out the first call for pledges we were committed. Within days after our pledge drive had begun the “plague” descended on our nation with a vengeance. We had no idea what impact this would have on our newly launched pledge drive but we pressed on, nonetheless.

You responded in a magnificent fashion and contributions continued, unabated, and with a vigor that defied whatever the pandemic managed to throw at us. Other sections of this report will chronicle the impressive way SLC has transformed itself into a viable post pandemic organization, one capable of providing its members and the community as a whole, with the ministry they require and so eagerly seek.

These changes have not been without an incredible display of energy and innovative action wrought by our administrative team and pastoral staff. It would not have been possible had they not had a healthy foundation of

resources from which to draw. We were able to provide what they needed at the time as result of your generosity earlier in the year.

I'll leave you with the following glimpse into our future. The manner in which we worship at SLC has changed over the last 7 months and it will continue to change as our church shakes off the trials and tribulations forced on it by the pandemic. No matter what we can hope for, we need to recognize that a post pandemic SLC will be different than the structure and organization we enjoyed in the halcyon days of early 2020. We will need to find ways to bring back the joy of joint worship in our sanctuary while insuring the viral health of all participants. In a parallel action, SLC will be dedicated to finding ways to extend our ministry to those that may be isolated from our communal body. It is not inconceivable that we could be delivering our services and sacraments to residents of a nursing home at the same moment the same service could be delivered to one or two of our members serving in distant locales around the world.

To accomplish a vision of that sort will require a Silverdale Lutheran Church that remains steeped in our holy traditions and liturgy but also a church capable and willing to cast that warmth and commitment across the globe. This challenge will not be for the faint of heart or for an organization with a lack of resources.

You will be hearing from me as the Fall matures and before we reach the New Year.

**Peace and Joy,
Tom Hawks
Stewardship Chair**

Youth

The youth report is contained within Pastor Jonathan's report.

**Kurt Thompson
Youth Councilperson**

Memorials

(Nov 1, 2019 thru Oct 31, 2020)



Leonardy

Memorial donations are an appropriate way for both members and non-members to provide special monetary gifts in honor of the living or in memory of a deceased loved one.

Silverdale Lutheran Church received donations for the following people:

Christine Chiasson
Lester Roark
Else Plessner

Gary Ludwig
Judy Reese
Caroline Gierke

Lavonne Greaves
Shirley Chu
Donald

By using donations given in memory of the following;

Jack Britt
Don Moore

Christine Chiasson
Dawn Orwiler

Fred Cloninger
Bob Oyler

Carolyn Knapp
Ruby Proctor

Norm Kunkel
Maya Warren

We were able to purchase:

Communion chalices and plates, a portion of the cost of the conference table and chairs in room 4, & trombone.

Suggestions for items to be purchased using Memorial funds should be submitted to the memorial Chairperson. There is a slot for 'Memorials' in the hallway across from the church office. Requests should be specific as to what is being suggested, size, color, company, etc. and who is requesting the item. In conjunction with Pastors, Church Council and the Memorial Committee decisions to purchase or not are determined.

Areas of consideration for memorials, but not limited to are:

Sanctuary needs: paraments, communion ware, lines for the altar, hymnals, bells, etc.

Church building/facilities: decorating items – pictures, bulletin boards, specific non-budgeted items that would complete a project or improvement.

Mission of the church: specific items for the quilters, the kitchen, the library or other selected ministries within the church.

**God Bless,
Ann Cummings
Memorials Chairperson**

Island Lake

Island Lake Cemetery is not located close to Island Lake but is located at 12851 Old Military Road NE, Poulsbo, WA 98370. Because Island Lake Cemetery is part of Silverdale Lutheran Church we normally have the Easter Sunrise Service and the Memorial Day service there but not this year due to the Pandemic. The Cemetery committee maintains the grounds for the services and as part of the normal upkeep of the cemetery from spring to fall. If you are interested in joining us in doing the maintenance please contact one of the committee members. This year maintenance has consisted of mowing and trimming. In 2018 we repaired vandalism by shotgun to the Water Tank and thought we had lucked out with only damage to the wood structure so we patched the hole in the wooden exterior. However, after the Silverdale Fire Department filled the Water Tank a second time that year we discovered a slow leak that needed to be fixed. Apparently the leak was at the outlet to the water valve since the outlet pipe was removed and resealed resulting in no further leaks after the Fire Department filled the 500 gallon tank to half full.



In the past year, starting with October of 2019, we have sold 12 lots and have had at least 5 burials along with the placement of headstones.

