



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

FOUNDATION NEWS

Caring for the Ministry of Grace: "Ecclesia Perpetua"

July 2019

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The Grace Lutheran Church Foundation is a professionally managed corporate nonprofit foundation established by Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Corvallis, Oregon.

The Loaves and the Fishes All Over Again!

By Carolyn Warloe

Twenty-four years ago, Alice and Carl Ronnenkamp left Grace the initial funding for what would become the Grace Lutheran Church Foundation. They must have had some vision of how \$264,000 would benefit Grace and its mission. While they did not articulate this vision clearly in writing before they passed away, Paul Weswig, the executor of their estate, shared with the Council conversations he had had with Alice. We know that Alice wanted their gift to support and expand the mission of the church. We believe she wanted the funds to be an endowed gift that would continue to benefit the church for years to come. The Church Council decided to develop the Foundation to protect and manage these funds. The Foundation became its own nonprofit corporation closely tied to the Church.

It would seem that over the years many of you have liked the idea of a foundation to support Grace in its mission. Personal contributions to the Foundation have added more than \$220,000 to the Foundation's assets. Some of you have asked that your gifts support specific parts of the ministry. The Foundation now has a number of funds for specific purposes. Specific funds now support choir music, the youth program, Grace Center, technology, and many other ministries.

I wonder if Carl and Alice had a clue as to where their gift would take us! The Foundation has received approximately \$500,000 in personal contributions, including the Ronnenkamp's, since 1995. The Foundation was worth \$598,734.66 at the end of 2018, which is more than the total of all the funds that have been received since conception. Here is the really exciting part – "drum roll please!" The Foundation has funded a total of \$638,501.83 in grant requests through 2018. The Foundation has dispersed more funds than it has received in gifts and still has more funds than have been donated.

It seems a bit like a "miracle" that the Foundation has supported so many worthy projects and still has funds available! But I believe it is God's blessing to Grace Lutheran Church. He has multiplied those gifts like the loaves and the fishes! Thank-you to the many people who have contributed to the Foundation over the past twenty-four years and to the twenty-four years of Foundation Boards who have strived to manage and protect these gifts. I was on the Church Council when the Ronnenkamp gift was announced and the Foundation has exceeded anything I imagined. Thank-you to all who have made this possible.

In Service to the Ministry of Christ's Church

**Grace Lutheran Church Foundation
Financial Report**

January 1 – March 31, 2019

Contributions	\$470.00
Foundation Total Assets *	\$616,927.61
Expenses (includes projects funded)	\$7,777.76

Projects Approved, Pending, and Paid

MIF4KIDZ baptism “donations” for children under age 16, \$50 each	\$50.00
Giving It Forward Initiative, 1:1 matching funds, 2017 grant	\$15,526.63
Camp Lutherwood Scholarships – 2019 <i>Schultz Family Youth Fund</i>	\$2,000.00
Lines for Life training – J. Lapham <i>Brian Smith Fund</i>	\$500.00
“Making Peace with Your Cancer” Seminar <i>Storvick Parish Nurse Fund</i>	\$1,850.00
Lutherfest 2019	\$2,700.00
Youth Bibles for Sunday school <i>Roger Lindquist Fund</i>	\$1,000.00
<i>Memorial Funds</i>	
Audio equipment	\$1,542.56
Rebinding of Lectionary	\$45.00
<i>Total Projects</i>	<i>\$25,214.19</i>

* The Foundation’s total assets on January 1, 2019, were \$572,047.06.

The Board of Directors acknowledges the generosity of the following donors:

December 2018

In Memory of Ruth Alexander

Diane R. Alexander, Arlington, VA

In Memory of Eldon Erickson

David and Laura Metzger, Salem, OR

January 2019

Norma Moody, Corvallis, OR

In Memory of Bob Hendershott

Ron and Kay Larson, Corvallis, OR

In Memory of David Werth

Norma Moody, Corvallis, OR

March 2019

Juan Guzman, Corvallis, OR

Why I Am a Foundation Director

I assume that most of us have not had a passion for sitting on governing boards, especially that of a foundation.

Upon being asked to participate as a director on our church’s foundation, I did reflect on why I would want to accept the offer.

The underlying reason for my original participation was curiosity.

Where has the funding originated?

How large is the foundation funding?

Who has given to the foundation?

What criteria is used to award grants?

How are funds invested?

My participation has satisfied the curiosity. It has provided me answers and created a positive affirmation of the dedication of the directors, to effectively identify causes and disburse funds given in good faith by donors, to benefit our congregation and community in accordance with the intent of donors and guidelines of the foundation.

Bill Strohle – Director since 2015

I was on the Council when the Church was notified of the Ronnenkamp’s gift. I remember Alice sitting near us in church. She did not look like someone who had half a million dollars in the bank. I knew that the money that would become the Ronnenkamp Fund and the heart of the Grace Lutheran Church Foundation was a result of a life carefully and conservatively led. I wanted then as I do now to honor Carl and Alice’s wishes, and to make sure the Foundation resources are well managed and carefully used.

Carolyn Warloe – founding Director