

Annual Report of the Westwood Lutheran Memorial Foundation

2020

Presented on
February 7, 2021



Table of Contents

President’s Report.....	2
About Westwood Lutheran Memorial Foundation.....	3
WLMF Past and Present Directors	4
How Foundation Funds are Structured	5
Making a Gift to the Foundation	6
Financial Statements for Westwood Lutheran Memorial Foundation.....	7
2020 Annual Grant Activity	8
2020 Annual Contributions Received	9
Donations made to the Foundation in honor/memory of, in 2020	10



The mission of our foundation is to positively impact people’s lives by enriching and supporting the ministries of Westwood Lutheran Church.

President's Report

February 7, 2021

Hello Westwood friends,

As we do our annual look back at the past year to see where we've come from, what we've accomplished and how it all measures up, the barometer for 2020 is a bit skewed. What we had planned may or may not have worked out the way we envisioned.

This is the case for the foundation granting in 2020. Each year we work with the church staff and other stakeholders to determine where our grant money would be best utilized. And while we did that early in the year, what we eventually funded was a bit different than where we were headed in January. And it was all good.



We sometimes refer to the foundation as the sprinkles on the cupcake that is Westwood. Items and projects that add that extra spark we all enjoy – additional musicians at holidays, educational offerings, professional development for staff to name a few.

This year, however, was unique. The grants awarded this year had a much more substantial impact than usual. Virtually everyone who watched a service in March and another one in November noticed the difference in quality, due to the foundation's purchase of audio and video equipment. Staff may have found their jobs a little bit easier with the new tech funded by the foundation.

As highlighted in the video I provided for the annual meeting, 2020 brought needed funding for the following major projects:

- | | |
|---|----------|
| • 3 laptops and 2 iPads for office staff | \$5,000 |
| • Upgraded speakers and HD video equipment in the sanctuary | \$23,085 |
| • Racial Equity & Intercultural programming | \$9,741 |
| • Westwood gardens | \$773 |
| • Westwood youth – programs and scholarship | \$3,000 |
| • Grants for our neighbors | \$5,500 |
| • Music technology, musicians, artwork framing | \$4,380 |

In total, the foundation granted \$51,842 to support the mission of Westwood Lutheran Church in 2020. Because we were able to remain nimble throughout the year, the grants were put in places identified as the pandemic affected the way we connect and the way we worship.

In this report are all the details of the grants, donations, and fund balances. What is not here are the many stories of those honored and those remembered by their family and friends. Although only the names are listed at the end of this report, we hope you also see the commitment to the future these gifts provide.

Peace to you in Christ,

Beth Johnson, President
Westwood Lutheran Memorial Foundation
bethleebe@msn.com



About Westwood Lutheran Memorial Foundation

History of the Foundation

The Westwood Lutheran Memorial Foundation (WLMF) was founded in July 1973 by a number of visionary Westwood leaders. The first board of directors included Dr. Donald Bell, Robert Boeder, Eugene Booth, Lois Coon, Alvin Haugen, Noreen Johnson, Ralph Martinson, Don Padilla and Robert Skare. The first gift received by the foundation remains intact today and continues to grow. Grants are awarded from the earnings of the funds.

Gifts to the foundation are often memorials for a family member, close friend, or beloved member of our congregation. Individuals who wish to leave a legacy have directed gifts to the foundation to achieve their personal aspirations for the church and the community. Some have set up special funds for a favorite area of ministry, such as music, youth, or education. Gifts can also be in honor of special occasions such as graduations, birthdays, anniversaries or retirements. Gifts made for estate planning purposes benefit the giver as well as the foundation. In each case the purpose is the same; to accumulate financial resources to help us do God's will in various ways.

How the Foundation Functions

The Westwood Lutheran Memorial Foundation is governed by a board of directors, elected from members of the Westwood congregation. The board is charged with the fiduciary responsibility of preserving gifts by making prudent investment decisions. The earnings are then put to work, consistent with the dreams and aspirations of the original givers. WLMF has four standing committees: Public Relations, Investments, Grants, and Planned Giving.

