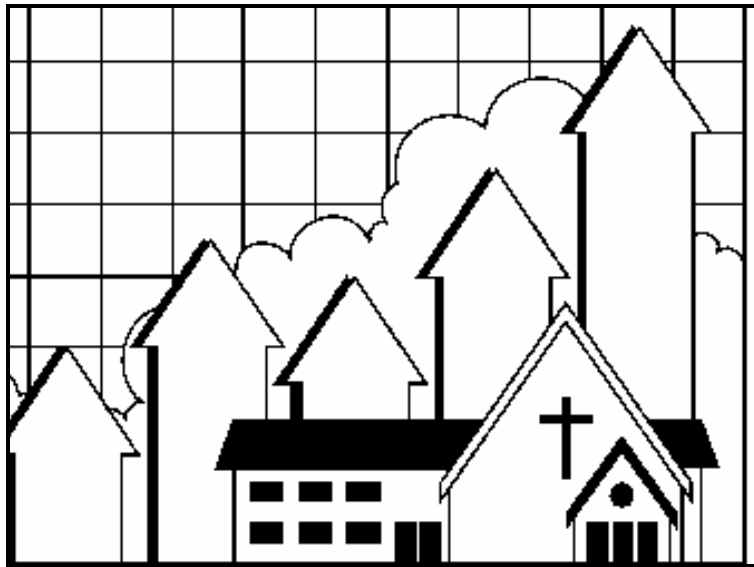


SAINT NICHOLAS LUTHERAN CHURCH

2008 ANNUAL REPORT



*“Growing and empowering disciples of Jesus Christ
for the ministries of God’s work in the world.”*

Saint Nicholas Lutheran Church
1450 Plum Point Road
Huntingtown, MD 20639
410-257-5683
www.saintnicholaslutheran.org



SAINT NICHOLAS LUTHERAN CHURCH 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Staff & Ministry Organization

Agenda for January 25, 2009 Congregational Meeting

Minutes of 2008 Congregational Meetings

 January 27

 November 9

Statistics for 2008

Annual Report for 2008

 Pastor

 Associate Pastor

 Council President

 Treasurer

 Financial Secretary

 Ministries

 Christian Education

 Coordinator of Volunteer Ministry

 Social Concerns


 Stewardship


 Youth and Family Life

 Worship and Music

Saint Nicholas Lutheran Church

2008 Staff & Ministry Organization

	Pastor	Reverend Dr. Gregory Gaertner
	Associate Pastor	Reverend Wendy Deeben
	Office Administrator	Anna Kitzmiller
	Coordinator, Vounteer Ministry	Barbara Harris
	Director, Christian Education	Vicki Williams
	Director, Chancel Choir	Jean Wolf
	Director, Sing and Rejoice	Lisa Churchill
	Accompanists	Sandy Griese
		Valerie Schlickbernd

<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> CHURCH  COUNCIL </div>		
<u>2008</u>		<u>2009</u>
President	Ann Wolfgang	President
Vice President	Ron Ross	Vice President
Secretary	Kay Aronhalt	Secretary
Treasurer	Paul Butz	Treasurer
Financial Secretary	Tom Blatt	Financial Secretary
Pastor	Pastor Gaertner	Pastor
Associate Pastor	Pastor Deeben	Associate Pastor
Members At Large	Sherie Cooper	Members At Large
	Bob Finlayson	
	David Hickin	
	Christy Lewis	
	Walter Merz	
	John Regner	
		Edith Crane
		Colleen Hyland
		Dennis Leary
		Christy Lewis
		Tierney Guido

Christian Education Evangelism and Outreach Social Concerns Stewardship Volunteer Ministry Worship and Music Youth and Family Life	Vicki Williams Cherise Ross Kathy Dangin Charlie Bauerdorf Barbara Harris Jean Wolf Mary Jo Gebhardt	
--	--	--

*Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others,
faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.
1 Peter 4:10*

**SAINT NICHOLAS LUTHERAN CHURCH
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
JANUARY 25, 2009, 10:15 AM**

AGENDA

- Gathering: Hymn WOV #776 *Be Thou My Vision*
Pastoral Prayer
Call to Order
Establish Quorum
Approve Agenda
- Corporate Business: Minutes November, 2008 (*)
Elect 2009 Synod Assembly Delegates (*)
Council Recommendation: North Wing funding (Ballot)
Accept 2008 Annual Report (*)
Announcements
Voting Results
- Adjournment: Lord's Prayer
Blessing
Closing Hymn LBW# 546 *When Morning Gilds the Skies*
Sending

(*) voice vote

Saint Nicholas Lutheran Church
Congregational Meeting
January 27, 2008

Welcome and Call to Order: Council President Ann Wolfgang called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. and welcomed all. The singing of a hymn was followed by devotions and prayer by Pastor Greg. The agenda was reviewed; motion was made to accept by Alyson Schwartz, seconded by Lisa Hanson. Motion passed by voice vote. Quorum was established and exceeded.

Appreciation was extended to retiring council members, ministry sponsors, and staff members who were retiring from their positions: Eileen Roseto, Jean Malo, Kathy Clark, Bill Poole, Debbie Bang, and Erika Demme. New council members were introduced: Vice President Ron Ross, Secretary Kay Aronhalt, and members at large Dave Hickin and Sherie Cooper. New Ministry sponsor Charles Bauerdorf, Stewardship, and new staff member, Vickie Williams, Director of Christian Education.

Minutes of the Oct. 14 meeting: Motion to approve made by Dick West, seconded by Sidney Kolbe; Minutes approved by voice vote.

Recommendation regarding Coterminous Call was read. The recommendation reads as follows: *The Associate Pastor's call at Saint Nicholas is understood to be independent of the call of the Senior Pastor. In the event that the Senior Pastor resigns his/her call, the Associate Pastor should advise Council as expeditiously as possible, but not to exceed 60 days after the Senior Pastor's resignation, regarding his/her future plans with the congregation and whether he/she would like to be considered for the position of Senior Pastor.* Motion to accept made by Lisa Hanson, seconded by Paul Butz. Motion approved by voice vote.

Constitutional Revisions (see attached) were reviewed. Walter Merz moved that they be accepted, Hillary Berche seconded. The vote, cast by written ballot, was 130 yes, 4 no. Motion carried.

Proposed MIF Resolution was read and discussed. Colleen Hyland moved to accept the resolution; Ron Ross seconded. Written ballots were cast. The vote was 120 yes, 13 no. Motion carried. The Resolution reads as follows: ***Revised MIF Resolution. Council Recommendation: Loan Rate up to 7.5%. (Projected monthly mortgage payment, \$13,700). The council recommends that the congregation approve up to 7.5% maximum interest rate for the financing of the North Wing through the Mission Investment Fund.***

2008 Synod Representatives. Motion to close synod delegate nominations made, seconded, and approved. Motion to accept synod delegates Barbara Harper and Glenn and Ann Wolfgang was made by Lisa Hanson and Sidney Kolbe. Motion carried by voice vote.

Minutes of Jan. 27, 2008, Congregational Meeting

2008 Nominating Committee members: Eileen Roseto, Bill Poole, Debbie Bang.
Motion to close nominations made by Colleen Hyland, seconded by Jim Felbinger.
Motion approved by voice vote. Motion to approve: Barbara Harris, seconded by Kathy Clark. Motion carried by voice vote.

Annual Reports were highlighted by the various sponsors, officers, and staff members submitting the reports. A motion to receive all annual reports was made by Dick West; seconded by John Regner. Motion carried by voice vote.

Adjournment with the Lord's Prayer, Blessing, Closing Hymn, and Sending.

