

Community Lutheran
Church
Year-in-Review

2015

Year End Ministry Report Form for 2015

Name of Your Ministry/Group: Executive Council

Purpose (short phrase): Leadership for Council

Chairperson: Council President

Council Liaison: All of us

List Team Members: Ed Rogers, Treasurer, Annette Ensley, Secretary, Jenifer Page, President, Chad Bates, Vice President.

1 Ministry Events, Joys and Celebrations from 2015. (List 2-6 Events or Actions)

- Reduction of Deficit!
- Vision for 5-15 years from today
- Hiring of New Staff
- Successful and energetic Ministries
- Approved Spending Plan for 2016
- Offsite meeting for Council – building the team
- Building updates
- Better Communication for fellowship with MarToma

2 Objectives yet to be Reached/Dreams and Visions for 2016

- Fill Council openings
- Build upon the success of our Ministries
- More building improvements
- Sabbatical for Pastor Joe – opportunity for growth for Pastor Annabelle

Year End Ministry Report Form for 2015

Name of Your Ministry/Group: Welcome Ministry

Purpose (short phrase) Welcome potential New Members and Visitors and help assimilate New Members into the life and activities of the congregation.

Chairperson: Sandee Prangle

Council Liaison: Vicki Carroll

List Team Members: Debra Vought, Sandee Pangle, Kay Fralixk, Sheila Biorlo, Roberta Buxton, Vicki Carroll.

1 Ministry Events, Joys and Celebrations from 2015.

- Organized New Member inquiry luncheons and New Member welcoming luncheons.
- Pictorial Directory was produced – large participation.
- Procured cloth-backed vinyl tablecloths and centerpieces for the Fellowship Hall tables.
- Suggested parking places for Visitors.
- Staffed the Welcome Desk.

2 Objectives yet to be Reached/Dreams and Visions for 2015

- Need to establish a safe storage space for the new tablecloths.
- Need clarification of responsibilities of Sponsors of the New Members.

Year End Ministry Report Form for 2015

Name of Your Ministry/Group: Property

Purpose (short phrase) Use our gifts and talents to maintain the building and property of CLC

Chairperson/Council Liason: John Passaro

List Team Members: - John Passaro, Chad Bates, Bob Bookwalter, Joe Imler, Mike Reilly, Russell Douglas, Brendan Reilly, Bryce Reilly, Shane Reilly, Doug Richardson, Joe Mitchell, Forrest Kelly, Dave Lowndes, Don Poorman, Zachary Imler

1 Ministry Events, Joys and Celebrations from 2015.

- Painted and Repaired Steeple
- Interior Door Renovation and Repair
- Stained Glass Window Repair
- New Visitor Parking Signs
- New Interior Room location / Identifier Signs
- New TV / DVD Install in classrooms

2 Objectives yet to be Reached/Dreams and Visions for 2016.

- Light the Steeple
- Enhance curb appeal at front corner sign area through new lighting, temporary banner frame, landscaping.
- Refresh / Restore main entrance doors, paint entryway portico and soffits.
- Seasonal Landscaping maintenance plan.
- Discuss and plan for larger scope capital improvements; flooring, roof, parking lot improvements

Year End Ministry Report Form for 2015

Name of Your Ministry/Group: Social Ministry

Purpose (short phrase) Social Ministry provides assistance to all of God's people in our community
And across the globe.

Chairperson: Cori Sanzano

Council Liaison: Cori Sanzano

Team Members: Vanessa Richkus, Mark and Stacey Johnson, John LoGalbo, Dee McGibbon,
Yvonne Kocur, Peggy Darr, Mary Anne Bender, Linda Smyser, Marilyn Bowers, Sherry Yates,
Deborah Kalas

