

ST. LUKE'S FOUNDATION

Legacy News

August 2019

Please Join Us For the 1st Annual St. Luke's Foundation Reception

Sunday evening September 22, the St. Luke's Foundation Committee and Church Council will be acknowledging those who have supported the Foundation over the years. That support has provided us with many of the great things that are going on at St. Luke's today. The event will begin at 5:30 p.m. at St. Luke's with light refreshments followed by a short program starting at 6:00 p.m.

This celebration is open to everyone interested in learning more about the Foundation and who has an interest in supporting it either now or through future estate planning. We will also discuss how the Foundation can put us in a better position to be prepared for St. Luke's future.

For the past 25 years the St. Luke's Foundation has helped people in a multitude of areas with funding for items not covered in the church's annual budget including:

- Awarding scholarships
- Ministry areas and missions including funding for new programs such as Luke's Closet, Feed My Lambs, Stephen Ministry training, and assisting with youth activities
- Music
- Building and property projects
- Undesignated funds (available to be applied to the area of greatest need)

**Thank you for your continued
support of the St. Luke's
Foundation. To attend this event
RSVP in the Church Office
or call (608) 831-6084.**



Children shop Luke's Closet with a volunteer.

Success Stories of the Foundation

Luke's Closet by Kim Nickel

It was spring of last year when a handful of individuals felt the call to provide help to foster and kinship families. The St. Luke's community sprang into action and with funding by the St. Luke's Foundation, Luke's Closet was created.

Luke's Closet is a perfect example of how the Foundation can support St. Luke's call to proclaim and serve Christ. Luke's Closet was not on anyone's radar screen during budget time. The Holy Spirit moved people to action. People responded and the Foundation funded their call to action. The difference the Foundation makes is real.

Luke's Closet provides free, new or newly-new clothing to foster, kinship and adoptive children. A kinship family is when a relative, such as Grandma, is the primary caregiver. Foster and kinship families are an often-forgotten population frequently operating on the financial margins while caring for children who may have arrived with just the clothes on their backs. They are big on love and often short on money.

There are nearly 300 foster children in Dane County and over 400 children in kinship care. Luke's Closet helps guardians focus on loving the kiddos rather than the stress of providing for them. Luke's Closet delivers requested clothing and also allows children to shop the Closet themselves. To date, nearly 300 children – averaging 10 items per child – have

received clothing from Luke's Closet.

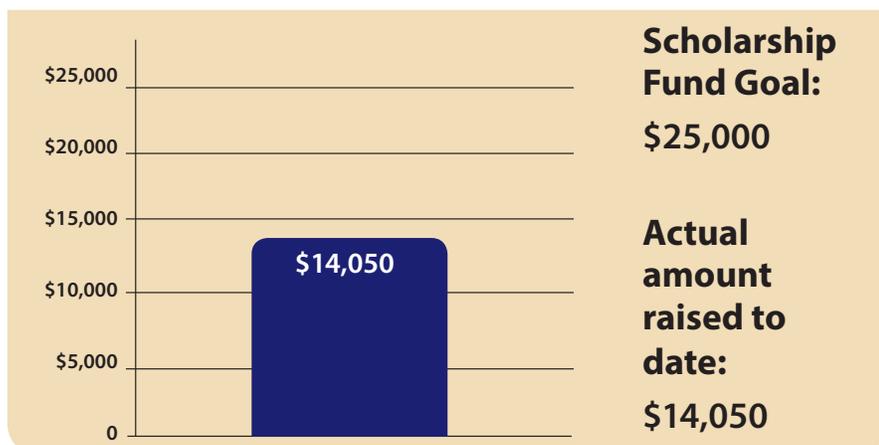
Within one month of starting, Luke's Closet quickly outgrew the designated room and needed a new space. With a financial gift from the Foundation, a previously used storage room in the lower level of the church was transformed into a walk-in closet for all sizes of clothing. Closet rods around the perimeter of the room, shelves, bins and baskets were purchased and Luke's Closet gratefully settled in. The Foundation also funded the Luke's Closet flag which is moved to the Hubbard Avenue sidewalk on the bi-monthly shopping days so families can find us.