Don Budden – Committee Chair

Bob Arper – Cemetery Treasurer

Sue Bye – Committee Secretary/Historian

Ed Bye & Dennis Enebo – Committee Members

Don Budden – Chair Person

Silverdale Lutheran Church 2020 Paroquial/Statistical Report

November 1, 2019 to October 31, 2020

Baptized Members:	889
Confirmed Membership:	726
Received as Baptized Members:	20
Holy Baptism at SLC: (Child: 2; Adult: 2)	4
Transfer from ELCA Congregations:	2
Joining from other Lutheran Churches:	0
Joining from Non-Lutheran Churches:	2
Affirmation of Faith:	12

Received as Confirmed Members:	35
Baptized Confirmed:	16
Youth Confirmation:	0

Membership Losses:	15
Death:	12
Transfer to ELCA Churches:	3
Transfer to other Lutheran Churches:	0
Transfer to Non-Lutheran Churches:	0
Inactive:	0
Other Reasons:	0
Moved out-of-area (no transfer):	0

Average # of Persons Attending on Sundays: **369 (Two months of data Jan/Feb)**

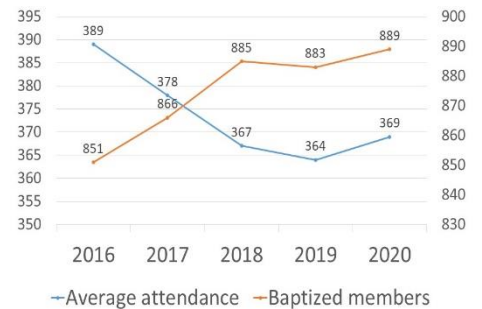
Special Services:

Service of the Longest Night	21
Christmas Eve Services (4):	881
Christmas Day Service:	45
Ash Wednesday Services (2):	245
Lenten Services (2 weekly for 5 weeks):	N/A (COVID-19)
Holy Week Services (3):	N/A
Easter Services (4):	N/A
Memorial Day Service (estimate):	N/A
Vacation Bible School:	60 (online)
Family Camp Worship:	N/A

Marriage Ceremonies Performed:	2
Non-Member Weddings:	2

Funeral Services Performed:	3
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Average Weekly Attendance & Baptized Membership



Treasurers Report

There are three positions associated with financial operations at Silverdale Lutheran Church. These positions are financial secretary, bookkeeper, and treasurer.

Continuing this year, a financial team of several people have performed the role of financial secretary. These people include: David Soine, Bob Arper, Bob Paul, Karen McQuillan, Rick Cotter, Dee Cotter, and Bruce Kramer. The financial team records all individual offerings and makes the bank deposits. They also distribute a weekly deposit report to the bookkeeper and treasurer.

Rick Cotter has continued to serve as bookkeeper. In this capacity, Rick records the deposit reports into the SLC financial program (QuickBooks) and pays bills. In conjunction with the deposits, Rick uses offering/income data to maintain a benevolence worksheet and pays the benevolences at the end of each quarter. In addition, Rick processes payroll twice monthly which involves paying employees and submitting withholdings and payments to various state and federal agencies. Having served in all three of the financial positions at SLC at various times, Rick is knowledgeable of the financial processes and valuable in helping to keep the finances at SLC running smoothly.

I, Mark Barga, serve as the treasurer. The treasurer approves all expenditures and assures that all expenditures are in line with the budget developed by the council and approved by the congregation. The treasurer provides financial reports and recommendations to the trustees and council and assists them in budget development. The treasurer also works in close coordination with the bookkeeper to ensure all benevolences are paid on a quarterly basis and make sure that expenditures are charged to the appropriate budget line item.

INCOME AND EXPENSE COMPARISON

At the end of the month, a financial report similar to the one below can be found in the beacon. This table gives a snapshot of the offerings and expenditures at the same point in the year for the past three years.

FINANCIAL COMPARISON ON OCTOBER 31, 2020 – excludes PPP funds			
	2018 - 43 Sundays	2019 - 43 Sundays	2020 – 43 Sundays
General Fund Income	\$ 611,457	\$ 654,157	\$ 731,310
9% Benevolences	\$ 49,009	\$ 55,035	\$ 66,444
Ministry & Operations Expenses	\$ 584,984	\$ 631,363	\$ 622,368
Net Income	\$ (22,533)	\$ (32,241)	\$ 42,498
AVERAGE PER WEEKLY COMPARISON THROUGH OCTOBER			
General Fund Income	\$ 15,383	\$ 15,213	\$ 17,007
Ministry/Operations/Benevolence Expenses	\$ 14,744	\$ 15,963	\$ 16,019
Net Income	\$ (524)	\$ (750)	\$ 988

STEWARDSHIP DRIVE

In early 2020, offering income was falling short of the amount needed to cover expenses and benevolences by several thousand dollars per week. A stewardship drive, initiated by the SLC Trustees and Council in March and April, 2020, resulted in generous giving by the congregation. Several one-time gifts equaling more than \$45,000, plus an increase in weekly offerings has made up for the losses experienced in early 2020, and resulted in a positive net income since March.

