

# Highview Christiania Lutheran Church



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Greetings Highview,

**Lincoln Place is our Monthly Mission.** Lincoln Place is a housing program with 24 efficiency apartments located in Eagan, Minnesota. The program serves youth experiencing homelessness who are between the ages of 18 and 24 and is designed to help transition its residents out of homelessness into stable housing and a healthy adulthood. Lincoln Place is a collaborating of Dakota County and the Dakota County Community Development Agency.

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## Important News:

**Annual Meeting:** The annual meeting is scheduled for January 31<sup>st</sup> after the second service. The church council has opted at the December meeting to have the annual meeting on zoom due to high Covid numbers in December. If the Covid numbers drop by the end of January we would be able to do it in person with precautions in place. Any questions please call Vickie Tyler at 507-581-4052.



# *Pastor's Column*

The Light Shines in the Darkness

*The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.-- John 1:5*

What a strange New Year's Eve it is going to be: no crowds in Time Square, and yet another holiday with small, intimate family gatherings. (Not that I have ever been much of a New Year's party-goer: New Year's has always been more of a family affair for the Mandsager clan.) Yet, with all the changes we have seen in 2020, at least one thing has remained constant: the Living Word of God, Jesus Christ. John the Evangelist describes Jesus as the light that shines in the darkness, which the darkness did not overcome.

There has been plenty of darkness this year in our nation and our world, and our congregation has known some dark days as well: we have grieved the deaths of some dear church members, our friends and neighbors: Barb Bixby, Bob Gregorson, Merlyn Schonning, Char Hemauer, and Jim Benson. Our kids have had to learn online, missing personal connections with their friends and face-to-face interactions with their teachers, and all of us have known the frustration of being stuck at home. We have watched with anxiety as the death toll from COVID-19 climbs. During a time when we most needed mutual support, we have not been able to gather as we usually would. This is darkness indeed.

But in the midst of that darkness, I have seen the light of Christ shining through you, the people of Highview: you have collaborated on new and creative ways to do worship. You have given generously to support the work of our congregation, and the work of our mission projects, locally and globally. You have engaged in Bible study. You have grappled with issues of racial injustice, in book discussions and informal conversations. You have prayed for the sick and the grieving. You have shared your talents of teaching, making music, sewing, repairing, and building. You have connected with each other with phone calls, video calls, and with cards and letters. You have celebrated baptisms, confirmations, and graduations.

In these and many other ways, the light of Christ has shone through you this year, and will continue to shine in 2021. There are tangible reasons to be hopeful as we enter the new year, especially the roll out of the Coronavirus vaccine: our wonderful health care workers have already begun receiving it. Soon our marvelous teachers and other essential workers will receive it as well, along with our seniors. I so look forward to visiting in person with you all again, in the comfort and confidence that our visiting will not compromise your health.

What are your hopes for the new year? Call or send me a text at 507-581-3421, or email me at [mikemandsager@gmail.com](mailto:mikemandsager@gmail.com). I would love to hear from you.

Happy New Year!  
Pastor Michael Mandsager

## Reaching Out

Reaching out with God's love is the work of the whole church. Here are some ways you can reach out:

**Give a call or send a card.** With the disruption of our normal ways of being together, there is likely someone from church you haven't heard from for a while. What if you gave them a call or a text, just to say hello and see how they are doing? In addition, some people can't access on-line resources easily. Is there someone you'd like to reach out to?

**Personal invitations** – Personal invitations are always the best form of evangelism. Let someone know about your church, and what your church means to you. Invite them to participate. Are there Facebook friends you'd like to invite to be part of our growing on-line community?

**Prayers for others** – Praying for someone is a powerful act of love. Who are you holding in prayer? Maybe you could let them know you've been holding them in prayer.



## In Our Prayers

Arlene Sprute, Dave Platt, Denis Windschitl, Carmen Oeltjen, Jon Schmidt, Diane Olson, Darrell Wiese, Wyatt Fischer, Steve Suter, and Pastor Kare Sten Larsen.



