

SAINT LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
308 West 46th Street
New York, New York 10036

THE ANNUAL REPORT

1965

THE CHURCH OFFICERS

for

1965

Joseph C. Miranda, President
Bernhard K. Schaefer, Vice President
Donald Krenz, Secretary
Walter Gausman, Treasurer
Walter Schussler, Asst. Treasurer

THE CHURCH COUNCIL

for

1965

ELDER EMERITUS

John W. Lengemann

ELDERS

Dr. Louis Lochner
John Theurer Sr.
J. Louis Schaefer

TRUSTEES

Gustav Bethauser
Walter Gausman
Anton W. Koester
Donald Krenz
Joseph C. Miranda
Gordon Pringle
Herman Reichert
Bernhard K. Schaefer
Walter Schussler

DEACONS

Frederick W. Adams
Cecil Agard
Fred Balling
Jean Baridon
Gunter Brocki
Dr. Melvin Meisinger
Thomas Schaub
William Stocker
Robert Willner

THE STAFF

and

OPERATING ORGANIZATION

of

1965

Albert L. Neibacher, D.D., Pastor
Robert Benson, Pastoral Assistant
Martha Eber, Deaconess
Judith Bendewald, Youth Director
Ben Akerley, Organist and Choir Director
Thomas Schaub, Superintendent of Sunday School
Herman Reichert, 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
Gerald Burkhart, President, Young Adult Group
Edward Johnson, Boy Scout Scoutmaster
Hugo Forzani, Cub Scout Master
Gustav Bethauser, Chairman, House Committee
Anton Koester, Chairman, Advertising Committee
Dr. Louis Lochner, Chairman, Music Committee
Gordon Pringle, Chairman, Spiritual Life Committee
John Theurer, Chairman, Benevolence Committee
Gordon Pringle, Chairman, World's Fair Committee
Donald Krenz, Chairman, Auditing Committee
Bernhard Schaefer, Chairman, Finance Committee
Marie McKee, Chairman, Altar Flower Committee

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Our role in the work of the Kingdom at Saint Luke's Lutheran Church for 1965 is now a matter of record. During this year of devotion and service to our church and God we experienced many accomplishments. However, our changing community and economy has presented new, complicated and challenging problems that affected our performance in 1965 and that will continue to influence us in 1966.

The various organized church groups have once again performed admirably. We most certainly are indebted to those people who have given of their time and energy. Our successful mission at Saint Luke's is dependent on the dedication, participation and action of all of its members. We must give more serious thought and consideration to becoming a part of the daily need for active service in the work of our church. We need the help of every member of our congregation if we are to face up to the responsibilities and the opportunities that exist today. Give of your time and talent to your church and receive the satisfaction, honor and joy of doing His work.

Our Investment Portfolio has shown a reasonable growth in 1965. We once again experienced an appreciation in total value. The revenue received from the portfolio has proven to be the difference between meeting our annual operational costs and a serious operational deficit. The financial support we received from the congregation in the year 1965 was gratifying. Our Board of Trustees and the Church Council should be complimented for their sound judgment and excellent performance. However, in spite of every effort to keep expenses as low as possible... the cost of operating our church on an efficient and practical standard has increased. We have become familiar with this problem in our everyday lives. Therefore, we must recognize this responsibility and make every effort to keep pace with our needs. The Treasurer, Mr. Gausman, will give you a more detailed report on our expenses for 1965 and our anticipated requirements for 1966. We will be fighting a constant battle of economics in the years to come. In the past, our people have always responded to requests for financial support. We can look to the future with confidence only if we as members continue to be realistic in respect to accepting our fair and equitable obligations.

My thanks are extended to Pastor Neibacher and his staff, my fellow Trustees and Church Council members, and the men and women of the congregation for making 1965 a good year. We can look forward to a successful year in 1966 if we are willing to participate in the whole activity of our planned program. Saint Luke's Lutheran Church affords you a chance to express your love for your God and His teachings. Take advantage of this opportunity and make 1966 a good year.

Faithfully yours,
JOSEPH C. MIRANDA,
President

THE PASTOR'S REPORT

1965 did not have a very auspicious beginning in the life of Saint Luke's. For months some phases of our work had discouragingly deteriorated and staff was down to a minimum. It became necessary to rethink the emphases of our work and reorganize our staff. About the 15th of January Mrs. Judith Bendewald, a trained youth leader, joined our staff as Director of Youth Work; and a month later Mr. Robert Benson, doctoral candidate at Columbia University, became pastoral assistant on a limited part-time basis. It was not long before it became evident that we had the strongest staff we have had in a number of years, and that we would again be able to function in reasonably strong manner.

