

ST. LUKE'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Three Hundred and Eight West Forty-sixth Street
New York, New York

A N N U A L R E P O R T S

1 9 4 6

Pastor

ALBERT L. NEIBACHER

Organist and Choir Director

MILDRED HOLMER, M. S. M.

Sexton

JOHN N. GENNERICH

1946

ST. LUKE'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE PASTOR

REVEREND A. L. NEIBACHER

THE CHURCH OFFICERS

President - Bernhard K. Schaefer
Vice President - John N. Gennerich
Treasurer - Carl W. Wohlberg
Secretary - Charles R. Redeker
Ass't. Secretary - Henry Koester
Ass't. Treasurer - Anton Koester
Ass't. Treasurer - J. Louis Schaefer

THE CHURCH COUNCIL

ELDERS

John L. Lengemann
Henry Puckhaber
Herman Von Hincken

TRUSTEES

Frank W. Burger
John N. Gennerich
H. L. Holling
Anton Koester
Henry Koester
C. R. Redeker
B. K. Schaefer
J. L. Schaefer
C. W. Wohlberg

DEACONS

Emil Feitusch
Howard Johnson
Karl A. Koepchen
Reinhold Miessler
Henry Rieth
Herman Reichert
Walter Schussler
John Theurer
Fred Wolkin

SAINT LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK

February 17, 1947

PASTOR'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1946

To The Members of Saint Luke's:

1946 found the world in a tremendous turmoil. Over half the world's population was faced with the imminent dangers of starvation and disease. Here in America we were faced with a social and industrial upheaval such as our country has never before seen. The war had ended and once more we, as a nation, had to find our way back to peacetime ways of living. This period of readjustment was not as simple as many thought it would be. It had its effects on every phase of living.

Saint Luke's did not escape the throes of readjustment. Geared to full capacity in a far-reaching and constructive service men's project during the war, the various organizations within the Church had adapted their activities to fit into this program and to render assistance wherever possible. When peace came, and we thank God for that, the various organizations had again to reorganize their activities to meet the needs of the hour. This was found to be especially necessary in the Dorcas Guild, the Ladies' Aid Society and the Senior Young People's Guild. However, 1946 saw the many adjustments made and our various organizations are again functioning in a normal manner, eager to serve their Lord and their Church, eager to include as many as possible in their program of activities.

The Church Council had also foreseen the problems of peacetime adjustment and already in 1945 it launched a program of newspaper advertising hoping, thereby, to offset the loss in military personnel at our Sunday morning services. The real test of this program came in 1946; and we are happy to state that we have not been disappointed in our anticipations. Our advertising program confirmed our beliefs that Saint Luke's future lay in the field of an institutional church, supported by a small, loyal and consecrated membership and serving the many transients coming to New York for longer or shorter periods of time. Bit by bit the Lord is revealing to us that He has a definite role for Saint Luke's in the Times Square area. We pray Him to give us the vision and the courage to take advantage of these opportunities.

Facing the reality that our advertising will be only of passing value unless there is a carefully planned program of further contact with the visitor, the Church Council is endeavoring to obtain assistance for the Pastor and embark upon a program of missionary expansion. Because of the critical shortage of ministerial candidates, the Council was unable to solve this problem in 1946. We pray the Lord of the Church that 1947 will reveal the solution to this situation and enable us to embark on an endeavor which will gain many souls for the Kingdom of Christ and make Saint Luke's an even stronger spiritual bulwark in mid-town New York.

1946 saw a few innovations in our work. In the early Spring Miss Mildred Holmer, our organist and choir director, gave a series of Sunday evening Musical Vespers, which were well received and gave us every opportunity to be truly proud of our ministry of music. These programs shall be continued and increased in the coming months.

PASTOR'S REPORT

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The Spring of the year also brought the organization of a Boy Scout Troop, which appears to be the solution to a rather critical gap in our youth program. Under the able leadership of our Scout Master, Thomas Cawley, we have a well organized program of scouting and already now are considered a model troop by the scout authorities of this area.

The Fall of the year brought the organization of a Men's Club. This group was organized to afford the men of the congregation a program of Christian fellowship, an opportunity to become better acquainted with the work of Saint Luke's and to supply future leadership in the work of the Church. May the Lord bless this organization and make it a real power in the life of our congregation.

