



Vacation Bible School 2016

ANNUAL REPORT of the Congregation for the Year 2016

**Christ the King Lutheran Church
of Cumming, Georgia, Inc.
1125 Bettis-Tribble Gap Road
Cumming, Georgia 30040
770-889-5328
ctklutheran.com**

Mission Statement

(Where our journey as a congregation is leading us)

We are God's people, the body of our Lord Jesus Christ. Each of us is a steward of the unique gifts given to us by the Holy Spirit. Through the Grace of God, we will each use our gifts to serve Christ together as Lutherans in this community and in the world:

To glorify and worship God,
share the good news of Christ,
and show our love for one another.

Our Values

(What is most important to us)

We are a family in Christ,
on a united journey,
celebrating life.

Our Vision Statement

(When the world looks at us, this is how we want to be seen)

With God as our light, we seek to establish Christ the King Lutheran Church as an outstanding provider of the celebration of Christ's love by expanding Worship, Youth, Outreach, Small Group and Bible Study programs, through communication of our distinct Lutheran Christian beliefs, and recognizing the diverse needs of our growing community.

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Glorify God - Spread the Word - Love One Another!

**From the Pastor,
The Rev. Dr. James A Clark.....**

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind — just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you — so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. I Corinthians 1:4-9 NRSV

I am indeed most grateful to be serving once more as your interim pastor. And you have been most gracious in receiving me.

Christ the King membership is packed with many gifts – both material and spiritual. CTK is such a blessed congregation. What a pleasure it is for me to serve here.

The question continues to surface, “How soon will we be forming a search/call committee?” Allow me to use this annual report to respond to those concerns and questions.

First of all, let me assure you that until we reach that point in our ministry together, we will continue to be firing on all cylinders and moving forward in ministry. We have a great staff in place and many volunteers who eagerly work to keep CTK growing and functioning well. There will be no let-up in any area.

Secondly, before we can consider developing a Ministry Site Profile (MSP) some things will need to occur. Generally speaking we will need to **grow in three particular areas.**

- 1) We will need to grow in our financial stewardship and faithfulness.** The proposed 2017 budget will be down from the 2016 (revised) spending plan and will include no raises for our staff. It is crucial for the financial well-being of CTK that we grow in sacrificial giving for the work of the gospel thru CTK. In spite of the fact that we have some who give very generously to our ministry, our congregational average giving per household is probably 3-4% of gross income – much below our Lord’s guide of 10%.

It is extremely difficult to operate a congregation such as CTK given our size and needed ministries at that level of giving. Each year the congregation is asked to grow in their financial support of the church **and** to give sacrificially, and yet, we don’t see a great deal of that happening. It is true that while some of our givers have moved from CTK, others have stepped up to help fill the gaps.

But I would ask each of you to ask yourselves, “How close are you to living up to our Lord’s admonition to giving 10% of your total income to Christ’s work thru the church?”

Would you be willing to make one or two life style changes to be able to more fully support this important ministry?

A special thank you to all who responded to the “extra mile offering” letter. Your offerings went far in helping us meet our obligations.

- 2) **The second area of needed growth will be in members.** This is so much more than bringing more people in to help us pay our bills. This is about eternal matters. If we believe Jesus when he said, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me,” and if we believe that scripture is the inspired Word of God, then we will want to reach out to the unchurched with the gospel of good news in Christ.

And we can do so much more ministry when the talents and abilities of others are added to our already rich mix.

- 3) **The third area of growth will need to be spiritual growth.** Neither of the above two areas can be accomplished without spiritual growth on the part of our present members. The disciples asked Jesus to teach them to pray. They asked Jesus to increase their faith. Jesus sent them to preach, teach and heal. They could not have conducted their ministry nor would we be in the church today had they not taken their relationship with their Lord seriously and grown spiritually. And not just general spirituality. Not some vague form of contemplation. They grew in relationship with Jesus and God the Father.

Our main sources of Christian growth and spirituality are the means of grace and prayer. By that we mean the Word (scripture), Baptism, Eucharist (Holy Communion) and prayer. This means that we will be faithful in

- a) regular daily reading and use of the scriptures;
- b) regular weekly worship and reception of the Lord’s Supper;
- c) regularly remembering the gift of our baptism and its meaning for our lives;
- d) regular and frequent conversation with the Lord in prayer, seeking God’s will for our lives daily.

We will never allow God to develop in us the depth of faith that allows us to give sacrificially or risk bringing others to Christ without **spiritual** resources. As we open ourselves up to God more fully in our lives, God empowers us to be willing servants.

I would encourage each CTK member to become involved in some aspect of our educational ministry program. Whether that be a Bible study during the day or our Wednesday night FUEL program. Jesus was dead serious when he told his followers:

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch

and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”
John 15:1-8

Finally, let me say a brief word about having an interim ministry. People have told me that some people are waiting to come on-board at CTK until a permanent pastor is in place. I can appreciate this sentiment to a point. But at the same time no ministry revolves around a single person. If it does, it verges on idolatry. Such thinking can develop factions in congregations also.

In writing to the Corinthians, St. Paul noted the tendency to choose up sides and be aligned with a particular leader. Thus Paul wrote,

Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?

I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.)

For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power. For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.
I Corinthians 1.10-18

I am your servant but more I am **God's** servant. All pastors are servants of God. All pastors are called to do the same general ministry tasks: preach, teach, administer the sacraments, provide pastoral care.

All Christians are called by God to fellowship in the gospel. All Christians are baptized and commissioned to live out the covenant God made with us in Holy Baptism:

- 1) to live among God's faithful people,
- 2) to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
- 3) to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
- 4) to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
- 5) and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

That doesn't change from one pastor to the next nor does it change from one congregation to another. That's what we at CTK are to be about. And that's what CTK will be about under **any** pastor who presides here. You can assure all those who might be skeptical that Christ's ministry is being accomplished here now and will be in the future. And you can invite them to come aboard and join the fun.

Pastor James A. Clark

From the Council President.....

As we approach the end of another year at Christ the King, I am pleased to see that after a somewhat challenging and tumultuous year, our church is in a strong position and looking forward to a bright future fulfilling our religious mission in Forsyth County. This is a credit to the congregation of Christ the King, who has continued to generously support the church and its charitable missions, the outstanding church staff, who tirelessly work on the church's behalf, and a strong a talented council, with whom I am blessed to work.

In January, several members of our council will be completing the final year of their terms and will be leaving due to term limitations. I will discuss each of them briefly below.

Cathy Beard, Vice President: Cathy has been a strong and outstanding church leader. She has used her extensive experience in human resources and the business world to greatly aid Christ the King throughout her years of service. Her absence in our meetings will be keenly felt.

Mike Myers, Financial Officer: Mike has served for the last several months in an interim capacity and has provided a new and useful perspective on our church's finances. His sound financial leadership and extensive church leadership experience will be missed next year.

