

**The Twenty-seventh Annual Report
of
Saint Andrew Lutheran Church
Wausau, Wisconsin**

Year Ending December 31, 2007

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2007 CHURCH COUNCIL

NAME	OFFICE/COMMITTEE LIASON	TERM EXPIRES
Lynne Holt	President/Stewardship	12-31-2009
Todd Punke	Vice-President/Youth	12-31-2008
Jeff Addison	Christian Education	12-31-2007
Dave Mueller	Fellowship	12-31-2008
Tim Wimmer	Finance	12-31-2009
Lynne Holt	Member Outreach	12-31-2009
Rick Radloff	Memorial Gift	12-31-2007
Phil Bickley	Personnel	12-31-2008
Dave Froehlich	Property	12-31-2007
Pamela Burnett	Social Ministry	12-31-2009
Andy Clark	Development	12-31-2008
Susan Paisar	Worship	12-31-2007

**SAINT ANDREW LUTHERAN CHURCH
BALANCE SHEET
December 31, 2007**

<u>ASSETS</u>	<u>OPERATING</u>	<u>PROPERTY & EQUIPMENT</u>	<u>DESIGNATED FUNDS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
CURRENT ASSETS				
CASH AND INVESTMENTS	15,982		19,700	35,682
FIXED ASSETS				
LAND AND BUILDING				
CHURCH SITE		171,300		171,300
BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS		3,633,473		3,633,473
VACANT LOTS				0
EQUIPMENT				
OFFICE EQUIPMENT		15,000		15,000
FURNITURE AND FIXTURES		135,000		135,000
VEHICLES				
BUS		10,500		10,500
SUBTOTAL	0	3,965,273	0	3,965,273
TOTAL ASSETS	15,982	3,965,273	19,700	4,000,955

LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES

CURRENT LIABILITIES				
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	1,346			1,346
TAXES PAYABLE	3,252			3,252
LONG TERM LIABILITIES				
CHURCH SITE AND BUILDING		2,150,726		2,150,726
OFFICE EQUIPMENT LOAN				0
TOTAL LIABILITIES	4,598	2,150,726		2,155,324
FUND BALANCES				
FUND BALANCE	15,982	1,767,205		1,783,187
DESIGNATED FUNDS				
PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND			2,315	2,315
CHURCH FUNCTION REIMBURSEMENTS			973	973
FELLOWSHIP			623	623
WORLD HUNGER			1,160	1,160
FOOD PANTRY			2,891	2,891
MUSIC FUND			4,600	4,600
SPECIAL MUSICAL FUND			8	8
BUILDING CAPITAL FUND			2,046	2,046
YOUTH			2,134	2,134
PROPERTY CAPITAL FUND			14,009	14,009
GIFT FUND			29,555	29,555
KITCHEN			879	879
ROSE FUND			583	583
OFFICE EQUIPMENT			668	668
TOTAL DESIGNATED FUND BALANCES			62,444	62,444
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES	20,580	3,917,931	62,444	4,000,955

**SAINT ANDREW LUTHERAN CHURCH
INCOME STATEMENT
For the Year ended December 31, 2007**

	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>B/(W) BUDGET</u>	<u>LAST YEAR</u>
OPERATING INCOME				
CONTRIBUTIONS	643,444	681,457	(38,013)	622,136
TRANSFER FROM DESIGNATED FUNDS	23,158			
CARRYOVER FROM PRIOR YEARS		15,409		32,421
RENTAL INCOME	1,580	1,500	80	1,280
INVESTMENT INCOME	4,047	2,000	2,047	3,712
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	672,229	700,366	(35,886)	659,549
OPERATING EXPENSES				
OUTREACH MINISTRIES				
REGULAR BENEVOLENCE	40,781	45,168	4,387	43,249
EXTENDED MINISTRIES				
WORSHIP	5,473	7,800	2,327	7,622
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	6,675	7,850	1,175	8,374
MEMBER OUTREACH	1,199	1,825	626	1,894
SOCIAL MINISTRY	0	0	0	334
FELLOWSHIP	1,427	800	(627)	930
YOUTH	11,799	14,600	2,801	9,898
STEWARDSHIP	5,605	7,202	1,597	6,830
SUPPORT	440,030	438,835	(1,195)	408,115
PROPERTY CHURCH SITE	11,859	15,500	3,641	13,997
SUB-TOTAL	524,848	539,580	14,732	501,243
CHURCH FIXED EXPENSES	50,472	45,240	(5,232)	27,841
FINANCE EXPENSE	310	19,546	19,236	403
TRANSFER TO DESIGNATED FUNDS			0	22,000
TRANSFER TO 2008 BUDGET	1,426		(1,426)	15,409
MORTGAGE EXPENSE	95,173	96,000	827	92,653
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	672,229	700,366	28,137	659,549
EXCESS OPERATING INCOME/(EXPENSE)	0	0	0	0
TOTAL DESIGNATED FUND CONTRIBUTIONS				
BUILDING CAPITAL FUND	269,534			342,682
OTHER FUNDS	95,418			13,834
TRANSFER FROM OPERATING				22,000
TOTAL DESIGNATED FUND CONTRIBUTIONS	364,952			378,516
DESIGNATED FUND EXPENSES				
BUILDING CAPITAL FUND	278,162			359,897
OTHER FUNDS	108,173			54,167
TOTAL DESIGNATED FUND EXPENSES	386,335			414,064

SUMMARY OF BENEVOLENCE GIVING

	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>LAST YEAR</u>
REGULAR BENEVOLENCE		
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH	25,927	28,692
AREH	1,050	2,000
CROSSWAYS CAMPING MINISTRIES		2,000
HABITAT FOR HUMANITY		500
HANDS OF CHRIST DEAF MINISTRY		900
HOSPICE		2,000
RAWHIDE BOYS RANCH	3,000	2,000
SALC FOOD PANTRY	3,000	
SALC YOUTH	1,400	
SCHOLARSHIPS	2,000	
SPECIAL OLYMPICS		2,000
THRIVENT	750	
WOMEN'S COMMUNITY	3,000	
SPECIAL DESIGNATED		
WORLD HUNGER	3,516	6,381
FOOD PANTRY	10,991	10,438
TOTAL BENEVOLENCE GIVING	54,634	56,911

Notes to the Saint Andrew Financial Statement

December 31, 2007

- Equipment - The value of the equipment was either at the cost or fair market value of the equipment donated. The furnishings for the church office have been assigned a fair market value.

- Land - Church Building Site - In 1980 the Division for Mission in North America (DMNA) purchased for \$90,000 three (3) acres of land at the corner of N. Mountain Road and Partridge Avenue in the Town of Rib Mountain for the future building site of Saint Andrew Lutheran Church. Subsequently, a grant of \$30,000 was received from Strength for Mission (SFM), which was applied to the purchase price.

