

2008 Annual Report
Prepared for the
January 25, 2009 Annual Meeting of the Congregation

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Note: ELC denotes Evangelical Lutheran Church. W/ELCA denotes Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church In America. YDT denotes Youth Discipleship Training wherever it appears in the 2008 Annual Report.

Pastor's Annual Report

Dear People of God, members and friends of this church – Evangelical Lutheran Church of Cokato:

I know it's time to write my annual report for the church's records. Every year it's a challenge for me to get to that because of the press of every day ministry needs and the need to prepare for what's coming next. Looking back is necessary, I guess, but usually not something for which I have a lot of energy. In fact, just keeping up with current programs & those in need of care leaves little time to think beyond this week.

How, then, do innovations happen? How have Alpha, the thrift store, the new food shelf and the upcoming Truth Project and so many more exciting ministry and mission opportunities come into being? Not through central planning! Not from this desk or this office! Most of the good things that have happened are due to the Holy Spirit stirring in the hearts and minds of people like you.

My job, as I see it, is to keep preaching and teaching the Word of God and to keep us focused on the CENTER of God's Word -- the life, love, death and resurrection of Jesus. Your job is to step out in faith. Innovations, mostly, are in your job description (see the church constitution), not mine (see my letter of call)...

Don't forget -- your job, as non-clergy, is as big as the world. Don't wait for me! Y'all are way bigger, and much faster, than me. 2008 proves it. I'm sure 2009 will do the same.

From my blog posted Dec. 31, 2008

The major change this year has been that I've started to make my life and work more transparent by writing a lot more. I have written more than 150 articles since May. They cover almost everything in ministry. You can read them at www.equalsharing.com. If you don't have internet access, we can print the articles out and make them available to you for you or a friend to pick up at church. I'd like to attach them to this annual report.

I continue to believe that the most important thing we can do for our own spiritual lives is to make a commitment to PRAY every day, WORSHIP every week, READ and study the Bible, SERVE at our church and beyond, RELATE with others for spiritual growth and GIVE as God has first given to you. As we do that the Holy Spirit will stir among us and make us strong in faith and in acts of love for one another and the world.

I want to thank our outstanding staff and our wonderful key ministry partners, the so-called "volunteers" that really are the heart of our ministry here. I hope you know the joy of the Lord as you serve. You have saved and enriched so many lives. You have made disciples of Jesus. You have been obedient to the Lord. Thank you so very much.

By name I thank full time staff Nate Bendorf, Deb Hammond and Dianne Zitzloff and intern Paul Gustafson. It is such a privilege to work with each of you.

God is so good. Let's share His goodness with the world!


Pastor Steve Thorson

Congregational Council President's Report

Members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church:

I come before you today as a humble servant of the Lord and to the parishioners of this church. Over the past six years I have served on the church council, the last year as church council president. As my term ends I would like to highlight some of the exciting ministries that we as a council and church can be proud of.

To ensure the faith future of this church and to bring the word of the Lord to our youth, the council and church have expanded and supported the youth ministries like never before. The youth group has grown and reached beyond our expectation; so much so, that I cannot begin to explain the impact it has had and the work that they continue to do. It is surely a ministry to be proud of and thankful for.

Secondly, I am proud to say that ALPHA IS HERE!!! Alpha has opened the hearts of many to the Lord in our communities as well as to people beyond. Seeing faith grow and be discovered because of this terrific ministry has shown me how God really does work through people.

Our church is also reaching people beyond our walls by providing our radio ministry. Our radio ministry continues to grow because of generous gifts that enabled ELC to update the sound system that broadcasts the worship service to people in the surrounding area. This ministry is a true gift to many people who cannot attend physically as well as to those that the Lord seeks that are in a time of need or doubt. This has opened the door to the Lord to many and continues to let the Lord in for those who already know him.

To ensure that the future physical needs of the church are met, a long-range expansion fund has been established. The purpose of this fund is to provide for the future physical needs of our church as well as establish a cornerstone for any future expansion that we may need. This fund will provide a legacy for the future generations of our church. With this fund we can do for the church what we strive to do with our families, namely leave it in a better situation than when we left it.

I know that our ministries have been successful and continue to grow in our communities because of the work of members of our church. Recently a thrift store was opened as well as a local food shelf. With the Christmas season coming to a close, I have already begun to hear the stories of grace because of these two ministries. I have also heard first hand the stories of God's work through our ministries of the church and through outreach by our parishioners. Many changes and opportunities have taken place over the course of my service on the council. I look forward to seeing the continuation of God's work as others take over this rewarding position of church council president.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve and see what God's grace and love can accomplish. The excitement that our church has continues to grow and I am proud to be a part of this congregation as we spread God's word. THANK YOU!!

Kenneth Bakke,
2008 Council President

Youth Director's Report

Alive and moving...

Dear Brothers and Sister's of the Congregation:

As I look back over the 5-12th grade Youth Ministry Program of 2008, the word transformation comes to mind. The definition of transformation is a 'change in form, appearance, nature, or character'. I see changes in many aspects of our ministry, but most importantly, I see changes in people, both adults and youth. The power of the Holy Spirit to bring people to their knees at the feet of Jesus is awe-inspiring. It is a sight that makes the toughest of men and women melt. I thank the Lord our God for working through and in the members of this congregation, making it possible for this transformation to take place.

Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. Romans 12:2

Even through all the change and unpredictability of this world, one thing is consistent, and that is our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. With Jesus Christ as our cornerstone, we do not have to live in fear or hesitation when it comes to Youth Ministry. We can boldly take a stand for the Truth that is revealed to us in the Bible and in the life of Jesus Christ. We share this Good News with those within our church and with those we come into contact with in our daily lives, whether we are simply down the road or miles and states away.

Some highlights of our 2008 year in Youth Ministry include:

- Dare 2 Share in Lincoln, NE
- Alpha Youth Small Group
- Church League Softball Champs
- Mission Trip to Benton Harbor, MI
- Jr High Camp in Ingham, IA
- 10th Grade Confirmation Retreat
- Sr High Retreat to St. Cloud, MN
- Jr High Gathering in Willmar, MN
- KAOS outreach event
- D/C United Worship Services
- Silent Auction Fundraiser
- 65thers to Nelson's Farm
- ELC Cookbook Fundraiser

I want to thank each and every one of you, members and friends of Evangelical Lutheran Church. Because of your faith, your steadfastness and your prayers, Youth Ministry is alive and well! God is moving in the Youth Ministry Program, not just changing the lives of youth, but also changing the lives of adults who volunteer within the program. I want to thank the Wednesday Night Guides, the Youth Ministry Team, the Youth Ministry Board and all adults who are connected with the Youth Program for their dedication and passion for creating opportunities for youth to come to the cross.

