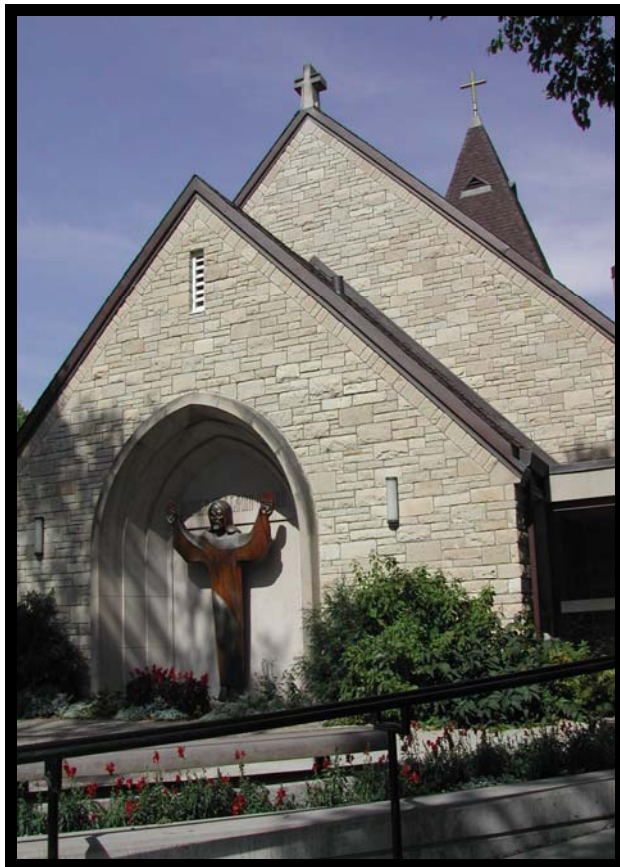


St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church

Annual Report to the Congregation



**Financial Meeting
January 29, 2012**

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**Saint Anthony Park Lutheran Church
Congregational Meeting
January 29, 2012**

We are a community of believers among whom the Gospel is proclaimed and the sacraments received. We are called to serve God, one another, and the world.

AGENDA

Call to Order	Kent Eklund
Opening Devotions	Pastor Berg-Moberg
Reading of Minutes	Marc Culver
Pastor's Report	Pastor Berg-Moberg
Associate Pastor's Report	Pastor Ostlie-Olson
Congregational President's Report	Kent Eklund
Delegates to Lyngblomsten and Synod Assembly	Kent Eklund
Treasurer's Report	John Berger
Presentation and Approval of 2012 Budget	
Closing and Adjournment	
Prayer	
Doxology	

*We remember those in our parish who have passed
from the Church Militant to the Church Triumphant in 2011:
Eleanor Andersen, Dorothy Birkeland, Eugene Fevold, Grace Flaten, Trygg Hansen,
Emma May Haugan, Eric Hayes, Betty Morlock, Fred Morlock, Nels Nelson,
Adelheid Haugan Price, Grace Steinhauser.*

VALUES, VOCATION, AND VISION STATEMENT

Adopted: 1/2010

Jesus said, 'You did not choose me but I chose you.'

--John 15.16a

Jesus said to him, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'

--Matthew 22.37-39

Values:

God is actively and creatively bringing the church into being.

God calls us, and all people, into this mission locally and globally.

At the heart of our worship and work are these values:

- God's Word, given and spoken to you in Jesus Christ
- Belonging
- Becoming
- Forgiveness

Vocation:

Saint Anthony Park Lutheran Church invites and welcomes every generation:

- To know and share Jesus Christ.
- To experience change created by God's love in community.
- To call on God in worship, praise, prayer, and lament.
- To forgive, serve, and love.

Vision:

All generations in this community:

- Experience multiple and diverse avenues to connection and belonging.
- Know the Biblical story of God in Christ as their story too.
- Experience God's grace through receiving and giving forgiveness.
- Know and value one another as witnesses to and examples of God's creative, redeeming, and sustaining power.
- Actively support each other in our joys and our sorrows.
- Understand, celebrate, and participate in the manifold ways we serve our neighbors near and far.
- Generously share the blessings and commitments of our life together.

