

# Gidings

Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.



Dear Friends,

Recently, as part of my own early morning prayer time each day, I have been "sitting" with portions of Mark's Gospel. Each of the Gospels, you know, tell the story of Jesus a bit differently than the others. John's account, for example, is filled with "signs" and deep theological truths. Matthew is the most "Jewish" in tone. Luke, himself a Gentile convert, tells story after story of other "outsiders" being welcomed into Jesus' circle of inclusion. And it seems that Mark's primary emphasis is on what Jesus does.

At the very beginning of his ministry, Jesus proclaims (as Mark records it), *"The Kingdom of God is near! Turn around, and live out the good news!"* Concise, and straight to the point. And as we then read in Mark's Gospel all the things that Jesus does... we also begin to learn what living that "good news" really means.

That's how the part about the calling of the first disciples reads, as well. Right after Jesus' proclamation cited above, he calls out to Simon and Andrew, *"Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people!"*

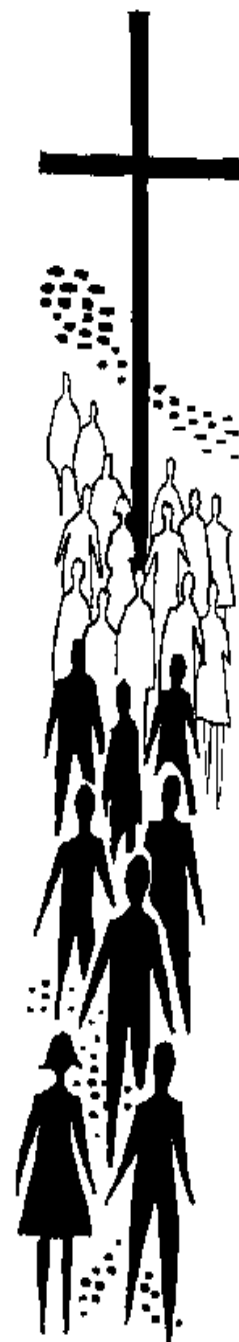
And do you notice something? Nowhere in any of the Gospels does Jesus invite people to "worship" him. Rather, his very first word to these guys (and others, including you and me) is "follow". And I highlight this distinction to help you be aware of just how easy it is for us to inadvertently create too safe of a distance between ourselves and Christ by wanting to over-emphasize orthodoxy ("right doctrine") rather than orthopraxy ("right practice").

But look again. Before anything else, Jesus sets his disciples in motion. He gives them a task. And it is only by actually following him, emulating him, and carrying out their tasks for him... that they, themselves, come to actually discover the bigger picture of what the "good news" (that's what the word "gospel" literally means) is all about.

So remember... Mark's Gospel puts the emphasis on action. And it seems that Jesus, himself, places more weight and importance of what we actually do rather than what we usually all too simply say or believe. (If you're not so easily-convinced of this, re-read the Gospels for yourselves, please!) You see, Jesus not only speaks the "good news" he offers us... he acts on it. He lives it. And so do those who follow him.

May you and I grow always more in becoming faithful and active followers... speaking, doing, and fully living-out the more abundant life Jesus calls us toward.

**Pastor Jim Dew**





**“SHOWER THE PEOPLE WITH LOVE”**

St. John’s is blessed to participate in the Shower the People with Love ministry, along with our friends at CAM and the City of San Antonio, and we need more volunteers.

This ministry will provide the means for showers and sack lunches/snacks Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays on the CAM campus (along with haircuts on Fridays) for those in need. The date of the soft opening is still to be announced.

The City of San Antonio is providing all the utilities, water, and staff to sanitize the showers after each use, collect the towels, and wash clothes and shower shoes. CAM is providing clothes and sack lunches. St. John’s is providing manpower. **St. John’s designated day is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month.**

To help Janet Grun, Bea Imken, Norma Jean Case from St. John’s, and Emily Kirtner, CAM (our GRACE Sister), please contact Janet Grun via cell or text at 210-834-8052, or by email at [janetgrun@gmail.com](mailto:janetgrun@gmail.com).

Thank you in advance for Volunteering!

To St. John's Membership and Council,

I would just like to say thank you for your generous scholarship fund to help continue my education this fall. Going to college is not accessible to everyone for multiple reasons, cost being one of them, so I appreciate all of you for making it accessible to me. I have had some great memories at St. John's since I was little, growing up with the congregation and Luther league and this is just another step in my life that I get to share with all of you!

Once again, thank you and go roadrunners!!

