



Westminster Presbyterian Church

2021 Annual Report

WITH CHRIST AS OUR CORNERSTONE WE
BELIEVE, BECOME, BELONG, BUILD

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STAFF

Rev. Ken Locke, Interim Senior Pastor/Head of Staff
Rev. Dan Voigt, Associate Pastor
Charissa Lambert, Director of Music Ministries
Steven Jordan, Youth Leader
Jodi Dieken, Office Manager
Dee Jordan, Church Secretary/Christian Ed Assistant/Director of Child Care
Becky Dietz, Financial Secretary
Dale Stabenow, in charge of set ups
Larry Nosbisch, assists with projects
Dr. Mariko Morita, Choir Accompanist/Organist
Cam Mears, Director of Meisteringers

Staff that left in 2021 but we thank for their service to Westminster!

Patrick Marchant, Director of Music Ministries, departed in March

Erica Rissi, Director of Youth Ministries, departed in August



Tim Jensen 2/3/2021
Jay Ginther 2/4/2021
Lloyd Harp 2/17/2021
Elaine Eckhoff 2/27/2021
Robert Shafer 5/4/2021
Justin Koenen 5/12/2021
Charles Baier 9/16/2021
Jessie McMillan 10/14/2021
Marlene Janssen 11/3/2021
Marian Christiason 11/22/2021
Mitzie Rekward 12/1/2021

STAFF REPORTS

INTERIM SENIOR PASTOR/HEAD OF STAFF

My Beloved – sharing my joy in the past and hopes for the future in just a few words is a tall order, but I will try. During my time as your Interim Senior Pastor, I have preached over 20 sermons, made more than 40 pastoral visits and attended over 50 separate committee meetings. Both the Men's and Women's Bible Study groups were kind enough to let me teach a few times. All these activities helped me get to know you better and enjoy you more.

Besides these more routine activities, I also got to know you through individual events. I had the pleasure of attending a 'Wooden Bats' baseball game and rode the slide at Fall Fest. I helped our staff with the annual Storage Room Cleaning and enjoyed the Staff Retreat, birthday parties and other staff events. Wednesdays at Westminster were a particular joy, especially when the women let me sit in on their class. And how can I ever forget the kindness and yummy snacks the Piecemakers shared with me? Each of these was a joy. I thank you for them and so many more.

But now I'm gone. And now Westminster Presbyterian Church is adjusting to a new reality. Our mission has not changed, of course. We are still called to share and model God's love for all creatures. But now we are right sizing our staffing and ministries to fit our resources. Of course, we're not the first church to go through these changes. I'm sure that the churches of the Great Depression could teach us a thing or two!

Multi-Pastor and Solo-Pastor churches are different in several ways. For instance, a solo-pastor should never attend more than half of a committee's meetings. Depending on the needs and their relative strengths, some committees may go months without the pastor ever making an appearance.

Caring parishioners will avoid burdening a solo-pastor on Sunday mornings. Sunday mornings are for preaching and leading worship and, for most of us, those take all our time, energy, and attention. NEVER choose Sunday morning to ask a solo-pastor why the building is so warm/cold, where the large garbage bags are, who was supposed to make the coffee or open the door, who is the nursery substitute and why does the bathroom smell? In fact, those are questions you should NEVER, EVER ask a solo-pastor. They should all be handled by the church's committees.

Solo-pastors must provide pastoral care. Home visits are an important part of solo-pastor ministry. But the first line of emergency care, especially in hospital cases, should come from the elders and deacons. The pastor is not always free to drop everything and go to the hospital. Elders and deacons should be ready and happy to stand in.

In many solo-pastor churches, important administrative tasks are done by parishioners. They hold the appropriate title and attend staff meetings, but their compensation is minimal. I have been in plenty of churches where the office administrator, choir director, organist, treasurer/financial secretary and even the custodian were all members, and all minimally paid.

Finally, parishioners in solo-pastor churches often have a greater sense of belonging and ownership than do parishioners in multi-pastor churches. Because they have a larger role in the administration, because they determine the church's missional direction, because they provide the heat and light of the congregation, they know that the

church belongs to them. The staff are important, and they make an important contribution. But both the creative spark and the hands-on work come from those who come to worship every week.

In some instances, moving from a multi-pastor to a solo-pastor model requires a change in the church's basic culture. Such changes are doable but can be difficult. In this instance, I believe that the session is taking the right approach by acting quickly rather than slowly. Ripping off the band-aid, even if it hurts and bleeds a little, is much better than dragging it out.

By the time you read this I will be long gone. In a few years, I will be but a distant memory. So, I speak the truth now without fear of retribution or recrimination.

