



# The Dialogue

## God Waits for Us

By Pastor Martha Butzier

This year on December 1, we begin a new church year with the season of Advent. Advent challenges us to slow down. We aren't waiting for the sake of waiting; Advent waiting has a purpose; it gives us an opportunity to be drawn more deeply into the love of God. When that happens, we are changed. It might be that we see ourselves differently; or we see others differently; or we become more attentive to the way that God is calling us to be active in the world. Interestingly, God doesn't seem to know that December 1 is the beginning of Advent because for me Advent started in October. I wish God would get more familiar with the Church year calendar.

It started out because I was given the assignment to read *Dear Church* for a pastors group I attend. From that reading I was challenged and changed. I have long admired the beautiful colored albs and stoles my brothers and sisters of African descent wear. I chalked it up to the blandness of my heritage. We Scandinavians are rather bland. If only I had been willing to stride up to my sisters who differed from me and ask them to tell me about why it is they have such bright and beautiful vestments. If only we could have trusted each other enough to start a conversation and absorb the answer that would challenge my incomplete understanding of who Jesus is. What I discovered was the patience of God. God has known forever what I am finally beginning to discover. God has been waiting for me to change to see the world from a more inclusive perspective.

Years ago, I was in Washington D. C. visiting the multitude of museums and monuments located near the nation's capital building. The artistry of Salvador Dali has fascinated me since I was in college. When I discovered his painting of the Sacrament of the Last Supper hung in the National Gallery of Art, I knew I had to see it. What I had believed would be a pleasant enlightening, maybe even spiritual experience turned out to be just the opposite. The picture could cover a whole wall in my apartment. To my surprise, I found it disturbing; the painting is starkly white. There was so much whiteness and maleness. It's life size depiction of the last supper was too pure sanitized. This disturbance has stayed with me for many



years. Until I read *Dear Church*, I couldn't put my finger on what exactly made me so uncomfortable.

Lenny Duncan reflects on how present day emphasis in Advent of moving from darkness to light is one more way of saying that blackness is bad, and blackness is most often associated with what is evil, and the light or the whiteness is what is good. Lenny calls this way of thinking "a poison." In my own whiteness, I had never considered how the symbols of my faith that I so deeply love could be harmful to my black brothers and sisters.

I wear a white alb for worship. We mostly use white candles and linens to set the table for celebrating and participating in the Lord's Supper. On our holy days of Easter and Christmas, I also wear a white stole. The whiteness of all these symbols associate what is white with what is pure and good and holy and what we as Christians should be hoping to bring into the world. The use of black in worship is reserved for Good Friday when for a moment we move into the despair and hopelessness of the crucifixion and life itself. To discover that this view is not helpful but rather is harmful to some was quite a discovery.

The author suggests a different journey into Advent which I believe can be transformative. He suggests more universal foci for the weeks of Advent. As we wait hopefully for Jesus' return and the fullness of the resurrection to be actualized, Lenny suggests we search with "Holy Anticipation. Or the God Child being born into a world where empire will try to lay waste to him. Or a God who throws God's own self upon the world, clothed in vulnerability and dependency. Or the place of unwed teenage mothers in our world. Or the slaughter of innocents by

*Continued page 2*

## Pastor's Emergency Fund Update



Thank you all for your generous support of the Pastors' Emergency Fund.

With the cold weather that descended so early with the late October snow fall, November saw an extra measure of helping with rent and gas money.

People continue to look to Lake Edge Lutheran Church as a place that will help them in their time of need. We are grateful for your generous donations that make that assistance possible.

As always, the first Sunday of the month is a good time to donate to the Pastors' Emergency Fund. Special envelopes are available in the pews for your contributions.

Thank you; and God bless you.

## Come and Pray With Us

Lake Edge has two weekly prayer groups open to all. Sundays, 9:30 am: Centering Prayer; original building, 2nd floor sixth grade room. Thursdays, 11:30am-12:30pm. Prayer Group; Office Conference Room. All are invited to these prayer opportunities.

### Continued from page 1

the leader grasping for power ... Or preparing the way of the Lord by creating conditions more conducive to grace." Each of these provides ample room for expanding our view of God's activity in the world. Each of these has the power and grace and mercy to draw us into repentance. Each of these gives us a way to be a more welcoming church working toward greater inclusion.

A disturbing work of art and another person's story and vulnerability combined to slow me down and re-examine my own practices. God began turning me around all those years ago when I stood examining Dali's artistry. The Gospel of Jesus Christ challenges us now during the Advent season to slow down and let ourselves be called back into repentance seeing more clearly who Jesus is by gazing into the vulnerability of others.