Sincerely,  
Julie A. Mason

Dear members of St. John's,

I was blessed by your sending and farewell on June 16th. I was given so many special memories, well wishes and gifts that I will cherish in the years to come. You have supported my growth in ministry in so many ways, and I will always be grateful. I continue to welcome your prayers of support as I begin my time as Vicar of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Comfort Texas, and Wartburg Seminary in the fall.

Thank you all!

Vicar Katie

Dear St. John's,

I wanted to thank the staff at St. John's for helping us celebrate the life of Ruth Kurth. She loved her time amongst the congregation and her time as a member of the choir. Thanks again for making us all feel at home.

Sincerely,  
Brian Kurth

*thank  
you*

## From the Stewardship Team

In last month's Tidings, our stewardship article highlighted the Biblical truth – that it all belongs to God – as the scripture in Psalm 24 explains. This month's article brings forth another reality, that we are not the source of our good life. God is.

Charles Lane, in his book *Ask, Thank, Tell*, relates the words that Moses spoke to God's chosen people as they were ready to enter the promise land.

"When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses and live in them,...and when your silver and gold is multiplied,...then do not exalt yourself, forgetting the Lord your God, who brought you out of the house of Egypt. Do not say to yourself, 'My power and the might of my own hand have gotten me this wealth.' But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, so that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your ancestors, as he is doing today." Deuteronomy 8:11-18

These particular verses address a problem that was hardly unique to those forty-year wanderers. When things go well for us, it is very tempting to take credit for them. Of course, when things don't go well, it seems to be human nature to blame someone else. But when things do go well, we want the credit.

God did not just create the world and turn us loose. God is not only the creator of all that is, God is the source of the wisdom and tenacity. If I have brains that allow me to earn a living, God is the source of those brains. If I have strength that allows me to earn a living, God is the source of that strength. If I am fortunate enough to live in a country that has wealth beyond that enjoyed by any country in all of history—God is the source of that as well.

The proper response to the blessings of this life is not to pat myself on the back and try to find a way to get more stuff. The proper response is to give God the glory and the thanks and to ask serious questions about how I am called to use what God has entrusted to me.

In next month's article we will share how God's Word has much to say to us today about why and how we should be godly stewards.

The Stewardship Team



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St. John's is collecting five backpacks worth of school supplies for the CAM Back-to-School Backpacks program sponsored by Christian Assistance Ministry. The list of needed supplies is near the donation box in Memorial Hall. All donations are due by July 14.



### St. John's Square Update

There will be a presentation by the developer and architects after worship on Sunday, July 7<sup>th</sup> in Memorial Hall. This is an information session, not a called Congregational Meeting. The session will end following the presentation, though members will have an opportunity to ask questions on a one-on-one basis.

### July Calendar

Mon 1<sup>st</sup> ~ Property Team Meeting, 6PM

Thu 4<sup>th</sup> ~ Church Office Closed,  
Independence Day

*Please see the church online calendar for regularly occurring events for the church.*

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E-Mail contact information for the Sunday Bulletin and *Tidings* to [info@StJohnsSA.org](mailto:info@StJohnsSA.org)

General E-mail: [info@StJohnsSA.org](mailto:info@StJohnsSA.org) Church Office Hours M-F 8am - 5pm

St. John's Lutheran Church  
Statement of Activities -General Operating  
May 31, 2019

