



ST JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH  
rooted...growing...serving

**A Congregation of the**



**Annual Report of the Congregation for 2018**

**St. James Lutheran Church**

**49 Middle Highway**

**Barrington, RI 02806**

**Agenda**  
**Sunday February 3, 2019 10 am**

**Opening Devotions**  
**Report of the Secretary**  
**Report of the Council President**

**Report of the Pastor**  
**Report of the Treasurer**

**Team Reports**

**New Business**

- a. Proposed Budget for 2019**
- b. Election of New Council Members**
- d. Election of Delegates to Synod Assembly**
- e. Election of Auditors**
- f. Motion to Close Meeting**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Annual Congregational Meeting  
St. James Lutheran Church  
February 4, 2018**

**Report of the Secretary  
Meeting Minutes**

**I Opening Devotion**

Pastor Simon opened the meeting at 10:15 with a prayer of devotion.

**II Report of the Secretary**

Report distributed to congregation via email or copies available in Fellowship Hall.

Steve Russell made a motion to accept the report. Seconded by Gerry Caro and approved.

**III Report of the Pastor**

Report distributed to congregation via email or copies available in Fellowship Hall.

Gerry Caro made a motion to accept the report. Seconded by George Bowen and approved.

**IV Report of the Treasurer**

Pastor Andrew presented several bar graphs demonstrating giving pattern within St. James. “We had a very good year.” We had over \$8,000 surplus. Bridget Palmer asked what the One Time Event Fund was. Betty Brito explained that \$1,000 was from a sale of old music and George Bowen added that \$500-\$600 dollars came from the Ruth Circle account that was closed. Pastor Andrew made a motion to accept the report. Seconded by the congregation and approved.

**V Team Reports**

Report distributed to congregation via email or copies available in Fellowship Hall.

**Cultivating Community in Christ**

Diane Quesnelle, Chair: Report distributed to congregation via email or copies available in Fellowship Hall.

**Outreach Ministries**

We continue to provide support to Loaves and Fishes, We Share Hope, the Park Place Soup Kitchen, Lou’s Closet, Bags of Hope and all of the Missions of the Month. We gave a total of \$24,621.51, that is \$8,921 more than last year. \$4,407 went to Bags of Hope which translates to 176 bags for foster children. Since 2010 we have made 24,000 meals for Loaves and Fishes.

**Property**

Chris Gillam, Chair: Report distributed to congregation via email or copies available in Fellowship Hall.

**Worship & Music**

Betty Brito and Loretta Lavoie, chair: Report distributed to congregation via email or copies available in Fellowship Hall.

**FFF, Faith Family Formation**

Ben Yerge, Chair: Report distributed to congregation via email or copies available in Fellowship Hall.

**Thrivent**

George Bowen, Contact Person: Total of greater than \$11,000 was given in Thrivent dollars. Thank everyone for applying for cards.

Bridget Palmer made a motion to accept the team reports. Seconded by Mark Boyle and approved.

**VI Appointment of Tellers**

George Bowen explained the Teller responsibilities. Bridget Palmer and Jen Kirby were nominated. A motion to accept the nominations was made by George Bowen. The nomination was seconded by Gerry Caro and approved.

**VII Report of the Auditors**

Report distributed to congregation via email. George Bowen reported that everything is fine. John Rodehorst, Gerry Caro, and George Bowen did the audit.

George Bowen made a motion to accept the report. Seconded by Gerry Caro and approved.

**A. Proposed Budget for 2018**

Report distributed to congregation via email or copies available in Fellowship Hall.

George Bowen made a motion to accept the report. Seconded by Gerry Caro and approved.

**B. Election of New Council Members**

Cheryl Moreau – Secretary

Chris Gillam – Property

Kathy Fales made a motion to accept and seconded by Gerry Caro and approved.

**C. Election of Delegates for Synod Assembly**

Pastor Andrew advised that St. James may send two lay people plus clergy to the Synod Assembly.