Advent blessings,  
Pastor Martha

**The Dialogue**

<b>Ministers</b>	The People of Lake Edge
<b>Interim Lead Pastor</b>	Mae Jean Zelle mjzelle@lelc.org cell: 214-674-4308
<b>Interim Pastor</b>	Martha Butzier mbutzier@lelc.org
<b>Finance Manager</b>	Linda Brown finance@lelc.org
<b>Communications &amp; Office Manager</b>	Christine Anderson communications@lelc.org
<b>Music Director</b>	Patrick Christians
<b>Organist</b>	Jay Wolf
<b>Custodians</b>	Jesus E. Siles Brondo & Elvira Alvarez Munguia

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**Lake Edge Lutheran Church**  
4032 Monona Dr. Madison, WI 53716  
(608) 222-7339 • lelc.org

**Office Hours** | Mon. - Thurs. 8:30 am-4:00 pm  
Fri. 8:30 am-12:00 pm

## In Our Prayers

### *This week, please pray for:*

- those who are ill, hospitalized, recovering, or who are in special need of a healing touch from God, including: Terry & Rose Mary Jackson, Bernie Kruehl, Shirley Boettcher, Doreen Davidson, Anne Ahearn, Jerry Tollefson, Rob Oehlkers, Debbie Staffeld, Rod Nordby, Kathleen Berkley, Du Wayne Zimmermann, Lil Genskow, Don Small, Ron McKinley, Del Jasper, Marilyn Jerrick, Sharon Kreul, Liz Ekola, Lisa Swan Meyers, Christine Thompson, Nancy Schultz, LaJeane Hettrick, Ken Neundorf, Wesley Simmons, Gabe Blood, Doug Siebert, Mary Pharmer, Lisa Pietrowiak, Jim Jerney, Ken Jackson, Mariellen Kuehn, Lorraine Hansen, Casimir Brandon, Sybil Gilbert, Nancy McFadden, Tony Paulson, Judy Fritz, Bette Paulson, Audrey Simonson, Wes Stiemke, Judy Kollath, Joyce Narveson, Albert Singer, Bruce Burnside, and the family of Maureen Mengelt;
- our neighborhood church partners: Lake Edge United Church of Christ, St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Christ the Solid Rock Baptist Church, Monona United Methodist Church, Lakeview Moravian Church, Zion Lutheran Church, and Plymouth UCC;
- our synod and national church staff; our sister congregation, Cristo Rey, El Salvador; our companion church, The Northern Evangelical Lutheran Church in India; and our ELCA partners in the Caribbean Synod and the Slovak-Zion Synod.



## Annual Congregational Meeting Sunday, December 15; 10:30 am

There will be one combined worship service on this day that will include the Sunday School Children's Christmas Program. The meeting will follow worship at approximately 10:30 am.



## Christmas Program! Sunday, December 15 at 9:30 am

Join us for one combined worship on December 15 as the Sunday School children present their annual Christmas program.

## Poinsettia Garden

A beautiful poinsettia garden will again adorn the altar for Christmas. On December 1st a member of the Altar Guild will be taking poinsettia orders in the narthex between services. The cost of each plant is \$16.00. Prepayment is required. You may pick your poinsettia up after service on Christmas Day. Any poinsettia not picked up by January 5th will be given to a shut in, a local nursing home or someone in need of cheering up. On behalf of the congregation and the Altar Guild we thank you for your past orders and rely on you to once again be part of this festive tradition.



## Confirmation Student/Family Meeting Sunday, December 8, 2019 - 11:45am - Youth Room

Open to all 6th-8th grade youth and their parents/families to discuss our plans for confirmation classes in winter/spring 2020. Please contact Pastor Martha or Jason Xiong with questions or if you have a youth who may be interested in starting confirmation classes.

## Join Us for Christmas Worship!

Christmas Eve, December 24  
Worship at 6:00 & 9:00 pm

Christmas Day, December 25  
Worship at 9:00 am



## Mission Evaluation Task Force Update

November was the month to launch a "Question of the Week", seeking to gather thoughts and perspectives from the LELC community. Activities will continue in December, including Small Group Listening sessions. A larger congregational Listening Session is also being planned along with a written survey, some of which will extend into the new year.

Response to the Question of the Week has been excellent. Look for the Word Cloud in the narthex and check out the thermometer. And it's not too late to participate! Send an email to our exclusive email address: MET@lelc.org. If you have not been able to be part of the worship services, you can still respond until December 1. Responses will be kept confidential.

**Question #1** - In one or two words, what keeps you coming back to Lake Edge Lutheran Church? (Week of November 10)

**Question #2** - Which of the following statements reflect your current feelings during this interim time? 1) I feel ready to move forward; 2) I have unresolved feelings and need more time before moving on; 3) I continue to grieve and/or feel angry. I am not ready to move on. 4) I don't know. (Week of November 17)

**Question #3** - What are your hopes for LELC? What are your fears during this time? (Week of November 24)

Thank you for the energetic engagement of the congregation. We will continue to keep the congregation updated through Temple Talks and other means in the upcoming months.

