

# Table of Contents

<b>Mission Statement</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Ravenswood Evangelical Covenant Church Staff</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Ravenswood Evangelical Covenant Church Executive Committee and Church Council 2013</b>	<b>3</b>
Executive Committee	3
Church Council	3
<b>Letter from Gary Walter, ECC President</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Letter from Jerome Nelson, Central Conference Superintendent</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Pastor's Report - Phil Staurseth</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Church Chair's Report - Gregory Sager</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Women Ministries Commission Report - Vickie Peyton</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Property Commission Report - Donald Hodgkinson</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Children &amp; Family Commission Report - Danielle Hoden &amp; Joyce Oseland</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Mission Commission Report - Max and Janelle Hollingshead</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Youth Commission Report - Kaleb Nyquist</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Music, Arts &amp; Worship Commission - Dave Oseland and LeRoy Carlson</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Parenting ProGRESS Report - Elsa Johnson</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>2013 Statistical Information</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Treasurer's Report - James Edstrom</b>	<b>23</b>

## **Mission Statement**

**Ravenswood Evangelical Covenant Church exists to love and worship God and love and care for others. By God's grace, we commit to help people find and follow Jesus Christ through the guidance of His Spirit and His Word.**

*Adopted by the Ravenswood Evangelical Covenant Church Council March 8, 2006*

## **Ravenswood Evangelical Covenant Church Staff**

**Cynthia Arden**

Organist

**Charles Banks**

Director of Basketball Ministry

**Dana Jackson**

Praise Band Director

**Bethany Saldaña**

Office Manager

**Elsa Johnson**

Director of Parenting ProGRESS

**Kaleb Nyquist**

Student Ministries Coordinator

**Tim Olsen**

Custodian

**Phil Staurseth**

Pastor

## **Ravenswood Evangelical Covenant Church Executive Committee and Church Council 2013**

### **Executive Committee**

**Church Chairperson** - Gregory Sager

**Church Vice-chairperson** - Joshua Hickok

**Church Treasurer** - James Edstrom

**Financial Secretary** - Mary Anderson

**Recording Secretary** - James Anderson

### **Church Council**

**Children & Family** - Danielle Hoden and Joyce Oseland

**Missions** - Max & Janelle Hollingshead

**Music, Arts, and Worship** - LeRoy Carlson and David Oseland

**Outreach & Evangelism** - Williadean Crear

**Property** - Donald Hodgkinson

**Spiritual Care** - John Morales

**Stewardship** - Dan Carlson

**Women Ministries** - Vickie Peyton

**Youth** - Open

## Letter from Gary Walter, ECC President



### The Evangelical Covenant Church

November 2013

To All Covenant Churches

Dear Friends in Christ,

Please receive my heart-felt thanks for the partnership we share in Christ. Together with you this movement called the Evangelical Covenant Church is impacting more lives in more places with greater diversity and global reach than at any point in our 128 year history. *You make that happen.*

Our vision in the Covenant is that together, we join God in God's mission to see more disciples, among more populations, in a more caring and just world. That is a big task. To accomplish it we have defined five mission priorities:

**Start and strengthen churches**

**Make and deepen disciples**

**Develop leaders**

**Love mercy-do justice**

**Serve globally**

In each of these priorities we seek to both serve our churches and unite our churches in service together. More information can be found at [covchurch.org](http://covchurch.org). In particular, watch the 2014 Mission and Ministry video entitled "Following the Heart of God." Indeed, the mission of the Evangelical Covenant Church is only possible because of the faithful efforts of all 850 of our congregations, working together to advance God's Kingdom.

Covenant people are generous people, and generous people make a difference in the world. On behalf of a grateful movement, thank you for your partnership in the increasing difference we make together throughout your region, the United States and Canada, and all over the world.

As you gather for your congregational annual meeting, please know of the prayers and support of the entire Covenant family. Be assured of our thanks for your faithfulness and prayers for your continued fruitfulness. The Lord be with you.

In It Together,

Gary Walter  
President

## Letter from Jerome Nelson, Central Conference Superintendent



THE CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF THE EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH

December 31, 2013

Dear Churches of the Central Conference:

On behalf of the Staff and Executive Board of the Central Conference I greet you as you meet for your congregations Annual Meeting. We are grateful for your partnership in the gospel with our over 120 churches of the Central Conference. Which enables us to strengthen our existing churches, plant new churches, develop new leaders, make and deepen disciples, support ministries of compassion, mercy and justice and help to support ministries globally.

Two thousand thirteen brought with it some significant changes with the departure of Jolene and the hiring of David Swanson our new Director of Church planting. But at the same time it was a very good year for ministry. More churches were connecting with one another than ever before. We had more infinity groups gatherings than ever before, more churches coaching and assisting other churches than ever before, and more churches involved in renewal and/or revitalization efforts than ever before. I am thankful to God for guiding us through 2013, and, I enter into 2014 excited about what God has in store for us.

I do however, expect that there will be financial, as well as other, challenges that we must face. We will be introducing a new mission giving plan for our churches. We will be encouraging our churches to parent or partner with us to plant new churches. We will have to address the increasing need to assist our church in becoming more missional and healthier. We will be working in conjunction with Covenant Children's Ministries to increase the number of ministry grants to be given out to our churches for ministries to at risk children in our conference. In addition, the denominations annual meeting will be in Chicago next year, and since we will be the host conference, we have been asked to develop and implement a special ministry experience to proceed the meeting. I know for a fact that God is faithful and will give us everything that we need to successfully meet every challenge we might face.