AVERAGE PER MONTH \$14,008		\$14,008.00	Collections/Rent and Budget
Income through	JANUARY	\$ 12,988.39	\$ 580.39
	FEBRUARY	\$ 25,236.39	\$ 420.39
	MARCH	\$ 41,737.39	\$ 4,513.39
	APRIL	\$ 52,617.39	\$ 2,985.39
	MAY	\$ 64,253.39	\$ 2,213.39
	JUNE	\$ 76,423.39	\$ 1,975.39
	JULY	\$ 88,600.69	\$ 1,744.69
	AUGUST	\$ 101,680.99	\$ 2,416.99
	SEPTEMBER	\$ 113,052.99	\$ 1,380.99
	OCTOBER	\$ 122,484.99	\$ (1,595.01)
	NOVEMBER	\$ 136,194.99	\$ (293.01)
	DECEMBER		
	RENT (YTD)	\$ 17,600.00	

\*Collected \$1,302 over budget in November.

## Highview Financials as of 11/30/2020

### GENERAL COLLECTIONS & RENT

MONTH	2017	2018	2019	2020
JANUARY	\$ 16,132.00	\$ 11,548.50	\$ 10,827.02	\$ 12,988.39
FEBRUARY	\$ 15,054.00	\$ 14,578.00	\$ 12,666.72	\$ 12,248.00
MARCH	\$ 13,585.00	\$ 9,939.00	\$ 16,255.50	\$ 16,501.00
APRIL	\$ 17,824.50	\$ 21,027.00	\$ 21,471.40	\$ 10,880.00
MAY	\$ 16,505.00	\$ 10,051.00	\$ 11,058.33	\$ 11,636.00
JUNE	\$ 12,432.75	\$ 9,180.25	\$ 10,801.00	\$ 12,170.00
JULY	\$ 13,360.00	\$ 12,690.00	\$ 10,733.00	\$ 12,177.30
AUGUST	\$ 12,583.00	\$ 11,977.00	\$ 9,909.00	\$ 13,080.30
SEPTEMBER	\$ 15,983.29	\$ 13,587.93	\$ 15,170.96	\$ 11,372.00
OCTOBER	\$ 22,010.00	\$ 17,425.27	\$ 10,790.00	\$ 9,432.00
NOVEMBER	\$ 13,660.32	\$ 12,361.00	\$ 12,548.60	\$ 13,710.00
DECEMBER	\$ 25,437.95	\$ 19,246.52	\$ 19,097.00	
RENT		\$ 19,200.00	\$ 19,200.00	\$ 17,600.00
TOTAL	\$ 194,567.81	\$ 182,811.47	\$ 180,528.53	\$ 153,794.99
BUDGET	\$ 192,181.38	\$ 184,161.40	\$ 174,190.00	\$ 168,100.00
DIFFERENCE	\$ 2,386.43	\$ (1,349.93)	\$ 6,338.53	\$ (14,305.01)



# Highview Christiania Lutheran Church

Minutes

November 16, 2020, 6:30 p.m.

Church Council Meeting – Zoom Meeting

Pastor Mandsager, Vickie Tyler, Jackie Swenson, Sarah Brandel, Loren Mohn, Marilyn Suter, Cynthia Markle, and Sandy Knutson

1. Call to Order at 6:35pm by Vickie
2. Devotions (Pastor)
3. Gratitude
4. Council Reports
  - a. Secretary Report – Minutes
    - i. October 19th, 2020: Marilyn made the motion to approve, Loren second, passed
  - b. Financial Secretary Report: Sandy reported.
  - c. Treasurers Report: Sarah reported. Review Budget and Balance Sheet.

Marilyn made the motion to approve Financial Secretary and Treasurers Report, Loren second, passed.

- d. Presidents Report: Vickie reported.
    - i. Annual Meeting: Tentatively January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021
    - ii. COVID-19 Response: Services will be moving back to online; November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 will be the last in person church service until further notice. This also applies to all other church activities. Board of Worship will put together a committee to plan out the Christmas Eve service.
5. Pastors Report: Pastor reported, see Pastor's report attached.
6. Board Reports
  - a. Board of Administration: Sandy reported they are waiting for all the pledges to come back.
  - b. Board of Property: Nothing new to report
  - c. Board of Mission and Service: Nothing new to report
  - d. Board of Education: Nothing new to report
  - e. Board of Worship: Nothing new to report
7. Other Business
8. Adjournment – *Lord's Prayer*
  - a. Sign up for 2020 devotions - December-Marilyn

Marilyn made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:45pm, Loren second.