If you are not somehow connected with the Youth Program at ELC, please come and check us out! Volunteer on a Wednesday night or for an activity. Tag along for a retreat or weekend gathering. And if you are really brave, come on a Summer Mission Trip with the Youth Program; come see what changes God has in store for you!

In Christ Jesus our Lord,

Nate Bendorf, Youth Director

Annual Meeting Minutes, January 27, 2008

Congregation President Duane Dahlman called the annual meeting of the Congregation of the Cokato Evangelical Lutheran Church to order at 9:50 a.m. on January 27, 2008. The meeting opened with devotions led by Pastor Steven Thorson. Vice President Bakke declared a quorum. Annual Reports were available for those requesting one. President Dahlman called for any additions or changes to the meeting agenda. None were requested. Mark Dahlman moved to accept the agenda as printed; Joel Hillmann seconded the motion. **Carried.**

Elsie Koivula moved to accept the Pastor's Report as printed; Mary Lou Teske seconded the motion. **Carried.**

President Dahlman called attention to the closing paragraph of his Congregational Council President's report. He suggested individuals think about what they can do to spread the word of God. Abe Abrahamson moved to accept the Congregational Council President's Report as printed; Eric Johnson seconded the motion. **Carried.**

The Youth Director's Report was presented. Youth Director Nate Bendorf thanked Pastor Steve, the staff and especially his wife Sarah. John Buschel moved to accept the Youth Director's report as printed; Diann Mauk seconded the motion. **Carried.**

Time was given to review the January 28, 2007 Meeting Minutes. There were no additions or corrections. Lois Carlson moved to accept the minutes as presented. Elsie Koivula seconded. **Motion carried.**

The Parochial Report was presented. Mark Dahlman moved to accept the report as printed. Eric Johnson seconded. **Motion carried.**

The Auditor's Report was presented. Financial Secretary Ring thanked those who served as auditors. John Buschel moved to accept the report as submitted. Mark Dahlman seconded. **Motion carried.**

The Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (W/ELCA) report was presented. Elsie Koivula moved to accept the report. Jon Ring seconded. **Motion carried.**

The youth ministry financial report was presented. Brian Abrahamson moved to accept the report. Ann Harmala seconded. **Motion carried.**

The Financial Secretary's Report was presented. Bruce Johnson moved to accept the report as presented. John Buschel seconded. **Motion carried.**

The 2008 Proposed Budget was presented. Financial Secretary Ring explained that the difference between the proposed and actual expenditures for Christian Education was due to curriculum expenses. The difference for Mutual Ministry was cost of living increases for staff.

John Buschel moved to accept all committee reports excluding the Nominating Committee Report. Carol Semke seconded. Pastor Steve responded to a question from J. David Anderson asking what XXX Church was. The church combats pornography at the University of Minnesota. President Dahlman called for a vote. **Motion carried.**

Diane Hanson presented the Nominating Committee Report and read the ballot of candidates. President Dahlman called for nominations from the floor for Council, Cemetery Board, Endowment Committee, Nominating Committee. There were none. Nominations were closed. Eric Johnson moved to accept the Nominating Committee Report as presented. Joel Hillmann seconded. **Motion carried.**

The Gifts & Memorials Report and In Memoriam reports were presented and time was given for questions. There were none.

Resolutions for 2008 #1-3 (Group 1) were presented. Mark Dahlman moved to accept the resolutions as presented. Barb Bakke seconded. **Motion carried.**

Resolutions for 2008 to Express Thanks were presented. John Buschel moved to accept the resolutions as presented. Billie Winter seconded. **Motion carried.**

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Resolutions for World Hunger, 2008 Budget and Benevolence were presented. Jon Ring moved to accept the resolutions as presented. John Buschel seconded. Mark Dahlman stated that ELC had been at 7% benevolence the whole previous year.
Motion carried.

Pastor Steven Thorson explained the upcoming Crow River Conference and the SW MN Synod Conference and stated that ELC delegates were needed.

President Dahlman announced that the council would have an organizational meeting immediately after adjournment of the Annual Meeting. President Dahlman expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to serve on the Council.

Mark Dahlman moved to adjourn the meeting. Joel Hillmann seconded. **Motion carried.**

The meeting adjourned at 10:31 a.m. Pastor Thorson closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Carlson,
Recording Secretary

Parochial Report for 2008

Baptized members	974
Confirmed members	778
Communing confirmed.....	420
Active (confirmed, communed, contributed in the year 2008)	418
Members received in 2008.....	35
Confirmation class.....	14
Member Decreases in 2008	13
Funerals conducted.....	10 members, 2 non-members
Baptisms conducted.....	9 children (16 years and under) and 3 adult
Weddings conducted at Evangelical Lutheran Church	3

Worship Attendance Averages			
	2006	2007	2008
8:30	149	127	114
11:00	131	128	141
Special services (Christmas, Lent, etc.).....	180	162	144

Membership Increase

Baptisms

- Charles Bortnem
- Buschel, Masyn
- Cooper Kuehn
- Zander Larson
- Makayla Meyer
- Travis Olson
- Tyler Olson
- Jesse Dawson (adult)
- Megan Kammermeier (adult)
- Meagan Westling
- Billie Winter (adult)

Confirmation Class, 2008

- Athman, Ashley
- Chap, Joseph
- Dagner, James
- Davis, Katherine
- Dobmeier, Tyler
- Haider, Kristen
- Hanson, Dakota
- Hjelmeland, Courtney
- Loewel, Brandon
- Morris, Halee
- Piepgras, Megan
- Refsland, Rebecca
- Ring, Annika
- Schmidt, April

Members received

- Jodi Artmann
- Barth, Britta
- Barth, Catheryn
- Barth, Jeff
- Barth, Tessa
- Flick, Cole
- Flick, Jordan
- Flick, Gus
- Flick Cy
- Isaacson, David
- Meyer, Chris
- Meyer, Jessica
- Sluis, Amy
- Sluis, Dylan
- Sluis, Hunter
- Sluis, Mike
- Verhey, Jasper
- Verhey, Jenavieve
- Verhey, Jennah
- Verhey, Jeremiah
- Wald, Andrea
- Wald, Emma
- Wald, Joseph
- Wald, Mary