2020 Foundation Board of Directors

Kim Aune
Steve Bergeland, Secretary
Simone Dorcas, Vice President
Chris Finseth
Beth Johnson, President
Kerry Krupstadt
Greg Loeschke
Dwight Peterson, Treasurer
Jan Prazak

Ambassadors for the Foundation

Gail Dahl
Dennis Netland
John Racek
Linnea Sodergren



Westwood Lutheran Memorial Foundation past and present directors

Luther Anderson (P)
 Kim Aune
 Lee Anne Lack
 Richard Bardy (P)
 Jack Barnes
 Donald Bell (P)
 Joann Bell
 Bob Berg
 Steve Bergeland
 Keith Bergquist (P)
 Eileen Blixrud
 Barb Bluhm
 Robert Boeder (P)
 Eugene Booth
 Deanna Broe
 Dwayne Broe
 Bruce Cameron
 Gary Carlson
 Margo Chesley
 Alice Collings
 Lois Coon
 Lois Crunstedt
 Gail Dahl
 Larry Dalen
 June Davis
 Bob Desannoy
 Simone Dorcas
 Mary Dunn
 Brenda Dvorak
 Harold Enesvedt
 Robert Erickson
 Chris Finseth
 Joseph Fjelstad
 Cindy Folin
 Dale Forsberg
 Roger Friauf
 William Gardner (P)
 Charles Gauck
 Duane Glisan
 Kristi Gray Shephard
 Louise Griver
 Robert Hadland

Phyllis Hansen
 Marilyn Hanson Hickock
 Alvin Haugen
 Richard Heise
 Sharon Holland
 Verna Holland
 Stanton Holmberg
 Jim Holmes (P)
 Carl Holmstrom
 Steve Huseth
 Darleen Hysen
 Paul Ives
 Peter Jacobson
 Craig Jergenson (P)
 Beth Johnson
 Clyde Johnson
 Don Johnson
 Noreen Johnson
 Sandy Johnson
 Heather Kemp
 Lorraine Kent
 Lowell Kleven
 David Koppe
 Kerry Kruppstadt
 Mary LaBelle
 Steve LaBelle
 James Lanenberg
 Stuart Larson
 Sharon Lee
 David Lingo
 Jim Lockhart
 Greg Loeschke
 Richard Lund
 Ralph Martinson (P)
 Betty Melander
 Josh Natzel
 Dennis Netland (P)
 Henry Nielson
 John Nilsestuen
 Bill Nord
 Lance Norderhus
 Lowell Noteboom

Barry Novak
 Mark Okey
 Donald Padilla
 Curtis Pearson
 Dwight Peterson
 Susan Peterson
 Kim Polzin
 Conrad Posz
 Janice Prazak (P)
 John Racek
 Marcy Redmond (P)
 LaDonna Reynolds
 Mary Rhodes
 R. S. Ylvisaker
 James Safley
 Arne Sather
 Richard Selvig
 Charles Sewall
 Robert Skare
 Linnea Sodergren
 John Steinke (P)
 James Strommen
 Arnold Swanson (P)
 George Swenson
 Rick Taft
 Lowell Thompson
 Fred Thwing
 Rose-Mary Utne (P)
 Mark VandenEinde
 Jim Vos
 Michael Walgren (P)
 Alene Walker
 Gloria Wesely
 Tom Wesely
 Peter Withoff
 James Wittnebel
 Paul Wogen
 Richard Wogen
 Douglas Yock
 Ellen Ziegler

P=president



Grants for our neighbors

- Good Samaritan Fund \$2,400
- Homebound meals & devotionals \$1,168
- Our Saviour's housing \$1,938

How Foundation Funds are Structured

The heart of the foundation is its endowed funding structure. This is where funds are accumulated, and disbursements made. Two types of funds are distinguished; **1) the Endowment Fund**, which is supported by all undesignated gifts, and **2) Designated Funds**, which are established (and donated to) for a specific purpose. With a minimum gift amount, **Named Funds** can be established under the Endowment or Designated funds for continued recognition or the memorializing of an individual or individuals.

Each fund has a caretaker and a fund advocate to ensure the donor intentions and the needs of the church are met. The following paragraphs list the currently established funds. To read the full story behind each fund, visit the foundation page of the Westwood church website: <https://www.westwood.church/foundation>.