We give thanks for your prayers and support of the Task Force. Together a new path will be created that takes LELC into a new and exciting future.

## News from the Women of Lake Edge Lutheran (WELCA)

### Bake Sale Successful!

Once again our Annual Bake Sale was a great success. We made \$3,490.10 and we will receive from the Gifts Committee matching Thrivent funds of up to \$2,000.00. In January the WELCA Board will distribute this money to many community charities. Thanks to everyone who helped from making Lefse to Scandinavian Delicacies, donating home baked goods, knitting items and those of you who purchased items. This sale is successful due to the cast of thousands who donate their time and money and goods. Thanks to all.

### Special Thanks

Specifically we want to thank Pat Bitter and Marit Brunsell for many hours of preparation. They were responsible for organizing, keeping track of, and coordinating the many pieces of the Bake Sale process. Thank you.

### Women's Afternoon of Reflection

#### Saturday, January 4; 1:00 to 3:00 pm

All women are invited to Lake Edge Church for an afternoon of Reflection meeting in the Library from 1 pm to 3 pm. Our leader has not been secured- so keep this date open.

We look forward to sharing time with our sisters in Christ. We will enjoy refreshments and the warmth of the fireplace. If you need a ride, we will have someone available to pick you up.

### Boxtops for Education

Did you know that the Women of the Church have been saving Box Tops for Education? There is a box on the shelf with Personal Care Kit items in the hallway leading to the library. We currently give our Box Tops to Frank Allis School. So continue to save them and put them in the container. We deliver them periodically to the school.

### Circles

**Deborah Circle:** 2nd Tuesday of the month at 1:00 pm. Contact Doreen Davidson 839-5194.

**Salome Circle:** 2nd Tuesday, of the month at church at 6 pm. Contact Terry Anne Taylor 223-9807.

**Rhoda Circle:** 3rd Tuesday of the month in the church library at 1:00 pm. Contact Sharon Kreul 279-2814.

## Altar Guild Volunteers Needed

The Altar Guild is looking for new volunteers to join our group. We meet once a month on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm. Our duties center around communion and altar care. On Saturdays we prepare communion and on Sundays we place Communion on the altar for both services and we then clean up after each service. If you have any questions, please feel free to Jan Summ at 608-669-7020.

## Book Club 2019-2020

The LELC Book Club typically meets the first Monday of every month. Below you will find a list of books that we are reading for discussion each month at 7:00 pm.

### December, 2019:

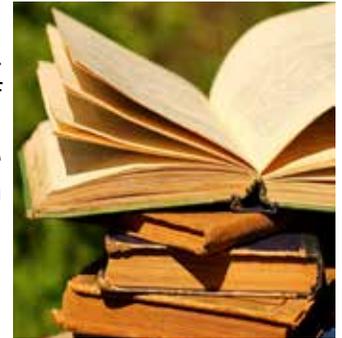
"Normal People"  
by Sally Rooney

### January, 2020:

"The Readers of Broken Wheel Recommend"  
by Katarina Bivald

### February, 2020:

"Chariot on the Mountain"  
by Jack Ford



## December Artist of the Month, Ron Baeseman

Stop in the library and check out Ron's artwork on the Art Wall. His paintings will be on display for the month of December.

"A few years before I started thinking about retirement, Sandy was asking me what I did in "my former life" that I enjoyed but didn't continue. I remembered a painting class a few years after high school. So she signed us up for an Elder-hostel program that included watercolor painting. I like it and started playing around with it, and continued learning how to improve the paintings.

I prefer to paint landscapes, other subjects from nature and buildings. These give me the freedom to exercise my "artistic license" without being concerned with what is really there; or not there. Including buildings in my paintings allows me to provide contrast between the free-flowing qualities of the natural world and the rigidity in man-made objects. I have had paintings shown at different venues in Madison through the Northside Artist Group. The include Lakeview Library, Pile Center, UW Arboretum and LELC. I have also participated in Wisconsin Regional Arts Program workshops. Exposure like this gives me a chance to compare my work with others and get feedback on my style.

I have been trying to change from realistic to abstract. It's harder than I thought because what I "see" in my mind isn't what I see on paper." Ron Baeseman

## LELC Global Outreach Mission



### **Cristo Rey Scholarship Program Make Your Donation to the Scholarship Fund Today! Funds Will Be Sent to Cristo Rey in January**

Lake Edge has had a relationship with Cristo Rey in Santa Ana, El Salvador for 25 plus years. Several years ago we asked Pastor Carlos how we could help them. He said the best thing we could do was to provide an education for the children. Education is not mandatory and requires that the student wear a uniform and have their own school supplies. The cost to send a child to school is about \$100.00 which is about a month's income for a family. Every fall Lake Edge members provide scholarship funds, which are wired to Cristo Rey in January before the start of their school year. We have been able to support around 150 children each year. Some of the children have actually been able to pursue educational opportunities after high school. If you wish to participate in this program, please identify your donation as Cristo Rey Scholarship. There will be cards in the fellowship area if you wish to donate in someone's name as an alternative holiday gift.

