

1998 Annual Report

St. Luke's Lutheran Church

308 West 46th Street
New York, New York 10036
(212) 246-3540

The Rev. Dr. Dale D. Hansen, Pastor
Mr. Matthew Knip, Organist and Choir Director
Mr. Alan Freed, Parish Administrator



PASTOR'S REPORT

7 March 1999

We are now in our 150th Year of God's Grace . . . a year of anticipation of the Millennium and our parish's 150th Anniversary! I'm reasonably confident that the Y2K dilemma will not affect our rhythm of worship life and our "people services." (Perhaps there is a blessing in not being overly computer controlled!)

There is again cause for gratitude as we look back on another year of our life in Christ in and around St. Luke's Church. Our worship life continues to be an outstanding reflection of our faith and love for God and one another. Our unique location enables us to bear witness to our Lutheran faith for countless visitors from around the world.

The year also had its disappointments . . . accessions (new members) is often like pulling teeth in this Crossroads of the World. Folks come and go with no regularity—it just happens! Nevertheless, we are grateful for the reception of five wonderful new members. However, we also lament the delays in completing the corner project of 70 studios and suites for otherwise homeless persons. Two tenants refused to move for the renovations necessary in 304 and 306 (next door), involving the housing courts, and dragging out the process for several months. Work has resumed, and hopefully completion is just around the corner! We were also disappointed that the Synod decided it would be too costly to renovate the parish house for their occupancy. They decided to move uptown to the Interchurch Center near Riverside Church . . . which I believe is a big mistake!

Theatre at St. Luke's has expanded with the addition of *Tony 'n' Tina's Wedding* (now in its eleventh year) to *Late Nite Catechism* (now in its third year). Since the same producers are involved, the shows are able to play on the same days at complementary times. The National Music Theatre Network has been presenting showcases of new musicals on an occasional basis. *The Bandwagon*, a group of performers who present "golden oldies" of Broadway musicals, has held its annual Benefit and Show here. And our sanctuary has been the setting for several concert opera productions by Operesque Classical Concerts. This has all generated significant income to tackle many deferred maintenance projects.

Improvements to the facilities included an extensive rewiring and connections to the public utility, providing adequate power supply into the next century. New carpeting was installed in the narthex, replacing well-worn carpeting of vintage wear; and the lobby of the parish house received new carpeting as well. A beautiful Jacobean altar frontal was dedicated to the Glory of God in loving memory of Violet Hackim and Melva Hansen.

Matthew Knip resigned as parish administrator at the end of the year in order to try his hand on Wall Street. He will retain his responsibilities as organist and choir director. We are fortunate to have a parishioner who was waiting in the wings (!), Alan Freed, who took over the parish administrator duties, effecting a smooth transition.

Plans are in the works for redecorating the lounge, carpeting the steps and landings to the second floor, and remodeling the ladies' lavatory on the first floor.

Thanks to all of you for your faithful fellowship in our mutual ministries through St. Luke's. I am grateful for each of you, and pray that the Millennium Year will be a banner year for this "little congregation tucked off Times Square"!

God bless you.

The Rev. Dr. Dale D. Hansen
Pastor

Pastoral Acts in 1998

Baptisms

Bailey Elizabeth Claffey
Bradley Thomas Galvin

Burials

Jason Pelham
LeRoy Nelson

Marriages

Jonathan Axelrod and Ileana Douglas
Jason Meyer Watkins and Kenjija Reyes

New Members in 1998

Eric Zollinger
Bruce Thorpe
Fran Ellison
Peter Schuyler
Heidi Ernst

Public Worship Services: 435



THE LADIES AID SOCIETY

Marguerite Novak, President
Virginia Callahan, Treasurer
Genevieve Savio, Secretary

The Ladies Aid Society meets on the second Sunday of each month, with the exceptions of July and August. Our projects still continue, and we would like to remind all in the congregation that any or all might like to enter into some of these projects by just saving the various items at home and then bringing them to church. There is a box on the shelf in the narthex where they may be inserted, and then they will be sorted and sent to the proper places. For instance, the Campbell Soup labels, UPCs from Scott Paper products, canceled stamps, tea tags—any and all varieties. There are also sheets in the box telling of the various items that can help the cause for Bethesda Lutheran Home in Wisconsin. Any used eyeglasses are also most welcome. We sent nineteen pair this year to New Eyes for the Needy, Inc., in Short Hills, New Jersey. They have been most grateful for any and all glasses that we send. They also accept old jewelry, watches, and hearing aids.

The Ladies Aid also cares for the choir gowns, and has them cleaned, particularly for the Easter celebration. Once again, we would welcome some new members to come and join with us in carrying out these projects. The more, the merrier!

We have been very blessed having Suzanne Dodd and Lori Mahl, who have joined us in our work. There is no age limit. We welcome one and all. Please come and give us a try.

I would like to thank my dedicated officers once again for their continued loyal service.

Marguerite Novak

Dear Lukan Family,

St. Luke's enjoyed another financially healthy year in 1998.