Steve Dumas and Pastor Andrew will represent St. James at Synod.

Betty Brito made a motion to elect the slate as presented. Seconded by Gail Feeney and approved.

**D. Election of Auditors**

George reported the auditors for this year are George Bowen, John Rodehorst, and John Bessette were nominated as auditors. George Bowen made a motion to accept the slate of auditors. It was seconded by Cathy Fales and accepted.

Pastor Andrew asked if anyone had any questions.

Kathy Fales asked if we had plans for the building fund. Gail explained we are in the process of finding what our needs are. We cannot use the money for anything other than what it was designated for without council approval. There is a team in place to review this: Chris Gillam, Dave Erickson, Ed Tanner, Chris Quesnelle, and Gail Feeney.

Betty thanked Pastor for all his work with the installation of Advent, Reformation, and Christmas among many other things he does outside of his job description.

Pastor thanked the council for their time and effort. He thanked Rob for doing things outside of his job description such as rigging the sound system and getting the bells up and running.

### **VIII Motion to close the meeting**

George Bowen made a motion to close the meeting, the motion was seconded by Kathy Fales, motion approved.

### **IX Lord's Prayer**

The meeting closed at 10:55 with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Moreau

## **2018 Annual President's Report**

2018 was another great year at St James!

We are totally blessed with the best congregation: we have the most loving, caring, and generous members. Our congregation is a church family whose members exhibit care and concern for one another every day. That care and concern continually spills out beyond our walls as seen through all of our outreach. As a congregation we are passionate and strong in that outreach, as seen in Loaves and Fishes, We Share Hope, the Park Place Soup Kitchen, Lou's Closet, Bags of Hope and all of the Missions of the Month.

Our congregation is also truly blessed with many young families who bring with them vibrancy and lots of energetic kids! The children bring such freshness and life - they are the future of St James!

This year the council has continued the effort to be more proactive than reactive. In our meetings we quickly move through old business for lessons learned and try to focus more on new business, making our meetings efficient, shorter, productive and overall very positive.

Some of our accomplishments from 2018 include:

- Thanks to our Property team who seamlessly and invisibly keep the property in good shape and working order. They have secured us the best pricing for lawn maintenance, trash pick up, snow removal and more.
- Due to a disastrous flood in March we now have a beautiful new basement. By doing much of the of the renovation themselves the property team was able to stretch the insurance money with the end result a renovation project which would have cost us much much more. Thank you again to the property team!

- Thanks to Sheri, 1 of our teens completed his Journey Into Faith classes and commitments and was confirmed in May. The rest is up to him!
- Thanks to Sheri for taking over Youth and Families when the Yergey family moved away.
- Thanks to Diane and the Congregational Life team we enjoyed a very successful Easter Brunch, Annual BBQ, and Children's Christmas party again this year.
- Thanks to a successful stewardship campaign spearheaded by Bob McBride and Pastor.
- Thanks to George Bowen and the Finance team, for putting together the finance documents for today as well as the budget presented to you for approval today.
- Thanks to the Worship and Music team (and creative development team) for organizing and arranging meaningful services in beautiful settings throughout the year.
- Thanks to too many to mention, we held a very successful Advent workshop. Truly an all congregation event where there was some decorating of the church, some crafts for children, a large service project to fill gift bags for children (some for LFRI some for Tap In) and of course, lots of food!
- Lastly, thanks to Pastor and Rob, our "Sunday School", aka Family Faith Formation, is strong and growing. It's a huge success. Pastor and Rob **ARE** Family Faith Formation. They give it context. Bring it meaning and life. Encouraging families to come together to hear the lessons is such a win/win. First, it's a wonderful gift for parents and children to experience together. Second, it reinforces what parents already know or may have forgotten and equips them to bring it home to live or to discuss further. For children, they see that their parents are interested and invested, emulating how God wants us to live.
- The team formed to review the needs of the property continues the task. There has been a complete review of the property. Now they are compiling a list of maintenance and improvement projects as well as estimates based on that review. In 2019 they will present to the congregation for consideration and deliberation.
- VBC was cancelled in 2018 due to a scheduling conflict. Going forward, VBC will take place the first FULL week after the 4th of July.
- We have not renewed the lease on the Kyocera printer and replaced with a small business laser printer. This will result in a cost savings for the admin/office budget.
- We are still working on coming into the 21st century by getting a credit card for church office use.
- We have replaced the outdated Church Windows software for membership and financial data with a cloud based product called IconCMO. We are in the process of completing the population of the database now. Once complete you will hear much much more. It is a feature rich application that we can grow with. Some highlights are:
  - Daily and monthly database maintenance and backups
  - Regular enhancements, email and phone support
  - Security setup to grant module access to users by role (just the functionality a user needs for their role)
  - Complete financial and fund accounting
  - Complete household and member demographics including talents and groups
  - Online access for users from any computer with internet access