As you prepare for your congregation's Annual Meeting, I ask that you remember to select delegates to our Central Conference Annual Meeting. It will be April 25-26 and hosted by Northwest Covenant Church in Mount Prospect, IL... Please make note of the dates and stay tuned for more information.

Please continue to pray for us and we promise to continue to pray for each of you.

Yours in Christ,

Jerome Nelson, Superintendent

## **Pastor's Report - Phil Staurseth**

As always, it is an honor to be your pastor, preacher, and friend.

This last year we were led in worship and ministry by the gospel of Luke. Again and again Luke called us to remember the real-time social, economic, class, and religious barriers that are broken down when the Good News of Jesus and his love gets hold of the Church. And over the summer, with sermon titles like “Making My Space...Your Space,” and “Grilling & the Apocalypse,” we were reminded how important being together in acts of hospitality really are to the gospel—hospitality is of apocalyptic importance. And so, we ought to be eating with folks—and the more the people with whom we eat are the lost, the last, the least, the stranger, the other... the better. For the work of hospitality is making strangers into allies and allies into friends. Our eating together is not simply an afterthought nor does it make us some sort of religious club... it is what we are called to do.

But it was one Sunday in August in which we were studying Luke 12 that I think best characterizes our work together this year—moving deeper into delight. “...“Don't be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.” We read. It was like God was saying... I provide for you... and I delight in that! I enjoy providing for you. In fact, the pleasure's all mine. And then we explored what it meant to find pleasure in someone else's pleasure, to find delight in someone else's delight.

In September we made a fairly big change in how we do Sunday School. It was not change for change's sake, but rather it was change that came as part of a conversation that focused around a central question—How can we best go about the project of Christian formation at Ravenswood, especially when it comes to our kids? And then we moved forward, and instituted First Word, and First-Word Kids Time, and Sunday School during the sermon time of our Sunday morning gathered worship. We moved carefully, not towards teaching more kids more stuff, but we worked towards being a whole community that finds delight in the Word of God. Thanks be to God. And also, thanks to all the teachers and new volunteers that allowed this all to be tried out.

Together we have worshiped. Many of you have taken part in leading Ravenswood in weekly worship—singing, reading, serving, preaching, preparing, adorning the sanctuary, and more. Thank you.

Together we have proclaimed the gospel and responded to it. We've done this in word and deed, in prayer and devotion, on Sunday and during the week, in service and in giving, in worship and in life, as reflected in the many voices and stories that follow in this annual report. Thank you.

*Continued on next page*

Together we have shared in community life. We've started with our fellowship time after church, an extension of our week of worship and our call to ministry, and continue to move toward small groups and life groups and deeper friendships. Along with this, so many people in our congregation contribute significantly to our community life by serving on committees and boards and on the council, as Sunday School teachers, and volunteers all over the place. Thank you.

There are certain milestones in our congregation to celebrate that will not necessarily be mentioned in other reports this year. They are as follows:

- Baptisms & Dedications—We continue to celebrated the sacrament of baptism together as well as dedicate our children to the Lord. Praise God. Solveig Johnson, baptized on January, 27 2013; Jonathan Hickok, baptized on February 3, 2013; Graham VerHage, baptized on March 3, 2013; Aaron Pearson, baptized on April 7, 2013; Nathan Pearson, baptized on April 7, 2013; Mason Edgren, June 9, 2013; Nilsa Nordlund, baptized on September 22, 2013; sKaleb Nyquist, baptized November 3, 2013.
- Membership— In worship on November 3, 2013 we welcomed into membership: Travis Bailey, Jennifer Harris, Jason Huibregtse, Joana Huibregtse, and Kaleb Nyquist. Glory to God.
- Witness to the Resurrection—On occasion we have joined to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and remember the lives of people who have died. On March 4, 2013, we gathered to celebrate the resurrection and the life of Joanne L. Olsen; Peace be to her memory. (March 27, 1940 – February 28, 2013)
- Weddings — July 6, 2013: Kelly Sladkey & Sam Vetter; July 13, 2013: Kyle Anderson & Rebekah Dekker (not a church family wedding but one in which pastor Phil presided); October 13, 2013: Luke Oliver & Carolyn Stoe
- Internship—Luke Oliver began another year with us in September in preparation for his vocation. He continues to explore church ministry and the pastoral arts.
- Many more milestones are given in the various reports of the church.

In this next year may God find us faithful even as we have found God faithful.

Thanks be to God,  
Pastor Phil



## **Church Chair's Report - Gregory Sager**

Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth. – 2 Timothy 2:15

The ongoing witness to the Good News of Jesus Christ through Ravenswood Evangelical Covenant Church continued through its 126<sup>th</sup> year in 2013 because of the willing hands and hearts of many workers whose efforts and testimonies bear witness to a ministry approved by God. Please take the time to read through this annual report and learn about what those willing hands and hearts have done on behalf of the Body of Christ over this past year. I will only highlight a couple of them myself.

One important work done by the church was the repair of the elevator after many years of it being out of service. The church raised approximately \$16,000 to pay for the repair work, with the balance of the \$29,000 bill being supplied by a grant from the Retirement Research Foundation. The work was done in February, and the elevator was rededicated as part of a liturgy of rededication of the church building within the Sunday, April 21 worship service.