Respectfully submitted,
Kay Aronhalt
Council Secretary

**Saint Nicholas Lutheran Church
Congregational Meeting
November 9, 2008**

The meeting opened in the nave with the singing of the hymn, *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*. Pastor Wendy led prayer. President Ann Wolfgang called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. A quorum was established with the presence of 110 voting members.

Walter Merz moved to approve the agenda with the correction of the date printed on the copies distributed. Keith Williams seconded; motion carried by voice vote.

Minutes of the preceding meeting were approved, with notation of two edits. Bill Poole moved to approve; Harris Cooper seconded. Motion carried.

Corporate Business included discussion and review regarding **ratification of constitutional revisions approved at the January 2008 meeting**. Vote was taken by written ballot. The constitutional revisions were ratified by a vote of 106 yes to 2 no.

Election of new council members. The slate of candidates proposed by the nominating committee was reviewed. All candidates were present with the exception of Dennis Leary, who was out of town on family business. Nominations were solicited from the floor. There being none, the written ballots were marked and counted. The slate was unanimously accepted. Re-elected were: Pres. Ann Wolfgang and Treas. Paul Butz; Elected *At Large* for 2009/10 were: Edith Crane, Colleen Hyland, Dennis Leary. Youth member elected: Tierney Guido

The 2009 budget, which had been distributed to all members by means of the November newsletter and by first class mail, was available for review and was highlighted. Questions were invited from the floor. Vote was taken by written ballot. The proposed budget was passed by a vote of 93 yes; 17 no.

Announcements included appreciation to Anna Kitzmiller for preparation of paperwork and Power Point for the meeting; Sid Kolbe for technology assistance; Sandy Griese for musical accompaniment; recognition was accorded John Deeben for his expertise and time devoted to organizing church records for archival preservation.

Our next scheduled congregational meeting is January 25, 2009.

Harris Cooper noted upcoming projects of the Facilities and Property Committee, and invited assistance from interested parties. Appreciation was expressed to Susan and Steve Groff for work on the fire alarm system.

Tim Schwartz, who is serving as the congregation's North Wing construction manager, updated progress on the construction progress.

The meeting concluded with the *Lord's Prayer* and the singing of the hymn, *God of Grace and God of Glory*. Adjournment was at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kay Aronhalt, Council Secretary



SAINT NICHOLAS STATISTICS 2008

	Start of 2008	2008 Additions (Subtractions)	End of 2008
Baptized Members	523	+57 -54	526
Confirmed (Voting) Members	372	+22 -25	369

Confirmed May 11, 2008

Nicole Brown	Erik Hyland	Maggie Scopel	Sophia Franzak
Kyle Neri	Amber Stuart	Taylor Frick	

Baptism (under 16)

Teagan James Willis 1/13	Tanner Joseph Currie 1/20	Robert Curtis McGuire 1/10
Sarah Elizabeth Belote 3/22	Tyler Gil Schmale 4/20	Cara Renee Trickle 4/13
Bryce Alexander Van Fleet 5/18	Brice Anthony Boling 5/25	Nicholas Glenn Sacks 6/1
Carleigh Nicole Thayer 6/1	Daniel Alexander Thayer 6/1	Ryan Christian Matthews 6/29
Heather Rose Krell 6/29	Bailey Marie Newman 8/10	Emily Elizabeth King 9/28
Alex Calautti 10/26	Joel Edward Campbell 10/5	Maxwell Roland Gingue 12/28
Natalie Mae Gingue 12/28	Lindsey Dianne Gingue 12/28	

Baptism (over 16)

Matthew Thomas Belote 3/22

By Affirmation

Kevin Wawroski	Beth Belote	Kayla Belote	John Perin
Ann Marie Perin	Jack Perin	Evelyn Amster	Carolyn Magill

Transfer from ELCA

Lauren Wawroski	Mark Piper	Autumn Piper	Barbara Downs
Julia Devine	Eleanor Devine	Natalie Devine	

Transfers from Other

Christine Piper

Transfers Out to ELCA

Greg Blatt	June Roscoe	Scott Roscoe	John Roscoe
Jared Roscoe			

Transfers Out Other

Carol Bush	David Bush	Jacob Bush	Josh Bush
Bonnie Arnheim	Jill Cunningham	Zach Cunningham	

OTHER FACTS ABOUT SAINT NICHOLAS

Received First Communion

Alex Younkens
Michael Williams
Olivia Fowler

Alex Calautti
Gabrielle White

Josh Calautti
Greg Proctor

Births

Ryan Christian Matthews 3/18
Teagan James Willis 9/25

Brice Anthony Boling
Amelia Claire Piper 10/8

Joel Edward Campbell 7/29

Marriages

Allison Marie Vehrs & Raymond Daniels Brooks 01/12 (non-members)

Deaths

Jo At Lee July 22
Bill At Lee Oct 15

PASTOR 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

What a full and busy year we have had in 2008! Many things that were long in the planning have begun to come to fruition. With God's grace and blessing, many of them will be accomplished in 2009. Some will take longer, but, as the people of God, we gain as much in the process of doing as we do in the accomplishment of having done.

I am grateful for my partnership in the Gospel with Pastor Wendy. Our ministries at Saint Nicholas have been blessed by her work among us. I'm grateful, too, for our Council President Ann Wolfgang. Ann has worked so hard and so well to move the construction of the North Wing from a promising dream to a reality. I don't think any of us realized fully how difficult this would be, but Ann has met every challenge with grace and humor and purpose. Thanks go, too, to John Regner and Tim Schwartz who have ably led the Building Committee.

We are in a phase of our life together here that is, to my mind, a very joyful one. Our congregation has in my experience always been a joy to be a part of and we know that even in conflicted situations God is at work, but I think we have been especially blessed this year in terms of a spirit of amity and purpose. We have had many families join the congregation and they have begun to contribute almost immediately to our common life. This speaks well for Saint Nicholas as an open and welcoming community. We have had many families and individuals step into leadership roles in the congregation and this, too, speaks well of our openness to new influences and people. We have made good progress on our goal of becoming a discipling congregation – two dozen people have formed triad groups for Bible study and personal reflection, and we continue to emphasize our aim to “Love God, Love Others, Teach and Learn, and Serve the World” in worship and preaching, teaching and fellowship.

As I look back on the year, some events stand out for me. The Vacation Bible School, always a high point, gained from being led by a very able teen (Tierney Guido) and a new member (Donna Calautti). Cupid's Café, too, was led by our very capable Hannah Finlayson, continuing this tradition of strong teen leadership even for congregation-wide events. Safe Nights was truly a life-changing week, both for our guests and our members, and I am so grateful to Kathy Dangan and Charlie Bauerdorf for their hard work and wonderful spirit and to the congregation for the enormous outpouring of volunteer effort. Relay for Life was a wonderful, uplifting event that I'm glad we have returned to as a congregation, and I'm grateful for Kathy Dangan's leadership in this as well. We continue with our strong confirmation program, making Pentecost a very special observance year after year. I love to recall the faith statements our young people offer up to us and to God. And I always smile when I think about the flamingos.

This is a good moment to thank Jean Wolf who stepped down as Sponsor of Worship and Music, Cherise Ross, stepping down as Sponsor of Evangelism and Outreach, and Mary Jo Gebhardt, stepping down as Sponsor of Youth and Family. I will miss their wisdom, humor and enthusiasm. I am grateful to Jean for continuing to lead the Chancel Choir, to Sandy Griese and Val Schlickbernd for their artistry, and to Lisa Churchill, the Sing and Rejoice Band and the Angel Choir for making our worship joyful and fun. We can all be grateful for Barbara Harris, who asks for help so graciously that we actually enjoy saying “Yes.” I'm grateful, too, for Vicki Williams,

our DCE, and Charlie Bauerdorf our Stewardship Sponsor. I am especially grateful for our Mutual Ministry committees who have been so supportive and encouraging. And I thank God daily for Anna Kitzmiller, our administrator, who keeps everything going with grace and humor and deep faith in the rightness of what we do here.