Membership Decrease

Transfers and Releases

- Hardy, Linda
- Hardy, Kenneth
- Isaacson, Derek

Deaths

- Fern Anderson
- Verna Anderson
- Donald Carlson
- Loretta Dokken
- Rosemary Hagen
- Joanne Knoll
- Betty Lehtola
- Gordon Olson
- Stanley Stevenson
- Jeanette Tinglov

Weddings

- Ingrid Bakke/Bryan Moham
- David Isaacson/Rochelle Haack
- Mark Morris/Brenda Millage

Non-member funerals conducted

- Lyle Barth
- Richard Salim

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Mission Endowment Fund 12-31-08

	Principal/Corpus	Earnings	Total
12-31-07 Fund Balance	105,290.45	8,703.54	113,993.99
2008 Receipts			
Emily Christopher bequest	3,535.06		
Interest Earned:			
Mission Investment Fund	102.67	614.56	
First National Bank – Savings		214.62	
First National Bank – CDs		355.97	
State Bank of Cokato – CDs		1,263.42	
State Bank of Cokato - Global Missions -	.	<u>1,239.35</u>	
Total Earnings	<u>102.67</u>	<u>3,687.92</u>	
2008 Distributions			
Total Distributions -		<u> </u>	
12-31-08 Fund Balance	<u>108,928.18</u>	<u>12,391.46</u>	<u>121,319.64</u>
Assets (Investments in Trust)			
Savings Account - First National Bank			49,863.30
Certificates of Deposit:			
Mission Investment Fund			24,088.05
First National Bank			7,750.00
State Bank of Cokato			20,000.00
State Bank of Cokato - Global Missions			<u>19,618.29</u>
12-31-08 Fund Balance			<u>121,319.64</u>

Of the above funds, \$19,618.29 of principal is designated as a Global Mission Fund, the proceeds of which are to be used exclusively for the advancement of global missions.

Interest earned in Principal/Corpus column above represents interest on MIF certificate 20000006357 added to CD balance, not paid out in check during 2008.

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2008 Auditor's Report

ACCOUNT	12/31/07	2008 RECEIPTS	2008 DISBURSE.	GAIN (LOSS)	12/31/08
Church Treasurer	25.39	578,588.47	578,577.32		36.54
AM EX Money Market	82,520.26	136,105.90	60,850.01		157,776.15
Wycliffe	15,216.06	4,984.69	9,900.00		10,300.75
Memorial – Radio Endow.	15,000.00	679.86	679.86		15,000.00
Gifts & Memorial	57,258.36	9,987.50	5,954.10		61,291.76
Improvement	22,290.65	17,475.42	19,187.39		20,578.68
Improvement LB	2,050.45	56.50	0.00		2,106.95
Campership Savings	12,511.93	1,170.47	5,545.00		8,137.40
Campership CD	5,000.00	228.12	228.12		5,000.00
Scholarship Savings	98.94	.68	0.00		99.62
Scholarship CD	16,931.48	593.06	1,000.00		16,524.54
Adult Sch. - LB	11,782.08	906.19	0.00	(3,458.93)	9,229.34
Cemetery Savings	7,468.59	8.66	7,000.00		477.25
Cemetery Checking	573.45	2,546.17	2,875.00		244.62
Cemetery Money Mkt	1,841.26	42.48	0.00		1,883.74
Cemetery CD's	34,700.00	8,720.56	1,563.49		41,857.07
Partners Checking	7,934.01	2,748.34	6,158.00		4,524.35
Partners Money Market	750.37	17.06	0.00		767.43
Youth/Outreach Endow.	324,264.83	7,339.17	3,054.32	(93,367.53)	235,182.15
Discretionary	2,342.17	4,236.50	4,540.01		2,038.66
Youth Account	13,312.33	28,430.00	25,551.98		16,190.55
WELCA	4,113.36	16,544.79	17,331.17		3,326.98
Mission Endowment	113,993.99	7,325.65	-0-		121,319.64

Respectfully Submitted,
Amanda Weinandt, Kip Lynk,
Tom Berggren, Wendy Lankki, Gary Lankki

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W/ELCA Financial Report – Corn Carnival Account

Beginning Balance Corn Carnival Account	\$ 1,288.15		
Carnival Deposits	\$13,085.13		
Thrivent Financial (Matched Funds)	\$ 1,000.00		
Balance - Cash on Hand		\$	15,373.28
<u>Expenses</u>			
Corn Carnival Stand Fee	\$ 500.00		
Apperts	\$ 1,486.48		
Cash Box	\$ 600.00		
Karla Haider - Sam's Club	\$ 370.50		
White Front Meat Market	\$ 1,446.00		
Marketplace	\$ 1,554.92		
ISD 466	\$ 10.00		
Overtime Ink, LLC	\$ 168.00		
Russ Johnson Electric	\$ 45.00		
Total Expenses		\$	6,180.90
Cash on Hand		\$	9,192.38
<u>Disbursements</u>			
C-ELC Quilting Fund	\$ 1,250.00		
C-ELC Library Fund	\$ 50.00		
C-ELC Kitchen Fund	\$ 225.00		
C-ELC Youth Choirs	\$ 50.00		
C-ELC Youth	\$ 250.00		
C-ELC Youth Splash Camps	\$ 400.00		
C-ELC Chancel Choir	\$ 100.00		
C-ELC Discretionary Fund	\$ 550.00		
C-ELC Eloise Ponsford	\$ 350.00		
C-ELC Sunday School	\$ 425.00		
C-ELC Radio Broadcast	\$ 500.00		
C-ELC Parish Nurse	\$ 300.00		
Joyce Graue	\$ 200.00		
Sharing and Caring Hands	\$ 150.00		
Marie Sandvick Center	\$ 150.00		
Litchfield Hospice	\$ 250.00		
Wright County Crisis Center	\$ 300.00		
Salvation Army	\$ 250.00		
Wright County Habitat for Humanity	\$ 200.00		
Meeker County Habitat for Humanity	\$ 200.00		
Lutheran Social Services	\$ 300.00		
Pregnancy Resource Center	\$ 150.00		
ELCA Domestic Disaster Relief	\$ 200.00		
Minnesota Teen Challenge	\$ 150.00		
Cokato Food Shelf	\$ 400.00		
Cokato Charitable Trust	\$ 150.00		
Kids Against Hunger	\$ 200.00		
Lutheran Braille Evangelism Association	\$ 100.00		
Deaf Missions	\$ 100.00		
Operation Bootstrap	\$ 100.00		
Total Disbursements		\$	8,000.00
Balance on Hand - Corn Carnival Account			\$1,192.38