	May 31, 2019 Actual Actual	May 31, 2019 Budget	Jan 1 - May 31, 2019 Actual	2019 Annual Budget	Actual vs. Annual Budget Over(Under)
<b>GENERAL OPERATING</b>					
Revenues					
INCOME					
GENERAL INCOME	\$ 21,277	22,075	\$ 99,227	\$ 264,900	\$ (165,673)
IN-KIND CONTRIBUTION	-	-	-	-	-
EXTRA OFFERINGS	561	-	3,282	-	3,282
BEQUEST & ESTATES	-	-	-	-	-
PARKING LOT INCOME	55,057	45,833	155,903	550,000	(394,097)
CEMETERY OPERATING INCOME	175	100	525	1,200	(675)
CHURCH GROUP/PROGRAM INCOME	839	208	4,184	2,500	1,684
FUNDRAISING, NET	-	-	23	-	23
MISC - INCOME	-	-	478	-	478
Total Revenues	77,909	68,217	263,622	818,600	(554,978)
TRANSFER OF FUNDS					
Investment income - Transferred	-	7,500	90,000	90,000	-
Transfer from Endowment Fund	-	-	-	-	-
Total TRANSFER OF FUNDS	-	7,500	90,000	90,000	-
Total Revenues	\$ 77,909	75,717	\$ 353,622	\$ 908,600	\$ (554,978)
Expenses					
SALARIES & EXPENSES					
PASTORAL SALARIES & EXPEN	10,544	11,124	56,940	133,490	(76,550)
LAY STAFF SALARIES & EXPEN	20,580	20,632	101,116	247,580	(146,464)
CEMETERY SALARIES & EXPEN	-	-	-	-	-
Total SALARIES & EXPENSES	\$ 31,124	\$ 31,756	\$ 158,056	\$ 381,070	\$ (223,014)
EXPENSES - GENERAL					
GENERAL EXPENSES	6,367	8,613	32,712	103,355	(70,643)
PARKING LOT EXPENSES	2,348	2,554	11,727	30,650	(18,923)
CEMETERY OPERATING EXPENS	2,157	2,958	14,833	35,500	(20,667)
Total EXPENSES - GENERAL	\$ 10,873	14,125	\$ 59,273	169,505	(110,232)
COMMITTEES EXPENSES					
FAMILY MINISTRIES	1,129	583	6,244	7,000	(756)
CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL & COMMS	1,853	900	5,015	10,800	(5,785)
EVANGELISM	-	667	546	8,000	(7,454)
HOSPITALITY	355	833	2,309	10,000	(7,691)
PROPERTY & GROUNDS	13,131	17,792	84,305	213,500	(129,195)
STEWARDSHIP	59	250	461	3,000	(2,539)
WORSHIP/MUSIC/ARTS	2,327	2,602	16,321	31,225	(14,905)
MISSION MINISTRIES	-	250	49	3,000	(2,951)
VISITATION	-	500	-	6,000	(6,000)
MEMBERS SUPPORT	-	417	-	5,000	(5,000)
SOCIAL MEDIA MINISTRY TEAM	1,013	1,667	5,402	20,000	(14,598)
Total COMMITTEES EXPENSES	\$ 19,867	\$ 26,460	\$ 120,651	\$ 317,525	\$ (196,874)
BENEVOLENCE					
GENERAL FUND BENEVOLENCE	2,000	2,958	12,125	40,500	(28,375)
Total BENEVOLENCE	\$ 2,000	2,958	\$ 12,125	40,500	\$ (28,375)
Total Expenses	\$ 63,864	75,300	\$ 350,106	\$ 908,600	\$ (558,494)
<b>Change in unrestricted net assets</b>	\$ 14,046	\$ 417	\$ 3,516	\$ -	\$ 3,516

St. John's Lutheran Church  
Statement of Activities - Special Purpose, Restricted & Endowment Funds  
May 31, 2019

	May 31, 2019 Actual	May 31, 2019 Budget	Jan 1 - May 31, 2019 Actual	Annual Budget	Actual vs. Annual Budget Over(Under)
<b>ENDOWMENT FUND</b>					
Revenues					
INCOME					
DONOR RESTRICTED INCOME	14,930	-	62,198	-	62,198
Total INCOME	14,930	-	62,198	-	62,198
ENDOWMENT - INCOME					
Interest-Dividends	2,209	-	16,428	-	16,428
REALIZED GAINS (LOSSES)	15,659	-	19,741	-	19,741
UNREALIZED GAINS (LOSSES)	(133,319)	-	151,826	-	151,826
MEMORIALS & OTHER INCOME	-	-	-	-	-
Total ENDOWMENT - INCOME	(115,452)	-	187,995	-	187,995
Total Revenues	(100,522)	-	250,193	-	250,193
TRANSFER OF FUNDS					
Transfer to/from General Fund	-	-	-	-	-
Transfer to/from Endowment Fund	-	-	(90,000)	(90,000)	-
Total TRANSFER OF FUNDS	-	-	(90,000)	(90,000)	-
Total Revenues	\$ (100,522)	\$ -	\$ 160,193	\$ (90,000)	\$ 250,193
Expenses					
RESTRICTED EXPENSES					
MANAGEMENT FEES-ENDOWMENT	1,635	-	8,335	-	8,335
RESTRICTED EXPENSES-OTHER	39,441	-	119,686	-	119,686
Total RESTRICTED EXPENSES	41,076	-	128,021	-	128,021
<b>Change in restricted net assets</b>	\$ (141,599)	\$ -	\$ 32,172	\$ (90,000)	\$ 122,172

## Reminder Message from the Finance Office

The Finance Office requests:

- 1) That all reimbursement requests be submitted to the Finance Office by the 5<sup>th</sup> of the following month of the purchase date. The Church closes its books each month and no reimbursement can be made for any month that has been closed.
- 2) That if you use a Church credit card, all receipts be turned in the week of the purchase. You can place these receipts in the box outside of the Accounting office. These receipts must be entered into accounts payable before the Church receives the credit card statement at the end of each month.