The work of our Sunday School was singularly blessed during the past year. Finally we are beginning to reap some of the fruit of the arduous efforts of the past. 47 new pupils were enrolled; 18 were reinstated; and 37 were dropped from our rolls, giving us at the end of the year a total enrollment of 115. The highest attendance on a given Sunday was 106, which is a record of many years standing. In a program of mission expansion we see the prospects of a much larger and prosperous Sunday School.

During the year 1946 your Pastor performed the following official acts:

Baptisms	17
Confirmations	7
New members received	43
Weddings	33
Funerals	23
People communed	1,524
Total Attendance	10,604
Average attendance for 65 services	168

Your Pastor wishes to thank all who through their loyalty and devotion have made 1946 a very blessed and happy year for him in the service of his Lord and Savior. May 1947 find us all more deeply devoted and consecrated to our tasks in the work of our Church; and may we, with God's help, build an ever greater and stronger Saint Luke's in the future.

Faithfully your Pastor,

(signed) Albert L. Neibacher.

Dear Fellow Member:

In an effort to bring to the members of our Congregation a better understanding of their Church and its many activities, the Church Council directed the publication of this pamphlet. You will find within its pages the Annual Report of our Pastor and Treasurer as well as the Annual Reports of the organizations which contribute so materially to the support and welfare of St. Luke's. It is hoped to expand this publication in future years to include the reports of our various Standing Committees.

The slow but steady growth of our Income as shown in our Treasurer's Report is encouraging but as mentioned in my previous report, expenses are also heavy and will undoubtedly continue so for a few years to come. With great difficulty in the face of war conditions, but with devoted work by the House Committee, your Church has been able, but only barely able, to maintain its building and facilities. What cannot be readily seen is the need for further repairs to our roof, building structure, for replacements and renewal of mechanical and kitchen facilities and for improvements in living quarters. Moreover, if the Church is to maintain its position and attractions, it is considered essential to undertake a program of rehabilitation which includes refurnishing and redecorating our Sunday School and Parish House. Our present income simply does not provide funds necessary to meet these needs.

Many methods of providing the additional funds have been considered and your Church Council has concluded that the only means to meet the situation is thru an increase in envelope, plate and special contributions. The Church Council hopes you will find it possible not only to renew your support at this time but to increase your regular contributions. All of us would be deeply grateful for such an expression of support from you.

Faithfully yours,

Bernhard K. Schaefer
President.

ST. LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
REPORT OF INCOME
YEAR 1946

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>1946</u>	<u>1945</u>
Envelopes	\$ 4,601.77	\$ 4,384.82
Plate	2,705.27	2,810.49
Pew Rent	692.00	691.00
Christmas	454.55	454.55
Easter	1,022.14	767.53
Noon Day Lenten Services	156.66	168.02
Thanksgiving	<u>174.85</u>	<u>- -</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$ <u>9,807.24</u>	\$ <u>9,276.41</u>
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
Salaries	\$ 8,010.95	\$ 6,997.00
Printing	980.95	681.98
Insurance	610.41	440.06
Coal	722.82	623.96
Gas & Electric	419.40	501.73
Elevator Repairs	104.83	- -
Repairs	3,262.76	326.96
Organ Tuning	131.50	67.50
Taxes	327.68	297.52
Expense of Envelopes	13.00	14.42
Telephone	191.30	163.39
Postage	172.25	176.88
Communion Wine & Wafers	28.67	29.55
Travel Expenses of Pastor	- -	199.96
Choir Music	50.42	53.94
Sunday School	- -	50.00
Advertising	586.67	328.25
Devotional Booklets	21.59	45.88
Candles	48.05	34.50
Safe Deposit Box	21.60	21.60
Flowers	76.00	115.00
Miscellaneous	<u>60.98</u>	<u>127.02</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ <u>15,815.83</u>	\$ <u>11,297.12</u>
Deficit Before Special Donations	\$ <u>6,008.59</u>	\$ <u>2,020.71</u>
Special Donations	\$ 2,892.50	\$ 3,183.50
Loan from Trust Fund	<u>2,500.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>
	\$ <u>5,392.50</u>	\$ <u>4,183.50</u>
Deficit End Period	\$ 616.09	\$ <u>2,162.79*</u>
Balance on Hand 1/1/46	<u>101.14</u>	
Overdraft 12/31/46	\$ <u>514.95</u>	

