

SAINT LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

308 West 46th Street

New York, New York

THE ANNUAL REPORT

1963

THE CHURCH OFFICERS

for

1963

Joseph Miranda, President
Bernhard K. Schaefer, Vice-President
Frank J. Burger, Treasurer
Henry J. Koester, Secretary *
Donald Krenz, Assistant Secretary
Walter Gausman, Assistant Treasurer
Walter Schussler, Assistant Treasurer

THE CHURCH COUNCIL

for

1963

ELDER EMERITUS

John Lengemann

ELDERS

Louis Lochner
John Theurer
Fred A. Wolklin *

TRUSTEES

Gustav Bethauser
Frank Burger
Walter Gausman
Anton Koester
Henry J. Koester *
Donald Krenz
Joseph Miranda
Herman Reichert
Bernhard K. Schaefer
Walter Schussler

DEACONS

Cecil Agard
Jean Baridon
Burghard Eckenberg
Melvin Meisinger
Gordon Pringle
Thomas Schaub
Frank Staudinger
Walter von Schlichten
Curtis Wingert, Jr.

*Deceased during 1963

THE STAFF

and

OPERATING ORGANIZATION

of

1963

Albert L. Neibacher, Pastor
John A. O'Connor, Assistant Pastor
Martha Eber, Parish Worker
Paul Gunzelmann, Organist and Choir Director to August 15th
Ben Akerley, Organist and Choir Director since August 15th
Curtis Wingert, Superintendent of Sunday School to June 30th
Thomas Schaub, Superintendent of Sunday School from November 1st
Jean Baridon, Chief Usher
Emma Hahn, Receptionist at Sunday Services
Angus McInnes, Building Superintendent
Thomas Smith, Assistant to Building Superintendent
Elsie Koester, President, Ladies' Aid Society
Emma Hahn, President, Dorcas Guild
Ardelle Grosz, President, Young Adult Group
Robert Tradelius, President, Junior Walther League
Charles Gaylord, Boy Scout Leader
Carol Spitzfaden, Girl Scout Leader
Gustav Bethauser, Chairman, House Committee
Anton Koester, Chairman, Advertising Committee
Bernhard K. Schaefer, Chairman, Constitution Committee
Gordon Pringle, Chairman, Evangelism Committee
Marie McKee, Chairman, Altar Flower Committee
Louis P. Lochner)
Bernhard K. Schaefer) Co-Chairmen, Music Committee -
Anton Koester)
Gordon Pringle) Co-Chairmen, World's Fair Committee

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The year 1963 reflects the joys, trials and the sorrows of our modern lives. We have lived through a year that will long be remembered in the pages of American history. On November 22, 1963 we witnessed the shameful and cowardly assassination of our President...John F. Kennedy. There were many other world events of international consequence that affected our nation but none that hit us as hard or as close to "home." The sobering effects of this tragedy revitalized the true American spirit and the need for strict adherence to basic Christian doctrine and principles.

I am happy to report to the congregation that the year 1963 was a successful one at Saint Luke's Church. In spite of the many problems associated with Inner City work our congregation has risen to...and accomplished this challenge. Our Treasurer's Report will indicate to you the ever increasing cost of operation. We all face a similar problem in respect to the rising cost of living, and most certainly can appreciate and understand this situation. The financial support that you have given to Saint Luke's Church in 1963 is indeed commendable. You have made it possible to continue and to strengthen His work here in the Times Square area.

Our investment Portfolio during the year 1963 was not disturbed as to the purchase of new securities or the sale of any holdings. We did experience a modest appreciation in total value, which reflects the sound judgment and performance of your Board of Trustees this year and all the previous years of record. As you can see from the Treasurer's Report a significant portion of our income is derived from our investments. Without this income we would not be able to meet our current expenses. We can accomplish our current operation only if we conscientiously persevere in fulfilling our financial obligations to our church.

After many years of work the Church Council and the Voting Members have adopted a new Constitution for our church and it's members. The new Constitution is a contemporary one but does not alter or deter from our basic Lutheran doctrine. Our special thanks for a job well done to the current members of the Constitution Committee namely, Mr. B. K. Schaefer, Dr. Melvin Meisinger and Mr. Don Krenz...and to all men who served on previous committees.

