



WALLINGFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Annual Report 2022

Mission Statement

With grateful recognition that Jesus Christ is Lord of the church and of our lives, the mission of the people of Wallingford Presbyterian Church is to witness to Christ's presence and power.

We recognize that we have been transformed, yet are always being transformed into the likeness of Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit.

We witness through meaningful worship, Christian nurture, spiritual growth, caring service, fellowship, music, and mission in the broader community.

In faithful response to God's call, we remain open to the work of the Holy Spirit so that we continually are shaped as individuals and as the body of Christ.

.... God's growing people serving Christ in a changing world

WALLINGFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Wallingford, Pennsylvania
January 29, 2023

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION
AGENDA

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER OF THE MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

CERTIFYING THE QUORUM

CALL FOR NEW BUSINESS

OPENING PRAYER

MISSION AND MINISTRY REVIEW

PASTOR'S REMARKS

ASSOCIATE PASTOR'S REMARKS

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

MEETING OF THE CORPORATION

RECONVENE THE MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

NEW BUSINESS, (if any)

TREASURE'S REPORT

2023 BUDGET REVIEW

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE PASTORAL TERMS OF CALL

PASTORAL PRAYER/LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

ADJOURNMENT

BENEDICTION

TIME OF GREETING and sharing the Grace
and Peace we received

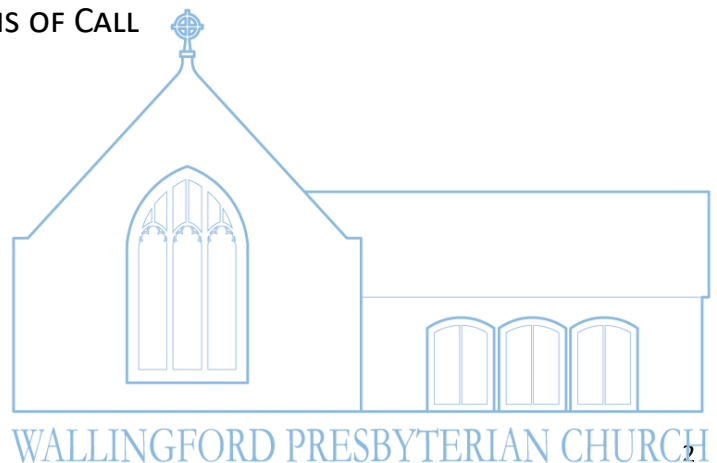


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Staff



Rev. François Lacroix
Pastor



Rev. Taylor Cornelius
Associate Pastor



Lee Hagon-Kerr
Director of Music



Kate Callahan
Church Administrator



Jodi Dawes
WCNS Director



Leslie Krowchenko
Communications
Coordinator



Michelle Hall
Financial Secretary

2022

Church Officers

Session

Class of 2023

Elizabeth Hansen
Frank Noyes
Jim Oetinger*
Helen Picher

Class of 2024

Diane Corbett
Roger Demos
Leslie Krowchenko**
Gwyn Vernon

Class of 2025

Mary Lou Day
Brian George Jr.
Kristine Mulhorn
Shirley Rudd+

Board of Deacons

Class of 2023

Dottie Celebre
Deb Dunbar
Tom Erickson*
Cyndi Lacroix*
Nancy Oetinger

Class of 2024

Karen Emmons
Lin Floyd
Carol Freidinger**
Danielle Haury
Kai Yokoyama

Class of 2025

Sally Clyde
Chris Dearnaley
Tracy Moran
Polly Sacco-Ezzell+
June Tolomeo

Board of Trustees

Class of 2023

Roger Friedinger
David Haury
Jean Stromberg
Gail Weaver

Class of 2024

Ken Ezzell+
Walt Kaminski+
Vicki Lovecchio
Pat Tillson

Class of 2025

Bruce Clark
Mary Payne
John Tiedeck+
Tony Tolomeo

Clerk of Session

Judy Kenworthy (Retiring)
Chris Darr (Incoming)