This is true: you are good congregation, I have enjoyed being your Interim Senior Pastor and doing ministry with you, God has great plans for you.

May God's peace be with us all.

Pastor Ken

ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Much of my specific activities can be read about in other reports. Here, however, are few things that should be said from my point of view.

As 2021 dawned, I continued to meet with Elders chairing all the committees as we looked to trim our budget and begin looking at creating a 5-year plan for the church. This group would eventually be named Elders Seeking Wisdom and toward the close of the year would end up making some of those hard decisions. Namely, cutting the Associate Pastor position and reducing to a single full-time pastor and a part-time visitation position.

Between those bookends, it was also a year of significant turn-over on staff. We said goodbye to Patrick Marchant (Music Director) in April, Erica Rissi (our youth director) in early August, and Rev. Kenneth Locke (Interim Pastor) as this new year dawns. While these changes afforded us some financial space to look at how our staffing can better fit our budget, it is never easy to say goodbye to talented colleagues and I know many of us miss them greatly.

Fortunately, we have found two wonderful people filling in part time as our music director (Charissa Lambert) and youth leader (Steven Jordan) until we know precisely what we are going to do with those positions long term.

All of these changes meant that 2021 was a year of whiplash for me as many of my duties changed along with our staff. Before Pastor Ken arrived that meant serving in a solo pastor role as the year started and we began opening up the church again, then shifting back to my traditional Associate role through the summer, before picking up more youth and Christian education responsibilities in late summer and throughout the fall while passing working with the Deacons to Pastor Ken. Now that Ken has left, and with Steven in place, my role has again shifted back to serving as a solo pastor until the next head of staff is hired.

It would be shame if I didn't mention that a great deal of credit is due to Jodi Dieken, Dee Jordan, and Becky Dietz for keeping almost all we do moving this year as things continued to change around them. Countless details would have been dropped if not for their diligence, skill, and passion for this place.

The last thing I want to mention as I look back at 2021 is the congregation's return to emotional stability. 2020 was a very divisive year for our country and our congregation. With disagreements surrounding our pandemic response, racial injustice, and the presidential election, there were moments where it felt that our congregation was being pulled apart. I hope that I was able to provide some steady leadership to help ease the tension, but I'm also sure that Pastor Ken, as well as the healing of time have helped bring some stability. One clear marker of this was the Faith and Politics class held in November-December, where the conversation was sometimes tense, but mostly civil and from time-to-time enlightening. Today, I would currently describe us a congregation that is still divided but no longer divisive. For now, I think that is about as healthy as we can be. We are a mixed bag of people with different points of view, on a whole range of issues, but as long as we continue to respect, care for, and even love and enjoy each other through the differences, Westminster is going to be okay.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Dan

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES

- On Easter Sunday 2021, the start of small group, live singing began with a quartet for special music.
- The hiring of Dr. Mariko Morita as our organist began as we started in person services in April of 2021.
- While we were able to have a few in person Wednesday night classes, Charissa led a percussion class for the children and also met with the Church Mice. The children rang tone chimes for Palm Sunday.
- Summer special music was filled with musicians from our church and also friends of Westminster.
- In August, the hiring of Charissa Lambert as Music Director/Contemporary Worship Leader and Cam Mears as Meisteringers Bell Director filled positions that were vacant since March of 2021.
- All Choirs returned in September with weekly rehearsals. New rehearsal times were put into place to accommodate the new music staff and a better flow for Wes Pres Wednesdays. The Worship Team started again with the restoration of the 11:15 Jacob's Well Service.
- On December 5th, Cocoa and Carols took place in the Shared Life Center. All Choirs participated and individuals and small groups also joined in for a night of family fun to kick off the Holiday Season.
- On December 12th, Meisteringers led a one service Sunday as they shared the music of Advent with several musical offerings.
- On December 19th, the Chancel Choir, Messenger Choir and Church Mice, shared a multigenerational cantata entitled, "The Symbols of Christmas". The script was originally just a play and musical selections were added to create a unique presentation. The projection of lyrics and scripture has received many positive comments from the congregation.
- The Promise Academy of Music has been suspended since the Spring of 2020 due to the pandemic. Elders seeking wisdom will be in discussions how to proceed with this program because the Director of Music going to a part-time position, have made leadership of this program not feasible.

Respectfully submitted,
Charissa Lambert

YOUTH LEADER

This year was a bit of a transitional period as we had to say goodbye to our beloved Youth Director Erica Rissi and I, Steven Jordan, took on a much bigger role in our fantastic youth group as the acting Youth Ministry Leader. Although we had a leadership change, we continued to keep many of our traditions and make new memories.