Mr. Ben Akerley joined our Staff as Organist and Choir Director in August, 1963 succeeding Mr. Paul Gunzelman. May we take this opportunity to formally welcome Mr. Akerley to Saint Luke's and to thank him and the men and women who contribute of their time and talent to make our music program a success.

The work and activities of our church groups in the year 1963 has once again been outstanding. Their loyalty and devotion to service to their church and fellow-members is praiseworthy. It is this kind of dedication that will always make Saint Luke's strong...providing the energy and inspiration to accomplish the work of our Lord.

The coming year is full of excitement and opportunity. Many of our big work projects for 1964 have been initiated in 1963. To mention a few...The Spiritual Life Committee will perpetrate our Evangelism program. Special effort and attention should be given to this most important work by all members of the congregation. Our World's Fair Committee started to function in 1963

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and will continue to carry out a full program of operations. We at Saint Luke's want to provide a church "away from home" for the Lutherans throughout the nation who will be visiting New York for this event.

My thanks are extended to Pastor Neibacher and his staff, my fellow-Trustees and Church Council members and to the men and women of the congregation...you are the people who made 1963 a good year.

Faithfully yours,

JOSEPH C. MIRANDA
President

THE PASTOR'S REPORT

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1963 contained more living drama than most of us ever remember experiencing in a single year. Glaring headlines, though blacked out for several weeks early in the year, created an atmosphere of tension and excitement. Against the backdrop of history making Civil Rights demonstrations, Freedom marches, Ecumenical Councils in Toronto, Helsinki and Rome, unrest and blood shed in Viet Nam, and the Assassination of President John F. Kennedy, the work of the church continued, though not unaffected by the tensions and events of the day.

1963 was one of the more discouraging and disappointing years in our long ministry at Saint Luke's. It was discouraging and disappointing because more concern and planning, more prayer and effort went into the work of Saint Luke's than the outward results even begin to show. Though it is utterly impossible to judge the total work of the church either by statistics or tangible results, nevertheless they are a partial indication of what is happening; they point out weaknesses, I hope not trends. During the past ten years, for example, we have received an average of 34 new members into the church each year, 22 by adult confirmation. 1963 saw only 18 new members, 11 by adult confirmation. Our average attendance went down from 197 to 192; and our communion attendance decreased by approximately 350. These figures are both discouraging and disappointing and call for real concern and honest analysis of our outreach for Christ's program.

The circumstances of 1963 required increased emphasis in our pastoral ministry. In the past year we saw and shared in more sorrow and trouble, sickness and death than perhaps in any other single year. This meant not only closer involvement in individual lives but also a more personal and time consuming ministry. During 1963 we spent more time visiting the sick, comforting the bereaved and counselling the troubled and confused than ever before. We shared many difficult and heartbreaking experiences with individuals, yet, we thank God for the opportunity of being able to personally confront the individual with the soul saving message of the Gospel and thus to bring comfort and help in the hour of need. Though 1963 saw increased emphasis on our pastoral ministry, this is by no means an indication that either our preaching or administrative ministry were neglected. They continued and, by the grace of God and under constant pressure, we found time, energy and heart to face up to responsibilities and accept opportunities.

1963 was not without its high spots and joys in the life of Saint Luke's. On April 28th a Special Citation was presented in our morning worship service to Mr. Bernhard K. Schaefer upon completion of 35 years of service on the Church Council, 21 of which he was president of the congregation.....On May 19th four Chinese teenagers made public confession of their faith in Jesus Christ in a special service of baptism....In the winter and spring of the year I was privileged to serve on a special ad hoc study commission of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod for inner city church work. This was real recognition of the difficult and unique work we are endeavoring to do here at Saint Luke's.....The bi-weekly summer program of arts and crafts conducted by the young adults of the church for the youth of the community was a vital contribution to our continued concern for community needs.....The Daily Vacation Bible School conducted for two weeks during August was a new undertaking and should be continued and further explored.....In August Mr. Paul Gunzelman resigned as organist-choir director of Saint Luke's and Mr. Ben Akerley assumed the position. We welcome Mr. Akerley

into our Saint Luke's family and we wish him much joy and the Lord's richest blessings in the excellent work he is doing along with the choir members who give so unselfishly of themselves to add inspiration and beauty to our regular worship services.....In September weekly Spanish services on Sunday were introduced to give our Spanish speaking neighbors an opportunity to worship according to the Lutheran tradition.....At the tragic death of our President, John F. Kennedy, two special memorial services were conducted, one on Sunday, November 24th, and the other at noon on Monday, November 25th.

