

# EDISON PARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

Evangelical Lutheran Church of America



## 2013 Annual Report

**86 YEARS**

**OUR MISSION: TO BE A PEOPLE LIVING, LOVING, AND  
SERVING AS JESUS DID...SO THAT ALL MAY KNOW HIM**

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# 2013 Congregational Annual Meeting Agenda

## January 26, 2014 at 11:30 a.m.

Call to Order

Opening Devotion

Approval of Minutes

Annual meeting of January 27, 2013

Special Congregational Meeting of June 9, 2013

Reports

Pastor's Report

President of the Congregation – Phyllis Doyle

Treasurer – Wayne Ammentorp

Budget Presentation – Eric Jensen, Chair

Finance Committee

Discussion and vote to accept

Old Business

New Business

Nominations & Election – Council Members

Motion to approve actions of 2013 Council.

Adjournment/Closing Prayer

## Edison Park Lutheran Church

### Minutes of the Annual Congregational Meeting

### Sunday, January 27, 2012—11:30 a.m.

Joe Bartel, President, called the meeting to order at 11:35.

Pastor Sparby led us in prayer.

Eighty-nine voting members were present.

#### **Approval of Minutes of the January 22, 2012 Annual Congregational Meeting**

Motion by John Lund, second by Barbara Sanders to approve the minutes. Motion passed.

#### **Reports**

In general, all reports were well presented in the 2012 Annual Report book.

Reports in the 2012 Annual Report:

Rev. Dr. Michael D. Sparby, Senior Pastor; Carole Edwards, Associate in Ministry; Matt Haider, Director of Worship and Music; Michael Lyda, Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministry; Jennifer Williams, Pre-school Director; Joe Bartel, President of Congregational Council; Wayne Ammentorp, Treasurer of Congregational Council; Leadership Ministry Area; Worship Ministry Area; Growing Ministry Area; Outreach Ministry Area; EPLC Foundation; Benevolence Report; Membership Statistics Report; EPLC General Ministry Plan for 2013 and 2013 proposed budget. A separate Property Task Force report was also available.

In addition to his written report, Pastor Sparby gave a presentation.

Wayne Ammentorp gave an overview of the 2011 Treasurers Report.

#### **New Business**

General Ministry Plan

Eric Jensen, Financial Management Chair, presented the General Ministry Plan/Budget for 2013 as shown in the 2012 Annual Report book.

Motion by Diane Wilk, second by Gary Duszak to accept the 2013 budget as presented. Motion passed.

Nominations for Congregational Council openings are Werner Calder, John Cherry, Cindy Davies, John Jackson and Denise Janci.

Motion by Barb Kruse, second by Joyce Weickart to accept all nominations by unanimous acclamation. Motion passed.

Approve Church Council actions of 2012

Linda Christensen moved that the Congregation approve all the Church Council actions of 2012. Duane Smart seconded. Motion passed.

Adjournment

Cindi Davies moved that we adjourn the meeting. Clifford Jordan seconded. Motion passed.

Associate in Ministry Carole Edwards led us in closing prayer. Meeting adjourned at 11:54.

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne Oberschelp

Congregational Secretary, Edison Park Lutheran Church

## Edison Park Lutheran Church Minutes of the Special Congregational Meeting Sunday, June 9, 2013—11:30 a.m.

Phyllis Doyle, President, called the meeting to order at 11:35.

Pastor Sparby led us in prayer.

108 voting members were present before the meeting started.

The meeting was called by the Church Council to vote on a proposal to purchase – through a request for help from the EPLC Foundation – two properties adjacent to our current house next to the parking lot on Oliphant.

Pertinent handouts available at the Welcome Table and Nordblad Hall before the meeting were:

- Vision for EPLC

- Proposal from Church Council

- History of EPLC Living Out Our Faith

Joe Bartel, representing the Vision Task Force, presented summaries of the following:

- History of past EPLC property decisions

- The journey of faith traveled by EPLC

- Review of property opportunities recently in our neighborhood

- Meetings of the Council and Foundation regarding possible steps

- The conclusion of the task force that EPLC should seriously consider purchases of the property

- Decision of the Council to call a Congregational meeting to ask for approval to proceed

- Clarification that the properties are 6602 and 6600 Oliphant; purchase of 6602 Oliphant is an absolute first priority. We would not pursue 6600 unless 6602 is in hand.

- Joe concluded with a motion “The congregation hereby authorizes the Church Council to pursue purchase of two adjacent properties, 6602 N Oliphant and 6600 N Oliphant, with the help of the EPLC Foundation, for the best possible market price”.

Barb Sanders seconded Joe’s motion.

Phyllis opened the meeting to discussion.

Discussion included a wide range of topics including specific possible uses of the property, effect

on the neighborhood, role of the Foundation, and fit with our vision and history.

The vote was taken on a secret paper ballot:

76 – yes

39 - no

The motion passed.

We concluded the meeting with the Lord's Prayer at 12:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne Oberschelp

Congregational Secretary, Edison Park Lutheran Church

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## Staff Directory

Judi Eastwood, Parish Administrator

Carole Edwards, Associate in Ministry

Mary Gates, Office, Publications and Preschool Assistant

Matt Haider, Director of Worship and Music

Michael Lyda, Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries

Julie Payne, Preschool Teacher

Drew Richardson, Technical Arts Director

Rev. Dr. Michael D. Sparby, Senior Pastor

Jennifer Williams, Preschool Director

Phyllis Bober, Beth Burke, David Gates, Mike Lynch, Frank Peters, Custodians

Rev. Kevin Jacobson, Missionary in Suriname



# Staff Reports

## Rev. Dr. Michael D. Sparby, Senior Pastor

### Isaiah 49:1-7

*Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The LORD called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me. <sup>2</sup>He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away. <sup>3</sup>And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified." <sup>4</sup>But I said, "I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the LORD, and my reward with my God." <sup>5</sup>And now the LORD says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the LORD, and my God has become my strength — <sup>6</sup>he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth." <sup>7</sup>Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, "Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."*



What a mission we've been given. We have been called ***to be a people living, loving, and serving as Jesus did...so that all may know Him.*** The Old Testament prophet Isaiah speaks of this One whom we claim as Redeemer. Later the book of Isaiah speaks to us of the Suffering Servant of God as the Light of the World. In the New Testament John writes that Jesus said ***"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life."***

Jesus turns this toward his followers. In Matthew 5:14 Jesus says ***"YOU are the light of the world"*** as he send his followers out to tell the story of God's love.

At the end of Matthew's gospel when Jesus sees his disciples for the final time before his ascension Jesus says, ***"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>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, <sup>20</sup>and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."***

It's the task at hand. Everything we do here at EPLC is aimed to fulfill the Great Commission that Christ gave his followers. Through Word and Sacrament we are nurtured and fed in the faith. We are strengthened through the love of God and the community we share here at EPLC. Through our ministry teams of Growing, Outreach, Worship and Leadership we share our gifts—time, talents and abilities, and treasure—to bring the Good News of Jesus Christ alive for others.

The Salt & Light Mission Expansion emphasis these past two years have helped lift up the passions of our community, and seeing the energy for mission of all kinds has served to foster more and more ideas and avenues through which we are reaching people with the love of God.

You have been blessed to be a blessing (Genesis 12), and indeed you are!

Thank YOU for your partnership in ministry! A special thanks to all who serve in leadership in so many capacities, and especially to President Phyllis Doyle. Thanks to the EPLC Foundation for being a partner in the mission and ministry of this great congregation. I am also so grateful for the opportunity to work with an amazing staff. Please continue to share your appreciation with them. We are truly blessed!