We are thankful that we could continue to meet in person throughout the entire year. And here is our 2021 recap to show some of our highlights:

- Had many fun game nights including: Among us night based off the hit video game, Playing our favorite card game “Scum”, BINGO night, and our 2nd Annual Ultimate Pong Championship!
- We confirmed 5 students into the church and celebrated 7 graduating seniors.
- Our middle school and high school groups took a mission trip to Detroit where we were able to partner with local organizations to help those in need.
- The Middle school students have helped act out scripture lessons for our Wednesday Night Wes Pres Worship.
- Both middle school and high school groups traveled to the Lakeshore Center at Okoboji on our fall work trip. While we were there we helped around the camp by cleaning, organizing, and working outside.
- We celebrated with our Halloween Costume party and for Christmas held the Schools Out: Gift Exchange Extravaganza Pajama Party!
- Due to the high spread rate of COVID-19 we were unable to have our middle school dances, we did however have a car wash in the parking lot in order to help raise money for our mission trip!

I am thankful for my new role in the youth group and want to thank everyone for being supportive of me and our youth. I am looking forward to continuing to work with the youth program and everything that we will do moving forward.

Respectfully submitted,
Steven Jordan

DIRECTOR OF CHILD CARE

We currently have 5 workers plus one director. We are utilizing creative areas in our room including a reading nook with bean bag seats, a house area with a sink, a stove and a washer/dryer set, along with a fun train set that makes sounds!

Our staff takes pride in providing a clean and safe environment for the children of Westminster. They wear masks while taking care of the children and we have a system to keep children safe with a sign-in and out for each event. The nursery provides care for children kindergarten age and younger, with exceptions when needed. We provide childcare for any church activity. The Nursery Staff also assist in the kindergarten room during Wes Pres Wednesdays as needed. We are proud of our facility and of our staff.

Respectfully submitted,
Dee Jordan

SESSION

Total members as of December 31, 2020 - 463

Additions

Reaffirmation and Profession of Faith – 5

Certificate of Transfer – 0

Youth Professions – 5

Other – 0

Deletions

Certificate – 4

Death – 9

Moved from MEMBER status to INACTIVE – 3

Total active members as of December 31, 2021 – 457

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Children:

- Children's ministry stopped in April for Sunday School and Wednesday Night activities. We were able to start back in September to our regular schedule with social distancing practices in place. Meals were served on Wednesday nights.
- VBS was offered outside this year. Luckily, we had great weather and a wonderful turnout. I'm incredibly proud of our volunteers that provided lessons, crafts, snacks, music, games and more. It took many hands with the setting up and taking down of our tents and tables outside.
- The middle schoolers did not go to Great Escape this year. We did combine middle and high school students together to create lasting memories by going to Detroit. We rented a private Airbnb and had many laughs playing games at night. During the day we were able to visit Paster Tricia Jacobs in her new church and help with some of their causes in the community.

Adult Education:

- For the first couple months of the year, we continued on with various Sunday morning classes, Wednesday Night groups, Monday Morning Bible Studies, small groups, and fellowship groups regular schedule. Many thanks to Cathy Young who continues to teach the Monday Morning Women's Bible study.
- Men's group, Women's WOW group, Chorus and Bells were able to start back in September with social distancing practices in place.
- The faithful Centering Prayer group continued to meet in person and also transitioned to online gatherings that made it easier for people from further distances to attend.

Respectfully submitted,
Tasha Knight

DEACONS

The Deacons had a bit more flexibility this year as they were able to make visits to those on the special care list and provide many more activities involving our membership and community.

Here are some Highlights:

- Our care list members were contacted with phone calls, letters, visits, or dropping off gifts (devotionals, cookies, lilies, poinsettias, etc.)
- A winter snowshoeing event at Hartman Reserve was held in February, and enjoyed by a few members eager to be out in the snow.
- The annual prayer vigil was carried out this Spring for people to come and experience some spiritual time in the chapel, labyrinth or walking the building at a safe distance.
- We participated in the Kingsley Teacher Appreciation event at the close of the school year, by helping serve the meal and provide appreciation gift bags to the teachers for their hard work and dedication.
- Our Back to Church Fall Kickoff BBQ meal was hosted by the Deacons in September.
- A labyrinth event, rescheduled from the previous year, was held in October to educate our congregation on this new addition to our facility. 50-60 people from elementary to adults were able to experience, first-hand, the instruction/training. The labyrinth was also open the first Saturday in December to begin the Advent Season. We encourage the congregation to learn more about the labyrinth and personally experience this meaningful spiritual tool in the coming year.
- Throughout the year, all church members received a birthday greeting from the Card Ministry program. We also facilitate a monthly card making class to spark fellowship, creativity and encourage others, by sending out hand-made greeting cards. Anyone may participate and bring a friend. Sign- up sheets are posted monthly in the Welcome Center. Check out the revolving card rack located in the Adult Library stocked with various greeting cards to brighten someone's day. Cards are provided free, although, a small donation would help the Card Ministry Program with postage costs.
- The G-Love Tree was displayed the month of December and was decorated with new, warm mittens, gloves, hats and scarves for needy children. These items were distributed to Lowell Elementary in January. We thank the Westminster congregation for their generous donations of warm items for the children.
- Once again, we closed out the year with a live Nativity for the community to enjoy. Several Deacons provided hot cocoa, candy canes, worship schedules, and much joy to those families and friends stopping by to visit the stable animals and shepherds. Special thanks to the Crawford family for braving the cold as our nativity characters and Barn Stahl farms for providing the animals and the shepherds. Pretty sure there were some fun selfies shared too!

- A few activities were cancelled this year, including the Neighborhood Night Out event and weekly Coffee House fellowship after first service. May we look forward to including these activities in the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Northey, Deacon Moderator

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

Westminster Endowment Committee members during the year 2021 were – Mickey Waschkat - Chair, Bob Buckley, Jerry Clauson, Ron Coenen, Jeanne Speas, Jeff Morgan, Eric Johnson and Pastor Ken Locke.

Endowment Funds are kept in Trusts and are professionally managed by the trust departments of Community Bank and Trust and Lincoln Savings Bank. Investments are in keeping with the philosophy of supporting current needs but with an eye towards growing the investments in the long-term to assure increasing level of support over many years to come.

Committee Approved Expenditures for 2021

General Endowment Fund/Lincoln Savings Bank

- Westminster Presbyterian 2021 Operating Budget – Not used

Shirey Fund/Community Bank & Trust

- Visitation Pastor funding for 2021 Operating Budget – Not used

Francis & Dorothy Winter Sanctuary Fund/Lincoln Savings Bank

- Tuning of Organ & Pianos

Westminster Endowment Fund – Torgerson Early Childhood Education/Lincoln Savings Bank

- Computer for teachers for children education

Westminster Endowment Fund – Torgerson Piecemakers/Lincoln Savings Bank – Not used

Fern Gray Fund/Lincoln Savings Bank

Fern Gray Fund allows members of the church to apply for Scholarships to help fund their college tuition. In 2021, \$15,250 was allocated to thirteen students that applied. Guidelines for scholarships are in the Fern Gray Fund Trust.

Memorial Fund/Lincoln Savings Bank

Memorials were contributed to the church from the following friends and families of:

- Marian Christason
- Jay Ginther
- Geof Grimes
- Lloyd Harp
- Marlene Janssen
- Justin Koenen
- Robert Shafer

If you would like information about any of the Endowment Funds, please contact Becky Dietz in the church office or one of the members of the committee.

Respectfully submitted,
Mickey Waschkat, Chair

FINANCE COMMITTEE

This past year presented Westminster with many successes and challenges as we navigated the continued pandemic. From a financial perspective, you, the members of Westminster have provided for the Church through your gifts, volunteer efforts and prayers. As we were able to get back to somewhat full programs and services, we have seen attendance slowly recover but not to pre-pandemic levels.

I am happy to report that Westminster ended the year with a surplus. For 2021 our receipts exceeded our expenditures by over \$17,000. Although revenues were below budget, expenses were also lower than budget. The

majority of the expense control was due in part to lower personnel expenses which included interim pastor costs that did not begin until May and the part time staffing of music and youth programming.

Financial Budget Summary for Period Ending December 31, 2021

	2021 Budget	Actual 2021
Revenue	\$685,681	\$561,328
Administration	\$26,200	\$27,082
Operations & Maintenance	\$86,000	\$70,780
Christian Education	\$14,550	\$8,430
Personnel	\$462,125	\$364,991
Mission Outreach	\$47,000	\$46,000
Music & Worship	\$4,023	\$2,411
Stewardship	\$1,000	\$249
Hospitality & Deacons	\$2,000	\$2,436
Membership & Outreach	\$3,400	\$2,308
Per Capita	\$19,383	\$19,383
Total Disbursements	\$665,681	\$544,071
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$0.00	\$17,257

This is certainly a blessing compared to our initial budget, as we did not utilize any budgeted draw from reserves nor did we use any direct support from the Endowment Funds.