COVID-19 FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

The onset of COVID-19 and related restrictions, which resulted in the closing of churches in winter and spring, 2020, caused concerns regarding the stability of offering income and SLC's ability to meet expenses and cover payroll. Financial assistance from the federal government was made available to small business, including churches. SLC applied for, and received, a \$106,000 Payroll Protection Program (PPP) grant through the Small Business Administration in early May. These funds were intended to assist in covering expenses such as payroll, mortgage, and utilities. The funds were issued as a 1% interest rate loan, with provisions that the loan be forgiven interest free if used according to the regulations. SLC expended the entirety of the PPP funds during May – July, following the rules and regulations for interest free loan forgiveness. The federal financial assistance provided by the PPP funds has helped SLC to maintain a strong fiscal base as we continue to face challenges resulting from COVID-19.

BENEVOLENCES

Benevolence payments are made at the end of each quarter. The designated benevolences are determined by council and approved by the congregation. As a baseline, 9% of general offerings are reserved for benevolences. In addition, we receive various offerings throughout the year which are designated for specific purposes. These designated benevolence offerings are not counted as part of the general offering total, but are distributed to the designated cause along with the 9% of general offerings. The table below gives below give a summary of the benevolences paid through the first three quarters of 2020, as well as the amount given to each cause supported by SLC.

BENEVOLENCE PERCENTAGE	
General Offerings through 3 rd Quarter, 2020	\$662,464
Benevolences paid through 3 rd Quarter, 2020	\$64,165
Benevolence Percentage through 3 rd Quarter, 2020	9.7%

2020 BENEVOLENCE DETAIL	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	TOTAL
<u>9% First Fruits Giving</u>				
CK Backpacks for Kids	\$524	\$598	\$599	\$1,721
ELCA	\$14,752	\$14,029	\$14,361	\$43,142
Empowering Life	\$262	\$561	\$279	\$1,102
Council Outreach	\$524	\$598	\$558	\$1,680
Habitat for Humanity	\$262	\$299	\$279	\$840
Living Stones	\$1,048	\$1,195	\$1,117	\$3,360
Lutheran Community Services	\$1,048	\$1,195	\$1,117	\$3,360
Martha & Mary	\$1,048	\$1,195	\$1,117	\$3,360
PLU	\$264	\$299	\$279	\$842

Pastors' Discretionary	\$262	\$299	\$279	\$840
First Fruits Total	\$19,994	\$20,269	\$19,985	\$60,248
<u>Other Benevolence Giving</u>				
ELCA Covid 19 Response		\$100		\$100
Lutheran World Relief		\$487	\$515	\$1,002
Special Outreach		\$833		\$833
CK Foodbank		\$25		\$25
Wildfires 2020			\$1,032	\$1,032
Iowa Storm Relief			\$926	\$926
Other Benevolences Total	\$0	\$1,445	\$2,473	\$3,918
TOTAL BENEVOLENCES	\$19,994	\$21,713	\$22,458	\$64,165

BUILDING MORTGAGE

Our loan through Mission Investment Fund is a 5-year adjustable rate mortgage. The current interest rate, which was adjusted in June 2016 is 3.875%. The remaining loan balance is \$178,036.21 as of September 2, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Barga
Treasurer

2020 SLCW Annual Financial Report November 1, 2019 – August 31, 2020

Account Balances August 31, 2020

Income	\$13,516.27
Esther Circle	\$117.68
Joy Circle	\$256.92
Mom's Circle	\$0
Naomi Circle	\$14.63
SLCW	\$13,127.04
Altar Flowers	\$343.94
Banner Fund	\$187.54
Bazaar Funds	\$1,242.50
Coffee	\$2,754.51
Easter Flowers	\$214.58
Gas Cards	\$200.00
Grocery Cards	\$250.00
In Touch Ministry	\$233.07
Kitchen Equipment	\$1,617.97
Life Pax	\$1.57
Lutheran Women Today Expense	\$0
Lutheran World Relief	\$265.10
Memorial Receptions	\$777.95