Dane Marshall, Secretary: Dane has been an outstanding council secretary. Her commitment to Christ the King is unparalleled and I feel extremely lucky to have had her work with me this past year. Her consistent voice of reason and calm was deeply needed and appreciated.

Members at Large (in alphabetical order):

Gabe Campbell: Gabe served ably as the council liaison to the church fellowship team. He brought a unique and important perspective from the youth of the church and will be missed.

Andy Milejczak: Andy has been a constant advocate for the staff and has worked tirelessly for the betterment of Christ the King. He is always willing to drop everything to help and shows an unshakable commitment to service and to our church.

Continuing Council members

Andy Harwood: It has been a pleasure to have Andy on the council this year. Although he was forced to miss a few meetings because of his commitment to serving our country, his presence was felt and extremely useful to our group. I look forward to serving with him for another year.

Jeanne Matthews: Jeanne has provided a much needed perspective to our council from both the 8:00 AM service and her past experiences. Her commitment to Christ the King is unquestioned and I look forward to continuing to work with her next year.

I am extremely lucky to have had such a strong and committed lay leadership team to work with this past year. Of course, I would be remiss if I didn't mention Kathy Voerg, who attends every council meeting in her role as the church's business manager. We are extremely blessed to have her at Christ the King. She is willing to work tirelessly on behalf of the church and I don't want to consider what Christ the King would be like without her. The church is extremely indebted to her for the work that she has done this past year and continues to do. Last, but definitely not least, I believe that we are all extremely lucky to again be served by Pastor James Clark. The depth of his commitment to building a Christian community here amazes me on a daily basis. He spends unbelievably long hours both at the church and on visitations and other pastoral duties. Our church is in very good hands.

In the coming year, we look forward to welcoming the newly elected members to the council and to continue meeting the needs of our community. I believe that the future of Christ the King is very bright.

**Respectfully submitted,
Dr. Mark C. Spraker
President**

From the Financial Officer.....

A "balanced" Budget for 2016 was approved by the congregation with revenues and expenses forecast to be \$490,160.

The Income for 2016 totaled \$460,494, \$29,666 below forecast, or 6.4%. From those who pledged, or 129 family units, pledged giving (\$362,325) fell short by \$16,944, or 4.7%. It should be noted that 57 of the family units that pledged gave more than their pledge, yet overall, those who made pledges, fell short of our forecast.

Due to the shortfall in Income from what was budgeted, Expenses were reduced to make every effort to maintain a balanced budget. While forecasted Expenses were the same as Income at \$490,160, actual expenses were \$465,598, \$24,562 lower, or 5%. The majority of the decrease in expenses came from the decision not to hire additional staff that had been planned, but was deferred due to the lack of income to support the additional staff.

With Income @ \$460,494 and Expenses @ \$465,598, we had a shortfall of \$5,104, a 1% variance. This shortfall was covered through a reduction in the balance of the working fund checking account, which finished the year at \$28,420.

Some information regarding major expenses included in our budget are:

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Mortgage Payment | \$67,871 |
| 2. Synod Benevolence | \$25,000 |
| 3. Capital Reserve | \$13,750 (to build funds in the event of emergency) |

Budget for 2017

As we look to 2017, our “balanced” budget reflects Income and Expenses of \$465,267, a 5% decrease over the 2016 Budget and a less than 1% increase over the actual income of 2016.

Thanks to our extremely generous congregation, we were able to add \$11,820 to our income through the 'Extra Mile Giving' campaign. 'Extra Mile Giving' provided a means to recoup some of the income that was not received during the year due to people moving or holding back for various reasons.

Thank you for your giving to the ministries of Christ the King Lutheran Church. We have been blessed to date. As we continue to grow in faith and commitment to our Lord, we have every reason to believe our future is a healthy one – both spiritually and financially.

**Respectfully submitted,
Michael Myers
Financial Officer**

Christ the King Lutheran Church Library

The C.T.K. Church Library now has 1,284 titles. This is an increase of 40 titles since the last annual report. The biggest area of increase has been in the fiction category. We keep only one copy of each title since our collection is expanding and we have limited space.

We always welcome contributions of books that are appropriate and support the Christian education and information purpose of our library. We are very appreciative of all of the donations that have been given to the library. If we cannot use the donated materials we give them to the public library for their bookstore.

We have also added an additional book shelf which houses most of our fiction collection. We do publish occasional articles about our new titles in the church newsletter. New titles are placed on the “New and Featured” shelf for a limited amount of time. This top shelf is located at the beginning of our shelving on the left side as you enter the library.

The white binder on the table lists our books by author, title, and Dewey or call number classification. Shelf labels also list topics found in each area.

**Respectfully submitted,
Sigrid Myers and Martha Lappé
Librarians**

Personnel Committee

The Personnel Committee exists to provide guidance to the church council and staff related to personnel policies and procedures. The committee meets monthly during certain times of the year and on an “as needed” basis to review staff performance, make compensation recommendations to the council, review and revise policies and job descriptions and to serve as a forum for staff suggestions and concerns. For the past year, the committee members were Roberta Gally, Steve Helvick and Scott Younghouse. The committee also includes the pastor, the council president and the business manager as ex officio members with voting privileges.

**Respectfully submitted,
Dr. Mark C. Spraker
Chairperson**

Caring Ministry

The Caring Ministry at Christ the King Lutheran Church is a volunteer ministry open to all members of the church; both men and women are invited to join this ministry. The purpose of this ministry is to provide meals for the unexpected needs of any family or individual within the congregation.

The Caring Ministry Roster consists of a Lead Coordinator and three Assistant Coordinators, one lead and one back-up Caller for each month. Each monthly team has approximately eight Ministry Members. There are six ministry groups each serving for one month in rotation twice a year.

Activity begins with an initial call to a coordinator from the church office or pastor. Needs are assessed by the coordinator and a call is made to the group lead caller serving for that particular month to coordinate the meal(s) with his/her team.

We also provide assistance during funeral receptions for all CTK members when it is held at the church. All Caring Ministry groups help by providing food, desserts and beverages. We are also responsible for setting-up, serving, and clean-up for funeral receptions held in the Fellowship Hall.

**Respectfully submitted,
Roberta Gally
Team Leader**

Mutual Ministry

The Mutual Ministry Committee is a six-member committee appointed jointly by the Council President and the Pastor. Members are Sandra Norrid (Chair), Rich Grimshaw, Neil Koepke, Darlene Gordon, Joyce Marx, one member to be appointed and Dr. Mark Spraker and Pr. James Clark (Council Liaison/Ex Officio). Linda Larson resigned in August 2016.

The committee's role is defined in C13.04.01 of the CTK bylaws. The committee's goals are to support the pastor, the staff, lay leaders, members and to foster a healthy environment for ministry in the congregation. Quarterly committee meetings were held on February 1, April 11, September 26 and November 7, 2016. In addition, meetings were held with staff members on October 18 and November 30. Discussion items are documented with follow-up as needed.