I would like to thank the members of the Finance Committee for their stewardship throughout this past year. The time and talents that these members lend to Westminster are greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,
John Speas, Finance Chair

MISSION COMMITTEE

The Mission Committee is responsible for determining monetary distributions locally, nationally, and worldwide in the amount of 10% of the total yearly pledges and additional monetary receipts.

Hands-on Mission work by church members during 2021 included donations of personal supplies for the Food Bank and our Pantry, packing and distributing items from the pantry, donations of baby items for the Stork's Nest, a work session at Lakeshore Camp, the purchase of Christmas gifts for an adopt-a-family, meeting with clients referred from Love Inc. for water bill assistance, working on a Habitat for Humanity build, providing Christmas gifts for children in foster care, and organizing/serving the Annual Christmas Dinner. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, the Christmas Dinner was again prepared and packaged by HyVee, and was handed out to individuals as they drove through on Christmas Eve morning. We served 365 individuals, with the remainder of the dinners being frozen and distributed at our next Pantry date. Special thanks to both HyVee and Village Inn for their continued support of our annual Christmas dinner. Due to restrictions, we were not able to hold the Feed My Starving Children food pack in October. However, it is our hope to resume this ministry in 2022.

Monetary support was given to many organizations including Lakeshore Camp, Dubuque Seminary, Missionaries (Roger & Julie Hederstedt and Farsijana Adeney-Risikotta), House of Hope, Food Bank, Salvation Army, Meals on Wheels, Habitat for Humanity, Cedar Valley Angels, Self-Help International, Protestant University of Congo, the Reach Out Orphanage in Honduras, and scholarships for Westminster youth to attend camps & mission trips.

In November we once again sponsored The Blessing. We received nominations for several excellent agencies, and following the congregation vote, House of Hope was awarded the \$7,000 for use as collateral for low-interest car loans.

Our food pantry continues to serve the community on the first Saturday and third Thursday of each month. Please see the included report on the pantry for details of this ministry.

One of Westminster's greatest strengths is its commitment to mission work. Our thanks to each of you who support the Mission programming financially, hands-on, or both.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Kester, 2021 Chair

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee is responsible for finding active members of the Congregation to serve on standing and certain ad-hoc committees, to serve as Deacons and to serve as Elders. Our goal is to maintain an engaged group of members actively serving on each committee. This year brought with it challenges as we prayerfully and mindfully, made the choices for the leadership of the church and its standing committees. This year it was wonderful to be able to meet in person, have our discussions, and make plans.

The Nominating Committee met numerous times from September through November to fill openings for terms beginning in January 2022. The group faithfully and diligently worked towards finding the right persons to serve in the open positions. The committee felt confident in the slate of individuals put forward to serve.

Bonnie Smith-Davis will return for a second term as Deacon. Session approved and the congregation voted to approve her renewal as well as three new Deacons at the December 12, 2021 congregational meeting. Monica Johnson, Keary Secor, and Faith Sonksen who have agreed to serve as deacons for a three-year term.

Session voted on and approved Session members at their December 7, 2021 meeting. They presented Judy Clauson, Trisha Crawford, and Jennifer Owen-Kuhn for approval by the Congregation, which was given at the December 12, 2021 meeting.

For 2022, pending the Congregation's approval, Judy Clauson (Elder serving on Session) and Jenny Dodd will join the nominating committee and begin serving three-year terms. Karen Siler has agreed to serve an additional 3-year term, one final year as a member of Session.

The Nominating Committee continues to be grateful for the willingness and generosity of the congregation of Westminster Presbyterian in participating in the decision-making and planning of the church. I would like to thank all

WPC members for their dedication, especially those finishing their committee duties. I encourage everyone to be an active and engaged member of our Church and reach out to the Committee Chairs or Elders throughout the upcoming year if you are interested in serving our Church.

“Each one should use whatever gift [they have] received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms.” 1 Peter 4:10

In Christ,
Karen Siler, Chair

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

The 2021 Personnel Committee representatives included Associate Pastor, Daniel Voigt (January – April); Interim Senior Pastor, Kenneth Locke (May – December); Session Members: Jodi Fabrizio (chair) and Mickey Waschkat (secretary) and Scott Cose (PNC Chair); Congregational Members: Jess Nauholz, Jeanne Speas, Joe Vich, Kristie Brown, Eric Johnson, and Jennifer Owen-Kuhn.

In March, we accepted the resignation of our full-time Music Director, Patrick Marchant. Patrick had been with Westminster since 2017. We wished Patrick well during worship on March 14 as he departed for a new position in Huntsville, AL.