1 Ministry Events, Joys and Celebrations from 2015.

- Blood Drive – CLC members donated 25 units to help save lives in our community.
- Cold Weather Shelter Meals – prepared and delivered 17 meals to the shelter in Leesburg every Monday from mid-November through mid-March.
- Diaper Drive for Serve-a-village – CLC collected over 1,000 diapers and over 2,0000 wipes to help stock the Northern Virginia Diaper Bank.
- Gifts of Hope – raised \$1,440 in November and December.
- LINK
 - Coat Drive – collected over 100 coats and winter garments.
 - First Sunday Food Collection – CLC collected and donated approximately 4,700 pounds of food to the LINK pantry including vegetables from the Giving Garden.
 - Food Deliveries – CLC delivered food to LINK clients for the month of February. 72 deliveries to 274 people.
 - Hogs – Mark and Stacey Johnson raised two hogs. CLC paid for the hogs and for the processing fees. 435 pounds of meat was donated to the LINK pantry!
 - Toy Drive – collected over 354 new toys and gift cards.
- Mission Trip to West Virginia – 15 CLC members travelled to West Virginia to help build a home for Almost Heaven Habitat for Humanity.
- Mission Trip to Rwanda – 3 members from CLC travelled to Rwanda.
- Noisy Offering – collected money and donated to the following organizations: Hogs for LINK, Rwanda, LSS Youth Haven, Toys for LINK and St Bernard Project.
- SERV V – 8 CLC members travelled to SERV V in Maryland for volunteer service.

2 Objectives yet to be Reached/Dreams and Visions for 2016.

- Giving Garden – better organization/coordination for taking care of the garden. Will work with Earthkeeping.
- Marketplace – physical bulletin board and online.
- Dental Clininc – work on efforts with Hope for Tomorrow to offer free Dental Clinic at our church.

Year End Ministry Report Form for 2015

Name of Your Ministry/Group: Worship and Music Ministry Team

Purpose (short phrase) The Worship and Music Ministry Team has special responsibility, under the supervision of the Pastor(s) and the Congregational Council, for the worship life of the congregation as a united body. We make appropriate recommendations to the Congregational Council, and assist in creating meaningful settings in which a variety of liturgical and musical expressions are used to further spiritual growth and witness.

Chairperson: Lynn Tinman

Council Liaison: Lynn Tinman

Team Members: Alitia Cross, Caleb Bates, Rebecca Bates, Roberta Buxton, Peggy DeWeese, Kay Fralick, Joan Heath, Carol Lehman, Diane Martin, Don Poorman, Leigh Redwine-Ryrie, Marcia Richardson, Linda Russ, Kathy Shaffer, John White

Ministry Events, Joys and Celebrations from 2015

- **Worship Servant Training Sessions:** In cooperation with Christian Education and the Confirmation program, we have instituted annual training sessions for adults, confirmands and older elementary students to encourage service in weekly worship services. A handbook was published in 2014 and was updated this year. In any given week we need a minimum of twenty volunteers for each service. That includes: an acolyte, a crucifer, an assisting minister, greeters, someone at the welcome desk, someone from the altar guild, four communion servers, four ushers, four counters, a lector, and at certain times of the year, a cantor. The first sessions were well received. We continue to encourage our youth to participate in multiple roles during the church service.
- **Art and Environment Team:** The Art and Environment Team incorporates visual arts into our worship space. Some of their initial projects this year, have included altar scapes for the Lenten, Advent and Thanksgiving seasons. A series of banners have also been purchased. These banners will be changing with the seasons of the church year to coordinate with each season's paraments.
- **Special Services:** Our church celebrated Palm Sunday with a Procession of Palms from Cascades Market Place. Again this year, a Joint Ecumenical service with the Immanuel Mar Thoma congregation, with whom we share our worship space, was celebrated.

Objectives yet to be Reached/Dreams and Visions for 2016

- Unfortunately, as 2015 came to an end our music director/organist, Mandy Hull resigned her position and moved on with other pursuits. Working with an interim team we made it through Advent and Christmas. A big Thank You goes to a lot of people working together, but especially to Beth Pontiff (Bells and Chancel Choir), Alitia Cross and Joan Heath (Children's Choir) and John White (Spirit!). Caleb Bates, a son of our own congregation, has been doing a wonderful job filling in regularly at the organ. Caleb is sixteen and a junior at Tuscarora High School in Leesburg. Music is his life's pursuit. Please encourage him in this endeavor. We will be supplementing with supply organists on Sundays where Caleb has chosen to take a break.

- In the coming year, given steady funding by the congregation, we would like to include more brass instruments, especially for festival Sundays. As we continue to study the option of providing a third service, we are also looking into the possibility of investing in a Worship Servant Scheduling Program.