**Respectfully submitted,
Sandra Norrid
Chair-Mutual Ministry Committee**

Eucharistic (Shepherding) Ministry

This ministry currently consists of two – two member teams:

Team 1 – Mary Jane Skidmore & Tess Jackson
Team 2 – Roy Plemmons & Edith Vetten

Team 1 brought communion 64 times. Team 2 brought communion 118 times. The total number of "lambs" varied from time to time, but at the end of the year there were 7 homebound receiving communion from this ministry.

**Respectfully submitted,
Edith Vetten
Team Leader**

Evangelism Ministry

The Evangelism Committee works to *Glorify God, Spread the Word, and Love One Another* by encouraging members of Christ the King to invite people into God's family to nurture them in Christ's love and empower them to be disciples of Jesus Christ in their daily lives through the greeting of guests and visitors, and sponsoring those individuals and families wishing to be part of the Christ the King Lutheran Church family.

The Evangelism Committee consists of six members, Karen Feist, June Wolsin, Sue Johnson, Pastor Clark, and Kathy Voerg with Cathy Beard as committee chairperson. Committee meets the fourth Tuesday of every month at 9:30 AM except during the summer months. Throughout the year, the committee has worked to enhance evangelism within the community and congregation. Highlights of this past year are as follows:

- Committee is responsible for new member classes throughout the year. The church has been blessed to welcome 33 new members into our church community. To enhance new member classes the development of a New Member Magazine/Folder was created to allow potential members to discover the ministry opportunities within our church. A brief narrative/photograph about each ministry has been incorporated into the magazine. Concept will allow a new member to have a document that will be easily accessible for future questions about our church and its ministries.
- Sue Johnson has recreated and updated a majority of the ministry pamphlets that reflect our new church logo.
- Committee developed and provided postcards to the congregation for evangelizing during the seasons of Advent and Lent. New banners were created to place on the street corner to encourage attendance and grow membership during these critical seasons.
- Participated in our annual Ministry Fair to inform congregation about the good work that is being conducted within our Committee. We continue to provide car magnets for purchase to create an evangelism opportunity within our community.
- Committee conducted changes within the narthex that allowed for crowd control, obsessive clutter, and noise control.
 - 1) purchased a sign that is placed at narthex entrance stating praying in progress
 - 2) moved and purchased new television over welcome desk to create advertising opportunity and eliminate signs on easels
 - 3) created a nook for signups during events
 - 4) purchased collection bins for visual appeal.
- Chairperson continued work on recruitment and training of all greeters and welcome desk volunteers. Chairperson is working to implement a new training program for these positions in February. Training will consist of a power point presentation and will be interactive with a timeline of one hour.
- A new website was created by Sue Johnson and will be maintained to inform and capture new visitors.
- An evangelism opportunity was presented to the committee by Cliff Goddard where our church would deliver cookies, supplies and join forces with surrounding schools within our church radius. First delivery was conducted in November with the help of Thrivent funding.

- Evangelism opportunity exists for our congregation seniors. A meeting will be conducted in January with Karen Feist and June Wolsin leading the event to explore opportunity and interest.

Focus for the committee in 2017.

- Implementation of greeter/welcome desk training
- Senior group and community school's evangelism
- Recruitment with greeter/welcome desk volunteers
- Follow-up and welcoming all visitors
- Sponsorship of New Members
- Growth of church membership

**Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Beard
Evangelism Chairperson**

Hospitality

2016 has been a busy year for Hospitality, providing food service for a number of church related events. Jim Marbutt as team leader, and a dedicated group of individuals, in response to requests from the Pastor and/or Council, were involved in this service. One team member left during the year and was replaced by another CTK member. The team at year end was comprised of Steve Campbell, Roberta Gally, Mary Lambert, Carol Mahle, June Wolsin and Bob Buck. Various other church members who expressed interest in helping with Hospitality were recruited to help as needed throughout the year. Hospitality is accountable to the Church Council, and one member of the Council is the advocate for the team. Funding is provided through the general fund of the church budget, with a line item for Hospitality. An annual budget request is presented for planned annual events. There were a few unanticipated events this year. Events in 2016 included New Member receptions, Confirmand Reception, Graduates Reception, Sunday School Kickoff, Church Forums and Pastor Farewell Reception. In addition, the Hospitality Ministry coordinated dinners for Lent and Advent.

**Respectfully submitted,
Jim Marbutt
Team Leader**

Fellowship Ministry

The objective of the Fellowship Ministry is to create and provide various events to strengthen the bonds of fellowship for all members of CTK. This year fellowship provided numerous events from the weekly Coffee Hour to the annual Chili Cook Off, Oktoberfest, and Ornament Party.

The most active and highly attended event is the weekly Sunday Morning Coffee Hour. This function's goal is to provide a warm inviting hour to enjoy the company of fellow Christians. This year we have returning fellowship coordinators: Natalie Campbell, Sally Campbell, Lu Leeds, and Debbie Harker. We also welcomed this year new fellowship coordinators: the Dean Family (Karen, Hunter, and Caroline), Sue and John Macisak, Sook Park, Carolyn Powers, Ginger Smith, and Betty Young. Thank you for your service.

These coordinators are hard working men and women who weekly set up and/or clean up warm and cold beverages, along with a few tasty treats every Sunday. Thank you Pat Forbes, Don Fair, and Debbie Harker for frequently bringing treats to share during Sunday Morning Coffee Hour. With every volunteer, we reduce the amount of weeks each month our volunteers serve. We welcome anyone who is interested in volunteering.

The fourth annual Chili Cook-Off took place the second Sunday in February following the 11:00 a.m. service with eight wonderful chilies. Everyone present voted on their favorites. This year's winners were Catherine Nunziata, Paul Hochstetler, Kristine Macauley, and Jessica Younghouse. Congratulations everyone.

This year's Oktoberfest, was a tag team effort between Sunday School's Deborah Scarazzo with planning and fellowship with setting and cleaning up. The brats, hotdogs, and buns were provided by Deborah. Fellowship with the aid of Kathy and Kaitlyn Voerg, Sally Campbell, Cassie Winegar, John Spencer, and Sissy Luckey, set up and clean up the brats and the sides that were provided pot luck style. We also were treated to wonderful music played live by Nostalgia. Thank you, Nostalgia.

The second annual Ornament Party was on Friday December 3rd and it was wonderful. There was good food and even better conversation. This year the Fellowship Ministry provided holiday brain teasers and crafts that were well received by all. The wonderful night ended with the main event of exchanging ornaments. We hope to see everyone at next year's party!

**Respectfully submitted,
Natalie Campbell
Ministry Leader**

Scrip Committee

We began selling gift cards on August 31, 2009. We sold almost \$100,000 worth of gift cards in 2016 for a grand total over \$1.46 million since the program has been initiated. 2016 sales netted over \$4,000 to be applied to our debt. We have contributed over \$68,000 as direct payoff since the program started. This does not include the interest that would have been charged on this amount if it was still part of our mortgage.