We face challenges in the coming year. Finances will be tight given the economy, but our expenses will be increasing as we take on the increased mortgage. We face the New Year with vacancies in key lay leadership roles. We can expect to say goodbye to Pastor Wendy as she seeks a new call. Much will change as we move from hoping for and planning the North Wing to moving in and paying for it.

The people of God have always faced challenges. We surmount them thanks to the God who has never abandoned us at need and never will. We pray for a year of continued challenges and blessings, advancing spirit and God's continuing grace.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Greg

ASSOCIATE PASTOR 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

2008 has been a good year at Saint Nicholas. The North Wing is under construction and many ministries continue.

I am grateful to Pastor Greg and all of you for our partnership in ministry. We are doing God's work here at Saint Nicholas.

This past year, our youth had many opportunities for fun, fellowship and learning. Some of these activities include bowling, ice skating, retreats and lock-ins. We also continued our participation in the synod youth events Chrysalis, Shekinah, and Shema.

As a congregation we have had many opportunities to serve our neighbor, through work camp, Christmas in April, Safe Nights, and many other ministries.

Middle school youth learned a variety about the Bible, the catechism, and what it means to be a disciple in the past year in confirmation. They have gathered at lock-ins for fellowship and not a great deal of sleep.

Many groups continue to meet. Lunch Bunch meets the 2nd Thursday of every month at different restaurants in the area for food and fellowship. Our young families group has met on occasion, including the Celtic Festival at Jefferson Patterson Park. The In Crowd continues to meet the 1st and the 3rd Wednesday of every month discussing different topics. We also added a new group this year. Our young adult group meets at Turnabout Café in Owings for Bible Study and conversation the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month.

Our Stephen Ministry Team organized a beautiful Advent Service of Hope giving an opportunity for us to explore the treasures, both new and old as we anticipated Christ's birth.

The past two years at Saint Nicholas have been wonderful. I am grateful to all of you. I've learned many things and have grown as a pastor. As you know, during this past year I have felt God calling me to another congregation. I thank you all for your kind words and your prayers as I go through the call process.

I look forward to seeing where God leads Saint Nicholas next.

In Christ's love,
Pastor Wendy

COUNCIL PRESIDENT 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Council President. It is my privilege to recap 2008 Council, Church Leadership, and North Wing activities.

This was a year of growth and definition of mission for Saint Nicholas. Due to the timing of our long-awaited and much-needed North Wing, however, building issues have seemed to dominate much of our attention this year. While we have kept the footprint of the building in terms of square footage, increased building costs and code requirements have required concessions. Future upgrades to the North Wing will be necessary so we can fully use the facility to accommodate our needs. Momentous decisions were made:

1. Eliminate or defer design items totaling \$500,000 from the site and building project so that MIF criteria for \$1.55 Million loan would be met.
2. Add back the elevator (approx \$62,000), to be funded independently of the MIF loan because building only the shaft and adding the elevator later was deemed by the building committee to be penny wise, but pound foolish.
3. Split the septic system between upper and kitchen/lower levels so that we could get the Calvert County Health Department to approve our permit. A second permit is necessary to complete the septic required and the second system will need to be completed before we get our use and occupancy permit.
4. Designate four of the ten rooms in the lower level as offices, eliminate the stage, and maintain chairs and tables set up as all times in the fellowship area so that our building load would be below the number that would require a sprinkler system. To have the North Wing used optimally, a sprinkler system will need to be retrofitted in the future. This decision was based on available funds as the sprinkler system will require approximately \$100,000 in today's dollars.

Saint Nicholas is incorporated in the State of Maryland; and as an ELCA congregation we are organized by Constitution, By-Laws, and Continuing Resolutions. We have successfully completed the revision of our constitution to include Associate Pastor, voting youth member on Council, and Council term limitations of three consecutive two-year terms for all officers and members at large. The congregation has decided to be a non-coterminous call church as regards Senior and Associate Pastors, meaning that if the Senior Pastor is called elsewhere, the Associate Pastor may remain with the congregation.

Archiving our historical records to date is also complete. Many thanks to John Deeben for his professional expertise in reviewing and cataloging our documents. Saint Nicolas is a "young" congregation and to have our information archived already means that we have captured the beginning years of the congregation with material that now will not be lost.

Church policies, as recommended by the Synod Office, are being written. Already approved by Council is the Youth Protection Policy (copies available upon request from the church office). Personnel policies are currently being created.

Church leadership continues to explore the "discipleship church" concept, which we have defined as 'Love God, love others, teach and learn, serve the world.' The 10-year planning done in 2007 by church leadership continues to be addressed and evaluated.

The second annual "Incoming and Outgoing Council Orientation" was held on November 15, 2008. Our purpose was to bring new members on board before the beginning of the year and to give outgoing members the opportunity to share words of wisdom. Now we are ready to begin 2009.

Several Ad Hoc committees were given tasks that will continue into 2009: Tidewater School Inquiry, North Wing Funding & Debt Reduction, Church Policies Committee and North Wing Building Committee. Additional committees set by our constitution are ongoing: Finance Committee, Facilities/Property Committee and two Mutual Ministries Committees.

We will face challenges in 2009. Using the time, talents, and treasures of all members of Saint Nicholas, old and new, will provide the strength and courage for the ministries of God's work in the world. Collectively we are the church called Saint Nicholas. Together we will do what we need to do to navigate successfully throughout 2009.

Thank you to all congregational members who have served or who are currently serving in leadership and teaching roles and on the many committees. Thank you also to all the families of these members for supporting the efforts of your family member in the continuing work of the church.

Through it all we worship. We love God, love others, teach and learn, serve the world. We thank God for all that we are given, and give back accordingly. We strive to fulfill the mission of Saint Nicholas: Growing and empowering disciples of Jesus Christ for the ministries of God's work in the world.

Respectfully,
Ann Wolfgang
Council President

TREASURER 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

Financially, 2008 was a very interesting year for our congregation. Although non-designated income fell \$76,416.53 short of the budgeted amount, our Ministry Sponsors along with the Finance Committee and Council continued to examine very carefully all expenditures and as a result we wound up at year's end with an overage of \$10,774.19 after allocating the full congregationally approved 10% of member giving to benevolent efforts through the Ministry of Social Concerns. This is due to not having a mortgage payment for seven months of the year. Now that we are sponsoring many wonderful programs including the building of The North Wing, it is important that we all do what we can financially to insure our present and future growth throughout 2009.

We honored our intent to send 100% of our Synod benevolence suggested amount for 2008, with a total donation of \$13,000.00. This year with the start of building the North Wing our year-end balance is \$526,590.24. Additionally, substantial funds were given to numerous other designated causes.

I have to sincerely thank Anna Kitzmiller, Tom Blatt, Ed Aronhalt and the Finance Committee Members for helping with the running of the church finances. I have appreciated all of the help that they have provided as we transitioned to the new computer system. The transition with Anna Kitzmiller taking on the bookkeeping responsibilities for the church has been smooth and quick.