- Parishioner access (for their household and household members) via a smartphone app or from any computer with internet access
- Email and texting directly from application (household, member, group, talent levels)
- An online (pictorial) directory via the application (with household opt in/out)
- Third party integration with Vanco (for e-giving), Secure Search (for volunteer background checks), Constant Contact (for newsletter and communications), Bambora (another option for e-giving) and others

I'm looking forward to seeing where 2019 brings us!

Respectfully Submitted,

**Gail Feeney**

Gail Feeney, St. James Council President

## **St. James Lutheran Church Report from the Pastor 2018**

*“One of the scribes came near...he asked Jesus, “Which commandment is the first of all?” Jesus answered, “The first is, ‘Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.”*  
-Mark 12:28-31

Last month I had the opportunity to spend some time with a group of fifth graders at Barrington Christian Academy. Rob McBride, who is the Dean of Spiritual Life at Barrington Christian Academy, needed someone to fill in at the last minute to lead a morning devotional time and asked if I was available. I was happy to do it. Our devotions revolved around two simple questions: “What does God want for us?” and “What doesn’t God want for us?” On the surface, these are easy questions to answer, but they led to a deep theological discussion. I was impressed at how quickly the students responded-encapsulating the scripture from Mark that I have included above. They spoke freely about how God wants us to love and serve and worship and pray to God all the time. Then, without much prompting they went on to tell about how God also wants us to care for creation, the world, and one another. They get it! So do the people of St. James!

As Joanna and I compiled all of the individual reports it was clear to me that St. James has clear direction and that these words from Jesus inform the ways in which we do church. Throughout the annual report you will hear stories of the year gone by and I am impressed with the ways in which the efforts of our team reflect our love for God, one another and the world around us.

Outreach

Our outreach ministries are thriving and doing real good in the world. With the support of our friends at We Share Hope we are fortunate to offer substantial meals to the people we meet on the Loaves and Fishes runs and in our service at the Park Place Soup Kitchen. In addition, with the help of Thrivent Action Cards, we have been able to offer more NEW clothing than ever before-new hats, gloves, hoodies, blankets, and more go out on the truck with each trip to places like Woonsocket and Providence. To the person living on the street or on the edge of poverty, a new sweatshirt is a sign of God's love. Our Mission of the Month offerings have helped to spread God's love far and wide-not only locally, but around the world. For example, over 500 children in Honduras received a special meal at Christmas and a visit from Santa thanks to your generosity. In addition to the funds that you contributed, these children also received a handmade doll that was lovingly created by the members of the St. James knitting group. Many thanks to all who work diligently to make sure that these ministries thrive and grow.

#### Family Faith Formation

Our weekly Sunday morning Family Faith Formation program has grown with the addition of five new volunteers who work each week to make the stories of the Bible come to life through storytelling, crafts, games, and conversation. This program, in just its third year, has grown in the number of children and parents who participate each week. Thanks to our volunteers we have new stability and life for this program, allowing children to hear the stories of the Bible in exciting ways and express themselves in response. I am truly grateful for the time and energy that so many give to this important ministry.