PARISH STATISTICAL REPORT
January 29, 2012

WORSHIP SERVICES

87	Total Sunday Worship Services
15	Total Special Worship Services
52	Sunday Worship Services at St. Anthony Park Home
13	Funeral/Memorial Services/Interments
9	Baptisms
1	Weddings

Average Sunday Worship Attendance:

150	at each Sunday service (not including Easter)
303	on each Sunday
143	at 8:30 services
156	at 11:00 services
198	at summer services

INFORMATION ABOUT MEMBERSHIP

	Baptized	Confirmed
Membership as of January 1, 2011	725	516
Members received during 2011		
a) by Baptism	9	n/a
b) by Affirmation of Faith (Confirmation)	n/a	9
c) by Transfer from Lutheran Congregation	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>
Total Members Received	16	15
Members removed during 2011		
a) by Death	8	8
b) by Transfer to ELCA congregation	2	2
c) by Membership statistical adjustment	<u>50</u>	<u>50</u>
Total Members Removed	60	60
Membership as of December 31, 2011	681	471

**St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church
Congregational Meeting Minutes
May 15, 2011**

The meeting was called to order by Kent Eklund at 1:01 PM.

Kent thanked the Membership and Church Commission for organizing the potluck and supplying the pulled pork.

Devotions were provided by Pastor Marc:

Acts II: they devoted themselves to fellowship and the breaking of bread.....added to the number of those being saved. Vibrancy.....frequent mention of the VVV statement. Noticed how these commitments are rising into the ways our commissions are doing their work. What are the values that they are embodying, teaching, joy and generosity, becoming and belonging, power of forgiveness. Our values are not so different from this Acts community and I find great joy in that. People are coming to us and joining us. Able to provoke awe because it is a wonderful thing. Shane Claiborne....radical evangelical, in esquire magazine in 2009 note to nonbelieving friends...Christianity does not spread through force but through fascination. God really is love.....

January 2011 Congregational Minutes:
Presentation of the minutes

Jon Schumacher moved to approve the January 2011 Congregational meeting minutes, Jason Langworthy seconded, brief discussion, approved unanimously corrected motion for Jon Schumacher

Pastor's Report:

Senior Pastor (Glenn Berg-Moberg):

His report is in the annual meeting report. On sabbatical presently.

Associate Pastor (Marc Ostlie-Olson):

Report in annual meeting report. Goal of this program is to provide educational.....engaged in auspicious things.....

Pastor Marc highlighted several of the items and events over the past year.

Long Range Planning Group.

A couple of ministries, intergenerational nature of the long term prayer partner program. You don't remember what you learned in Sunday school 3rd grade, but you remember who taught you. Another Lenten devotional program and add a devotional program for Advent.

Building our own Vacation Bible School program this year. April and May participation in Synod's trip to Guatemala. Would like to send a delegation of youth and adults to Guatemala next spring.

Grateful for the congregation's support of all of these ministries.

President's Report:

Why the cabinet seems to be as quiet as it is....cabinet does its best work when it is "out of sight"

Why do we need two Annual Meetings? There are two pieces of rationale. We used to elect new commissions in the middle of the program year so they would inherit something that they didn't plan and then only plan 3 months of the next year. The second reason is that the Special Ministry Grants, we don't know how much we have to distribute in time for the January meeting. These two reasons, and others, are why we have two annual meetings.

Thank the cabinet for their work.

Acknowledgement of printed reports. Simply meant for you to be informed as to what is going on in our church. From Staff, from Commissions, Refugee Core Committee, Women of the ELCA Committee.

Special Ministry Grants:

Blessed that we had excellent investment returns and therefore we were able to fully fund all applications.

Point out that in the report we have a history of all grants distributed through this program over the years. With this year's grants, we have now awarded over \$400,000 in grants.

Jon Schumacher: This year, all grants were deemed worthwhile and were fully funded. Will briefly review the grants:

- BMC: Upgrade of Church Database. Last updated database in 2001. Will now be able to share the database across the Church network
- Church in Society: solar cooking units for Nicaragua. Helps with deforestation, and health and generally being able to sustain themselves.
- Education: Provide a music director for the Dead Sea Squirrels this summer.
- Education/Worship Music and Arts: Advent and Lenten Devotionals
- Health Committee: Karen Newton – PR Mailing for Healing Services
- Outreach: Murray Junior High tutoring program, matching some outside funds
- Refugee Core Committee: SEAM in support of Refugee Employment Support Program
- WMA: Frame to hang fabric art inside the steeple area
- WMA: Burn the Candle installation in main Education stairwell. Expands project that was started this year.

