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# Our Mission Statement

As a community of believers guided by the Holy Spirit,  
the mission of St. Michael Lutheran Church is to:

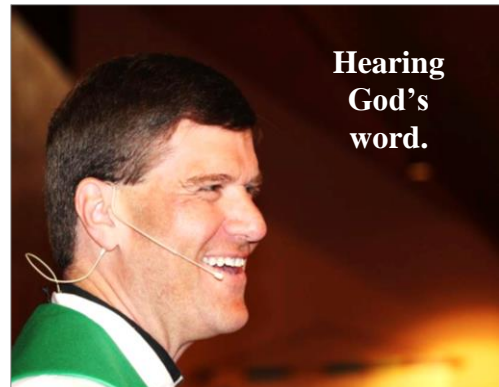
C

**Care** for God's people in need,



H

**Hear** of God's love through Word and Sacrament,



R

**Respond** to God's grace with thankful hearts,

I

**Invite** others into Christ's community,

S

**Serve** God in our daily lives, and



T

**Tell** the story of God's Love



**St. Michael Lutheran Church**  
2308 Merrimac Road  
Blacksburg, VA 24060  
(540) 951-8951  
hope@stmlc.us  
Rev. John Wertz, Jr., Pastor

February 1, 2017

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I give thanks for the wonderful ministry that your generous gifts, your time and your faithfulness accomplish at St. Michael. Thank you for being God's heart and hands and voices to one another through worship, through Bible Study, and through mutual support. Thank you for being God's heart and hands and voices to the wider community through your willingness to support the Micah's Caring Initiative Ministries, the Justice and Mercy Fund and the Early Childhood Head Start Partnership. Thank you for being God's heart and hands and voices to the world through your support of the ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Together we are making God's love known in powerful ways.

Here are a few examples of the ministry we accomplished in 2016.

- Celebrated the hope of Easter with 235 people and the joy of Christmas with 279 people
- Offered Faith Formation opportunities like Vacation Bible School, a Women's Bible Study, Confirmation, Tuesday morning and Sunday evening Bible studies to 90 youth and adults
- Gathered for worship each Sunday at 9 AM, 11 AM and 6:30 PM, enjoyed Holden Evening Prayer midweek services for Advent and Lent, and hosted Across the Spectrum worship
- Partnered with nearly 300 organizations and 800 volunteers to provide meals to over 300 hungry students in our community through Micah's Backpack
- Provided bags of food, Panera Bread and personal care products to 90 senior adults per month through the Micah's Soup for Seniors
- Shared around 1400 pounds of fruits and vegetables to three food pantries through Micah's Garden.
- Served up to 170 students per week through Micah's Mobile Backpack
- Provided new clothing through Micah's Closet to students in the community
- Served a delicious Thanksgiving Day meal to approximately 180 people
- Provided over \$10,000 in emergency assistance to families needing help with rent, power bills and other emergency needs.
- Supported individuals and families through the Early Childhood Head Start Partnership, Mother's Morning Out program, the Parenting Christian Kids newsletter and Devotionals.
- Maintained an online faith formation presence through regular posts and through the third annual Online Advent Calendar
- Installed a new roof on the sanctuary, reduced our debt on the classroom building from nearly \$400,000 to under \$150,000 and completed additional work on the Circle of Grace.

In 2017, we hope to complete the installation of the new sanctuary siding and trim, to look for new ways to help individuals and families grow in their relationship to God and to strengthen our connections with the local community. Thank you for all that you do to make God's ministry at St. Michael possible. May God's presence and blessings be with you always.

Peace and hope,

Pastor John

# Those Called to Special Service

## Congregational Council

<u>Term Ending 2017</u>	<u>Term Ending 2018</u>	<u>Term Ending 2019</u>
Sheila McCartan	Hank Schneider	Butch Akers
Ben Simmers	Doug Smiley	Matthew James
Gary Worley	Tammy Veit	Fran Shepherd

## Officers of the Congregational Council and Congregational Leaders

President.....	Sheila McCartan
Vice President and Secretary .....	Gary Worley
Financial Officer .....	John Krallman
Financial Secretaries .....	Jim Clemens and Ben Simmers
Ministry Funds Treasurer.....	John Krallman
Ministry Funds Recording Secretary .....	Doug Smiley
Memorial Fund Secretary/Treasurer .....	Cindy Dowdy
Sunday School Secretaries.....	Jim Clemens and Doug Smiley
Trustees.....	Jeff Birch, Jim Clemens, Fran Shepherd, Ben Simmers, Doug Smiley, and Dave Surface

## Ministry Team Leaders and Ministry Staff

Accompanist (6:30 PM service).....	Patrice Yearwood
Accompanist (9:00 AM and 11:00 AM services).....	Timmy Akinola
Administrative Assistant.....	Suzanne Gay
Project Based Ministry Teams .....	Pastor John Wertz
Choir Director .....	Patrice Yearwood
Finance.....	John Krallman
Memorial.....	Jim Clemens
Men in Mission .....	Jeff Birch
Micah's Backpack Director.....	Susan Verbrugge
Micah's Closet Director .....	Sheila McCartan
Micah's Soup for Seniors Director.....	Dianne Krallman
Property.....	Fran Shepherd
Stewards.....	Hank Schneider
Webmaster .....	Philip Isenhour
Women of the ELCA .....	Alice Schneider
Worship.....	Pastor John Wertz
Youth and Family Ministry.....	Sheila McCartan, Jody Smiley, Alec Alderman and Casey Parrett

# Gathered in Worship

At the heart of St. Michael's life together is worship. We gather each Sunday at 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. and enjoy seasonal worship opportunities and celebrations.