#### Worship

Our weekly worship services truly offer something for everyone. With contemporary and traditional expressions of worship, we are able to share the Good News of Jesus in ways that are accessible and relevant to people living in today's world. Our worship and music team approaches our work from a variety of perspectives: from planning logistics and ordering supplies, to thinking creatively about how we craft and design the order of service for each season. As the centerpiece of our faith, this work is vital to all that we do. In the context of our services people are fed and nourished and empowered to love God and one another. I can't think of a better team of people to work with-each one with their own unique gifts and willingness to share in building our ministry of worship and music.

#### Property

In many churches the property team works with the facility-maintaining and preserving our physical space. While this is true at St. James, our team also does this important work with an eye toward outreach, faith, and the mission of God in this place. I am thankful for the ways in which our team responds to unexpected disasters (i.e. a flood in our lower level) but also assists the other teams in making sure our building works for the ministries we take part in. This year, more than ever before, St. James is a space that is truly used for the good of our community-welcoming a diverse number of groups (Girls and Boys Scouts, Al-Anon, Barrington Community School, and many others) who can call this house of worship a home for the work they do. I am grateful for all of the hard work that the members of our property team put in to make St. James a functional facility that can serve as a mission center for our congregation and community.

#### Council

I am so grateful for the dedication of our church council members. From their leadership in guiding the direction of St. James to their willingness to take on projects and lead teams, we are incredibly fortunate to have them!

#### Staff



St. James is blessed with a staff that truly knows the meaning of teamwork. Rob and Joanna consistently go above and beyond for good of our church. Not only does Rob do a great job in leading the music ministries of St. James, but he is also a leader within the congregation-assisting with Family Faith Formation, welcoming new people, and drawing the very best out of our music groups. Joanna is always ready to learn new things and assist with the needs of our church-whether it be a request from a member, the church council, myself or Rob, she is always willing to help where needed. Joanna currently takes care of all of our administrative needs, including our website and communications. She is a tremendous help and I am so grateful for all that she does.

St. James is in a good place. We are stable and poised to use what God has given us to continue to express our love for God, one another and the world. Thank you for all that you do to contribute to this!

God is good...All the Time!

Peace,  
Pastor Andrew

**St. James Lutheran Church  
2018 Pastor's Report-Pastoral Acts**

**Baptism**

Anna Jean Yergey-4/29/2018  
Quinn Plaut-10/7/2018  
Oceana Alison Graham-10/7/2018  
Gage Robert Paul Graham-10/7/2018  
Thomas Mark Fish-10/21/2018  
Kaylee Ann Lynch-10/28/2018

**First Communion**

Sam McBride-3/4/2018

**Confirmation**

William Young-5/20/2018

**Marriage**

Emilie Rebelo and Clayton Burrows-3/24/2018  
Jennifer Davol and Scott Eisner-4/14/2018  
Kelly Hassan and Sara Facincani-9/15/2018  
Cheryl Moreau and Gerard Caro- 12/24/2018

**Funerals**

Alice R. Funk-2/14/2018  
Thelma Sweet-10/30/2018

**Director of Music Ministry Report 2018**

Greetings,

Thank you all for your support of the music ministry at St. James. Whether participating in an ensemble or just singing during services, it is a joy to worship with you. Some highlights of this past year include:

- (1) The heartwarming voices of our children in our growing Family Faith Formation. The children's sincere faith and energetic movement regularly remind me of what God considers to be true worship.
- (2) Our Good Friday service, which again featured the projection of dramatic text, an inspiring readers' theatre, and reflective music. Many were particularly blessed by the choir's performance of Ten Thousand Angels by Ray Overholt. Special thanks to all who participated and to the Thursday morning Bible study for suggesting this special song.
- (3) The implementation of an abbreviated Traditional service for the summer. It was a blessing to gather together during communion and to see an increase in attendance as the shorter service was less affected by heat and travel schedules.