At a congregational meeting held September 25, 1983, a resolution was passed authorizing the purchase of the future church site of \$60,000 from the Board of American Missions of the Lutheran Church in America; however, no principal payments or interest on the debt would accrue until construction was started. On October 6, 1983, a Warranty Deed was signed transferring title to Saint Andrew Lutheran Church. In August 1984 the Site Loan of \$60,800 was paid and the debt was transferred to a note held by the Board of American Missions.

- Building Indebtedness

On July 15, 1984, the congregation of Saint Andrew Lutheran Church approved two building loans of \$193,000 and \$130,000.

The loan of \$193,000 was held by the Board of American Missions with an interest rate of 5%, which matured on December 31, 1988. When the loan matured in 1988, Saint Andrew was required to refinance the loan balance through other commercial financial institutions.

The other loan of \$130,000, which was financed through the Chase Manhattan Bank of New York City, was refinanced through Aid Association for Lutherans (AAL). The actual amount borrowed was \$135,000. The interest rate per annum was 9.5%.

On September 21, 1992, Building and Land notes were refinanced at Peoples State Bank with a \$250,000, 9.0% per annum 5-year note. The note balance on December 31, 1994 was \$203,473, with monthly payments of \$3,166.89.

On October 15, 1993, financing was secured for a construction loan at Peoples State Bank. This loan was not to exceed \$600,000 at the interest rate of 7.5%. When construction was complete, this loan was to be rolled together with the existing mortgage. On June 5, 1994, the congregation authorized to increase the line of credit on the construction loan to \$675,000.

On September 8, 1995, the construction loan dated October 15, 1993 and the Building/Land note dated September 21, 1992 were refinanced at Peoples State Bank. The refinancing included the necessary funds to purchase the three vacant lots described in the "Land-Vacant Lots" section below. The resulting mortgage note, with a principal balance of \$889,084, requires monthly payments of \$7,856.93 and contains a guaranteed interest rate of 8.75 for two years. The mortgage note did not exceed the \$916,000 authorized by the congregation.

On September 8, 1997, Building and Land notes were refinanced at Peoples State Bank with an \$853,181, 8.891% per annum 1-year note. The mortgage note balance on December 31, 1997 was \$846,498.

On November 7, 1998, Building and Land notes were refinanced at Peoples State Bank with an \$828,975, 8.500% per annum 3-year note. The mortgage note balance on December 31, 1998 was \$825,235.

On November 8, 2001, Building and Land notes were refinanced at Peoples State Bank with a \$740,811, 7.9% per annum, two-year note. The mortgage note balance on December 31, 2001 was \$736,387.

On April 26, 2002, Building and Land notes were refinanced at Peoples State Bank with a \$725,764, 6.9% per annum, two-year note. The mortgage note balance on December 31, 2002 was \$696,026.

On May 8, 2003, Building and Land notes were refinanced at People's State Bank with a \$676,282.98, 5.35% per annum, two-year note. The mortgage note balance on December 31, 2004 was \$579,150.49.

On November 8, 2005, Building and Land notes were refinanced at People's State Bank with a \$519,493, 6.35% per annum, six-month note. The mortgage note balance on December 31, 2005 was \$513,801.

On September 27, 2006, financing was secured for a construction loan at People's State Bank. This loan was not to exceed \$2,300,000 at the interest rate of prime less ½ point. The existing mortgage of \$486,639 was rolled into the construction loan at this time. The construction loan/mortgage balance as of December 31, 2006 was \$786,487.

The construction loan taken out in September of 2006 remained in effect throughout 2007. The interest rate (prime less ½ point) at yearend 2007 was 6.75%. The mortgage note balance as of December 31, 2007 was \$2,150,726.

- Land - Vacant Lots - On April 18, 1990, the Church Council of Saint Andrew Lutheran Church adopted a resolution for the purchase of two vacant building lots, lying immediately north of and contiguous to the present church parking lot. A second resolution authorizing the funding necessary to complete the purchase was also adopted at this meeting.

On May 15, 1990, the lots were purchased at a price of \$27,000 and financed with a \$26,000, 10% per annum, two-year note from Peoples State Bank.

On April 3, 1992, this land note was refinanced as per the above section.

On September 25, 1994 the congregation authorized the purchase of three lots that are adjacent to the west side of the church property that will eventually be used for parking. The offer of \$51,000 was accepted for the lots.

On December 23, 1997, a 3,080 square foot section of Lot 56 was sold for \$3,080.

INFORMATION ABOUT MEMBERS - 2007

History of Baptized and Confirmed Membership 1981-2007

Year	Baptized	Confirmed	Baptized Change	Confirmed Change
1981	351	213		
1982	446	269	+ 95	+ 56
1983	521	297	+ 75	+ 28
1984	588	332	+ 67	+ 35
1985	697	403	+109	+ 71
1986	767	451	+ 70	+ 48
1987	912	525	+145	+ 74
1988	1020	625	+108	+ 100
1989	1208	703	+188	+ 78
1990	1295	815	+ 87	+ 112
1991	1351	855	+ 56	+ 40
1992	1403	912	+ 52	+ 57
1993	1440	940	+ 37	+ 28
1994	1605	1013	+165	+ 73
1995	1724	1105	+119	+ 92
1996	1797	1178	+ 73	+ 73
1997	1974	1293	+ 177	+115
1998	2114	1430	+ 140	+137
1999	2144	1461	+ 30	+ 31
2000	2239	1534	+ 95	+ 73
2001	2288	1589	+ 49	+ 55
2002	2402	1651	+ 114	+ 62
2003	2504	1746	+102	+95
2004	2577	1833	+73	+87
2005	2616	1866	+39	+33
2006	2711	1894	+95	+28
2007	2766	1923	55	29

MEMBERSHIP AGE GROUPING

Age	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
0 - 5	170	180	178	207	211	236	238	231	242	241	222	228	255	266
6 - 10	136	146	151	168	164	180	175	182	199	212	215	212	222	209
11 - 15	174	178	172	171	174	179	189	182	189	193	204	201	197	213
16 - 20	112	142	151	147	163	187	183	179	180	191	194	198	216	212
21 - 25	52	75	80	102	97	111	147	163	151	171	188	165	172	166
26 - 30	106	115	121	144	143	151	156	147	147	157	153	162	174	179
31 - 35	121	125	121	134	143	167	180	187	191	203	180	168	193	194
36 - 40	164	170	180	193	188	189	184	184	194	195	191	184	204	210
41 - 45	148	175	179	209	220	220	223	207	196	204	211	200	206	202
46 - 50	110	114	137	140	144	169	194	210	228	233	229	210	203	224
51 - 55	46	58	72	87	106	118	130	154	166	175	186	197	202	201
56 - 60	32	25	28	34	46	53	63	70	83	121	141	148	169	169
61 - 65	22	32	26	17	35	34	32	39	51	57	67	82	88	110
66 - 70	18	14	18	17	20	26	35	32	35	45	40	37	44	55
71 - 75	8	12	12	9	11	14	13	17	22	14	35	44	41	49
76 - 80	4	5	8	9	8	9	15	12	13	14	18	18	24	27
81 - 100	1	1	1	1	2	3	4	8	10	11	15	17	23	28

Note: These numbers are approximate as some have never reported their birth dates.