I begin this report by referring to staff because one of the tragic and discouraging anomalies of inner city work is that if the church desires to be the church and not a mere institution, it must have adequate staff to reach out and become involved in the life of the community. To be the church, we must live out the things we stand for as an institution; we must permit Christ, through us as individuals, to be totally involved in the thought and action of the community. The church must make Christianity relevant and come to grips with the problems people face in the everyday. Dr. Martin Luther King has very aptly summarized what many concerned leaders have been saying, and what I too believe and am continually trying to say, "Any church that professes to be concerned with the souls of men and is not concerned about the slums that damn them, the economic conditions that strangle them, and the social conditions that cripple them is a spiritually moribund church only waiting for the day to be buried."

I realize full well that a church like Saint Luke's, which is both an area church and an inner city church, faces many unique and difficult problems. It is not easy for the church to be the church when most of her members are not directly identified with and living in the community where the prime responsibility lies. Staff and a corps of dedicated volunteers must play a vicarious role for an entire membership, which works hard to maintain an institution and to sponsor programs and activities which make the church the body of Christ in a given community. This, of course, is at no time a simple matter. It requires a dual emphasis, almost the same as having two separate congregations, and makes many heavy demands on staff.

Representing you as the body of Christ, and Saint Luke's as a strong and highly-respected institution, I serve on your behalf on the Board of Directors of the Clinton LaSalle Community Center (an after school and evening center serving about 750 young people in the area), the West Side Association of Community Centers, the Clinton Planning Council (a coordinating council of 48 different agencies in the area), the Lower West Side Anti-Poverty Committee and the Community Planning Center Council, the latter of which is the policy-making and functioning arm of a planned \$2 million federally-funded anti-poverty program. I feel very privileged to play an active and prominent role in this program because I feel, despite some of the unsavory publicity given the program in some areas, it is one of the most imaginative, exciting and challenging programs that has ever come out of Washington. Actually, the Federal Government has taken a leaf out of the

book of the church and is endeavoring to solve many of the social and economic problems which the church and social agencies have failed to solve. As one of the older and more established institutions on the West Side, Saint Luke's has a responsibility to the community, and I am happy to state her participation and leadership are sought, appreciated and respected.

As an institution Saint Luke's is strong, even though it has only a comparatively small, dedicated and concerned nucleus with which to carry on its work. At times, I know, it becomes rather discouraging and lonely for the few. Yet the few have a compensatory joy and a satisfaction of knowing that their efforts are not in vain when performed in the name of Christ and to His glory. The few can and do serve as an example and a continuing source of inspiration to others. Christ uses the few and blesses their efforts beyond all expectation.

By way of example, let me simply refer to the Young Adult Group, which at the end of 1964 reached one of its all time lows of interest and activity. Meeting with six or seven active and concerned members in January, it was determined that the group must continue. Through concentrated and enthusiastic team effort, and with the help of Mr. Robert Benson, the group started to flourish and by year-end approximately 40 different young adults were again involved in a spiritual-cultural fellowship, which has brought blessings to the participants and to the church. What took place in the Young Adult Group can also take place in our other organizations, detailed reports of whose work are included in this annual review. The few can and must set the pace.

In 1965 we finally came to grips with a planned, balanced and organized program for the children of this community. We sponsored an Open House Program under the leadership of Mrs. Judith Bendewald, and during the year we served 223 different youngsters with a staff of 43. It is impossible to fully evaluate the accomplishments of this adult-youth relationship, which is basic to the program. However, we do see some tangible results in the attitudes developed among many of the children in all phases of our activity and outreach. This program has left its mark, not necessarily in increased numbers, but in attitudes and behavior, in our Sunday School, Released Time School, Confirmation and Scouting activity. The Open House and Scouting programs have been two vital service projects of Saint Luke's to the community. They have done more in the way of public relations here in the neighborhood than any thing we have attempted in a long time. They have been active witnesses to our faith in Jesus Christ; they have visually portrayed what we believe and teach; they have been the church in concerned action.

Concerned action, perhaps better than anything else, describes the role Miss Martha Eber, our deaconess, plays in the life of the church. Being responsible for office routine is perhaps the smallest part of her activity. Much time is spent in meeting the social service demands which are made on the church both by transients and by those affiliated with the church. Some need emergency help, others referral service, and still others long-term care. At Christmas, for example, more than 20 family units, constituting 90 individuals, were helped with generous food baskets and clothing. An average week brings at least 10 calls for service of some kind. In addition, Miss Eber shows the concerns of the church by calling on the children of our Sunday School and by working closely with their families. She alone was responsible for the 40 new children we received into the Sunday School this past year.