In 2021 we welcomed Reverend Ken Locke to serve as our Interim Senior Pastor, Head of Staff. Pastor Locke jumped right in moderating our Session and providing staff representation to various committees, including Personnel. We have been blessed by Pastor Ken’s preaching and his experience with churches in transition has been an asset as we worked through a thorough mission study of Westminster, vacancies in our music department, and turnover in our youth director position.

In July, Personnel and Session accepted the resignation of our full-time youth director, Erica Rissi. Erica served Westminster and our youth for three years and after returning from summer youth trips, we celebrated Erica’s service to Westminster and wished her well in her new position serving children and families experiencing foster care for non-profit organization Cedar Valley Angels.

With the recommendation of Session appointed task force, Elders Seeking Wisdom, we filled vacancies and added positions with the following part-time staff members:

Charissa Lambert accepted roles as our Director of Music and Contemporary Worship leader. Fall blessed us with returning to two services and we are grateful to Charissa’s gifts leading our Chancel choir, Worship band, and Children’s music program.

Cam Mears, a Wartburg student, accepted the part-time role of Adult Bell Choir Director. Under Cam’s direction we have once again enjoyed the beautiful melodies the bell choir brings to the traditional service.

Steven Jordan accepted a part-time Youth Leader position. Steven brings a joyful heart and a passion for serving our youth.

Dale Stabenow was hired part-time to provide custodial support as in-person services and programming returned to Westminster.

At the end of 2021, Session accepted recommendation of ESW task force that Westminster move to a solo pastor church to ensure we can align our expenses with giving. With Reverend Locke's support and agreement, Session voted to exercise the 30-day termination clause in Reverend Locke's contract. Reverend Locke's last day was January 7th. Pastor Dan and a yet-to-be hired part-time visitation pastor will lead Westminster until a new head of staff is hired. The Pastoral Nominating Committee, chaired by Scott Cose, will continue to search for the full-time, solo pastor/head of staff.

Respectfully submitted,
Jodi Fabrizio, Personnel Committee Chair

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

The Property Committee is responsible for maintaining the Building and Grounds of the Church property. Our budget has line items for utility bills, maintenance contracts, snow and lawn care, kitchen and janitorial supplies, insurance, new equipment and equipment repair and maintenance of the Church van. We also set aside money annually for major repair costs of the Church building.

Members of the property committee in 2021 were: Loren Duchman, Alisa Engelhardt - Smith, Dean Thede, Randy Waschkat, Mark Kennedy, Don Kester, Dan Grosser, Cody Alberts, and Rick Gorman.

We contracted a lawn care company to control our weeds and to fertilize. A second company was contracted to remove the snow from our lots. Fallen branches were removed periodically throughout the year. Property Committee volunteers did our lawn mowing and removed snow from the sidewalks and entrances.

The church decided to divide up the duties of the full-time custodian. To keep the building clean we contracted with Merry Maids cleaning service. A part time setup person was hired. Larry Nobsch performed minor repairs when needed.

Expenditures from major maintenance for the year included replacing a failed roof top heating and cooling unit and replacing the air conditioner for the nursery.

Small projects were completed by members of the committee during the year. A church cleanup day was held in April. Sanctuary ceiling light bulbs were replaced in July. Mulch was spread where needed, and safety yellow areas were repainted.

Rick Gorman and Dean Thede will be leaving the committee. As departing chairman, I want to thank all of the committees over the last 6 years for their willingness to volunteer as needed. Their willingness to give to our church is very gratifying. New members starting this year will be Dan Hills and Dwight VanWyngarden.

Respectfully submitted,
Dean Thede, Chair of Property Committee

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Growing our Faith through Generosity in 2022

This year's stewardship campaign was centered around not only our Faith to our Lord but also recognizing the Generosity that God has given us and the Generosity that we provide others. During our campaign, we heard from our church members about the impact that Westminster has on our youth, our commitment to Missions here in the Cedar Valley and globally, and the deep relationships our members have with each other. As we wrap up this year's efforts, we have over \$485,000 in pledge commitments with many others expressing their support both financially and in other volunteer efforts. For those that are still undecided please return your stewardship card or contact the Church office. Your support is vital to Westminster and helps determine our direction for the future.

Respectfully,
John Speas, Stewardship Chair

PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Your Pastor Nominating Committee consisting of June Klein-Bacon, Judy Clauson, Scott Cose, Kendal Crawford, Steven Jordan, Jennifer Owen-Kuhn and Regina River, was elected and began meeting in March of 2021. With the help and direction of Pastor Ken Locke, we completed Westminster's mission study. It was approved by both our session and our Presbytery's COM in November.