Paul M. Butz
Treasurer

**Saint Nicholas Lutheran Church
 Balance Sheet
 As of December 31, 2008**

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

Mission Investment Fund	489,645.35
PNC Bank Checking Account	23,057.09
PNC Money Market	<u>65,942.53</u>

Total Checking/Savings 578,644.97

Total Current Assets 578,644.97

Fixed Assets

Church Building	1,149,500.00
Furnishings	125,000.00
Land	125,000.00
Lawn Tractors	5,349.00
North Wing	20,270.00
Storage Shed	<u>2,000.00</u>

Total Fixed Assets 1,427,119.00

TOTAL ASSETS 2,005,763.97

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities

Long Term Liabilities

North Wing MIF Loan	<u>545,382.56</u>
---------------------	-------------------

Total Long Term Liabilities 545,382.56

Total Liabilities 545,382.56

Equity

Invested in Property	883,311.60
Opening Bal Equity	0.10

R1 TEMP REST. FUNDS - OTHER

R1.a Social Concerns Needs	500.00
R1.j Southern MD Commu. Network	250.00
R1.z 2008 Unalloc. Funds Trans.	1,783.93
R2.e Sing & Rejoice	150.00
R2.g Nave Furnishings	215.99

R2.i Bells and Chimes		28.25	
R2.j Drum Set		1,020.00	
R2.k Organ Fund		875.00	
R2.m Chancel Choir Music		7.63	
R3.a Sunday School Fund		260.52	
R3.b Vacation Bible School		150.00	
R3.f Books for Church Library		659.42	
R4.b Fair Trade Coffee Project		1,071.00	
R4.f National Youth Convention		3,561.80	
R4.g Summer Camp Assistance		400.00	
R4.m WISC		97.51	
R5.a Outdoor Center Maintenance		1,173.40	
R5.b Evangelism/Outreach		186.42	
R5.f Paid Child Care Fund		220.00	
R7.a Pastor's Discretionary Fnd		588.16	
R7.b Sabbatical Fund		5,774.00	
R7.f Technology Fund		50.00	
R7.g(1)Jessica Gelatka Memorial		4,606.00	
R7.g(2)Earl Westphal Memorial		2,395.00	
R7.g(3) Bill & Jo At Lee Fund		350.00	
R7.i Landscaping-Mem. Tree Area		1,098.61	
R7.l Van for Church		500.00	
R7.p North Wing Funding			
R7.p North Wing Building Env.			
R7.p(a) North Wing MIF Reimburs	75.00		
R7.p North Wing Building Env. - Other	<u>36,786.29</u>		
Total R7.p North Wing Building Env.		36,861.29	
R7.p North Wing Fundraising			
R7.p (1) Concert	53.50		
R7.p (2) Great Lakes Gift Cards	<u>30.10</u>		
Total R7.p North Wing Fundraising		<u>83.60</u>	
Total R7.p North Wing Funding		36,944.89	
R7.w Floor Sealing		1,025.00	
Total R1 TEMP REST. FUNDS - OTHER		<u>65,942.53</u>	
U9 BUILDING FUND - TEMP REST		489,645.35	
Unrestricted Net Assets		10,707.64	
Net Income		<u>10,774.19</u>	
Total Equity			<u>1,460,381.41</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY			<u>2,005,763.97</u>

**Saint Nicholas Lutheran Church
Profit & Loss Budget Performance
December 2008**

	Dec 08	Budget	Jan - Dec 08	YTD Budget	Annual Budget
Income					
Building Use	100.00	166.66	750.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Current Yr. Trans. Designated	0.00		1,866.19	1,700.00	1,700.00
Escrip	2.93	30.75	250.34	369.00	369.00
Interest Income	63.78	100.00	820.70	1,200.00	1,200.00
Registrations					
Chrysalis Registrations	0.00		1,380.00		
Shekinah Registrations	0.00		1,390.00		
VBS Registrations	0.00		694.00		
Registrations - Other	0.00	167.58	0.00	2,011.00	2,011.00
Total Registrations	0.00	167.58	3,464.00	2,011.00	2,011.00
Regular Offering					
Christmas Envelopes	2,395.00		2,395.00		
Easter Envelopes	0.00		1,826.00		
Lent Envelopes	0.00		700.00		
Loose Offering	7,795.52		61,841.52		
Regular Envelopes	17,163.00		220,320.00		
Thanksgiving Envelopes	25.00		310.00		
Regular Offering - Other	3,184.00	33,637.67	39,843.00	403,652.05	403,652.05
Total Regular Offering	30,562.52	33,637.67	327,235.52	403,652.05	403,652.05
Reimbursed Expenses					
Altar Flowers	40.00		635.00		
Bible Study/Workbooks	0.00		56.59		
Confirmation Robes	0.00		100.00		
Contingency Reserve	0.00		5,000.00		
Fellowship Activities	10.55		122.22		
Idearc Refund	0.00		25.50		
Initial Envelopes	0.00		510.00		
Lutheran Magazine	0.00		475.00		
Other	0.00		1,882.64		
Special Occasion Flowers	126.00		872.50		
Reimbursed Expenses - Other	0.00	311.16	0.00	3,734.00	3,734.00
Total Reimbursed Expenses	176.55	311.16	9,679.45	3,734.00	3,734.00
Sunday School Offering	0.00		9.68		
Transfer from Checking	0.00		0.00		
Total Income	30,905.78	34,413.82	344,075.88	414,666.05	414,666.05
Expense					
01 SOCIAL CONCERNS					
01.01 ELCA Benevolence	0.00		13,000.00		
01.04 CCCFP (Food Pantry)	0.00		2,700.00		
01.08 Pastors Discretionary Fd.	150.00		2,099.70		
01.09 Outreach					
01.09a Local Outreach	2,100.00		8,156.05		
01.09b Regional Outreach	900.00		2,023.90		
01.09c World Outreach	1,250.00		2,959.97		
Total 01.09 Outreach	4,250.00		13,139.92		
01.11 Year End Des Fund Trans	1,783.93		1,783.93		
01 SOCIAL CONCERNS - Other	0.00	2,857.08	0.00	34,285.00	34,285.00
Total 01 SOCIAL CONCERNS	6,183.93	2,857.08	32,723.55	34,285.00	34,285.00