# Luke House

## *The Community Meal Program*

### **Help Feed the Hungry at Luke House**

**Thursdays, December 5 & January 2, 2019**

**Mark Your Calendar: 1st Thursday Each Month  
4:45-7:00 pm; 310 South Ingersoll St, Madison**

Luke House provides dinner at 5:45 pm, Sunday through Thursday. Meals are provided and shared by faith communities throughout the Madison area, with a different menu from each community. Director Matt Rogge encourages community participation and welcomes all to come and dine. One doesn't need a black tie to join this feast! *"No shirt, no shoes!"* is not written on the entry. This is a gathering place of the servant church.

The first Thursday of every month Lake Edge Lutheran Church provides the menu and dines as guests of Luke House. We serve 165 children, women, and men.

We never have too much food. What may appear as leftovers feeds people at Luke House's lunch program or is taken to men at Port St. Vincent for the lunches they take to work.

We humbly ask God to move our community to reveal the Spirit of Christ in our midst. God enters our lives to become relational. That can be risky, for we never know who we will be given on loan, to love for the day.

Are you called to feed the hungry in our community? Have you questions? Contact Joan Martin at 839-1370. We look forward to seeing you there! Thank you for your continued support of this ministry!

## **MOSES Transformation Celebration Fund-raising Gala**

**December 14; 5:30-10:30 pm**

**Goodman Community Center's Brassworks Building,  
214 Waubesa St., Madison**

MOSES will recognize three previously incarcerated individuals who have successfully worked through stigma and disparity to transform their lives. MOSES will lift up the stories of these individuals, their humanity, and their ability to change and give back to the community. Through this celebration, MOSES hopes to inspire other previously incarcerated people to live their dreams. Silent auction, heavy hors d'ouvres and refreshments. Tickets are \$65 and can be purchased at [mosesmadison.org](http://mosesmadison.org) under the Give menu item.

## **Madison Homeless Resources**

A comprehensive list of resources for homeless people is available at [www.madcityhomelessresourceguide.com/resource-list](http://www.madcityhomelessresourceguide.com/resource-list).

## **Volunteer Opportunities: River Food Pantry**

The River Food Pantry on Madison's north side offers free groceries, meals, mobile lunches and clothing to anyone who comes for help. The River is surrounded by low-income neighborhoods and subsidized senior housing—exactly where we're needed the most. We also provide a mobile lunch program for children and teens in low income neighborhoods surrounding the food pantry. Nutritious packed lunches are distributed in the neighborhoods on weekends and other non-school days. There are many volunteer opportunities at The River including in the kitchen, with clothing or in the market. To volunteer, go to [riverfoodpantry.org/volunteer](http://riverfoodpantry.org/volunteer). If you have a group to volunteer, email [volunteer@riverfoodpantry.org](mailto:volunteer@riverfoodpantry.org).

## Knit and Crochet Group

This past year, 2019, we knitted hats and mittens for school students without proper cold weather protection -- some to high school classes, elementary, and a younger group of students in a Green Bay School, which received 8 sets of mittens and hats. We have just distributed hats, and mittens to 5 different Elementary schools in Madison including Glendale (received 15 sets), Frank Allis (received 16 sets), Lowell (received 15 sets), Schenk (received 20 Hats only), and Lindburgh (received 15 sets) schools. D'neece Hettrick's Operation Fresh Start group also received 3 sets of Hats and mittens and 9 Hats only. And we were able to give 63 young children hats to the Day Shelter at the First United Methodist Church.

We have sent to Global Health Ministries (Minnesota) this year 63 Baby Blankets and 9 Baby Hats, and 2 Premie Hats, which they send to their Global Partners in Third World countries. Since our beginnings with Global Health Ministries we have sent 443 Baby Blankets, 287 Baby Hats, and 18 Premie Hats.

And we had lap robes and prayer shawls available in November. Some are still available in the Luther room (off the Library) just help yourself. We have been busy.

We also knit Baby Hats for our Lake Edge babies.

Through Thrivent special funds and one of our knitters, Bonnie Gudmandsen, has purchased yarn plus your donated yarn has been put to great use. Thank you.

We meet every Monday at 1 pm in the Library. All are welcome. If you can't meet at this time, patterns and yarn are available and you can contact Joanne Wallendal

Thank you for your continued support of this ministry. )



## Senior Corner

### For Everyone, Regardless Of Age

This month's Senior Corner is for anyone who reads it, or has it read to them, regardless of age.