Men's Ministry	\$200.00
Mission Support	\$100.00
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	\$391.60
Poinsettias	\$939.25
Prayer Shawl Ministry	\$32.70
Quilt Shipping Fund	\$0
Quilters' Supplies	\$2,745.05
WELCA Offering	\$200.00
Women's Retreat	\$35.34
Youth At Risk	\$0
Other SLCW	\$394.37
Tabitha Circle	\$0
Expenses	\$0
Uncategorized	<u>\$0</u>
OVERALL TOTAL	\$13,516.27

SLCW Disbursements Summary (1/1/2019 - 8/31/2020)

Esther Circle

ELCA	\$500.00
Bremerton Foodline	\$200.00
Central Kitsap Food Backpacks 4 Kids	\$200.00
Kitsap Rescue Mission	\$300.00
Lutheran Disaster Response	\$300.00
Kitsap Rescue Mission	\$100.00
Kitsap Rescue Mission	\$200.00
Gather Magazine	\$59.85

Joy Circle

CK Food Backpacks 4 Kids	\$300.00
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Bazaar Fund (Giving Day)

CK Food Backpacks 4 kids	\$250.00
Martha & Mary Care Center	\$250.00
Kitsap Rescue Mission	\$125.00
Coffee Oasis	\$125.00

To SLCW

Women's Retreat	\$300.00
WELCA Offering	\$400.00
Quilters Supplies	\$700.00
Prayer Shawl Ministry	\$400.00
Life Pax	\$450.00

Coffee

SLC Coffee Supplies	\$130.77
SLC Coffee Supplies	\$211.40
SLC Coffee Supplies	\$104.60
SLC Coffee Supplies	\$151.37
Easter Flowers	
Brothers Greenhouses	\$338.53
Debbie White (Flowers & Décor)	\$120.98
Gas Cards	
SLC	\$100.00
Grocery Cards	
SLC	\$100.00
Life Pax	
SLC	\$254.41
Lutheran World Relief	
Karen Plank (School Bags Material)	\$64.94
Memorial Receptions	
Linda Day: Hometown Band/Gary Ludwig	\$173.08
Sherry Dungjen: Christiane Chiasson	\$170.40
Poinsettias	
Brothers Greenhouses	\$620.81
Quilters Supplies	
Debbie White – thread supplies	\$226.83
Oklee Quilting – Batting	\$697.32
Sue Starks – Sewing machine parts	\$27.20
WELCA	
SW WA Synod	\$100.00
WELCA	\$200.00
Women's Retreat	
Pastor Paula Honorarium	\$300.00

Martha and Mary

Martha & Mary, like so many other organizations, has experienced a year like no other. From child care to senior living, serving those we care for has taken on new dimensions with the COVID-19 pandemic. Today, we remain COVID-19 free for our residents, children and those we serve.

For the first time in our history, these unprecedented times have required restricting visitors from our residents in the Health Center for over six months. Allowing only those in end-of-life circumstances to enjoy the company of their loved ones in a limited capacity. Restricting our families from sharing a hug, a kiss on the cheek or even a simple comforting stroke of a hand are just a few of the challenges we are faced with daily.

Adjusting to COVID-19 precautions in Child Care presents its challenges as well. Aside from our enhanced infection control practices, we recognize now more than ever, the value of facial expressions, especially when communicating with infants and children. The use of face masks, while necessary, make many moments with children challenging and at times a little comical.

While our challenges are great, we continue to persevere. We recognize with challenge, there is opportunity to be more innovative and collaborative than we had ever imagined possible. As a result of COVID-19, we have experienced a reduction in overall residents and clients served. While the reductions have impacted Martha & Mary, we have found ways to strengthen our organization and mission of caring. We are thankful for the financial support provided by the CARES Act and will continue to use our talents and resources wisely. We have been working hard, adapting to the new tomorrow with confidence, and we will continually improve and strive to be the best.

COVID-19 also prompted Martha & Mary to change our annual Generations of Care Gala to a virtual event. This was a first for our organization and we were pleasantly surprised. While we missed gathering with our many friends and families, we were astounded by the thoughtful and generous support offered by so many. We made many new connections and rekindled some old! We are truly blessed!

Our Martha & Mary family is stronger than ever. We have enjoyed learning together, growing together and bringing love and life to those we serve from our seniors, children and the families that depend on our services. We are optimistic for the future and will continue to strive during these times for a better tomorrow.

Thank you for your prayers and your continued support!

