



Legacy News

February 2021

Funding New Equipment for Online Ministry

The St. Luke's Foundation was created to encourage, receive, and manage gifts that support St. Luke's current and future needs. Some of those "future" needs have arrived NOW.

Jeff Rohlwing, St. Luke's Director of Music, Worship & Technology, applied for a grant from the Foundation for over \$22,000 to upgrade video and computer equipment to present the most meaningful ministry possible to our parishioners. He noted that discussion of online ministry had been going on at St. Luke's for some time and believes that in our modern world the "front door" of our church will become an online door as much as a physical door. Jeff indicated that St. Luke's ministry must evolve to meet the needs of a technologically connected society. To meet that need he feels online content must be designed to be a ministry and should include, but not be limited to, online worship services, bible studies, adult faith academy classes, conferences, youth events, confirmation, concerts, and Stewardship. The arrival of Covid-19 thrust St. Luke's into the digital world sooner than the church anticipated, but Jeff views this as a great opportunity.

With the funds provided by this grant, Jeff and Doug Cassel, Digital Communications Manager, purchased video equipment needed to upgrade production. This included two cameras, lights, tripods, microphones, and a new computer to handle all the video editing and encoding. Finally, they purchased a live video switcher and accessories which allowed St. Luke's to professionally livestream services. They stated that this equipment is vital to their work in the midst of the pandemic. They feel this has resulted in a highly professional, impactful, and engaging worship

Supporting St. Luke's Scholarships

While 2020 has provided many challenges health-wise and economically, several St. Luke's students are busy finishing their high school careers or continuing their college careers and are looking forward to attending a college or technical school in 2021.

One of the most valuable assets provided by the St. Luke's Foundation is the scholarship program which has provided over 125 scholarships to St. Luke's students over the past fourteen years and started back in 1994. In recent years, scholarship payouts have totaled approximately \$20,000 per year. This includes one full year scholarship to a UW system university plus a number of \$1,000 scholarships. In recent years, the number of Foundation funds available for scholarships has dropped from as many as eight down to five including the 125th Anniversary Scholarship Fund which was started in 2019 through several generous donations from St. Luke's members. Fortunately, some of these scholarship funds are able to offer several annual scholarships.

In 2021, we will face a new and exciting challenge. Our St. Luke's senior class is much larger and more active than recent classes. We have been providing 9 to 12 scholarships per year and hope to increase that number significantly to reward this year's students. While 2019 provided lots of financial support for our scholarship funds, the economic challenges associated with the pandemic slowed things down significantly in 2020.

We would greatly appreciate your help as we try to build up our scholarship funds to support our students this spring. If you would like to support the St. Luke's Scholarship program, make your payment or other form of donation specifically to the St. Luke's Foundation and indicate Scholarships.

service for our St. Luke's community and beyond. By improving the quality of our worship services, they believe St. Luke's has enhanced the value of our mission and outreach for many years to come.

Jeff and Doug concluded, "Digital outreach has become a necessity of St. Luke's ministry, and with these gifts St. Luke's can continue to impact our community by sharing the word of God in new and engaging ways. Through these gifts, we hope to contribute to the Foundation's mission of 'leaving a legacy for generations.'" These acquisitions were possible only because of the generosity of St. Luke's members over the years and the Foundation Committee sincerely thanks you for your past and continued support.

Foundation Legacy Giving

While funding current projects such as scholarships and unexpected financial needs that arise are an important function of the St. Luke's Foundation, the primary goal of the Foundation is to sustain our Christian vision and stewardship by providing financial resources for the future.

Current gifts are important to the Foundation, but long-term gifts through wills and estate plans are essential in providing financial resources to serve the needs of St. Luke's 10, 25, and even 50 years from now. Long-term support of the Foundation can be accomplished through bequests, qualified charitable distributions, securities, charitable remainder trusts, and several other instruments.