## Carole Edwards, Associate in Ministry

On All Saints Day we read 33 names of those who had died this past year, and had been buried through the ministry of EPLC. In addition to families of members who had passed away, we ministered to many other families from the community in their time of loss. Many of those family members have now begun worshipping with us on a regular basis and have found EPLC to be a safe haven for them. They have found a warm, welcoming community who surrounds them in love and have found a place to nourish their faith. We have others who are going through a personal crisis and don't know where to turn. Their faith has been shaken by the personal turmoil in their life. Yet, when invited to come to EPLC, they came. Some days they didn't even know why they came, but they knew this was a safe harbor. We have some who have only visited occasionally, yet when hospitalized and after receiving a grim diagnosis, have reached out to us for support. Through all life's challenges, EPLC remains faithful in being a beacon of light and hope by proclaiming the love and grace of God to a hurting and broken world.



In my role as Associate in Ministry, much of my time is spent in the area of visitation ministry, visiting with, and bringing Communion to our hospitalized and homebound members, including those living in nursing homes, retirement centers, and assisted living facilities. We currently have about 40 members who are visited throughout the year, and they are comforted and encouraged by our prayers and visits. I respond to emergencies, meet with members going through crisis, families facing end of life situations and those who are grieving. Last fall we offered a seven-week Grief Recovery class, led by Reverend Scott Johnson, that was very well received. Other responsibilities include assisting with worship and funeral services, planning and conducting the Annual Pet Blessing, managing the Prayer Chain, working with the Outreach, Wellness, and Finance teams, contacting prospective members, arranging rides for members, and working with our seniors.

In my work as Associate in Ministry, I also serve in the role of business administrator, managing all financial and business operations of the church. My responsibilities include the daily processing of all income, accounts payable, payroll, and financial reporting. Our credit card and Simply Giving options have been well received, making it easier than ever to financially support EPLC, even if you're away. In 2013, we upgraded our Internet service, which allowed us to host a national conference including live video streaming, and we now offer free wireless Internet service throughout the building, a service much appreciated by all who use our facilities.

EPLC continues to be a place where God's love and grace is proclaimed. God is there in our brokenness as well as our wholeness. And he is faithful, and continues to richly bless the ministry of this congregation. May we be bold enough to go out from this place and proclaim the Good News and invite others to share in the blessings God has showered upon us. Invite them to learn about God's great love for them – right now, right where they are. I am blessed to be a part of the ministry team of this congregation. Thank you for your prayers and support. And thank you to all the volunteers, without whom this church could not carry out the many ministries that take place on a daily basis. It is truly a privilege to serve this congregation. Thanks be to God!

Blessings,

Carole Edwards, Associate in Ministry

## Matt Haider, Worship and Music Director

2013 proved to be a very exciting year for the worship and music life of our congregation. We are always changing and evolving – striving to bring high quality worship, while also bringing out the best in the people who are involved.



Each week, over 50 people gather together to rehearse and prepare music for Sunday worship services.

Having such a diversity of groups and guest instrumentalists keeps our worship services of high quality, helping lead all those who enter our sanctuary join together in the praise of God and in the proclamation of the Word.

A new handbell group was formed over the summer. La Verne Myers and Cornelia McClean decided that they wanted to pursue handbell solos and duets. Now known as The Chancel Ringers, they provide special music on various occasions throughout the year. Playing handbells alone is no small feat, and then to have only one or two people playing them makes it even more difficult. The two of them are a great team and work hard to provide quality music whenever they perform.

Ringling from the loft, the Jubilee Ringers continue to play several times throughout the year. This year we welcomed new members as some moved away or could not commit to the weekly rehearsals at this time. From upbeat, African anthems to slow, legato medieval melodies the cacophony of sound that rings forth from the balcony is always greeted with bliss from the congregation members in the pews.

The fall was a very exciting time for our children's choir. What two years ago as a group of 7 children has blossomed over the fall into a group of 16! With children aging from three year olds to fourth graders and the sudden growth in the group, it was decided to split into two choirs. They came together at Christmas, though, and declared to all the birth of a very special baby. During the opening hymn, the children processed with handbells up the center aisle which was very heartwarming for all who were in attendance. These choirs are not all music. On any Wednesday night, besides singing you may see them bowling in the south hall, doing craft projects in the preschool room or even baking in the kitchen. Our children's choirs strive to engage the whole child, not just the inner musician! They are a very energetic group of children who bring a smile to the congregation every time they sing.



Our Praise Team has been fortunate to gain two new members this year. Bob Hutton and his son Sam are now enriching our contemporary services each week. Sam is usually seen playing guitar but also piano and drums. Bob adds an electric bass, saxophone and flute to the services. From the driving rhythms to the soft strumming of the guitar, the deep tones of the bass, and the high soaring soprano saxophone, their presence in our community has taken our worship services to a whole new level.



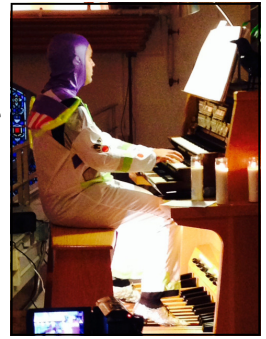
The Sanctuary choir has continued to keep up their busy schedule throughout 2013. Besides singing almost every Sunday of the academic school year, the choir also sang for a few big events. This year's Lenten cantata, *The Power of the Cross*, seemed to tug at the heart strings of the congregation. From people saying they were transported back to their time in the holy lands, grown men being moved to tears and children receiving their first communion, it was very powerful. Along with a chamber orchestra, this worship experience was a powerful prelude to the upcoming Holy Week services. Their Christmas Message in Song on the 4th Sunday of Advent was also highly received by the congregation.

Advent anthems along with a preview of some of their Christmas Eve selections, the music helped us reflect on the coming of our Lord and rejoice that his birth is near.

Our worship services would also not be complete without the many worship participants who assist with our liturgies each weekend. Confirmation students serve as acolytes at our 8:00 and 9:15 am worship services each week. While most of them would probably be sleeping at 7:45 on a Sunday morning, they show up and faithfully serve when they are scheduled. Their presence is especially felt during the opening procession when the cross is lifted high and all turn to face the cross before the procession begins. We are blessed with a number of different ushers who greet and welcome worshippers into our house. The 8:00 am service has a group of four men who usher every Sunday – rain, shine or snow! Lectors who proclaim



the Word of God. Assisting ministers who guide our hearts in prayer. Altar Care members who prepare the table each week. Communion assistants who help us partake in the Lord's Supper. Without them, our services would not be the same. They take time out of their Sunday mornings and their own time of worship to deepen the experience for all those gathered together.



A special thank you goes to our bulletin crew. They meet every Friday morning to fold, collate, staple and stuff our weekly bulletins and announcements. They do so with a kind and giving spirit. The time they donate is invaluable. Thank you Audrey, Barb, Mike, Pam, and Shirley!

We also had some special events throughout the year that were enjoyed by our congregation and the community. In April, the music department hosted a coffee hour for the Good News Singers. The morning was to celebrate and thank the Good News Singers for their 28 years of singing the Good News. One of the original directors of the group even came down for the coffee hour from Iowa. Each of the singers was given a red rose as a small token of the congregation's gratitude to them. We miss their presence in our worship services but rejoice together in their years of service to us.