- Staff Continuing Education Fund
- Youth: Phase 2 of Youth Room. Furniture, and remodel kitchen adjacent to Youth room.
- Leisure Center: Monies to support an organization that provides lunches for SAP seniors.

Total amount of money is \$17,275. Leaves \$725 that will go back into the principle of the Special Ministry Grant fund.

Three areas of church, Capital Improvements, Outreach/Benevolence

Monies breakdown.....

\$2000 on Capital Improvements

4675 on Outreach

Question by David Christianson, we should be open to increasing one of these. Cabinet did discuss this, but not sure which grant to augment. Every year we don't spend all of the allocations. Cabinet decided to return extra money to principal.

David Christianson moves to augment the Special Ministries Grant allocation by providing \$500 extra to the grant application for the Staff Continuing Education fund, David Brostrom seconded,. Approved unanimously.

\$225 to solar ovens, Jon Schumacher moved to amend the motion , John Koepke seconded. Approved unanimously.

Jason Langworthy moves to accept recommendations of Special Ministry Grant awards as amended, John Koepke seconded, brief discussion.

Approved unanimously.

2011 Commission Rosters:

Assembled by Sheldon Berg, as a part of the Membership and Church Life Commission

Any nominations from the floor? Sheldon: Astrid Anderson added to Membership and Church Life Commission for a two year term.

Add Deanna Seppanen for a two year term in the Education Commission.

Question on Sheldon's term, yes it is expiring.

Bill Lorimar moved to approve Commission and Officer appointments, Jennifer Stuckey seconded, no additional discussion, approved unanimously.

Cabinet can add members at regular meetings.

Hope over the next year to distribute the participation in the commissions more broadly. Need to talk about the people resource of this congregation more.

Treasurer's Report:

John Berger not present (traveling), but the budget is in good shape. Not flush with money, but not strapped. Exactly where we were last year. Starting on page 50, a number of dedicated funds shown. Wanted to show which commissions, organizations, individuals are responsible for spending and managing these funds.

This will likely be the tradition in the future. May well see simply a review of the treasury, not a detailed report.

Old Business:

New Business:

Mary Mergenthal: Ask for prayers for Friday and Saturday. Delegates sent to the Synod assembly that vote on many issues without the direct input from the congregation. Prince of Peace in Bloomington.

Call your attention to the announcements that reflect the coming summer events.

Omitted nursery staff. Thank them personally and include them in your prayers.

Paula Carter has become a prayer partner. As Olivia leaves the church, without fail, yells out to Paula, "Bye Paula, I'll pray for you."

Story about welcome, hospitality, of Christians works.

Closing prayer by Pastor Marc.

Motion to adjourn by Marc Culver , seconded by Molly Breen , approved unanimously. At 1:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcus Culver, Secretary

SENIOR PASTOR'S REPORT

January 2012

Dear Friends in Christ,

We vote on a budget for the year ahead every January. This is also a time to take stock in the year just completed. This was an extraordinary year, and deserves some celebration and review.

A SABBATICAL

For me the year 2011 was shaped by the sabbatical experience. The Lily Endowment granted some 39,000.00 to fund a sabbatical. For me, it meant a once in a lifetime experience of travel, learning, and rest. These Clergy Renewal grants are also intended to have positive impact on the congregation as a whole, not just the individual pastor. I believe this has been a benefit for all of us. Many of you have heard me speak of my travels and learning, but I offer here a re-cap of the experience and its meaning.

I travelled to Greece to join in a three week intensive course titled "The Christian Movement in the Mediterranean" taught by Dr. Linford Stutzman of the faculty of Eastern Mennonite Seminary. Of the three weeks of study, two weeks were aboard a sailing vessel, the Morning Star which is based near Athens Greece. The Apostle Paul travelled thousands of miles, on foot and via sailing ship. Dr. Stutzman was amazed to discover that the aspect of sea travel in the spread of the gospel has very scant attention in scholarship. It is a rich vein for study and a vivid experience. I will never forget it.