## **Our life together is supported by the Sunday Servants who:**

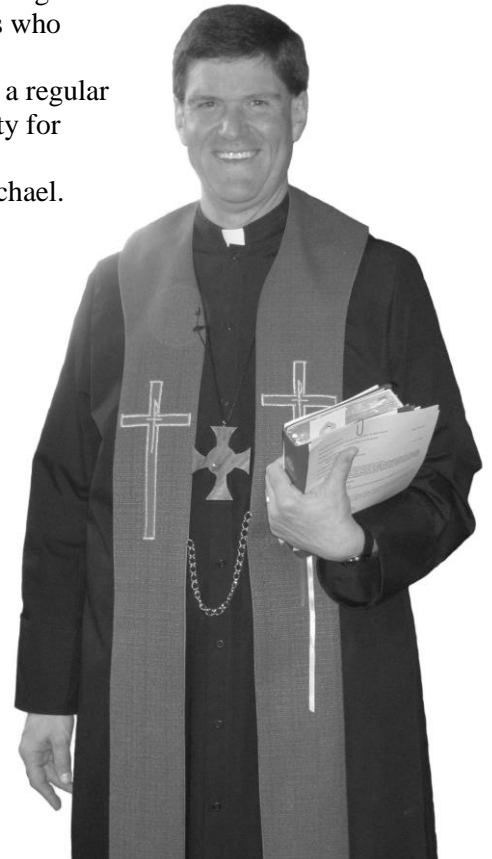
- **Provide altar care:** Volunteers from the congregation prepared Holy Communion and changed altar area vestments. Their duties included, but were not limited to preparing and cleaning of communion ware after the 11:00 a.m. service. Pastor John oversees altar care for the 9:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. services.
- **Assist with communion, serve as lay readers, greeters, and ushers and acolytes:** Volunteers from the congregation served in these capacities. Butch Akers and Suzanne Gay coordinate volunteers and provide materials for these activities. We thank Sandy Birch for her years of service as Sunday Servant Coordinator. She retired from that role last year.
- **Donate flowers:**
  - Weekly flower arrangements were donated by members of the congregation. Opportunities to reserve/donate for a particular week were communicated via a reservation sheet in the hallway.
  - During the holidays, we enjoyed lilies and poinsettias for Easter and Christmas Eve services respectively.

**Our life together is strengthened by our Music Ministry:** In 2016, St. Michael's music ministry continued to provide wonderful leadership for worship and meaningful special music.

- We give thanks for our talented organist, Timmy Akinola, for our gifted music director, Patrice Yearwood, our choir and solo musicians who provide beautiful music for the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. services.
- We give thanks for the St. Michael Choir that leads worship on a regular basis and for the 9 a.m. Hymn Choir which offers an opportunity for people to sing at the 9 a.m. service.
- Thank you to everyone who shares their musical gifts at St. Michael.

## **Our life together is enhanced by special worship services and activities:**

- Lenten meal and worship in partnership with Shiloh and New Mt. Zion
- Holy Week worship and activities in partnership with Shiloh and New Mt. Zion
- Easter Services at 7 a.m., 9 a.m., 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.
- The Advent and Christmas Planning Team which met to discuss and plan for these seasonal celebrations
- Advent meal and worship (alternating between St. Michael and Luther Memorial) and activities
- Christmas Eve Worship Services at 4 p.m., 7 p.m. and 11 p.m.



# Education Ministries

## FILLING YOUR FAITH TOOLBOX EDUCATION MINISTRIES

*At the end of the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus speaks the familiar words, “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit . . . .” What we sometimes forget is that Jesus doesn’t stop there, but continues by saying “and **teaching** them to obey everything that I have commanded you.” (Matthew 28:19)*

Teaching is an important part of Jesus’ command and so as people of God, we are called to be intentional about sharing the story of God’s love for the world with others.

As individuals, we share the story of God’s love with our families, our friends, our neighbors and our co-workers through our words and through our actions. Each day, we have the opportunity to let God’s light, God’s love and God’s Word shine through us to the world.

As a church, we share the story of God’s love for the world, through a variety of groups and classes. Below is a list of some of the learning opportunities at St. Michael.

- **Faith Toolbox Sunday School for Youth and Adults, plus Parent Discussion Group** - Sunday morning at 9:50 a.m.
- **Women of the ELCA Lunch and Learn** – Lunch-time Bible study on the third Mondays at noon
- **Pub Theology** - Young adult dinner and faith discussion group which typically meets on third Thursdays at 6:30 p.m.
- **Sunday Night Bible Study** - Topical Bible study on the third or fourth Sunday night at 7:15 PM
- **Tuesday Morning Bible Study** - Weekly Bible study on the Scripture readings for worship at 11 a.m.
- **Vacation Bible School** – A one-week opportunity for focus on God’s story, play games, learn songs and share in crafts
- **Confirmation** – A program to help 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students learn about God’s love for the world in Jesus, to discover basic Lutheran teachings on faith and life and to explore questions about what it means to believe in God and to live as a child of God in the world.

In 2017, you are invited to connect with one of these opportunities or help start a new opportunity so that together we can learn more about Jesus and God’s love for the world.





## Youth and Family Ministry

As a part of our call to be God's heart and hands and voices in the world, St. Michael works with families and youth to help build stronger connections with God. Youth participated in the Junior High Servant Event at Virginia Beach, the One-Day Mission Trip and various service projects throughout the year. Our youth leaders, Alec Alderman and Casey Parrett, took youth to Virginia Synod Youth events and provided opportunities for faith discussion on Sunday mornings. Youth are a vital part of the leadership of Vacation Bible School and help with worship leadership.

On a monthly basis, St. Michael provides the Parenting Christian Kids newsletter and makes resources available both online and through events at the congregation to try and help build families of faith.

In addition to traditional forms of youth and family ministry, St. Michael supports youth and families through a successful Mother's Morning Out program and the Early Childhood Head Start partnership. Our Mother's Morning Out, under the leadership of Judy Clemens, provides a safe, loving environment for young children to play and socialize five mornings a week. The Early Childhood Head Start partnership, which includes Rainbow Riders and Total Action for Progress, helps at-risk children and their families by providing high-quality care five days a week for children from 6 weeks old to 3 years old.

Through the Micah's Caring Initiative ministries, St. Michael addresses food insecurity for youth and families who struggle with weekend meals, summer meals and new school clothing needs.

Looking to the future, St. Michael hopes to provide more resources, support and learning opportunities for families with small children.



## Project-Based Ministry Teams

At St. Michael, we are gifted with a number of wonderful, passionate and gifted people who are excited to take part in various ministry projects during the course of the year. As people are passionate about an idea and excited about helping, they gather together to accomplish a ministry project. Here are a few of the ministry projects that were accomplished in 2016.