Nine folks from our congregation traveled to Ecuador this summer and took part in ministry opportunities at a local church down there by building a new wall to expand the church building and by helping to lead Vacation Bible School. And we helped to send one of our own, Drew Hayes, on a missions project to Africa in which he was able to use his gifts as a videographer to help tell the stories of missionaries to that continent.

These and many other stories that you'll read about in this report are facets of the work that goes on in our church every day to advance the kingdom of God. Please read them and be inspired!

Our attendance, our membership, and our giving remained generally stable in 2013. One thing that did not remain status-quo, however, was our nursery roll! We are in the midst of a baby boom right now at RECC, and we thank God for the blessings that each of these tiny new lives represent within our church family.

Much thanks is due to the leadership of the church who facilitate a great deal of the ministry and function of our congregation. In particular, I would like to thank my fellow members of the executive committee: Joshua Hickok (vice-chair), James Edstrom (treasurer), Mary Anderson (financial secretary), Jim Anderson (recording secretary), and the pastor. Much thanks as well to the rest of the Council, including Danielle Hoden (children & family

*Continued on next page*

commission co-chair), Dan Carlson (stewardship commission chair), John Morales (spiritual

care commission chair), Don Hodgkinson (property commission chair), LeRoy Carlson and Dave Oseland (worship commission co-chairs), and Max and Janelle Hollingshead (missions commission co-chairs), with a special thank-you to those members who are leaving the Council: Joyce Oseland (children & family commission co-chair), Williadean Crear (evangelism & outreach chair), James Edstrom, and Jim Anderson.

Thank you as well to our church staff. They include our pastor, Phil Staurseth; office manager Bethany Saldaña; pastoral interns Luke Oliver and Chris Wall; student ministries coordinator Kaleb Nyquist; Parenting ProGRESS director Elsa Johnson; music director Dana Jackson; organist and choir accompanist Cynthia Arden; basketball ministry director Charles Banks; and custodian Tim Olsen.

Each of these people, and many others, have been a blessing and a great help to me in my position as church chair.

May the Spirit of God strengthen and renew each of you as we prepare to enter a new year in service to our Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ through the work of his church at the corner of Damen and Ainslies avenues here on the North Side of Chicago.

In Christ,

Gregory Sager  
RECC Chair

## **Women Ministries Commission Report - Vickie Peyton**

*"So don't get tired of doing what is good. Don't get discouraged and give up for we reap a harvest of blessing at the appropriate time. Whenever we have the opportunity, we should do good to everyone, especially to our Christian brothers and sisters."*

*Galatians 6:9-10*

*"Let love be your highest goal....." 1 Corinthians 14:1a*

Women Ministries connects women in transformational relationships and uniting in Christ to impact our local church, within our denomination and within our community.

On January 30 the RECC Women Ministry Committee met to plan the RECC Women Ministry Celebrating Life Luncheon for February.

On February 23, we celebrated our 2nd Annual RECC Women's Celebrating Life luncheon with guest speaker Meagan Gillan, executive minister of Women Ministries of The Evangelical Covenant Church. We were blessed with around 40 women in attendance. Thank you to the following women for helping with planning, serving, set up and take down: Mary Anderson, Joyce Oseland, Mary McKirchy, Rosa Hamilton, Colleen Carlson, Barb Johnson and McKenzie Johnson.

A baby shower had been planned for Carl and Adrienne Edgren in March. However, due to their work schedule and upcoming move they graciously declined. The RECC Women Ministry wanted to celebrate the arrival of their baby in some way so we placed an invitation to the RECC church family for a special gift-giving opportunity by going to the RECC website. In May a gift card was mailed to the Edgrens on behalf of the church.

On June 15 we celebrated with Kelly Sladkey and Sam Vetter by hosting a wedding shower.

On September 29 the church celebrated with Rodney and Hope Curran by hosting the first Baby "Shower On Sunday" event.

### OTHER WOMEN of the CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Wednesday Women's Fellowship Lunches

Knit or Not at Judy Edstrom's home

Thank you to the Women Ministry Chair Committee: Mary Anderson, Joyce Oseland,

*Continued on next page*

Mary McKirchy and Rosa Hamilton (and Barb Johnson as stand by). The fellowship that was formed by serving together was truly a blessing to me. I am grateful their friendship.

I want say a special thank you to all the women of RECC, those upfront and those behind the scenes, for their faithful service and dedication to make an eternal difference in word and deed for God's Glory.

And I cannot neglect to say a very, very special thank you to Bethany Saldaña, RECC office manager. Without her relentless partnership with me, these events would not had come off as seamless as they appeared.

Lastly, on a personal note I want to say that the last two years have been amazing for me as RECC Women Ministries chair. I want to thank the Council for all the support and prayer that was provided me.

All for His glory!

Vickie Peyton

Women Ministries Commission Chair

## **Property Commission Report - Donald Hodgkinson**

This year has been a good year for the Property Commission. I tell people I have the easiest job on Council because Ravenswood is blessed with so many people who have the talents and contacts to keep the church building and grounds in working condition. Often, someone sees something that needs to be fixed and gets the repair done before I even know that there was a problem. I would like to thank Roger Olsen, Craig Glowen, Terri Olsen, Don Michael, Joshua Hickok, and Ray Erickson for the work they do on the church property. Many repairs and projects, seen and unseen, have been completed in the past year.