11:35 AM

01/03/09

Accrual Basis

Saint Nicholas Lutheran Church
Profit & Loss Budget Performance
December 2008

	Dec 08	Budget	Jan - Dec 08	YTD Budget	Annual Budget
02 MINISTRY OF WORSHIP & MUSIC					
02.01 Chancel Ch Dir Trad Svc	526.59	526.67	6,319.08	6,319.05	6,319.05
02.02 Organist 1 Trad. Service	258.36	258.45	3,100.32	3,100.30	3,100.30
02.03 Organist 2 Trad. Service	258.36	258.45	3,100.32	3,100.30	3,100.30
02.03a Accomp. Trad. Rehearsals	72.00	50.00	612.00	600.00	600.00
02.04 Accompanist - Early Svc.	0.00	86.74	160.00	1,040.00	1,040.00
02.06 Chancel Choir	0.00	120.00	1,525.90	1,440.00	1,440.00
02.07 Bulletins/Supplies	0.00	90.00	1,116.76	1,080.00	1,080.00
02.08 Altar Supply	67.96	50.00	741.71	600.00	600.00
02.09 Sing & Rejoice Worship	0.00	16.66	245.93	200.00	200.00
02.09a Sing & Rejoice Director	446.33	446.33	5,355.96	5,356.00	5,356.00
02.10 Copyrights	0.00	50.00	504.00	600.00	600.00
02.11 Other Worship	0.00	25.00	137.26	300.00	300.00
02.13 Piano Tuning/Organ Maint.	0.00	25.00	519.00	300.00	300.00
02.15 Children's Choir	0.00	18.75	131.10	225.00	225.00
02.16 Altar/Special Flowers	80.00	166.66	1,698.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Total 02 MINISTRY OF WORSHIP & MUSIC	1,709.60	2,188.71	25,267.34	26,260.65	26,260.65
03 MINISTRY OF EDUCATION					
03.01 Director of Christian Ed	669.50	669.50	8,034.00	8,034.00	8,034.00
03.02 Adult Ministry	0.00	75.00	151.06	900.00	900.00
03.03 Sunday School Curriculum	0.00	150.00	1,710.84	1,800.00	1,800.00
03.04 Vacation Bible School	0.00	187.50	1,910.80	2,250.00	2,250.00
03.05 Staff Continuing Ed.	0.00	16.66	0.00	200.00	200.00
03.06 Sunday School General Fd.	308.70	37.50	462.89	450.00	450.00
03.06a Rally Weekend	0.00	37.50	10.19	450.00	450.00
03.07 Confirmation	0.00	52.50	220.99	630.00	630.00
03.07a Confirmation Food/Supp.	84.04	90.00	627.97	1,080.00	1,080.00
03.08 Education Material	0.00	37.50	341.01	450.00	450.00
Total 03 MINISTRY OF EDUCATION	1,062.24	1,353.66	13,469.75	16,244.00	16,244.00
04 MINISTRY OF YOUTH & FAM LIFE					
04.02 Confirm Retreat(Shekinah)	0.00	125.00	2,300.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
04.03 Chrysalis Retreat	0.00	112.50	1,610.00	1,350.00	1,350.00
04.04a Crossroads Event	0.00	18.75	0.00	225.00	225.00
04.04b Affirmation of Baptism	0.00	7.50	0.00	90.00	90.00
04.05 CVLI(Christian Video Lic)	0.00	15.00	0.00	180.00	180.00
04.06 Children's Fellowship	0.00	12.50	0.00	150.00	150.00
04.06a Youth Fellowship	121.50	108.75	208.64	1,305.00	1,305.00
04.06c Family Fellowship	37.75	166.66	545.53	2,000.00	2,000.00
04.07 Lutheran/Christ in Home	1,232.70	97.50	1,329.45	1,170.00	1,170.00
04.53 Stephen Ministry	0.00	62.50	226.04	750.00	750.00
Total 04 MINISTRY OF YOUTH & FAM LIFE	1,391.95	726.66	6,219.66	8,720.00	8,720.00
05 MINISTRY OF EVANGEL/OUTREACH					
05.01 Evangelism - Campaign	0.00	12.50	0.00	150.00	150.00
05.09 Promotion - Newspapers	0.00	166.66	1,416.62	2,000.00	2,000.00
Total 05 MINISTRY OF EVANGEL/OUTREACH	0.00	179.16	1,416.62	2,150.00	2,150.00

11:35 AM

01/03/09

Accrual Basis

**Saint Nicholas Lutheran Church
Profit & Loss Budget Performance
December 2008**

	Dec 08	Budget	Jan - Dec 08	YTD Budget	Annual Budget
06 MINISTRY OF STEWARDSHIP					
06.02 Regular/Building Fund Env	0.00	129.16	970.96	1,550.00	1,550.00
06.03 New Member Classes/Recpt	0.00	30.00	0.00	360.00	360.00
06.05 Stewardship Materials	0.00	26.25	0.00	315.00	315.00
06.06 Stewardship Event	0.00	16.66	0.00	200.00	200.00
Total 06 MINISTRY OF STEWARDSHIP	0.00	202.07	970.96	2,425.00	2,425.00
07.00 MIN OF ADM OTHER PAYROLL					
07.01 Office Administrator	1,478.90	1,478.90	17,746.80	17,746.90	17,746.90
07.02 Coordinator Vol. Ministry	334.75	334.75	4,017.00	4,017.00	4,017.00
07.04 Payroll Taxes	309.43	328.82	3,706.08	3,945.84	3,945.84
Total 07.00 MIN OF ADM OTHER PAYROLL	2,123.08	2,142.47	25,469.88	25,709.74	25,709.74
07.07 MIN OF ADM PASTORS COMP.					
07.08 Pastors Salary Housing SS	4,449.26	4,449.25	53,391.12	53,391.08	53,391.08
07.09 Pastor Pen Med Disab & Ad	0.00	1,681.82	20,273.52	20,181.84	20,181.84
Total 07.07 MIN OF ADM PASTORS COMP.	4,449.26	6,131.07	73,664.64	73,572.92	73,572.92
07.091 MIN OF ADM PASTORS REIMB					
07.10 Pastor Travel Reimb.	274.72	125.00	775.61	1,500.00	1,500.00
07.10a Prof. Allow. Reimb.	0.00	125.00	737.92	1,500.00	1,500.00
Total 07.091 MIN OF ADM PASTORS REIMB	274.72	250.00	1,513.53	3,000.00	3,000.00
07.101 MIN OF ADM SABBATICAL FD					
07.11 Sabbatical Fund	0.00	41.66	500.00	500.00	500.00
Total 07.101 MIN OF ADM SABBATICAL FD	0.00	41.66	500.00	500.00	500.00
07.111 MIN OF ADM SEMINARIAN FD					
07.12 Seminarian Fund	0.00	20.83	250.00	250.00	250.00
Total 07.111 MIN OF ADM SEMINARIAN FD	0.00	20.83	250.00	250.00	250.00
07.121 M OF A ASSOC. PAS. COMP.					
07.13 Assoc. Pas. Sal. Hous. SS	3,932.20	3,932.19	47,186.40	47,186.36	47,186.36
07.14 Assoc Pa. Pen Dis. & Adm.	0.00	578.03	6,964.11	6,936.36	6,936.36
Total 07.121 M OF A ASSOC. PAS. COMP.	3,932.20	4,510.22	54,150.51	54,122.72	54,122.72
07.141 M OF ASSOC. PAS. REIMB					
07.15 Assoc Pastor Travel Reimb	0.00	208.33	2,840.05	2,500.00	2,500.00
07.16 Assoc Pastor Medical Ins	290.28	370.00	3,463.08	4,440.00	4,440.00
07.17 Assoc Pa. Prof Allow Reim	200.00	125.00	1,271.36	1,500.00	1,500.00
Total 07.141 M OF ASSOC. PAS. REIMB	490.28	703.33	7,574.49	8,440.00	8,440.00
07.171 M OF A SYN. ASSEM.&CONF.					
07.18 Synod Assembly	0.00	108.33	1,505.00	1,300.00	1,300.00
Total 07.171 M OF A SYN. ASSEM.&CONF.	0.00	108.33	1,505.00	1,300.00	1,300.00

11:35 AM

01/03/09

Accrual Basis

**Saint Nicholas Lutheran Church
Profit & Loss Budget Performance
December 2008**

	Dec 08	Budget	Jan - Dec 08	YTD Budget	Annual Budget
07.29 MIN OF ADM OFFICE & ADMIN					
07.30 Office Equipment/Supplies	520.45	416.66	2,125.72	5,000.00	5,000.00
07.31 Copier Expense	0.00	291.66	1,640.55	3,500.00	3,500.00
07.32 Postage/Bulk Mail	0.00	166.66	1,608.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
07.33 Computer Training	0.00	20.83	0.00	250.00	250.00
07.34 Telephone	132.61	200.00	1,586.14	2,400.00	2,400.00
07.34a Comcast (Internet)	95.00	100.00	1,140.00	1,200.00	1,200.00
07.36 Pastor's Cellular Ph Svc	0.00	41.66	0.00	500.00	500.00
07.37 Other/Miscellaneous	93.91	22.50	519.17	270.00	270.00
07.38 Technology Equipment	0.00	62.50	146.39	750.00	750.00
07.54 Background Checks	36.90	25.00	110.70	300.00	300.00
07.75 Church Archives	0.00	62.50	611.98	750.00	750.00
07.29 MIN OF ADM OFFICE & ADMIN - Other	0.00		0.00		
Total 07.29 MIN OF ADM OFFICE & ADMIN	878.87	1,409.97	9,488.65	16,920.00	16,920.00
07.39 MIN OF ADM BUILDS & PROP.					
07.40 Utilities	3,304.32	2,500.00	23,750.45	30,000.00	30,000.00
07.41 Building Maintenance	921.57	1,750.00	11,097.26	21,000.00	21,000.00
07.42 Mortgage Payments (P+I)	0.00	5,250.00	22,515.16	63,000.00	63,000.00
07.43 Insurance	0.00	666.66	5,300.00	8,000.00	8,000.00
07.44 Site Maintenance	135.47	125.00	1,333.47	1,500.00	1,500.00
07.45 Trailer Rental	1,242.00	1,250.00	14,904.00	15,000.00	15,000.00
07.39 MIN OF ADM BUILDS & PROP. - Other	0.00		216.77		
Total 07.39 MIN OF ADM BUILDS & PROP.	5,603.36	11,541.66	79,117.11	138,500.00	138,500.00
Payroll Expenses	0.00		0.00		
Transfer	0.00		0.00		
Total Expense	28,099.49	34,366.88	333,301.69	412,400.03	412,400.03
Net Income	2,806.29	46.94	10,774.19	2,266.02	2,266.02