The Finance Committee and Church Council agreed to implement this program after a survey showed that the average family at CTK spends \$750 a month to purchase groceries, gasoline, clothing, and home improvement items, as well as dining at various local restaurants. If every family used gift cards to make those purchases, we could reduce our debt by approximately \$100,000 per year. We currently are only getting a about 10% participation compared to our maximum potential.

We had a little bit of a setback in that Kroger changed their rewards program and stopped selling gift cards at a discounted rate. We would typically sell at least \$1,000 per week in Kroger cards which would provide CTK with over \$50 per week towards our program. Instead of offering discounted gift cards, Kroger implemented a community rewards program where all Kroger members could register their account with a local charitable organization. All grocery purchases would earn rewards to their charity which would be paid to their charity at the end of every quarter. This program started in September 2013 and the past year netted CTK almost \$400. This is behind the pace we used to have when we purchased gift cards but CTK members are still helping the church with its debt through this program. All of these funds will be applied to the debt, just like the gift card sales. Please make sure that you sign up through Kroger, choosing CTK as your charity of choice.

The committee sincerely hopes our members that participate in this program can help us convince others to get on board. We have a large group of volunteers that support this program on a weekly basis and I would like to thank them for all their hard work.

**Respectfully submitted,
Scott Younghouse
Team Leader**

Stewardship Committee

In the first half of 2016, Stewardship activities were centered around the theme: Open Minds, Open Hearts, Open Hands. In line with this theme, the committee's early activity involved organizing Mentoring classes as a means of involving members in different activities. Temple talks were provided to initiate ideas for Mentoring classes with several class outlines prepared. Due to some scheduling conflicts as well as other priorities, the classes were suspended until better timing could be determined. The Spring Ministry Fair

was held in early April with good attendance. The committee sponsored a prize for the best ministry table display as well as a prize from a drawing involving all attendees that visited all of the table displays.

Time and Talent Forms were received during the Ministry Fair in April with committee chairs receiving the list of members indicating interests in the various committee activities.

Financial Peace University classes were held in the first part of the year with the class graduating in March. The committee has not scheduled further classes as we are looking for a volunteer to be the instructor.

In July, it was determined that the planned Capital Drive would be deferred this year and a Fall Stewardship program would need to take place. The theme: ***In Christ All the Pieces Come Together*** was decided for the campaign.

We mailed a total of 212 letters with pledge cards to the congregation with the following commitments:

122 Pledges received	\$376,490 pledged
Other non-committed	\$ 62,340 estimated for 2017
Total Contributions is projected to be	\$438,830 for 2017

2017 Goals and Programs

- 2017 activities will be centered around the theme: ***In Christ all the Pieces Come Together***. The objective is to emphasize a togetherness in participating in the church activities to utilize our time, talents, and treasures to do the work of our Lord.
- Continue to encourage regular giving through Electronic Automated Giving or a member's automatic bill pay.

The committee members:

Cathy Beard
John Macisak
Jack Schlea
Kathy Voerg
Pastor Clark

**Respectfully submitted,
Jack Schlea
Team Leader**

Worship & Music Ministry

Worship and Music Ministry consists of the following categories and leaders:

- Altar Guild.....Dane Marshall and Rebecca Conatser
- Chancel Choir.....Dr. John M. Broman

- Music Minister (Contemporary Service Director).....Sandra Lutters
- Soli Deo Gloria Ringers.....Sandra Lutters
- Worship Assistants – all services (currently done by church office staff).....vacant
- Usher Coordinator – 11:00 a.m. service.....Marc Delamater
- Acolytes (currently done by church office staff).....vacant

Summary of Responsibilities and Activities

Altar Guild: Rebecca and Dane are sharing responsibilities which include recruitment, scheduling and training assistants, communion preparation, changing of altar paraments, maintenance of communion ware and the sacristy, monitoring and ordering supplies. Also included are ordering and maintenance of special seasonal items including palms, ashes, and any other needed items by the Pastor for services. Their dedicated efforts and attention to detail are greatly appreciated.

Chancel Choir: The Chancel Choir at Christ the King Lutheran, under the direction of Dr. John Broman, continues to add new voices to enhance our services. Ensembles have been singing at services as well. This group normally sings at the 11:00 a.m. service, but may include other services on special occasions such as Palm Sunday, Easter, Pentecost, Music Ministry Sunday, Reformation, All Saints, Christ the King and Cantata Sunday. In addition, the choir normally provides special music for services on Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday as well as for special events in the area (Christmas on Green Street in Gainesville and CHURCH CHOIR FESTIVAL in either Cumming or Dahlonga). The choir is very active in both supporting congregational singing and in providing appropriate anthems to enhance the worship experience at Christ the King. When singing “outside” the church, this choir provides leadership and is most certainly a sterling example of good ensemble singing, that is to say, it serves as a role model for other church groups.

Contemporary Service Band and Singers: The Sonlight Praise Band, under the direction of Sandra Lutters, provides spirited renditions of classic four-part gospel tunes, praise songs from the 1970's-present, and Renaissance melodies accompanied by guitar, piano, drums, and tambourine.

Handbell Choir: Christ the King has again been blessed to have the “Soli Deo Gloria Ringers” offering beautiful selections of sacred music throughout the church year. They continue to expand their musical repertoire and explore new ways to offer the unique music of hand bells and chimes to enhance the worship experience here at Christ the King.

Worship Assistants: In order to encourage participation of more people in services, we encourage members to assist with the distribution of the Sacrament. We are also in need of a person to coordinate this area of ministry.

Ushers: Marc Delamater is coordinating the ushers for the 11:00 a.m. worship service. See Marc if you feel that this is an avenue for you to share your time.

Property

The Landscape group, headed by Amy Barish, held work days in February, April and October. During these sessions, major tasks were accomplished such as pruning shrubs and trees, planting and fertilizing flowers, and mulching. Other volunteers have come individually during the week to water, weed and maintain the lovely garden beds around the church.

**Respectfully submitted,
Amy Barish**

The Property Team lost a valuable member this year to retirement: Eric Wintersteen. He has very faithfully shown up on Tuesdays and repaired and replaced everything from lights to the chains in a toilet. He will be missed.

Since Eric's departure we have no ongoing property ministry here at Christ the King. Donnie Culver has been very helpful in this interim with replacing light ballasts and other property issues.

Other items taken care of through the year by the Property Team:

- The kitchen walls were painted by a large group of volunteers. It really needed it! Also repairs were made to the ceiling in the kitchen where some water damage occurred. It is hoped that the ceiling will be painted this year.
- A tree limb that fell on the roof of the fellowship hall was removed along with several limbs on the Bradford Pear trees near the building.
- A landscaping company was hired to mow the grass and trim the edges of the sidewalks as no volunteer could be found.

Everyone's efforts to conserve A/C, lighting and heat is appreciated.

**Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Voerg
Business Manager**

Christian Education News

This year, 2016 Discipleship for all ages used the following Sunday School curriculum:

- Frolic Nursery – 2, 3, 4 yrs. program - Augsburg
- K5 - 5th grade "Whirl Classroom" Old & New Testament -Augsburg
- 6th - 8th grade "Colaborate " Lutheran Living, New Testament", - Augsburg
- Young Adult Class (High School – Adults) – Animated – "Faith" Augsburg
- Adult Class - Luther: gospel, Law, and Reformation
Pastor Tom Smith and Bob Schwartz

Each class has two teachers per class that rotate throughout the year in each class.

Preschool 2 – 4 year old Sunday School Class, in August 2016 began using the new curriculum "**Frolic**" by Augsburg Fortress. The class has 2-4 students each week. This is a curriculum for 2 – 4 year olds. The students seem to really enjoy the class each week as they are learning about worshipping God and that God loves them with the help of the little animal characters that teach the bible stories and daily lessons about how "God Loves Me", God Cares for Me," etc.

The K5 - 5th grade Sunday School is using the new "**Whirl Classroom**" Old & New Testament by Augsburg Fortress. This new curriculum by whirl includes the Old Testament Lessons from August – November, and New Testament Lessons December – June.

The 6 - 8 grade Sunday School Confirmation class is using "Colaborate" Lutheran Confirmation Material by Augsburg Fortress. We have structured this two-year confirmation program into a three-year program to fit in our discipleship hour each Sunday from 10:00-10:45 a.m. This class is taught by a rotation of two adult teachers.

The High School/Young Adult Class – is using the **discussion** DVD series "**Animated**" "Faith & Bible" by Augsburg fortress. This class is taught by a rotation of two adults.

Adult Sunday School Class is studying - "**Luther's: Gospel, Law, and Reformation**" This class is led by Pastor Tom Smith and Bob Schwartz.

Adult Bible Study - "Christians in Action" meets every Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. at the church. This group is led by Pastor Banitt.

Attendance in Sunday school has been between 25 to 45 for 2016.

Children's Church has been offered each week at both the 9:00 and the 11:00 service. Children's Church material is usually based on the Gospel reading for Sunday.

Wednesday Nights F+U+E+L started September 14, 2016

(*Fellowship + United + Education + Leisure*) CTK Wednesday Nights include:

Dinner Served – 6:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Adult Class taught by Pastor Clark 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Children's groups - for Fellowship, Bible and Music 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Nursery/Preschool Care - 6:30 -8:00 p.m.

Youth Group Middle & High School Fellowship 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Adult Choir – 6:30 -8:00 p.m.

Approximately 45 people have been attending F+U+E+L each Wednesday night.

Christ the King Preschool Chapel – Preschool chapel is held each Tuesday & Wednesday morning in the Sanctuary. I am using a combination of "**Frolic**" and "**Spark**" curriculum for the CTK Pre-School Chapel each Tuesday & Wednesday morning. Coloring sheets are sent home with the preschool children each week to reinforce the Bible story lesson with the children.

Instrumental Youth Group March 13, 2016 – the Youth played the hymns on March 13, 2016 at the 11:00 service. The students did a great job and it was well received.

Children's Choir & Hand Chimes for 1 – 5 grade, began rehearsals every other Sunday, from January – May, 2016 from 12:30 -1:15 p.m. Attendance was 6-8 children. The children played a hand chimes and sang Palm Sunday, March 20, 2016 and Sunday April 24 at the 11:00 service.

Youth & Children's service April 24, 2016 at 11:00 – was well received. The Youth & Children served at the 11:00 a.m. service in all facets of worship, such as singing the liturgy, reading of the lessons, playing the prelude, instrumental youth playing the hymns and communion, greeters and ushers, etc. This was well received by the parents and congregation.

Confirmation May 15, 2016 at the 11:00 service - 8th grade Confirmation Students were Confirmed. The 6th & 7th grade Confirmation students assisted with the service by reading, ushering, acolyte, and greeters.

CTK Vacation Bible School was June 19-24, 2016

Sunday – Thursday 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. The theme was *Deep Sea Discovery "God is with Me Wherever I Go!* There were about 58 students in attendance at VBS and about 28 volunteers. Pastor Tom Smith and Pastor Rob Banitt lead the Elementary Bible class. All the volunteers did an awesome job!

Rally Day - Kick Off for Discipleship Hour August 9, 2016

Vacation Bible School songs opened our Celebration at 10:00 a.m. in fellowship hall. There was a wonderful reception of foods and treats, and games for everyone. The students all had a chance to meet their Sunday School teachers.

Pumpkin Painting - Youth and Children painted Pumpkins Wednesday, October 26 and Sunday October 30. The pumpkins were used for decorates for the Octoberfest on Sunday October 30!

Octoberfest on Sunday October 30, 2016 was following the 11:00 service, approximately 12:15 — 2:00 p.m. Bratwurst and Hot dogs were provided. Members were asked to bring a side dish, salad, or treat to share. There was Pumpkin Painting, crafts, treats, and games for children and youth! Festive music was provided by "The Lovely Ladies and The Grumpy Old White Guys" from Nostalgia Band.

December 2 Babysitting for Children – There were 7 children from the CTK preschool and one child from the church who attended the babysitting. The free will donations collected were funds to go towards the Youth mission trip. Although no youth attended to help with the babysitting, this was a good outreach for us with the CTK preschool families.

December Youth & Children Advent Program - The Youth, Children, and Ladies Ensemble presented *"On Our Way to Bethlehem"* Sunday, December 18, at the 11:00 service. The youth served as instrumentalist, soloist, readers, acolyte, crucifer, ushers, and greeters during the service. The children read lines, sang songs and dressed in the nativity costumes. The Ladies Ensemble sang solos and ensemble works throughout the program. In honor of the Youth and Children, there was a Breakfast from 9:00-9:45 for everyone participating in "On Our Way to Bethlehem". Beverly Clark was so kind to provide the breakfast. This service was well received by the congregation.

Sunday School Teacher Recognition Sunday May 22

Teacher recognition Sunday was May 22 at both the 9:00 and the 11:00 service. There was a reception from 10:00-10:45 on May 22 to celebrate and thank All the Sunday School teachers for their gift of service to Christ the King this year. This was also the conclusion of Sunday School for the school year. Children's Books were given to the CTK library in honor of the Sunday School teachers service.

Christian Education Committee

Christian Education Committee meets usually the 4th Sunday each month from 12:15-1:00 p.m. in the conference room. We hope to have two more members join this committee the first of the year. The committee reviews all the Sunday School curriculum, Christmas program, VBS, teacher changes, Children's Choir and Hand Chimes Schedule, and Youth & Children's Service.

**Respectfully submitted,
Deborah Scarazzo
Christian Education Coordinator**

Youth Ministry

Mission Statement (Established July 2006):

The goal of our youth ministries is to expose teenagers to God's love, to enable them to live out their faith, to glorify God, to enjoy other believers, and to experience the works of ministry.