The Endowment Fund

The Endowment Fund is the primary instrument of the foundation's work. Disbursements are made based on a plan created by Pastor Tania and approved by the foundation board. The following named funds have been established under the Endowment Fund umbrella to forever memorialize those named.

Luther and Sylvia Anderson Memorial Fund
Shirley Larsen Memorial Fund
Agnus Hansen Memorial Fund
Johnathan Hilk Memorial Fund

Paul and Doris Ives Memorial Fund
Lillian Domholdt Memorial Fund
Ralph and Dee Martinson Memorial Fund

Designated Funds

Many Westwood members show support for their passions by creating funds with specific guidelines on disbursement. The 15 designated funds fall into five categories: outreach, art and music, adult education, youth development and scholarships. The foundation board works with staff to combine the guidelines of the funds with the current year goals and needs.

Outreach

Good Samaritan Fund
The Conrad A. and Marie Posz Good Samaritan Fund
Albert Johnson Memorial Fund
James and Barbara Lanenberg Fund
Fund for the Homeless
Darleen Hysen Community Mission Fund
Stanley & Esther Crist Garden Fund

Art & Music

Ronald A. Nelson Music Fund
Loraine Langmo Fund
Kristie Thompson Memorial Fund
Stanley and Esther Crist Music Fund
Ralph & Dee Martinson Art Fund

Adult Education

Donald C. Bell Adult Education Fund
Don Hansen Caring Ministry Fund
Prazak Visiting Scholar Fund

Youth Development

African Youth Bridge-Building Fund
Thoni Family Youth Ministry & Service Fund
Tom Hunstad Caring Youth Memorial Fund

Scholarship

Engen Family Lutheran College Fund
Louise Griver Seminary Scholarship Fund



Making a Gift to the Foundation

Over the years, WLMF has primarily achieved its growth through traditional memorial gifts, bequests and gifts in honor of persons and special occasions. These have been the bedrock upon which the foundation has grown, for which we are most thankful. An important question for us all is how we can participate in the effort to carry out God's will. There are several options, depending upon the circumstances of the giver.

Immediate Gifts

Gifts of cash/checks or appreciated assets can be relatively straight forward. Unlike cash, however, appreciated assets including stocks, bonds, mutual funds, life insurance, retirement account distributions, and real estate may offer tax advantages to the donor.

Deferred Gifts

Deferred (or planned) gifts come in many forms; the most common of which may be through wills or estates. Other forms of planned gifts include naming the WLMF the beneficiary of a life insurance policy, a retirement plan, or a charitable annuity contract. Creating a charitable trust, providing the foundation with a lead gift or remainder after your family needs have been covered, is an attractive option. Many in the Westwood congregation have taken advantage of this option.

To learn more about gifting options and what might be best for your needs, please feel free to contact the foundation friend Linnea Sodergren (sodergrenla@gmail.com) or a member of the foundation investment committee: Greg Loeschke (loeschke@lingate.com); Chris Finseth (cfinseth5@msn.com); Dwight Peterson (drcrguy@yahoo.com); Kerry Kruppstadt (kerry.kruppstadt@me.com).

For more information on any of the options listed above, contact your financial advisor. For foundation-related questions, feel free to email the president, Beth Johnson, bethleebe@msn.com.

To make a gift

Donations to honor someone or in memory of someone can be made any time. The foundation has information on the Westwood church website, which includes a link to make an online donation. You may also mail or bring a check made out to Westwood Lutheran Memorial Foundation to the church office. Please indicate in the memo section of the check if you want to direct your gift to one of the designated funds. Otherwise, all contributions to the foundation will go to the general endowment fund. Acknowledgements are then sent by the foundation administrative secretary.