The organizational life of the church is discussed elsewhere in this Annual Report and I shall not here attempt to analyze it. But I do want to recognize the hard working officers and the well functioning committees and thank them for their contribution to the general life of the church. May the Lord continue to use and bless all involved and may 1964 find greater involvement on the part of our membership.

The Church Council is perhaps one of the hardest working, though frequently most taken for granted, groups in the church. In addition to regular monthly meetings and occasional special meetings the Council is organized into several working committees, which meet frequently and are responsible for given areas in the total work of the church. Saint Luke's is very fortunate indeed to have a corps of devoted men, who are willing to assume responsibility, realistically come to grips with various problems and, under God, seek solutions to advance the cause of Christ. The responsibility of the Church Council is frequently frightening but the grace of God, using a consecrated leadership, is able at times to make the seemingly impossible possible. The loyalty and determination of these men have been a source of constant encouragement to me personally and more than once have prevented me from running away from a difficult ministry.

An area of work, though it was not without its problems, which was able to hold its own against great odds, was the Sunday School. 1963 saw a check in the downward trend of total enrollment. Though 41 people were taken off our rolls, we were able to add 52 individuals with the result that for the year we went ahead by 11. This is not phenomenal growth, yet it is significant because it is contrary to the trend in the community which is continuing to experience a loss in total population. For the first time in a number of years we experienced staff problems in the Sunday School. During the summer Mr. Curtis Wingert, who had so ably served as Sunday School Superintendent for several years, moved and four teachers resigned for various and valid reasons. For a while the problem was quite acute but at this writing our staff again meets present requirements. Mr. Thomas Schaub, who was appointed by the Church Council to replace Mr. Wingert, along with Mr. Quentin Baltera, who relieved Mr. Frank Staudinger as treasurer of the Sunday School, and Miss Genieve Savio constitute the administrative staff and give good leadership to the Sunday School.

Associated with me in various phases of the total work at Saint Luke's during the past year have been Pastor John O'Connor, our Assistant Pastor, and Miss Martha Eber, our deaconess - parish worker. To both of these I extend my genuine gratitude for sharing the responsibility of extending the Kingdom of Christ here at the cross-roads of the world. Perhaps the most unrecognized person in church work is the minister's wife, who shares all but the most personal phases of a minister's work and who gives unselfishly of her time and energy to the total program of the church. Some may limit their activity but with a minister's wife it must be total involvement otherwise she jeopardizes her effectiveness and the effectiveness of her husband. To

Mrs. Neibacher I want to pay special tribute because she never counts the cost. As in my life, so in hers, Christ and the Church come first. I thank God for sending her into my life and enabling her to share my ministry with me.

1963 is now history. It is an opportunity which will never come our way again. However, if 1963 is to be at all meaningful in the history of Saint Luke's, then we must learn both from its strengths and its weaknesses. Building on strengths and correcting weaknesses where possible, I would, in concluding this report, suggest the following goals for 1964:

- 1) greater dedication on the part of pastor and people to the overall work of Christ and to our individual responsibility to one another;
- 2) increased prayer on the part of all our members for the work of Saint Luke's, remembering especially the pastor, the staff, the officers and organizational leaders;
- 3) increased church attendance on the part of every member;
- 4) more frequent reception of the Lord's Supper
- 5) more general participation in the organizational life of the church, including Bible study programs;
- 6) a vital and expanded outreach for Christ, which will involve, at least, 10% of our membership in an active, ongoing program of evangelism.
- 7) a greater concern for the social problems and increased civic responsibility in the life of our community;
- 8) a strengthening of youth activities to combat the alarming increase of juvenile delinquency in our area;
- 9) greater financial responsibility to the church on the part of more of our members.

These are goals, which each of us must assume, because this is the mission of the church in today's world.

During 1963 the following official acts were performed:

Baptisms (Infant)	11
(Adults)	4
Confirmation (Children)	9
(Adults)	11
New Members received	18
Weddings	6
Funerals	26
People Communed	2,258
Total Church Attendance	12,397
Average Sunday Attendance	192
Total number of services conducted	82

May our combined efforts redound to the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ, Who has redeemed us in order that we might serve Him.

