



Gifts of Hope
Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod, ELCA
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2019 Gifts of Hope ANNUAL REPORT to Synod
February 2019 –January 2020 Our 27th Year

Fiscal Year:

Monthly financial statements submitted to Advisory Board

Advisory Board:

For 2019: March 6, 2019 meeting

3 Beneficiaries: Village at Rockville, Southeast Ministry, NOVACO

Rev. Gary Rhinesmith (interim Assistant to the Bishop/DEM)

Rev. Jan Lookingbill, GOH treasurer

GOH Director

For 2020: March 25 meeting

2 Beneficiaries: Village at Rockville, United Lutheran Seminary, need third organization

Rev. Lamar Bailey (Assistant to the Bishop/DEM)

Rev. Jan Lookingbill, GOH treasurer

GOH Director

RESULTS OF 2019 ADVENT SALES (to be disbursed May 2020):

Gifts #1-42 \$110,389.00, as of May 16, 2020

Challenge Gift #42 (undesignated): \$14,115.56

Number of Gifts: 2127

2019 to 2018 comparison

about -7%

GRAND TOTAL OF ALL FUND-RAISING, 1992 through 2019

\$3,672,952.00 as of May 16, 2020

Congregations updates:

- Personalized TY newsletter articles for all participating congregations
- GOH highlights--information sent to congregations for newsletters/bulletins

- 44 congregation received supplies for display tables during Advent. Plus newsletter articles.
- Contacted 28 congregations which do not participate during Advent. Provided newsletter articles and 25 catalogs for display.

Outreach/Networking:

- New Christmas card designed by volunteer Susan Hudson Marken
- Visited 4 Pastors Conference meetings (Goal: each conference once per year)
- Synod's Stewardship Table, 5 meetings
- Synod Assembly: June 14-15, 2019. Vendor's Table
- Synodical Women's Org. May 4, 2019, Vendor's Table
- Need Volunteers: Coordinator for Virginia and DC Conferences
- Social Media
- Synod's outreach via CheckIn

Website updates: www.giftsofhopedc.org

- Website designer, Kristin Bowl.
- Website is updated to new catalog: September-October
- Year-round resource for gift giving
- Current Gift Catalog is online. PayPal is the vendor used for online shopping and donations. 2.2% plus .30 per transaction.

Printing Costs/Financial:

- Thrivent Financial Funding for Printing Costs: three Action Teams. \$750 Total
- Recipient of Saint Luke Mission Endowment Fund: \$1500
- Good Shepherd Lutheran, Gaithersburg: \$750

2020—Looking Ahead—our 28th year

- Due to Covid-19: backup plan to only be online for Advent 2020
Decision made in September
This would provide insight into how GOH would do if only available online.
How would congregation members respond?
- New Christmas card for 2020 (or used in 2021 if only online in 2020)
- Synodical Women's Organization. May 2, cancelled
- Keep congregations informed with regular information for newsletters/bulletins
- Annual Meetings (Spring): Beneficiaries and Volunteer Team
- 2020 Dues to be emailed in June. Synod portion of \$3500 which covers 3 international Synods may not be available because of Synod's spending freeze
- New Director search, summer 2020