FINANCIAL SECRETARY 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

Contributions for 2008 were down across the board when compared to 2007 contributions. The amount given to support the church's operating budget decreased by about \$16,000 this year. Support for the building fund fell about \$7,000 in 2007. Contributions for all other restricted uses were down about \$700 compared to 2007. All this means total contributions to Saint Nicholas fell by about \$23,700 from 2007 to 2008.

The 2008 budget totaled \$419,300. Contributions to the general fund fell well short of that mark. Fortunately, our ministry sponsors once again kept a very tight lid on their expenses. In addition, two very big budget lines (trailer removal and mortgage payments) were underspent because of the North Wing project. These two circumstances helped ease the financial crunch.

Overall, the building fund is in pretty good shape. One thing that concerns me is that the amount due from capital campaign pledges that are behind continues to grow at a much faster rate than the extra amount given by pledges that are ahead. Also, the amount we receive in interest from MIF is dropping as we tap into the fund's balance to pay North Wing construction expenses. On the plus side, we are very fortunate that a number of members whose pledges have long been met continue to contribute to the building fund. In addition, a large number of members who never had a chance to make a pledge to either one of the campaigns or who decided not to make a pledge have contributed a good bit to the building fund anyway.

Our 2009 total budget increased over the 2008 budget. We need our 2009 giving to increase to keep pace with the increased budget that we, the congregation, voted to support. I hope that our giving will grow so we can fund our ministries at the level they need to be funded at.

Thank you to all of you who count the offering every Sunday. I am fortunate to have such a good group to work with. I'm always looking for more counters to join our merry group. If interested, please let me know. Thank you to Jim Liefer for continuing to pick up the bank deposit bags week after week and bringing them to the church. You save me a lot of time and gas, Jim!! Lastly, thank you to Paul Butz and Anna Kitzmiller for your hard work, cooperation, and help in making sure the different types of income get recorded correctly every week.

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas L. Blatt
Financial Secretary

SAINT NICHOLAS LUTHERAN CHURCH

2008 FINANCIAL SECRETARY ANNUAL REPORT

Receipts by Month and Type of Receipt

<u>Month</u>	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Building Fund</u>	<u>Other Restricted Receipts</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
January	\$ 26,345.69	\$ 7,804.02	\$ 740.00	\$ 34,889.71
February	\$ 28,859.70	\$ 19,514.92	\$ 3,515.91	\$ 51,890.53
March	\$ 33,329.50	\$ 14,443.47	\$ 2,275.00	\$ 50,047.97
April	\$ 26,713.21	\$ 8,373.73	\$ 615.00	\$ 35,701.94
May	\$ 24,600.46	\$ 8,229.81	\$ 1,330.00	\$ 34,160.27
June	\$ 30,864.60	\$ 13,529.44	\$ 971.00	\$ 45,365.04
July	\$ 22,601.50	\$ 12,594.47	\$ 962.00	\$ 36,157.97
August	\$ 28,149.52	\$ 8,475.96	\$ 820.05	\$ 37,445.53
September	\$ 24,088.37	\$ 13,389.24	\$ 4,258.37	\$ 41,735.98
October	\$ 27,724.41	\$ 8,929.00	\$ 4,768.50	\$ 41,421.91
November	\$ 33,176.95	\$ 9,689.99	\$ 5,139.24	\$ 48,006.18
December	<u>\$ 30,905.78</u>	<u>\$ 14,468.35</u>	<u>\$ 3,003.00</u>	<u>\$ 48,377.13</u>
Total	\$ 337,359.69	\$ 139,442.40	\$ 28,398.07	\$ 505,200.16

SAINT NICHOLAS LUTHERAN CHURCH

2008 FINANCIAL SECRETARY ANNUAL REPORT

RESTRICTED RECEIPTS

	2008 Income
Ministry of Social Concerns	
CCCFP Holiday Food Baskets	\$ 1,640.00
ELCA Disaster Response	\$ 5.00
ELCA Fund for Katrina	\$ 100.00
Gifts of Hope	\$ 1,071.00
Habitat for Humanity	\$ 180.00
Mother's Day Teddy Bears	\$ 520.00
Relay for Life	\$ 50.00
School Supplies	\$ 50.00
Souper Bowl of Caring	\$ 196.09
VBS Mission Project	<u>\$ 228.50</u>
Total	\$ 4,040.59
Ministry of Worship & Music	
Sing & Rejoice	<u>\$ 150.00</u>
Total	\$ 150.00
Ministry of Education	
VBS Advertisement	<u>\$ 150.00</u>
Total	\$ 150.00
Ministry of Stewardship	
Total	\$.00
Ministry of Evangelism & Outreach	
Total	\$.00

**2008
Income**

Ministry of Youth & Family Life

Coffee Project	\$ 815.00
Cupid's Café	\$ 3,574.77
Flamingo Insurance/Removal	\$ 1,825.05
In Crowd Retreat	\$ 165.00
Men's Softball	\$ 440.00
National Youth Convention	\$ 11,559.16
Shema	\$ 80.00
Women in Service to Christ (WISC)	\$ 170.00
Work Camp	\$ 900.00
Youth Activities	<u>\$ 2,033.50</u>
Total	<u>\$ 21,562.48</u>

Ministry of Administration / Miscellaneous

Computer Repair/Replacement	\$ 50.00
Memorial - Bill and Jo AtLee	\$ 350.00
Memorial - Jessica Gelatka	\$ 200.00
Memorial - Earl Westphal	\$ 100.00
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	\$ 330.00
Seminarian Fund	\$ 600.00
Staff Christmas Gifts	<u>\$ 865.00</u>
Total	<u>\$ 2,495.00</u>

Total Restricted Receipts \$ 28,398.07

Building Fund

Capital Campaign	\$ 112,583.36
Concert Fundraiser	\$ 53.50
MIF Interest	\$ 23,820.54
MIF Reimbursement	\$ 75.00
SCRIP Gift Card Fundraiser	<u>\$ 2,910.00</u>
Total	<u>\$ 139,442.40</u>

Total Restricted Receipts and Building Fund \$ 167,840.47

Respectfully Submitted,
Thomas L. Blatt
Financial Secretary

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRY

2008 Annual Report

Sunday School – We started out our school year with a very wet and wild rally day. On that note, we had almost 90 children in class on the first day. We average 60 children, 18 adults and 18 teachers each week. That is almost 100 disciples of Christ following His command to teach His word and remember His love. Again, we are using previous years' curriculum as much as possible in order to keep expenses down. We also use a wide variety of sources, including Gospel Light, Hands On Bible, Witness and Here We Stand. As much as possible, we try to use a curriculum that best fits the needs of the students and teachers.