EARTHKEEPING MINISTRY 2015 END OF YEAR REPORT

PURPOSE: We are passionate about protecting the environment and leaving a smaller mark on our world. In the Earthkeeping Ministry, we work to minimize our impact on the local environment and educate others about sustainable living. As a ministry we participate in community projects, as well as local cleanups of the property and beyond.

CHAIRPERSON: Michael Smyser

JOYS, CELEBRATIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS:

1. Cleanups of the gardens and plantings around the Church, providing seasonal beauty for all the community. Special thanks to Forrest and Mary Lou Kelly for faithfully continuing to provide and maintain the container plants at the entrance and to Alitia Cross for all of her efforts.
2. Thanks to Joan Heath for keeping our EKM bulletin board up to date.
3. A wonderful cleanup of the paths of the Hedgerow Habitat Trail and new trash cans provided, all a part of David Hessler's Eagle Scout Project.
4. Completion of Christian Tessman's Eagle Scout Project, revamping the Giving Garden to make it more accessible and sustainable. An incredible enterprise!
5. Continuing the tradition of the Living Cross at Easter.
6. A very successful Fair Trade Coffee Sale supporting Lutheran World Relief and providing funds for EKM to continue its cleanup projects. The success of the 2014 sale led to the Mothers' Day Sale, continuing the LWR support, an event that will be continued this year.

FUTURE GOALS AND DREAMS FOR THIS MINISTRY:

1. Elimination of the overgrowth and invasive plants along the Hedgerow Habitat Trail to restore its beauty, in addition to continuing to maintain the butterfly gardens.
2. Development of more cooperative learning programs promoting sustainability perhaps co-sponsored with CKCP and our Church youth.
3. Introduction of a Spring Fair Trade Goods Sale supporting LWR and featuring goods such as olive oils, jam and jellies and chocolates.

CHALLENGES FOR MOVING THIS MINISTRY FORWARD:

1. We need the support and encouragement from the whole congregation.
2. We need someone who can help organize learning programs and presentations.
3. We need to get enough gardeners and others willing to help maintain the Giving Garden and get the harvests to LINK or other organizations in a timely manner.
4. We need to determine just exactly what we do with the Habitat Trail as we don't have enough volunteers to maintain it.
5. We need to involve the Scouts and Mar-Thoma more in events.
6. We need to advertise our events in a better manner.

OUR PRAYER FOR THIS MINISTRY:

We pray that the Earthkeeping Ministry can become an example to all congregations and the community on how to care for God's creation.

Year End Ministry Report Form for 2015

Name of Your Ministry/Group: Christian Education

Chairperson: Laura Sagen

Council Liaison: Laura Sagen

Team Members: Kay Dahlquist, Jackie Passaro, Katie Vey, John Sagen, Sarah Watkins, Carin Lamberty, Daphne Becker, Tina Precht, Beth Jones, Paulette Alves, Christine O'Such, Alida Simon, Sara Nail, Becca Shelor, Susan Devereaux, Mike Tinman, Don Poorman, Roberta Buxton.

Statistical Information:

112 Students enrolled in class at CLC from preschool through 12th grade.

33 Total Teachers (37 if you include weekly musicians)

Breakdown is:

- HS Forum – 18 students
- Confirmation – 31 students/7 teachers
- Sunday School – 63 students/26 teachers (30 if you count those that lead opening music)

1 Ministry Events, Joys and Celebrations from 2015.

- **Sunday School (preschool-5th Grade):** Our “Memory Work” Curriculum was revamped and improved dramatically to make it more applicable and rewarding for the kids. 12 students celebrated First 1st Communion, over \$3000 was raised in our annual Rwanda School Scholarship Drive, 10 students attend the Synod Shema retreat, 40 kids participated in the Christmas Pageant, new TV/DVD flat screens installed in two classrooms, 7 weeks of Summer Children’s Church.
- **Confirmation (6th-8th Grade):** The Confirmation Program was revamped to include 6th grade, allowing us to spread the curriculum across 3 years. Eleven 9th graders celebrated their Confirmation in October. Annual events and activities included: Attending service at National Cathedral, 7th Grade Lock-In, Corn Maze Outing, 5th/6th Grade Christmas Caroling at Sunrise Assisted Living, Confirmation Camp and Shekinah. Students experienced 4 Faith Intersection Activates: ADAMS Center Mosque, Jail Ministry Speaker, Loudoun Funeral Chapel, Gettysburg Lutheran Theological Seminary Speaker.
- **Service Day:** Activities included rice bags, toiletries kits and homemade cards for LINK, handmade gifts for the CLC Homebound, quilts and waterproof ground mats for the homeless, and flower bed plantings/improvements by the main CLC road sign.
- **VBS:** 79 campers (78% were not from CLC – huge community outreach), 51 volunteers, a large donation of supplies and money was made to Loudoun Abused Women’s Shelter (LAWS). We partnered with 2 other local Sterling churches to “share the load” for creating the set.
- **Adult Education:** Separate summaries were submitted by Susan and Mike.