*In red

ST. LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS
YEAR - 1946

Orphan Home	\$ 296.50
Missions	1,000.54
Seals	219.50
Red Cross	74.00
Peace Offering	62.61
Wartburg Home	18.00
Metropolitan Inner Mission	8.00
Lutheran Hour	5.00
Lutheran Welfare Council	10.00
Service Fund	263.90
Anniversary Collection	<u>305.00</u>
TOTAL	<u><u>\$2,263.05</u></u>

SAINT LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

February 17, 1947.

To the Members of Saint Luke's:

1946 was one of the most successful years that we have recently had in the work of the Sunday School of Saint Luke's.

With the Pastor and a staff of twelve teachers, the Sunday School met in forty sessions. We had a total attendance for the year of 2760 or an average attendance of 69 each Sunday. During the year 47 new pupils were added to our rolls; 18 were reinstated and 37 were dropped, giving us a total enrollment at the end of the year of 115. This is the largest enrollment we have had in many a year.

In the Fall of the year new equipment was purchased for our Primary Department which is now again located on the third floor of our Parish House. We invite you to inspect our primary rooms.

Attached to this report is a financial statement submitted by our Treasurer.

Faithfully yours,

John Lengemann, Superintendent
Saint Luke's Sunday School

ST. LUKE'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
NEW YORK, N. Y.

Mr. John W. Lengemann, Supt.,
St. Luke's Evang'l. Lutheran Sunday School,
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Lengemann:

On December 31st, 1946, the Sunday School Treasury accounts showed a balance of \$744.61 on deposit at the Corn Exchange Bank. This amount consists of: Surplus \$530.84, and Christmas Benevolence Account \$213.77.

Receipts and disbursements for the Year 1946, as follows:

RECEIPTS

Sunday Collections	\$377.38	
Easter Collection	73.55	
Christmas Collection	141.73	
Christmas Benevolence Collection	66.10	
Lutheran Annuals (profit)	.33	
Bank Interest	<u>4.19</u>	
		\$663.28

DISBURSEMENTS

Literature	\$107.41	
Pins	17.28	
Furniture & Equipment	57.05	
June Walk Expense	171.31	
Christmas Expense	224.61	
General Expense	32.46	
Christmas Benevolence--for poor children	<u>40.51</u>	
		<u>650.63</u>
Excess Receipts over Disbursements		12.65
Balance, December 31st, 1945		<u>731.96</u>
Balance, December 31st, 1946		\$744.61

In addition to the above, a loan of \$25.00 was made to the St. Luke's Boy Scouts which was promptly repaid, and the children contributed and collected \$140.05 for Bibles for people abroad which sum was sent to The American Bible Society.

Respectfully submitted,

(signed) PAUL A. KOEPCHEN, Treasurer

January 31, 1947.

BENEVOLENT SOCIETY

Balance on hand January 1, 1946	\$1,695.48
Interest on investments	130.00
Sunday Collections	6.17
Repayment of Loan	20.00
Interest Franklin Savings Bank	12.81
	<hr/>
Balance on hand December 31, 1946	\$1,864.46

These funds will be kept on hand, to be used for needy cases when they should arise, as was necessary in the past.

Respectfully submitted,

(signed) Herman Reichert

Secretary & Treasurer.

ST. LUKE'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
NEW YORK, N. Y.

Mrs. J. Louis Schaefer, President,
Ladies' Aid Society of St. Luke's
Evangelical Lutheran Church,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mrs. Schaefer:

On December 31, 1946, the General Treasury of the Society showed a balance of \$760.34, and the Investment Account a balance of \$875.00. This totals \$1,635.34 as represented by bank balances as follows:

Franklin Savings Bank	\$1,358.81
Manufacturers Trust Company	76.53
	1,435.34
Franklin Savings Bank--(in custody of Church Treasurer-- interest not included)	200.00
TOTAL CASH BALANCES	\$1,635.34

There has been no change in the Investment Account during 1946.