Also, on a personal note, it was an exciting year for my family as my son, Samuel, was able to receive his first communion on his birthday in March, and my daughter, Grace, began serving as an acolyte. Thank you all for the many ways that you share Christ's love with my wife, Rachel, and our four children.

Looking ahead, one goal for the music ministry is to recruit new musicians, vocalists, and choir members. If you or someone you know is interested, please speak to me one Sunday or contact me at [rmcbride@stjames-ri.org](mailto:rmcbride@stjames-ri.org) or via my cell phone, (630) 957-7555. Please note that we have a flexible rehearsal program and I diligently seek to work around busy schedules.

Blessings to you all as we journey together to grow in faith in Christ, in the hope of redemption, and in the love of all.

Sincerely,

Rob McBride  
Director of St. James' Music Ministry

## **2018 Team Reports**

### **St. James Lutheran Church Finance Team Report for 2018**

Team Members: Karen Farina, Beverley Russell, Jill Bowen, Andrew Simon, Gerard Caro, and non-team member advisor George Bowen

#### **New Finance Software**

Karen Farina, Jill Bowen, Joanna attended a demo and worked with Gail Feeney, who led the testing of new finance software to replace the outdated Church Windows software. The Finance Team agreed to purchase a product from IconCMO to manage all the church accounts, generate financial reports, offer online giving for parishioners via a 3rd party called Bambora or Vanco, the current online giving vendor.

#### **Property**

The team reviewed the property team's recommendation for the purchase and installation of a generator to comply with Insurance requirements after the coverage paid for the basement flood. We agreed with the proposal dated May 23rd for the **22kW 200 SE**, with wi-fi.

22kW Air-Cooled Standby Generator  
with Wi-Fi, Aluminum Enclosure, 200 SE (not CUL)

The team reviewed and agreed with the property team's recommendation for lawn maintenance including cutting, fertilizer, weed control. Hiring is a safer alternative to risking injuries by members.

### **Insurance Policy Renewal Review and Negotiation**

- Reviewed Multi-Peril, Umbrella and Workers Comp Insurance Proposal
- Spoke with Church Mutual Rep on coverage and premiums
- Negotiated a \$427 reduction in premium for Multi-Peril with no change in coverage
  - o Active Property Committee and Property Improvement Fund was the basis for the reduction
- Property value coverage based on \$2.9Million (Church Mutual estimate)
- Worker's Comp premium did not drop

### **Giving Envelope Costs**

The team accepted Jill Bowen's recommendation to align the number of envelopes printed with those that use them. For 2018 we dropped the number from 140 to 100 and for 2019 we will drop the print run to 90 for significant cost savings.

### **Audit**

The Council requested a new member replace Gerry Caro on the Audit Committee to meet Synod Guidelines. John Bessett was appointed along with George Bowen and John Rodehorst.

### **Investment Accounts**

Karen and Gerry reviewed the Investment Funds at the Jan 2018 Council Meeting. The council agreed to have an attorney review the potential of expanding the use of the Eldercare Fund; including use of Principal. No spoken plan how to spend but want to investigate and start discussing during 2019.

With very poor investment rates and service being offered by Citizens Bank, Gerry Caro recommended we discuss investment options with Thrivent since they are very supportive to our congregation. Investment options with Thrivent will be discussed in early 2019.

## **Collections**

The Worship team has pointed out that occasionally the offering from the traditional service is not secured. Appointing someone is pending the finance team locating and approving a willing congregation member.

## **Performance Appraisals**

Gerry Caro represented the Finance Team for Pastor Andrew's and Rob McBride's 2018 performance appraisals. The finance team recommended a salary adjustment of +2.5% for 2019 based on their excellent performance although constrained by budgets.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gerry Caro-Finance Team Leader

## **Worship and Music Team Annual Report for the Year 2018**

The Worship and Music Team continued to provide for the worship life of the St. James congregation during 2018. This required monthly meetings with the Pastor and the Director of Music Ministry to support their preliminary planning for all of the worship seasons. During these meetings, discussion focused on ways that the worship reflects the liturgical seasons and special services of the church year.