We visited sites in Greece and Turkey where key phases of the growth of the early church took place: The Areopagus where Paul preached in Athens, Corinth where Paul met the co-workers Prisca and Aquilla, Ephesus where he preached regularly for two years, Miletus where he bid farewell for the last time to his brothers and sisters in Asia Minor, and the Island of Patmos, where John wrote down the visionary experience that became the Book of Revelation. The Letters of Paul and the Book of Acts came alive for me in powerful and unexpected ways. It has rejuvenated my teaching and preaching. This has been noted and well received in the congregation. The four session study of Acts in the adult forum was a pleasure to teach.

After the course work, Karen travelled to Athens to meet me for our own journey of relaxation, sight-seeing and more learning and adventure. We saw Athens, the Greek Island of Aegina, and then on to Istanbul and Cappadocia in Turkey. The visits to the Blue Mosque and Hagia Sophia and the national archeological museum were a dream come true. Cappadocia was an eye-opening look at a history and way of life that was all new to us.

On return to the U.S. I used the remaining time for rest and to upgrade my sailing credentials with a boat-handling course on Lake Superior. A family cruise aboard a 50 foot sailboat in the Apostle Islands brought this whole exciting time to a fitting finish.

The grant also supported a commission for a large work of art. Minneapolis artist Joe Larson produced a multi-panel mural that depicts Christ crucified and risen, the Apostle Paul and his letters, and the Mediterranean Sea- all in a colorful collage that will be a lasting record of this experience, and will adorn our worship space from time to time in the future.

'Sabbatical' comes from the word 'Sabbath.' The commandment to remember the Sabbath day may be one we trespass on far more than we care to admit. My time away was a revelation.

It has been said that fish never know much about the water they swim in- a metaphor for being so accustomed to routine that we lose perspective. This was most certainly true for me. I had become unaware of how the pressures, deadlines and concerns of the day consume my thoughts and require my energy. Setting them down for a three month season was a gift of restoration. It taught me that we do need Sabbath. I will be thinking and talking about this for some time to come.

Of course no Sabbath time would be possible if I thought the congregation would suffer from being short-staffed for three months. I want to say publicly that the entire church staff carried this time so well that it was seamless. Pastor Marc handled extra duties including four funerals and five baptisms while I was gone. This was over and above the regular duties he must perform, as well as extra day to day tasks that would normally fall to me. I am grateful for such an able colleague.

Sara Birkeland, Paula Carter, Carol Koepke, Karen Newton, and Sister Becky Swanson all had extra responsibility while I was away. If the sabbatical time seemed uneventful for the average church member, it was because these devoted staff members handled the season of my absence with aplomb. I thank God for a good church staff, and I thank them for their loyalty and support.

My dear friends, I cannot express in words what this experience has meant to me. I am deeply thankful to all of you for your support and enthusiasm in this venture. By my own reckoning it has revitalized my ministry. For me the time has had enormous value. I hope and trust it will bear fruit for our life together.

OUR BUDGET, OUR VALUES

With the 2012 budget, we have addressed a serious issue of unfair compensation. Two staff members were found to be below all relevant guidelines for compensation. This was particularly pronounced in the case of Sara Birkeland, our Director of Worship and Music. This issue had been raised in the past, but with only token acknowledgment, and no serious efforts to redress the lack. In order to bring

compensation in line with what is just, to say nothing of recognizing her excellence, we needed to make a significant increase in compensation.

This was also true, though to a lesser degree for Pastor Ostlie Olson's compensation. Other staff members have gone without cost of living raises more than once in recent years. To adjust some salaries without at least offering cost of living increases for others seemed unjust.

All this required some re-ordering of priorities. Our overall income will grow, but the growth will not be enough to cover the salary increases without other changes in the budget. We decided to trim funds from other areas to make up the difference. We made cuts in funding for maintenance, office supplies, and program areas.

We have an excellent staff of talented and devoted people. To continue funding programs and supplies at the expense of just compensation and robust morale among staff is penny-wise and pound-foolish. This will be a year when we invest in our staff members, which is a message about what we as a congregation value.