The receipts and disbursements of the General Treasury for the Year 1946 are as follows:

RECEIPTS

Dues	\$255.25
Bank Interest	30.03
Bond Interest	167.50
Coffee Table Collection	67.25
Sale of Excess Cake,	5.20
Birthday Box	1.00
Christmas Stocking Collection	4.00
Christmas Party Table Collection	12.75
Service Men's Boxes	34.28
Note Paper Sale	9.55
Congregational Meeting, May 15th	16.32
	603.13

DISBURSEMENTS

Postage & Stationery	\$ 15.94
Coffee Table Expenses	74.82
Meeting Expenses	99.45
Florists--principally Church Decorations .	65.00
Sunday Evening Choir Suppers	64.73
A Thanksgiving Basket	15.00
Christmas Baskets for Poor	25.00
Christmas Gifts.	20.00
Gift Basket	11.00
Bible for Mrs. B. Hartmann (Retiring Secy.)	7.20
Sunday Nurse for Children	20.00

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Bethlehem Lutheran Children's Home	\$ 10.00
Wartburg Orphans' Farm School	10.00
Wartburg Home for Aged & Infirm	10.00
Lutheran Education Society	10.00
Lutheran Student Association	10.00
Lutheran Women's Missionary League	45.00
Lutheran Hospital Ladies' Auxiliary	5.00
Lutheran Hospital, East New York	50.00
	<u>568.14</u>
Excess Receipts over Disbursements	34.99
Balance, December 31st, 1945	<u>725.35</u>
Balance, December 31st, 1946	<u>\$760.34</u>

Respectfully submitted,

Louise Nusskern,
Treasurer.

January 24, 1947.

January 13, 1947

The DORCAS GUILD makes the following report of its activities for the year 1946:

Red Cross Sewing: The following children's garments were made for the Red Cross from January to April 1946:

50 flannel gowns
50 pr. booties
50 pr. mittens

We expect to start sewing shortly for the Lutheran Hospital.

Red Cross Collection: The collection for the Red Cross during the drive last March amounted to \$194.32. There will be another Red Cross drive this coming March, and as the work of the Red Cross continues in peacetime as well as during wartime, we hope also to be able to help make this year's drive a success.

Clothing for Europe: We collected used clothing for the distressed in Europe and distributed it to individuals who could send it directly to relatives and friends in need of it.

Children Sent to Camp: 7 boys and 3 girls were sent to the Edwin Gould Foundation Camp for two weeks in July. Their report cards showed that all of them had gained in weight during those two weeks, and it is evident that they all benefitted by it very much.

Christmas Boxes for Service Men: 10 Christmas boxes of foodstuffs were prepared by our ladies, with the financial assistance of the Ladies' Aid; 7 of these boxes were sent to our service men in this country and overseas, and 3 were delivered to St. Alban's Hospital.

Christmas Candle-Light Service: Several of our ladies, particularly Mrs. Schroeder and Mrs. Clark, spent a great deal of time in helping to make the Candle-Light Service a success. 10 new children's gowns were made, the cost of the material being donated, and the balance of the gowns were fitted, altered and mended. Mrs. Clark took an active part in coaching the cast of the pageant, in preparing and making the costumes, and in arranging special lighting.

The Treasurer reports that the balance in our treasury on January 1, 1946 was \$91.78. Our income in 1946, consisting of dues, birthday fund, sale of various articles, proceeds of card party and special donations amounted to \$307.85. Our disbursements totaled \$274.20, consisting principally of \$75 for St. Luke's Emergency Repair Fund, \$10 Christmas gift to Billy McDonnel, and other expenses incidental to the above-mentioned work of the Guild, leaving a balance on hand January 1, 1947 amounting to \$125.43, showing a gain of \$33.65 during 1946.

We now have 30 members. We hope to be able to increase our membership and increase our activities during 1947, and would welcome any suggestions as to how we may best continue to serve.

THE DORCAS GUILD

By Elsie Herreilers
President

January 15th, 1947.

