

News Release

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St. John's Herr Estate Replicates St. John's Lutheran Church, Columbia in Gingerbread

What takes 200 pounds of gingerbread dough, 40 pounds of 10x sugar (confectionary sugar) and 100 hours to make? ...a stunning

replica of St. John's Lutheran Church in Columbia.

Guido Schiavoni, General Manager of Dining Services at St. John's Herr Estate worked on and off since October creating the 5-1/2 foot by 3 foot replica of the church. He created the church for the annual Columbia Christmas Walk-A-Mile, which had St. John's Herr Estate as the last stop. The reproduction of the church, included stained glass windows made from confectionary sugar, which actually lit and meringue for snow. It took four men and the removal of the dinning room doors to get it placed in the rotunda for display. This is Mr. Schiavoni's third gingerbread structure and each one gets a little more complicated than the last.

Anita Martin, Executive Director at St. John's Herr Estate, said, "It has been very exciting to be able to participate in the walk this year and to have this incredible church for the community to see."

When asked if he was thinking about next year's gingerbread building, he responded, "It could be the Clock Tower Museum with a working clock?"

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