After more than 5 years of being unusable, the lift has been replaced. The lift is important for many members as it allows them to be able to access all the church levels. Thank you to all of you who contributed to the repair fund. Individual thanks to Ryan Johnson and Pastor Phil who worked on the funding grant, and to Craig Glowen and Don Michael who worked with the contractor to make sure the job was done properly.

The heating and air conditioning system are now able to be controlled and monitored at a single location thanks to work by Josh Hickok and Ray Erickson. The new monitoring can even be done remotely, which gives us advance warning if something needs to be fixed.

The outside of the church is something about which I often receive positive comments. Thanks to Ray Erickson, Carol Erickson, Greg LeVardi and the rest of the Green Team for their gardening work, and thanks to Bob Wurster and Cameron Hodgkinson for their work in removing the snow from the walks and parking lot. Special thanks for Ray Erickson for having the wrought iron fence scrapped and painted.

I would like to specifically thank Tim Olsen for his work as the custodian. Despite the substantial use of the church building, Tim quietly goes about making sure the church is clean for all the church uses.

As we move into 2014, the Property Commission would like to move forward and implement some of the ideas that the congregation has approved for the sanctuary.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donald M. Hodgkinson  
Property Commission Chair

## **Children & Family Commission Report - Danielle Hoden & Joyce Oseland**

It was a very busy and successful year for the Children and Family Commission here at Ravenswood! Below are highlights from the year.

- January began with a general clean-up and reorganization of the cry room and cabinets in the blue classroom. A 'kid-friendly' coat tree was purchased to display the worship activity bags.
- In March, Ravenswood Sunday School began sponsoring Alpha Ize Mabele from Covenant Kids Congo by giving \$40 monthly from the Sunday School offering. Thanks for giving generously!
- Two combined sessions were held in the spring semester of 2013. Birthdays were celebrated with lollipops from the birthday tree, songs were sung, and a Bible trivia game was played! Thanks to Sunday School teachers, Pastor Phil, the Rilos, and Chris Wall in helping coordinate these events!
- On Easter Sunday, 100 people attended a lovely buffet breakfast. All food and décor was donated. Special thanks to Shelia Heneghan, Barb Johnson, Roxanne and Jose Rilo, Joyce and Dave Oseland, Chris Wall, and Sue and Bob Wurster for serving and donating food, time, and money.
- In May, a Sunday School Teacher Appreciation breakfast was held and small gifts were passed out to the teachers. The teachers were also recognized and prayed for during worship. All teachers attended!
- Also in May, Mother's Day was celebrated by passing out flowers to all women. Thanks to Lorri and Eli Yurick for coordinating and donating the flowers!
- June started off with a rained out picnic. It was the first rainout in fifteen years. The "rain call" was made the morning of the picnic, which did not leave a lot of time to communicate this to the congregation. Attendance was low due to the rain out and lack of communication. Lunch was served in the fellowship hall and games were played in the gym. Food was graciously donated by the Yuricks. Special thanks to Brian Heneghan, Roger Olsen, Bob Wurster, Marlene and Craig Glowen, Joyce and Dave Oseland, and Lorri and Eli Yurick for making the picnic a success.

*Continued on next page*

- Later in June, Father's Day was celebrated at Ravenswood by the Children and Family Commission making a donation, which funded a loan, for a working father in Ethiopia. The donation was made in the name of all fathers at Ravenswood.
- At the end of June, Ravenswood partnered with North Park Covenant and Grace Covenant churches to participate in Vacation Bible School. Allison Hoden and Danielle Hoden worked as volunteers all week. Sanne Nordlund and Leah Jackson were the kids that attended from Ravenswood.
- Sunday School attendance has been on the decline for a few years. So, over the summer, several weeks were spent planning the restructure of the Sunday School with the hope to increase attendance and deepen the Christian formation of the kids at Ravenswood. A re-creation of space in the fellowship hall and moving Sunday School to occur during worship were the changes that were made in Fall 2013.
- In September, Sunday School started up again with the Fall Kickoff (Rally Day). A wonderful pancake breakfast was served to a crowd of about 100. Thanks to Kerry Staurseth, Jose Rilo, Jose Rilo III, Marlene Glowen, Gabriel Edstrom, and a few others that coordinated the entire breakfast! Thanks to Pastor Phil and Chris Wall for the songs and puppets. The Sunday School teachers and students were introduced as part of the program. New Bibles were given to promoted students in all the classes (from Nursery to Grade 6).
- Sunday School attendance is up slightly. We are seeing more consistent attendance with the new structure.
- Sunday School teachers and volunteers meet every Sunday morning for First Word, which is a time of prayer, scripture reading, and receiving the sermon from Pastor Phil, since the teachers do not hear the sermon during worship.
- The Beginner Class has a new meeting location in the fellowship hall. Teachers include, Joyce Oseland, Barb Johnson, and Terri Olsen.
- The Primary Class continues to meet in the library off the fellowship hall. Teachers include, Lorri and Eli Yurick.
- The Secondary Class meets in fellowship hall as well. Teachers include Kerry Staurseth and Amanda Fledderjohann.
- Confirmation Class meets in Pastor Phil's office and is led by Gregory Sager and Kaleb Nyquist.