The mighty Schlicker pipe organ got it's exercise in during 2013. In April, organist Kraig Windschitl played a recital. Kraig is an organist at Mount Olivet Lutheran Church in Minnesota—the largest Lutheran congregation in North America. His song selections for the recital were well fit for our pipe organ. A favorite moment of the night was when the congregation joined in singing the hymn, *Holy God We Praise Thy Name*. With music old and new, the concert was enjoyed by many.

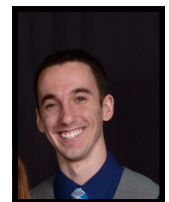


In October, the Tricks and Treats with the Mighty Organ filled the sanctuary. Over 150 people (double 2012) were in attendance for the event. Many came in costumes—old and young alike! The costume contest winners this year included Harry Potter and Mr. Kane from the Chicago Blackhawks. Highlights from the event included the chicken dance, the costume parade and black crows falling from the choir loft. Buzz Lightyear even made an appearance to play the Widor Toccata as the concert's finale number.

Also in October, the Music Department had their first-ever bake sale. The main item for sale was a homemade blueberry buckle. This tasty coffee cake sold out rather quickly, after word spread of it's deliciousness. Members of the choirs and handbells made items as well. Bringing in over \$500, this will now become an annual event. So watch out next fall for the blueberry buckle—and get one while you can!

Keep Going God's Way.

## Michael Lyda, Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministry



Below you will find details of the various ministries for children, youth, and families from the 2013 year.

### H2O (Humble to One) – Senior High

Our senior high ministry has been growing more consistently over the past year. Over a third of our senior high core participants in the weekly program are not members of EPLC, but friends or students who heard we had a solid program and wanted to be a part of the group. Over the past year we have done a joint lock-in with other area youth groups, participated in the synod ULTIMATE Lock-In, gone geocaching, to Feed My Starving Children, and packed for Operation Christmas Child and care packages for our college students.



#### Cross-Training (Confirmation) Program:

Our Cross-Training program is still one of the largest confirmation program EPLC has had in many years. With 28 7th and 8th grade students in the program, we are quite busy! The re:Form curriculum is exciting and engaging, with many of the students saying it is the highlight of their week. About ¼ of the students are not members of our church but have heard through the grapevine that the program is engaging for everyone.

#### A.M.P.E.D. (A Ministry Preparing Everyday Disciples):

This was a summer, weekly youth group for middle school students. It included a popular movie-themed devotion, games, and dinner. We had a consistent 10-15 students weekly throughout the summer. It was quite a success and many are excited for next summer!

#### Club 456:

CLUB 456 is our monthly youth group for the 4-6th grade students. Some of our events this year have included Sky High Sports, Cookie Baking and Delivering, LaserQuest, Party Time Palace, Movies and Games, Geocaching, and much more!

#### VeggieTales Movie Nights:

Once a month on a Friday night we have a VeggieTales movie night for all children and families of EPLC and the community. We watch the film, enjoy snacks that everyone brought, and participate in games and activities that go along with the movie's theme. We have also had a few high school leaders assisting this year, helping to make it an awesome program. Did I mention you get to wear your pajamas?!

#### Vacation Bible School:

This year, Vacation Bible School was similar to last year by being in the evening and including dinner. Our theme this year was Kingdom Rock, which was good outreach for those outside of the church. As in previous years, we had a Captive Free team here as well, who led the music and games and assisted in many other ways. We had smaller numbers than we have had in the past and will be trying something new in 2014, which includes trying VBS in the mornings again and earlier in the summer (late June), which many people preferred when asked through a survey after VBS this past year.



#### Sunday School:

Sunday School has remained a solid program this year, although our numbers did decrease slightly this fall with the start of fall sports and activities. We have continued using the Spark curriculum, which engages students visually, audibly, and tactically. We have continued last year's new model with 5/6th grade students, which is meeting every other week and using the "Grapple" curriculum, which focuses on questions that the students deal with on a regular basis. This new addition to the program has continued to grow the 5/6th grade class.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Lyda

Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries

## Jennifer Williams, Preschool Director



Preschool continues to make strides in increasing enrollment! Jennifer Williams continues as Director for the program which now has 27 students enrolled. We had a wait list for the M-W-F class, bringing us to a max of 20 children on these days. This is testament to the effectiveness of the restructuring of the program into choices of 2, 3, or 5 days which we did a few years ago. Jennifer attended the preschool fair in Park Ridge and held several "Open Houses" on week-ends and evenings. She also distributed materials to local businesses to spread the word about the program. She answered calls and gave tours throughout the summer to keep the numbers growing.

Preschool was able to purchase a brand new carpet, book and toy shelves as well as 2 new tables for the classroom. It looks absolutely adorable.

Mary Gates continues as the aide for the Tues/Thurs program. She proves to be a great asset. With our growing program we added Julie Payne to our staff, as an assistant teacher. She has a background in early child education and her credentials match those needed to substitute in case of Jennifer's absence.



For the first time Preschool hosted an "Itty Bitty Bible Camp" session for preschool age children. Jennifer volunteered her time and designed and taught this one week program held in June. It was extremely popular. The maximum of 20 children attended.

Language Stars continues as our foreign language class provider. It continues to be popular and effective.

Preschool always enjoys music with Matt Haider. They have learned many seasonal songs, dances and even took a tour of the balcony and got to play the organ.

Michael Lyda continues to lead us in our chapel discussions. The children always enjoy participating in the stories he shares.

The preschool board currently has 4 members. They held a spring plant sale which was extremely profitable.

# Congregation Reports



## **Phyllis Doyle, President of Church Council**

2013 was a year of challenge and growth for Edison Park Lutheran. We started out with our Mission Expansion plan "Being Salt and Light" as we were on our way to fulfill the goals we had set for this year. Our Visiting Teams started their contacts and we made good progress in meeting with a number of people sharing our hopes and dreams for the future of EPLC. We had fun with our Totally Positive bracelets, experienced a very beautiful opportunity to participate in the Prayer Vigil and celebrated our blessings at the Dine and Dessert Feast in April. We are on our way to renew our mission this year under the leadership of Cindy Davies.

The true colors and dedication of the congregation were witnessed by the Flood Mitigation project when we overwhelming met and exceeded our needs for funds to once and for all repair and prevent any future flooding in the South Hall. Thanks to all who contributed either money or time for this successful venture.

Our Ministry Team/Task force structure continues to form and flow. It is evident that this flexibility has gotten more people involved and accomplished many meaningful and important ministries that we have developed and retained over the past year. Our Team Night gave all involved an opportunity to review the ministries and projects that each Task Force or small group had created and developed. It allowed us to spin off of some of the ideas that were presented and get a better understanding about how all the pieces fit together.

When the opportunity to venture beyond our walls and reach out to the community and share the vision of expansion arose – the congregation heard the call and gave the Council their approval to investigate, and possibly act on, the purchase of adjacent property to the church. At this point, there is no activity as the seller's apparently are not ready to sell at a price that we can pay. Even if this never materializes, it was truly a leap of faith by this congregation and truly a show of faith in God and your leaders.

The Chicago-Metro Synod re-elected Bishop Wayne Miller to another terms as our Bishop. Also the ELCA elected their first woman Bishop, Rev. Elizabeth Eaton.

We continue to be challenged by our looming deficit but with your generosity and wise spending practices, we will move ahead to become responsible stewards.

We have made great strides this year, thanks to a faithful and hard working congregation and also to a committed and tireless staff. Thanks to all of you for your ongoing support and prayers. We are continually blessed by a loving God.