We have a wonderful group of gifted and loving teachers this year. Some are new to teaching Sunday School and many have been answering the call to teach for quite a few years. Please take the time to thank this year's teachers and aides: Karen Phelps, Sherry Owens, Sherrie Thompson, Sheila Poole, Teri Nielsen, Susan Groff, Rachael Yonkers, Sarah Kolbe, Carol Blatt, Andre Dangin, David Hickin, Anna Kitzmiller, Tim Schwartz, Barbara Harris, Glenn Wolfgang, Ann Wolfgang, Jean Wolf, Amare Merz, Kay Aronhalt, Debbie Bang, Kathy Dangin and Mary Jo Gebhardt. I would like to especially thank Anna Kitzmiller who is stepping down after many years of faithful dedication to our children as the Sunday School Coordinator.

Confirmation – We have ten new seventh graders in confirmation this year. Pastor Wendy and I are going over Luther's Small Catechism with them using the Here We Stand Curriculum. We have 16 eighth grade confirmation students. They have been studying the essentials of Lutheranism with Pastor Greg including the components of the bible, the church and a worship service; and the history of the church and Martin Luther. We meet twice a month with a family day on the first Sunday of the month. Family Day features a potluck meal in addition to special presentations from the eighth graders. Parents are also enjoying the Kevin Leman video series "Value Packed Parenting". Thanks to Erika Demme, Kathy Dangin, Dave Hickin, Julie Fowler, Sandy Griese, Kris Wood and all of the parents for their guidance and support of our confirmation program.

Adult Education – We concluded our classes on Honoring our Neighbor's Faith and The Red Words – Jesus' words in Mark's Gospel. We began three new classes on The Slightly Bad Girls of the Bible; Matthew, His Kingdom Forever; and the Be-Attitudes from the Gospel of Matthew. We continue to have a weekly Sermon Exchange.

Other Highlights - Third Annual Bible Bowl, Easter Egg Hunt, Seven eighth-grade confirmands affirmed their Baptism on Pentecost Sunday, 2008, Christian Educator's Workshop, Preparing a meal for Project Echo, 49 Boxes prepared by our 5th – 8th graders for Operation Christmas Child, Christmas Caroling, Preparing and Serving a meal for Safe Nights, Radio J-O-Y Christmas Program

In February, Hannah Finlayson, a member of our youth, coordinated Cupid's Café in order to raise funds for Project Echo. For those who have never had the pleasure of attending, Cupid's Café consists of transforming our church into a dinner theatre run by the youth of our church. It is a wonderful event, which Hannah ran smoothly.

In July, Tierney Guido, another member of our youth, along with Donna Calautti, coordinated our Vacation Bible School. This week long event had 60 youth and adult volunteers making the word of God come to life for our children. Tierney was passionate in making the week memorable for the kids.

I believe that the efforts of Saint Nicholas toward our Christian Education program are well placed. We see this in Hannah and Tierney and in all of our youth as they help the homeless, prepare gifts for children overseas, wait tables to raise money, sing joyfully to brighten someone's day, help another child glue a craft and so much more. We see this in our families as they work at Christmas in April, donate blood, bring in coats and canned goods, invite the homeless into our church, fill every Angel Tree wish and so much more. As we hear and learn and spread the word of God, our light is shining ever brighter. Thank you for all of your efforts and thanks be to God for you all.

Vicki Williams

VOLUNTEER MINISTRY 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

During 2008 I continued to help ministry sponsors and congregation members identify ways to serve God in the ministries of Saint Nicholas.

Among the positions I recruited volunteers for this year were nursery volunteers, Coffee Project coordinator, Sunday Morning Hospitality team coordinator, Flower coordinator, Special Events coordinator, Greeting Card Team leader, altar care team member, Facility and Property committee, audio-visual operators, as well as the ongoing scheduling of worship service volunteers.

The link to the Church website calendar for worship service volunteers, created by David Kitzmiller, is up and running. In addition to volunteers being able to check what they have signed up for, volunteers may use it to see where there are openings, and to volunteer for those openings.

Work continues on the leadership program, developing job descriptions for sponsors and team leaders. These job descriptions will help congregation members discover areas of ministry they might be interested in.

I continue to meet with new members, using the Ministry Activities Questionnaire to introduce the new members to the ministries of St. Nicholas.

Respectfully Submitted
Barbara Harris
Coordinator of Volunteer Ministry

SOCIAL CONCERN MINISTRY 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

Saint Nicholas has a proud tradition of showing God's love through our service to others. This year, we reached a milestone! Years ago, the leaders of the congregation set forth a plan. For several years, we have increased the amount of outreach by 1% of our regular offering. In 2008, we reached our goal of 10%! The wisdom of our leaders has been realized, as we finally reached our goal of tithing our regular offering to the benefit of others. With this, we were able to financially support the following organizations:

**ELCA/ Metro DC Synod Benevolence
American Cancer Society
Calvert County Literacy Council
Calvert Churches Community Food Pantry
Christmas in April
Camp Victor Distribution Center
ELCA Global Mission
Habitat for Humanity
Thorne Memorial Golf Tournament
Interfaith Action Council
Lutheran Campus Ministry
SMECO Fuel Fund
United Lutheran Appeal
Project Crossroads (Work camp)
Resurrection Lutheran Latino Ministry
Center for Immigration Law and Practice
Nothing But Nets (UN Foundation)**

**Community of St. Dymas
Bikes for the World
ELCA Domestic Disaster Response
ELCA World Hunger Appeal
Fellowship Square Foundation
Friends of Gettysburg Seminary
Lions' Camp Merrick
Southern Maryland Community Network
Project ECHO
ELCA Foundation – Special Needs
Retirement Fund
Samaritan's Purse
Maryland Food Bank
Meals on Wheels
LSS Camp Safe Haven
Safe Nights of Calvert County
Calvert Healthcare Solutions**

As proud as we are about our financial assistance to others, I am even more proud of the love shown directly to our neighbors through various campaigns. Below are the service projects conducted by Saint Nicholas.

**Monthly meals for Project ECHO
Collection of food for the Calvert
Churches Community Food Pantry
Children's Book Drive
Souper Bowl of Caring
Christmas in April
The Bee for Literacy
Teddy Bear Collection for
Calvert Hospice in honor of Mother's Day
American Cancer Society's Relay for Life**

**Collection for Birthright of Prince Frederick
School Supplies Collection
Personal Hygiene Products Collection
for Project Echo
Coats for Kids
Safe Nights
Holiday Baskets through CCCFP
Gifts of Hope
Tree of Angels**

Our youth were involved in many outreach projects. They collected funds for the Food Pantry during the Souper Bowl of Caring. They planned and hosted Cupid's Café to raise funds for Project ECHO. The high school youth spent a week at work camp in Marion, West Virginia, working directly to help restore the homes of the less fortunate. The VBS Mission project raised funds for victims of the Midwest floods, through ELCA Domestic Disaster Response. Both the

Middle School Classes and the In Crowd prepared and served dinner to our guests during Safe Nights. And the Sunday School assembled care packages donated to Operation Christmas Child.

Two members stepped up and initiated projects this year! Louise West suggested that in honor of Mother's Day, we contribute Teddy Bears to Calvert Hospice to use in their grief therapy with children. Donations to cover the costs were made, and cards were sent to honorees. Joan McCuiston organized the collection of baby supplies for Birthright of Prince Frederick. *Kudos to both of you for letting the Spirit work through you!*

For the first time in many years, Saint Nicholas created a team for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. The "Hikers for Hope" did a tremendous job, exceeding our goal of \$1000 for this cause. Thanks especially to Maddie Berche, Alyson Griese, Austin Nielsen, Laura Owens and Tori Savage, for performing in "Just Desserts", the team's primary fundraiser.

