

# Looking back, moving forward

## 2016 annual report



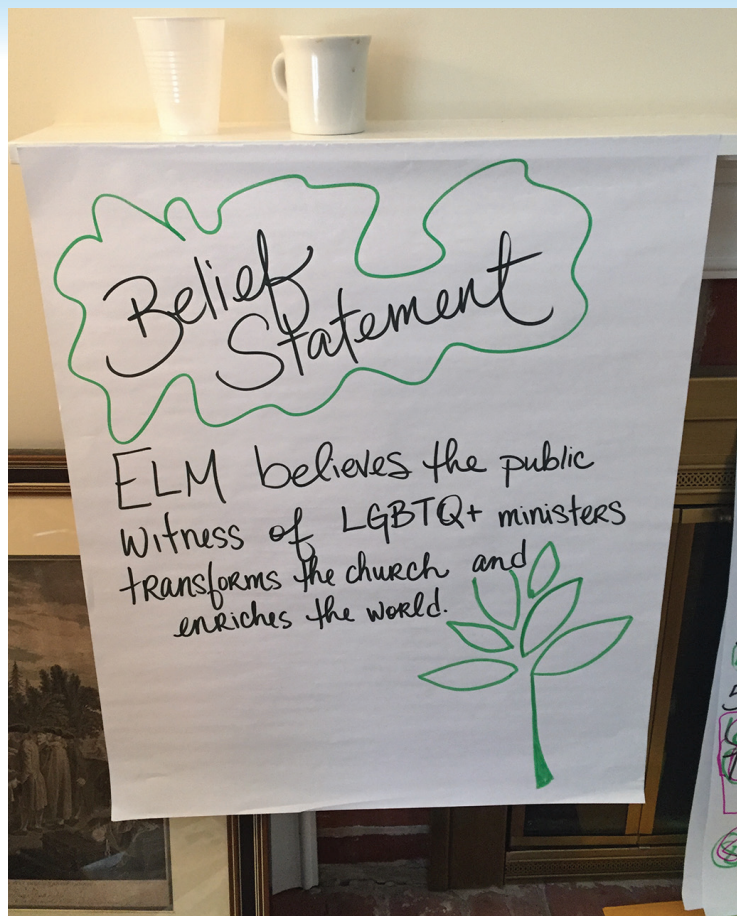
EXTRAORDINARY  
LUTHERAN  
MINISTRIES

In this annual report, we take time to look back at the previous year. And we also move forward. Extraordinary Lutheran Ministries has been engaged in a process to identify our core purpose and current strategic objectives. I'm excited to share this new vision with you.

As I begin my final two months with Extraordinary Lutheran Ministries as Executive Director, I join you in looking at both our extraordinary past and our bold future. From the bottom of my heart, thank you for all you do to support LGBTQ+ people in ministry in the Lutheran church. I have lived and breathed this work for the last decade. You have shared your hearts and stories with me and I will never be the same. As I leave this work to begin my Master of Divinity at Wartburg Seminary, I am so thankful and energized about Extraordinary Lutheran Ministries' future. I would not be able to imagine my future as a pastor without ELM - or you!

With unending gratitude,

Amalia Vagts, Executive Director



### BELIEF STATEMENT

Extraordinary Lutheran Ministries believes the public witness of LGBTQ+ ministers transforms the church and enriches the world.

### CURRENT STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

We have named two major strategic objectives for our immediate future: public witness and boldly proclaiming.

**Public witness: Model God's liberation for all by claiming the value of visible LGBTQ+ led ministry.**

Public witness is one of the core gifts ELM brings to the church - by being our true selves, we invite others to be their true selves. ELM's focus on this brings purpose to our work and clarity to the point of Proclaim. This is so central to our identity that we must be clear and committed to it. Unwavering commitment to this value will provide clarity and direction in all of our work.

**Boldly proclaim: Boldly address barriers and create space for emerging ideas, leaders, and movements.**

These times call for boldness. By proclaiming boldly we step into brave space, we engage in holy provocation, and we explore big ideas like funding emerging ministry. If we do not embrace boldness, our work could lead us down the road of safely fitting within the system. If we embrace boldness, this direction resonates with the history and spirit of ELM and meets a need in the church right now for truth-telling and action.