Supporting St. Luke's Members Through DVD's

Since we could not worship in our physical building in 2020 because of Covid-19, online Sunday Services became a necessity for our spiritual well-being. Paul Harshner and the senior planning committee noted that some St. Luke's members did not have access to these digital worship services. To address this problem, Paul applied for a Foundation grant from the Ollie Groth Senior Ministry fund for DVD players with head phones.

The senior ministry's plan was to provide DVD players to members who requested the players and have Doug Cassel cut

DVD's of Sunday's services for distribution to members who can only access St. Luke's services through a DVD player. **If you need a player**, please don't hesitate to contact the church office with your request. Your DVD will contain the same worship service that other members connect to digitally. These DVD's should fulfill a spiritual need that some of us find lacking at this time.

The "future" arrived NOW for St. Luke's members who received the DVD players and DVD's to view online services. The Foundation Committee appreciates your continued support as we don't know what new and unexpected needs we will face in the coming years.

St. Luke's Foundation 2020 in Review

As we begin a new church year, we are reminded of things that were accomplished over the past twelve months.

Last year at this time we were noting that the St. Luke's Foundation provided over \$65,000 in financial support for various church activities over the prior two years.

In 2020 alone, the Foundation was able to provide financial support of nearly \$80,000 as the church faced new and unexpected challenges with the pandemic. Major Foundation projects funded for 2020 included: (1) Purchase of video and computer equipment to significantly improve the quality of virtual online worship services (\$22,022); (2) Financial support from the Brumm Fund for church roofing and stair repair projects (\$36,900); (3) Purchase of DVD players and related equipment for St. Luke's members unable to view Sunday worship services (\$1,500); and (4) Spring 2020 Scholarships to nine St. Luke's students (\$19,700). Foundation support was also provided for the 2020 high school mission trip which this year served the Madison area. We thank you for your support in 2020 and look forward to new opportunities to serve St. Luke's in 2021 and future years!

Reflections

LaVonne McCrill

I have served on the St. Luke's Foundation Committee for five years and my term is ending soon. While on the Committee, one of my responsibilities was being a liaison between the Foundation and the Scholarship Committee. The Foundation has seen an increase in both the number and value of available scholarships during this time. The role of the Foundation in providing funds for many aspects of the church's mission has increased in importance and value because of the dedicated work of the Foundation members and contributions from church members to the Foundation. I have enjoyed my time on the Committee and thank the Council for allowing me to serve as a member.

Foundation Recognition

The Foundation Committee asked member and resident artist, Kevin Roth, to paint a picture of St. Luke's to provide to significant Foundation donors as a thank you for their support. Kevin completed the painting and signed and numbered the prints, which were recently delivered. One recipient said, "Thank you for the print and it is very nice to see our church when we cannot be there right now." We plan to continue to deliver more prints in 2021.

Foundation Gifts

Both current and future gifts to the Foundation are welcome and greatly appreciated as we prepare for our future. While gifts over \$10,000 may be designated for any purpose you feel is important to our church, any gifts are welcome and may be directed to:

Scholarships
Music
Ministry Areas and Missions
Building and Property Needs
General Foundation

Gifts should be specifically identified as going to the Foundation. For more information, contact St. Luke's office staff or Committee members.

Foundation Balance

12/31/2019	\$995,382
12/31/2020	\$994,013

Thank You's!

The Foundation Committee extends a very special thank you to LaVonne McCrill for her valuable contributions over many years as a Committee member. A special thank you also goes to Marlo Lewis and Julie Murray for their generous support throughout the year.

Committee Members:

Bob Wortinger, Chair
Tom Scott, Vice-Chair
Mary Schwoch, Secretary
LaVonne McCrill, Scholarship Liaison
Andy Roquet, Member
Larry Pincombe, Member
Sylvia Donaldson, Council Liaison

St. Luke's Foundation Mission Statement

We proclaim and serve Christ... Here, there, and everywhere

~ Now and into the Future ~