Peace,

For the entire Council, Phyllis Doyle, President





## Wayne Ammentorp, Treasurer of Church Council



The financial picture for Edison Park Lutheran Church at the end of the year 2013 improved slightly over the previous year. Giving was up 4.4% over the year 2012. While expenses were up as well, this was expected in the budget as the congregation became more active in outreach programs to help many people in need in our neighborhood, the city, our nation and globally. The congregation has passionately engaged in many ministries in the last couple of years. These ministries are expected to continue and hopefully expand. The more we show as a congregation what is possible with God's help the more we will be capable of doing tomorrow.

I, as the treasurer, have worked with the Foundation to maintain a healthy cash balance on hand so that the growing ministries have what they need. We asked for \$57,000 less gifts than we received in 2012. We received \$86,000 from the Foundation in 2013. The goal still is to get to a point where no gifts will be needed but we are not quite there yet. The monthly deficit without the money we received from Foundation was \$13,000. The monthly deficit with the Foundation help was \$5,800.

The actual expenses for 2013 were \$713,855. The areas that we increased expenses over 2012 were outreach by almost \$9,000, property by \$26,600, salaries by almost \$18,300, and benefits by almost \$7,900. Our benevolence increased by \$3,044.

The actual income for 2013 was \$643,751. Giving was increased by \$18,535. Other income was up \$15,677 which included estate gifts transferred from undesignated memorials, program income and building usage. Finally preschool income was increased by \$8,959 which has been a terrific growth story for EPLC.

The generosity of the congregation and the many ways we have found to spread God's message has been exciting to be a part of. I am looking forward to the new upcoming year and to see what God has planned for this congregation.

Please remember EPLC in your estate planning. It will leave a lasting legacy and keep this wonderful congregation in the Edison Park neighborhood strong and vibrant in the years ahead.

God Bless our congregation and the mission we have for the coming year.

Wayne Ammentorp

Treasurer

### B12.13.1

1. Nominating/annual



# The Four EPLC Ministry Areas

Leadership + Worship + Growing + Outreach

## Leadership Ministry Area

Last year we:

- Planned and implemented "Recognition and Celebration" event for all, Edison Park Lutheran Church ministry area teams and received suggestions for improvement
- Provided special encouragement and support for "Being Salt and Light" congregation renewal and the Spiritual Gifts ministry
- Reviewed two ministry proposals and connected them to existing teams

In 2014 we plan to:

- Accelerate our Leadership Ministry Area team process, using this report as an outline and integrating the congregation goals for the year
- Set goals for the year, especially: a) Communicating with existing teams, b) Following up on 2013 ministries, and c) increasing our support of our council and staff

Identify and enlist two Leadership Ministry Area team members who have the gift of encouragement

Members of the team are: Barbara Smith, Sue Ammentorp, and Ed Kruse, Chair. Also advising are Pastor Sparby, and Council Liaisons Cork Jordan and Joan Yost. All members of the team participate openly. We focus on supporting and encouraging current and future areas of ministry:

- ⇒ Developing stewardship leaders
- ⇒ Expanding spiritual gifts ministry
- ⇒ Communicating with excellence
- ⇒ Deepening Relationship and Mission Support - Metropolitan Chicago Synod, and ELCA
- ⇒ Celebrating visioning and planning for ministry
- ⇒ Recognizing leaders in ministry, resources, supporting other ministry teams

Our team's hope might be described as **"increasing participation and growing leadership by all members in current or future ministries of congregation, whether as a member or guest."** This hope may look differently in different contexts: 1) Growing in our relationships with God and neighbors; 2) Developing youth and adult leaders; and 3) Envisioning children as leaders. We enjoy hearing stimulating ideas and encouraging champions to emerge and lead our congregation's expansion of God's mission.

We invite you to share your participation in any of the ministries in our congregation. You are welcome to attend and participate at any of our Leadership Ministry Area conversations which are scheduled as needed (the next one will be in February). We want to listen to your joys and challenges, and how we can better encourage and support you.

Submitted by,  
Ed Kruse

## Stewardship

In September, Stewardship focused on how we look to others. On September 22, Joan Yost gave an overview of what we offer to children and adults, our activities and appearance. On September 29 a video was

shown of our June 3, 2013 block party, the people—members and guests, the food, and entertainment. The dunk tank, Michael and Matt, 51 degree weather and more reminded us of our time and talent.

On October 6 representatives from Thrivent, Frank Gloe and Mark Lachmann, spoke to us at all four services about investing and giving. Frank and Mark returned to answer more questions on October 20.

Commitment Sunday, October 20, pledge cards were collected and will stay unopened. A different financial approach to our treasure from God. A coffee house took place during all three services on Commitment Sunday during which music was played and a DVD of the 2013 block party was shown many times. A great number of people attended and enjoyed the fellowship, food and photography.

Outreach team members include Joan Yost, Gil Yost, Jay Wierz and Carol Wierz.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joan Yost

## Worship Ministry Area

Team members include: Matt Haider, Joe Bartel Jr, Gary Berg, Deborah Oberschelp, Art Doering, Cindy Davies, John Jackson, Jan Wojciechowski

Jan Wojciechowski continued as Chairman and Joe Bartel Jr. as Secretary.

The purpose of the team continues to be to provide support, ideas, and growth to the worship life of the church, including music, cultural activities and worship services.

We continue to pursue the possibility of new choir robes, to become more alb-like. Funding is an issue. Approximately 25 are needed.

Our Ash Wednesday and Evening Lenten Services and Concert Series were well received, with a schedule of Piano Reflections, Violinist, Vocalist, Organist and Male Choir participants. The Lenten Cantata was also a big hit.

On April 7, the a coffee hour was held to honor the Good News Singers.

A special Organ Concert was held on April 28 with a reception held in Nordblad Hall.

Our Block Party was considered a success, with a number of Teams working on it.

We spent nine weeks focusing on the Fruits of the Spirit during the Summer.

We continue to explore the possibly of side screens in the sanctuary to replace the current large screen which blocks the stained glass window when down. Funding is under discussion.

In October, our favorite Organist once again entertained children of all ages with a Spooky Halloween Concert.

Our Thanksgiving Services of Wednesday evening and Thursday morning were both held and will continue in that format for the future.

We considered reviving the Scholarship/Music Fund and will continue to do so.

We also discussed advertising the church in local Northwest Side publications. Many other churches do



so. This is still under discussion for 2014.

We are looking for volunteers to clean the worship participant robes.

We are exploring doing a display of Lenten crosses for 2014, similar to the creche/nativity scenes of 2012.

Another discussion item was to have periodic Name Tag Sundays so that everyone can put a name to the faces they see so often. We will pursue this in 2014.

The Worship Team hosted the December 8 Coffee Hour, to increase our exposure to those of other services.

Advent is underway, with a prayer table located in Nordblad for all services. There have been different themes and "activities" to perform, based on cards at the table and in the bulletins.

Another Murder Mystery is scheduled for early 2014.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jan Wojciechowski

## Growing Ministry Area

The year 2013 was definitely a busy one here at Edison Park Lutheran Church. The Growing Team continued their commitment to explore ways to grow our presence in our community. We look for ways to support our church's future- our youth as well as our adult programs and all church events. We try to dream-big or small- to share our mission of EPLC. We schedule our meetings quarterly and seasonally to make sure the proper support is scheduled. We welcome ideas and visitors to our meetings!

For our families with young children, we have multiple programs. With Jennifer Williams and her wonderful program, our Edison Park Lutheran Preschool is running at capacity for the school year. The Preschool continues the tradition of being a high quality neighborhood institution! Jennifer has implemented an Itty Bitty Camp that will offer a fun opportunity for preschoolers to experience summer camp. Michael Lyda supports our Splash program, another outreach for babies baptized at EPLC. It is a monthly/seasonal packet that gets sent to their home, sharing God's Word. There is also the annual Easter Egg Hunt set at Monument Park that is a thrill for children of all ages. VBS is another summer staple here. This year's schedule changed to daytime hours. We are always trying to do our best to create a successful program.