## Your accomplishments in 2016

ELM has three main programs: Proclaim, Ministry Engagement, and Accompaniment. Here are the highlights from 2016.

**Proclaim**—You build community among LGBTQ+ Lutheran rostered ministers through Proclaim. You equip LGBTQ+ ministers, so they can be a public witness of God’s love and call to justice for all.



	Members	Seminarians	Awaiting first-call	First-calls Received
2014	175	50	18	10
2015	215	60	15	24
2016	241	65	7	13

Over the last three years...

- The number of Proclaim members has increased 38%
- The number of Proclaim candidates awaiting first-call has decreased 61%
- As Proclaim has grown, the percentage who are seminarians as remained around 27%

As a community, Proclaim held conversations about community values, norms, and identity. These conversations help the growing number of newcomers determine the kind of community Proclaim is and how to engage with one another as a community.

- The annual National Proclaim Gathering provides renewal, networking, and sends everyone back out to proclaim. The 2016 Gathering brought nearly 80 leaders together in California for three days in April.
- Our four chaplains provided “rivers in the desert” for Proclaim leaders throughout the year.

### Ministry Engagement

- Increased presence at synod assemblies from 4 in 2015 to 8 in 2016.
- ELM Local Contacts increased from 9 in 2015 to 13 key synods in 2016 to help connect synod staff and local congregations
- Peer-to-peer resourcing: Diaconal minister Lauren Morse-Wendt compiled ELM resources into a letter for Proclaim colleagues to help leaders talk with their congregations about the work of ELM and what it means to be in Proclaim.

### Accompaniment

- Visits to ELCA seminaries give us a chance to connect in person with Proclaim members and faculty to learn from each other.
- Our First-Call Coaches project (led by Rev. Javen Swanson) really started bearing fruit! Of the 15 people who started with the first group, only 2 remain without call. Our work continues as more candidates are approved and await first call.
- While many candidates report an easier time with candidacy and call, those who are gender non-conforming and queer-identifying are facing extra barriers and expectations.





# Thank you friends for your support in 2016!

## **Extraordinarily Faithful & Fabulous Friends (\$30,000 +)**

Bruce Jervis & Jim Kowalski  
Rhodes & Leona B. Carpenter Foundation

## **(\$10,000 – 19,999)**

Anonymous  
Margaret Moreland & Bennett Falk  
Timothy Nguyen & Randy Presuhn

## **(\$5,000 – 9,999)**

Grady & Kenneth Kase  
Nathan Urquhart

## **(\$2,500 – 4,999)**

Gregory Allen Egertson  
Julie & Luther Grafe  
Blanche I. Grube  
Charles W. Horn  
Betty & Dale Johnson  
Sarah & Mark Stegemoeiler  
Amalia Vagts & David Lester  
Congregations & Foundations  
Faith Lutheran Church; East Hartford, CT  
Philip N. Knutson Endowment  
University Lutheran Chapel; Berkeley, CA

## **Faithful & Fabulous Friends**

### **(\$1,000 – 2,499)**

Anonymous  
Rev. Shawn Brandon & Mo Goff  
Mary Barton  
Rev. Rose Beeson  
Rev. Donna Duensing  
Shirley Egertson  
H. Leon Hoover & Scott Franklin  
Mari Griffiths Irvin  
The Rev. Jeff R. Johnson & J Guadalupe (Pepe) Sánchez Aldaco  
Tom Jacobson and Ramone Muñoz  
Judy Kirtleson & Rev. Michael Wilker  
Max Kirkeberg and Gabriel Proo  
Nicole Johnson & Rev. Barbara Lundblad  
Sandra Kuntz  
Dr. Russell H. Miller & Mr. Kirk Alan Pessner  
Tim Mumm  
Rev. Dr. Randy & Joy Nelson  
Marcia & Jim Nagel  
Rev. Jen Rude  
John Eric Rolfstad  
Joseph C. Steins  
Rev. Gordon Straw & Evelyn Soto  
Rev. AJ Striffler  
Gerald & Valerie Vagts  
Bonny & John Vaught  
Lois Voss  
Raymond & Linda Wiebe  
Mary Wiltse