*Continued on next page*

- High School Class meets in rotating locations and is led by Chris and Cortney Wall.
- First Word Kid's Time is a new program that started in Fall 2013. Volunteers include Carol Erickson, Kari and Neil Johnson, Carolyn Oliver, and Kelly Vetter. Attendance is around four to eight kids each week. The kids have spent time creating and painting a Wooster mural.
- On December 15, the annual Sunday School Christmas program was presented as part of the worship service. Special thanks to Pastor Phil, all Sunday School teachers, parents, Phil Hoden, musicians, and sound board people in helping make the program a success. A special fellowship hour followed service with delicious cookies and cupcakes. Thanks to Janice Erickson for helping coordinate and thanks to all the people that baked and donated treats! Lastly, a huge thanks to the kids for working so hard and sharing the Gospel in very special way!

\*\*\*\*\*

As you can see, the Children and Family Commission is involved in many events throughout the year. With that said, there are opportunities to serve! Stay tuned for meeting details in January 2014, to see how you may feel led to serve on the Children and Family Commission.

We are looking forward to 2014 and seeing how Christ will move in the lives of the kids at Ravenswood!

Respectfully submitted,

Danielle Hoden and Joyce Oseland

Children and Family Commission co-chairs



## **Mission Commission Report - Max and Janelle Hollingshead**

We continue to support the Feijoos (Ecuador), Gardeens (Ecuador), Mambos (Congo), Swansons (Belgium), Becca VanWeerdhuizen (Philippines), Kara Bladel (Covenant Youth of Alaska), and the Faulkinburys (Covenant Mountain Mission Bible Camp) out of our budget.

We continue to support Drew Hayes (West Africa) and KICY out of mission funds and designations.

We held a successful Hope Sunday and supported the Covenant Kids Congo project.

We held a Missions Focus Sunday where the congregation learned more about the missionaries we support as a church.

A group went to Quito, Ecuador to work with the Feijoos and then on to Nanegalito, Ecuador to run a weeklong Vacation Bible School and help construct an addition to a church building.

We had another successful Missionary Christmas for the Covenant Mountain Mission Bible Camp's Faulkinbury family.

Be on the lookout for information about a return to Covenant Mountain Mission for summer 2014.

We plan to continue this cycle of mission opportunities for doing local work (JPUSA), national work (CMMBC), and global work (Ecuador).

Come find us or anyone on the Missions Commission if you have any requests, suggestions, need more information, or if you want to get involved.

Thank you for your continued commitment to Ravenswood Evangelical Covenant Church's missions.

Max & Janelle Hollingshead  
Missions Commission Co-Chairs

## Youth Commission Report - Kaleb Nyquist

It has been an honor to continue serving the congregation in the capacity of Student Ministries coordinator. I have been blessed by each one of you who have in some way, volunteered, drove, donated, and prayed for the work of Ravenswood Student Ministries. Working with youth is a wild ride, to be sure, but in the end it is a worthwhile adventure and an important ministry of the church.

I will keep my remarks brief and let the notes that follow do most of the talking, although these dry facts and simple numbers cannot adequately testify to what has been happening in the lives of our individual youth both in the congregation and in the neighborhood.

### January - May 2013

- Ravenswood Student Ministries organized a weekly youth group on Thursday nights, 6:30 - 8:00pm, following the community meal. Led by student ministries coordinator Kaleb Nyquist, the counseling team included Kristin Johnson, Carl Edgren and Ida Ericsson (now Hiben). Because of an influx of middle school youth from the 5th Quarter program in March, weekly attendance grew from 4 to 11, and then dropped to 6 as the old high school and new middle school youth began to alternate attendance.
- In addition, the 5th Quarter after-school tutoring program took place on Mondays, 3:45 - 6:00pm. It was led by pastoral intern Chris Wall, with additional tutors Kaleb Nyquist, Mary Anderson, Max Hollingshead, and Gregory Sager. Attendance fluctuated between 5-12 kids throughout the year.
- Once each month, youth were invited to participate in the North Side Youth Collision. Ravenswood successfully hosted the April event, which was a worship service dedicated to the theme of "exploring God's mission." Workshops were led by our own Alice Hague, Krista Bladel, and Kaleb Nyquist, and Sam Vetter contributed to the worship.
- Four youth participated in the Deep Freeze retreat to Covenant Harbor. These youth were Leah Riste, Tatiana Randall, Emily Chendocha, and Jose Rilo. Chaperones were Kaleb Nyquist and Ida Ericsson. In addition, with the sponsorship of RECC, Leeann Bosques attended the One Life retreat with North Park Covenant.
- Special events during this time were Ice Skating/Sledding at Warren Park (4 youth), North Park basketball game (1 youth), video filming for a N.S.Y.C. event (5 youth) and a Cubs Game (6 youth).

### June - August 2013

- Ravenswood Student Ministries organized a weekly drop-in center on Tuesday afternoons, 3:00 - 5:00pm. Lemonade was provided for the youth, and space to play games in the multipurpose room and play freely in the gym was created. Attendance started at 2 and eventually made its way to as many as 8, averaging 4. Volunteers included Mary Anderson and Ida Hiben.