Youth ministry programs are healthy Christ-centered programs that allow students to feel safe and unconditionally loved for the individual God has created them to be. These programs are safe places in which students can ask the tough questions and not feel judged by adults or their peers. We serve our church (as greeters, ushers, some as readers and participating in two youth-led worship services each year), others and the community. We hold fundraising events to help earn their way to the next mission trip.

Youth regularly meet during the Sunday school hour to grow in their knowledge with Christ and the church. Additionally we strive to get together one to two more times each month in a variety of activities to continue to build our relationships while serving others.

- Service - This may be an event that either benefits the church, the community, or a group of individuals or organization. Activities are decided based on the time of the year, the need and the ability to act in a serving capacity.
- Fellowship - Feeling like you "belong" is crucial for youth in the middle school and high school ages. Each month we offer an activity to promote fellowship and a sense of belonging in a safe environment.

I'm surprised that the youth program has not grown more than what has been the same level of involvement over the past years; and yet it shouldn't be too much of a surprise. No matter which program I've been involved in, I find a group is lucky if 50% of the total population attends any single event. Additionally, the geographic displacement of our congregation plays heavily on whether youth can participate in a weekday event. For example, none of the eleven 2016-17 Confirmation students attend the same school. It's hard to "spread the word" and attend a quick event during the week when the members are all over the map. If you arrange an event too early, people don't get home from work in time. Too late and people have to get home and ready for school the next day.

Weekends are almost as difficult in our youths' schedules. If anyone is in athletics, it has become acceptable in today's communities to schedule sporting competitions both on Saturdays and Sundays. I regularly find that even if I plan an event on a Sunday, my athletic members are often unavailable.

To make any event happen, it takes an immense amount of communication through emails, text messages and even face-to-face. Time is spent in the narthex and fellowship hall on Sundays to interact with youth and their families to continue to build relationships and remind them of upcoming events.

The "highlight" of our year has been the summer mission trip. But we are struggling to attend one in 2017. Adult supervision (chaperone) is difficult to secure. And the lack of participation by youth makes it difficult to plan what with reservations and non-refundable deposits involved.

Other activities in 2016

- F+U+E+L: Fellowship, United, Education, Leisure – Wednesday evenings, 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm – dinner, singing, then breaking off into Chancel Choir and classes. Our youth class meets for activities and a Bible lesson – Participation is sparse, it being in the middle of a school week; but promises to improve.
- Uncle Shuck's corn maze for the whole family was attempted but cancelled due to lack of interest.
- January 2016 food drive to replenish the pantries.
- December babysitting event. Only a few families took advantage of the babysitting. And no youth assisted.
- Confirmation classes (gr 6-8): Sundays when school is in session
- Fundraising events for 2016 Mission Trip: Car Wash, Babysitting, Easter Pancake Breakfast and Oktoberfest

Youth Ministries Future Planned Events for 2017 (including repeats of some of the above)

- February lock-in.

- Service events for the community and the church including caring for the landscape bed by the teen room, cleaning the teen room, serving dinner during Lent, providing breakfast at Easter, helping at VBS, etc.
- Working to send high school students to TEC (Teens Encounter Christ) on MLK and Labor Day weekends as well and increasing the participation at SE Synod activities.

I enjoy working with the youth and our church to build our youth program and invest in the future by serving the youth today. I expect we will continue to build and strengthen the program throughout 2017. It takes time to make a pattern of participation into our activities. Continuing to offer routine and consistent activities and opportunities will help keep the program growing.

**Respectfully submitted,
John Spencer
Youth Coordinator**

Outreach Ministry

The Outreach Team members for 2016 were Tim Beard, Dottie Culver, Donnie Culver, Cliff Goddard, Mary Lambert, Joe Lambert, Lu Leeds, Jim Leeds, Carole Mahle, Mike Myers, Joan Scovill, John Spencer, Marion Thomas, June Wolsin, and Bob Wolsin.

An Outreach brochure is available on the brochure rack in the narthex.

In 2016, Christ the King aided those in need through the following:

Hotline: Christ the King helps local people with temporary needs such as power and gas bills, and rental payments. The Hotline provided over \$1,300 worth of assistance in 2016.

Gift Cards: Through gifts from the congregation mainly from Angel Tree, the church office provided \$685 worth of Kroger gift cards in \$20 and \$25 increments to people in need who came to the church for assistance.

Charity Tracker: To better serve the community and increase our effectiveness in avoiding scams, Christ the King joined a database network designed to help churches and other entities who aid the needy share information about who they help, how much help is given and what bills are paid. This helps to verify the legitimacy of the requests and avoid duplication.

St. Patrick's Day Dinner & Auction: This March event featured Irish music by the band "Nostalgia" and live and silent auctions and raised over \$6,600 to support Family Promise and Wellspring Living. (See the description of these ministries, below).

Lenten Dinner: Outreach sponsored the Lenten Dinner on March 16.

Back to School Program at The Place: Outreach donated \$500 to this program in May.

Bags of Love: County children are eligible, based on family income, to receive lunches during the school year either free or at a reduced cost. This program provides lunches during the summertime when schools are not in session. In June, Christ the King provided 150 such lunches each week for four weeks.

Vacation Bible School: Outreach provided the dinner for VBS on June 20.

Food Pantry at The Place: Starting in June, Christ the King began providing food items requested by The Place for distribution to needy people in the community. The items asked for change each month. The bins for the food items are in the narthex.

Community Lunch: Outreach provided and served the community lunch to an average of 60 people at The Place on April 8, June 10, August 12, and December 7.

Yard Sale: In September the Outreach yard sale raised over \$2,700. The funds will be used to support community needs in 2017.

Food for Thought (FFT): FFT is a ministry that started in 2011 and provides orange food bags to households that sign-up for the program. People are asked to purchase one or two extra items such as canned fruits and vegetables each time they grocery shop and put those items in the orange bag. Food for Thought volunteers pick up the bags from doorsteps every two months and deliver the food to local food banks and soup kitchens and shelters. Outreach continues to encourage our church members to join this effort by signing up on the Food for Thought website - foodforthought.org.

God's Work – Our Hands Project: In September, Christ the King prepared and delivered health food snack packages to the Cumming Police, the Forsyth County Sheriff, and the Forsyth County Fire Dept. We served sixteen stations.

Coat Drive: In an October coat drive the congregation donated 35 coats. Outreach delivered the coats to The Place for distribution to needy people as part of a county-wide program.

Angel Tree: Through Angels Over Forsyth, a county-wide ministry that supports CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) children through sponsors such as Christ the King, our congregation gave Christmas gifts to 60 children. The total value of these gifts was over \$4,500. The Angel Tree also brought in over \$2,000 in cash and gift cards which Outreach will use to support the community in 2017.

Thrivent: Thrivent continues to support outreach activities at Christ the King through the Thrivent Action Teams program. This program helps to support our events and fund-raisers by providing up to \$250 per event to defray costs.