### **Community Thanksgiving Dinner:**

Approximately 180 persons enjoyed the Thanksgiving meal. Special thanks to St. Michael members for preparing delicious side dishes. Volunteers from the area assisted St. Michael's members in serving the meal and thank you Ron Brewer for leading and coordinating the event.

**Price's Fork Fair Outreach Booth:** Folks from St. Michael spent two days at the fair playing games and painting faces for children. This activity provided an opportunity to share St. Michael's ministry with the community. Handouts included faith-themed coloring books, grief resources, family devotionals and general information about the church.

**Salvation Army Angel Tree:** 25 'angels' received gift packages of clothing, shoes and toys purchased by families connected to St. Michael.

**Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper:** This traditional activity brings people together for food and fellowship from St. Michael, Shiloh Lutheran Church, New Mt. Zion Lutheran Church and the Price's Fork area. Thank you to everyone who helps cook and prepare for the event.

**Meals for Funerals:** When there is a death in the congregation, volunteers provide a meal at the church or for the family. Thank you to Judy Clemens for organizing the meals last year.

**Second Sunday Summer Brunches:** The WELCA hosted the June brunch which recognized the high school and college graduates. In July and August, we enjoyed wonderful food and fellowship.

**To Our House:** St. Michael participated in this area ministry which provides meals and shelter for up to 12 homeless men per night. Volunteers provided meals on several dates. A day of meals consists of a simple breakfast, a bag lunch and dinner.

**Softball Team:** Men and women representing St. Michael enjoyed a successful season which began in April. Thank you to Jeff Birch and Doug Smiley for serving as captains.

**Boy Scout Troop:** Jan Helge Bohn continued to serve as Scout Master of Boy Scout Troop 158.

**Adventure Crew:** St. Michael BSA Crew 158 serves boys and girls, ages 14 to 20. This program builds character, citizenship and leadership skills in older boys and girls.

**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration:** In the coming year, St. Michael will be forming a team to plan a celebration of St. Michael's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. If you would like to be a part of the team, please contact Pastor John.



## Thrivent Teams in Action

Thanks to all the Thrivent Action Teams that help support the St. Michael ministries. Thrivent, through these Action Teams, has provided \$2750 in 2016 for these ministries.

Projects assisted included Soup for Seniors, the mission trip to Hungry Mother Retreat Center, purchasing books distributed during Micah's Mobile Backpack program, Across the Spectrum Worship Service, Circle of Grace, purchase school supplies, Christmas Boxes for Pine Ridge Reservation, Personal Care Kits, Confirmation Lock-in, and the Community Thanksgiving Dinner.

If you are interested in finding out more information about Action Teams, how to apply for funds, or have ideas for projects that need funding in 2017, please contact Jody Smiley or Pastor John.



**Community  
Thanksgiving Dinner**

## Stewards Team 2016

*“The Stewards Team is called to promote the understanding of congregational stewardship and encourage the sharing of our time, talents and treasures.”*

Time and talent surveys were completed in March and April, with an excellent member response. Members of St. Michael volunteer to serve on many committees and teams, serve as worship assistants, assist in Vacation Bible School, prepare food for multiple church functions, maintain the church grounds, sing in our choirs, and participate in fellowship opportunities. During the year, many donate their time and talents to special projects such as representing St. Michael at the Price’s Fork Fair, preparing Micah’s backpacks with weekend and summer vacation food for elementary school children, providing food for Seniors in the “Soup for Seniors” program, and preparing and serving food for homeless shelters.

In 2016, we were blessed to have Butch Akers volunteer his time and talents and be a member of the Stewards Team. Welcome Butch.

The monthly newsletter, *Sharing Our Gifts: Time, Talents and Treasure*, is devoted to recognizing servants who volunteered their time and talents for numerous tasks and activities at the church and thanking the congregation for participating in a variety of projects throughout the year.

Estimates of giving for 2017 were distributed in November with a theme of **“An Increase in Giving Allows Us to Take More Tools Out of Our Tool Box.”**



*Examples of how The St. Michael Tool Box invests God's gifts in the community and in the world.*

- Food, cleaning supplies, paper goods, and baby items for the Women's Resource Center and Montgomery County Food Bank
- School supplies and family baskets for Prices Fork Elementary School
- Christmas gifts for 25 children sponsored by the Salvation Army Angel Tree project
- 301 Christmas shoebox gifts for Head Start children on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota (a joint project with other New River Lutheran churches, Christ the King Lutheran in Richmond and other groups)
- Supplies for Vacation Bible School
- \$1,560 for the Montgomery County Emergency Assistance (MCEAP) program
- Rainbow Riders Early Childhood Head Start at St. Michael
- Assistance to 238 families for rent and medical expenses, electric and water bills, heating oil, food and other expenses from the Justice and Mercy Fund
- \$22,500 donated to the Virginia Synod to support ministry in the Synod, the country and in the world
- \$1,200 to Bedford Lutheran, our Mission Partner
- Food and funds for the annual community Thanksgiving dinner
- Meals for "To Our House" homeless shelter
- \$2,500 to Lutheran Campus Ministries
- \$9,500 (for 2015-2016 school year) given by St. Michael members along with Food Donations for Micah's Backpack which now assists over 300 children in 5 area elementary schools, one middle school, one high school and three preschools
- Monetary, food, and time donations for Micah's Initiatives including Soup for Seniors, Micah's Closet, and Micah's Garden
- New Roof for the Sanctuary

The stewardship of our congregation is over the top and **We Thank Each and Every One of You.** Our annual catered brunch was held in December to honor all the St. Michael stewards. **You** are very generous supporters of the ministry at St. Michael, in the community and the world.

Submitted by The Stewards Committee

Members: Sandy Birch, Butch Akers, Pastor John, Andrea Robinson, Hank Schneider,  
Ben Simmers, Jody Smiley

*We offer with joy and thanksgiving what He has first given us—ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of His gracious love.*

## WELCA (Women of the ELCA)

*“As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, society and the world.”*

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WELCA is led by a team of three: Jody Smiley, Sandy Birch and chaired by Alice Schneider. Lunch and Learn meets at the church monthly during the school year. An intriguing title to one of the Bible Study series was “When God’s Not Fair.” All women are invited to this Bible study, led by Jody Smiley, and fellowship meal held at noon.