Respectfully Submitted,

Jenny Lee,
W/ELCA Treasurer

**Youth Ministry Financial Report
 Profit and Loss – January through December, 2008**

January 1, 2008

\$13,312.33

	Jan - Dec '08
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Activity Fees	625.00
Budget	6,500.00
Camp/Retreat Fees	4,893.92
Camperships	5,545.00
Cookbook Sales	1,960.00
Donations & Grants	2,106.00
Fund Raising Income	5,473.78
Reimbursed Expenses	1,046.50
Total Income	28,150.20
Expense	
adjustment	24.75
Bus	626.09
Camp activities	50.00
Camp Scholarships	50.00
Camp/Retreats	7,779.81
Cookbook Fundraiser	1,343.26
Curriculum & Training	60.00
D2S	304.01
Fall Ball	463.83
Fund Raising Expenses	982.12
Gifts (grad, conf, care)	684.72
Leader Resources	35.00
Missions trip	7,476.36
Monthly bill	572.53
Relational Ministry	488.48
remibursement	988.61
Sheep Shack Tshirts	1,018.10
Supplies	443.20
Tickets	1,316.56
World Vision	240.00
Youth Activities	324.55
Total Expense	25,271.98
Net Ordinary Income	2,878.22
Net Income	2,878.22

December 31, 2008

\$16,190.55

Financial Secretary's Report
General Fund 2008

Receipts			
Worship: Loose	10,700.76		
Initial	212.00		
General	316,990.60		
Sunday School	0.00		
VBS	100.00		
Ash Wednesday	1,074.42		
Lenten	1,861.40		
Maundy Thurs.	1,299.32		
Easter	5,267.34		*
Thanksgiving	2,867.00		
Christmas 2007	260.00		
Christmas 2008	7,469.00	348,101.84	
Interest	238.13		
Miscellaneous	68.48		
Reimbursements	17,867.74	18,174.35	
Youth	8,770.00		
Designated Gifts	9,872.27		
Altar Flowers	1,315.00		
World Hunger	11,577.76		
Local/Cnty Food Shelves	8,005.00		
Disaster Relief	580.00		
Graue Support	2,697.60		
SS Mission Offerings	2,450.86		
World Vision	0.00		
Insurance Policies	800.00	46,068.49	
Improvement	17,148.76		
Memorial	6,295.00		
Wycliffe	4,445.60		
Partners In Growth	2,725.00	30,614.36	
Estate Gift (K. Peterson)		97,404.43	
Total Receipts			540,363.47

*Easter Offering total was \$5,852.60 with 10% (\$585.26) designated to World Hunger.

Financial Secretary's Report
General Fund 2008 (...continued)

Budget Expenses:			
Christian Ed	4,416.93		
Fellowship/Outreach	2,327.67		
Global Missions	185.00		
Mutual Ministry	269,203.83		
Property	49,984.65		
Social Ministry	1,055.07		
Stewardship/Finance	1,068.00		
Worship/Music	5,186.25		
Youth Ministries	6,000.00		
Benevolence	26,237.39		
Miscellaneous	925.81	366,590.60	
Reimbursed Expenses		19,002.02	
Designated Disbursements			
Youth	8,770.00		
Designated Gifts	10,139.52		
Altar Flowers	2,045.00		
World Hunger	11,575.76		
Local/Cty Food Shelves	8,008.00		
Disaster Relief	580.00		
Graue Support	4,054.60		
SS Mission Offerings	1,753.03		
World Vision	390.00		
Insurance Policies	800.00	48,115.91	
Improvement	17,148.76		
Memorial	6,295.00		
Wycliffe	4,445.60		
Partners In Growth	2,725.00	30,614.36	
Estate Gift – Peterson		97,404.43	
Total Disbursements			561,727.32
Net Cash Flows			(21,363.85)

Checking Account balance 12/31/07	25.39
Net cash flows	(21,363.85)
Advance from Operating Loan	38,225.00
Payment on Operating Loan	(16,850.00)
Ending Account balance 12/31/08	<u>36.54</u>

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Evangelical Lutheran Church Designated Funds - January - December 2008

-----Designated Funds-----

	Reserve Fund	Improvement Fund	Partners In Growth Fund	Scholarship Fund	Campership Fund	Cemetery Fund
12-31-2007 Balance	82,520.26	24,341.10	8,684.38	28,812.50	17,511.93	44,583.30
RECEIPTS:						
Dedicated Donations	126,746.70	17,148.76	2,725.00			
Transfer In	6,850.00				1,088.12	8,000.00
Interest/Dividends	2,509.20	383.16	40.40	1,499.93	310.47	3,267.87
Other Income						50.00
Total Receipts	136,105.90	17,531.92	2,765.40	1,499.93	1,398.59	11,317.87
EXPENDITURES:						
Dedicated Funds	30,144.96	19,187.39	6,158.00	1,000.00	5,545.00	2,875.00
Transfer Out	3,450.00				228.12	8,563.49
Loan Payments	27,255.05					
Total Expenditures	60,850.01	19,187.39	6,158.00	1,000.00	5,773.12	11,438.49
Gain(Loss)Mkt.value				(3,458.93)		
Net Increase (dec)	75,255.89	(1,655.47)	(3,392.60)	(2,959.00)	(4,374.53)	(120.62)
12-31-2008 Balance	157,776.15	22,685.63	5,291.78	25,853.50	13,137.40	44,462.68
Assets 12/31/08 Bal.		Note: \$12,644.06 dedicated to kitchen				
Ameriprise MM	157,776.15	\$2,000.00 - chairs				
SBC Super NOW		20,578.68				
Thrivent MM		2,106.95				
SBC Super NOW			4,524.35			
Ameriprise MM			767.43			
SBC Savings				99.62		
SBC CD				16,524.54		
Thrivent High Yield				9,229.34		
SBC Savings					8,137.40	
FNB CD					5,000.00	
SBC Savings						477.25
SBC Ckg.						244.62
Ameriprise MM						1,883.74
SBC, FNB CDs						41,857.07