All self-studies here have revealed a consistent set of priorities. We appreciate high quality worship which offers good preaching, coherent liturgies and inspiring music. We treasure good education and youth ministry. All these are preserved best by retaining talented staff members.

A FAREWELL

In a familiar pattern for urban churches, new immigrant congregations share space with established congregations that have diminished in size. That pattern usually benefits both congregations. With our own growth, St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church has departed from that pattern. This brings complications with our shared housing arrangement with Minnesota Faith Chinese Lutheran Church.

We will continue to expand ministry with children and youth in the foreseeable future. This is a growing edge of our congregation, with many new families. Other opportunities for seniors and intergenerational ministries are also possible. This good news brings on complications and growing pains.

Our building is a ministry tool and not a shrine. That is something to celebrate! The building is used to capacity which is also something to celebrate. As our own ministries expand, we find we are more frequently in need of space in the building. The only solution is to gain more open hours in the building.

The SAPLC cabinet has taken the difficult decision to end the housing relationship with Minnesota Faith Chinese Lutheran Church. We have advised the Chinese congregation they need to seek a new location. The decision will not take effect until the end of May, 2012, which gives them six months from the time of notification to make new arrangements.

The Chinese ministry is important and must continue as a mission in God's kingdom. We give thanks for our 15 year association with this ministry. Please pray for guidance for all during this time of transition.

LOOKING AHEAD

We are blessed to be a blessing. The community we share, gathered around Word and Sacrament, is spreading the Good News in an environment immersed in sophisticated skepticism. This congregation matters. You are the light of the world. I truly feel that the presence of Christ is known through this community, radiating to our neighbors.

We will also be meeting neighbors in Guatemala as well as in St. Anthony Park. We still have the concerns of the Central Corridor to address. The call and need for Sabbath in the mid-city is real. Let us pray that we will not miss an opportunity to give an account for the hope that is within us through Jesus Christ, the Living Word.

It is a blessing to be among you and an honor to serve you.

Pastor Glenn Berg Moberg

ASSOCIATE PASTOR'S REPORT

January 2012

As I've mentioned before, the January report is a handy marker for me. Our meeting this month coincides with the anniversary of my arrival as a pastor among you. We're now entering my fourth year of what seems, from my end, to be a relationship of mutually enriching challenge and support.

I'm witnessing a vitality in what we're doing together here that is reflected by your generous sharing of time and talent, as well as our congregation's encouraging giving projection for 2012. I continue to look with excitement and curiosity towards the months and years that God is leading us into.

Congregational Vision and Leadership

The Values, Vocation, & Vision statement adopted by the congregation two years ago continues to have life and to emerge and be articulated in interesting ways in our worship and ministries of service and education. My time spent convening the Long Range Planning team, with its charge to tend the central commitments of the VVV statement, and help us imagine our congregation's future, continues to be very satisfying and productive. Our work in 2011 produced recommendations to the cabinet regarding ways people will interact financially with the congregation, as well as a proposal to revisit the language and structure of SAPLC's constitution to more fully align policy with actual practice.

I'm hopeful that the challenges of the vocation and vision articulated in the VVV statement will continue to focus our programs and practices and ways of doing business in the coming year, especially as we together develop and refine staff job descriptions, make ways to welcome more people into weight-sharing participation in the blessings and commitments of congregational life, and discern where God's mission is calling our resources.

I trust that God will continue to bless and challenge SAPLC with amazing, thoughtful, and engaged members and friends, and that we will respond to their gifts, and the needs of neighbors near and far, with gratitude and courage and faith.

Children, Youth, and Family Ministry

Education, youth, and family ministries at SAPLC are places and sources of life and energy here, and this was true in 2011. God is blessing our church with children, young people, and with families who see value and find place in the community that we are stewarding and shaping. Our programs reflect and respond to, and help sustain this.

By way of focusing the intent of our education programs, this year we shared the following ambition with teachers and parents and students in Sunday School and Confirmation:

The goal of this program is to provide social and educational experiences and resources to your family so that your child will be able to make informed, thoughtful, and authentic public affirmation of his or her Christian baptism at an appropriate time, and that his or her faith will be a living and lifelong source of personal strength and a blessing for the world.