Our Spanish Mission had a rather discouraging setback in 1965. Had it not been for the concerned action of Miss Eber, this phase of our outreach would perhaps have ceased. In September Pastor Eduardo Llerena, under whose leadership our Spanish work had flourished, was compelled to take a year's leave of absence for advanced study at our Concordia Seminary in Springfield, Illinois. This year's concentrated study is prerequisite to his ordination into the Lutheran ministry. The Rev. William Puder, pastor of Saint John's Lutheran Church in Bayonne, New Jersey, conducts Sunday services and in addition, spends one evening a week calling and instructing. Pastor Puder was here less than a month when he concluded and stated that our Spanish work requires a full-time minister and not just limited, part-time attention. Attendance at the Sunday services dropped from an average of almost 40 to less than 20, which, of course, is no reflection on Pastor Puder, considering the limited time he can give the work. We look forward to Pastor Llerena's return late this summer and to his full-time Spanish ministry in our community.

In the fall of 1965 our Adult Bible Class was reorganized and has been meeting at 12:15 each Sunday noon under the leadership of Mr. Benson. He is assisted by Mr. John Koenig, also a graduate of our Concordia Seminary and a doctoral candidate at Union Seminary. Over the past 5 months approximately 40 different people have been involved in this study-discussion group, and it is hoped that 1966 will bring even greater participation.

From a personal point of view, 1965 will always be a highlight of my life. I will confess that the beginning of the year found me in great turmoil. After much anguish of mind, soul-searching and prayer, I had come to the conclusion that physically, mentally and emotionally I was no longer able to meet the increasing and exacting demands of the urban ministry. Having been at Saint Luke's for 30 years, having learned to truly love her people, and having always thoroughly enjoyed the many exciting challenges, it was not an easy decision to make. However, I had concluded that both Saint Luke's and I needed a change, and I was ready to submit my resignation to the February meeting of the Church Council. Then early in February I received a letter from the President of Concordia Seminary, Saint Louis, Missouri, informing me that the faculty had awarded me the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity in recognition of three decades of pioneering urban work in the Lutheran Church. It was recognition of a ministry in which we had shared together many discouraging and lonely moments, overcome many problems and weathered the transitional period of developing a once parochial church into a truly inner-city-area church in which people of all ethnic, racial, cultural, social and economic backgrounds worship and work together. I accepted the degree as the voice of God speaking directly to me and telling me that at this time my ministry at Saint Luke's was perhaps not yet finished, as I had thought.

At the end of May I received this degree, and upon my return from Saint Louis, a surprise reception, sponsored by the young adults, was given for me. I shall never forget June 13, 1965. It was one of the warmest, friendliest gatherings I have ever attended. It was the nicest thing that could happen to anyone. For all who had a share in it, I again want to say "Thank you and God bless you."

Though 1965 started off in a somewhat discouraging manner, the end, by the grace of God, was a bit more auspicious. We by no means solved all

the problems. Unfortunately, problems of one kind or another will always be with us and demand the very best of all of us. 1966, as it looms before us, requires prayer, dedication and a deeper involvement in the mission of the church on the part of our entire membership, because opportunities and challenges seem to increase all the time.

Realizing that it is utterly impossible to do justice to all that has been done and to give a full account of a year's ministry - the countless hours spent in counseling, planning, sermon preparation and the like - I have only touched on some of the highlights. However, in conclusion, I do want to thank all those who have shared another year of my ministry at Saint Luke's - the officers of the congregation, the leaders of our various organizations, the countless volunteers, the members of the staff, my wife. All have helped carry the burdens of the day and made it possible for Saint Luke's to raise the banner of the Cross and to hold it high before our fellow man. To one and all I extend my sincere thanks. It has been a joy to serve my Savior with you.

During 1965 the following official acts were performed:

Baptisms	- Infants	8
	Adults	3
Confirmations	- Teenagers	11
	Adults	18
New Members Received		40
Weddings		13
Funerals		15
People Communed		2,503
Total Church Attendance		12,347
Total Number of Services		87
Average Sunday Attendance		195

May all that has been done at Saint Luke's during the past year redound to the glory and honor of the Lord of the Church, who has redeemed us that we might serve Him.

Yours in Christ,

ALBERT L. NEIBACHER, Pastor

THE TREASURER'S REPORT

I consider it a privilege to make this report to you. What I have to say is important because it concerns the work of our Lord and the welfare of Saint Luke's.

In the first place, I want to thank you for the financial support you gave your church during the past year. Though there was a slight decrease in the Weekly Offering Envelopes (due to deaths and removals), we were able to maintain a balanced budget for 1965. This was possible only because expenses were kept down to minimal effectiveness, and a number of building repairs were postponed to 1966. As a result, our total expenses for 1965 were held at \$52,418.00.

However, 1966 will be somewhat different. We will have to do many of the things we should have done this past year. Already at this time, projected expenses amount to \$57,879.00, which will necessitate an increase of 15% in envelope contributions. I assure you that where possible the Church Council will continue to keep expenses at a minimum but without sacrifice to our responsibilities to Christ and our work. The budget figure for 1966 is what we consider necessary to meet minimum expenses.

