

**St John's Lutheran Church**  
**Narrative Budget 2018**  
***Proclaim, Grow, Serve***

Your church leadership has constructed a bold plan of ministry to continue our mission to proclaim God's unconditional love as an invitation to all; grow in discipleship as we follow in Jesus' steps; and serve others as instruments of God's Holy Spirit.

***Our plan of ministry***

**A. To provide meaningful, life-changing worship every week of the year. (Proclaim)**

Last year an average of 108 people gathered each Sunday to praise God and hear the Gospel proclaimed. On Easter, 212 people came to hear the miracle of the Resurrection. On Christmas Eve, 118 people heard the angels proclaim the birth of the Christ child despite a snow storm that kept many home.

During Lent, our Wednesday evening prayer averaged 51.

During Advent we moved our evening prayer services to the sanctuary due to increased attendance. During Advent we averaged 46 people at evening prayer using a theme of Light.

This year, our Lent focus will be on prayer with a congregational written devotional booklet. We will continue to expand our outreach to all ages, including engaging children in worship.

Budget Total--\$103,397

(This total includes a percentage of the following: pastor's salary and benefits, secretary salary, youth and family minister salary, custodian salary, facilities coordinator salary, organist salary, Nursery attendant salary, music minister salary, Altar guild, church growth parish office, and worship and music)

**B. To nurture persons in their faith journey (Grow)**

We continue to offer multiple opportunities for people to explore their faith and grow as a disciple at many different times and venues. We accomplish this through Sunday morning, weekday Bible studies, Confirmation ministry, High School Bible study and more.

Last year, the high school youth group again traveled to Montana to serve with the Blackfeet Nation. This year the high school youth will travel to the ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston TX to serve that community as it continues to recover from the Hurricane.

Men's Bible Study grew in numbers and focus this year. Women's Bible Studies and retreats continue to offer opportunities for spiritual growth. We will continue to look to add opportunities for cross generational mentoring.

Budget Total--\$77,409

(This total includes a percentage of the following: pastor salary and benefits, youth and family minister salary, secretary salary, custodian, parish education, building mortgage, parish office, and church growth.)

**C. To care for the spiritual needs of the congregation and community (Serve)**

Not only do we feed and clothe people but we also seek to fulfill deeper spiritual needs in our congregation and community. We partner with both religious and non-religious groups to reach out to people on the margins: the poor, the sick, and the forgotten. Social Concerns hosted training and looks to add opportunities for us to grow. Friends training is happening in January.

Budget Total--\$56,762

(This total includes a percentage of the following: pastor salary and benefits, youth and family minister, secretary, building mortgage, parish office.)

**D. To care for the church building and grounds**

We have a beautiful campus to use for ministry. We continue to care for it and make it more useful for the proclamation of the Gospel. Last year, through many special gifts, we were able to resurface the parking lot. As part of the parking lot process, we made provisions for replacing the sign as a future project.

This year, thanks to a special gift, we will be adding a baby changing station in the unisex bathroom downstairs. We continue to look at ways to upgrade our facility for cost and environmental improvements. Current needs include the lights in the community center.

We also have many community groups who use our space for their ministry. Tae Kwan Do, area basketball and soccer teams, Visions Program (Centralia High School), and community groups use space here for meetings and practices. Lewis County Habitat for Humanity has a permanent presence in our facility as well.

Budget Total--\$13,872

(This total includes a percentage of the following: pastor salary and benefits, secretary, custodian, facilities coordinator, utilities, and insurance)

**E. To witness to our faith in service beyond ourselves**

Each year we set aside a portion of our general offerings to support the work of ministries outside our own. Last year we supported organizations both in our local community and in the world. A change this year is that we will invite outside ministries to present their mission directly to the congregation and receive a special offering for their mission.

Budget Total--\$7,700

(This total includes the following: Missionaries, PLU Q-Club, ELCA)

**Total needed to fulfill our mission to Proclaim, Grow, Serve: \$259,139**

(A detailed line-item budget is available in the church office for any who wish to review it)