2 Objectives yet to be Reached/Dreams and Visions for 2015

- Continue to grow the program and add to the total number of students
- Host a Family Movie Night
- Improve participation in “Bring a Friend Sunday”
- Hire a paid part-time Christian Education/Sunday School employee (15 hours/week)

Year End Ministry Report Form for 2015

Name of Your Ministry/Group: Thanksgiving Table / Stewardship

Purpose (short phrase): - To help members of the congregation share the time, talents and treasure that God has given us, in order to benefit our church and those around us.

Chairperson/Council Liason: John Passaro

List Team Members: John Passaro, Daphne Becker, Larry Hoffman, Bob & Shirley Bookwalter, David Lowndes

1 Ministry Events, Joys and Celebrations from 2015.

- Video Testimonials given by members of the congregation during various events during the year.
- Two different "I Love CLC" video presentations made during the Fall to highlight members reflections, joys and involvement at CLC.
- "We Gather with Grateful Hearts" Fall Pledge Campaign.

2 Objectives yet to be Reached/Dreams and Visions for 2016.

- Attract members interested in helping others explore their gifts and share with the congregation.
- Work more closely with other ministry teams; Welcome, Fellowship, etc. to make the process of giving and sharing of our time, talents and treasure more seamless and natural through personal interaction and spiritual development.
- Develop strategies outside the congregation for soliciting financial, service and product donations within our community.

Year End Ministry Report Form for 2015

Name of Your Ministry/Group: Technology/Communications

Purpose (short phrase): Use/find new ways to support the church, community and other ministries with the services with what we have to offer.

Chairperson: Russell Douglas

1 Ministry Events, Joys and Celebrations from 2015.

- Renegotiated a lower monthly rate of our Internet/Phone package
- Put together a plan to improve our Wi-Fi connectivity throughout the church.
- Constructed a plan to revamp our Local Area Network infrastructure/layout, which involves new storage equipment (on and offsite).

2 Objectives yet to be Reached/Dreams and Visions for 2016.

- Improve our online presence/experience by adding and reorganizing web site information/layout.
- Find new ways to make the community aware of our ministries/services.
Optimize our member and new inquiry registry framework to consist of one (or fewer) file(s).
- Implement the Wi-Fi plan above (involves new equipment).
- Finalize and implement our Network/Security Infrastructure.
- Find new ways to make the community aware of our ministries/services.
- Improve our online presence/experience by adding and reorganizing web site information/layout.
- Find new ways to make the community aware of our ministries/services.
Optimize our member and new inquiry registry framework to consist of one (or fewer) file(s).
- Implement the Wi-Fi plan above (involves new equipment).
- Finalize and implement our Network/Security Infrastructure.
- Find new ways to make the community aware of our ministries/services.

Year End Ministry Report Form for 2015

Name of Your Ministry/Group: Adult Forum

Purpose (short phrase): Educational sessions on scripture, community, and service

Chairperson: None

Council Liaison: Laura Sagen, Christian Education

List Team Members: Roberta Buxton, Don Poorman, Susan Devereaux, Debra Vought Pastor Joseph Vought, Pastor Annabelle Markey

1 Ministry Events, Joys and Celebrations from 2015. (List 2-6 Events or Actions)

- Scriptural Sessions:
 - a. Encountering God in Scriptures
 - b. Parables
 - c. Countering Pharaoh
- Sessions on worship and congregational life:
 - d. All God's Children in Worship
 - e. Sinners & Saints: Church in Conflict
 - f. Shape of the Liturgy: History & Meaning
 - g. Hymns
- Social Ministry and Outreach:
 - h. Medical Missions
 - i. Rwanda Mission Trip
 - j. Islam
 - k. Loudoun Free Clinic
- Art:
 - l. Picturing Mary
 - m. Jesus in Art
 - n. A Thrill of Hope: Christmas in Art