*Continued on next page*

- Ravenswood Student Ministries continued to participate in the North Side Youth Collision.
- Special events during the summer were joining the church for Camp Day at Covenant Harbor, and Laser Tag at Whirlyball (7 students).
- 

#### September - December 2013

- Ravenswood Student Ministries restarted the weekly youth group on Thursday nights, 6:30 - 8:00pm, following the community meal. Led by Kaleb Nyquist, volunteers included Jonatan Saldner, Kristin Coughlin (North Park University Youth Ministry) and occasionally Hannah Saldner. The target age group was 6th - 8th grade, although some kids younger and older than the target were accepted on occasion. Attendance was steady at an average of 6 kids, never lower than 5. There were 8 kids for our annual Haunted House excursion to St. Pascals Catacombs.
- Ravenswood Student Ministries brought back the historic "Senior High League" on Sunday nights, 6:30 - 8:00pm. Led by Kaleb Nyquist, volunteers included Colleen Staurseth and Parenting ProGRESS director Elsa Johnson. The target age group was 9th - 12th grade. Our monthly participation with the North Side Youth Collision and many of our "monthly special events" were folded into the Senior High League. Attendance fluctuated wildly, from 0 to 8 on any given night. Throughout the entire year, we were averaging 4 kids. As many as 15 kids in total checked out Senior High League throughout the fall.
- In addition, the 5th Quarter after-school tutoring program saw some changes. It now takes place on Tuesdays, 3:45 - 6:00pm. It is now led by Kaleb Nyquist, with additional tutors Colleen Staurseth, Mary Anderson, Max Hollingshead, and Liz Ahlem. Colleen and Liz helped to introduce art lessons as part of the student elective choices. Attendance fluctuated from 5-10 throughout the year.
- On Thursday nights Ravenswood Covenant Church hosted the Collision's new Discipleship program for high school youth. Ravenswood youth Tatiana Randall and Leeann Bosques were a part of this first cohort, and helped lead a special middle school Collision, also hosted at Ravenswood Covenant, in early November.
- Kaleb Nyquist also began to teach the Confirmation class in partnership with RECC's Sunday School programming. Gregort Sager was the co-teacher.

#### Fundraisers

- Our fundraisers this year were selling Cubs tickets (for the North Side Youth Collision) and the annual Rummage Sale (for the CHIC Scholarship Fund).

In Christ,

Kaleb Nyquist

Student Ministries coordinator

## **Music, Arts & Worship Commission - Dave Oseland and LeRoy Carlson**

We thank the Lord for His continued blessing upon the ministry here at the Ravenswood Church, now into our 126<sup>th</sup> year of service. The worship and arts commission assumes the following responsibilities of overseeing and working with;

- the music director
- the choir director
- the organist
- the ushers
- the greeters
- Communion
- Audio
- Decorations and banners
- Special programs

CHOIR: Earlier this year, Janelle Hollingshead gave notice that she would no longer be able to direct the choir, in that her first child was expected in December. With that in mind, LeRoy Carlson took the initiative to seek a capable replacement, which led him to contact Trevor Nicholas. Thankfully, Trevor accepted our call, and the Ravenswood family is privileged to have this gifted director and musicologist on staff. We wish to thank Janelle for her exceptional gifts of talent and ministry, and offer her our heartfelt congratulations and gratitude.

COMMUNION: We continue to prepare the elements for our Holy Communion on Sundays. Dave Oseland and LeRoy Carlson are in charge on alternate months, and additional Council members are asked to serve as needed. Servers are reminded that this is the Lord's Table to which we are invited, and it behooves us to dress appropriately. We understand that the Lord will never turn us away, but we want to use our best manners when we come to the table, for we come "in remembrance" of him.

OTHER ITEMS: Brian Heneghan serves faithfully as our Head Usher, often assisted by John Morales. Our greeters are assigned by Bethany Saldaña in the church office, and we are seeking to use the name tags more consistently, and feel it is a true benefit for the life of our congregation. The audio system has been overseen by Dave Oseland, with some capable help from Erin Staurseth, Erik Brandel-Tanis, and Jose Rilo.

Our Commission is very open to further suggestions from the congregation.

Respectfully,

LeRoy Carlson and Dave Oseland, Music, Arts & Worship co-chairs

## Parenting ProGRESS Report - Elsa Johnson

The purpose of Parenting ProGRESS is to provide support to the teen parents whose children attend Ravenswood Community Child Care Center (RC4). We promote growth, responsibility, and education with spiritual support for the Parenting ProGRESS participants. And if we come across a need, we help teen parents who are not connected with RC4 as well. We support these young parents with the goal to see them not only graduate from high school, but also go onto college starting a path for success and overall well-being in their lives. This is made possible by the collaboration of many people (PP advisory board, church community, RC4 community, school communities) and by the excellent childcare that their children receive at RC4.

This year we have supported 12 parents and their families. There are currently 6 children of teen parents attending RC4. One of the RC4 graduates this year was the child of a Parenting ProGRESS mom and this child has continued onto kindergarten. I have met many teens in need of childcare this year and our wait list is large and continues to grow with 10 children currently interested in a spot at RC4. I hope to see more spots available at RC4 this year to provide for some of that need. Additionally, I have been able to connect with many teens in need of donations who have received items from the baby closet although their child does not attend RC4.