I, therefore, in the second place, make an urgent appeal to you, where possible, to increase your weekly envelope contributions. Perhaps not every one will be able to increase his giving by 15%. Some of us will have to do better than this if we are to meet our budget. In addition, perhaps a number of our people who do not regularly contribute through our Weekly Offering Envelopes will consider his gift to the Lord in the light of His blessings to us and will give regularly during 1966. I am certain that we at Saint Luke's will again rise to the occasion and meet our obligations to our Savior and our church. Surely, the Lord has blessed us in the past. He will continue to be with us and bless our work in the future.

I thank you for your help in the past and ask for your continued concern and assistance.

Respectfully submitted,

WALTER GAUSMAN,
Treasurer

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SAINT LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
REPORT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES
YEAR 1965

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1964</u>
Envelopes	\$23,074.69	\$24,368.18
Plate Collections	5,365.14	5,541.00
Pew Rental and Memorials	40.00	75.00
Christmas Collection	2,743.20	1,493.45
Easter Collection	2,653.15	2,437.30
Lenten Collection (Noon-Day)	189.75	228.32
Thanksgiving Collection	853.80	863.50
Birthday (115th Anniversary)	994.10	943.50
Special Donations	2,072.58	2,057.00
Special Income for Music	---	364.28
Flowers	785.00	977.50
Devotional Booklets	142.95	141.10
Youth Program	228.90	---
	<u>\$39,143.26</u>	<u>\$39,490.13</u>
Income from Investments	14,031.74	13,073.67
TOTAL INCOME	<u><u>53,175.00</u></u>	<u><u>52,563.80</u></u>
 <u>EXPENSES</u>		
Salaries	\$30,111.92	\$30,296.92
Travel Allowance	1,750.00	1,500.00
Retirement and Medical Payments	1,511.22	2,008.72
Printing and Stationery	1,959.62	1,716.13
Insurance	2,684.70	2,561.83
Heating	2,312.66	2,634.99
Gas and Electric	910.84	768.04
Repairs and Replacements	2,921.66	2,698.49
Water Taxes	94.00	94.00
Telephone	1,229.00	1,290.00
Postage	671.35	636.07
Advertising	1,634.82	1,801.92
Devotional Booklets	212.30	285.35
Flowers	780.20	767.60
Communion Wine and Wafers	44.13	35.48
Choir Music	275.24	242.60
Envelope Expense	10.55	119.80
Organ and Piano Tuning	176.50	170.00
Youth Program	570.65	59.85
Spanish Ministry	300.00	300.00
Special Expenses and contributions	60.00	200.00
World's Fair	783.56	1,066.95
Gifts	---	1,000.00
Grace National Bank Charges	201.93	960.29
Sunday School	110.00	---
Miscellaneous Expenses	1,122.40	981.84
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$52,418.15	\$53,957.27
TOTAL INCOME	<u>53,175.00</u>	<u>52,563.80</u>
SURPLUS	<u><u>\$ 756.85</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,393.47</u></u> DEFICIT
Memorial Wreaths	\$592.50	\$996.00
Boy Scouts	536.10	265.00

COLLECTIONS FOR OTHERS - 1965

Missions	\$3,534.36
American Bible Society	56.63
American Lutheran Publicity Bureau	35.00
Association for Works of Mercy	170.13
Boy Scouts of America	236.10
Concordia Collegiate Institute, Bronxville	200.00
Girl Scouts of America	25.00
Lutheran Chaplaincy Services	182.12
Lutheran Child Welfare Association	334.30
Lutheran Education Society	50.00
Lutheran Friends of the Deaf	1,569.12
Lutheran Hospital of Brooklyn	226.13
Lutheran Hour	350.00
Lutheran Social Services	200.13
Lutheran University Association, Valparaiso	100.00
Lutheran Welfare Association of Jersey City	100.00
Lutheran Welfare Council	50.00
New York Bible Society	51.62
Wartburg Home for the Aged	340.12
Wartburg Lutheran Orphan Farm School, Mt. Vernon	50.00
Wheatridge Foundation	176.12
	<u>\$8,036.88</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 here-with 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 1965.

1923	Catherine Karsch
1927	J. Louis Schaefer
1932	Bernhard Karsch
1942	Adele Henning
1946	Sebastian & Margaretha Dorfmueller
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. Scommodau
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
1964	J. Louis & Susan K. Schaefer
1965	Elsa Husser
1965	Elise Eiermann
1965	J. Louis & Susan K. Schaefer

MEMORIAL WREATHS - 1965

Frank Burger
Charles Schirm
Edward Diecks
Elsa Husser
Marie Kastendiek
Edward Puckhaber