Thank you for your assistance. God's blessings.

Carolyn Myers, Bookkeeper

## Parish Staff

**Rev. James Dew** *Senior Pastor*

prjimdew@outlook.com ext. 2613

**Eric Ryniker** *Business Manager*

eric.ryniker@StJohnsSA.org ext. 1075

**Becky Klauer** *Administrative Assistant*

becky.klauer@StJohnsSA.org ext. 1076

**Carolyn Myers** *Bookkeeper*

carolyn.myers@StJohnsSA.org ext. 1077

**Michael Bade** *Director of Music*

michael.bade@StJohnsSA.org ext. 3019

**Robert Jenkins** *Organist*

rob.jenkins@StJohnsSA.org ext. 3019

**Juan Diaz** *Church Sexton*

**Christine Hazelton** *Sunday Church Sexton*

**Roger Steckly** *Cemetery Sexton*

roger.steckly@StJohnsSA.org

St. John's Lutheran Church  
Special Purpose Funds  
5/31/2019

	12/31/2018	2019 Total Deposits	2019 Disburse- ments	Bal
<b><u>Church - Unrestricted and Board Designated</u></b>				
Rilling Estate	34,775.00	-	-	34,775.00
	<b>34,775.00</b>	-	-	<b>34,775.00</b>
<b><u>Church - Board Designated</u></b>				
Bus Sales/Transportation	8,131.64	-	(340.77)	7,790.87
Capital Reserve	60,957.53	20,000.00	(52,712.00)	28,245.53
Loan Repayment	-	10,000.00	-	10,000.00
Cemetery Trust Earnings Distributions	13,000.00	-	(13,000.00)	-
Insurance Reimbursement	19,584.98	-	(13,982.00)	5,602.98
	<b>101,674.15</b>	<b>30,000.00</b>	<b>(80,034.77)</b>	<b>51,639.38</b>
<b><u>Church -Temporarily Restricted</u></b>				
Archives	110.13	-	-	110.13
Bricks for courtyard	3,809.77	-	-	3,809.77
Building/Restoration Fund.	15,313.02	3,620.00	(150.00)	18,783.02
CAM & Easter Sunrise Service	500.00	1,145.07	(587.51)	1,057.56
Campus Ministries	-	1,290.27	-	1,290.27
Candlebras	3,099.34	-	-	3,099.34
Choir & Choir Music	2,660.47	60.00	-	2,720.47
Columbarium	12,499.78	-	(5.30)	12,494.48
ELCA World Hunger	10.00	250.00	-	260.00
E.Minasian Scholarship	2,126.06	-	-	2,126.06
Family Retreat	360.00	-	-	360.00
Fiesta Nueva	821.83	10,371.00	(6,695.47)	4,497.36
Finance Peace	4,014.23	-	-	4,014.23
Habitat for Humanity	-	10.00	-	10.00
History Wall Fund	9,254.86	-	-	9,254.86
Meals on Wheels	120.00	20.00	-	140.00
Mem-Marian Brewer	2,432.37	-	-	2,432.37
Mission Trip-Guatemala 2018	2,279.93	14,489.74	(14,039.41)	2,730.26
Organ Fund	4,532.53	140.00	-	4,672.53
Railing and Door Restoratin	1,910.00	-	(1,910.00)	-
Rynning Memorial	2,839.23	-	-	2,839.23
Sanctuary-Art Carving	10,482.52	-	(6,000.00)	4,482.52
School Ministry	4,007.00	-	-	4,007.00
Sound Level Study	3,932.09	-	-	3,932.09
Sunday School	6.65	41.22	-	47.87
Youth Activity	1,472.51	131.00	-	1,603.51
Women's Retreat	5,223.80	530.00	(2,763.89)	2,989.91
<b>Total ChurchTemporarily Restricted</b>	<b>93,818.12</b>	<b>32,098.30</b>	<b>(32,151.58)</b>	<b>93,764.84</b>
<b>Total Special Funds</b>	<b>230,267.27</b>	<b>62,098.30</b>	<b>(112,186.35)</b>	<b>180,179.22</b>