Evangelical Lutheran Church, Cokato MN
2008 Annual Report

Evangelical Lutheran Church Designated Funds - January - December 2008

-----Designated Funds-----

	Wycliffe Fund	Discretionary Fund	Gifts & Memorial Fund	Youth/Outreach Mission Endow	Mission Endowment
12-31-2007 Balance	15,216.06	2,342.17	72,258.36	324,264.83	113,993.99
RECEIPTS:					
Dedicated Donations	4,458.10	4,236.50	8,549.86		3,535.06
Transfers In	350.00		625.00		
Interest/Dividends	176.59		1,492.50	7,339.17	3,790.59
Other Income					
Total Receipts	4,984.69	4,236.50	10,667.36	7,339.17	7,325.65
EXPENDITURES:					
Dedicated Funds	9,900.00	4,540.01	5,954.10		
Transfers Out			679.86		
Other Expenditures				3,054.32	
Total Expenditures	9,900.00	4,540.01	6,633.96	3,054.32	-0-
Gain(Loss)Mkt.value				(93,367.53)	
Net Increase (dec)	(4,915.31)	(303.51)	(4,033.40)	(89,082.68)	7,325.65
12-31-2008 Balance	10,300.75	2,038.66	76,291.76	235,182.15	121,319.64
Assets 12/31/08 Bal.			See list of designations on page 13		
SBC NOW	10,300.75				
FNB Checking		2,038.66			
SBC Super NOW			61,291.76		
SBC CD			15,000.00		
Schwab					
Luth. Community Foundation				235,182.15	
FNB Savings					49,863.30
Mission Investment CD					24,088.05
FNB/SBC CDs					47,368.29

Evangelical Lutheran Church, Cokato MN
2008 Annual Report

Budget

Christian Education	2008 Budget	2008 Actual	2009 Proposed
Sunday School	3,600.00	3,276.45	3,650.00
Vacation Bible School	2,000.00	509.51	600.00
Confirmation	500.00	361.15	250.00
Bibles	300.00	269.82	300.00
Total	6,400.00	4,416.93	4,800.00

Fellowship & Outreach	2008 Budget	2008 Actual	2009 Proposed
Advertising	1,900.00	1,407.30	1,600.00
Website	500.00	0.00	0.00
F & O Miscellaneous	0.00	690.37	300.00
Synod Convention	600.00	230.00	600.00
Total	3,000.00	2,327.67	2,500.00

Global Missions	2008 Budget	2008 Actual	2009 Proposed
Mission Events	1,500.00	185.00	250.00
Total	1,500.00	185.00	250.00

Stewardship & Finance	2008 Budget	2008 Actual	2009 Proposed
Offering Envelopes	1,200.00	1,068.00	1,100.00
Stewardship - Ventures	500.00	0.00	100.00
Conference Dues	50.00	0.00	50.00
Total	1,750.00	1,068.00	1,250.00

Youth Ministries	2008 Budget	2008 Actual	2009 Proposed
Total	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00

Mutual Ministry	2008 Budget	2008 Actual	2009 Proposed
Pastor's Package	89,110.00	88,367.72	90,282.00
Youth Minister Package	38,960.00	38,959.99	42,250.00
Staff Positions	118,245.00	124,137.25	122,440.00
Extra Services	4,700.00	5,045.84	4,600.00
Office Expense	15,000.00	12,693.03	18,000.00
Total	266,015.00	269,203.83	277,572.00

Property	2008 Budget	2008 Actual	2009 Proposed
Utilities-Church	29,100.00	29,261.73	31,250.00
Contracted Services	3,200.00	4,312.33	4,100.00
Property Insurance	4,500.00	5,164.00	5,300.00
General Maint.	4,100.00	4,499.76	4,200.00
Parsonage	7,300.00	5,317.83	6,700.00
Bus/Van	1,875.00	1,429.00	1,700.00
Total	50,075.00	49,984.65	53,250.00

Evangelical Lutheran Church, Cokato MN
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Social Ministry	2008 Budget	2008 Actual	2009 Proposed
Total	500.00	1,055.07	500.00

Worship and Music	2008 Budget	2008 Actual	2009 Proposed
Worship Supplies	3,210.00	2,602.85	3,210.00
Special Services	500.00	375.00	500.00
Copyright Licenses	600.00	642.00	600.00
Devotionals	1,350.00	1,566.40	1,000.00
Total	5,660.00	5,186.25	5,310.00

Miscellaneous	2008 Budget	2008 Actual	2009 Proposed
Total	1,500.00	925.81	1,000.00

Subtotal for Committee Budgets	2008 Budget	2008 Actual	2009 Proposed
	342,400.00	340,353.21	352,432.00

Benevolence	2008 Budget	2008 Actual	2009 Proposed
SW MN Synod ELCA	20,868.00	23,518.44	25,144.56
Green Lake Bible Camp	1,800.00	1,718.95	1,750.00
Lutheran Social Services	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Other Benevolence	300.00	0.00	300.00
Totals for Benevolence	23,968.00	26,237.39	28,194.56

Budget Totals	366,368.00	366,590.60	380,626.56
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2008 Total General Budget	366,368.00		
2008 Total General Expenditures		366,590.60	
2009 Total General Budget (proposed)			380,626.56

December 31, 2008, Gifts and Memorials Designations:

Alternative Worship Music	2,439.73
Bell Choir	100.00
Bulletin Board	576.92
Cemetery	4,206.20
Cherub and Chapel Choirs	5,718.53
Chancel Choir	1,274.45
Heritage Room	347.59
Landscaping	348.84
Nursery	86.06
Office	247.86
Playground Equipment	1,232.26
Radio Broadcast	1,237.64
Sunday School	4,277.46
Undesignated	4,547.34
Banners	602.68
Sunday School Missions	1,498.90
Global Missions	1,359.13
Altar Guild	157.95
Grief Ministries	175.37
Library Fireplace	425.00
Radio Equipment	1,939.12
Projector	2,527.10
Old Tyme Music Fund	1,678.00
Brass Candle Stands	655.00
Social Ministry	16,642.63
Hymnals	5,040.00
Parish Nurse Program	300.00
Usher Stands	1,650.00
Total	61,291.76

2008 Operating Loan Activity

2/29/08	Borrowed	6,775.00	6,775.00
4/30/08	Borrowed	7,300.00	14,075.00
5/31/08	Borrowed	9,750.00	23,825.00
6/30/08	Borrowed	1,100.00	24,925.00
7/31/08	Borrowed	8,575.00	33,500.00
8/30/08	Borrowed	775.00	34,275.00
9/30/08	Borrowed	3,950.00	38,225.00
10/31/08	Payment	(8,600.00)	29,625.00
11/30/08	Payment	(3,850.00)	25,775.00
12/29/08	Payment	(27,255.05)	0.00

12/29/08 payment:
General Fund: \$4,400.00
Peterson Estate: \$22,855.05
(accrued interest of \$1,480.05)

Committee & Auxiliary Reports

Cemetery Board

Our cemetery lost several large trees during a late July, 2008, summer storm. Thanks to the leadership help of Mark Peterson, Tom and Bob Morris, the gracious help of several of our ELC youth, and Ann and Josh Harmala, the downed trees, branches and other debris were removed from our cemetery. Fortunately during this storm no tombstones were damaged. Thanks be to God.