I will start with a quote and a Bible passage:

*"But even an ordinary secretary or a housewife or a teenager can, within their own small ways, turn on a small light in a dark room." "People should never think that you have to be a very special person to help those who need you." Miep Gies ( woman who housed Anne Frank and her family during the Nazi occupation of Europe)*

Matthew 5:14-16

*"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."*

As we enter the Season of Advent and the rest of the (other) holiday season, I am taking this opportunity to remind all of us of the people in our community who may be marginalized, isolated and otherwise lonely or

alone. Very often this group includes a disproportionate number of senior citizens.

Please look within your heart and then around your neighborhood, church, school and/or neighborhood center and see if there is not some way you can offer someone the gift of time. The possibilities are endless: listen to their stories and offer to record them or write them down, read to them, sing with them, help them write their Christmas cards, take them something you baked...most importantly spend time with them and remind them that their life matters.

Just about every Sunday, we end our church service singing "This Little Light of Mine." Well...here is your chance...go out and find someone or call someone in need and let your light shine on them. And when you do, you will see that light shine right back at you. Everyone wins. Think about it. And then, please do something.

In peace and with much love,  
D'neece

## Finance and Property December, 2019

This has been quite a year for Finance and Property. Much has been accomplished, fixed, improved, painted, measured and changed. Yes, the new boilers are in and up and running with the hopes that they will last many, many years. Additional equipment has been installed to clean and soften the water as well as to maintain the correct chemical balance. The furnace room is much better organized. Because the water table has been so high, water seeped through the floor of the furnace room. But thanks to the nifty sump pump in the corner, the floor remains dry.

The elevator no longer has water in the pit below it due to the newly installed sump pump. If water was found in the pit during a city inspection, the elevator would have been shut down! Also, keeping water out of that area helps to avoid rust and wear on the elevator equipment. Speaking of sump pumps, the sump pump in the closet off of the Adult Ed room is now functional. Water from the furnace room and the water pumped through the sump pump in the closet is clean water and goes out to the rain garden in Memorial Gardens, (next spring go take a look).

The original church building, occupied by La Follette School, has been greatly improved with paint, a new counter-top in the kitchen, new flooring in the bathrooms and the kitchen, new toilets, removal of old partitions and patching up holes. The teachers have expressed their appreciation for these improvements many times, not only to us but also to their upper managers who are also appreciative of the improvements.

We have had 3 broken windows this summer, two in the sanctuary. Our insurance paid most of the cost of the large window but with the cost of the 2 other windows and the copay, we have paid close to \$800 for window replacement. We have had many other repairs including costs of the ongoing repair and maintenance of the roof. A drain was installed in the roof to facilitate drainage away of water that pooled on the roof and then leaked into the ceiling of the fellowship area. Speaking of the ceiling in the fellowship area, you may have noticed that the ceiling tile has been water stained. On an ongoing basis, ceiling tiles are replaced in an effort to improve the appearance of the ceiling.

Our neighbor to the south of us who has been encroaching on church property for quite some time, has been served with an Affidavit of Interruption. This sets the clock back so that a lien can't be established based on use of the property for another 20 years. This neighbor also believes that the fence is his, however, it does belong to the church and it will need repair or replacement in the near future. These are issues that will need to be addressed in the future.

The certified survey map (CSM) is very close to completion. This map clarifies the boundaries of the church and the rental property with much additional information. Although the CSM was a planned project for quite some time, it was completed this year due to adequate funding.

The rental property will now be managed by a property management company. We were going to be asking \$1200 for rental, but the management company stated that \$1300 to \$1400 would be a more reasonable amount. This company will find a renter, take care of any calls and repairs and keep us informed of all that is happening in regards to this property.

Before the end of this year, the organ lighting and electricity is being brought up to code. Commercial heat tape will be replaced on the east side of the church as the present heat tape no longer works. Already we have had plowing of the parking lot and most likely that will occur again before the end of the year.

For this coming year, in addition to standard repair and maintenance, possible projects are: landscaping to stop water from coming into the building, restructuring of the outside entrance into the choir room, installation of commercial heat tape in the gutters to prevent ice blockage, repair of the parking lot, and other equally exciting projects.

As all property owners know, repair and upkeep of the building is an ongoing process. Many people have invested much of their money and time in the church building. We honor this by loving care and maintenance of the church. Many thanks to all who have volunteered throughout the year on so many projects.