Projects and activities for 2016 included the following:

- Sponsored donations for the Montgomery Food Bank and Women's Resource Center.
- Twenty women of the congregation enjoyed fellowship and dinners at Amelia's in February and Olive Garden in July. All women are invited this summer!
- Small toys, books and treats were collected for children’s Easter baskets for the Women’s Resource Center and for the Salvation Army. Mothers baskets were also filled by our 6-12<sup>th</sup> graders as a service project. Easter brunch was enjoyed following the 7 a.m. sunrise service. The Second Sunday Summer Brunch on June 12 celebrated St. Michael graduates.
- The Sisters in Christ Luncheon on May 1 featured Bold Women Awards to Patrice Yearwood and Maggie Maloney for bringing the arts to St. Michael.
- We celebrated Women Acting Boldly by leading all three services on May 8 and were joined by more women from the congregation to sing a hymn during the morning services.
- With our Love Offering baggies, the congregation donated \$331.80 to the SE Michigan Synod for their Flint Water & Filtration Funds.
- We collected items for health kits to be given to Lutheran World Relief, and 45 were put together by the youth as a project. Thrivent funds purchased towels to wrap the kits.
- Jody Smiley, WELCA national vice president, attended the Annual VSWO (Virginia Synodical Women’s Organization) Convention held on August 5 - 6 at Epiphany Lutheran in Richmond. The theme centered on “All Anew to Serve Others.” Pastor Lynn Litchfield from Grace Inside, a prison ministry and a VA Mission Partner, described how incarcerated men and women are touched by this ministry. Our contributions to the VSWO projects for the year included 45 personal care kits, a VSWO total of 700 for Lutheran World Relief; 129 sewn sanipanties, total of 700, and 48 pairs of underwear of a total of 280 pairs for Little Dresses for Africa.
- For the beginning of school in August, we filled boxes with many hundreds of school supplies and donated 22 backpacks, for children at Price's Fork Elementary.
- On September 25, we celebrated St. Michael's 48th Birthday with our annual birthday dinner which featured Italian food catered by the Cellar Restaurant and delicious birthday desserts provided by church members. A donation was made to the Christmas Store.
- On October 16, the NRV District of Women of the ELCA had their annual Fall Gathering at Trinity, Pulaski. From our featured speaker, Charlie Barbettini, director of the Warming Station, we learned how it began and what it does to support the homeless in the Pulaski area.

It is similar to the “To Our House” Program in Montgomery County, but has permanent apartments to house people. The offerings were divided between the VSWO and Warming Station.

- On November 13, adults and youth worked together to organize shoeboxes for the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in SD. This year 301 shoe boxes were checked, decorated, and labeled. They were donated by NRV Lutheran churches, the DAR and Christ the King in Richmond. A new congregation joined us this year, St. John Lutheran Church in Lexington, SC, led by Pastor John’s father. Ron Brewer delivered our boxes to Fontaine in Dublin, who again donated the shipping cost. This year a record 2,100 pounds were shipped to SD! We also shipped a box of handmade baby blankets, throws, art supplies, additional hats and gloves, etc. to the homeless program at Pine Ridge.
- In December, we delivered 8 Christmas family fun baskets for Price's Fork Elementary families.

We continue to be Bold Women throughout the year as we spend time in fellowship, Bible study and work on projects to help our neighbors, both near and far.

Submitted by: *Alice Schneider*



## Men in Mission 2016

The Men in Mission group is “on-call” to support the programs of St. Michael and provide community service as needed.

In 2016, the Men in Mission:

- unloaded the Micah’s Backpack food vehicle and stored food in the storage bins one Wednesday each month
- directed traffic in the parking lot of the Montgomery County Christmas Store and assisted shoppers with unloading their carts on December 10.

Submitted by: *Jeff Birch*





## Older Kids (O.K.s) Senior Ministry

An active group of “over 50’s” had a number of opportunities for fellowship during the year. The Happy-Go-Lucky group, mostly retirees, met quarterly for a catered luncheon and program in the fellowship hall. March was our annual Easter luncheon; summer was a barbeque picnic, followed by the “gourmet” school lunch served on school lunch trays in September. December featured a 5-course Christmas luncheon and participants had to “sing (Christmas carols) for their supper” between courses and perform in a Christmas pageant. We thank our caterers, Lynn Hickock, Barbara Corbett, Anna Rossomando, Alice Schneider, Sandy Birch and our set-up/clean-up helper, Anita Shepherd, for supporting this activity. A \$5/lunch contribution for groceries is always appreciated, though not required. Friends from Shiloh and New Mt. Zion and other churches often attend the luncheons and add to the fellowship. Special guests sometimes joined us for lunch, e.g., Mode Johnson, who spoke about the new Blacksburg Rescue Squad facility and programs.

The Out to Lunch Bunch met for lunch on several occasions at local restaurants. Restaurants visited in 2016 included O’Charley’s, Lefty’s, and Avellino’s. Many thanks to Peggy Brown for organizing these luncheons.



The O.K.s also went traveling in a cooperative program with the Montgomery County Parks and Recreation Department. In 2016, we traveled to the Black Dog Salvage Company, a store that specializes in the reclamation of all sorts of unique house parts, and Grandin Village. In July, we enjoyed a leisurely ride along the Blue Ridge Parkway, a stop at Mabry Mill, and a visit to the tasting room and restaurant at the Chateau Morrisette Winery. The last trip was to the Autumn Leaves Festival in Mt. Airy in October. All members of the congregation and friends and family are invited on the bus trips. Pictured is the group in front of the historic Grandin Theater.

The O.K.s supported a collection of gifts for moms and dads for the Montgomery County Christmas Store and volunteered at the AARP Health & Wellness Fair in September. Announcements posted on the hallway bulletin board and in the newsletter, help keep the O.K.s informed of AARP and other senior organizations’ activities throughout the year.

The younger O.K.s, known as the “middle-agers” support activities such as Soup for Seniors packing and distribution and may meet for social events on occasion. The middle-agers are loosely described as those “between PTA and AARP” and not yet retired.