2 Objectives yet to be Reached/Dreams and Visions for 2016.

Upcoming Sessions:

Courageous Conversations: Racism, Prejudice and Healing
Shroud of Turin
Refugee and Immigration Services – Lutheran Social Services
Lutherans and War
Unbinding the Gospel

Year End Ministry Report Form for 2015

Name of Your Ministry/Group: CLC Women's Breakfast

Purpose (short phrase) Meet once a month for sharing devotions and prayer concerns.

Chairperson: Shirley Bookwalter

List Team Members: Women of CLC that wish to attend

1 Ministry Events, Joys and Celebrations from 2015. (List 2-6 Events or Actions)

- To have an opportunity to share in a devotion and have coffee and fellowship with other women of CLC.
- Contribute to "The Christmas Jar" and be able to share an offering to someone in need at the end of the year.
- Make a tie fleece blanket to give to Loudoun organizations.

2 Objectives yet to be Reached/Dreams and Visions for 2016

Try to spread the word to members to spend just an hour a month to share devotion time together with other women of CLC.

Year End Ministry Report Form for 2015

Name of Your Ministry/Group: CLC Quilt Group

Purpose (short phrase) Quilt making for Luthean World Relief & County

Chairperson: Peggy Darr and Shirley Bookwalter

Council Liaison: Cori Sanzano

List Team Members: Edelgard Giralamo, Peggy Deweese, Nancy Deweese, Peggy Darr, Shirley Bookwalter, Glorene Mjones, Cheri McLaughlin, Jerry Bobcheck, Mary Ann Bender, Nancy Wagner, Linda Imler, and anyone else who would like to attend.

1 Ministry Events, Joys and Celebrations from 2015. (List 2-6 Events or Actions)

7/27/15 – 50 quilts were taken to LWR, New Windsor, MD

10 quilts were given to Good Shepherd Alliance, Leesburg, VA

11/15 – 12 quilts were given to Montgomery County Muslim Foundation

2 Objectives yet to be Reached/Dreams and Visions for 1026

Bring together people of all ages to continue spreading the warmth.

Year End Ministry Report Form for 2015

Name of Your ministry/Group: CLC Stitchers

Purpose (short phrase): To knit 7 crochet objects to be given to those in need & students

Chairperson: Deb Stover

Council Liason: Cori Sansano

List Team Members: Deb Stover, Cheri McLaughlin, Marcia Richardson, Peggy Darr, Daphne Becker, Beth Pontiff, Barbara Torrey

1. Ministry Events, Joys and Celebrations from 2015.

- Hats and scarves were given to Mobile Hope.
- Red scarves were given to Foster Care to Success.
- Lap throws were given to students leaving for college.

2. Objectives yet to be Reached/Dreams and Visions for 2016.

- To make prayer shawls to be given when needed.
- To make hats & scarves for homeless of Loudoun County.
- To make red scarves for foster care graduates.
- To make throws for graduating seniors.

Year End Ministry Report Form for 2015

Name of Your Ministry Group: CLC Senior Connection

Purpose (short phrase): We foster friendships, support individuals and share Christ's love.

Chairpersons: Carol Lehman, Fran Newman, Marcia Richardson

Council Liaison:

List Team Members: Same as above, plus John Newman, Doug Richardson, Hal Lehman.

1 Ministry Events, Joys and Celebrations from 2015.

We meet 8 months out of the year at a local restaurant for breakfast together. We range from 45-55 attendees at the monthly meetings. We have a variety of speakers on a wide range of topics. We encourage members, non-members and visitors to Community Lutheran to attend.

Projects: Christmas stockings for the Salvation Army.
Valentines delivered to residents in a nursing home.

2 Objectives yet to be Reached/Dreams and Visions for 2016.

We want to encourage more people to join us to foster friendships and support each other. We also want to increase our knowledge base from the various topics presented.