2007 PASTORAL ACTS
New Members & Attendance Breakdown

Pastoral Acts - 2007

Baptisms	55
(Adult)	0
Weddings	21
Funerals	6
First Communions	35
Confirmations	
Youth	31
Adult	0

New Members Received - 2007

February 25	6
May 20	35
September 30	50
November 18	10
Joined via Confirmation	
TOTAL	101

Average Weekly Worship Attendance

(Between 1981 and 2007)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Avg. Att.</u>	<u>Change</u>
1981	165	0
1982	182	+ 17
1983	196	+ 14
1984	214	+ 18
1985	263	+ 49
1986	244	- 19
1987	292	+ 48
1988	303	+ 11
1989	311	+ 8
1990	347	+ 36
1991	338	- 9
1992	345	+ 7
1993	330	- 15
1994	357	+ 27
1995	389	+ 32
1996	420	+ 31
1997	482	+ 62
1998	503	+ 21
1999	523	+ 20
2000	542	+ 19
2001	543	+ 1
2002	559	+16
2003	587	+ 28
2004	552	-35
2005	558	+6
2006	508	-50
2007	593	+85

Average Weekly Worship Attendance

(January through December 2007)

Total Weekly Average* 612
**(Includes Lent/Easter/Christmas numbers)*

Service Break-down - 2007

Average Attendance

12:15	24
6:15	60
8:00	167
10:30	256

Special Worship Services - 2007

Ash Wednesday (12:15)	95
Ash Wednesday (6:15)	385
Midweek Lenten Worship (12:15) (avg.)	39
Midweek Lenten Worship (6:15) (avg.)	254
Maundy Thursday (12:15)	45
Maundy Thursday (7:00)	375
Good Friday (12:15)	363
Good Friday (8:00)	227
Easter Sunday (6:00)	382
Easter Sunday (8:00)	450
Easter Sunday (9:30)	578
Easter Sunday (11:00)	316
Thanksgiving Eve (7:00)	94
Christmas Eve (4:00)	450
Christmas Eve (6:00)	621
Christmas Eve (8:00)	400
Christmas Eve (10:00)	201
Christmas Day (10:00a)	137
Christmas Programs (Sunday and Thursday)	380

REPORTS

Senior Pastor's Report

This is my 27th 'Pastor's Report.' As reports go, the Annual Report is just a glimpse of some of the ways we planned to do ministry during the year and some of the ways we went about doing it. The report includes a numerical summary of membership, giving and spending, and a lot of thanks to a lot of people who planned and fulfilled the mission and ministry of Saint Andrew during 2007.

MEMBERSHIP

During 2007, the life and ministry of Saint Andrew was sustained by over 2,500 baptized (over 1,800 confirmed) members representing some 900 households.

WORSHIP

Worship is at the very center of congregational life. Four opportunities of worship are offered each week with a combined average attendance of 500-600. In addition, there are mid-week services offered throughout the Seasons of Lent and Holy Week.

During the regularly scheduled worship services, the congregation celebrated 61 baptisms; 35 children received their First Communion, and 31 were confirmed. In addition, there were 21 weddings and 6 funerals.

DEDICATION OF EXPANDED/REMODELED BUILDING

Exactly one year after 'Groundbreaking,' the \$2.3 million building expansion and remodeling project was 'Dedicated to the glory of God' on Sunday, September 16th. The project nearly doubled the size of the church and provides expanded and additional opportunities for education, fellowship, ministry, and worship.

THANK YOU

During 2007, the Parish Staff of Saint Andrew began with myself and Pastor Jon Gallatin; Sheri Jackson, Parish Administrator, who retired June 15th after 20 years of faithful service to her church; Shelby Reif, Parish Administrator; Debbie Allen-Norum, Administrative Secretary; Lynn Sween, Parish Secretary; Kerry Fehrman, Bookkeeper; Shannon Vujnovich, Lead Custodian; Dennis Gillingham, Custodian ; Al Freiberg, Minister of Music; Everett Schmidt, Jr., Minister of Youth; Ron Sandquist, Sexton; and Joanne Howard and Joel Freiberg, Pianists.

In addition to the share ministry of the Parish Staff, the ministry of the congregation was administered with great commitment and care by the Council President and Vice President, Lynne Holt and Todd Punke, as well as Susan Sell, Treasurer; Michael Howlett, Financial Secretary; Kerry Fehrman, Council Secretary; the 10 other members of the Council, the 12 standing Ministries, the Building Committee, the Nominating Committee, and the

endless number of volunteers who carried out the mission and ministry of Saint Andrew during 2007. Their respective reports of our mutual ministries are within this Annual Report.

Through the leadership and support of these people and the congregation, the mission and ministry of Saint Andrew was extended locally, regionally, and nationally during 2007.

Working for His Mission,
Pastor John Roseth

Associate Pastor's Report

Today, we are the temples made without hands! Today, we, ALL OF US, are the Royal Priesthood!! Today, WE ARE THE VERY BODY OF CHRIST!!!

This statement is taken as a summary from Paul's letter to the Galatians. These are statements and beliefs I hold dear. What Paul is telling us is together we all have a responsibility in spreading the Gospel of Christ.

On January 13, we celebrated the baptism of our Lord. Because we are also baptized into the same baptism as Christ, we are made His disciples, workers with Him in His kingdom.

Back when the telegraph was the fastest means of long-distance communication, there was a story, perhaps apocryphal, about a young man who applied for a job as a Morse code operator. Answering an ad in the newspaper, he went to the address that was listed. When he arrived, he entered a large, noisy office. In the background a telegraph clacked away. A sign on the receptionist's counter instructed job applicants to fill out a form and wait until they were summoned to enter the inner office.

The young man completed his form and sat down with seven other waiting applicants. After a few minutes, the young man stood up, crossed the room to the door of the inner office, and walked right in. Naturally the other applicants perked up, wondering what was going on. Why had this man been so bold? They muttered among themselves that they hadn't heard any summons yet. They took more than a little satisfaction in assuming the young man who went into the office would be reprimanded for his presumption and summarily disqualified for the job.