BENEVOLENT SOCIETY

<u>1965</u>		<u>INCOME</u>	<u>EXPENSES</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>
Jan. 1	Balance			\$3231.07
Feb. 29	Care of Needy		\$40.00	3191.07
Mar. 31	Interest on bank balance	\$34.32		3225.39
Apr. 30	Care of Needy		80.00	3145.39
Apr. 30	Income from investments	58.12		3203.51
May 31	Care of Needy		40.00	3163.51
Jun. 30	Interest on bank balance	34.69		3198.20
Jul. 31	Collections through poor boxes	4.97		3203.17
Aug. 31	Care of Needy		40.00	3163.17
Aug. 31	Boy Scouts to Summer Camp		300.00	2863.17
Sep. 30	Care of Needy		40.00	2823.17
Sep. 30	Interest on bank balance	35.06		2858.23
Oct. 31	Care of Needy		40.00	2818.23
Oct. 31	Income from investments	58.13		2876.36
Dec. 31	Care of Needy		120.00	2756.36
Dec. 31	Interest on bank balance	30.79		2787.15

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School attendance continues to fluctuate, reflecting the constant movement of families in and out of the neighborhood. The record of attendance was also affected by the change in Adult Bible Class time. Previously the Adult Class acted as part of the Sunday School and contributed to its support. Presently, our Adult Bible Class is meeting after the worship service on Sunday, and we are pleased to see the interest that this class has generated. We look forward to seeing this interest channeled in a direction that will help us to relate to the parents of the children in our Sunday School and in our neighborhood.

The teenagers continue to be a strong group, and the maturity shown by some members of this teen group give promise that they will weather the difficult transition from adolescence to mature Christianity in today's world.

Miss Genevieve Savio, our Sunday School secretary, reports the following attendance records:

Registered as of December 31, 1964	131
New pupils in 1965	35
Reinstated in 1965	<u>5</u>
	171
Dropped from rolls during 1965	<u>47</u>
Registered as of December 31, 1965	<u><u>124</u></u>

I would like to say again that cold figures do not show the growth or decline of a Sunday School. It is impossible to measure the total effect that we are having upon the children and our community by any known standards. However, it is my opinion that the work by all the youth organizations working together, that is, the Scouts, Open House Program, Teen Group, and Sunday School, has shown considerable progress during the year 1965.

I want to thank the Sunday School staff for giving of their time and devotion during the past year. We look forward to new ideas and continued involvement through the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,
THOMAS SCHAUB, Superintendent

Sunday School Teachers:

Miss Nancy Averill	Mr. Francisco Lopez
Mr. & Mrs. Merv Bendewald	Mrs. Albert Neibacher
Miss Ardelle Grosz	Mrs. M. Sanso
Mr. John Gugel	Miss Nancy Sanso
Mr. & Mrs. Herb Heinig	Miss Carol Spitzfaden
Miss Virginia Herman	Miss Carol Williams
Miss Yvonne LeMoine	

SUNDAY SCHOOL FINANCIAL STATEMENT

For the period - January 1, 1965 to December 31, 1965.

GENERAL FUND

Balance on hand - January 1, 1965	\$ 353.54	
Collections: Initial Offerings	\$ 8.30	
Envelopes	439.50	
Plate	249.75	
Mite Boxes	54.75	
Candlelight Service	182.00	
Credits	123.30	
Gifts	55.00	
Contribution by		
Missions	50.00	
Picnic - Adult participation	28.00	
Confirmation Gown rentals	<u>21.75</u>	
		1212.35
Total (On hand plus income)		1565.89
Total Expenses		<u>1261.63</u>
Balance on hand - December 31, 1965	<u>\$ 304.26</u>	\$304.26

MISSIONS

Balance on hand - January 1, 1965	1099.34	
Income (collections) 1965	<u>203.50</u>	
Total (On hand plus income)		1302.84
Expenditures: Missionary distrib.	\$300.00	
Institute for Deaf	210.00	
Sunday School	50.00	
Betsy Hurricane	<u>100.00</u>	
		660.00
	<u>\$ 642.84</u>	<u>642.84</u>
		<u>\$247.10</u>

Respectfully submitted,
WILLIAM M. STOCKER, Treasurer

LADIES' AID SOCIETY

Since 1872 the Ladies' Aid has taken an active part in being able to serve Saint Luke's; unfortunately, our membership has dwindled to 25 ladies. We are naturally quite concerned about this and are making an appeal to the ladies of our church to join our society. We meet the second Wednesday in the month at 12:30 noon. We bring a sandwich and the hostesses serve coffee and cake. This hour of Christian fellowship before the meeting is enjoyed by all. We extend a cordial invitation to all the ladies of the congregation. Come, and get to know us better!

Some of our activities for the past year were as follows:

Hostesses to Ladies' Auxiliary of Bethlehem Lutheran Children's Home.

Helped sponsor the Open House Program.

Cooked and served with the help of the Dorcas Guild at the Congregational Dinner.

Paid visits to three members who are in Nursing Homes, also made other sick visits and remembered the shut-ins with gifts at Christmas.