Yours in Christ,

ALBERT L. NEIBACHER
Pastor

THE TREASURER'S REPORT

While at first glance our report for 1963 makes it appear that we are losing ground as far as finances are concerned, our congregation is to be congratulated. Our income has held up to practically the same figure as 1962. You will recall that in our report of last year we asked for an increase of 10% to cover expenses. We did receive an increase, but not sufficient to offset expenses. Also, we lost considerable income through the death and transfer of members.

In last year's report we estimated our expenses would increase 10%. However, we are happy to report the increased expenses amounted to less than 6%. Our heaviest expense was in repairs and replacements, which was principally the installation of lighting fixtures in our kitchen and the vestibule of our Chapel, as well as the repair of a slow leak in Pastor's apartment. This necessitated the replacement of the floor in the kitchen of the apartment, as well as other major work in the Parish House.

Our organ repairs were close to \$1,000, which expense we can expect for several years. We must realize our organ, as well as the entire church, are over 40 years old, and repairs and replacements are a "must." Our Medical payments and Insurance expenses account for another \$800 increase and our Choir music and Spanish program account for \$600. The total of these expenses - organ \$1,000, Medical and Insurance \$800 and Choir and Spanish program \$600 account for \$2,400 of the \$3,000 increase in expenses. This year in addition to our organ, we will have extensive and expensive repairs to make to our windows, both in the church and parish house.

Our Music Committee as well as our House Committee are to be complimented in keeping expenses at a minimum. Both committees have done a wonderful job and are always doing their utmost to "spread" expenses over a period of time.

Our Federal Government is working on a decrease in taxes, hoping to "stimulate spending." When this adjustment is made - PLEASE remember your God and Saint Luke's, and give some of your "tax savings" to spread His Word through Saint Luke's. Your Pastor, staff and Church Council are doing their utmost to keep expenses at a minimum. Won't you help them to keep our House of God in good condition, so we can proudly say "Saint Luke's is my Church"?

At this time I would like to express my sincere thanks to both Walter Gausman and Walter Schussler who have been associated with me in my work as treasurer of Saint Luke's.

Sincerely,

FRANK J. BURGER
Treasurer

SAINT LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
REPORT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES
YEAR 1963

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1962</u>
Envelopes	\$23,901.88	\$24,636.25
Plate Collections	4,561.95	4,191.30
Pew Rent & Memorials	1,034.39	812.49
Christmas Collection	1,702.25	1,602.83
Easter Collection	2,456.70	2,389.55
Lenten Collection (Noon-Day)	215.00	271.95
Thanksgiving Collection	697.85	805.75
Birthday (113th Anniversary)	845.00	726.10
Special Donations	1,857.25	2,151.85
Special Income for Music	1,441.70	1,195.56
Flowers	600.00	775.00
Devotional Booklets	177.60	165.00
Sub-Total	<u>\$39,491.57</u>	<u>\$39,623.63</u>
Income from Investments	9,694.25	9,642.75
Total Income	<u>\$49,185.82</u>	<u>\$49,266.38</u>

EXPENSES

Salaries	\$29,928.60	\$29,402.79
Travel Allowance	1,500.00	1,500.00
Retirement & Medical Payments	2,000.42	1,613.46
Printing & Stationery	1,972.89	1,812.96
Insurance	2,656.13	2,283.42
Heating	2,287.09	2,298.03
Gas & Electricity	667.12	853.87
Repairs & Replacements	5,051.67	3,079.48
Water Taxes	94.00	94.00
Telephone	1,061.42	1,007.10
Postage	674.62	606.92
Advertising	1,443.76	1,778.24
Devotional Booklets	219.96	360.72
Flowers	787.20	790.40
Communion Wine & Wafers	38.64	61.05
Choir Music	430.34	117.37
Envelope Expense	92.64	37.87
Organ & Piano Tuning	145.00	90.00
Youth Program	324.50	350.22
Spanish Speaking Program	300.00	---
Special Expenses & Contributions	192.50	347.47
Miscellaneous Expenses	861.44	1,016.67
Sub-Total	<u>\$52,544.66</u>	<u>\$49,426.30</u>
Reserve for Repairs & Replacements	2,400.00	Chapel 12,400.00
Total Expenses	54,944.66	51,826.30
Total Income	49,185.82	49,266.38
DEFICIT	<u>\$ 5,758.84</u>	<u>\$ 2,559.92</u>