Parenting ProGRESS has provided much support to teen parents this year. One way was through monthly Life Skills Workshops led by professionals, community members and church members. These monthly workshops were a great time for the Parenting ProGRESS participants to gain knowledge in relevant topics and gain access to helpful resources in the community. This monthly workshop time, as well as our weekly Mom and Baby Group are times for teen parents to fellowship and gain mutual support from one another. This fall we encouraged teen parents to attend Senior High League at church, connecting our monthly workshop to that time to further encourage attendance. It became apparent that it was not convenient for teen parents to attend. They will still be encouraged to attend Sr. High League, but workshops will be moved to a more convenient after school time after the New Year to encourage more participation in workshops. Teen parents have been greatly provided for through generous donations to the baby closet. We have received donations from church members, RC4 parents, and other community members. The donations received are much appreciated by the families who receive them. We celebrated Christmas at our annual Christmas party where each teen parent and their child received Christmas gifts donated by church members, RC4 parents, RC4 staff, and friends of the church. Thank you to all who have donated to Parenting ProGRESS this year!

A huge support for Parenting ProGRESS moms is our mentor program. Each Parenting ProGRESS mom is paired with a mentor. One new mentor has been trained and matched this year and others continue their mentor relationship from last year. Mentors come from the church as well as the RC4 community. They build one-on-one intentional relationships with the PP moms and provide positive support to help them set and reach their goals. I am always working to connect with other programs in the community in any way beneficial to our program and its participants. Lastly, there are various other ways that I support PP parents through one-on-one support ranging from assistance with paperwork, school support, scholarship help, employment assistance, housing help, accompanying to appointments and advocating for their own needs as well as their children's. I find that these one-on-one moments are what I enjoy the most, because when you are present in someone's life in this special way, you will find that relationships deepen, people feel valued and God tends to make his presence known right there in the midst of you.

*Continued on next page*

We celebrated with two teen parents in June as they graduated from high school . One graduated from Amundsen High School and the other from Lake View High School. Both have continued on to college and we continue to support them since their children still attend RC4.

Thank you to all who have supported the Parenting ProGRESS program this year through donations, mentoring and volunteering. The saying “it takes a village to raise a child” comes to life through Parenting ProGRESS. A special thank-you to Audrey Hodgkinson, Judy Edstrom, Carol Koeller, and Barbara Nordlund who serve on the Parenting ProGRESS advisory board. And thank you to Kristine Brandel who is always thinking of new or continuing ways to support Parenting ProGRESS.

It is a pleasure for me to serve as director of this important ministry of RCC. I look forward to the coming year to see what is in store for our ministry in 2014!

Submitted by,

Elsa Johnson  
Parenting ProGRESS director

## 2013 Statistical Information

### Membership

January 1, 2013	139
Losses by death	1
Losses by transfer of membership	1
December 31, 2013	142

### New Members

Travis Bailey	November 3, 2013
Jennifer Harris	November 3, 2013
Jason Huibregtse	November 3, 2013
Joana Huibregtse	November 3, 2013
Kaleb Nyquist	November 3, 2013

### Baptisms

Solveig Johnson	January 27, 2013
Jonathan Hickok	February 3, 2013
Graham VerHage	March 3, 2013
Aaron Pearson	April 7, 2013
Nathan Pearson	April 7, 2013
Mason Edgren	June 9, 2013
Nilsa Nordlund	September 22, 2013
Kaleb Nyquist	November 3, 2013

### Births

William Noel Cisneros	April 14, 2013
Mason Lawrence Edgren	April 19, 2013
Maren Kaye Curran	July 12, 2013
Samuel Gregory Huibregtse	August 12, 2013
Dane Aldeen Lettinga	August 23, 2013
Wesley Everett Hollingshead	December 11, 2013

### Deaths

JoAnne Olsen	February 28, 2013
--------------	-------------------

## Treasurer's Report - James Edstrom

Accrual Basis

### Profit & Loss January through December 2013

	Jan - Dec 13
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
<b>General fund</b>	
e-giving	18,500.00
NCP interest acct 2822-113	3,925.53
Online giving	30,514.27
Sunday offerings	148,869.99
General fund - Other	373.00
<b>Total General fund</b>	<u>202,182.79</u>
<b>i100 Mission Income</b>	
101 Covenant World Missions	200.00
102 Benevolence	170.00
i100 Mission Income - Other	400.00
<b>Total i100 Mission Income</b>	<u>770.00</u>
<b>i200 Memorial Funds</b>	1,895.00
<b>i300 Property Income</b>	
301 RC4 rent	7,200.00
303 Use of parking lot	9,610.00
<b>Total i300 Property Income</b>	<u>16,810.00</u>
<b>i500 Program Income</b>	
501 Basketball	1,000.00
502 Thursday nights	35.00
504 Music and worship income	500.00
<b>Total i500 Program Income</b>	<u>1,535.00</u>
<b>i700 Youth Income</b>	295.47
<b>i800 Uncategorized Income</b>	5,540.07
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>229,028.33</u>
<b>Expense</b>	
<b>100 Missions</b>	
101 Central Conf. Min.	2,000.00
102 Evangelical Covenant Church	2,000.00
104 Feijoo	3,000.00
105 Becca VanWeerdhuizen	1,250.00
107 World Missions	4,000.00
109 David Gardeen	1,250.00
100 Missions - Other	0.00
<b>Total 100 Missions</b>	<u>13,500.00</u>
<b>200 Payroll</b>	
201 Senior Pastor	58,047.40
202 Administrative Assistant	15,557.95
203 Music Director	3,040.69
204 Custodian	7,236.73
205 Pastoral Intern	3,153.96
206 Organist	9,128.11
207 Replacement Admin. Asst.	323.35
208 Honoraria	300.00
209 Choir Director	300.00
210 Nursery Care	1,666.98
211 Basketball Consultant	2,830.17
212 FICA/Medicare (Ravenswood)	5,046.90
214 Fed / State taxes	5,462.23
215 FICA / Medicare employee	5,046.90
220 Parenting Progress Director	10,521.34
225 Ministry Facilitator	2,280.00
226 Youth Minister	9,240.58
230 Payroll Expenses	
231 Precision Payroll	1,337.64
<b>Total 230 Payroll Expenses</b>	<u>1,337.64</u>