Within a few minutes the young man emerged from the inner office escorted by the interviewer, who announced to the other applicants, "Gentlemen, thank you very much for coming, but the job has been filled by this young man."

The other applicants began grumbling to each other, and then one spoke up, "Wait a minute-- I don't understand. He was the last one to come in, and we never even got a chance to be interviewed. Yet he got the job. That's not fair." The employer responded, "While you sat there the telegraph has been ticking out the following message: "If you understand this message, then come right in. The job is yours."

A person's entire livelihood depends upon their ability to discern the meaning of these words: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

As a baptized child of God we are continually thinking about what is God calling us to be. Where is God calling us to go? As a child of God one thing stays the same - no matter where you are called to be or to go, we are always called to spread the Gospel.

Peace,
Pastor Jon Gallatin

President's Report

The past year at Saint Andrew has been marked by the satisfaction of knowing that this congregation met the goals we established in 2003 - by completing our building expansion project. At our September Dedication, we celebrated the closing of one chapter in the life of our church and opening the next.

Helping to lead the congregation through the changes in our building and facilities as well as helping our staff manage those changes has been challenging and rewarding. There is still much to do to make certain that our ministries grow now that we have the facilities to support that growth. We are well on our way toward achieving that goal.

The challenges of managing change and growth bring with them significant financial challenges as well. The council, our pastors, ministries and staff have done an outstanding job of managing their expenses in accordance to our 2007 budget. At year-end, many of you responded to the need to reduce our shortfall in income by catching up with your pledges and finding ways to make additional contributions. We are blessed to have such a wonderful group of generous hearts in our congregation.

This year we will bring our "Grow With God" campaign to what we hope will be a successful conclusion as you complete your financial commitments to our building expansion project.

As you consider what your time, talent, and financial support for 2008 will be, please take a moment to reflect on the value of the pastoral care, the spiritual education of our children and youth, the services offered by our ministries, and the worship opportunities we have at Saint Andrew. Let the benefits that they provide for you and your family's spiritual well-being guide you as you develop your plan to support our day-to-day operations as well as our financial commitment to "Grow With God."

This coming year the Council will continue to focus on growing our ministries. Our ministry chairpersons will be invited to participate in an in-service workshop designed to hone their leadership skills and develop a communication network so that the new facilities and other resources that they share are used as effectively as possible. Each of our ministries has wonderful new opportunities and services that they will be introducing to the congregation in the coming months.

It has truly been a joy to lead the congregation during the past year. The members of the Church Council are an outstanding and talented group of leaders. I am grateful for their support and treasure their good humor. All of us look forward to your continued support and ask for your prayers as we begin this next chapter in the life of our church.

Yours in Christ,
Lynne Holt, Council President

Vice President's Report

What an exciting year in the life of our congregation. One can't reflect on the year without mentioning the completion of our building expansion. In this report, I would like to mention two watershed events that occurred due to our expansion.

The first moment came at 6:15 on September 26th - our first confirmation class of the year. We had over 150 Confirmation students and parents in the Fellowship Hall. It looked like a Synod Youth Gathering with all in attendance. This was a very powerful sight and one that would not have been possible in the past.

The second snapshot was over a month period. After completion we had four tables set up in the Fellowship Hall. After the first service, we went to grab coffee and a donut and saw no one sitting down. A month later, there are four times as many tables set up and not an open seat anywhere. Another powerful sight as we see more community interaction and the opportunity for ministry.

Despite our growth, one constant is that we are open to all. This message continues to beckon everyone to share God's grace. With this message comes to each of us the responsibility to share and be truly open to all.

Yours in Christ,
Todd Punke

Parish Administrator's Report

I am so appreciative that I have been called to serve and administrate the ministry of Saint Andrew. This role was served by Sheri Jackson for the past 20 years and I am grateful for both the time I shared with her prior to her retirement and the foundation she had established.

Having been a member of Saint Andrew prior to joining the parish staff definitely provided a solid background and appreciation for the various ministries offered at Saint Andrew. What I am seeing and experiencing now is the *who* and *how*. In my recent Christmas letter to family and friends I shared that I had no idea of what goes on behind the scenes in a church. **WOW!**, pretty much sums it up!

The *who* is the amazing time and talents shared that I witness on a daily basis. We are blessed to have such a dedicated staff working hard to insure that your experiences at Saint Andrew are positive and enriching. The *who* also includes so many of you choosing to participate in the various opportunities for service and fellowship that Saint Andrew offers.

The *how* is all the initiative that is taken to continue to enhance and improve our ministry programs, the church facility and most importantly, your relationship at Saint Andrew. I would like to personally invite you to look for additional opportunities to get involved in whatever way your schedule allows. If you are able to commit to one of our various ministries on a regular basis, your time and contribution will be welcomed and valued. If a regular commitment at this time is not possible - calling to let us know you have a couple of hours on a particular day and asking "What can I do?" is just as important. Your time is precious and we will accept what you would like to share.

As we begin to fill the calendar, 2008 promises to be another year full of fellowship, exciting enhancements to our programs, and partnering together to share the good news of the love and grace that has been given to us all.

Thank you and God Bless!!
Shelby Reif, Parish Administrator

Minister of Youth's Report

The event of the year for the Sr. High Youth Group was The Boundary Waters trip in Minnesota. We had two groups, along with a group from Good Shepherd, go out for five days of canoeing with the help of the Camp Vermilion Bible Camp. As always it was a very rewarding and moving trip. You may remember that the Sr. High trips rotate on a 3-year cycle. After the National Gathering, comes The Boundary Waters, then a mission trip, and back to the National Gathering. We also participated in a mission trip down in New Orleans over spring break. Fifteen of us drove the 14 hours each way to help bring back the city after Hurricane Katrina. We had been there right before it hit and now had a chance to see what it looked like after. We were assigned to paint two floors of a house with 2 coats. It

was really gratifying to see the look on the owner's face when they saw what we had done. This summer, it will be a mission trip to the Indian Reservation in Rosebud, South Dakota.

The Youth Program continues with our traditional events; lock-ins, bowling, swimming, broomball, corn maze, Noah's Ark, CROP Walk, Scavenger Hunt for food items, Jr. High and Sr. High Youth Gatherings, and the Sr. High conference retreat. The 6th - 8th graders continue to collect 'carts' of food for our pantry. This year, we collected the most items ever. Sad to say, the 9th - 12th grade youth group couldn't claim the broomball trophy from Good Shepherd. We are looking forward to this year's tournament and returning the trophy to its proper place here at Saint Andrew! We continue to have the most kids attend our Jr. High Gathering in Oshkosh and Sr. High Synod Youth Gathering in Manitowoc. Marshfield's "Nightmare" has become a traditional event with 70 people attending this year.