Sent birthday cards to each member through the help of Mrs. Baltera. We wish to thank her for this act of love.

Sent a delegate to Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention. LWML mite box collection amounted to \$76.65.

Invested \$2000 in Atlantic District Church Extension Bonds. We now have a total of \$5000 in such bonds.

Purchased four additional tables at a cost of \$177.40.

Sponsored a dinner in June for the Open House Program Workshop, at which about 40 persons were present.

Held a Baby Shower for the benefit of the Lutheran Child Welfare Association.

Baked and packed cookies for distribution by the Chaplaincy Service to hospitals and institutions at Christmas; also contributed toys to be shared by Miss Eber with the less fortunate children of our neighborhood.

Our treasurer's report shows our expenditures in detail, so I will not elaborate on them. If there are any questions regarding this report, please feel free to ask.

My sincere thanks to Pastor Neibacher for his spiritual help and guidance, also to Miss Martha Eber and all the members for their loyalty and cooperation.

Respectfully submitted,
ELSIE S. KOESTER, President

LADIES' AID SOCIETY

TREASURER'S REPORT

1965

RECEIPTS

Dues	\$132.00
Hostesses	3.00
Birthday Donation	11.15
Donations	27.00
Christmas	29.00
Balance of dinner	20.86
Interest on investments	1078.12
LWML Mite Box Collection	70.55
1966 Dues	12.00
John Theurer donation	50.00
Memorials collected: Caroline M. Koepchen	50.00
Minna Theurer	<u>15.00</u>
	\$1498.68

DISBURSEMENTS

Open House Program	150.00
Flowers in church	75.00
Concordia Collegiate Institute, Bronxville	100.00
Stole for Albert Neibacher	25.00
Surplice for Pastor Neibacher	22.36
Emergency Shelter for Men	25.00
Watch for Pastor Neibacher	40.00
Cleaning drapes	13.50
LWML Convention, delegate and books	21.50
LWML contributions	76.65
Mrs. McGinnis and cake	58.77
New choir gowns	250.54
Four new tables and express wagon	177.40
June 8th Dinner for Open House Program Workshop	48.38
Film rental	<u>6.50</u>
	\$1090.60
Deposited Memorials in Savings Accounts	<u>65.00</u>
	\$1155.60

Total Receipts	\$1498.68
Balance on hand 1/1/65	<u>116.89</u>
	\$1615.57
Total Disbursements	<u>1155.60</u>
Balance on hand 1/1/66	<u><u>\$ 459.97</u></u>

Respectfully submitted,
EDITH DORFMULLER, Treasurer

LADIES' AID SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF SAVINGS ACCOUNTS & MEMORIAL FUNDS

SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

Balances on hand - January 1, 1965:

Franklin 399944	\$1346.93	
Franklin 848627	1073.08	
Bowery 891015	<u>1142.97</u>	

\$3562.98

Memorials deposited in accounts

65.00

Savings Bank interest

218.29

3846.27

Withdrawn from Franklin 399944 7/2/65

for payment to Atlantic Dist. Fund 1000.00

Withdrawn from Bowery 7/2/65 for pay-

ment to Atlantic Dist. Fund 1000.00

2000.00

Balances on hand - December 31, 1965:

Franklin 399944	\$ 435.04	
Franklin 848627	1193.47	
Bowery 891015	<u>217.76</u>	

\$1846.27

MEMORIAL FUNDS

Total Memorials received

\$26,992.00

Holdings:

Federal Land Bank Bond	\$ 1,000.00
Gen. Tel. of Calif. 4 1/2% bonds	19,825.00
Atlantic Dist. Note #5379	2,000.00
Atlantic Dist. Note #5658	1,000.00
Atlantic Dist. Note #7390	2,000.00

Balance of Savings Accounts

1,846.27

\$27,671.27

MEMORIALS

Miss Anna Hochholter	\$ 600	Mrs. Marie Koester	\$ 45
Mrs. Catherine Karsch	2000	Gustav A. Zerbst	500
Mrs. Katharine Wendel	200	Mrs. Anna Menge	672
Mrs. Minna Gerhardt	200	Mrs. Elizabeth Schnaars	20
Mr. & Mrs. H.A. Brummer	50	Mrs. Bertha M. Hartmann	12,000
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Groll Sr.	50	Miss Katherine Lengemenn	10
Mrs. Emilie Scommodau	75	Mrs. Bertha E. Overhage	20
Bernhard Karsch	2000	Mrs. Caroline M. Koepchen	275
Mrs. Gustav Zerbst	250	Mrs. Minna Theurer	125
Frederick Zerbst Jr.	250	John Schussler	<u>50</u>
Mrs. Charles Hohns	500	Total Memorials 1/1/66	<u>\$26,992</u>
Mrs. Louisa M. Nusskern	2100		
Mrs. Susan K. Schaefer	5000		

DORCAS GUILD

During the year 1965 three members were added to our roster, making a total membership of 39. We extend a cordial invitation not only to the ladies of our church, but also to those others vitally interested in extending this arm of the church.