Human Trafficking (HT): Early in 2014 Outreach conducted classes based on the ELCA Human Trafficking Learning Series. Approximately 30 people attended. Since then Outreach has participated in activities designed to communicate about this very ugly crime against children and help prevent it. In 2015 Outreach produced a video about

Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking (DMST) which tells the story comprehensively in about 25 minutes. The video is available free of charge. We hope that those who view this video will feel compelled to show it to others, particularly groups. The video is available in the church office.

Wellspring Living (WL): This ministry provides shelter and rehabilitation for young girls who have escaped from being a human trafficking victim. Outreach donated \$3500 (one half of the \$6700 raised by the 2016 Irish Dinner and Auction plus \$150) to WL.

Team River Runners (TRR): This is a ministry that supports physically disabled veterans, and those suffering from “Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome”, returning from military service. They give their clients kayaking opportunities by coaching them, providing equipment, and coordinating trips. The service people report that this is an opportunity to see that they have something to live for and enjoy. It also builds their confidence for other areas of life. Outreach did not support TRR in 2016, but plans to in 2017.

Family Promise of Forsyth County (FPFC): This nationwide ministry provides support to families that have lost the ability to sufficiently provide for themselves. Family Promise operates nationwide through 180+ affiliates that are composed of large groups of churches. The churches team up to form an affiliate and then operate to provide temporary shelter, meals, fellowship, and mentoring to the families at the “Host Churches”. Christ the King has been very active with other churches in helping to form a Forsyth County affiliate of Family Promise. In March Outreach donated \$3,500 from the Irish Dinner & Auction to FPFC. The Forsyth County affiliate hired a Director in June, and opened for families in October. FPFC currently is serving three families with thirteen people. The second annual FPFC Bed-Race raised over \$20,000.

2017 Challenges: The team will be discussing and praying for guidance in selecting other ministries to support and other fund-raisers to help provide the support. We always look for opportunities to participate with other agencies to explore solutions to hunger and homelessness in Forsyth County and will continue our efforts to participate in the Forsyth County affiliate of Family Promise. We also will welcome those in the congregation who want to join mission trips to disaster ridden areas when work teams are requested. We will also continue to find ways to communicate about human trafficking and support selected agencies working on that issue. We plan to sponsor a rally picnic for Team River Runners in the spring.

The Outreach team members are mostly of retirement age. One significant challenge for Outreach at Christ the King to continue robustly as we go forward is for younger church members to become involved. If serving the less fortunate people in our community, (those without adequate shelter, food, and clothing), resonates with you, please come join us in this work commissioned by Jesus himself.

**Respectfully submitted,
Mike Myers
Ministry Leader**

Christ the King Lutheran Preschool

The Preschool's mission is to provide a quality educational experience in a warm and loving Christian environment. Our preschool experience guides children through various stages of growth while respecting that each child's development path is uniquely their own. CTK Preschool provides a first opportunity for many children to build social and academic confidence in a learning environment. Our Preschool achieves this with a balanced curriculum of age appropriate lessons and skill building. Each child is given the opportunity to grow at his or her own pace with praise and encouragement. Students enjoy special time in Chapel and Music each week. Parents joined their children for a "trunk or treat" and Miss Spider's Tea Party this year in October. In December, we joined the Church and presented our Christmas program before an Advent Service. The Preschool is currently in the midst of its seventeenth year and enrollment will soon be underway for the 2017-2018 school year. Please recommend the preschool to your friends, neighbors and relatives. There are classes for children who are walking through pre-K and Christ the King church members receive a monthly discount. The teachers and our remarkable facility are the driving force behind the preschool being one of the finest in the county. Jakima McCall is continuing her role this year as the Preschool Director. She spends her time in the office and the classrooms. We are very proud of the teachers and staff members, each one bringing to the preschool unique and special talents.

After a period of lower enrollment numbers, the preschool is beginning to grow at a steady pace again. We are confident that we can continue to grow the preschool as a successful outreach ministry of the Church.

The Preschool is one of the longest running Outreach missions of the Church. In that same spirit we keep Outreach in the forefront of our program. We again partnered with The Place of Forsyth County in October for a coat drive. In December we cut the 200 angels for the Angel Tree program, partnering with The Outreach Team. These are just two examples of the many outreach opportunities that were offered to the Preschool families.

The Preschool is governed by a Board of Directors that reviews budget, staff, classes and curriculum. The Board approves fees, policies and governs any matters which may occur during the school year that are not already covered by the Preschool's Bylaws. The current Board Members are Dottie Culver-President, Sally Campbell - Secretary, Shawn Byrne – Finance, Pastor James Clark – ex-officio member, Doreen Benisek, Michele Luthart, and Jeanne Matthews.

**Respectfully submitted,
Jakima McCall
Preschool Director**

Women of the ELCA

The Women's Ministries group at *Christ the King* in Cumming, Georgia, had a busy year performing the Lord's work by supporting our community, the Southeastern Synod and global missions. We had excellent participation by our congregation for the many activities, projects and events held during the year.

The Women's Ministries Board is made up of representatives from six of the eight circles. Officers were elected at the January meeting for two year terms ending in January 2017 as follows:

President: Stephanie Boylan
Secretary: Susan Hallman
Treasurer: Barbara Ayres

However, as you know, effective August 31, 2016, Stephanie Boylan left *Christ the King* and, therefore, the Women's Ministries has been operating without the position of President.

During the year, the Circles were busy, and here are a few highlights for the year:

Collection Circle, led by Barbara Ayres: The Collection Circle continued to collect items to support local, synod, national and global events and needs. This year 114 quilts were delivered to Lutheran World Relief, and pop tabs were collected at the Synod Convention for donation to the Ronald McDonald House. During the convention, our congregation also contributed to the yearly in-kind and love offerings.

Cookie Sale Circle, led by Wendy Tuten: The Cookie Sale continued to be the only fundraising event of the year for Women's Ministries and allows the group to be self-sustaining. Cookies were baked by congregation members and donated for the sale. The price of the cookies was once again \$6 per pound and all were packaged in gift boxes. All money raised is used to help support the other ministries of the Women's Ministries. At this year's Cookie Sale, a total of \$1,750 was raised. We give a big thanks to all those who baked and donated cookies to this effort, and to all of the volunteers who helped set up and work the sale. We could not do it without you.

Lydia Circle, led by Terrie Schiefelbein: The Lydia Circle continued to be the prayer shawl ministry that shared and promoted healing and wholeness through the creation and donation of prayer shawls. The group met weekly for anyone who enjoys needlework (knitting, crocheting, cross stitch, etc.). In addition, the circle met the 4th Tuesday of each month for a Bible Study session.

Prayer Sister Circle, led by Jeanne Matthews and Susan Hallman: Due to the changes in the Women's Ministries this year, the Prayer Sister Brunch was moved to September. This year's event was an Afternoon Tea and was held in Cuthbertson Hall with an excellent turn out. A devotional began the day followed by fellowship, and the reveal of

the secret prayer sisters. For the 2016-2017 Prayer Sister Exchange, we have 16 participants.