We take up the responsibilities inherent to faith formation seriously here. Guided by God's intention for globally abundant life, our goals are lifelong and large. We also take a long view, which allows for grace and freedom for individual people to grow in and explore God's gifts. This requires from us a sharp and wise sensitivity to moment, the stable strength of real relationships, and non-defensive joy in sharing the Gospel of Christ Jesus.

Worship and Preaching

My call is to the ministry of Word and Sacrament. I work to set the rest of my duties and to-do lists in a subordinate position to this source and center. This is not always easy, as our congregation values its many high quality programs, and we are a self-evidently busy bunch. An ongoing tension in my ministry and in our congregational life is our desire to do everything. I will continue to uphold the single and central importance of worship, and advocate as truth that everything else we undertake as ministry is linked to, and utterly dependent on, the named and shared grace of God.

If you do nothing else here at SAPLC but come to the communion table and get God's grace, that is enough.

Fed by God's word, sustained by the ever-flowing grace of baptism and the open welcome of Holy Communion, our congregational worship is the place where our lives' meaning and purpose are grounded and restored, where our vision is sharpened and tested, where our voices are freed to sing, where rifts and in relationship are healed, and souls are sustained by God's grace in Christ.

Thank you for faithful participation in worship, and for supporting the pastoral and always-professional work of Sara Birkeland and Ann Braaten, whose leadership, planning, shaping and spiritual strength are so frequently taken for granted on a given Sunday. I'm also grateful to (and for) Glenn Berg-Moberg, whose friendship and partnership in this ministry help me be a better preacher and pastor.

Other Notable Thank Yous

- **Paula Carter** (for general front-line awesomeness, as well as a vital and utterly dependable ministry presence in our building and community)
- **Carol Koepke** (for attention to detail, encouragement, and patience with me)
- **Karen Newton** (for both advocating and representing that intergenerational ministry extends as fully up the age spectrum as it does down)

- **Mari Espeland, Becky Swanson, and Molly Breen**, (whose leadership in music and worship education are structurally integral to the rest of our education ministries, and a precious blessing in our worship)
- **Lenard Kiriamia** (for his tireless and calm competence)
- **Barb Burk, Shawn Dobbins, John Berger, Hob Weiss, and Elizabeth Lee** (for anchoring the Sunday morning confirmation components with wisdom and skill)
- **Scott Hamilton, Nick Thomey, Ivan & Ellie Swenson, Hob Weiss, Kevin Dragseth, Sara Birkeland, and Missy Lundquist** (for accompanying and occasionally herding our Junior High kids in discussion on Wednesday nights)
- **Sunday School Teachers and Opening Musicians**
- **Alicia Sandy and Kirstin Bromaghim** (Youth Commission co-chairs)
- **Tanya Anderson & Brian Sorensen** (Ed Commission co-chairs)

Highlights of 2011

- Rural/Urban retreat exchange with Pontoppidan and First Lutheran churches (February)
- Participating, with Alicia Sandy, in the Synod delegation to Guatemala, and exploring a future congregational partnership with the *Iglesia Lutheran Augustina de Guatemala* (April/May)
- Pastor Glenn's Sabbatical (May - July)
- The epic Intergenerational Holden Village Adventure (June/July)
- Confirmation Camp at Good Earth Village (June)
- *We Belong to God's World*, our homegrown Vacation Bible School (August)
- Lake Superior Voyageur Canoe Trip with the eighth graders (August)
- Farewell to the [Fellowship Hall] Floor roller skating event
- Advent and Lenten Devotionals produced by the congregation
- Lucha Lefse, several Chef Schools, September Ropes Course, and Midwinter Meltdown Retreat
- Babypalooza Brunch (December)
- 107 currently active Intergenerational Prayer Partner connections
- 120 children currently participating in Sunday School (Preschool through 8th grade)
- 88 children currently participating in Choir School (babies through 6th grade)
- 40 kids currently participating in confirmation (6-9th grade)
- 9 tenth graders made public affirmation of their baptism (November)

What's Coming

The next seven months of 2012 are filling with exciting events and opportunities:

- Lenten Soup Suppers, during which time our youth will raise funds for summer trips and activities
- 2012 Lenten Devotional project, *Beneath the Tree of Life*
- Lenten worship series

- Holy Week and Easter (the central feast of the Christian church - no offense, Christmas)
- Spring retreats for ninth grade, Junior High and sixth grade (April)
- Vacation Bible School (June 18-22)
- Jr. High Confirmation Camp at Good Earth Village (MN) in July
- High School Trip to Christikon, MT, in July
- Incoming Freshman Adventure Canoe Trip - Camp Amnicon (July-August)

Finally

On most days, I deeply enjoy my work. The unique place of witness and accompaniment that the role of pastor allows me is a gift and trust. I'm energized by the life rhythms of an active and vital congregation, and the ways the community seeks and responds to my ministry. I'm challenged by the call to share innovative and integrative leadership within a community (and among a staff) of skilled and resourceful people.

I am three years into my life as a parish pastor, and ten years into the journey of responding to God's call to ministry as my daily vocation. My imagination and vision get stretched and challenged almost every day as I help midwife our ministry into new forms.

Each January also provides opportunity for me to articulate a hope and intention to slow down, to claim important time with my family in the coming year. My boys are growing up (Dane will be driving a car and considering colleges by this time next year). My challenge at this stage of my life and ministry has to do with balancing the opportunities and needs of my work at SAPLC with my vocations as husband and father.

Our family life has been lived for the last twenty years in two-to-three year increments, with major changes in location or focus at each interval. These changes served as "speed bumps" allowing for periods of assessment and renewal. Now we are 36 months into an indefinite (and exciting) call, and I'm trying to discern how to adjust my stride from sprint to sojourn. I ask for your patience, your prayers, and your support in this process.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rev. Marc Ostlie-Olson

PRESIDENT'S REPORT
January, 20112

If you were to review the weekly bulletin inserts since we met at our May 2011 meeting, you would be struck by the variety and amount of programming, study opportunities, and service activities of this congregation. A personal highlight for me was the adult forum series led by Pastor Berg-Moberg on his sabbatical. Picturing actual sites of passages in Paul's journeys while putting into contexts the issues facing the early church was a true learning experience for me. I appreciate even more the humanity of our church and the need for continual change in light of current issues and conditions. A congregational change issue before the Long Range Planning Task Force right now is ministry opportunities, in collaboration with others, created by the light rail line.

The budget we discuss today has been particularly challenging. The level of activities I alluded to in the first paragraph occurs because of a dynamic collaboration among our paid staff and our members acting in volunteer capacities. The balance between staff and volunteers is always being adjusted. A key component of the staffing side of the equation is compensation. Through changes in job descriptions and responsibilities and data available from the St. Paul Area Synod, the cabinet discerned inequities among certain staff levels of compensation. The budget we are presenting today seeks to address these inequities.

Finally, on a personal note, I am looking forward to these last four months of my presidency. In May I will complete my seventh year as president since 1979. I look forward to finding news ways to serve this dynamic community of faith.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kent Eklund

INVESTMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

The Investment Committee is charged with the responsibility of investing the St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church Permanent Fund, as well as any other funds it is directed to invest by the Cabinet.

Permanent Fund

The Permanent Fund is invested in a diversified portfolio of stocks and bonds in order to achieve the goal of generally increasing grant distributions over time. Specific investments are selected based on Investment Objectives that are submitted by the Investment Committee to the Cabinet on an annual basis. Currently, the Permanent Fund is invested in five low cost Vanguard index mutual funds which are broadly invested in the stocks of large U.S. companies, small U.S. companies, international companies, corporate (U.S.) bonds and Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITS). 2011 was an up and down year in investment markets, with the end result a small gain for our portfolio. Results for the Permanent Fund in 2011 are shown below.

Balance as of 12/31/2010	\$359,871
Additional Contributions	\$47,921
Grants distributed*	-\$17,427
Investment Gains	\$9,405
Balance as of 12/31/2011	\$399,770

* 2011 grants of \$18,000 less \$573 unused from 2010.

Special ministry grants of approximately 5% of the Permanent Fund are made annually.