Memorial Wreaths	\$ 1,275.00	\$ 85.00
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COLLECTIONS FOR OTHERS - 1963

Missions	\$3,334.78
American Bible Society	23.65
American Lutheran Publicity Bureau	35.00
Association for Works of Mercy	117.50
Boy Scouts	175.00
Camp Wilbur Herrlich	1,025.00
Concordia Collegiate Institute	550.00
Girl Scouts	25.00
Lutheran Bible Institute, Teaneck, N.J.	75.00
Lutheran Child Welfare Association	378.42
Lutheran Education Society	90.00
Lutheran Friends of the Deaf	371.00
Lutheran Hospital of Brooklyn	168.50
Lutheran Hour	200.00
Lutheran Laymen's League	25.00
Lutheran Medical Center, Brooklyn	50.00
Lutheran Social Services	178.75
Lutheran Welfare Association of N.J.	50.00
Lutheran Welfare Council	50.00
Metropolitan Lutheran Inner Mission	92.00
New York Bible Society	33.60
Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, Indiana	100.00
Wartburg Home for the Aged	266.00
West Side Association, Youth Foundation, Inc.	25.00
Wheatridge Sanitarium	25.00
Wheatridge Seals - Atlantic District Welfare	573.75
Miscellaneous	100.00
	<u>\$8,137.95</u>

SPECIAL TRUST FUNDS AND MEMORIALS

One of the great privileges, which has been bestowed upon Saint Luke's Congregation, is that of sharing with those who have been bereaved in the commemoration of their loved ones. We record herewith the names of those who are memorialized through the gifts of their family and friends to SAINT LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH during the years 1923 through 1933.

1923 CATHERINE KARSCH
1927 J. LOUIS SCHAEFER
1932 BERNHARD KARSCH
1942 ADELE HENNING
1946 SEBASTIAN & MARGARETHA DORFMULLER
1951 ANNIE L. HOHNS
1952 HENRY & KATHERINE PUCKHABER
1953 JOHN DETTMER
1954 ALFRED M. GRIZZLE
1955 LOUISA M. NUSSKERN
1955 J. LOUIS & SUSAN K. SCHAEFER
1956 ANTON & MARIE KOESTER
1957 J. LOUIS & SUSAN K. SCHAEFER
1958 MISS M. SCHEIDAU
1958 ANNA AHRENS MENGE
1958 J. LOUIS & SUSAN K. SCHAEFER
1959 MRS. MINNA THEURER
1959 MATILDA SCHLOBOHM
1959 J. LOUIS & SUSAN K. SCHAEFER
1960 J. LOUIS & SUSAN K. SCHAEFER
1961 JOHN & ANNA MARIE THEURER
1961 J. LOUIS & SUSAN K. SCHAEFER
1962 J. LOUIS & SUSAN K. SCHAEFER
1963 SOPHIE SCHAEFER
1963 MARGARET SCHROEDER
1963 BERNHARD & CATHERINE KARSCH
1963 J. LOUIS & SUSAN K. SCHAEFER

MEMORIAL WREATHS - 1963

ANNA HELCK
FREDERICK WOLKLIN
ELSA FREYNICK
GUSTAV WEIMAN
ALFRED GRIZZLE
JOHN A. RAHAEUSER
ANNA R. & FRED TIETJEN
ELSIE RAHAEUSER
HENRY J. KOESTER
LOUISE BALLING
SOPHIE SCHUSSLER
AIDA DEJARDIN
JOHN SCHAER