This report is to familiarize the congregation with the aims and accomplishments of the Senior Young People's Guild of St. Luke's.

The Guild consisting of 24 active church members meets every Tuesday evening to join in Christian Fellowship and recreation. Activities consist of Bowling, ping-pong, pool, badminton and volley ball, after which refreshments are prepared by a committee of two, selected each week.

Business meetings are held once a month during which reports are given by various committees concerning the financial condition of the society, its program for the future and discussion of any current church projects in which the guild might give assistance.

On Sunday the group meets for an all-day program. Immediately after the church service we have dinner together and then spend the afternoon visiting points of interest in the City, such as Botanical Gardens, Museum of Art, Cloisters, etc. Occasionally the group attends football, hockey and basketball games, also radio broadcasts. When we return to church a fellowship supper is served, after which Pastor leads the group in a Bible discussion which is very interesting and is the highlight of the day's program.

At present the group is striving to increase its membership by personally contacting any young visitors who attend church service on Sunday, inviting them to join our gatherings each week. By doing this we hope to enlarge our Society so that it will be better able to carry on the work of St. Luke's and thereby the work of the Lord.

Respectfully submitted,

(signed) Robert E. Rohrbach, President
Senior Young People's Guild

SENIOR YOUNG PEOPLE'S GUILD

SERVICE MEN'S FUND

JANUARY 1, 1946 TO DECEMBER 31, 1946

BALANCE ON HAND JANUARY 1, 1946 \$ 4.35

RECEIPTS

Service Men's Fund	\$ 300.00	
Christmas Card Sale (1945)	54.15	
Miscellaneous	<u>12.91</u>	<u>367.06</u>

TOTAL RECEIPTS \$ 371.41

NET EXPENSES 356.84

BALANCE ON HAND DECEMBER 31, 1946 \$ 14.57

A total of 371 service men and women were our guests for Sunday Dinner for the year 1946.

Respectfully submitted,

(signed) Genevieve Savio

SAINT LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

THE JUNIOR CHRISTIANS

Dear Fellow-Member:

The Junior Christians, consisting of the newly confirmed of Saint Luke's, met each Friday evening for a program of Christian fellowship. This is the High School Group within the Congregation. Because of the wide gap in ages of some of the members, it was necessary to completely reorganize the Junior Christians, the older group being absorbed by the Senior Guild and the younger group going on its own, under the supervision of the undersigned and the Pastor.

This is an important phase of the youth work of our congregation because it helps to keep the young people with the Church once they are confirmed and prior to the time they are eligible for membership in the Senior Guild. Practically the entire group is enrolled in Pastor Neibacher's Sunday morning Bible Class.

Respectfully submitted,

Henry C. Theuerer

Senior Counsellor.

SOMETHING NEW

St. Luke's now has a Boy Scout Troop - "Troop 314". The Troop started with eight members. By the end of the year, we had increased the number to thirteen. Tom Cawley is the Scoutmaster and is doing a splendid job. Five men of our Congregation are serving as a "Troop Committee" in the guidance of the Troop. To show the Congregation the progress made by the Troop, the Boy Scouts are planning a "Parents' Night" to be given on May 16th, 1947.

The following is their financial statement:

INCOME:

Committee men's reg. fees	6.10
Boy Scouts' dues	41.50
Waste paper sale	<u>1.00</u>
Total Income	\$48.60

EXPENDITURES

Registration Fees	11.35
Expenses	<u>12.53</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>23.88</u>
Balance on hand December 31, 1946	\$24.72

Respectfully submitted,

(signed) Herman Reichert
Secretary & Treasurer.

SAINT LUKE'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

January 13th, 1947

REPORT OF MEN'S CLUB OF ST. LUKE'S

During the Fall of 1946, the Men's Club of St. Luke's was organized. Several organizational meetings were held at which times a group of officers were elected, and a constitution was drawn up. The purpose of this organization is to foster Christian Fellowship and to actively assist in the work of St. Luke's. Our program of activities is well under way, and it is hoped during 1947 to greatly expand and broaden the interest for all. We cordially invite all male members of St. Luke's to attend our meetings.

Very truly yours,

(signed) .

H. THEUERER, President

Men's Club of St. Luke's Church.