Donate to the foundation online: <https://westwood-lutheran-memorial-foundation.snwbll.com/giving-portal>

Westwood Lutheran Memorial Foundation

c/o Westwood Lutheran Church
9001 Cedar Lake Road
St. Louis Park, MN 55426



Financial Statements for Westwood Lutheran Memorial Foundation

Statement of Financial Position

	As of December 31,	
	2020	2019
Assets		
Cash in Bank	\$ 10,009	\$ 4,460
Investments		
Thrivent Invest Trust	1,183,342	1,109,790
Charles Schwab	<u>250</u>	<u>250</u>
Total Investment	<u>1,183,592</u>	<u>1,110,040</u>
Total Assets	<u>1,193,601</u>	<u>1,114,500</u>
Liabilities	3,288	1,350
Net Fund Balance	<u>1,190,313</u>	<u>1,113,150</u>
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	<u>\$ 1,193,601</u>	<u>\$ 1,114,500</u>

Statement of Financial Activity

	As of December 31,	
	2020	2019
Revenue		
Donations Received	\$ 6,405	\$ 12,165
Net Investment Gain/(Loss)	<u>134,295</u>	<u>180,480</u>
Total Revenue	140,700	192,645
Expense		
Grants	51,842	51,329
Investment Expense	10,669	10,307
Administrative and Operating	<u>1,026</u>	<u>2,045</u>
Total Expense	<u>63,537</u>	<u>63,681</u>
Net Revenue Gain / (Loss)	<u>\$ 77,163</u>	<u>\$ 128,964</u>

Westwood Lutheran Memorial Foundation Annual Grant Activity

For Year Ending December 31, 2020

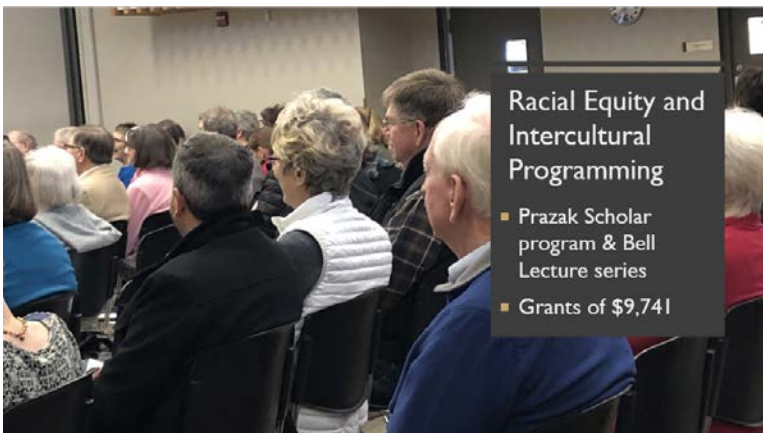
Fund Name	Purpose	Amount
Darleen Hysen Community Mission Fund	Our Saviour's Community Services	\$1,938
Donald C. Bell Adult Education Fund	Lenten speakers <i>"Who am I? Deepening our Conversations about Race"</i>	\$528
	Epiphany speakers focusing on mental health	\$106
Don Hansen Caring Ministry Fund	Homebound Meals and Devotionals	\$1,168
Engen Family Lutheran College Fund	Gustavus Adolphus College	\$1,000
Good Samaritan Fund	Support for Westwood Pastors' Emergency Fund	\$2,408
Prazak Visiting Scholar Fund	Lenten speakers <i>"Who am I? Deepening our Conversations about Race"</i>	\$1,213
	Epiphany speakers focusing on mental health	\$243
Ralph and Dee Martinson Art Fund	Artwork Reframing and Tapestry Cleaning	\$1,138
Ronald A. Nelson Music Fund	High-Definition video equipment for sanctuary Music Video, Audio & Instrumentalists	\$2,000 \$3,242
Stanley and Esther Crist Garden Fund	Replace evergreens, plant perennials, and improve soil	\$773
Thoni Fund for Youth Ministry and Service fund	On-line children's ministry materials	2000
Endowment fund	Tech Equip for Video Recording	5,000
	Sanctuary Speakers	5,000
	Lenten series (along with Prazak fund)	8,000
	3 laptop computers 2 iPads	5,000
	High-Definition video equipment for sanctuary	11,085



Westwood Lutheran Memorial Foundation 2020 Annual Contributions Received

For Year Ending December 31, 2020

Fund	Amount
Africa Youth Bridge-Building Fund.....	\$225
Darleen Hysen Community Mission Fund	
Don Hansen Caring Ministry Fund	
Donald C Bell Adult Education Fund	
Endowment Fund.....	\$5,785
Engen Family Lutheran College Fund	
Fund for the Homeless.....	
Good Samaritan Fund	\$140
Louise Griver Seminary Scholarship Fund	
Prazak Visiting Scholar Fund	
Ralph & Dee Martinson Art Fund	\$25
Ronald A Nelson Music Fund	\$100
Stanley & Esther Crist Garden Fund	
Thoni Family Youth Ministry & Service Fund.....	\$100
Tom Hunstad Caring Youth Memorial Fund	\$30
<hr/>	
Total	\$6,405