## Memorials and Honorariums

In Memory of Kevin Haiduk  
by Dwayne, Denise & Emma Stahl

In Memory of Ted Bowles  
by Dwayne, Denise & Emma Stahl

In Memory of Walter Melynck  
by Dwayne, Denise & Emma Stahl

In Memory of Raymond Reynolds  
by Dwayne, Denise & Emma Stahl

In Memory of Ted Bowles by Kathy Cobb

In Memory of Kevin Haiduk by Kathy Cobb

In Memory of Ted Bowles by Viola Caraway

In Memory of Kevin Haiduk by Viola Caraway

In Memory of Kevin Haiduk by Sylvia Schulmeier

In Memory of Artis Bowles by Louis & Mary Ann Spreen

In Memory of Artis Bowles by Deleyce Tietze

In Memory of Kevin Haiduk by Deleyce Tietze

In Memory of Ted Bowles by Ralph & Carol Detwiler

In Memory of Ted Bowles by June Rouse

In Memory of Kevin Haiduk by Carol & Ralph Detwiler

In Memory of Kevin Haiduk by Ron Stinson

In Memory of Artis Bowles by Ron Stinson

In Memory of Ted Bowles by Belinda & Ron Schmidt

In Memory of Kevin Haiduk by Belinda & Ron Schmidt

In Honor of Ron & Belinda Schmidt by Maury & Michele Deaver

In Honor of Ken & Mary Boehme by Maury & Michele Deaver

## Special Birthday wishes to all our July Birthdays!



Amanda Reed, Ashley Gray, Ashley Ottmers, Barbara Bornemann, Bethany Larson, Beverly Jorgensen, Bill Allen, Brad Richie, Brooklyn Shaw, Caleb Abernathy, Caroline Nentwich, Chase Eckhardt, Cynthia Richardson, Daniel Alvarado, Darlene Clay, Dawn Sulaica, Dean Rosas, Denise Odam, Doris Taggart, Douglas Cobb, Elizabeth Saathoff, Evangeline Hawkins, Francisco Mateos, Grace Clark, Hunter Johannngmeier, Irene Lieke, Isabella Lopez, James Tietze, John Schwab, Julie Mason, Justin Merrill, Kate Gabriel, Katie Johannngmeier, Keith Jorgensen, Kelsey Carmines, Kiley Leggett, Kristi Small, Lynn Schenk, Margita Fabianke, Maria Dew, Maria Pfeiffer, Martin Almaguer, Melissa Bowling, Michael Albers, Morgan Wilson, Nick Salerno, Norman Saathoff Jr., Ollie McKenna-Stevens, Patrick Conroy, Peyton Distelhorst, Regan Wudel, Rhonda Eckhardt, Rhonda Mecke, Roy Poss, Sarah Loyd, Sarah Schenk, Tiffany Moore

## Treasurer's 2 Sense 3B

As I tried to explain in the last Tidings, Our Special Purpose funds are split into two types – Endowments and Other Special Purpose Funds. Within each of these types of funds are categories of funds. These categories designate a fund's restriction.

This time I will try to explain the categories in the Endowment Fund.

Our first category is **Temporary Restricted** funds. These are funds that a donor gives to the church for a specific use. A living donor may decide to move their donation from one fund to another fund at some time. When the money in the fund is all spent, the fund itself can be closed.

The next category is **Permanently Restricted** funds. These may be set up as a legacy fund on behalf of someone that has passed and a special interest of that person. It is usually set up with a base amount (Corpus) that cannot be touched, and the interest may be spent for the fund's designation.

The third category of funds is **Council/Congregation Designated**. An amount of money will be donated to the church without a designation as to where the money is to be spent. The council or the congregation will decide where this money is to be put. If the amount donated is less than \$25,000.00, the council can make the decision as to where the funds will go. Any amount over that must be brought to the congregation in a called meeting to vote on where this amount should be used.

We have another category that may seem confusing based on its name: **Special Purpose Fund**. This is where the Maurer Estate is located. It is expressly set up to be used for the church building and what is needed to keep the doors open. This is where the church voted to borrow monies to pay for the new air conditioning system on the first floor. The Finance Committee has set up a payment plan to repay the fund so there will be monies again for another large project. (Note; the fund is not depleted.)

I do hope this helps explain in more detail without being confusing how our Endowment Funds are organized. Next month we will look at the Other Special Purpose Funds categories. As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to ask me.

Kent Rooen - Treasurer



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Address Service Requested

The heart of Christ...  
In the heart of the City  
St. John's Lutheran Church



A Stephen Ministry  
Congregation

**Church Council**

President~ **Ron Stinson**

Vice President~ **Rosemary Petry**

Secretary~ **Caroline Nentwich**

Treasurer ~ **Kent Rooen**

**Members at Large:**

Mary Boehme \* Ed Case \* Susan Dickson

Bonnie Eckhardt \* Bea Imken \* Brad Richie

Dan Robison \* Belinda Schmidt \* Julie Shadrock

Pat Conroy

***Our Mission Statement:*** *Remembering our heritage and reaching for the future by living in faith and growing through worship, study and service*