We meet the first Tuesday of each month at 7:45 p.m. for our devotional and business meeting, which is followed by a fellowship period. During the year we endeavor to have a diversified program, trying to meet the needs and wants of all. In 1965 we had: a delightful hour with our organist, Mr. Ben Akerley, in which he explained the workings of Saint Luke's organ in particular, taking us right into the sanctuary; Rev. R.W. Sparling, Senior Chaplain of the New Jersey State Hospital at Greystone; Miss Beverly Erb of the Prince of Peace Volunteers; slides and commentary by Miss Verna Retzlaff on her trip to Turkey; film with commentary on Lutheran Child Welfare by Mrs. Neibacher; and films on the Philippines, Hong Kong and Arabia.

We had a delightful trip to Mill Neck Manor for the Deaf on Long Island.

We collected \$56.56 for the Red Cross; turned over to the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, of which we are a member, a total of \$71.03 from our Mite Boxes; and sent a delegate to the LWML convention here in New York City last May.

Our ladies are still actively engaged in the Hospital Escort Service at Roosevelt Hospital on the third Sunday of each month, and we are always in need of additional volunteers.

Stamps and coupons were collected for our own use and for the Bethesda Home in Wisconsin.

We assisted in preparing the surplices and gowns for the Candlelight Service; supplied homemade cookies (some prepared by the young people of our Open House Program) for distribution by the Chaplaincy Service in hospitals and institutions at Christmas time; assisted the Ladies Aid at Saint Luke's Congregational Dinner; helped at the Coffee Hour after the worship service in early December on the occasion of welcoming new members; and hosted the Ladies Aid and Choir at our annual May dinner meeting.

Our gifts for the year include:

Lutheran World Relief
Altar Flowers for Palm Sunday and Easter
Gift to Pastor Neibacher on receiving his Doctorate
Gift to Albert Neibacher on his graduation from Seminary
Christmas Gifts to: Mr. & Mrs. McInnes, Mrs. Boyle at the
Wartburg Home, Miss Roepe at Welfare
Island, Mrs. Mathilda Elgar and Mrs.
Eleanor Koepchen.

Our Guild has always considered it a privilege to help where help is needed.

Respectfully submitted,
EMMA K. HAHN, President

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DORCAS GUILD
TREASURER'S REPORT
1965

RED CROSS COLLECTION.....\$56.56

RECEIPTS

Balance on hand - December 31, 1964	\$105.40
Dues	200.00
LWML Mite Box Collections	71.03
Proceeds of Dinner	16.36
Birthday Collection	20.95
Hostess Fees	5.00
Donations	10.00
Memorial	5.00
Bank Interest	<u>4.05</u>
	\$437.79

DISBURSEMENTS

LWML Mite Box Collections & Quarterlies	\$ 79.03
Lutheran World Relief	25.00
Delegate to LWML Convention	21.25
Altar Flowers on Palm Sunday and Easter	50.00
Film Rental	7.39
Kiddie Kit	6.05
Stationery and postage	14.19
Socials	56.84
1000 Postcards	52.25
Donation to Open House Program	6.00
Gifts to Pastor Neibacher and Albert Neibacher	37.50
Christmas Gifts	<u>23.50</u>
	\$379.00

Total Receipts	\$437.79
Total Disbursements	<u>379.00</u>
Balance 12/31/65	<u><u><u>\$ 58.79</u></u></u>

Respectfully submitted,
ETHEL MAHNKEN, Treasurer - pro tem

THE SENIOR YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETY

The Senior Young People's Society is now in its 30th year providing Christian fellowship and willing helpers in the work of the church. Because New York City draws young people from literally all parts of the world, the Young Adults have welcomed many a new arrival and provided all with a friendly focus of activity. In many cases, our members participate as choir members, Sunday School teachers, ushers and Boy Scout leaders, prior to becoming members of Saint Luke's officially.

The congregation is perhaps most familiar with the Young Adults through the St. Nicholas Party held in December. We wish to thank everyone attending, for without your help and support, such an undertaking would be impossible.

Each Sunday evening the Young Adults present programs dealing with topics of religious, political and cultural interest, as well as social activities. We have featured debates on Viet Nam, the recent mayoralty campaign, have attended a "Jazz worship service", and sponsored a square dance. These programs are preceded by a moderately-priced dinner prepared by two of our members. We intend to continue an interesting and informative series of meetings and welcome all who would care to join us. Our membership has greatly increased this past year, and we look forward to expanding our program of fellowship and service.