### Congregations & Tributes

Edina Community Lutheran Church; Edina, MN  
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church; St. Paul, MN  
Ordination of Rev. Joe Larson  
Grace University Lutheran Church; Minneapolis, MN  
Grace Lutheran Church; Evanston, IL  
First United Lutheran Church; San Francisco, CA  
St. Francis Lutheran Church Endowment; San Francisco, CA  
St. Luke's Lutheran Church of Logan Square; Chicago, IL  
St. Paul Lutheran Church; Oakland, CA

## **Fabulous Friends**

### **(\$600 – 999)**

Rev. Brenda Bos & Janis Reid  
Bill and Sandy Bixby  
Linda and Larry Christensen  
Rev. Beate Chun  
Rev. Erik Christensen  
Rev. Darin Easler & Rev. Bradley Schmeling  
Crystalle Ebbinga  
Larell Fineren  
Rev. Robert Goldstein  
Rev. Carolina Glauster & Emily Ann Garcia  
Rob Montry  
Rev. David & Debbie Miller  
Laura McDaniel

Rev. Jen Nagel & Rev. Jane McBride  
Michael Nelson & Dale von Seggern  
Rev. Asher Herman O'Callaghan  
Cheryl Persigehl & Jonathan Flak  
Nancy & Rev. Ron Rude  
Rev. Jill Rode & Rev. Gretchen Colby Rode  
Richmond Schmidt  
Bp. Jim & Ellie Sudbrock  
Jim & Karen Shanower  
Rev. Kyle Severson & Clyde Andrew Walter  
Rev. Rebecca Seely & Abby Ferjak, D.M.  
Rev. Ann Tiemeyer & Rev. Dr. Tom Taylor

### Congregations

Resurrection Lutheran Church

## **Faithful Friends**

### **(\$300 – 599)**

John Aakre & Cynthia Michael  
Amy Alexander & Rev. Kelli Shepard  
Rev. Albert & Joan Ahlstrom  
Janice & Al Edwards  
Rev. Dr. J. Elise Brown  
Rev. Cary Bass-Deschênes  
Michael Bass-Deschênes  
Grant Burger  
Rev. Jay Berry  
Patrick I Brown  
Rev. Sara Cogsil & Rev. Laura Kuntz  
Rev. Paul Clark  
Gisele Clark  
Rebecca and Dennis Cremin  
Rev. Aaron Decker  
Kathy & Dave Endorf  
Daniel Feiertag  
Ingrid & Rev. Paul Feiertag  
Rev. Brad Froslee & Bill O'Connor  
Ronald & Susan Graef  
Rev. Nathan Gruel  
Sally M. Gibbs  
Mary Ann Horton  
Karen Herseth-Wee & David Wee  
Tim Hillerman  
Linda Headrick  
Debra Holcomb & Dale Ashlock  
Douglas Howard  
Jennifer Jervis  
John Jorde  
Ronald and Barbara Johnson  
Wheeler & Lisa Jervis  
Paul L Johnson  
Jeannine Janson  
Leona Lee  
Shirley & Robert Lester  
Rev. Amy and Rev. Matt Larson  
Steve Mosco & Joe Flint  
Joe McMahon  
Norma Martin  
Rev. Jennifer Mason & Rev. Jodi Barry  
Rev. Stacey & Doug Nalean-Carlson  
Janelle Petersen  
Jason Poole  
Noel & Ann Peterson  
Rev. Dale Poland  
Clare Tallon Ruen and Rev. Daniel Ruen  
Bruce Radtke  
Rev. Javen Swanson  
Marti Scheel  
Janet Thuessen  
Rev. Manda Truchinski  
Nancy VanBrundt and Connie Wood  
Rachel S. Vagts  
Richard Warren  
Nancy Wichmann  
Charles Witschorik

### Congregations

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church; Chicago, IL  
Lutheran Church of The Master  
Redeemer Lutheran Church  
St. Peters Lutheran Church of Cape Cod  
St. John's Lutheran Church of Christopher Street; NY, NY  
St. Paul Lutheran Church