The Property Committee



### Thank You From the Dane County Humane Society

Greetings, Thank you for thinking of the animals in our care. Your \$76.00 donation from the Animal Blessing service will bring hope and kindness to thousands of animals. Thank you for supporting Dane County Human Society!  
With gratitude, Ash Collins



**Council Members present:** Karen Cook, Dale Dull, Jon Fadness, Sharon Kreul, Linda Newman, Jonathan Pike, Nancy Pike, Ron Siggelkow, George Swamp, Pastor Mae Jean Zelle

Absent: Pastor Martha Butzier, Mark Taylor

**Call to Order** by President Jonathan Pike at 6:47 p.m.

Prayer & Bible Study: Pastor Mae Jean noted that next Sunday is Christ the King Sunday which marks the end of the Christian Calendar. Our next reading will come from Matthew 24. Council members reflected on the reading from Matthew and then we prayed.

## BUSINESS

**Approval of Council Meeting Minutes of October 21st, 2019.** The minutes were corrected to include Dale Dull our Interim Treasurer in attendance. Moved by Ron Siggelkow, second by Linda Newman to approve the minutes as corrected. Approved by voice vote.

**Financial Dashboard** – Dale Dull, Interim Treasurer presented the financial dashboard and walked the Council through several categories of the report. The budget as presented has been closed out for October. Current balances include just over \$11,000 balance from our recent loan from Thrivent.

**Ministry Evaluation Task Force Report** – After the recent Temple Talk, small group discussions have begun. The Task Force has identified just over 40 small groups that will be brought together for discussions. The recent survey question has not been tallied but there seems to be a strong response to “move on.”

## Reports

**Pastors’ Report-** Pastor Mae Jean reported the preparations with five youth for Confirmation that occurred on October 27th. Hospital visits have increased but no recent funerals.

Pastor Martha is assisting Sunday School with a new Christmas Program for this season.

Pastor’s group, Seeds of Peace has requested that Lake Edge be the site for the annual Thanksgiving program, Sunday, November 24th at 6pm.

Pastor Mae Jean read a letter of resignation that will be sent to the congregation later this week. An extensive discussion ensued.

## MISSIONS

(Items needing Council Awareness or Approval)

**Church & Family Fellowship** – Nancy Pike reported the 65th Anniversary November 17th was a success. Next up will be a memory tree for the holidays and snacks for the Congregational Meeting December 15th.

**Finance & Property** – Jon Fadness the previously reported heat tape project is proceeding and should be in place soon.

Three management companies were contacted for proposals to manage the Hegg Avenue rental property. After some discussion the Mission recommends Kader Property Management. Motion: Jon Fadness moves, Nancy Pike seconds that a contract with Kader Property Management be made for the Hegg Avenue rental property on an annual basis. Approved by voice vote.

**Membership Support** – Karen Cook reported a new page for our membership catalog is ready for distribution. It will feature our newest members to Lake Edge.

**Ministry Support** – Ron Siggelkow reported that 103 time & talent forms have been completed. There have been several electronic issues this past month including the website. Brief lapse of service should be corrected and in good working order at this time.

**Peace & Justice** – Sharon Kreul reported the Luke House date will be December 5th. The Schenk Elementary weekend food program has begun for the month. While a few slots have not been filled, volunteers are pitching in and the program has been successful.

The Red Kettle sign-up will be on the bulletin board beginning December 7th. Bell ringers are still needed.

MOSES membership has been paid late for this year. A letter was received concerning the continued membership in MOSES for Lake Edge for 2020. The Council had a discussion how we can proceed. Motion: Linda Newman moves, Nancy Pike seconds the Council is grateful to receive a letter of concern from Lucy Gibson but declines to fund MOSES at this time for the 2020 budget. Motion approved by voice vote.

**Worship** – Linda Newman reported the mission has coordinated the donation of the Christmas tree for next month. The Christmas tree is donated to Lake Edge by Dean Mueller, a friend of Gary Bushland, in honor of Dean’s mother.

## PRESIDENT’S TOPICS

**President-Elect report of the Nominations Committee** – George Swamp reported that the work of the committee continues. Members are continuing to be contacted to fill vacancies on the “wheel.”

**Lay Staff Support Committee** has met and recommends an across the board staff raise of 2% except for Chris Anderson and Linda Brown who should receive a 4% raise. These recommendations will be considered by the Council in the development of the 2020 budget.

**Rental Property Task Force** listening sessions/open forum – Information and discussions were held as scheduled. The Wednesday turnout was not as good as the gathering after church services Sunday.

November 18, 2019 Council Minutes  
Continued

**Rental status** – Several Property Management Companies were approached to manage the property. Kader Property Management will be contracted to manage the property.

**Rededication of the original church building** on Sunday November 17th, 2019, commemorating the 65th anniversary of Lake Edge Lutheran Church. Everyone seemed to enjoy the meal, conversations, the program of pictures and the tour.

**Follow-up 2020 budget meeting for the Council** – After the discussion of several possibilities, the Council set Monday, November 25th at 6:45 PM for a Special meeting with the sole item of the 2020 budget.

**Special Program Note** - The Christmas Pageant will be held for one service at 9:30 and then the Congregational Meeting will occur after this on December 15th.