Summer kicked off with the all church Block Party. There was so much to see, do, and eat! Although it was a chilly, rainy day there were a lot of smiling faces. Matt and Michael duked it out in the Dunk Tank, competing for donations for their programs. The Chicago Mounted Police stopped by. There was a bouncy house for kids of all ages. We had live music entertainment. We invited our neighbors-all were welcome!

For our High School Youth, several mini-trips were planned. They had adventures to the Wisconsin Dells, Great America, a beach day in Chicago and one at the Dunes. There was something for everybody and the Youth program grows stronger each year. Michael Lyda is a blessing!

In the fall, the Blackberry Course began. Led by Pastor David Housholder via webcast, this informative Bible class was offered at 3 different times/days. The class opened with sharing time over coffee- before delving into the topic and discussion. I personally attended Tuesday mornings this semester and thoroughly enjoyed the curriculum and my classmates! There are 2 more semesters, scheduled for winter and spring. I encourage you to explore the Blackberry Bush. It was quite moving and educational. Personal thanks to the Kruse's for their coordination!

We wish you all a healthy, peaceful & spiritual 2014

Barbara Kruse, Kathie Houck, Madeline Lund, Werner Calder, Nina Geishecker, Jennifer Williams, Michael Lyda, and Cheryl Perschke

# Outreach Ministry Area

Outreach Team Members: Kathy Erlandson (chair), John Cherry and Betty Gyllstrom (council liaisons), Laura Johnson, Diane Wilk and Barb Williams.

Edison Park continues to be an integral part of the community. The church opens its facilities to the Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Venture Crew, Opera Appreciation, Senior Exercise, Alcoholics Anonymous, Al-Anon, Families Anonymous, and Gamblers Anonymous. We also open our worship space to the Hungarian Assembly on Sundays and new this year, we shared our facility with the New Hope Food Pantry for their wine and cheese fundraiser.

Some additional endeavors that the Outreach Team spearheaded in 2013 were a visit to the Chicago Food Depository in September, a collection of books donated to Bernie's Books for under-privileged children, participation in the Hunger Walk-a-Thon to benefit St. Cyprian's Food Pantry along with other charities, "Bucks for Books", an effort where money was raised to purchase science textbooks for Holy Family middle schoolers, and the collection of Christmas gifts for Holy Family's Little Learner's Academy. Pastor Scott Johnson offered a Grief Class in September, and a neighborhood clean-up crew was organized in September to honor the 25th Anniversary of the ELCA, emphasizing "God's Work, Our Hands."



Other events we participated in, as in previous years, included the Edison Park Fest Ice Cream Social, Neighborhood Block Party, St. Paul/St. Luke Sunday Suppers, the Annual Pet Blessing in Monument Park, support of our missionary, Kevin Jacobson, in Suriname, the Mitten Tree, poinsettia distribution to shut-ins, Pie Baking/Mini-Bazaar, school supply collection and volunteer tutoring at Holy Family School, and visits to/collection of supplies for Phil's Friends, a cancer support group in Roselle.



The past year saw our relationship with San Lucas church/school in Argentina develop with visits from Miguel Fernandez, superintendent of San Lucas school in March, followed by a visit in October by Margarita Dreise, Supervisor of English teachers at St. Lucas School. Miguel and Margarita are working on developing a language exchange program with students from Unity East/West Campuses and San Lucas to create a partnership where the students can practice their Spanish/English skills via email and Skype. A trip to Argentina is being

planned from April 30 - May 10 of 2014 in which we will continue to build relationships with parishioners from San Lucas and support other ministries San Lucas is involved with.

So where do we go from here? The team will look into supporting micro-lending through Lutheran Partners in Global Mission, which has a program in place in South Africa. We'll also visit Concordia Place, a congregation that is active in the Metro Chicago Synod's Affiliated Mission Communities (AMC) initiative to consider whether we are being called to become an Incubator Congregation (IC). Additionally, we'll explore other opportunities for serving meals to those less fortunate, as we have so many that enjoy serving the St. Luke Sunday dinners. We also hope to have a team of interested members participate in some day trips to help with the disaster relief in Washington, Illinois. It is our desire to create a welcoming place here at EPLC for all who want to serve those in need, regardless of church membership.

I continue to be awestruck at our members willingness to give of themselves in so many ways. Thank you for helping EPLC to live our mission: "To be a people living, loving and serving as Jesus did...so that all may know Him."

In closing, I want to publicly thank Diane Wilk, who will be retiring from the team, for her excellent attention to detail as our secretary the last two years, along with her willingness to support planned events and her enthusiasm for finding new ways to serve in the community. You will be missed, Diane!

Submitted by  
Kathy Erlandson

## Kitchen Report

In conversations during coffee hours when something about the kitchen is mentioned the comment is "I didn't know that", so I thought I'd tell you a little history.

We have two kitchens, North and South. The South kitchen is equipped with two stoves, one single and one double with a total of 14 burners and three conventional ovens. There is a steam table with counters at each end with chopping blocks and one can opener for large size cans. One counter holds all the pot holders, another all the utensils' for cooking.

We have an assortment of pots & 8 stainless steel carts. All the counters in this kitchen are stainless steel with storage below. One unit holds all the bumper pitchers, racks for foil pans, bus pans and odds and ends with a small sink. We have a Hobart dishwasher, with all the racks and silver holders to wash any number of dishes. There are boxes to put the coffee pots on to identify the type of coffee you are serving, they also help with pouring. There is a first aid kit on the wall by the pass through to the North Hall. There are two roasters that we use during Lent to prepare the Lenten luncheons, these were donated.

Under the pass through to the South Hall there are several drawers all labeled as to content, salt, silver ware, sugar boats, cookie sheets, foil pans, parchment, Youth cupboard and Seniors. All single use items and replacements are supplied by church with a small budget and the money collected from coffee hour donations.

The North Kitchen is where the action takes place, has the best work table, hard wood chopping block. We just ask that you use cutting boards. There is a two door refrigerator and single door freezer. We have a second freezer purchased by the Memorial Luncheon committee. We have 4 -100 cup coffee pots, all kept in working order this past year by John Leibrock, it used to cost \$75.00 to repair so we often just bought new at \$100.00 +, there are 3-36 to 40 cuppers and two Mr. Coffees for small groups with one stainless steel pot dedicated for hot water only, donated. There is a three step folding ladder between the sink counter and freezer, so please do not use the kitchen stools or chairs to reach the upper cabinets. Below the sink we have bleach, gloves, dish soap and an assortment of cleaning aids to use before and after using the kitchen. Also in this area is an assortment of mixing bowls and measuring items. This room has all the dishes and serving needs in the cupboards around the room. The cupboards are marked as best we can with content. We have foil, plastic wrap, containers and baggies to take left over's home. We have a food processor and hand mixer in this area also. The faucets in the two kitchens were a gift from the Memorial Luncheon committee. There is a convection oven that was a recent addition to our room with the help of donation from Troop 955, our youth Group, and a few of the offerings from programs by our Music Director, the balance paid by the church.

On occasion Troop 955 has cleaned the kitchen Top to Bottom as a service project, taking every dish, basket, glass and anything that would go through the dishwasher safely, the rest was washed by hand. All shelves and drawers are also washed.