I would like to thank Pastor Neibacher and Mr. Robert Benson for their help and guidance this past year. I would also like to remind the congregation of their generosity in enabling the work of a "Good Samaritan" to continue. At Pastor Neibacher's surprise dinner last June we asked for contributions to further the efforts of an Episcopal priest in treating narcotics addicts. We were able to turn over \$175 to Father Pitcaithley, and have received his thanks and assurance that it was put to good use.

The Young Adults will continue to serve in as many areas of the church as we can, to the best of our abilities.

Respectfully submitted,

GERALD BURKHART, President

YOUTH WORK REPORT

Youth work at Saint Luke's, or any parish, covers a wide range of age groups and types of activities, often determined by the desires of the church to promote its doctrine. However, we have begun to listen to the needs of youth and to seek to serve them rather than serving our own promotional desires. Perhaps this will be spelled out as I indicate the major areas of my work below.

TEENAGERS

This is always the most perplexing areas of any parish work, because teenagers are struggling to be adults, and yet do not always indicate the responsibility and concentration that we expect or would like from them. Here is where our concern for youth counts the most! We have taught them for years - many of them have been in our Sunday School since the primary years - and now we expect them to cling to the church just at that time when they are going through the hardest questioning and decision-making of their lives. In our ministry to youth, we are trying to be around to answer the questions, or at least discuss in an honest Christian way the problems of sex, family, vocation, and popularity which confront the teenager of today. To assist in this ministry on Sunday mornings, we have Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Heinig and my husband, Mr. Merv Bendewald. These three people assist in teaching the 20 young people enrolled in our Teen Bible Class. Here we discuss issues of importance in today's world as seen in the light of the Christian faith.

Mr. Steve McVey and his fiance, Miss Jackie Johnson, are part of the ministry on Friday evenings. These two people are giving of their time and interest in the areas of free time activity. Activities this past year have included a number of parties, where the young people have learned to lead games, to help a group of people work together, and to better express themselves as individuals. We have attended a Lenten Vespers conducted by the youth of True Light Lutheran Church in Chinatown, cleaned the kitchen from top to bottom, gone swimming at the Y, hiked across the George Washington Bridge, completed a discussion series entitled "Love, Sex and Life", packed Christmas boxes for hospital patients, and made our debut in acting with a skit and three songs which the teens performed at the St. Nicholas Party.

RELEASED TIME SCHOOL

Involved in this religious education endeavor are 27 children between the ages of 8 and 15. This is a voluntary hour on Wednesdays when the children may be released from the public school if they wish in order to go to their church for an hour of instruction. Three different classes this year have been taught by Mrs. Pete Brocki, Miss Eber, and myself. In the two older classes Mrs. Brocki and I have been experimenting with new materials entitled "R is for Religion", developed for midweek instruction specifically in an inner city setting.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Pastor is presently instructing four young people who will become adult participants in our worship service this spring. They are four extremely alert and interested young people - Maureen Wagner, Lillian Ng, Chris Rios, and Pedro Denizac. This is a beginning for them, to participate

more fully in the worship life of our congregation, but unless we as adult lay people of the congregation make it a point to involve them in worship and the life of the church, there is a good chance that we may lose them in the next four years, as the pressures of the world about them lead them in other directions. I am teaching the first-year Confirmation class, and the following young people are active in studying the book "Adventuring in the Church": Raymond Burdi, Bob Esau, Diane Chin, Lucy Colon, Karen Kasprzyzak, Vivian Meyers, Lourdes Williamson, and Kirk Rulapaugh.

OPEN HOUSE PROGRAM

This program has provided an outlet of love, a chance to teach and laugh and give to those around us. We at Saint Luke's are most blessed to have the manpower and the facilities to put to work in serving the children of our neighborhood. Our program is flexible, often being planned according to the particular talents of those staff people who are involved. All of you could well give some thought to your possible involvement in this program, or in the planned Study Hall program which will probably be held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. This is to be an experimental program in which we would offer the space and good lighting for young people to do their homework. Adult helpers would be present to do whatever is necessary - encourage, help with assignments, tutor in reading skills, or perhaps just be there to supervise. This would be a real chance to serve our young people and to make more full-time use of our excellent plant facilities. However, one comment: We can't expect the kids to come running; with any activity, they have to first become confident that we mean business and then they respond. But often the response is long in coming! This seems to be more true in an inner city setting where young people see so many persons come and go, but who fail to settle down and become attached to them personally.

COUNSELING, VISITING AND BEING WHERE THEY ARE

This area of youth work runs the gamut from advising a young person on how to get a job, where to go to college, or how to get along with his family. Sometimes there is no more I can do than listen and pray. In this tangled world, lives get mighty mixed-up and our young people are not free from entanglement. Often this area takes me into homes, the public schools, the police station, or Hartley House, our neighborhood settlement house.

My first year of full-time service at Saint Luke's has been a learning and growing year for me. I'm thankful to the Lord for the lives of both adults and young people who have touched my life and loved me and taught me.