I continue to work with the confirmation program, teaching 6th grade confirmation class, going to Bible Camp with our 7th - 8th graders in the summer, leading the 6th grade Baptism Retreat in January, teaching High School Sunday School class, preaching occasionally, leading family Christmas caroling, and driving the bus.

I'm also involved with another aspect of Saint Andrew, which I think is very important, and that is our softball and basketball programs. We run basketball for about eight weeks where you can get some exercise and enjoy fellowship at the Marathon Grade School gym. Our fast pitch softball team finished 5-7, tied for 3rd place this summer. There is always next year!

I would like to thank the following people who are a big part of the success we are having with our Youth Ministry programs: Terry Kittson, Todd Punke, the Youth Committee; Carol Matushak, Jamie and Lennie Kersten, Zena Knudsen, Pam Fromm, and LeAnn Stankowski. Thanks to the Sr. High Board and Haley Punke (president). They plan and run all their events. They continue to sponsor a child in Ethiopia named Brook.

In January, I had a chance to visit the Holy Land. It was a very rewarding experience being in Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Galilee, seeing the Dead Sea, the Jordan River, and many other places in Israel. I really enjoyed sharing my pictures and experiences with our congregation.

A big thank you goes to everyone at Saint Andrew for your support. Without it, the youth ministry programs here would not be as successful as they are.

In his Name, Schmidty

Christian Education Coordinator's Report

The Church School programs which meet Sunday mornings and Thursday evenings have shown a growth in numbers during the 2007-2008 school year. Enrollment for Sunday is approximately 150 children, and an average of 40 students for Thursday. The addition to the church has been an asset with the added space for all of our students' needs.

There were 29 5th grade students who received their First Communion and 35 students who were confirmed last spring.

Cradle Roll continues to send out Christian materials (with special coloring added by the church school children) to parents with infants until their 4th birthday.

Play Group continues to meet on the 3rd Thursday of the month during the regular school year. The goal of the Play Group is to allow children of the same age level to play together and parents to meet and socialize.

The Book Club continues to meet on Tuesdays at 9:00 to further their knowledge of the Christian faith.

Vacation Bible School soared into space this year with over 120 students enjoying the Christian journey.

Thank you for supporting the Christian Education Program efforts within the church from the birth of a child on up through adulthood.

In Christ,
Loranda Addison

Christian Education Ministry's Report

Chairperson: Jill M. Hersperger

Council Liaison: Jeff Addison

Christian Education Coordinator: Loranda Addison

Members: Melissa Beese, Deb Boileson, Jill Brillhart, and Lyn Weis

The mission statement of the Christian Education Ministry is to provide the means, tools, and guidance needed for members of Saint Andrew to grow in their knowledge, love, and faith of Christ our Savior. The Ministry is dedicated to providing educational opportunities for all members of our congregation.

The Christian Education Ministry tasks and goals are to:

- Provide direction, support, and decision-making for our educational ministries
- Establish program calendars and special event dates
- Coordinate staffing, facilities, and materials needed for our ministries and programs
- Develop ways to sustain and nourish the growth of our ministries and programs

The ministries Christian Education is responsible for and their leaders are:

Adult Confirmation	Pastor Jon Gallatin
Church School	Loranda Addison
Cradle Roll	Deb Boileson
First Communion	Pastor Jon Gallatin
Library	TBD
Play Group	Jill Brillhardt
Puppets	Melissa Beese
Small Group Studies	Pastor Jon Gallatin
Vacation Bible School	Lyn Weis
Book Club	Grace Mittelsteadt

Loranda Addison was offered [and accepted] the newly created position of Christian Education Coordinator. She oversees that the teachers have the educational supplies that they need and assist them wherever possible.

She also organizes the yearly curriculum, plans the Christmas program, and is responsible for finding teachers who love to teach the Word of God. We are in our second year of providing individual grade classrooms with their own teacher.

It has been a pleasure serving on the Christian Education Ministry for four years and as the Chairperson for the second year. Peace and blessings.

Respectfully submitted,
Jill M. Hersperger

Development Ministry's Report

Chairperson: Bob Wiederhoeft

Council Liaison: Andy Clark

Members: Terry Klegin, Pat McFaul, Peggy Reno, and Pr. John Roseth

The mission of the Development Ministry is to develop short-term and long-range plans for Saint Andrew Lutheran Church, based on the church's mission, ministries, and needs. This year much of the Ministry's focus was reshaping the administrative and staff organization of our church. The work included:

- Updating the Parish Administrator job description
- Updating the Custodian and related job descriptions
- Development of an updated staff reporting relationship model

Our Ministry worked closely with our former and current Parish Administrators to accomplish this work. The Development Ministry will continue to evaluate the future state of our staff positions when and advise the Church Council if a planned or unplanned change in staffing should occur. The goal is to provide recommendations on the various positions that best serve Saint Andrew in the future years.

The Ministry members encourage you to consider joining us as we help shape the future of Saint Andrew. The Ministry meets on the first Thursday of every month after the evening worship service.

In service through Christ,
Bob Wiederhoeft

Fellowship Ministry's Report

Chairperson: Debra Allen-Norum

Council Liaison: Dave Mueller

Members: Bonnie Alafouzos, Dianne Kucirek, Jamie Kersten, and Mindy Branning

Members at Large: Deb Tessmer, Patty Marceille

Purpose of the Ministry:

The Fellowship Ministry is responsible for planning and coordinating fellowship activities for the purpose of service and fun.

Each Sunday morning, we are responsible for coffee, juice, and donuts following each service. The following events were planned and implemented by our Ministry for the enjoyment of Saint Andrew's members and their family and friends:

Events of 2007

- Family Bowling Feb. 11
- Pretzel Sunday Feb. 25
- Hot Cross Buns April 1
- Ice Cream Social May 20
- Picnic and Ballgame June 27
- Cookie Sunday July 15
- Church Picnic Aug. 12
- Dedication of New Addition Sept. 16
- Wausau Insurance Concert/Potluck Oct. 6
- Gingerbread House Dec. 2
- Potluck on Pledge Sunday Dec. 9
- Christmas Cookies/Hot Cocoa Dec. 16
- Host Christmas Program Receptions Dec. 16 & 20

We will continue to assist the dartball, softball, and basketball teams financially as we are able to do so.

Goals and Vision for 2008

We would like to utilize our new Fellowship Hall more this year. We will hold our tried-and-true events while trying out some new ones.