The only time you must supply anything for use is when you have a fundraiser and charge a fee or a private party.

It has been my pleasure to take care of keeping things filled and replaced with the help of my husband as my, as he calls it, grunt, and now Marlene Nowakowski for the past years and we hope to be able to continue to serve for some time to come.

Barbara Smith, Coordinator

## Mission Bake Sale and Bazaar

The mission bakers started making pies in early September with peach and cherry as the first pies. We had an average of 15 helpers each of the 6 sessions. Each person took a job in the process and with that kind of work force we were able to make 222 pies, large and small, this year.

Dorcas Circle donated toward the Scandinavian bake goods. The Rybak family and Jubilant Circle donated to the cherry pies and the Smiths to the apple pies, with cash from others for our efforts.

LaVerne Myers and Sheri Sears sold hand-made crafts. Lois Johnson took care of the ornament table.

Lynda Hartwig and Jane Hammer headed up the cookie table with 95 lbs of butter cookies made by the congregation and packed in 1lb & ½ lb card baskets made by LaVerne Myers and Cornelia McLean. We had a variety of plates and containers of other goodies, also homemade. We had lemon meringue pies made by Jane Hammer and rosettes by John Leibrock.

Our workers this year were - Lynda Hartwig, Jane Hammer, Beverley Brumm, Carol Wierz, Jay Wierz, LaVerne Myers, Alice Rybak, Ann Leibrock, Duane Smart (shopper) and pie maker, Bryan Smart, Dave Davies, Lois Johnson, Jan Page, Cornelia McLean, Lenora Schafer, Nell Thyssen, from New Hope Food Pantry and Barbara Smith (shopper).

The sale netted \$3,893.00 with \$1,000.00 matched by Thrivent for a total of \$4,893.00

With the help of those involved Lynda and I sent the funds as follows;

\$1,500 to Good Gifts plus \$1,000.00 for one well totaling \$2,500.00, \$500.00 to New Hope Food Pantry, \$700.00 to Missionary Kevin Jacobson, \$500.00 to Good Samaritan Quilt Plaza to help with shipping of the quilts and \$650.00 to ELCA Disaster Relief-IL Tornado, for a total of \$4,850.00

The remaining \$43.00 was given toward next year's bake sale supplies.

From all who worked on the pies, cookies, and crafts,

"THANK YOU!"

B. Smith,  
Coordinator

## Mission Quilters

The year began the first week in October, 2012, with new enthusiasm to do it again.

We completed 147 quilts at 23 meetings this year. We continued our new tradition in that we give a quilt to all graduating high school students, there were 8 this year. Thanks to Michael Lyda.

We meet the first and third Friday of the month year round, weather permitting, from 9am until 12 noon or when you need to leave. There is coffee and, at each meeting with a little business talk but mostly good fellowship.

We have anywhere from 5 to 14 quilters on any given Friday. There is a job for all. You don't need to know how to sew, just tie a knot or cut a square. All are welcome.

We sent one quilt with TOPS to their Area Reward Day to sell, it sold for \$60.00, with the money going to quilters for supplies. Ten boxes of blankets, 16 boxes of quilts 8 boxes of personal care kits were delivered to Messiah Lutheran by Gary Duszak, Russ Hammer and Denise Janci. We also gave 18 fleece blankets to Phil's Friends.

Our quilters for the year were, Alice Rybak, LaVerne Myers, Lynda Hartwig, Alice Myers, Joyce Weickart, Lois Johnson, Sheri Sears, Sharon Sawusch, Cornelia McLean, Lynett Iglehart, Nell Thyssen and Jane Hammer with visits from Lynn Bimmerle and Marilyn Baalson.

Thank you to all who donated material of all kinds to keep this ministry going. To the quilters that come each meeting. You are all wonderful!

B. Smith  
Coordinator





## The Out and Abouts

This is a new name for a group who, for a long time, have traveled to many different and interesting places. We try to do about two or three trips a year.

In the past we have taken two luncheon cruises, one on the Spirit of Chicago and one from Moline, IL on the Celebration. We have gone to White Fence Farm and enjoyed their famous fried chicken and some great entertainment. We've gone to four plays, including the American Passion Play in Bloomington, IL, Church Basement Ladies, Million Dollar Quartet, and Red Letter Jesus. We've done overnights in Springfield, IL/Lincoln Library; Holland/Grand Rapids, MI/Tulip Festival and Gerald Ford Library; and Galena, IL. Day travels include Kenosha/Racine, WI, and Starved Rock State Park. There were a couple of Christmas trips, one to the Fireside Christmas in Ft. Atkinson, WI and one to the Chapel in the Sky, Christkindlmarket, Macy's and the Christmas lights in Lincoln Park and Lincolnwood. No travels would be complete without a Cubs game or two. (Sorry White Sox fans, we'll do them in 2014).

All members and their families are invited to join us. We also welcome people from the community.

Any suggestions as to what type of trips or activities you would like to see offered, please send them to the office.

Watch the newsletter and announcements for upcoming trips and events we will be planning.

Come one, come all and join in the FUN!

Submitted by,  
Judi Eastwood

## Prayer Shawl

The prayer shawl ministry has completed its 6th year, as the shawls are made, the knitters pray for the recipient. Upon completion the shawl is blessed and given to an individual who is ill or under some duress. The shawl is a tangible gift of God's love. Prayer for peace, healing and "hugs from God" are felt by the recipient.

We meet the second Wednesday of each month at 1:00p.m., in the North Hall. At each meeting we knit and talk about our month and prayer concerns. Any newly completed shawls are blessed and held until there is a request for one. We have given 298 shawls including baptismal blankets. This year there were 19 baptismal blankets, 2 children's blankets and 21 shawls given.

The shawls are not sold, but donations are accepted to defray the cost of the yarn. To all who have generously give funds and yarn, we "Thank you"!

Our contributors are, Karen Waltz, Sharon Sawusch, Shirley Skopick, Marilyn Baalson, Phyllis Priest, Elsie Siewerth and Barbara Smith.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Smith, Knitter

## Third Thursday Fellowship (formerly Senior Fellowship)

Third Thursday Fellowship is a delightful time for worship, lunch and program for all interested adults. A brief worship service begins at 11:30 in the North Hall followed by lunch. The monthly programs vary in style, sometimes it is entertainment. We often have speakers with helpful programs and in September we even did a service project packing health kits for Lutheran World Relief. Whatever the event, it is always a time for visiting and sharing with others in our congregation. Visitors are always welcome but we do ask that you sign up so that we can plan lunch. The cost is still only \$ 10.00.

I am very honored to work with a great team of ladies who manage the menu, decorations, finances and programs. Come on the third Thursday of each month, March through December, and remember to bring a friend.

In loving service,  
Sheri Sears

## Wellness

### Health and Wellness Promotion

- Flue shots were provided this fall to 33 people and 1 pneumonia shot.
- Health and Wellness Screening was offered, with 24 people participating.
- Sunday morning blood pressure checks continue to be held.

### Member Care

- Care Bear ministry to persons homebound, hospitalized, and in long term care facilities.
- The "Friendly Visitor Program" continues to help in establishing visitors to the shut-ins of the church.
- The "Healing Meals Program" is to offer meals for members who might be in need for various reasons.
- Distribution of flowers to shut-ins at Easter.
- Prayer Shawl ministry is under the Wellness Committee.
- Serve as "Funeral Assistant" for all funerals at the church.
- The "Keepsakes for Christ" is a ministry to help provide small tokens to be left with the shut-ins when visited by Diaconal Minister or members of the committee. This year Jane Hammar and Jacquie Hartmann visited 25 people in "well checks," just to let the members know that they are being thought of.
- Host educational forums for the congregation and community.