**Visioning** – Additional sources of revenue for 2020. This was deferred to our budget meeting.

**Reminders:**

**December Dialogue Articles Due:** Wednesday, November 20th, 2019

**Next Mission Meeting:** Monday, December 9th, 2019, 6:45 PM

**Next Council Meeting:** Monday, December 16th, 2019, 6:45 PM

**Snacks for November's mission meeting** – Jonathan Pike

**Congregational Meeting:** Sunday, December 15th, 2019, 11:00 AM

**Fred Leidel's celebration of life** at Gunderson's, Monday, December 2nd, 2019

**For the Good of the Church** – All Council Members, Jon Fadness, Dale Dull & Chris Maloney, Deb Jenson, Fay Hanson, Judy Davidson, Liz Clark, Terry Ann Taylor, Karen Blackdeer, Trevor Pike, Katie Pike

**Closing Prayer** – President Jonathan Pike led the council in a closing prayer.

**Motion by Karen Cook, second by Linda Newman to adjourn the meeting.** Approved by voice vote. Meeting was adjourned at 9:15pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
George Swamp, President-Elect

LELC Dashboard			
Statement of Activities			
Actual vs. Budget thru October 31, 2019			
	Actual	Budgeted	Variance
<b>INCOME</b>			
Member Giving	355,861	359,543	-3,682
Building Debt Service	38,069	33,333	4,736
Other Offering	14,351	17,749	-3,398
Other Income	22,279	17,916	4,363
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>430,560</b>	<b>428,541</b>	<b>2,019</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Salaries	218,871	203,871	15,000
Benefits	44,720	36,238	8,482
Support	2,220	2,875	-655
Administrative	27,761	29,862	-2,101
Utilities	26,091	27,495	-1,404
Ins. & Debt Service	59,305	60,325	-1,020
Benevolences	16,540	21,570	-5,030
<b>--MISSIONS--</b>			
Worship	3,775	4,352	-577
Education	359	2,583	-2,224
Membership Support	306	1,042	-736
Ministry Support	2,192	2,879	-687
Church & Family Fellowship	4,186	3,833	353
Youth Fellowship	273	0	273
Peace & Justice	702	833	-131
Finance & Property	32,842	33,125	-283
Miscellaneous Transfers	-30	-2,500	2,470
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>440,113</b>	<b>428,383</b>	<b>11,730</b>
	Actual	Budgeted	Variance
Year-to-Date (Income-Expenses)	-9,553	158	-9,711
General Operating Checking Balance*	77,899	As of 10/31/2019 (\$88,913 - \$11,014 = \$77,899)	
Ave. YTD Actual Mo. Expenses	44,011	10 Months	
No. of Mos. Coverage (Goal: 2.0)	1.77		
Mortgage	Int Rate	Mo Pymt	Balance
Thrivent Financial as of 10/28/19	4.75%	\$5,291	\$894,500
*Includes balance of \$120,000 designated for Thrivent Loan-Church Renovations, current balance is \$11,014			

Worship Attendance	1st Service	2nd Service	Total
Oct 6	78	99	177
Oct 13	47	128	175
Oct 20	59	113	172
Oct 27	60	160	220
			0
Monthly Average:	55	125	180
Year to Date Average:	58	114	172

Attendance includes Sunday worship only. Membership  
Membership: ELCA Trend Rpt., 2019 Baptized, Active Family Units

Membership	2019
Baptized Members	535

Note A: 'Other Income' of \$8,614.50 consists of Brotherhood Ins. workers' comp refund of \$1,450.50 and a Focus on Energy rebate of \$7,164.00.

**Spring Bike Ride  
Saturday, May 16, 2020**

Due to a predicted rain forecast and schedule conflicts of several would-be bikers, the Fall Bike Ride on October 19 was cancelled. In order to get a jump on your spring calendars, a date is being set now for May 16, which is the week between Mother's Day and Memorial Day. In the interest of planning ahead, we are setting a rain date for the following day, Sunday, May 17. Stay tuned for times. It will be the Monona Lake Loop followed by brunch at the Meier's home. If you don't have your own bike or need some extra assistance, talk to us about renting one of the new Madison E-Bikes! We are hoping for a fun and lively group! More to come.... Deb Jenson and Elaine Meier



## A Letter from Pastor Mae Jean Zelle



To me, one of the most annoying verses in the Bible is Exodus 3:12. It comes in second only to that one about loving your enemies. ;-) Anyway, in this passage, God is speaking to Moses from the burning bush, God is telling Moses that he is supposed to go to Egypt to confront Pharaoh, free the slaves,

and lead them back to the promised land. And then in verse 12 God says this: *"I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain."*

That's no good. God is telling Moses that Moses will know this was what God was up to once it's all done, when Moses can look **back** and see how and when and

where God was with them bringing them out of Egypt. I hate that. I want to see what God is doing in the future before I get there. But that isn't how God works. We always see clearly only ever in hindsight.