Our Ministry gained three new members this fall, but more are certainly welcome to join! We meet the first Wednesday of each month at 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Debra Allen-Norum, Chairperson

Finance Ministry's Report

Chairperson: Fred Fuchs
Council Liaison: Tim Wimmer
Treasurer: Susan Sell
Staff Advisor: Kerry Fehrman
Members: Betty Dotseth, Jayne Germinaro, and Dan Wage

The goal of the Finance Ministry is to effectively monitor and communicate the church's financial status and make recommendations to the Church Council that will support continued growth. This is accomplished through the following objectives:

- Manage monthly cash flow to ensure timely payments to vendors and staff
- Ensure acceptable accounting practices and procedures are used, to secure the church's finances
- Review the overall financial position of the church on a monthly basis
- Coordinate the annual budget process and make recommendations to the Council
- Complete the coordination of an annual audit

The volunteer efforts made by our weekly counters are an important part of the Finance Ministry. This commitment involves coming to Saint Andrew on Monday, working with another volunteer to count the week's offerings, and make the bank deposit. The Finance Ministry is indebted to these volunteers for the dedication they show Saint Andrew each and every week.

On behalf of Saint Andrew, the Finance Ministry also extends its appreciation to Susan Sell and Mike Howlett for the volunteer contributions they continue to make each year as our treasurer and financial secretary. We would also like to extend our appreciation to Kerry Fehrman for her excellent service as bookkeeper.

Membership in the Finance Ministry is open to all members of the congregation. You do not need a financial background to serve. The Ministry meets the third Tuesday of every month at 6:30 pm, breaking for the summer months. If you have an interest in the financial operations of our church, please consider contributing your time and talent. Contact the church office to volunteer to serve as a Ministry member or a counter.

Respectfully,
Fred Fuchs, Chairperson

Member Outreach Ministry's Report

Chairperson: Billie Schmidt

Council Liaison: Lynne Holt

Staff Advisor: Pr. Jon Gallatin

Members: Babs Hintz, Annette Green, Gerry Parsch, Linda Vogen, Linda Adams,
Amy Frolik, Pam Clark, Rosetta Ahles, and Lucy Lahr

The goal of the Member Outreach Ministry is to help each member feel they are part of our Saint Andrew Church family. As members of a family, we need to support and acknowledge each other in time of need and blessing, welcome each other, try to know and understand each other, and perform the necessary jobs to keep the family functioning. We try to facilitate this through our many outreach programs. Four times a year we host the New Member Orientation and its Reception by welcoming new members with a potluck after the service in which they are received officially into the church family.

The Armed Forces Program collects and mails care packages to our soldiers fighting overseas.

An important part of Member Outreach is the Greeter Program. We have many members who volunteer to warmly greet our members and visitors as they arrive for services.

Our Care Notes Program and Sunshine Circle both minister to our members during times of need. Our Care Notes provide reading material that may offer solace and reflection regarding their personal situation. Appropriate cards are mailed to members through the Sunshine Circle telling them we're thinking of them and they're in our prayers.

The Tuesday Quilting Group meets during the second week of the month and welcomes any member wanting to participate. The quilts are made for both Lutheran World Relief and members in our own community who are in need.

We are in the process of organizing a new pictorial directory for Saint Andrew members. This project is being chaired by Amy Frolik.

Respectfully submitted,
Billie Schmidt

Memorial Gift Ministry's Report

Chairperson: Marilyn Olson

Council Liaison: Rick Radloff

Members: Dick Jarvis, John Mann, Patty Marceille, Donna Peth, Julie Weller,
and Mary Wittich

The overall role of the Memorial Gift Ministry is to monitor the Memorial Gift guidelines, maintain a list of needed gifts and disburse monetary gifts in a timely manner. If the gift is designated to a certain area, we will work to make sure it is used for that purpose. If the gift is undesignated, we will discuss what items Saint Andrew needs at the time. This is what we purchased in 2007 thanks to the generosity of the following memorials:

Wimmer Memorial: furnishings for the conference room, narthex, offices and classrooms;
west landscaping; trees; chapel sconces; chapel baptismal pottery; chapel labor costs

Fehrman Memorial: nursery furnishings; storage units; banners; chapel furniture; TV/DVD
combo unit

Wittich Memorial: chapel and sanctuary banners; chapel baptismal font

Rusch and Hibbard Memorial: nursery furnishings

Molstad and Best Memorials: chapel furniture

Ahles, Pills, Schuck, Newburn, Piette, Klegin, Bravot, and Chellevoid Memorials: water
fountain in narthex

Rudolf and Johnson Memorials: DLP projector

Flugum Memorial: classroom furnishings

Brauer, Woller, Bloom, Johnson, Harder, Imm, Fehrman, and Al Anon Memorials: bell tower
banners; bell tower modifications

Our main goal for 2008 is to complete the landscaping surrounding our beautiful building using the funds from the Johnson Memorial. In addition, a nautical mural will be painted in the nursery, a new door will be installed on the west entrance, and we will begin to review options for window coverings in the new classrooms and chapel.

If you are interested in gifting a memorial to Saint Andrew in honor of a loved one, please contact Pastor John or our Parish Administrator, Shelby Reif.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn Olson, Chairperson

Personnel Ministry's Report

Chairperson: Randy Trollop

Council Liaison: Dave Froehlich

Staff Liaison: Shelby Reif

Members: Wayne Johnson, Julie Brekke, Penny Nowak, Shelby Gerbig, and
Jodi Punke

Mission: To develop policies and a working environment that promotes and enhances the ministry of Saint Andrew Lutheran Church.

Agenda for 2007: Complete review of the "Non-Clergy Personnel Policies," performance review process; review all Ministry and staff job descriptions; compensation review.

*January: Update salary guidelines with limits as submitted to the bank; decided to review possible new section on our personnel policy dealing with continuing education for non-clergy staff.

*February: Parish Administrator job description was given to us by the Development Ministry to review and pass on to the Church Council.

*March: Discussion regarding the process for interviewing for the Parish Administrators position. It was agreed that a "preliminary interviewing committee" would be formed to review the applications and qualified candidates will be selected and scheduled for personal interviews. Final candidates would be selected and move on to a second interview with the "Final Interviewing Committee." It was also determined we would establish a set list of interviewing questions.

*April: Twenty-eight applications were received and processed for the Parish Administrator position. There was also discussion on the following areas of the Personnel Policies Handbook: Personal Days, Holidays, and Health Benefits. It was decided that employees who are eligible for the insurance but opt out need to sign a waiver and have it placed in their personnel file.

*May: Sheri verified that full-time lay staff should receive two personal days (not cumulative) per calendar year. Motion passed regarding changes in the Continuing Education, and Substance Abuse areas of the Personnel Policies Handbook.

*June: Review of the following job descriptions: Administrative Secretary, Secretary, Lead Custodian and Part-Time Custodian. ELCA Board requires enrolment for the Health Insurance and Pension Plan within 60 days of hire. Our current policy requires a 90-day waiting period. A motion was made and passed to change to 60-day waiting period.

*July: Review of the Personnel Committee brochure.

*August: No meeting!