BENEVOLENT SOCIETY

<u>1963</u>		<u>INCOME</u>	<u>EXPENSES</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>
Jan.	1 Balance			\$3,055.73
Mar.	17 Contributions	\$33.00		3,088.73
Mar.	31 Income from Investments	58.13		3,146.86
Mar.	31 Interest on Bank Balance	36.94		3,183.80
Mar.	31 Care of Needy		\$40.00	3,143.80
Apr.	30 Care of Needy		40.00	
May	14 Repayment of Loan to Church	2,000.00		5,103.80
June	26 Contribution to Boy Scout Troop No. 314		325.00	4,778.80
June	30 Interest on Bank Balance	44.97		4,823.77
June	30 Care of Needy		40.00	4,783.77
July	31 Care of Needy		40.00	4,743.77
Aug.	30 Care of Needy		40.00	4,703.77
Sept.	30 Income from Investments	58.13		4,761.90
Sept.	30 Care of Needy		40.00	4,721.90
Oct.	31 Care of Needy		40.00	4,681.90
Nov.	30 Care of Needy		40.00	4,641.90
Dec.	23 Christmas Aid & Expenses	15.00	15.00	4,641.90
Dec.	31 Collections through Poor Boxes	16.05		4,657.95
Dec.	31 Care of Needy		40.00	4,617.95
Dec.	31 Interest on Bank Balance	100.15		4,718.10

CHURCH EXTENSION BONDS

PURCHASES FOR YEAR 1963

Saint Luke's Lutheran Church (Purchased from part of Lagacy of Margaret Schroeder)	\$ 5,000.00
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Members of Saint Luke's	<u>13,524.00</u>
	\$18,524.00

TOTAL PURCHASES FROM 1959 through 1963	\$40,827.33
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SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT

The attendance figures for 1963 indicate that the downward trend for the previous three years has been stemmed. We are happy to report that the enrollment this year shows an increase of eleven children over the previous year - 52 children were gained. This reflects the continuing efforts of Miss Eber and Pastor O'Connor in their recruiting of new children in the neighborhood. We feel that there is still much to be done and with God's help, we should increase our efforts to bring the knowledge of the love of our Savior to the children of this community that they may grow to know the joy of serving their Lord.

We would like to express our thanks to Mr. Kurt Wingert who faithfully served as Sunday School Superintendent for many years. We will miss the entire Wingert family and wish them all happiness in their new home.

The following is a report of our attendance:

Registered December 31, 1962	125
Registered December 31, 1963	136
Average Sunday Attendance	90
Highest Sunday Attendance	111
Lowest Sunday Attendance	53
New Pupils	48
Reinstated Pupils	4
Dropped from Records	41
Visitors in Adult Bible Class	75

Mr. Quentin Baltera, our treasurer, reports the following information:

General Income for 1963	\$1031.00
Sunday School Expense 1963	1008.00
Contributions to Mission Fund	228.00
Balance in General Fund 12/31/63	664.00
Balance in Mission Fund 12/31/63	1065.00

There are twenty members on the Sunday School staff. Of these, nine are serving their first year at Saint Luke's. I would like to thank all of the staff for giving their time and devotion during the year.

Respectfully submitted,

THOMAS W. SCHAUB
Superintendent

THE LADIES' AID SOCIETY

Our group started 1964 with 27 members enrolled. Average attendance at meetings is 15 to 18 ladies. Last year two members were called to their Heavenly Home; Mrs. E. Freynick and Mrs. A. Cedarstrom. Mrs. L. Schilling moved to Mexico. Mesdames Seitz, Stocker, Weiman and Volckens joined our organization.

We meet the second Wednesday of the month at 12:30 P.M. and have a social hour before the business meeting, which is followed by a planned program consisting of colored slides, films or spiritual topics. You are cordially invited to attend.

Dues collected during 1963 - \$143.00

Lutheran Women's Missionary League Mite Box Collection - \$52.65.

Contributions for 1963 as follows:

Christmas Gifts	\$ 36.00
Lutheran Friends of the Deaf (John of Beverley Work Books)	10.00
Children's crafts for Summer program	30.40
Books for Seminary Student	75.00
Flowers - Church altar, Easter & Palm Sunday	75.00
Concordia Theological Seminary, Springfield, Ill.	50.00
Memorial to Mrs. E. Freynick for the church	10.00
Memorial to Mr. Weiman for the church	5.00
Bethlehem Lutheran Children's Home (Purchased a tricycle and umbrellas)	25.00
Lutheran Deaconess Association	50.00
Concordia College, Bronxville (Towards furnishing Girl's Dormitory)	50.00
Home for Ministering Friends	25.00
29 Choir gowns dry cleaned and pressed)	
Draperies dry cleaned and pressed)	75.45
(3rd floor lounge, office and study))	
L.W.M.L. Convention expenses	52.50
Wedding gift - Albert Weibacher, Jr.	50.00
Lutheran Child Welfare	5.00
	<u>\$ 624.35</u>

Some of our activities during the past year consisted of the following:

With the help of the Dorcas Guild, baked and packed 60 boxes of cookies for the Lutheran Chaplaincy Services.