This was the first year Saint Nicholas participated as a host church in the Safe Nights of Calvert County program. Through this ministry, we offered food and shelter to the homeless. This week brought out the very best in us. There were well over eighty volunteers that made this truly a project of the whole congregation. It was a joy to behold how the Spirit moved through so many delightful people that week.

A word of thanks . . .

- Thank you to all who answered God's call to share your blessings by participating in the various projects throughout the year.
- To Carol Blatt, Gus Wolf, Charlie Bauerdorf and Erika Demme, thank you for your continual support of the Social Concerns Ministry Team.
- To Sherry Thompson and Jean and Jennifer Smetana, thank you for your work coordinating meals at Project ECHO.
- To Dawn Hogenson, thank you for your work with CCCFP.
- To Keith Williams, thank you for leading our Christmas in April team.
- Thanks to Barbara Harris, Matt Hall and Devin Page for representing us so well in the Bee for Literacy. (FIRST PLACE!)
- To Joan McCuiston, thank you for organizing our collection for Birthright of Prince Frederick.
- Thanks to Charlie Bauerdorf, and all of the volunteers that made Safe Nights so very successful.
- Thanks to Gus Wolf and Carol Blatt for the tremendous amount of work done for the Tree of Angels project.

As we look forward to 2009, we thank God for His blessings on us and our opportunity to serve others!

In His Service,
Kathy Dangin

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

During 2008 we held two new members classes and welcomed in new members to the congregation. I would like to thank the ministry sponsors and everyone who helped make these classes a success. Welcome to our new members.

Many thanks go to Jeanne Olinger for running the Saint Nicholas Blood drives. Thanks also go out to our members and people from the community who donated to this life-saving ministry.

As part of our stewardship of the environment, the church participates in the Adopt-a-Highway program. Thanks go to Glen Wolfgang for his leadership in keeping our section of Route 4 clean. Also, Saint Nicholas has enhanced the worship bulletin recycle program by creating seasonal bulletins that can be reused each week and providing inserts for the readings, prayers and hymns which change from week to week. Although it is not as convenient as an all-in-one bulletin it does save the church money and decreases the demand on our natural resources.

Have you considered using the *Simply Giving* program, which allows the electronic transfer of funds from your bank account? It is an easy and convenient way to keep your financial commitment to the church. By enrolling in this program, you will have no more worries about forgetting to write a check, missing a Sunday offering, or having to play "catch up" at the end of the year. The church also benefits by having a more predictable cash flow. If you are interested see Tom Blatt, our financial secretary. He can assist you with your enrollment in this program.

This year we have formed the debt reduction committee to do fundraising. We have come up with two simple and painless fundraisers. The first is grocery loyalty programs. If you register your grocery loyalty cards from Giant and Food Lion, a percentage of what you spend is donated to the church. There is no cost to you. The other program is the Great Lakes Scrip program in which you purchase gift cards at face value and redeem them at face value. There are over 300 retailers offering the cards, and each card sold results in contribution of 2% to 15% of the cards value to the church. Use these cards for everyday purchases at the supermarket, the gas station, or the department store and the church benefits.

Plans for 2009

Our Debt Reduction committee will evolve and become the Stewardship committee. We will continue with our two fundraising projects and have some fun and interesting ideas for fundraisers in 2009. The committee will also take on the responsibility for overall stewardship.

This New Year should see the completion of the North Wing, and everyone who has given financial support to this project deserves a great big thank you; however, as with any large construction project, unforeseen expenses require additional funds to complete the building. If the congregation approves a capital campaign, your Stewardship committee will be putting together a plan.

Respectfully Submitted,
Charlie Bauerdorf

YOUTH AND FAMILY LIFE MINISTRY 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

The Youth and Family Life Ministry continues to be active here at Saint Nicholas. While some of our groups have been somewhat dormant this past year, new groups have formed, providing for the growing needs of the congregation.

The following is a list of events we have been involved in this year:

The Saint Nicholas Bible Bowl
Cupid's Café – "Some Enchanted Evening"
Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner
National Night Out
Rally Day/ Blessing of the Book Bags
Sullivan and Hyland Summer Concert Fundraiser
Fall Festival
Clare O'Shea Concert
Homeless Walkathon
Hanging of the Greens

Within our ministry there also are many groups that meet regularly and others that assist in the facilitating of events and activities here at Saint Nicholas:

- The In Crowd – Our high school youth group has stayed busy this year with a variety of faith based activities such as Bible studies, retreats, lock ins, Vacation Bible School and fun events, such as work camp, pool parties, ice skating and Hershey Park trips. Fund-raising for the National Youth Gathering in July of 2009 has kept them busy for the latter part of the year.
- Sunday Morning Hospitality Group – Many assist in meeting the congregation's needs to provide coffee and other refreshments for Sunday morning fellowship.
- Special Events Group – Arrangements for occasions such as Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner, Easter Morning Social, Confirmation Reception and other celebrations have been carried out by this committee lead by Angela Knepp.
- Men's Softball Team - Tom Blatt continues to organize and coach our team that provides great fun for both players and fans. We all enjoyed another successful season with them.
- Women in Service to Christ (WISC) – Our women's group, under the leadership of Brenda White, is always offering new and interesting monthly activities for the women in our congregation.
- Young Families Group – With our growing number of preschoolers this group was formed and gathers periodically for activities appropriate for families with little ones.

- Greeting Card Team – Robin Niosi has stepped up to lead this important part of our ministry.
- The Second Thursday Lunch Bunch – The popular Lunch Bunch meets monthly at local restaurants for lunch and fellowship.
- The Yada Yada Book Club - Our book club meets monthly at various homes to discuss the current selection.
- The Young at Heart – This group meets periodically for lunch and a movie.
- Fabulous Fridays – Once a month, Fridays are Fabulous at Saint Nicholas. We share a meal and evening of fun and fellowship. Activities have varied with the season and weather.
- Young Adults Group – A new addition to our ministry, Young Adults meet at Turnabout Café in Owings for fellowship and Bible study. Pastor Wendy leads this group.
- Fall Co-ed Softball – Another new activity added this fall, Co-ed Softball provided another avenue for excitement to our ministry. Lisa Hanson served as coach and organizer.
- Youth Planning Team – A group has been formed recently to coordinate and plan the activities of our busy middle and high school youth.
- Stephen Ministry – Saint Nicholas completed its third year of Stephen ministry with five caregivers and leaders. Six people received care during 2008. Along with Pastor Wendy, the team planned and led the third annual Service of Hope in early Advent. The team remains ready to serve with one-on-one Christian care giving.

Blessings,
Mary Jo Gebhardt

WORSHIP AND MUSIC MINISTRY 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

During 2008, we continued to have a rich and varied worship experience at Saint Nicholas. For the 9 am service, we used Settings 2 and 3 from the *Lutheran Book of Worship* and Settings 4 and 5 from *With One Voice*, as well as learning a new setting, Setting 2 from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*. We plan to embark on another new setting from the ELW in the coming year.

Attendance at the Sing and Rejoice service grew, as well as the members joining in the group that leads worship.

The children's choir sang several times as well as leading the children's Christmas program, Radio J-O-Y. The chancel choir sang a cantata, Noel Celebration, over two Sundays in Advent.

Our organ, which is about a decade beyond its promised life expectancy, had to be repaired one time, but it continues to hold up, praise the Lord! The sound system issues are worked out and everything seems to be running well on the technical/mechanical side of Worship and Music.

We hope for continued growth in all musical groups and are very grateful for all those who make worship run so well at Saint Nicholas.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jean Wolf