Submitted by: *Sandy Birch*

# Lutheran Campus Ministry at Virginia Tech

Annual Report for the Committee on Campus Ministry



## PROGRAM

The ministry is based on a community of students identified with THE WELL. Casey Parrett has prepared a report for this group. Although worship is part of the experience at The Well, students are encouraged to worship in the ministry of Word and Sacrament in a local congregation. On average, 20 students worship at Luther Memorial Lutheran Church. Some of these students participate in THE WELL and weekly worship, while other students only worship on Sunday.

Collaborations continue with Lutheran Campus Ministry at Radford University. Pastor Joanna shared leadership with the campus pastors in the Interfaith Council at VT, led worship with the Corps of Cadets at the beginning of fall semester, and supported a renewed network for campus ministries across the synod.

The committee led the planning and execution of the Friday lunch program, Luther's Lunch at 12:05, which began in October. Twelve persons outside LMLC have participated in this program; an evaluation by the congregation should occur in spring 2017. Many members and students have volunteered time to offer this ministry. We appreciate that Teresa Cassell has coordinated the volunteers for this program at the end of the year.

In December, we began to address how campus ministry would function as Pastor Joanna accepted a call to ministry in North Carolina. Pastor King visited with Bishop Mauney and Pastor Dave Delany to determine the magnitude of the Synodical grant to LMLC given the change in personnel. Following discussions with Pastor Drew Tucker, Christ Lutheran, Radford and student leaders, the congregation has asked Pastor Tucker to care for the major program and mentoring responsibilities for our campus ministry. Pastor King will be more directly engaged in the ministry particularly as it relates to campus events and the VT Interfaith Council. Students and committee members will address essential communications that Pastor Joanna cared for.

## FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Ministry specific income to support Campus Ministry depends on grants from the Virginia Synod, St. Michael Lutheran Church, and the ELCA. Ministry specific income included designated gifts and revenues generated from parking fees totaled \$15,289.50.

Please review the financial report of the congregation to determine the details for the following financial summary.

Campus Ministry Grant Income	\$63,896	Expenses	\$52,329
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## APPRECIATION

We thank the following persons who provided meals, including L<sup>3</sup>: Teresa Cassell; John and Ann Hess; Lois and Jim Lang, Jennifer and Michael McDonald; St. Michael Lutheran Church; Pastor Joanna; Dori and Norm Marriott.

Committee Members: Diane Cline, Alex Depew (through May 2016), John Hess, Lori Anne Kirk (SMLC), Nathan McWhiter, Meghan Rupke (President of THE WELL), Jody Smiley (SMLC), Pastor Stallings, and Carla Liversedge (liaison to Congregation Council) and representatives from the leadership team of THE WELL, Samantha DiBiaso and Casey Parrett

Prepared by John Hess and reviewed by Committee, January 2017

## –THE WELL 2016 –

Lutheran Campus Ministry has had a wonderful year. We continue to share a home-cooked meal together every Tuesday evening at 7 p.m. We also worship together every week at the Luther Memorial 11 a.m. worship service. Throughout the year, we have enjoyed many Luther's Luscious Lunches prepared by wonderful people in the Luther Memorial and St. Michael congregations. We'd like to extend our heartfelt gratitude for the delicious home-cooked meals.

Spring semester of 2016 we organized and helped run Fools for Christ, which is our youth event for Luther Memorial and St. Michael's youth. We participated in the Big Event, Virginia Tech's annual service event. We also went on our alternative spring break trip to Florida with the Radford group. This involved serving Habitat for Humanity and Loaves and Fishes, a local food pantry. We were fortunate enough to be hosted by Gloria Dei Lutheran Church. We took part in one of their services and a soup dinner where we were introduced to part of the congregation and explained what service projects we took part in. We held a craft night the week before Easter to dye eggs and make yarn Easter eggs. We spent one Tuesday night listening to a representative from Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM). Savanna Sullivan spoke about her time in Rwanda, Africa and how it impacted her life. Sammy gave a presentation about her service trip to the Dominican Republic with stories and reflective questions. We also participated in the church's annual Shrove Tuesday meal with congregation members.

Fall semester of 2016 began with our annual Welcome Back picnic on campus. We grilled burgers and hot dogs and enjoyed catching up with each other after spending the summer apart. We also enjoyed a trip to Claytor Lake with Highlanders Lutheran Campus Ministry, Radford. We hiked some of the trails, went for a swim, and worshipped together. This semester, we parked cars at six home Hokie football games. When the Hokies play well, we do well. We exceeded our expectations in donations, as you'll see in the budget report. In October, we went to Sinkland Farms together and picked pumpkins, which we carved together at a Tuesday night meeting. We also celebrated our annual camp night complete with s'mores and a fire, which is led by students in the group who spent the summer working at different Lutheran camps across the nation. This semester we also spent one of our Tuesday night meetings on campus for worship by the Duck pond. We added a new ministry this semester, too. In partnership with Luther Memorial, we started a new feeding ministry. On Fridays from 12:00 -1:30 p.m. we provide a community meal at The Well. All are welcome. We see great potential with this ministry, and we are excited to see what God does with it. We shared time with colleagues at Canterbury House who hosted our joint Thanksgiving dinner. During Advent, we shared worship leadership for Holden Evening Prayer with LMLC and SMLC. One of our last activities of the semester was a White Elephant Christmas exchange with the Highlanders. We enjoyed each other's company and shared many laughs.

This past semester we also had to say goodbye to Pastor Joanna Stallings. We thank Joanna for her wonderful years of ministry with us. We have been blessed by her leadership, her devotions, her home-cooked meals, her listening ear, her encouraging spirit, and much more. We wish her well as she moves onto a new call in North Carolina. Moving forward, we are excited to see what 2017 will bring.

Submitted by Casey Parrett and reviewed by committee January 2017



Micah's Backpack, a free, community-based ministry, feeds children from low-resource families 6 meals and snacks on the weekends throughout the academic year and summer vacation. Here is our 2016 report.