Here is what others say about Luke's Closet: A Dane County social worker stated, "Luke's Closet is one of my favorite resources in Dane County! Many of my families have utilized Luke's Closet. I really appreciate all of your hard work...it is so important to me that children are well dressed, don't stick out like they're in foster care, and feel confident with their appearance."

The Luke's Closet team is grateful for the Foundation's support of Luke's Closet and the ability to support these at-risk children and families.

If you'd like more information about Luke's Closet, please visit our website at <https://www.stlukes-elca.org/lukes-closet> or follow us on Facebook at Luke's Closet Dane County.

Progress Report for the 125th Anniversary Scholarship Goal



Foundation Finances Planning for the Future

by Tom Scott

This article focuses on the similarities between our own personal future planning considerations and those of St. Luke's. Most of us at a certain point in our lives have thought about retirement, investments, and our future. For some of us, that happens early, for others maybe a little later. When we think about our future needs, we think about saving, perhaps we invest, and we hope we have enough money available when needed.

Our church isn't significantly different. What once was new, like a kitchen, gets old and it needs to be retired. But at the same time, it has an entire new generation of parishioners using this kitchen so retirement really becomes replace, remodel, and renew. Maybe the future need will be a new roof, a crumbling sidewalk, a parking lot, new seating in the sanctuary, a new sound system or perhaps, it's a new helping hand ministry for at risk kids in our community.

One way to deal with these inevitable future needs is to save. If the need is predictable, like a roof, we would save today to pay for that item tomorrow. But what if the need isn't predictable – what if a problem or opportunity just pops up. And what if, given all the pressure on the annual budget,

St. Luke's can't quite save enough to address this urgent need. That's where the Foundation can help.

Gifts made to the Foundation are invested for future needs of the church and just like our personal savings and investments, will grow over time and be available to fund or help offset major expenses not covered in the annual budget. Another Foundation similarity to personal savings and investments is planning for the future. St. Luke's is planning for the future, too. We just don't always know what that might be. Maybe it is start-up money for a new ministry like Luke's Closet or Feed my Lambs. Maybe it's helping a new mission church get started. Because we don't have all the answers, doesn't mean we shouldn't be ready. Prudent planners prepare for their future and the Foundation is an important way we can help prepare for St. Luke's future.

Support for the Foundation now will allow us to do things in the future we didn't think were possible and cannot even imagine today.

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Gifts should be specifically identified as going to the Foundation. Please contact St. Luke's office staff or Foundation Committee members either in person or at: Foundation@stlukes-elca.org.

St. Luke's Foundation Mission Statement

*We proclaim and serve Christ... Here, there, and everywhere
~ Now and into the Future ~*

2019 Scholarships

In 2019, ten scholarships were awarded totaling nearly \$20,000. Nine \$1,000 scholarships were awarded along with the Hefty Scholarship which provides a full year of tuition to a UW school.

Foundation Gifts

All gifts to the Foundation are welcome and greatly appreciated as we prepare for our future. While gifts over a certain level may be designated for any purpose you feel is important to our church, other gifts may be either designated or undesignated. Designated gifts should generally be in one of the following four areas:

- Scholarships
- Music
- Ministry Areas and Missions
- Building and Property Needs

2019 Foundation Activity

In addition to the new 125th Anniversary Scholarship Fund, we have also collected over \$3,300 in donations toward other scholarship funds this year. The Foundation has received \$10,000 in wills/future bequests toward our goal of \$100,000.

Thank you for your gracious support!

St. Luke's Foundation Committee Members:

- Bob Wortinger, Chair
- Lee Petersen, Vice-Chair
- James Harrod, Treasurer
- Mary Schwoch, Secretary
- LaVonne McCrill, Scholarship Liaison
- Tom Scott, Member
- Scott Heise - Council Liaison