*September: Questions from staff were discussed regarding the following areas of the Personnel Policies Handbook, Re-employment, Breaks, and Holiday Pay. A motion passed with revisions in all these areas. Discussion was held regarding a recent guideline issued by council for staff requirements when the building is occupied. The Parish Administrator will be responsible for scheduling all the parish staff according to the needs of the church.

*October: Discussion and evaluation of all employee benefits with a motion that all staff must be offered the same options and adjustments will need to be made effective January 1, 2008 to meet these requirements.

*November: Reviewed each staff member's performance review and made recommendations for salary adjustments as warranted.

*December: Finalized parish staff benefits and salary recommendations for the 2008 Budget to be forwarded to the Church Council.

Respectfully submitted,
Randall J Trollop, Chairperson

Property Ministry's Report

Chairman: Jeff Marcell

Council Liaison: David Froehlich

Staff Advisor: Shelby Reif

Members: Phil Bickley, Dave Paisar, Dan Holt, Jim Kraeger, Fritz Seehafer, and Vern Whereatt

The purpose of the Property Ministry is to aid the Parish administrator and custodians with upkeep and general maintenance of the church grounds. The property ministry is also involved in new projects as required.

2007 Projects Completed

- Assisted with removal of the Christmas tree from the sanctuary
- Keyed the building doors with new locks
- Sealed the asphalt on the old parking lot
- Striped and rewaxed in the education wing
- Set up building usage guidelines
- Assisted with summer cleaning - inside and out
- Emptied the storage containers
- Installed coat rack and purchased portable coat racks for overflow

Future Projects

- Replace asphalt pavement in the future

In Christ,

Jeff Marcell

Social Ministry 's Report

Chairperson: Linda Standiford

Council Liaison: Pamela Burnett

Soup & Sandwich Coordinators: Linda Standiford & Dixie Woller

"Circle of Joy" Coordinator: Dixie Woller

Lay Ministry Meals Coordinators: Billie Schmidt & Jeri Brunner

Crop Walk Coordinator: Wayne Johnson

Members: Roxann Baranowski, Jeanne Willems, Doug Luce, & Marge Bohlman.

Programs and activities are developed by the Social Ministry with the cooperation and support of the congregation of Saint Andrew to meet the needs of people, and through them, the congregation lives out our Lord's expectation "to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, welcome the stranger, and minister to the sick and imprisoned."

2007 Projects Included:

- Super Bowl Sunday Snacks
- Youth Scavenger Hunt
- Sunday & Thursday School Food Drives
- VBS School Supplies/Sew School Bags
- "Meat for the Holidays"
- Pick 'n Save "We Care" Program
- Scout Donations
- Cradle Giving Arrangements
- LWR School Bags & Quilts
- Lay Ministry Class Meals (Temporarily held at Good Shepherd through May)

Accomplishments:

- Lutheran World Relief School Bags 73 completed and shipped
- Lutheran World Relief Quilts 45 completed and shipped
- Seamstresses and VBS students sewed 24 bags. Many people came to sew for an hour or more. Big thanks to Darlene Bahr who sewed over 16 quilts again! WOW!
- Welcome to New Members
- Donations to Community Service Organizations
- Food Baskets to 96 families
- Matching Families and Donors for Holidays
- Slumberland Donation of Mattresses & Frames
- Pantry Reopened & Restocked in June
- Food Donation to Women's Community from Lay School Meals
- Community Dinner at First Presbyterian - Saint Andrew serves/hosts this monthly dinner on the third Sunday of every odd-numbered month.

Our funds are earned through donations and ministry-sponsored activities to support our food basket ministry. The food collected is dispersed over the entire year to help families in need. Each nutritious basket contains enough food for a three-week period appropriate to the family size, and is valued at approximately \$250. Themed-baskets are made for Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas. All of your generous donations have helped families in our area.

Goals for 2008:

More "Church Circle" activities, implement new "Pack the Pantry" Campaign, & gain new members.

We are eternally grateful for your continued commitment that develops and strengthens a supportive climate for social outreach. This ministry would not be possible without your support. "I am the church; you are the church; WE are the church together! Social Ministry thanks you!

Continuing our Mission,
Linda Standiford

Stewardship Ministry's Report

Chairperson: Tom Brunner

Council Liaison: Doug Luce

Members: Pr. John Roseth, Pastor Jon Gallatin, Kerry Fehrman, Mike Howlett,
and Bill Radloff

From worship, weddings, funerals, pastoral care and outreach, sharing coffee and fellowship, Sunday school, choir offerings and outreach, to facilities available for support groups and ministry education opportunities, prayer chains, food baskets, and beyond, Saint Andrew Lutheran Church's stewardship continues to grow.

Annual stewardship appeals are substantial undertakings organized by your Stewardship Ministry. Planning starts in summer and the work continues until all pledges are recorded and verified.

Less than 50% of Saint Andrew Lutheran Church's members have responded to this year's appeal, *Stories to Tell Gifts to Share*, perhaps because our appeal is conducted by mailed reminders rather than personally visiting every member. The less-than-expected response is always a topic of conversation at meetings, and the Stewardship Ministry is always looking for ways to improve.

The Stewardship Ministry tries to help each of us recognize our talents and how our talents can best be used as well as helping us recognize our abilities and encourages us to help financially.

Many of us still think of stewardship as just asking for money or managing money. Although important, money is just a small part of stewardship. Through this year's Every Member Response (EMR) appeal, *Stories to Tell Gifts to Share*, the Stewardship Ministry hopes to increase awareness of the activities Saint Andrew Lutheran Church members are involved in by our stories.

Stewardship Ministry holds luncheon meetings at noon the 3rd Tuesday of each month. Regular agenda items include reviewing the status of contributions, financial management, and stewardship activities.

The Stewardship Ministry is hoping to expand stewardship recognition and education throughout 2008.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Brunner, Chairperson

Worship Ministry's Report

Chairperson: Cindy Brenner

Council Liaison: Susan Paisar

Members: Al Freiberg, Marilyn Olson, Sara Goetsch, Shelby Reif, Laura Seanor,
Sheri Vandehey, and Chris Welsh

The Worship Ministry oversees the entire worship life at Saint Andrew Lutheran Church. They meet throughout the year to plan the seasonal worship services such as: Lent, Easter, Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas. The Ministry also assists in coordinating outdoor services such as Pet Sunday. Ministry activities in 2007 included, but were not limited to:

- Scheduling of seasonal and special worship services
- Development of 2008 budget
- Continued staffing the nursery with volunteer; organized by Kay Sitko

The Ministry would like to thank all of the volunteers who served as ushers, communion assistants, lay readers, nursery attendants, and participated in the choirs.