Quilting Circle, led by Cathie Gibbons: We met in January and July for a three-day quilting boot camp. We also met once a month for quilting sewcialbees. With help from the Piecemakers Quilt Guild, which meets once a month in Cuthbertson Hall, we completed and shipped 114 quilts. Thanks to Bill and Diane Leonhardt and Helen Lund who loaded the quilts in their trucks and took them to the collection site. This year we also implemented a bar code tracking system which will enable us to see exactly where our quilts were shipped.

Ruby/Ruth Circle, led by Amy Barish: Ruby/Ruth activities address Spiritual growth, Social gathering and Service. During the 2016 monthly gatherings, the group hiked Sawnee Mountain, provided dinner for VBS, had a Craft night at a local glass and ceramics studio, and enjoyed fellowship with dinner at a local restaurant. In addition, a monthly Bible study led by Linda Forbes was started in September.

Women's Ministries Retreat, led by Stephanie Boylan: The 20th annual retreat was held March 4-6, 2016 with a free night on Thursday, March 3. The retreat study was based on the book ***An Altar in the World*** by Barbara Brown Taylor. The study was led by Megan Coates and Sally Campbell. There were a total of 23 women (down from 40 the previous year) in attendance with $\frac{3}{4}$ staying the full weekend and $\frac{1}{4}$ coming up for Saturday only. The Sunday morning offering was donated to the Forsyth County chapter of Family Promise.

Women's Ministries participated in the church Ministry Fair. In response to all time talent cards, Stephanie Boylan sent a letter to all women who indicated an interest in the various Circles. Women's Ministries also provided Portals of Prayer for the congregation and made a contribution to the Lutheran Disaster Relief Fund to help with the disasters for the Southeastern Synod.

Finally, *Christ the King* was represented by Barbara Ayres, at the 29th Annual Southeastern Synod Women of The ELCA Convention in Atlanta, Georgia with 192 in attendance. The theme for the year was Weave Us Together.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Hallman
WELCA Secretary

Christ the King Lutheran Church of Cumming, Georgia, Inc.
Income Report
January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016

General Fund Income Offering:

100	General Fund	\$440,731.59
105	General Fund - Loose Change	<u>5,637.60</u>
	Sub-Total	<u>\$446,369.19</u>

Other General Fund Income:

115	Preschool Contribution	\$ 12,150.00
170	Contribution Toward Utilities	1,325.00
185	Refunds & Reimbursements	<u>649.80</u>
	Sub-Total	<u>\$ 14,124.80</u>

Total General Fund Income \$460,493.99

Special Funds Income:

701	Caring Team	\$ 500.00
703	Christian Education	64.00
704	Kitchen/Hospitality	949.65
705	Worship and Music	200.00
706	Outreach	13,671.50
712	Cash Reserve Funds	5,500.00
801	Advent	479.25
807	Lent	2,453.25
808	Pastor/Staff gifts	1,610.00
810	Celebration of Grace	67,979.52
811	Evangelism	825.00
813	Flowers	2,890.00
816	WELCA	5,417.75
823	Altar Guild	355.00
828	Youth Group	5,734.18
832	Wednesday Night Supper	1,903.00
834	Vacation Bible School	1,350.41
842	Hope Fund	2,985.00
903	Debt Reduction	14,431.75
908	Memorials - No Tags	2,525.00
912	Memorials - Tagged	<u>1,325.00</u>

Total Special Funds Income \$128,149.26

GRAND TOTAL \$593,643.25

Respectfully Submitted,
Jan Grimshaw, Financial Secretary

Christ the King Lutheran Church of Cumming, Georgia, Inc.
Budgeted Expenses
January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016

<u>Ministry Name</u>	<u>2016 Budget</u>	<u>2016 Actual Expenditures</u>
Parish Administration	\$ 19,300.00	\$ 18,558.00
Finance	51,800.00	48,800.00
Council	500.00	275.00
Christian Education	6,950.00	6,455.00
Mortgage	67,871.00	67,871.00
Mission Support	25,000.00	25,000.00
Called Staff Pay & Exp	116,870.00	111,008.00
Caring Teams	300.00	300.00
Property	29,665.00	32,661.00
Worship & Music	5,750.00	4,576.00
Youth / Youth Learning	900.00	1,163.00
Staff Payroll	162,754.00	146,888.00
Hospitality	1,650.00	1,366.00
Adult Education	250.00	77.00
WELCA	<u>600.00</u>	<u>600.00</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$ 490,160.00</u>	<u>\$ 465,598.00</u>

Mortgage

Beginning Mortgage Balance January 1, 2016	\$ 787,117.90
Principal payments	49,321.77
Ending Mortgage Balance December 31, 2016	\$ 737,796.13

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Voerg, Treasurer

Christ the King Lutheran Church of Cumming, Georgia, Inc.
Special Fund Balances
as of December 31, 2016

<u>FUND</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>
701 Caring Team	\$ 1,519.01
703 Sunday School Ministries	5,486.59
704 Kitchen/Hospitality	670.79
705 Worship and Music	516.90
706 Outreach	8,718.46
707 Capital Reserve Fund	29,060.25
708 Scrip Account	5,540.60
709 Stephen Ministry	853.25
712 Cash Reserve Funds	30,463.54
803 Ruby Circle	57.00
811 Evangelism	825.00
812 Pastor Continuing Education	333.00
813 Altar Flowers	122.59
816 WELCA	8,020.06
828 Youth Group	12,432.65
832 Wed. Night Supper	1366.60
833 Disaster Assistance	536.61
901 Library	1,553.21
902 Choir Festival	319.13
903 Debt Reduction	4,227.54
906 Interest	141.32
908 Memorials - No Tags	5,689.16
912 Memorials - Tagged	3,310.00
913 Wedding	50.00
 Total Special Funds	 <u>\$ 121,813.26</u>

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Voerg, Treasurer

Membership Summary for 2016

December 31, 2016

		<u>CONFIRMED</u>	<u>NON-CONFIRMED</u>
Added:	Baptisms	1	5
	Reaffirmation	1	1
	Confirmation Class	7	0
	Reinstated	0	0
	New Member Transfers	<u>24</u>	<u>4</u>
TOTAL		33	10
Removed:	Transfer	5	4
	Inactive	39	19
	Resignation	2	2
	Deceased	12	0
	Confirmation Class	<u>0</u>	<u>5</u>
TOTAL		58	30

Statistics of past years are listed below:

	<u>3/91</u>	<u>12/95</u>	<u>12/00</u>	<u>12/05</u>	<u>12/10</u>	<u>12/15</u>	<u>12/16</u>
Confirmed	129	230	354	465	504	478	452
Non-Confirmed	62	70	134	158	153	89	69
Associates	<u>1</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>--</u>
TOTAL	192	300	488	625	658	568	521
HOUSEHOLDS		123	193	261	279	253	243