I think that is how it is now. We may not like or agree with how events or circumstances are unfolding. But we are called to trust that God is with us and that, at some point in the future, we will be able to look back on these times and see what God was up to. I hope you will join me in trusting the truth and power of that promise. One day, as Lake Edge Lutheran Church gathers for worship, you will see and rejoice in all that God has done. Blessings on your journey to that day. May God richly bless you as you go.

Peace,  
Pr Mae Jean

## December 2019 Worship Helper Schedule

	12/1/19	12/8/19	12/15/19	12/22/19	12/24/19	12/25/19	12/29/19
<b>Greeters</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b> Chris Maloney-Dull Dale Dull Gary & Lee Lunda  <b>10:30 AM</b> Karen & Leo Odegard Vic & Barb Vaade	<b>8:00 AM</b> Stan & Donna Klein Irene Sherman Bub Severson  <b>10:30 AM</b> Jacob Nallapu Jean Berg Al & Kathy Anding	<b>8:00 AM</b> Donna Gehrke Loretta Erdahl Sharon Kreul Jan Hagen  <b>10:30 AM</b> Mary Davis-Smith Mary Ann Jerred Dlane & Bill Meadowcroft	<b>8:00 AM</b> Jeff Meicher Mary Nelson-Meicher Chuck & Joan Martin  <b>10:30 AM</b> Linda Newman Kay Simmons Duane & S&y Beczkiewz	<b>Christmas Eve</b> <b>6:00 PM</b> Karen & Leo Odegard Ron McKinley Judy Raebel-McKinley  <b>9:00 PM</b> Susan Marsh Karen & Jerry Cook Pat Bitter	<b>Christmas Day</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> D'neece & LaJeane Hettrick  Jan Johnson Jan Etnier	<b>8:00 AM</b> Deb Jensen Kristin Friedrichs Jerry & Karen Cook  <b>10:30 AM</b> Fred & Beth Swanson Sybil Gilbert Anita Hubanks
<b>Lectors</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b> Glenn Staffeld  <b>10:30 AM</b> Jean Duddleston	<b>8:00 AM</b> Chuck Martin  <b>10:30 AM</b> Chuck Larson	<b>8:00 AM</b> Deb Jensen  <b>10:30 AM</b> Linda Newman	<b>8:00 AM</b> Jan Hagen  <b>10:30 AM</b> Nancy Pike	<b>6:00 PM</b> Karen Odegard  <b>9:00 PM</b> Jason Xiong	D'neece & LaJeane  D'neece Hettrick	<b>8:00 AM</b> Jacob Nallapu  <b>10:30 AM</b> Karen Odegard
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b> Chuck Larson  <b>10:30 AM</b> Jason Xiong	<b>8:00 AM</b> Jan Hagen  <b>10:30 AM</b> Chuck Larson	<b>8:00 AM</b> Chuck Martin  <b>10:30 AM</b> Nancy Anderson	<b>8:00 AM</b> Judy Raebel McKinley  <b>10:30 AM</b> George Swamp	<b>6:00 PM</b> Judy St Vincent  <b>9:00 PM</b> Milan Summ	D'neece Hettrick	<b>8:00 AM</b> Terry Ann Taylor  <b>10:30 AM</b> Jim St Vincent
<b>Communion Assistants</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b> Deb Staffeld  <b>10:30 AM</b> Karen & Leo Odegard Lisa Nienhaus Terry Deist	<b>8:00 AM</b> Jean Stublaski  <b>10:30 AM</b> Al & Kathy Anding Jean Berg Jason Nallapu	<b>8:00 AM</b> Sharon Horstmann  <b>10:30 AM</b> Diane & Bill Meadowcroft Gary and Yvonne Bushland	<b>8:00 AM</b> Ron McKinley  <b>10:30 AM</b> Julie Dahlen Jean Berg Duane & S&y Beczkiewz	<b>6:00 PM</b> Jim St Vincent  <b>9:00 PM</b> Karen & Jerry Cook Jason Xiong Krisitn Friedrichs	Jan Johnson	<b>8:00 AM</b> Deb Jensen  <b>10:30 AM</b> Kay Simmons George Swamp Fred & Beth Swanson
<b>Ushers</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b> A-1  <b>10:30 AM</b> A-2	<b>8:00 AM</b> B-1  <b>10:30 AM</b> B-2	<b>8:00 AM</b> C-1  <b>10:30 AM</b> C-2	<b>8:00 AM</b> A-1  <b>10:30 AM</b> A-2	<b>6:00 PM</b> B-1  <b>9:00 PM</b> B-2	C-1	<b>8:00 AM</b> B-1  <b>10:30 AM</b> B-2