Members include: Debbie Cook, Jane Hammar, Jacquie Harmann, Lynda Hartwig, Marilyn Keller and Kim Piskorowski.

Submitted by,  
Kim Piskorowski

## Sunshine Circle

The total number of cards purchased was 111. We began the year with 152 stamps on hand. We received 2 rolls of 46 cent stamps as follows:

June 13	100	\$ 46.00
September 27	100	\$ 46.00

The total was 309 stamps at a cost of \$ 137.05.

Cards sent in 2013:

Birthdays	115
Get Well	129
Sympathy	21
Baptism	5
Miscellaneous	13
Total cards sent	283

We occasionally received thoughtful notes in response to cards and they were much appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,  
Diane Snook & Francine Byrnes

# EDISON PARK LUTHERAN CHURCH FOUNDATION, INC.

## 2013 ANNUAL REPORT

**Mission:** To support the mission of Edison Park Lutheran Church in a life-giving way  
**2013 ANNUAL REPORT**

The purpose of the Foundation is to accumulate gifts, invest those gifts and use the income earned to assist EPLC at a time of financial need. During 2013 the Foundation gifted the Church \$86,000. Thanks to an outstanding Board of Directors and an investment strategy that has yielded excellent return, our earnings and appreciation on investments helped us grow the value of the Foundation in 2013.

We have worked to help EPLC to be a people living, loving and serving as Jesus did...so that all may know him. In 2013, several specific items were addressed:

In early 2013, EPLC decided to pursue purchase of two adjacent properties, 6602 N Oliphant and 6600 N Oliphant, with the help of the EPLC Foundation, for the best possible market price. The Foundation stands ready to help, but the property is not available at an acceptable price.

We asked the EPLC Treasurer to attend all Foundation Board of Directors meeting to keep us informed about the financial health of the Church. Typically, the Treasurer communicates the amount, if any, EPLC requires for the next quarter and the Foundation responds.

We formalized long-standing business practices in the bylaws. This means that these additional safeguards must be followed without fail. Accurate accounting and transparency is required.

The Foundation shall have an annual review of the financial records. This review shall be performed by an independent licensed accounting firm.

A detailed list of all holdings must be presented at each regular Board of Directors meeting and be available to all members of the Foundation upon request.

Each disbursement must be signed by at least two Foundation officers.

In recent years until 2013, EPLC maintained cash to cover at least two months expenses, and the Foundation gifted amounts to keep the cash at that high level. This year, we reduced gifts to EPLC to help bring the Church cash balance to a lower, but still manageable, level. We expect that having more money in the Foundation for investment will result in greater income.

The current asset value of the Foundation is in excess of \$2,700,000. Since its inception, the Foundation has given over \$1,600,000 to EPLC. \$396,000 of that was gifted in the last three years. At no time were these gifts given with the Foundation directing how they were to be used, but rather they were given to the Church to be used as the Congregational Council determined.

Even though the Foundation is in good shape and is doing a good job maintaining its portfolio, it is conceivable that the Foundation's monies could decrease significantly. As fellow members of the Church, it is our hope that we can all reflect and pray about our ability and responsibility to the stewardship of the Church. The less dependent the Church is on the Foundation, the better the Foundation can maintain its portfolio for the future. This would offer more opportunity for the Foundation to gift "Life Giving" programs that would bring life and growth to the Church. We believe that EPLC is a Spirit filled and healthy Congregation who has the ability to meet its financial challenges.



The Foundation provides a free annual subscription to any member of EPLC who wishes to receive the ELCA magazine, "The Lutheran". Families with children can request the publication, "Little Lutheran". Contact the Church office if you would like to receive either of these publications.

In 2013 the Foundation sponsored a Senior Luncheon and will be doing the same in 2014.

This past year those serving as Foundation Directors were: Dirk Ahlbeck, Joe Bartel Sr., Barry Bleeker, Gary Duszak, Kurt Gustafson, Monica Hemm, Clifford Jordan, Wayne Oberschelp, Laura Rinard, Alice Rybak, Klay Schmeisser and Jeff Wilk. Pastor Sparby attends the meetings as an ex-officio member.

If you would like any more information about the Foundation, its holdings or practices, please contact a Foundation Director.

If you wish to give a gift to the Foundation as an honorarium or memorial, or put the Foundation into your estate plan, you will be putting in place a "Perpetual Faith Legacy ". As long as possible, the Foundation will only expend monies from income and when that is no longer possible, the principal could be used.

Respectfully submitted,  
Wayne Oberschelp, President



### ***The Church's One Foundation***

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
she is his new creation by water and the word.  
From heav'n he came and sought her to be his holy bride;  
with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

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<b>Edison Park Lutheran Church Ministry Plan</b>							
<b>2009 - 2013 Actual Income and Expenses</b>							
<b>2013 Budget</b>						<b>Finalized 1/15/14</b>	
<b>2014 Proposed Budget</b>							

		Actuals					Budgets	
		2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2013	2014
<b>Income</b>								
Genl/Fest Giving		\$383,774	\$ 382,112	\$ 378,757	\$421,425	\$ 439,960	\$ 445,850	\$ 461,958
*Other Income		\$114,352	\$ 94,969	\$ 33,944	\$ 44,754	\$ 45,466	\$ 29,837	\$ 33,738
Memorials Transferred		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,965	\$ -	\$ -
Preschool Income		\$ 27,885	\$ 23,551	\$ 33,293	\$ 48,402	\$ 57,360	\$ 49,464	\$ 55,000
Foundation		\$ -	\$ 60,000	\$ 167,500	\$143,300	\$ 86,000	\$ -	\$ -
Total Income		\$526,011	\$ 560,632	\$ 613,493	\$657,880	\$ 643,751	\$ 525,151	\$ 550,696
*Includes Estate gifts, Program income, building usage								
<b>Expenses</b>								
Salaries		\$318,232	\$ 325,088	\$ 295,307	\$ 309,059	\$ 327,350	\$ 320,637	\$ 340,244
Benefits		\$ 68,696	\$ 80,343	\$ 85,399	\$ 76,527	\$ 84,389	\$ 86,144	\$ 88,402
Salaries & Benefits Total		\$386,928	\$ 405,431	\$ 380,706	\$385,586	\$ 411,739	\$ 406,781	\$ 428,646
<b>Ministry Teams:</b>								
<b>Outreach Team</b>								
Church in Society		\$ 168	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100	\$ 100
Fellowship		\$ 1,611	\$ 3,011	\$ 3,162	\$ 3,370	\$ 3,094	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,300
Outreach		\$ 1,809	\$ 4,681	\$ 16,859	\$ 6,678	\$ 5,011	\$ 9,500	\$ 9,500
Wellness		\$ 572	\$ 203	\$ 175	\$ 194	\$ 124	\$ 650	\$ 650
Salt & Light-2013 Mission Expansion Plan		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,916	\$ 20,000	\$ 15,000
Team Total		\$ 4,160	\$ 7,895	\$ 20,196	\$ 10,241	\$ 19,145	\$ 34,250	\$ 29,550
<b>Growing Team</b>								
Education		\$ 7,046	\$ 6,491	\$ 10,274	\$ 7,353	\$ 9,379	\$ 12,800	\$ 12,800
Preschool		\$ 1,930	\$ 1,695	\$ 1,755	\$ 2,186	\$ 1,875	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
Youth		\$ 6,357	\$ 3,566	\$ 6,773	\$ 8,661	\$ 5,915	\$ 8,200	\$ 8,200
Team Total		\$ 15,333	\$ 11,752	\$ 18,802	\$ 18,200	\$ 17,169	\$ 26,000	\$ 26,000
<b>Worship Team</b>								
Worship, Music & Arts		\$ 14,044	\$ 11,950	\$ 14,022	\$ 15,198	\$ 18,887	\$ 16,600	\$ 18,300
Team Total		\$ 14,044	\$ 11,950	\$ 14,022	\$ 15,198	\$ 18,887	\$ 16,600	\$ 18,300
<b>Leadership Team</b>								
Stewardship		\$ 2,637	\$ 2,485	\$ 2,723	\$ 2,923	\$ 2,572	\$ 3,150	\$ 3,150
Property		\$ 96,596	\$ 91,176	\$ 116,290	\$ 107,681	\$ 134,281	\$ 152,522	\$ 140,000
Office		\$ 21,099	\$ 25,571	\$ 33,093	\$ 22,768	\$ 26,262	\$ 26,346	\$ 24,350
Benevolence		\$ 70,139	\$ 81,290	\$ 65,198	\$ 80,755	\$ 83,799	\$ 66,899	\$ 62,803
Team Total		\$190,470	\$ 200,522	\$ 217,305	\$214,128	\$ 246,915	\$ 248,917	\$ 230,303
<b>Total Expenses</b>		\$610,935	\$ 637,550	\$ 651,030	\$643,353	\$ 713,855	\$ 732,548	\$ 732,799