Year End Ministry Report Form for 2015

Name of Your Ministry/Group: Diving into Prayer

Purpose (short phrase) To learn new ways of praying/communicating/listening to God and to foster our prayer lives

Chairperson: Pr. Annabelle

Council Liaison: N/A

List Team Members: N/A

1 Ministry Events, Joys and Celebrations from 2015. (List 2-6 Events or Actions)

“Diving into Prayer” began in the summer of 2015 and after 6 weeks, the group decided that this was something they wanted to continue once a month. Since then, others have been sharing prayer practices that have been meaningful for them, we’ve been praying with and for one another as a group, and growing in trust.

2 Objectives yet to be Reached/Dreams and Visions for 2016

We’d like to continue, but perhaps our focus will shift to more to praying for one another, the church, and our larger community. Are there ways we could offer to pray for and with people at Community or in the larger neighborhood that would show people they are loved and cared for?

Year End Ministry Report Form for 2015

Name of Your Ministry/Group: Stephen Ministry

Purpose (short phrase) A one-to-one ministry that provides confidential, Christian care and support for people going through a difficult time.

Chairperson: Beth Jones

Council Liaison: Spiritual Nurture

List Team Members: Mike Dillemath, Karen Shelton, Caroline Hart, Joan Heath, Roberta Buxton, Annette Douglas, Ed Rogers, Marsha Rogers, Michelle Daczowski

Other members during 2015: Tom Inman, Pat Inman, John LoGalbo

1 Ministry Events, Joys and Celebrations from 2015. (List 2-6 Events or Actions)

Completed training for 3 new Stephen Ministers and commissioned them in May.

Participated with area churches in Interchurch Stephen Leader Meetings and shared resources.

Stephen Leaders met at least quarterly with Pastors to discuss ministry issues, recruiting, and planning. We appreciate their ongoing support!

Karen Shelton, our most experienced Stephen Leader, decided to move from the Stephen Leader role and serve as a Stephen Minister again.

2 Objectives yet to be Reached/Dreams and Visions for 2016

Train at least one, hopefully two, individuals to be Stephen Leaders. You don't have to be a Stephen Minister to do this and the training is amazing.

Recruit at least five men and women to be Stephen Ministers. Training will begin in the Fall.

Identify and encourage people to utilize this resource when they are in need.

Year End Ministry Report Form for 2015

Name of Your Ministry/Group: Landscape Committee

Purpose (short phrase) Create a short and long term sustainable landscape design that will provide welcoming curb appeal, that is environmentally friendly, as well as minimal maintenance. The goal is to create the plan, a landscape group to volunteer as well as hiring a crew twice/three times a year, and a "must do schedule" which will keep the landscaping beautiful.

Chairperson: Alitia Cross

Council Liaison: Pr. Annabelle / Michael Smyser / John Passaro

List Team Members: Pr. Annabelle, Alitia Cross, Deb Stover, Kathy Turner, Michael Smyser, John Passaro, Bob Bookwalter, Joe Imler

1 Ministry Events, Joys and Celebrations from 2015. (List 2-6 Events or Actions)

We formed as a team to begin thinking about landscaping at CLC. We've met with multiple landscaper designers/landscapers to get ideas for how we can create a beautiful and easy-to-maintain landscape here. We've also discussed the roles of Property and Earthkeeping in maintaining the property.

2 Objectives yet to be Reached/Dreams and Visions for 2016

Decide on one of the bids we have received, raise funds for landscaping at CLC, maintain the new landscape. Hopefully this will help to create a welcoming landscape for visitors as well as members.

Year End Ministry Report Form for 2015

Name of Your Ministry/Group: CLC Readers Group

Purpose (short phrase): Fellowship with a group of like minded people that love to read current books both Fiction and Non Fiction and those books lead to active discussion and open our minds in ways we never expected.

Chairperson: Sherry Fitzsimmons

Council Liaison:

List Team Members: There are 15 to 18 members.

1 Ministry Events, Joys and Celebrations from 2015. (List 2-6 Events or Actions)

This are a list of the Books we have read since December of last year:

The Girl on the Train by Paula Hawkins (December 2015)
Just Mercy by Bryan Stevenson (November 2015)
The Giver by Lois Lowery (October 2015)
The Shell Seeker The Old Man & The Sea by Ernest Hemingway (August 2015)
The Ghost Map by Steven Johnson (July 2015)
Slow Dancing with a Stranger by Meryl Comer (June 2015)
The Rosie Project by Graeme Simsion (May 2015)
All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr (April 2015)
The Blue Sweater by Jacqueline Novogratz (March 2015)
I Am Malala by Malala Yousafzai (Feb 2015)
Defending Jacob by William Landay (Jan 2015)
The Light Between Oceans by ML Stedman (Dec 2014)s by Rosemund Pilcher (September 2015)

2 Objectives yet to be Reached/Dreams and Visions for 2016

- Continue to grow in participation
- Books being read in 2016 to date.