- This year we were able to pack 12,612 backpacks full of food. That is 75,672 meals donated to hungry children. Some weeks we packed over 300 bags of food.
- In May, after Program Director Jennie Hodge announced that she and her family were moving to North Carolina, we hired Susan Verbrugge as Program Director.
- Continued the Cummings/Ivers Challenge, once in the spring and once at the end of the year, which raised over \$10,000 for infrastructure needs.
- Engaged up to 157 volunteers to participate on a weekly basis. Among them, they shared over 3,600 hours of their time to help feed hungry children.
- Grants awarded from the Adobe Community Foundation, Blacksburg Presbyterian Church Endowment, the Community Foundation of the NRV, Kroger, Food Lion, and more.
- Volunteers began making the weekly Kroger runs to pick up what was ordered and bring it to the food room each week. Also, volunteers began making a monthly food run to Feeding America in Salem where they bought needed items and brought them back to the food room.
- 2 outstanding students from VT served as work study interns during the fall and spring semesters.
- Participated in a non-profit roundtable discussion each month fostered by the Make-a-Mark Foundation that was designed to help non-profit leaders think outside the daily details to the big picture of their organization.
- Began participation in a partnership with other groups in the NRV that work on hunger insecurity issues. The partnership is designed to gather these groups together once a quarter to collaborate and share ideas about how we can better meet the needs of those in our community. The partnership was started by the Community Foundation of the NRV.
- Continued to share fresh fruits and vegetables from Micah's Garden and berries from 3 Birds Berry Farm with kids participating in Micah's Mobile Backpack in the summer months.
- Continued partnership with faculty and staff at Harding Avenue and Price's Fork Elementary School who provide books on Fridays on the mobile backpack.

For more information about Micah's Backpack please contact **Susan Verbrugge**,  
([hope@micahsbackpack.org](mailto:hope@micahsbackpack.org))





# MICAH'S garden

*“St Michael established Micah’s Garden, a cooperative community garden, in the spring of 2012.”*

In 2016, Micah’s Garden:

- Welcomed Mary Nickle as the new Micah’s Garden Director.
- Partnered with food pantries: Giving Tree, Interfaith, Spiritual Roots, 3Birds Berry Farm, and Micah’s Mobile Backpack to distribute fresh produce.
- Expanded the variety of vegetables and fruits grown and shared 520 pounds of fruits and vegetables.
- 40 volunteers shared 212.6 hours helping sow, grow, harvest, and deliver 520 pounds of basil, beans, beets, blueberries, cabbage, carrots, collard greens, corn, cucumbers, lettuce, okra, peas, peppers, potatoes, spinach, squash, tomatoes, Swiss chard, and zucchini.
- Kids who visited the mobile backpack loved choosing fresh vegetables!
- Received assistance from Blacksburg High School, Rainbow Riders group, New River Valley Master Gardeners, Crow’s Nest Farm.
- A Grant from Master Gardeners was awarded in the amount of \$400 to purchase a weed eater with tiller attachment.



For more information about Micah's Garden, please contact **Mary Nickle**  
([hope@micahsgarden.org](mailto:hope@micahsgarden.org)).



Micah's Soup for Seniors (MSS) had a great 2016. We have continued in this ministry with great support from the church, church members, community volunteers, and Warm Hearth.

Some of our outside partners include Panera, Warm Hearth, Chi Delta Alpha and classroom involvement from the VT Department of Human Nutrition, Foods, and Exercise.



MSS was started in September 2012 as a way to provide extra food for low-income seniors at three houses at Warm Hearth: North Trollinger, South Trollinger and the New River House. We continue to support and enjoy our growing friendships with the Seniors.

We have also supported Warm Hearth's introduction to provide special toiletry items and everyday items for the Seniors. They keep inventory to cover the needs of the Seniors throughout the month.

MSS volunteers pack and distribute on the fourth Tuesday of each month. We deliver approximately 90 bags a month. Each bag contains soup, tuna or peanut butter, vegetables, fruit, rice and beans. The seniors fill out a menu each month for what they would like to have delivered the next month. MSS has 20-25 volunteers who help out each month. We also have a partnership with Panera which provides us with leftover bagels, breads and sweets each month.

Since September 2012, Micah's Soup for Seniors:

- Received over 6,000 donated food items
- Delivered approximately 4,700 bags of food
- Worked approximately 2,400 volunteer hours

For more information about Micah's Soup for Seniors, please contact **Dianne Krallman** (Dhkrallman@hubbell-ltg.com).





## 2016 Annual Report

The goal of Micah's Closet (MC) is to provide up to a week's worth of new school clothes to children in need, through a partnership with schools, churches, community groups, businesses, and individuals. Studies show that children in need are more likely to have higher self-confidence and maintain regular school attendance if their clothes are as nice as clothing worn by their peers.

### In 2016:

- In the Spring, shirts and shorts were distributed. In the Fall distribution, MC shared shirts, pants, athletic shoes, pajamas, socks, underwear and a jacket.
- MC had over 36 unique volunteer shoppers, including 12 from the Blacksburg's Newcomers Group!
- MC reached a total of 85 students at Prices Fork Elementary School and the Blacksburg Head Start Program with the Spring and Fall clothing distributions, up from the 74 students and 49 students reached in 2015 and 2014, respectively.
- Judy Clemens, in partnership with the New River Community Services, provided 288 specific clothing items to 20 families in need throughout the year.
- A total of 1732 items of clothing and 12 packages of diapers were shared with children in our community during 2016!
- In 2016, we utilized grant money and built an actual closet. We are now able to store clothing from donations and get much needed items at remarkable savings on clearance.
- Because of donations of "Kohls' Cash", we have been able to get in excess of \$100 dollars in free clothing.



# Property Committee

*“The property team oversees the church property, making improvements and repairs as needed.”*

## Regular activities included

- Overseeing the seasonal clean-ups
- General upkeep and mowing of the grass
- Removal of snow
- Spraying monthly for insects
- Spraying for weed control
- On-going maintenance and repair

## Facility improvements included

- New Sanctuary Roof
- Repairs to Fellowship Hall flat roof
- Addition of Playground Fencing through partnership with Mother’s Morning Out
- Construction of Phase 2 of the Circle of Grace Scattering Garden
- New Cabinets in the Large Classroom through partnership with Micah’s Closet
- Received gift of a new baby grand piano

## Special Thanks

To all those folks who work behind the scenes who are a major part in the upkeep and maintenance of our church including...