We presently are working to complete the Ministry Information Form (MIF) and once that is completed and approved by our Session and COM, it will be submitted to the CLC (Church Leadership Committee) in Louisville, Ky. and we will begin our active search for our new Pastor. We thank you for your patience and prayers as we continue this journey together.

Respectfully submitted,
Scott Cose, PNC Chair

PIECEMAKERS

The Piecemakers is a sewing group that enjoys making quilts in full, twin, lap robe and infant sizes. We support our community by giving away the quilts to local organizations. Though, due to the pandemic in 2021, we were unable to meet for part of the year. We did resume our sewing the last half of the year.

We meet on a weekly basis, Thursdays from 9 am – noon. During the time we have been able to meet, we have completed several quilts. We gave: 5 to Black Hawk Co. Veterans, 13 to American Red Cross, 4 to House of Hope, 5 to Friends of the Family and 10 baby quilts to Operation Threshold. We gifted 2 thank you quilts to Erica Rissi and Patrick Marchant for their service to our church family. There was a total of 39 quilts donated in 2021.

We would love to have more helping hands so we could be more generous to those in need in our community. Sewing skills are not necessary. We will show and train you what we do. It feels good to contribute a handmade warm quilt to one of God's children.

Respectfully submitted,
Kim Porter

PRESBYTERIAN PANTRY

Since the initial distribution on July 11, 2020 through the end of 2021, the Food Pantry has distributed over 90,000 pounds of food and non-food items to Cedar Valley families. Approximately 65,000 pounds were distributed during calendar year 2021. The first Saturday and third Thursday of each month have seen a regular line of cars, SUVs, pickups, bicycles and carts line up to receive needed supplies. Since opening, around 320 different households have been served; some of those households are regulars returning on multiple distribution dates while others only participated a few times. Participation is available to all who meet federal income guidelines.

Food is primarily received from the Northeast Iowa Food Bank. A very dedicated group of church members pick up the food at the Food Bank twice a month, deliver and unload it at WPC and stock the Food Pantry shelves, refrigerator and freezer. An equally appreciated group of volunteers packs approximately 50 boxes of non-refrigerated items in preparation for the upcoming distribution dates. Our “regulars” who show up to help distribute the food on the Saturday and Thursday distributions are the final volunteer group that makes the Pantry work. Dee Jordan has handled the ordering and recordkeeping duties required by the Food Bank and kept the shelves stocked. A subcommittee oversees the administrative decision-making and reports to the Mission Committee.

The Food Pantry is only successful because of the many persons who volunteer their time to prepare and distribute the boxes and those who have contributed goods and dollars. We have been blessed with the regulars mentioned above, but we also greatly appreciate and need all who have assisted. There is always a need for more volunteers and many different opportunities and tasks to be performed.

The growth in families receiving food led the Mission Committee to approach the Property Committee and Session for permission to expand the Food Pantry area into the storage area in early December. Early in 2022, the expanded area will allow all Pantry operations to be contained in one area. We greatly appreciate the Bell Choir allowing the Pantry to use a portion of their room during 2021. Eventually, we hope to be able to allow people to shop in the Pantry to select food items if they wish to do so. Space and COVID concerns have made that impractical to date.

Any members interested in volunteering are invited to sign-up online to work the distribution events or contact Pastor Dan or Gary Iversen to discuss other volunteer opportunities. Mission greatly appreciates the support the Food Pantry has received from the congregation which has allowed WPC to help meet important needs for members of the Cedar Valley. We also appreciate the support of our Presbytery and others for the grants received. WPC has been fortunate to this point in our operations that the majority of funds needed to operate the Food Pantry have come from grants and donations outside the WPC operating budget. We look forward to continuing and expanding our assistance to the community in 2022.

Respectfully submitted,
Gary Iversen

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Presbyterian Women did not meet in 2021 because of Covid 19. We were able to make our pledges to National, Presbytery, and Synod. We also gave gifts to our graduating seniors in May. We only hosted three funeral lunches because of Covid restrictions. We hope to resume meeting next year.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Butler, Moderator

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Not even the global Covid pandemic, and what's starting to feel like its never-ending variants, have kept women interested in serious Bible Study from gathering each Monday from 9:00 to 10 am. Utilizing Zoom, we're continuing to study our way through the New Testament, chapter by chapter. In 2021, we've worked our way – verse by verse – through I & 2 Corinthians and Galatians. After a short break, we'll begin the book of Ephesians on January 17.

I feel incredibly blessed to have been able to commute to, and from, the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary between 1986-89. I truly believe my primary call from God is teaching the Bible to adults. After over 30 years of ordained Presbyterian ministry, I continue to learn new insights – and share them with our Bible Study participants – as we work our way through the New Testament.