The use by our community continues to help us meet our needs allowing us to carry out special projects. We exceeded our goals for Weekly Offering Envelopes, Christmas, and Thanksgiving offerings. We fell a bit short of our goals for the Plate, Anniversary, and Lent and Easter offerings. Contributions to the Easter and Christmas flower funds fell short of what we needed again in 1998. As you can see, not everyone sponsoring weekly altar flowers made their contribution. Please clearly mark that your contribution is for altar flowers so it counted as such.

During 1998 the Council approved expenditures to maintain, improve and upgrade the building. Some these improvements we see every day, such as new paint and carpet. Other improvements are not so easily noticed, such as plumbing work and extensive electrical upgrades. New storage boxes and shelving were purchased, helping to protect the music library we have built over many years. Our Soup Kitchen received donations of over \$11,500. Through your generosity, St. Luke's contributed over \$14,000 to Missions and Hurricane relief.

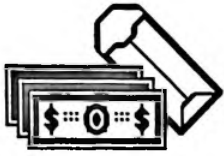
This year our plans include purchasing a new copier and printer. Also on the agenda is an overhaul of the lounge—new carpeting, draperies, windows, and air conditioning units. Whether to purchase new furniture or reupholster our existing furniture will be decided as we get into the project.

Our hopes for 1999 continue along the same path. The Council approved a budget increase in Weekly Envelope Offerings from \$60,000 to \$65,000. This makes it even more important for you to either use the numbered envelope you received in January or to clearly mark your name on a pew envelope.

I would like to thank you all for your support. Your giving spirit allows St. Luke's to continue in all its missions.

Respectfully,

Pamela Roetzer
Treasurer



INCOME AND EXPENDITURES

as of December 31, 1998

	BUDGET 97	ACTUAL 97	BUDGET 98	ACTUAL 98	PROPOSED 99
INCOME					
Envelopes	60,000	57,144	60,000	62,979	65,000
Plate Offerings	9,000	8,586	9,000	8,176	9,000
Lent & Easter	10,000	9,752	10,000	8,621	10,000
Anniversary	5,000	3,155	5,000	4,466	5,000
Thanksgiving	3,000	3,313	3,000	3,321	3,000
Christmas	10,000	17,906	10,000	16,996	10,000
Property Use Fees	93,200	145,441	144,400	152,228	170,600
Special Income	—	2,579	—	—	—
Investment Income	45,000	27,049	50,000	20,000*	50,000
Friends of St. Luke	<u>12,000</u>	<u>5,822</u>	<u>6,000</u>	<u>13,356</u>	<u>6,000</u>
	247,200	280,747	297,400	290,143	328,600
				*not incl. \$24,500 paid on elevator	
EXPENDITURES					
Salaries	114,900	112,784	115,000	107,023	134,000
Continuing Education	1,000	—	1,000	—	—
Travel	5,060	5,060	5,060	5,060	5,060
Music Department	13,000	16,894	16,000	18,710	16,000
Pension & Medical	15,000	14,001	15,000	14,183	15,194
Social Security	6,500	7,000 <i>est</i>	7,000	7,725	8,000
Housing Allowance (Asst.)	—	—	—	—	—
Office Supplies	2,000	2,763	3,000	1,732	3,000
Telephone	2,000	2,145	2,500	1,990	2,500
Postage	1,500	1,474	1,750	1,997	2,000
Printing	2,000	1,710	2,250	3,061	3,000
Worship/Education Mat'ls	2,500	2,671	3,000	2,696	3,000
Advertising	8,000	8,158	8,000	9,258	9,500
Insurance	7,500	9,554	9,500	7,161	8,000
Repairs & Maintenance	18,000	40,360	50,500	56,989•	63,000*
Gas & Electricity	36,000	41,264	40,000	33,122	40,000
Bank Charges	—	—	—	—	—
New Equipment	4,740	7,570	4,000	1,152	5,000
Water/Sewer Tax	1,500	1,656	1,700	1,722	1,700
Miscellaneous	<u>6,000</u>	<u>5,683</u>	<u>6,000</u>	<u>5,031</u>	<u>6,000</u>
Total Expenditures	247,200	280,747	291,260	278,612	324,954
Balance December 31st			6,240	11,531	<u>+ 3,646</u>

• not incl. Boiler replacement \$15,528 insurance paid includes \$36,800 for electrical improvements

1998 Missions \$12,697.50 + 712 (Hurricane Mitch offering)



MUSIC DIRECTOR'S REPORT

March 7, 1999

Dear Members of St. Luke's,

The choir continues to work with enthusiasm and dedication. Thank you, Choir, for the role you play leading our community in song and lending beauty to our worship. Members of the choir include:

Judith Barnett
Suzanne Dodd
Gayle Kliever
Matthew Santa
Eric Zollinger
Bill Powers

Jerry Christman
Todd Howell
Jenny Morris
Bruce Thorpe
Ann Hoyt

Shannon Carson
John Danielson
Irving Hunter
Andrea Roy
Cassandra Wilson
Aaron Binder

As the Easter Triduum is the culmination of the entire liturgical year, the choir will be present this year for that great liturgy. Maundy Thursday night the church enters the Triduum, meaning "three days." The Maundy Thursday liturgy is a liturgy without ending, which continues in the worship of Good Friday and concludes with the Easter Sunday celebrations. Together the Three Days proclaim the mystery of our faith: Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again.

Matthew Knip
organist and choir director