- Ray Howell and Ron Brewer for their help in addressing our maintenance issues.
- The “Mowing Crew” that mows and keeps our grounds looking nice.
- Marty Gordon who serves as our church custodian and Wanda Pascoe who makes sure that needed cleaning supplies are on-hand.
- Donors to the Property Maintenance Fund, the Growing with Faith Fund and the Under One Roof project



# Memorial Committee Report for 2016

The Memorial Committee meets on an as needed basis to act on Council recommendations or conduct other business related to overseeing the use of all money donated to St. Michael as memorials.

This past year \$1790.00 of undesignated Memorial Funds and \$175.00 of designated Memorial Funds were spent for the Circle of Grace walkway.

Donations in memory of Grace Simmers, \$50.00, Tim Clemens, \$25.00, Betty Gross, \$855.00, Ann Surface, \$1685.00, Irene Ashley, \$490.00, Kitty Kirk, \$220.00, Doris Price, \$100.00 and Charlene Harris, \$610.00, for a total of \$2245.00, went into the Memorial Fund.

Donations in memory of Infant Harper Hayes, Betty Gross, Bhadra Gunesequera, Irene Ashley, Eddie Styles and Kitty Kirk, went into the Micah's Backpack Fund.

Donations in memory of Betty Gross, Irene Ashley, Kitty Kirk and Donald Ellerby, went into the Soup for Seniors Fund.

Donations in memory of Gary Christle went into the Boy Scout memorial fund.

Donations in memory of Charlene Harris, Leroy Jones and Winston Underwood, went into the Micah's Closet Fund.

Donations in memory of Betty Gross, Ann Surface, Irene Ashley, Lee Pieper and Jim Milliken went into the Circle of Grace fund.

Donations in memory of Charlene Harris, went into the Youth Fund.

Donations in memory of Charlene Harris and Tim Clemens, went into the Under One Roof Fund.

Donations in Memory of John Thomas Waybright, went into the Core Fund.

The committee is always available to answer questions or assist a family in choosing a memorial gift. Members of the committee are: Bob Brown, Cindy Dowdy, Jim Clemens-Chair, Jay Nagle, Donna Oliver and Sandy Birch.

Submitted by: *Jim Clemens*

## Investments in Ministry through the Core Ministry Fund

	<u>Projected 2016</u>	<u>Actual 2016</u>
<b>Giving in Support of Spending Plan for Ministry and Other Ministry Generated Resources</b>	\$225,000	\$220,790
<b>Sharing Our Gifts</b> Includes gifts to Virginia Synod, Campus Ministry at Virginia Tech, and salary for Micah's Backpack staff	\$36,620	\$32,107
<b>Worship</b> Includes Supplies for Worship and Music Programs and Salaries	\$24,136	\$25,757
<b>Youth and Education Ministry</b> Includes Youth and Family Programs, Sunday School, Vacation Bible School and Child Care Staffing	\$12,775	\$9,380
<b>Caring and Sharing</b> Includes Fellowship Events, Softball and Volleyball Teams, Publicity, Future Programs and Associate in Ministry	\$8,373	\$6,804
<b>Pastoral Support</b> Includes Salary, Benefits, and Continuing Education	\$105,598	\$106,067
<b>Parish Administration and Support</b>	\$24,052	\$23,064
<b>Property</b>	\$13,400	\$13,558
<b>Total Spending Plan for Ministry Investment</b>	\$224,954	\$216,737

Notes:

1. *Giving to the Core Ministry Fund exceeded spending by \$4,051.*
2. *Total Giving to All Funds in 2016 (including Core Ministry Fund, Growing with Faith Fund, Justice and Mercy Fund, Micah's Backpack and other Restricted Funds) was \$737,139.*
3. *Through the Justice and Mercy Fund, St. Michael provided \$9,851 in direct assistance with rent, power bills and fuel. The balance in the account at the end of 2016 was \$5,935.*
4. *The Balance in the Property Maintenance Fund at the end of 2016 was \$7,831.*
5. *A total of \$346,145 was donated to the Growing with Faith Fund in 2016 including a bequest from the Estate of Fred Spengler. \$293,256 was invested in mortgage and principal payments in 2016. The mortgage balance with Thrivent at the end of 2016 was \$149,641 and the loan from the Parsonage Fund was completely repaid. The balance in the Growing with Faith Fund at the end of 2016 was \$13,340.*

## Micah's Caring Initiative

### 2016 Investments in Ministry

**Micah's Backpack and Micah's Mobile Backpack:** Providing weekend meals for 300 students per weekend during the school year and 170 students during the summer

Donations and Grants	\$ 83,172
Expenses	
Food	\$ 65,981
Infrastructure Support (including bus fuel, insurance, Director stipend, t-shirts)	\$ 10,894
Total Invested	\$ 76,875

**Micah's Soup for Seniors:** Providing approximately 90 bags of food at the end of each month to low-income seniors in the community

Donations and Grants	\$ 10,788
Expenses	
Food	\$ 9,719
Infrastructure Support	\$ 69
Total	\$ 9,788

**Micah's Closet:** Providing clothing at the change of season for low-income students in our community

Donations and Grants	\$ 9,435
Expenses: clothing	\$ 7,324

#### Notes

1. *Some grants and donations received in 2016 by Micah's Caring Initiative Ministries are designated for use in 2017.*
2. *Micah's Caring Initiative paid staff now includes Susan Verbrugge, Director of Micah's Backpack and Jennie Hodge, Grant Writer for Micah's Caring Initiative. All other Micah's Caring Initiative leaders and staff are either volunteers or interns from Virginia Tech.*

## 2017 Investments in Ministry Plan

<b>Investments in Ministry Partnerships: Sharing Our Gifts</b>	<u><b>2017</b></u>	<u><b>2016</b></u>
Virginia Synod and ELCA	23,000	22,500
Mission Congregation Partnerships	1,200	1,200
Montgomery County Emergency Assistance Program	1,560	1,560
Community Ministry Support	500	500
Campus Ministry at Virginia Tech	2,500	2,500
Micah's Backpack Staff Support	<u>9,000</u>	<u>8,000</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>37,760</b>	36,620