Those who would like to join us - or check out the study - are welcomed with open arms. Participants need not be members of Westminster so this is a great opportunity for evangelism and outreach. Please email me at cathyyoung4@gmail.com if you're interested. This wonderful group of women have become a rewarding small group as we celebrate learning, growing in faith, and being there for one another. While meeting in person would be the ideal, our virtual learning together has been an incredible blessing in each of our lives.

Blessings,
Rev. Cathy Young

2021 Committees

(Elders bold) (Chairs in red)

Elders

2021		2022		2023	
Mickey Waschkat	Y6 Per	Judy Kester	Y5 Mis	Rebecca Hoffman	Y1 CE
Dean Thede	Y6 Pro	John Speas	Y5 Fin	Erin Arickx	Y1 WM
Jo Broadston	Y6 Mis	Karen Siler	Y5 Nom	Scott Cose	Y1 Per
Felicia Cass	Y3 Fin	Cody Alberts	Y2 Pro	Marie Hills	Y4 WM
Tasha Knight	Y3 CE	Jodi Fabrizio	Y2 Per		
Matt Loesche	Y6 Nom	Ryan Greve	Y2 WM		
		Regina River	Y2 Mis		

Deacons

2021		2022		2023	
Steven Eilers	Y6	Curt Edler	Y5	Ann Northey	Y1
Troyce Vich	Y6	Bruce Pals	Y5	Nancy Osgood	Y1
Holly Ritter	Y3	Susan Larsen	Y2	Matt Haines	Y4
Bonnie Smith-Davis	Y3	Heidi Warrington	Y2		
		Judy Baier	Y2		
		Vicki Cose	Y2		

Christian Education

2021		2022		2023	
Becca Hoffman	Y3	Kerri Powell	Y2 '20	Michelle Galanits	Y4
Trisha Crawford	Y3	Sue Brainard	Y5	Angelina Patel	Y4
Tasha Knight	Y3 '21	Carrie Heinzerling	Y5	Steven Jordan	Y1

Endowment

2021		2022		2023	
Jerry Clauson	Y6	Mickey Waschkat	Y5 '21	Ron Coenen	Y1
Jeanne Speas	Y3	Eric Johnson	Y2		
Bob Buckley	Y5	Jeff Morgan	Y2		

Finance

2021		2022		2023	
Dwight VanWyngarden	Y6	Felicia Cass	Y2 '21	June Klein-Bacon	Y1
Ryan Cose	Y6	Margo Grimm	Y5		
Matt Mieke	Y6	Jolan Adams	Y2 '21		
Roger Davis	Y3				
John Speas	Y3				

Mission

2021		2022		2023	
Judy Kester	Y6 '19	Kendal Crawford	Y5	Jean Gardner Siler	Y4
Kassy Grosser	Y3	Angie Tieskotter	Y5	Gary Iversen	Y4
		Jo Broadston	Y2 '21	Missy Poock	Y1
		Regina River	Y2 '22		

Nominating

2021		2022		2023	
Karen Siler	Y3 '19	Marla Edler	Y5	Don Kester	Y4
Peg Kugler	Y6	Matt Loesche	Y2 '20	Susie Heaton	Y1
		Vicki Cose	Y2	Lori Johnson	Y1
		Harrison Cass	Y2		

Personnel

2021		2022		2023	
Mickey Waschkat	Y6 '21	Jess Nauholz	Y5	Kristie Brown	Y1
Jodi Fabrizio	Y6	Joe Vich	Y2	Scott Cose	Y1
		Jeanne Speas	Y2	Eric Johnson	Y1
				Jennifer Owen-Kuhn	Y1

Property

2021		2022		2023	
Dan Grosser	Y3	Rick Gorman	Y?	Loren Duchman	Y1
Dean Thede	Y6 '21	Don Kester	Y5	Mark Kennedy	Y1
Randy Waschkat	Y3	Alisa Engelhardt	Y2	Cody Alberts	Y4

Stewardship

2021		2022		2023	
Cheri DeWaard	Y6	Mimi Coenen	Y5	Cindy Thede	Y1
Shawna Buckley	Y6	Bob Heaton	Y5		
John Speas	Y3				

Worship & Music

2021		2022		2023	
Ryan Greve	Y6	Charissa Lambert	Y2	Vicki Grimes	Y4
Erin Arickx	Y6	Amy Knoll	Y5	Marie Hills	Y4
Allen Sessler	Y3	Alex Powell	Y5	Neal Petersen	Y4