A group within the Worship Team, the Creative Development Team, comes together at least four times a year to reflect on the upcoming season, study the scripture readings, and brainstorm ways to tie the Chancel, Nave and Baptistry décor, as well as the structure of the services and the children's messages, to the overall themes of the season. These meetings are open to all. In 2018, the Creative Development team planned special décor for Reformation, the Baptism of Our Lord, All Saints, Christ the King, Advent, Lent, Pentecost, and Easter. In addition, this year the windows and the Baptistry supported our fall theme of THE CROSS; THE COMMAND; THE PROMISE by holding large rocks, small stones, and crosses of various sizes. The window décor for Advent capitalized on the significance of the Chrismons that are an important part of the St. James tradition. Crafted by women of the church, the majority of the Chrismons predate most of our current membership. They beautify our Sanctuary tree every year. Pastor's messages for the children during advent 2018, spoke of these special symbols and what they mean to our lives.

The oversight for the selection of music for both the Traditional (Rob McBride and Loretta Lavoie) and Contemporary (Rob McBride and Betty Brito) services falls to this team as well. Rob continues to provide effective music for a shrinking choir...not an easy task. His efforts to augment the choir are appreciated.

The Altar Guild traditionally assumes responsibility for the set-up of the tools for worship for both services. They are responsible for changing the linens on the Altar to match the season, and for providing a sign-up chart for weekly dedication of flowers. This group also oversees the acquisition of special flowers for Christmas and Easter, and completes a myriad of tasks related to worship.

In addition to regular business, the Worship and Music Team accomplished the following in 2018: 1) Developed an abbreviated summer worship format for the Traditional service. This was in response to dramatically lower attendance during the summer and the heat of the Sanctuary by the time 11:00 rolls around.

This service was initiated on June 10th; 2) recognized Pastor Andrew's 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ordination on June 3<sup>rd</sup> 3) dedicated a new Paschal Candle stand, donated in memory of Ann Stopfel's husband and son.

Our thanks to the dedicated members of this team who worked very hard during this busy year. Thank you to Cathy Fales, Jen Kirby, Shelley Zimmerman, Mary Ferreira, Karen Karlsson, Ellen Zawislak, Rob McBride, and Pastor Andrew for all of their energy and leadership.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Betty Brito and Loretta Lavoie, Acting Co-Chairs  
Annual Report for Youth and Family for Annual Meeting:

## **Youth and Family Ministry Report 2018**

Family Faith Formations has been very successful with the leadership of Pastor and Rob McBride. We have also had some members helping us: Marlene McBride, Jocelyn Gillam, Barbara Moore, Pat Sousa, and John Schaller creating two teams, so there is not a weekly commitment for people.

It was the year of one and awesome: First Communion involved Sam McBride and Confirmed was Will Young.

The Christmas Pageant was a successful production with the large amount of work from Tara Whitaker and Katherine Whitaker (the future pageant coordinator!!)

V

vacation Bible School did not happen this year due to scheduling conflicts and not enough volunteers. VBS should happen in 2019 as we feel it does bring us new families into our church.

Annual Super Bowl Snack Sale brought in funds to help offset the cost of the Sunday School retreat at Calumet.

Respectfully Submitted by Sheri Dumas taking over the Chair finishing out Ben Yergey's term

## **Property Team Report 2018**

### **General Repairs/Renovations Completed in 2018**

- Roof Repair-sealed steeple to prevent water leaking
- Purchased and installed new sump pumps for lower level
- Purchased new copier to replace existing (lease terminated)
- Removed shrubs and graded space for generator installation
- Repairs to Church Chime system
  - rewired bell
  - installed battery backup
- Replaced boiler pump
- Tree removal
- Graded area of side parking area to divert rainwater away from building

Installed new building-wide wifi system  
Extensive Spring cleanup  
Fertilized and reseeded lawn  
Purchased and installed new dehumidifiers

### **Landscaping Contract**

This year we contracted with a landscaper to cut the grass and do the fall leaves cleanup.