Donations made to the Foundation in honor/memory of, in 2020

African Youth Bridge Building

Evan Komschlies
Linnea Sodergren

Joyce Stepheson
Linnea Sodergren

Dyanne Sather
Phillip & Sharyll Smith

Phillip & Sharyll Smith
Dyanne Sather

Caring Youth

Gerald Thompson

Foundation Endowment Fund

Linnea Sodergren
Hazel McMillin
Eileen Blixrud
Marilyn Hikok
Dorothy Koester
Barry & Elizabeth Novak
Anonymous
Mary Keithahn
Joyce Kautz

Arlean (A.J.) Eide
Charles Sewall

Art Holman
Eileen Blixrud
Janice Prazak

Carolyn Paulson
Eileen Blixrud
Carol Kohler

Charles Doidge
Eileen Blixrud

Connie Jespersion
Jeffrey and Eileen Silver
Eileen Blixrud
Timothy Swenson
Penne Sewall
Mike & Katy Roelofs
Jerry & Linda Roelofs
Brian & Dorcus O'Connor
Keith & Mavis Roelofs
James & Susan Elsass
David & Karen Pitkanen
Marilyn Martineau & Kathryn Cegla
Gloria J Wietzke

Don and Gerry Peterson
Dwight Peterson

Don Bridell
Eileen Blixrud

Duane Dull
Phillip & Sharyll Smith
Wayne & Sue Anderson
Sonya Zenk
Gary & Mary Anderson
Eileen Blixrud
Carol Kohler

Gladys Johnson
Beverly S Robertson
John & Elizabeth Hill
Paul & Carole Wogen
Evelyn Jacobson

Jean Cornell
Eileen Blixrud

Jerrie Aune
Beth Johnson

Jerry Olson
Eileen Blixrud
Wayne & Sue Anderson

Jim Wittnebel
Linnea Sodergren
Eileen Blixrud

Jim Wolff
Marilyn Hikok
James & Karol Wolff
Gordon & Linda Meyer

Lorna Kittleson
Eileen Blixrud

Marianne Suess
Gordon & Linda Meyer
Lenore Hilk

Marie Posz
Eileen Blixrud

Marilyn Martineau
Larry & Patricia Schmidt
Joseph & Laurie Schroeder
Ron & Carla Greenwood
Kristine Gellerman
Michael & Jean Tokar
Gerald & Linda Roelofs
Brian & Dorcas O'Connor

Marjorie Agrey
Eileen Blixrud
Linnea Sodergren
Janis & Sheldon Brown
Clinton & Ardella Larson
Muriel Beal
Carol Kohler
Judith Leidall
Mike & Glennys Sell
Glen & Eileen Soderberg
Mark & Karen Scott



Mary Lou George
Anonymous
Beth Johnson
Marlys B Rosengren

Paul Nelson
Eileen Blixrud

Robert Vinson
David & Dawn Hill
Robert & Dona Haines

Ronald Schmidt
Eileen Blixrud

Rose Mary Utne
Eileen Blixrud

Sandy Allen
David & Karen Pitkanen

Wendell Olson
Lanica S Klein

Fine Arts
Rose Mary Utne
Linnea Sodergren

Good Samaritan
Kerry & Gloria Kruppstadt

Bernard Parrington
Gail L Dahl

Bob Schottler
Ron & Gail Dahl

Duane Dull
Paul and Carole Wogen

John Muesing, MD
Ron & Gail Dahl

Music Fund
Eileen Blixrud

Marjorie Agrey
Sonya Zenk

Thoni Youth Ministry
Lee Thoni

Thank you for your donations to the Foundation

We acknowledge and appreciate all gifts made and have tried our best to accurately document donations. If there is an error, please let us know. Beth Johnson, bethleebeben@msn.com, or Steve Bergeland, sbergeland@gmail.com.