Respectfully,
Cindy Brenner, Chairperson

Altar Guild's Report

Chairperson: Marilyn Olson

Council Liaison: Al Freiberg

Members: Mavis Bloom, Cindy Brenner, Pam Burnett, Sandra Fischer, Jodi Gargulak Paula Kuhlmann, Pam Levra, Doug Luce, Patti Marceille, Ann McDonald, Sue McFaul, Joleen Meier, Jody Merchant, Donna Peth, Vicki Porter, Joyce Schoepke, Stephanie Wage, Julie Weller, and Mary Wittich

Saint Andrew's Altar Guild is considered to be a 'quiet ministry,' requiring consistency and dedication of its members to get things done in a timely fashion. We have six teams with three members on each, totaling 20 including our liaison.

Our weekly responsibilities include: baking the communion bread for every service; setting and taking down the communion break, wine, and altar cloths after all the services; changing and caring for the paraments, flowers, candles and baptismal details. We are grateful to Pam Burnett for cleaning the altar and credence table after all of the Thursday evening services throughout the year.

We also decorate the altar according to the season: for Easter we purchase spring flowers; in the fall, we use pumpkins, gourds, bittersweet, etc. because of Thanksgiving; Christmas decorations include a large ceramic nativity set, small white lights and poinsettias. A new responsibility is to decorate the chapel for all the seasons as well.

This year we have purchased several new altar linens and purificators from Augsburg Fortress. New green paraments will be purchased later this year. We are also responsible for ordering all of the communion wine from IGA, and the hosts and wafers are from the Christian Bookstore.

During Lent, we help serve, make desserts, and clean up for the Soup and Sandwich Supper. Five members strip the altar at the Maundy Thursday evening service. A special thank you goes to Lenette Hoover and her family for baking the bread, setting up and serving at the 6 am Easter morning service on Rib Mountain.

Bev Schmidt, a church member, continues to make our weekly altar bouquets through her job at Blossoms and Bows. She does a beautiful job for us and we thank her for her creativity. We now order all of our seasonal plants from there as well. A very special thank you goes to Shannon Vujnovich who always supports our ministry throughout the year by doing all of the physical work. Thanks, Shannon!

I am honored to serve as Ministry chairperson of this dedicated group of people. For 2008, we will continue to strive in supporting our meaningful ministry and look forward to any comments or suggestions others may have.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn Olson, Chairperson

Youth Ministry's Report

Chairperson: Terry Kittson

Council Liaison: Todd Punke

Members: Pam Fromm, Zena Knudsen, Lenny Kersten, Jamie Kersten, Carol Matushak, LeAnn Stankowski, and Schmidty

The Saint Andrew Youth Committee works with the Minister of Youth, Schmidty, to support the Youth Ministry at Saint Andrew Lutheran Church. The activities, events, and programs of the Youth Ministry are geared to three different age groups: 6th grade, 7th - 8th grades, and 9th - 12th grades, although many activities are open to all. Last year Schmidty and the Youth Ministry took on the responsibilities of the Confirmation program. This year the Confirmation program began using the course curriculum "Here We Stand." We are trying our best to spark 'added interest' to the youth program and to encourage family participation for people of all ages by adding new events such as snow tubing, corn mazes, (paint ball could be in the future). Construction at church caused a crimp in some of our on-site activities but had fun going on tours of the building during construction. Schmidty's trip to the Holy Land early last year afforded all of us an in-depth tour of many of the places we had only read and heard about in church.

Grade 6:

The focus for this age group is fun Christian fellowship with activities including: swimming at Marathon Swim Center, bowling, the annual church lock-in (cancelled due to construction), the Crop Walk, Noah's Ark, the famous Rib Mountain scavenger hunt to help the food pantry and tubing at Sylvan Hills. Most events end with pizza or other fun foods at church except when our new kitchen was under construction and we resorted to pizza delivery or parents bringing in their special creations. It is a comfortable and inviting atmosphere. For the majority of outings we encourage the Youth members to bring along a friend. In addition, the Baptism Retreat at Saint Anthony's always proves to be an important and meaningful youth activity for the 6th graders. However this year, because of a scheduling conflict with Saint Anthony's, it was held at Saint Andrew.

Grades 7 - 8:

The 7th and 8th grade program activities are included with most of the 6th grade. The Noah's Ark trip in August provides summer fun for Saint Andrew youth and their friends. The annual Junior High Youth Gathering was also well attended. Tubing at Sylvan Hill proved to be a popular activity again this year with a repeat already set for 2008. Confirmation Camp at Waypost on Mission Lake offers a unique camping experience for the 7th and 8th graders. Like last year, scholarships are available for any Saint Andrew youth to attend Crossways Camp at a reduced cost. This was successful in 2007 and will continue in the future. In addition to those activities, we also introduced the older group to activities at their interest level and challenged them to focus on their faith.

Grades 9 - 12:

The high school group elects their own board of officers to plan and run their events. Schmidty oversees the board and updates the Youth Committee at monthly meetings. The high school age members learn leadership and organizational skills that they can use to put their faith into action through Christian fellowship while having a fun time. Some of the high school activities are the Crop Walk, bowling, and the Synod Youth Gathering (24 youth and 5 adults attended) in Manitowoc for high schoolers. Basketball, softball, and broomball events round out the list of fun events. They also help out with events for the younger groups such as the lock-ins and family events like Christmas caroling and decorating the Christmas tree. The "Girls Night Out" discussion group started last year by Autumn and LeAnn gained popularity and will again be led by LeAnn this coming year.

Two of the biggest events for 2007 included a spring break "work trip" to help out in New Orleans and The Boundary Waters Canoe Trip. The New Orleans trip included two overnight stays in St. Louis and a lot of hard work painting, cleaning, and fixing a flood-damaged home. Great job guys! We are very proud that you spent your spring break helping others. Three groups from Saint Andrew The Boundary Waters Canoe trip in Ely, MN was a lot of work plus fun and fellowship. Three groups from Saint Andrew attended.

Fundraising efforts: remember those great apple pies and sub sandwiches? The youth have begun raising funds for next summer's mission trip to the Rosebud Indian Reservation, South Dakota. This will be a repeat stop for the senior youth group as they were there a few years ago. Sign-up has begun with twelve spaces available. Your donations are greatly appreciated to help pay the expenses for our young adults so they can carry out our mission in South Dakota.

Each Youth Ministry member shares his or her unique gifts (especially patience and understanding) to help the youth of Saint Andrew. They always seem to make themselves available to help out with events and are not afraid to "get their hands dirty." We are always in search of parents to help out, (even if it is only for one event), and for ideas on new activities. We meet the first Thursday of each month, except June and July, sometimes we have snacks and would love to have you join us. Thanks to the parents and friends, pastors, and congregational members who have helped make Saint Andrew's Youth Ministry a success during this past year!

Respectfully submitted,
Terry Kittson