### **Fall 2018 Flood**

Last Fall we experienced a major flood that caused extensive damage to the entire lower level of the church. Due to an extended power outage the sump pumps were inoperable, resulting in over eight inches of water throughout the lower level. Damages were minimized due to a rapid response from members of the property team and St. James who installed a gas powered generator and spent hours removing water with shop vacs. Many thanks to Bob Stallard for the use of his generator!

Church Mutual insurance covered \$25,000 for repairs and cleanup. The property team budgeted this money, planning for all repairs and the majority of the cost of installing an automatic generator to mitigate this problem during future outages. The end result of the efforts of the property team is a completely renovated lower level. A summary is listed below (a detailed report of costs associated with this project is available in the church office). This renovation and the installation of the generator would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of our team. Many thanks!

#### **Renovations to Lower Level**

Vacuumed/cleaned/dried all rugs

Addressed moisture in walls

- Applied Mold inhibitor on all affected areas 3X

- Cut away and replaced significantly saturated wall board

- Repainted entire Fellowship Hall

- Replaced flooring in Fellowship Hall

- Removed damaged kitchen cabinets and replaced with new stainless steel prep tables

- 2 20' Dumpsters to remove damaged contents from lower level

- removed shrubs and graded space for generator

#### **Generator**

A Generac Generator (supplied by two 100 gallon propane tanks) was installed by Sunshine Fuel. This automatic generator will power the heat, refrigerators, Loaves and Fishes freezer, and sump pumps in the event of a future outage. The coverage from Church Mutual stipulates that St. James is required to take steps to mitigate flooding and this generator will ensure that we are covered for future outages.

#### **Utilities Expenses Exceeded Budget**

You will notice from the year-end financial summary that St. James experienced a significant overage in budgeted funds for utilities this year. The bulk of these expenditures were related to the flood. Following initial cleanup we raised the heat in the lower level for several weeks to assist in the drying process. In addition, we ran an

air handler and several fans 24 hours/day for this time period. New dehumidifiers were installed and also ran around the clock. Additionally, when the generators were installed we purchased propane to fill both tanks. An additional utilities expense was related to a urinal in the men's bathroom that was leaking. This was repaired when the problem was identified, but resulted in an above-average water bill.

Many thanks to all of the members of the property team for their hard work this year!

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Gillam  
St. James Property Team Leader



St. James Lutheran Church  
49 Middle Highway  
Barrington, RI 02806

#### Thrivent Financial 2018

Thrivent Financial is a non-profit Fortune 500 company.

- 1) At the national level millions of dollars are given to charities each year.
- 2) At the state level members get to create "Action Teams" and, using Thrivent Action Cards, fund outreach projects. Each full member can apply for two cards per year for a total of \$500.
- 3) Thrivent members earn "Choice Dollars" and get to designate a recipient charity. St. James is an approved recipient.

By using Thrivent as your investment vehicle for retirement plans, annuities, certificates of deposit and insurance products you get to direct "Choice Dollars" at no cost to you and create Action Teams.

#### Projects funded by St. James Action Teams for year 2018:

Loaves & Fishes RI	\$3,000
We Share Hope	\$ 750
Bags of Hope	\$1,250
Knitting Supplies	\$ 250
New Tables (St. James)	\$ 500
Sr. Christmas Luncheon	\$ 250
Worship Banners	\$ 250
Advent Workshops	\$ 500
Tap-in	\$ 750
Barr. Christian Accademy	\$ 250
Budget Workshop	\$ 250
St. James Renovations (flood)	\$ 500

Total Choice Dollars directed To St. James for year 2018	\$2,530
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Grand Total Thrivent Dollars Directed To/By St. James	<hr/> \$11,030 <hr/>
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