<b>Investments in Core Ministries: Worship</b>	<u><b>2017</b></u>	<u><b>2016</b></u>
Choral Director	7,400	7,248
Choral Director Continuing Education	600	600
Music and Choir Supplies	1000	1,000
9:00 AM Accompanist	<b>3,011</b>	2,951
11:00 AM Accompanist	<b>7,525</b>	7,377
6:30 PM Accompanist	<b>2,260</b>	2,210
Accompanist Continuing Education	600	600
Instrumentalist	<b>250</b>	0
Organist Substitutes	<b>600</b>	600
Inserts and Bulletins	500	500
Altar Supplies	550	550
Miscellaneous	<u>500</u>	<u>500</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>24,796</b>	24,136





<b>Investments in Core Ministries: Caring and Sharing</b>	<b><u>2017</u></b>	<b><u>2016</u></b>
Congregational Ministry Coordinator	<b>5,000</b>	5,123
Congregational Ministry Coordinator Continuing Education	200	200
Fellowship	800	800
Evangelism/Publicity	300	300
Sports Teams	<b>400</b>	450
Older Kids Senior Adult Ministry	400	400
Future Programs	300	300
Appreciation	700	700
Miscellaneous	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,200</b>	8,373

<b>Investments in Core Ministries: Youth and Education Ministry</b>	<b><u>2017</u></b>	<b><u>2016</u></b>
Youth	-----	-----
Youth Activities	1,800	1,800
Family Programs	1,200	1,200
Youth Ministry Staff	2,400	2,400
Nursery Worker	2,000	2,000
Education	-----	-----
Christian Education	<b>1,000</b>	1,200
Confirmation	<b>2,300</b>	3,300
Subscriptions/Devotionals	<b>1,000</b>	500
Miscellaneous	<u>50</u>	<u>50</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,750</b>	12,450

<b>Investments in Core Ministries: Faith Milestone Ministry</b>	<b><u>2017</u></b>	<b><u>2016</u></b>
New Baby Ministry	25	25
Faithchest Resources	125	125
Faith Builders Toolbox Resources	150	150
Grief Resources	<u>25</u>	<u>25</u>
<b>Total</b>	325	325

<b>Investments in Core Ministries: Pastoral Support</b>	<b><u>2017</u></b>	<b><u>2016</u></b>
Salary	<b>38,637</b>	37,880
Housing	<b>21,068</b>	20,655
Pension, Insurance	<b>35,717</b>	33,400
Social Security	<b>7,229</b>	7,088
Mileage Reimbursement	<b>4,100</b>	4,000
Supply Pastor	<b>975</b>	975
Continuing Education, Professional Expenses	<b><u>1,700</u></b>	<u>1,600</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>109,426</b>	105,598

<b>Investments in Core Ministries: Support</b>	<b><u>2017</u></b>	<b><u>2016</u></b>
Materials	100	0
Workshop	0	0
Miscellaneous	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>0</b>

<b>Investments in Core Ministries: Parish Administration</b>	<b><u>2017</u></b>	<b><u>2016</u></b>
Administrative Assistant	11,528	11,302
Social Security	3,600	3,600
Office Supplies	1,500	1,500
Postage	1,600	1,600
Copier Maintenance	2,100	2,100
Internet, Telephone and Online Services	2,100	1,900
Conventions and Conferences	650	850
Staff Retirement Assistance	500	700
Miscellaneous	<u>500</u>	<u>500</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>24,078</b>	<b>24,052</b>



<b>Investments in Preventative Maintenance and Ongoing Restoration</b>	<b><u>2017</u></b>	<b><u>2016</u></b>
Improvements	0	0
General Maintenance & Repairs	0	0
Insurance - Church	4,200	4,200
Custodian Services	3,000	3,000
Utilities	5,200	5,200
Snow Removal	500	500
Pest Control	400	400
Capital Replacement	800	0
Miscellaneous	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,200</b>	<b>13,400</b>

**Ministry Fund Spending Plan vs. Projected Giving**

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Total Spending Plan for Ministry	230,635	224,954
Projected Core Ministry Fund Giving	211,000	208,000
Designated Gift for Youth Ministry Staff	3,000	3,000
Ministry Generated Resources: Head Start	12,000	9,000
Grant Support for Micah's Backpack Staff Support	<u>4,500</u>	<u>4,000</u>
<b>Total Estimated Support for Core Ministry Fund</b>	<b>230,500</b>	<b>225,000</b>



**Investments in Preventative Maintenance and Ongoing Restoration:**

	<u>2017</u>
Landscaping & Maintenance	2,500
Equipment Maintenance	500
HVAC Control System Replacement	2,000
Heat Pump Maintenance	<u>1,870</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,870</b>

**Investments Growing with Faith Fund: Monthly Mortgage vs. Estimated Giving**

	<u>2017</u>
Monthly Mortgage on Classroom Addition	24,000

## Notes on 2017 Investment in Ministry Plan

- Thank you for your generous support of God's ministry at St. Michael. Together we are touching people's lives with God's Word and making a difference in our community.
- As we approach the end of the year, it appears that your giving, plus ministry generated resources which include funds raised for Micah's Backpack Infrastructure Support, Focus on Youth gifts and the stipend from the Head Start partnership will roughly equal our investments in ministry in 2016.
- Based on your estimates of giving for 2017, St. Michael anticipates a 2 to 3% growth in giving during the coming year.
- The 2017 Investment in Ministry Plan allows the congregation to continue to focus on ministry areas that are important to the life of the congregation like worship, helping people in need, and supporting youth, families and seniors as they build their lives of faith.
- After not providing raises for staff in 2016, this year's plan includes a 2% raise for staff members. The investment in Micah's Backpack staff is increased to include the creation of a grant writer position which has been filled by Jennie Hodge.
- With Sandy Birch's retirement, a new position called Congregational Ministry Coordinator has been created. During 2017, we hope to better define the staffing needs of the congregation and develop this position to meet those needs.
- St. Michael continues to share over 16% of our gifts to the Core Ministry Fund with ministries outside of the congregation.
- The 2017 Investment in Ministry plan projects a balanced plan for 2017.
- Thanks to gifts from the Estate for Fred Spangler, the principal on our mortgage has been reduced significantly and we were able to refinance our loan down to 7 years at 3.375%. These changes reduce our monthly mortgage payments by approximately \$24,000 per year.
- This year's plan includes the final payment of \$2,000 on the HVAC Control System.