The Cemetery Board also thanks everyone who does such a fine job of maintaining our cemetery. Their caring is deeply appreciated.

The northeast sections of the cemetery have been plotted.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Harmala, Cemetery Board Chairman

Christian Education Team

Our theme for the 2008-2009 school year is "Hanging on to God's Word." Two years ago, we studied the Old Testament. Last year we looked at the New Testament. This year, we are focusing on the Bible as a whole, and how it is put together. We began the year with a look at the book of Psalms, followed by a comparison of the Christmas stories in the gospels. Grade school students have been memorizing key verses from Psalms. Preschool students have been working on the Lord's Prayer. Other activities throughout the year include Rally Day, Bible presentation to the second graders, the Christmas program, Jesus' Birthday Party, fifth grade First Communion, and Sundae Sunday to end the school year. Last summer, our Vacation Bible School program joined with other local churches. There were over 300 kids learning about God and praising the Lord together. It was exciting!

A total of 34 youth and adults minister to the students on Sunday mornings in a variety of ways, including preschool teachers, shepherds, rotation site leaders, music leaders, and substitutes. We currently have 110 students registered from preschool through the 8th grade, and average between 80 and 85 students each week. The Sunday School offering for the 2008-2009 school year has again been designated to Heifer International. Last year, the students raised over \$1700 to send animals to 3rd world countries.

Thank you to everyone who has given of their time and talents to work with our young people in the Christian Education programs. It is our mission as a church to pass our faith on to others. Your dedication to these children truly makes a difference in their lives, and in the life of our church. We are always looking for new faces and volunteers. Please prayerfully consider joining our Sunday School staff or the Christian Education Team.

In Christ,

Amy Thostenson
Christian Education Chairperson

Cokato Manor Representative's Report

This past year, as usual, life at The Cokato Manor (the manor) has been busy as are all the entities under the Cokato Charitable Trust. Renovation was completed in various places and it really deserves an A+ in the way it turned out.

Presently a committee consisting of operating board and trust board members are in the process of interviewing and soon will be hiring a new administrator. Michelle Haefner, previous administration has resigned and taken a position in Willmar. We are sad to see her go but wish her the best in future endeavors.

We need to pray for a good person to fill the administrator's position. As well as continual prayer for all those who live, work, and volunteer at the manor. The manor staff appreciates the support and presence of those from our congregation who volunteer and serve in various capacities to provide Christian support to the residents.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy M. Anderson,
Cokato Manor Representative and ELC Parish Nurse

Fellowship and Outreach Committee

During the past year the Fellowship and Outreach Committee was involved in the following activities:

- Made 45 Fruit Baskets for both the Christmas and Easter season that were given to our elderly and shut-in church members.
- Sponsored (2) New Member Sunday's where we welcomed (8) new families into our church family.
- In September we arranged to have 40 members of Teen Challenge to come and share their personal life experiences during both of our worship services.
- In October we had a Fall Harvest Festival where there was a pork chop dinner, square dancing and activities for children. This event raised \$795.00 for the Pastor's Discretionary Fund.
- Started taking photos for a church photo directory that will be out in 2009.
- Are in the beginning stages of exploring the possibility of having a web-site for our church.

Respectfully submitted,

The Fellowship and Outreach Committee

Global Missions Committee

Evangelical Lutheran Church – YOU – supported missions during the year 2008. Here are some of the ways ELC “did” mission:

- Youth along with their adult leaders took several missions trips.
- Sunday School students bought animals for Heifer International with their Sunday School offerings (matching dollars were received from mission-minded donors).
- ELC quilters made and donated many quilts to Lutheran World Relief.
- Pastor Joyce and Ian Graue (ELCA missionaries serving in Central African Republic) and Eloise Ponsford (serving with Wycliffe Bible Translators) received year-long prayer and financial support. Pledged support for the Graues was increased over the previous year by \$500. 30% of the April 13, 2008, Mission Sunday offering was dedicated to support these missionaries in their work.
- The CELCYOE Fund helped send Amanda Carlson on a mission trip. Amanda spoke at a Sunday morning service.
- ELC funded regular Sunday morning worship service broadcasts over KLFD radio.

The Global Missions Committee sponsored a special “Missions Sunday” on April 13, 2008. We were privileged to hear from both Eloise Ponsford and ELC mission tripper Annalicia Johnson. Eloise showed us a video about how people are impacted by God's Word in their own language. Other video clips informed us about the Lutheran World Relief quilt ministry and about an ELCA water project.

Spreading the gospel is what the Global Missions Committee (GMC) is all about. What could be better than making God's word available – free of charge – to anyone who wishes to own a Bible? To that end the GMC continually solicits funds to pay for bibles that are placed into the Wishing Well in the church narthex. Anyone who needs a Bible is invited to take a copy from the Wishing Well. They are encouraged to take regular, refreshing “drinks” from that living water – God's word.

The committee is sponsoring a monthly prayer concern calendar beginning with January 2009 when we focus prayer on the ELC congregation and council. In February prayer will focus on mission endowment. Other plans for the coming year include a clean drinking water project.

Do you feel that God is calling you to be more actively involved in missions in the coming year? Why not attend a Global Missions Committee meeting to see if there is an area of service that fits you. The committee meets the first Wednesday of each month beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the church office. New faces and new ideas are always welcomed. Call the church office if you'd like more information or if you have questions.

Respectfully submitted,

The Global Missions Committee

The Cokato Evangelical Lutheran Church Youth and Outreach Endowment Fund (CELCYOEF)

Grants from the fund in 2008 included –

- \$2,500 to Amanda Carlson’s mission trip
- \$2,400 to support MN Teen Challenge and their efforts in helping people battle addiction to drugs and/or alcohol.
- \$700 to Prayer Watch International that enabled Becky Sorenson and Diann Mauk to attend prayer school.
- \$832.98 to Paul Gustafson to attend a church planting seminar.
- \$2,450 final amount disbursed to Alpha.
- \$1,000 to Cokato Food Shelf.

A total of \$9,882.98 went to benefit others or to better equip us to reach out to others and share with them God’s message!!!

Respectfully submitted,

Joel Hillmann and Julie Chap on behalf of the
Cokato Evangelical Lutheran Church
Youth and Outreach Endowment Fund

Mutual Ministry Committee

The whole people of God have a ministry with and to one another. It is a mutual ministry.