Shower of toys and clothing for local mission work by Miss Eber.

Baby shower for Lutheran Child Welfare Association.

Repaired Choir gowns before having them dry cleaned.

We were hostess to the Bethlehem Ladies' Auxiliary, January meeting - served coffee and cake.

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Sent delegate to the Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention held at the Hotel Commodore, New York City.

Were privileged to be co-workers with the Dorcas Guild on Altar Committee for the Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention.

We were co-hostesses with the Dorcas Guild to the Lutheran Women's Missionary League when they held their Fall Rally at Saint Luke's in October. Dinner was served for approximately 120 people.

Enjoyed a delicious luncheon as guests of Mrs. Neibacher before our December meeting. Many thanks for her kind and gracious hospitality.

Visits were made to the aged at Wartburg Home, Brooklyn, N.Y. and to the sick in various hospitals.

Respectfully submitted,

EVELYN C. WISCH
Vice-President

DORCAS GUILD

Since the inception of our Guild in February, 1941, we have been actively working as an arm of the church. We meet during the months of September through June, the first Tuesday, with business meeting beginning at 7:45 P.M. followed by fellowship period including program and refreshments. At the present time we are 41 in number having received one new member and two resignations. Two of our members, namely, Mrs. Freynick and Mrs. Rahaeuser were called Home during 1963.

Our purpose is "To aid in increasing active interest in the work of our church; and generally to endeavor to live up to the first Dorcas of the Bible who 'was full of good works and alms-deeds which she did'" (Acts 9,36) We have had a variance in programs, trying to hold the interest of all members, such as: our own Mr. Bernhard Schaefer talked to us on his trip to the Holy Land and environs; speakers on alcoholism, narcotics and deaconess work; in May we inaugurated our each-member-share dinner, inviting the Ladies' Aid as our guests; baked cookies in December for distribution by the Chaplaincy service to the various City hospitals at Christmastime, and pressed robes for our Candlelight Service; entertained our Spanish speaking members and friends at a get-to-gether; assisted the Ladies' Aid in preparing and serving at our Congregational dinner.

We have sponsored the Hospital Escort Service at Roosevelt Hospital the third Sunday in the month, which work is carried on by the faithful, dependable few. More volunteers are desperately needed for this project and we earnestly plea for additional help.

As of December 31, 1963, our balance in the treasury was \$59.88. During the year we collected \$61.35 for the Red Cross.

We are active members of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, having had a delegate to the Atlantic District Convention in May, held in New York. We also collected \$73.30 in our L.W.M.L. Mite Boxes. Together with the Ladies' Aid, we were hostess church to the Fall Rally Dinner meeting.

On occasion we have a theater party for those expressing the desire to go as a group.

A new project we are embarking on is the saving of trading stamps and coupons, hoping we can add to some of our kitchen needfuls. We gladly solicit the help of our entire congregation in this long range program.

Our Christmas Gifts were: to Mrs. Boyle, a former member, in Wartburg Home; Miss Marie Roepe, also a member, at Welfare Island and to Mr. & Mrs. A. McInnes for their valued help during the year.

You have noticed, I am sure, the welcome addition to our kitchen facilities, the two new stainless steel dish carts. Dorcas is very happy in being able to donate one at the cost of \$84.00 while the Ladies' Aid donated the other.

Another real pleasure was being able to participate in offering our beloved Albert and Millie Neibacher a gift on their wedding in June, 1963.

(2)

Once again we extend a cordial invitation to all the ladies of the congregation to attend our meetings, not only as guests but hoping they will become active members, bearing out the origin of our name, and continuing in His work.