## Edison Park Lutheran Church

- 2013 Financial Overview
- 2014 Proposed Ministry Plan/Budget

**Our Mission:** *To be a people living, loving, and serving as Jesus did...so that all may know Him.*

**THANK YOU EPLC!**

Annual Meeting, January 26, 2014

January 15, 2014

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## 2013 Overview - Summary

	2013 Actual	2013 Budget
A. Giving	439,960	445,850
B. Other Income	203,791	79,301
C. Expenses	713,885	732,548
<b>Difference (A+B-C)</b>	<b>(70,134)</b>	<b>(207,397)</b>

Projected Monthly Deficit: **(\$17.3k)**

Act. Mo.Def. without Foundation **(\$13 k)**

Act. Mo. Def. without Memorials **(7.1K)**

Act. Mo. Def, with Foundation/Mem: **(\$5.8k)**

2

## 2013 Overview - Income

- Act. giving increased 4.4% over 2012
- Giving a little lower compared to 2013 budget (1.3% lower than budget)
- Strong preschool income as it continues to be stable and grow
- Foundation gifts 2013 - \$86,000, a 40% decrease from 2012 when help totaled \$143,300
- Undesignated Memorials transferred to General - \$14,965

3

## 2013 Overview - Expense

- Ministry area expenses under budget by 7%, some major projects include:
- Refinished Avondale outside doors-\$6,125
- South Hall Flood Mitigation - \$17,847
- New door by stage \$1,833
- Roof repairs(coping & flat roof) \$2,700
- Carpet cleaning \$535
- Ladies room refurbish \$1,175

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## 2014 Assumptions - Income

- Giving – increase by 5% over actual of this past year
- Stable preschool income
- Stable building Use income
- Some Foundation gifts

5

## 2014 Assumptions - Expenses

- Benevolence rate remains 15½ % of General offerings, with 10% going to Metro Chicago Synod/ELCA
- Modest salary increases for staff
- Tower Interior Restoration project
- Being Salt & Light Mission Expansion Plan 2014

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## 2014 Assumptions - Summary

	2013 Budget	2014 Budget
A. Giving	445,850	461,958
B. Other Income	79,301	88,738
C. Expenses	732,548	732,799
<b>Difference (A+B-C)</b>	<b>(207,397)</b>	<b>(182,103)</b>

- Projected Annual Deficit: **\$182,103**
- Projected Monthly Deficit: **\$15.2k**

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## Budgeted Expense by Year

2009	\$699,000
2010	\$720,000
2011	\$687,473
2012	\$663,669
2013	\$732,548
<b>2014</b>	<b>\$732,799</b>

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## Actual Expense by Year

2009	610,935
2010	637,550
2011	651,030
2012	643,353
<b>2013</b>	<b>713,855</b>

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## Gifts from EPLC Foundation

2010	\$ 60,000
2011	\$167,500
2012	\$143,300
2013	\$ 86,000

**We're grateful for the EPLC Foundation, which has served our mission and maintained growth. Thanks for remembering the Foundation in your Planned Giving.**

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## Monthly Budgeted Deficit by Year

2010	(\$22,800)
2011	(\$19,600)
2012	(\$16,500)
2013	(\$17,300)
2014	(\$15,175)

**Your offerings make the difference. Let's keep trending in a positive direction.**

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## Benevolence from EPLC 2013

<b>ELCA/Metro Chicago Synod</b>	\$	43,650	
<b>Missionary Kevin Jacobson</b>	\$	11,871	
<b>Special gifts to ELCA Missionary fund</b>	\$	270	
<b>Lutheran Social Services of IL (LSSI)</b>	\$	3,294	
<b>World Hunger</b>	\$	6,993	
<b>Disaster Relief</b>	\$	4,099	
·Malaria \$1,195			
·Illinois Tornado \$1,330			
·Oklahoma Tornado \$764			
·Typhoon Haiyan-Philippines \$810			
<b>Holy Family School</b>	\$	6,016	
Monthly support \$3,256			
Bucks for Books \$2,760			
<b>Other:</b>	\$	4,472	
·Local family emergency help \$982			
·Holy Family Church After School Program \$460			
·Lutherdale \$600			
·New Hope Food Pantry \$600			
·Center of Concern \$500			
·Refugee One-Do One Thing Campaign \$30			
·Global Handmade Hope Threads of Glory \$300			
·Lutheran Partners in Global Ministry \$500			
·Partner Congregation San Lucas \$500			
<b>Sub-total</b>	\$	80,665	
<b>EPLC Mission Bazaar</b>	\$	4,850	
Bazaar Income: \$3850			
Matching Funds received from Thrivent: \$1000			
Total to Disburse: \$4850			
Disbursed as follows:			
ELCA Good Gifts-1 water well \$2,500			
Missionary Kevin Jacobson \$700			
New Hope Food Pantry \$500			
Lutheran World Relief Quilt Program \$500			
ELCA Disaster Relief-Illinois Tornado \$650			
2013 Benevolence	\$	85,515	
2012 Benevolence	\$	80,755	
Increase in benevolence giving over last year	\$	4,760	
% Growth		5.9%	
<b>Total Given by EPLC in 2013</b>	<b>\$85,515</b>		
*Seminary Tuition	\$	6,000.00	
*Anderson-Nasby Seminary Scholarship dispersed on behalf of EPLC by the ELCA. Currently going to Luther Seminary for Michael Lyda.			

# Membership Statistics 2013

## Edison Park Lutheran Church

Baptized Membership at <u>end of 2011</u>	793	
<b>Baptized Membership at <u>end of 2012</u></b>	<b>835</b>	
Baptized in 2013	19	
Transfers/Additions	30	
<b>Total members received</b>	<b>49</b>	
 <b>Baptized Members Removed during 2013</b>		
By death	7	
By transfer	10	
<b>Total members removed this year</b>	<b>19</b>	
 <b>Baptized Membership, <u>end of 2013</u></b>	<b>867</b>	<b>+4%</b>
 Total confirmed members	753	
Number confirmed in 2013	13	
Average weekly worship attendance	277	

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