## Profit & Loss

### January through December 2013

Accrual Basis

	Jan - Dec 13
200 Payroll - Other	37.64
<b>Total 200 Payroll</b>	<b>140,558.57</b>
<b>300 Personnel</b>	
301 Conference / Travel	2,608.16
302 Covenant Pension	2,000.00
303 Out of pocket expenses	1,060.46
304 Gifts	150.00
305 Workers comp	2,256.50
320 Pastoral Expenses	
321 Mileage reimbursement	2.50
322 Pastor's discretionary	235.22
323 Pastor's misc expenses	259.23
320 Pastoral Expenses - Other	0.00
<b>Total 320 Pastoral Expenses</b>	<b>496.95</b>
<b>300 Personnel - Other</b>	<b>14,175.18</b>
<b>Total 300 Personnel</b>	<b>22,747.25</b>
<b>400 Property and Maintenance</b>	
402 janitorial supplies	266.99
403 landscaping	358.19
404 Misc. Maintenance	641.33
408 Property Insurance	8,110.75
409 Unexpected expenses	3,031.29
420 Utilities	
421 Electric	11,617.96
422 Gas	9,435.43
423 Telephone	3,537.53
424 Water-Sewer	1,362.74
<b>Total 420 Utilities</b>	<b>25,953.66</b>
<b>Total 400 Property and Maintenance</b>	<b>38,362.21</b>
<b>500 Women's Ministries</b>	<b>408.59</b>
<b>600 Office Expenses</b>	
604 Petty cash	500.00
605 Postage	100.00
607 Photo. service contract	4,046.61
608 Supplies	1,280.65
610 Misc. office expense	281.57
600 Office Expenses - Other	858.20
<b>Total 600 Office Expenses</b>	<b>7,067.03</b>
<b>700 Programs</b>	
710 Youth	996.67
715 5th Quarter	466.92
720 Children and Family Expense	870.85
760 Hospitality	1,604.99
770 Other	
773 Adult Commission	474.96
<b>Total 770 Other</b>	<b>474.96</b>
<b>700 Programs - Other</b>	<b>121.58</b>
<b>Total 700 Programs</b>	<b>4,535.97</b>
<b>800 Worship and Music</b>	<b>1,022.34</b>
<b>900 Uncategorized expenses</b>	<b>550.43</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>228,752.39</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>275.94</b>

**Ravenswood Covenant 2011  
Profit & Loss  
January through December 2013**

Accrual Basis

	Jan - Dec 13
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Other Income</b>	
<b>Non-budgeted Income</b>	
Harbor/Point Ministries	2,525.00
Missions	6,568.00
Softball	5,065.00
Non-budgeted Income - Other	15,250.00
<b>Total Non-budgeted Income</b>	29,408.00
<b>Total Other Income</b>	29,408.00
<b>Other Expense</b>	
<b>Non-budgeted Expense</b>	
Harbor/Point Ministries	3,125.00
Missions	18,547.85
Softball League	180.00
Non-budgeted Expense - Other	22,862.99
<b>Total Non-budgeted Expense</b>	44,715.84
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	44,715.84
<b>Net Other Income</b>	-15,307.84
<b>Net Income</b>	-15,031.90

## Balance Sheet

As of December 31, 2013

Accrual Basis

	Dec 31, 13
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
Checking/Savings	
NCP Certificate 2822-113	261,699.88
NCP Demand Account	
Camp Funds	5,367.69
Capital Improvement Fund	11,554.15
CHIC	354.50
Elevator Fund	490.19
Mission Funds	3,810.42
Organ Fund	594.00
Undesignated Funds	2,655.22
Youth Funds	1,225.14
NCP Demand Account - Other	-10,182.52
Total NCP Demand Account	15,868.79
Ravenswood Checking	6,351.26
Total Checking/Savings	283,919.93
Total Current Assets	283,919.93
<b>Fixed Assets</b>	
4900 N. Damen	2,100,000.00
Fixtures and Furnishings	150,000.00
Total Fixed Assets	2,250,000.00
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>2,533,919.93</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>	
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
Accounts Payable	
Accounts Payable	261.09
Total Accounts Payable	261.09
Total Current Liabilities	261.09
Total Liabilities	261.09
<b>Equity</b>	
Opening Bal Equity	2,580,800.71
Retained Earnings	-32,109.97
Net Income	-15,031.90
Total Equity	2,533,658.84
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>2,533,919.93</b>