Respectfully submitted,

EMMA K. HAHN
President

DORCAS GUILD 1963
TREASURER'S REPORT

RED CROSS COLLECTION.....\$61.35

RECEIPTS

Balance on hand December 31, 1962	\$105.23
Dues	247.50
L.W.M.L. Mite Box Collections	65.30
Memorial	5.00
Half the cost Memorial Wreath from Ladies' Aid	5.00
Proceeds - 2 Dinners	27.42
Birthday Collections	21.76
White Elephant Sale	5.00
Hostess Fees	3.45
Half the cost Rental from Ladies' Aid	3.67
12 Augsburg Confession Booklets	2.75
Donations to Spring Festival Spanish Bible Class	19.00
Bank Interest	4.75
Miscellaneous	1.00
	\$512.83

DISBURSEMENTS

L.W.M.L. Mite Box Collections & Quarterlies	\$73.30
Contribution to Lutheran World Relief	10.00
3 Memorial Wreaths	30.00
Altar Flowers - Palm Sunday & Easter	50.00
Altar Flowers in memory of Deceased Members	5.00
Gifts to Guest Speakers	30.00
Delegate to L.W.M.L. Congention	19.40
Stationery, Greeting Cards & Stamps	19.80
Socials	43.05
Film Rental	7.34
12 Augsburg Confession Booklets	2.73
2 L.W.M.L. meetings at Saint Luke's	5.47
Spring Festival Spanish Bible Class	22.55
Wedding Gift to Miss Mildred Repp & Mr. Albert Neibacher	25.00
4 Christmas Gifts	25.31
1 Three Tier Service Cart	84.00
	\$452.95

Total Receipts	\$512.83
Total Disbursements	<u>452.95</u>
Balance - 12/31/63	\$ 59.88

Respectfully submitted

ETHEL MAHNKEN
Treasurer

THE SENIOR YOUNG PEOPLES' SOCIETY

The 27th year of the Senior Young Peoples' Society has been very active. Our programs varied and interesting. Alternating with speakers and planned activities.

The members of our group are active participants in other church functions as members of the choir, Sunday School teachers, Church Council members and Ushers.

The Tuesday and Thursday evening Summer program, as in the past, was very successful. About thirty-five neighborhood children joined us per evening. With the financial aid of the Church Council and the Ladies' Aid Society, the children made some very beautiful and useful items.

Our holiday season was filled with much activity. The highlights, of course, was the traditional St. Nicholas Night Party held on December 8th. The congregation and friends were invited and 102 reservations were received. Smorgasbord supper, wonderful entertainment and Christian fellowship made this a memorable evening. On December 15th, with the help of some of the Sunday School children, the Seniors decorated the church for the Candlelight Service. The following Sunday night we sang carols and distributed gifts to the patients at Roosevelt Hospital.

During the year we took in five new members, but also lost some due to normal course of events. As of December 31, 1963, our general fund consisted of \$35.83 and a special supper fund of \$76.35, making a total of \$112.18.

Our sincere thanks to Pastor Neibacher and Pastor O'Connor for their prayers and guidance, and to the congregation for their support and cooperation in having made 1963 another good year for the Senior Young Peoples' Society.

Respectfully submitted,

ARDELLE GROSZ
President

WALTHER LEAGUE

During the past year the Walther League of Saint Luke's has endeavored to be an important part of the church's religious and social life. As a good part of the membership has been engaged in studies, part-time jobs after school, our League has had a fluctuating program. However, the League has enjoyed a rewarding year in its life at Saint Luke's.

In the early part of last year, we finished our renovating of the Bowling Alley by repainting the walls and chairs and making it, in general more comfortable to be in when we meet. We are now looking for used furnishings to complete it as a meeting room for our League. In all of this, thanks is to be expressed to the church, who put forward the money for the paint and materials which we used.

Saint Luke's Walther League was honored to be host to the semi-annual Zone Walther League Rally for the Leagues of Manhattan and the Bronx. Instead of having the usual social rally, we showed a fine film, "Question 7" and held a lively discussion period on its meaning for us. The plot of the film was about an East German youth who had to decide between Christ and Communism. It was a fine evening enjoyed by all. A week from now we shall be hosts to the Zone in a Lenten program.

During the Summer months, some of our members served as teachers in a Vacation Bible School, held in August for two weeks. Close to twenty children from the neighborhood enrolled in the school. Next Summer we hope to do service to the church in helping during the Summer Program and activities of Saint Luke's. We expect a very busy Summer with all the World's Fair visitors coming to town and to our church.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT TRADELIUS
President