This committee serves by relating to the staff and keeping open communications within the staff and between the staff and other members of the congregation and the community. The committee wishes to be a channel for members to connect with the church council and with the staff about conditions, attitudes and needs within our church.

We listen and confer with staff members and serve as a sounding board for them. We may also help them evaluate their service. We consult with them about job descriptions and what they feel are expectations of them. We work in a caring atmosphere and are willing to listen to them tell of innovations and plans which they may or may not feel ready to present to the council. We can listen and serve as a confidential support group for staff members.

The committee will meet four times within a year and additionally as needed. The members of the committee are appointed by the church council. This past year the members of the committee have been Tom Teske, Mick Hoiem, Kim Morris, Norman Quanbeck and Pastor Thorson.

Respectfully submitted,

Norman Quanbeck on behalf of the
Mutual Ministry Committee

Nominating Committee

If elected, the following people have made a commitment to serve in the area designated:

Council Member

- Seat #1 – 3-yr term..... Diane Hanson
- Seat #2 – 3 yr. term John Buschel
- Seat #3 – 3 yr. term Deb Loe
- Seat #4 – 3-yr. term..... _____

Cemetery Committee

- 3-yr. term..... David Steffensen

Mission Endowment Committee

- 3-yr. term..... Allan Sorenson

Nominating Committee

- 1-yr. term..... Kevin Dahlen
- 1-yr. term..... Kelly Jo Hillmann
- 1-yr. term..... Lisa Fiecke
- 1-yr. term..... Connie Isaacson
- 1-yr. term..... Ruth Klima
- 1-yr. term..... Carol Semke

Property Committee

In addition to keeping the physical plant of ELC up and running the property committee worked on the following:

- ❖ The steeple louvers (badly in need of repair) were rebuilt using maintenance-free materials. The old louvers were removed and new ones were built. The bell tower was cleaned and screens were installed in the tower to keep pests out.
- ❖ A new and improved sound system was installed in the sanctuary.
- ❖ Door openers were added in the main entrance to the exterior and interior doors.
- ❖ A prayer kneeler for weddings and private prayer was added to the sanctuary furnishings.
- ❖ The ceiling in the parsonage music room was replaced.
- ❖ New exterior doors were added to the parsonage and back of church.

The property committee is always eager to accept new participants!

Submitted by Kevin Dahlen

Scholarship Committee

This committee is responsible for the disbursement of two educational scholarships which are available to our members.

The first is the Albert J. Wahlberg Memorial Scholarship, which is intended to aid student members of the congregation who are enrolled as juniors or seniors at an accredited four-year college, a Lutheran seminary or other accredited graduate programs to pursue a career in the ministry, parish work, social work and church or human services-related occupations. The amount of this scholarship is \$1,000.

The second is the Adult Scholarship, intended for adult members of our congregation between the ages of 21 and 50, not enrolled in a bachelor's or master's college program, to pursue training to improve their skills in the employment marketplace. The amount of this scholarship is a \$1,000 lifetime limit.

In 2008 our committee awarded two Albert J. Wahlberg Memorial Scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each to two individuals who are enrolled in the seminary.

Our committee especially encourages juniors or seniors in college who are pursuing degrees in the "helping professions" to apply for the Wahlberg scholarship.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Abrahamson, Eric Johnson and Ginny Fiedler

Social Ministry Committee

"My command is this, that you love one another as I have loved you." John 15:12

Our Social Ministry Committee (SMC) works with those in need in our congregation and outside our walls. This committee encompasses a large number of activities: Financial coaching, financial provision, BeFriender ministry, parish nurse, Sharing and Caring Hands support and cheer cards. These activities, however, are only a beginning as we strive to be available to anyone in need as the Holy Spirit directs.

This year, our major emphasis was on two new projects; national night out potluck picnic with members of our church and residents of the neighborhood defined by 3rd Street, 4th Street, Jackson Ave. and Jenks Ave. We had a good turnout of about 30 people, including residents from the Parkview Apartments and surrounding homes. We plan to do it again in 2009.

The second major event was the Hand-to-Hand food shelf line on December 7. Approximately 180 people participated by passing food hand to hand from the church to the food shelf. Afterwards the SMC served soup/chili and cookies. We received a good response and two pick-up loads of food. We'd like to do the event again, perhaps earlier in the year when temperatures are warmer.

The SMC was able to extend a helping hand to relocate a disabled young man from a condemned apartment building to a group home.

...Social Ministry Committee report continues on next page

Evangelical Lutheran Church, Cokato MN 2008 Annual Report

...*Social Ministry Committee report continued from previous page*

A disabled elderly man has also been receiving assistance from a SMC member who is helping with paying bills and working with county agencies to provide housekeeping, meals on wheels, etc.

The Save and Share Thrift Store, which received support from the SMC is doing well. One of our SMC members is on the board of the Thrift Store and she reported that the store has been able to provide funding for the purchase and distribution of Bibles in the mission field.

The Parish Nurse received funding to purchase pamphlets/books to educate new moms. She plans to include these in a basket with a shawl and deliver to new moms or those that had a difficult birth. She and two other members of the congregation began a "Faithfully Fit" exercise program available to anyone in the congregation, based on biblical principals.

A garden produce sharing table was set up for people to share what they grew and for those without gardens to take from the table. A free will offering was asked to help the SMC discretionary fund to help those in need.

In 2009, tough economic times and a colder than average winter will likely result in many more people in need. Please pray for a way you can be of help, either through services or by donating money to the committee to disburse to those in need. Thank you.

Committee Members: Chairman Carol Semke, Vice-chairman Barb Bakke, committee members Nancy Anderson, Tammi Dahlman, Ginny Fiedler, Jody Kjolhaug, Kim Morris Kathy Murphy, Allan Sorenson, Becky Sorenson, Jon Young.

Respectfully submitted,

—Becky Sorenson on behalf of the
Social Ministry Committee

Stewardship and Finance Committee

As we close out the year 2008, the Stewardship and Finance Committee finds itself, just like most of us, in the midst of the financial crisis. As of the writing of this report we find our annual giving for the year to be at our expected levels, however with fuel and other costs increasing, we find our operating loan to be at its highest year end balance in years. Furthermore, we are concerned that in the year ahead our level of giving may not be able to keep pace with continued cost increases.

The Committee has submitted with this report a budget proposing an approximate 3% increase in our operating expenditures for the year 2009. This is a lesser percentage of increase than was budgeted for last year. The increases are mainly due to estimated continued cost increases of our building and our staff. You will note in the budget that most, if not all, of the operating committees have proposed no increase in their budget for this coming year.