## **Extraordinary Friends (\$10 – 24.99 monthly)**

Glenn & Audrey Anderson  
Richard E. Andersen  
Rev. Julie Boleyn & Rev. Jeanine Reardon  
Rev. Bruce & Carol Benson  
Rev. Daphne Burt  
Joel Bergeland  
Michael J Crandall  
Rev. David W Coffman  
Rev. Caleb Cramer  
Peter Carlson Schattauer  
Gordon & Carol Duprey  
Jason DeRose  
Rev. Mark Erson  
Rev. Emily Elizabeth Ewing  
Josh Evans  
Lewis Eggleston  
Lynn Mickelson and Sharon Kilburn  
Annette Foor & Patricia Bane  
Rev. Ruth Frost and Rev. Phyllis Zillhart  
Mary & Dick Graves  
Bonnie Joy Gunzenhauser  
Rev. Paul Gibson  
Christophor Gilbert  
Rev. Jason Glombicki  
Rev. Dr. Shauna K. Hannan  
Rev. Erik Haaland & Daniel Holmgren  
Rev. Susan Halvor  
Rev. Anita C. Hill  
Rev. Allyn Itterly  
Philip Isensee & Martha Maier  
Rev. Matthew James & John Weit  
Paul Andrew Johnson  
Rev. Amy Kumm  
Rev. Richard W Krug  
Rev. Bill Knezovich  
Kristian Kohler  
Rev. Vince Lavieri  
Rev. Ángel David Marrero  
Meagan McLaughlin  
Lauren Morse-Wendt  
Markus Mueller  
Rev. Andrew Nelson  
Rev. Amanda Nelson  
Rev. Kevin O'Hara  
Bill Paulsen  
Mack Patrick  
Rev. Donn L Rosenauer  
Rev. Kevin L. Strickland  
Kathy & Jim Shattuck  
Margaret Schuster & David Weiss  
Miriam & Daniel Samuelson-Roberts  
Rev. Jana Schofield & Michael Isensee  
Rev. Susan M Strouse  
Timothy Schroeder  
Jennifer & Vance Thomas  
Kelsie Theiss  
Barbara Thalacker  
Rev. Thad William Fisher  
Rev. Jay Wilson  
Steven Wilco  
Rev. Tim Weisman

## **Joel R. Workin Memorial Endowment (\$300 - \$15,000)**

Bruce Jervis & Jim Kowalski  
Carl Hunter & Rev. Dan Hooper  
Betty & Dale Johnson  
Leon & Beth Workin  
Raydon Workin  
Mari's Books And... (Rev. Paul Egertson Estate)

We have made every effort to correctly display names. If you see any errors, please accept our heartfelt apology and contact us at 312-759-7070 or info @elm.org so we can make the change.

# Thank you for making our ministry possible!

	GOAL	ACTUAL
Total Gifts	1500	1761
Total Unique Donors	515	513
Total First Time Donors	100	84
Extraordinary Friends	125	118

## 2016 RECEIPTS

Individuals & Congregations	\$224,998
Foundations/Grants	\$32,000
Proclaim Gathering Registration	\$19,133
Interest	\$24
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$276,155</b>

## 2016 EXPENSES

Program	The people who create and guide our ministry, Proclaim Gathering, chaplains, synod assembly work	\$141,607
Development	The people who guide this work, relationship building, inviting and giving thanks for support	\$33,695
Administration	The people who guide this work, board meeting lodging & travel, facilitators, anti-oppression training, set-aside for reserves, day to day expenses (rent, supplies, postage), insurance	\$77,718
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>\$276,155</b>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>		<b>\$253,916</b>
<b>Surplus</b>		<b>\$23,133</b>

Our budget surplus in 2016 prepared us for the challenges of making an executive change in 2017.

## Giving by Category

ELM Board Members - 100% Giving

ELM Staff - 100% Giving

Proclaim Community - 48% giving - (over half of those giving give monthly!)

Congregations - 19 Congregations gave a total of \$16,515

## Joel Workin Endowment Fund

The Joel R. Workin Scholarship Fund passes \$100,000!

We received three significant gifts to the Joel R. Workin Scholarship Fund in 2016.

Joel's mother, Betty, passed away on November 22, 2016. We received a number of gifts in her memory from friends and family. We also received significant gifts from two couples: Bruce Jervis & Jim Kowalski and the Rev. Dan Hooper & Carl Hunter

2016 Contributions	\$29,470
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2016 Year End Total	\$129,956
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