Building Fund

A separate building fund account is used as a buffer to assure that monthly mortgage payments can be made even if contributions fluctuate from month to month and to serve as a cash reserve for emergency building repairs. This committee oversees that fund. The balance of this account as of December 31, 2011 was \$29,729.

I appreciate the work of Investment Committee members Jeremy Dobson, Bret Chaput, Sara Skovholt and Greta Gauthier and I would like to extend a special thank-you to David Christianson whose term expired in May after many years of shepherding our investments.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Dahlberg, Chairperson

2011 WELCA Report

Beginning Balance

\$173.43

Income:

Net on Coffee Sales	54.10.
Net on Epiphany breakfasts	316.51
Lucinda Pins (\$300 Art Fair, 30 later)	330.00
Thankofferings	220.00
World Day of Prayer offering	68.00
Circles donations 45, 106, 125,	<u>276.00</u>
Total	\$ 1,264.61

Expenses:

St. Paul Synod Women's Organization (Registration & Offering) 45+75	120.00
WELCA National Triennial Offering	50.00
Lutheran Woman Today subscription	33.00
Synod WELCA for pin sales	270.00
Solar ovens for Nicaragua	100.00
Keystone Food Shelf (circle)	125.00
ELCA World Hunger (Global Barnyard)	100.00
LILAP	100.00
Rezek House (LSS – MN)	100.00
St Paul Partners (Tanzania Water Project)	100.00
Thank offerings to Women of the ELCA	220.00
World Day of Prayer offering	68.00
Christmas gifts for staff 2011	122.58
Christmas Plants for elders	<u>9.62</u>
Total	\$ 1,518.20

Ending balance

\$ 125.44

The totals include – but are not limited to – the itemized entries.

Victorine Nelson Memorial Fund Distributions

SAPLC (for parish hall floor)	\$2,500
Nyaka Aids Orphans	1,000
LILAP	1,750
Solar Ovens	100
ELCA Disaster Relief	1,000
ELCA Malaria	500
Japan ELC	500

Non-Financial Contributions:

School Bags for LWR: 130

Health Kits for LWR: 50

Sewing Kits for LWR 25

Quilts: 79 Divided between LWR and local charities (Salvation Army, Union Gospel Mission, Marie Sandvig Center, Southeast Asian Ministries, congregation refugee support, Rezek House)

Rezek House: household items

Plymouth Christian Youth – Christmas Gifts 7-8 large bags

Glasses for Lion's Club: pairs of glasses, sunglasses, cases

Poinsettia Plants: 9 delivered to elder members with special birthdays in 2011

Christmas Cookies: 17 tins delivered to shut-ins in December

Respectfully submitted by

Joy Albrecht, treasurer

and non-financial data from Astrid Anderson, WELCA secretary,
and Lesley Whitney, stewardship coordinator.

**2011-2012
Cabinet Officers and Commission Chairs**

President:	Kent Eklund
Vice President:	Molly Breen
Secretary:	Marc Culver
Treasurer:	John Berger
Business Management:	Andy Sackreiter
Education:	Brian Sorenson and Tanya Anderson
Membership and Church Life:	Caroline Berger
Pastoral Support:	Stephan Plagens and Rick Voss
Stewardship:	Josh Becerra, Laura Peterson and Lisa Sackreiter
Worship, Music & Arts:	Jason Langworthy
Youth:	Alicia Sandy
Outreach/Communications:	Kristina Smith
Church in Society:	Shelley Weiss and Karen Berg-Moberg

The Staff of St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church

Senior Pastor:	Glenn Berg-Moberg
Associate Pastor:	Marc Ostlie-Olson
Director of Worship and Music:	Sara Birkeland
Organist:	Ann Braaten
Alleluia and Joy Singers:	Mari Espeland
Hosanna Singers and Baby Music:	Molly Breen
Shalom Singers:	Sr. Becky Swanson
Church Administrator:	Paula Carter
Financial & Membership Information Specialist:	Carol Koepke
Parish Nurse:	Karen Newton
Sexton:	Lenard Kiriama
Nursery:	Kayla Clarke Ashley Clarke Samantha Ballert Kelsey Cassidy Lisa Zehner

St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church

2323 Como Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55108

Church office: 651-645-0371 Church fax: 651-645-0118