Neverhome by Laird Hunt (April 2016)
The Nightingale by Kristen Hannah (March 2016)
Between the World and Me by Ta-Nehisi Coats (February 2016)
A Christmas Blizzard by Garrison Keillor (January 2016)

Year End Ministry Report Form for 2015

Name of your Ministry/Group: Adults Anonymous

Purpose: Providing fellowship and spiritual conversations for CLC's 21-41 year old congregants.

Chairperson: Victoria M. Steidel

Council Liaison: Victoria M. Steidel (unless Pr. Annabelle and Pr. Joe are the better answers here)

List Team Members: Various attendees from the congregation

Ministry Events, Joy, and Celebrations from 2015.

- Opening the Spirit & Spirits group hosted by Adults Anonymous to the wider congregation.
- Welcoming new additions to attendees' families.
- Helping attendees talk through issues that keep them up at night.

Objectives yet to be Reached/Dreams and Visions for 2016.

- Sponsor a community service project or event.
- Help more congregants become part of the group.

Year End Ministry Report Form for 2015

Name of Your Ministry/Group: Veterans and Government Servant Assistance Group

Purpose (short phrase)

- A safe professional place for people in Military and Govt Service to meet, share experiences and friendship, support one another, give thanks and reflect on service to God and Country
- A group that welcomes newcomers for supportive friendships and/or to process work/military related stress and experiences
- To continue serving Veterans in need and at-risk in Loudoun County by working with Loudoun County Social Services and the Vets group at Falcon's Landing

Chairperson: Chad Bates (Active Duty)

Council Liaison: Mike Turner (Vet)

List Team Members: The Vets in CLC and some at Falcon's Landing

Ministry Events, Joys and Celebrations from 2015. (List 2-6 Events or Actions)

- 1 Formed our CLC veterans group to provide camaraderie and support to those who have served our country in government and military work.
- 2 This group met several times and committed to help those veterans in need in Loudoun County.
- 3 Identified 15 veterans in Loudoun county that need different levels of support to either make ends meet or meet minimal levels of support to get a job or provide for their families.
- 4 Worked with other non-profit groups in Loudoun County (Loudoun Cares, Loudoun Caregivers) to identify these 15 veterans.
- 5 Provided initial seed money of \$1000 to provide support to several veterans as a proof of concept.

Objectives yet to be Reached/Dreams and Visions for 2016

- 1 Expand donations to the congregation and other organizations in order to receive more funds to help veterans.
- 2 Expand participants to greater number in order to provide a continuous level of support (not all financial) to those veterans identified by our program.
- 3 Get to the work of supporting our brothers and sisters that need our support.

2015 Year-in-Review Pastors' Report

Pastoral Acts:

Baptisms:	8
Funerals:	4 (2 non-member)
Weddings:	9 (7 non-member)
New Members Received:	21
First Communion:	12
Confirmations:	11
Average Attendance:	250

Joys and Celebrations:

- † Council Retreat was inspirational and productive – gave us theme for the year: “We Love to Tell the Story!”
- † Approve and hire Part-time Office Assistant
- † Roller coaster year of financial stewardship, but a strong finish
- † Celebrated joint services and fellowship with Immanuel Mar Thoma Congregation
- † Noisy Offering continues to support local and global missions
- † We share Christ’s love in a variety of ways: LINK food collection and distribution, communion ministers visiting homebound members, Community Garden produce shared with hungry, Mitten Tree for children in need, Gifts of Hope, LWR sales, Cold Weather Shelter Meals, Coat Drive, hogs for LINK, VBS funds to support Loudoun Abused Women’s Shelter, Scholarships for George and Bosco, financial support for Pr. Edward Makara
- † Give thanks for new members received, the congregation’s welcome of them, and the way their involvement in our life together
- † Wonderful Shrove Tuesday and silent auction that raised over \$2,000
- † Hosted Rwanda School Board and worshiped together
- † Added an additional cleaning of our facility
- † Celebrated renovation of doors, interior paint, steeple repair and paint, new visitor signs, and updated lighting
- † Celebrated and dedicated the Community Garden
- † Council approved 3.5 month sabbatical for Pastor Joe in 2016
- † Bring a Friend Sunday and Sunday School Service Day
- † Pastors and Peggy Darr visited ELCA missionaries, Lutheran partners, and students in Rwanda
- † Christian Education continues to grow, welcoming new students and new rotation leaders, and strengthening the curriculum
- † Amazing week of VBS with many volunteers, CLC participants, and community visitors
- † New Pictorial Directory updated and published
- † Renewed growth and strength of CKCP with increased enrollment and financial stability
- † Fourteen youth along with three chaperones attended the ELCA Youth Gathering in Detroit along with 30,000 other ELCA folks
- † Thanksgiving for Amy Keesecker and Vanessa Hart’s faithful youth ministry
- † CKCP Summer Camp provided a safe and nurturing place for neighborhood children
- † Diving into Prayer invited people to try new ways of praying and strengthened spiritual health
- † Military/Government group formed to support and outreach to veterans
- † Library table refinished and new library chairs given through memorial gift
- † Becca Shelor hired as new Youth Minister

- † Wonderful Rally Day and Celebration of Ministries
- † Third Worship Service Task Force meets to dream and plan for the addition of a third worship service
- † Began using *The Story* to increase biblical literacy among congregation members
- † Adult Forum fosters courageous conversations around Islam
- † Reader's Group hosts powerful discussions around award-winning groups
- † CLC travels to West Virginia to serve by building a home for Habitat for Humanity
- † Personnel Committee continues to support staff through regular evaluations and feedback
- † "I Love CLC" videos give thanks for ministries and encourage gratitude and stewardship
- † We wished farewell and Godspeed to Mandy Hull
- † Hired Caleb Bates as interim organist/accompanist
- † Hosted the first annual Fine Art Auction – raised over \$3,500

Challenges and Opportunities for 2016:

- † Continue to welcome new members and help them find a place in the community
- † Encourage members to explore their gifts/vocations to serve God and others
- † Call and hire new music personnel to lead and enrich our worship life
- † Look for opportunities to add a third worship service
- † Continue outreach into the neighbor and community
- † First Impressions Count: we continue to renovate our building
- † We consider a capital campaign for HVAC and new roof
- † We celebrate Pr. Joe's upcoming sabbatical as a opportunity for personal and congregational growth and renewal as he explores the theme of "StoryCorps of Faith"
- † We give thanks for our mission statement ("Welcoming others, Growing in grace, and Sharing Christ's love") and look forward to discovering these three movements of the Spirit in our communal life



We Love to Tell the Story!:

Community Lutheran Church 2015

We make sense of our lives by telling stories. Across the ages and in cultures the world over, people have told stories and continue to do so. At Community Lutheran Church we are brought together by a story: the story of God who creates a beautiful world; calls people to faith and to become followers; and delivers us from bondage by sending Jesus, who forgives our sin, redeems our humanity and shows us how to be fully human.

We love to tell this story revealed in Holy Scripture, made visible in Holy Baptism and the Lord's Supper. We sing out the cheering Good News of the Gospel and tell God's story every time we worship. We invite children, youth and adults to learn and teach these stories in

Christian Education and formation.

We believe God's story of faith, discipleship and sharing the Good News is lived out in our lives: in our jobs and vocations, in our families and neighborhoods, as we welcome and invite other people to tell their stories, sharing God's love with them.

When we share God's story and our stories with each other we are stronger in faith as Jesus promises to be where two or three gather in His name.

So, this year, we invite you to:

- † Come and hear the story of God's amazing grace in Sunday worship
- † Learn more about God's story in Christian Education and Bible Study
- † Share your story with others, listen to their stories and make new friends
- † Give thanks for your story, learn about your spiritual gifts and ministry
- † Help us live the story as we share God's love in community and in the world

Because we love to tell the story, be looking for new opportunities to grow and share your faith at Community Lutheran and in the world God loves!

God's Peace, Love and Joy!

Pastors Joe and Annabelle & Church Council