As a committee we hope that you will take the time to review the financial report for 2008 along with the proposed budget for 2009. We welcome any feed back you might have.

If we are to continue our ministry as a congregation we need to be conscious of the ever increasing costs of that ministry and continually make an effort to support those costs.

Thank you for your continued support of our congregation's ministry. We ask that each of you prayerfully consider your giving for this coming year.

With God's help and blessings, we confidently look forward to meeting the challenges of 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Hanson on behalf of the
Stewardship and Finance Committee

Worship and Music Committee

For Lutherans, worship matters. Worship is fundamentally about what God is doing and our response to God's actions. Worship is an encounter with God, who saves us through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Our worship and music committee enhances the worship through many avenues.

Worship leaders
Outreach ministry
Radio ministry
Scripture readers
Hymnody ministry
Instrumental ministry
Prayer ministry
&
Music ministry
Ushers and greeters
Sacraments
Inclusion of traditional and contemporary thinking
Choirs



For Lutherans, worship is an ever-changing and growing experience. Connected with and central to everything we do, worship unites us in celebration and helps us grow in our faith of Christian and Lutheran roots.

Respectfully submitted,

Duane Dahlman, Chairman
Worship and Music Committee

Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (W/ELCA)

The August, 2008, Corn Carnival food stand fundraiser serving went very smoothly. \$8,000 in earnings from the food booth was allocated at an October W/ELCA meeting.

ELC members aged seventy-plus were guests at the annual W/ELCA "Septuafest" meal. The event was well attended and lots of laughter was heard. The program featured speaker Jeanne Fobbe of Wright County Human Services.

November brought a pot luck dinner and assembly of boxes for the recent ELC graduates.

St. Lucia Day was celebrated on December 13. The community was invited to a coffee featuring traditional breads and served in the ELC Fellowship Hall.

Sadly, due to age and declining members, the afternoon Circle Bible Study group disbanded.

The church-wide serving groups continue to serve refreshments for Sunday morning coffee time. Cleaning of the kitchen will be added to the serving group's duties in 2009 with specific jobs posted on a chart in the church kitchen.

Thank you to everyone who contributed their time and talents, for your prayers and offerings.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Young and Karen Bergmann,
Co-Presidents of the Cokato Unit
Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

2008 Gifts and Memorials

Given in memory of :

Verna Anderson: World Hunger, Undesignated, Choir, Endowment Fund.

Donald Carlson: Usher Stands, Fellowship Hall Chairs, Camperships.

Loretta Dokken: Undesignated, Camperships.

Joanne Knoll: Alpha Program.

Betty Lehtola: Undesignated, Camperships.

Gordon Olson: Undesignated.

Levi Rost: Parish Nurse Program.

Stanley Stevenson: Undesignated, Camperships.

In Memory

During 2008 ten of our fellow Evangelical Lutheran Church members have been called to their eternal home.

Fern Anderson
Verna Anderson
Donald Carlson
Loretta Dokken
Rosemary Hagen
Joanne Knoll
Betty Lehtola
Gordon Olson
Stanley Stevenson
Jeanette Tinglov

As we grieve at their departure from our midst, we are comforted by the hope of eternal life. We declare our faith in the sure words of Scripture: *“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus from the dead, and to an inheritance which is imperishable, undefiled, kept in heaven for you.”* I Peter 1:3-4

Resolutions for 2009

We the members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, Cokato, MN resolve

- First* **to affirm our desire** to be blessed together with the Word and Sacrament and to be a blessing to others as we share our faith in Christ Jesus throughout 2009.
- Second* **as individuals** to be dedicated to daily prayer, weekly worship, Bible reading, service, spiritual friendships and generous giving.
- Third* **to strive** to be a congregation that serves in ways known and in ways that we need Him to show us. Keep us prayerfully vigilant!

To express thanks

- First* to Pastor Steven Thorson and to express thanks to Youth Director Nathaniel Bendorf for the leadership given to Evangelical Lutheran Church of Cokato in 2008.
- Second* to the retiring Congregation Council members Ken Bakke, Doug Carlson, Ruth Klima and Carol Semke.
- Third* to Fellowship & Outreach Assistant Paul Gustafson, custodians Dianne and Robert Zitzloff, Financial Secretary Teresa Ring, office staff Deborah Hammond and Rori Carlson and to organists Karen Anderson and Kathy Murphy, pianist/accompanists Linnea Holm and Beth Flick, Chancel Choir Director Toni Thorson, Chapel Choir Director Eric Munson, Cherub Choir Director Amy Thostenson and all others who helped enrich our church services.
- Fourth* to all who have given their time to work with the children of our church family on the Christian Education Committee; to those who served as teachers, shepherds, station teachers, middle school and senior high teachers and to Sunday School Superintendent Amy Thostenson.
- Fifth* to the confirmation program small group leaders Cindy Barth, Brita Barth, Denise Ertl, Mary Wald, Doug Carlson, Gary Lundeen, Rahn Ortquist, Gregg Haider, Karla Haider, Abe Abrahamson, Jean Abrahamson, Sarah Bendorf, Kim Morris, Angela Luhman, Jessica Baker, Teresa Ring, Tony Morris, Michal Morris, Sue Thomson, Veda Davis and to confirmation worship service co-coordinators Karen Anderson and Carlynn Lundeen.
- Sixth* to those who provide memorials, special gifts, music, flowers, the radio broadcast sponsors and the missionary sponsors, thanks to Mike Lawyer and Jeff Ertl for technical assistance and to all others who offer their talents to serve in many ways.
- Seventh* to the Enterprise Dispatch and the Herald Journal for publication of the congregation's weekly schedule and for other news coverage during the year.
- Eighth* to the members of the congregation who volunteered to serve as members of the Altar Guild and all other church committees and in other various special ways this year to help our congregation move forward in service.
- Ninth* to the Women of the ELCA; that we acknowledge their key role in carrying out the mission of the church.

Be it further resolved

- First* **to participate** in the ELCA World Hunger Disaster Appeal with a goal of \$8,000.
- Second* **to set** the 2009 proposed budget for Evangelical Lutheran Church at \$380,626.56.
- Third* **to continue** financial support of the Synod, with a minimum monthly gift of 8% of the congregation's undesignated offerings with a goal of up to 10% if funds are available, as determined by the Council on a quarterly basis. This benevolence includes our Green Lake Bible Camp corporate membership fee and Lutheran Social Services benevolence.