Treasurers

Todd Darr and Ed Mattote

President of Trustees

Bruce Clark

Moderator of Deacons

Dottie Celebre

** Serving 1 year unexpired term*

*** Serving 2 year unexpired term*

+ Serving second consecutive term

From the Pastor

Dear Members and Friends,
The Gloria which we sing full voice every Sunday, shaking the rafters of the sanctuary, is perhaps the best way for me to describe the past year. It has become a kind of anthem for us, part of the very fabric of our worship and our life together as a community of faith at Wallingford Presbyterian Church:

*Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

God's goodness has indeed shined on our church and congregation this past year, leading us through the difficulties that COVID brought with



it. We welcome visitors to our worship services almost every Sunday. Children are active in the programs Pastor Taylor, Ms. Lee and the Education Council develop. Our Boards, Councils and Committees have found renewed energy now that we are back together. The church facilities are being used by various groups once again and there are activities taking place on our campus almost every day of the week. We are a strong and healthy church and we have much to be thankful for.



I am so blessed to share the leadership of our congregation with Pastor Taylor and the members of the Session. Our Deacons continue their tireless work behind the scenes as does our Congregational nurse bringing wholeness and health to our members and friends. The Trustees continue their dedicated work caring for the buildings and grounds with an eye to the future needs of our congregation. Our music ministry, under the direction of Lee Hagon-Kerr, continues to be a powerful and inspirational part of our ministry. Jody Dawes has lead our Cooperative Nursery School through another year keeping that vital part of our outreach to the Wallingford Community strong and vibrant. Thank you to Kate Callahan who makes sure that all runs as smoothly as possible with the administration of our programs. And Leslie Krowchenko keeps us all informed of all that is taking place at WPC.



Our COVID time has taught us many lessons; how to zoom meetings; how to include more worshippers through our YouTube Channel; how to communicate with one another using many and varied media platforms but perhaps the most important lesson of all is the radical importance of community. The new tools at our disposal are now a vital part of our everyday life but nothing can take the place of actually being together as community. I invite you to continue to come to church, to participate in the programs and opportunities offered and to enjoy the fellowship of your community of faith. Be a participant not a spectator, I promise you it will be good for your spirit and your soul.



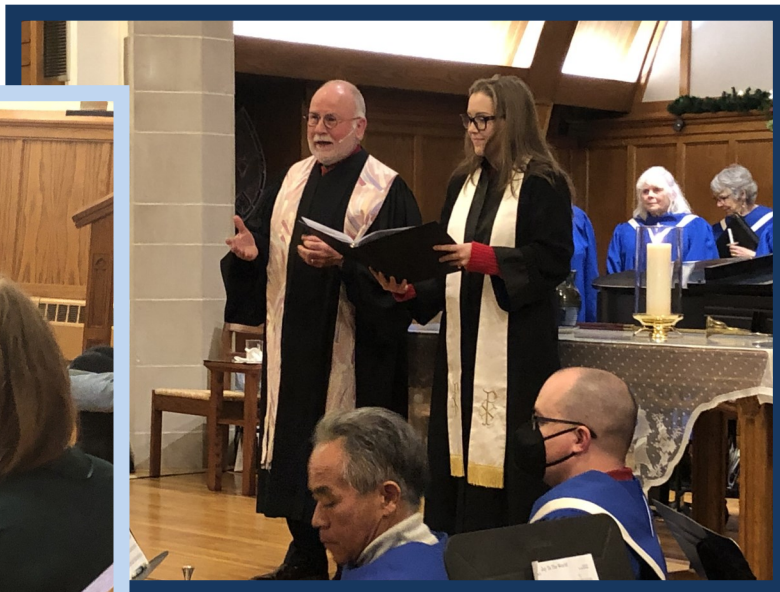
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

And I do praise God for leading us this past year. For all the mission and ministry we accomplished for the sake of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The pages that follow in text and picture tell our story of discipleship in Jesus Christ. There is much for which to give thanks. So, thank

you God and thanks to all of you who have supported our mission and ministry through, your time, your imagination, your energy, your financial contributions, your prayers and your love.

Blessings and see you in church,

Pastor François



From the Associate Pastor



This past year has felt like a breath of fresh air in so many ways!

We all had many troubles and difficulties during the time of lock-down and the aftermath, and this year was one in which we were worried about how we might adjust back to “normal life.” As it turned out, my expectations were completely blown out of the water, as our congregation and families came back

with full force and brought our church back to life! The difference between last year and this year was unbelievable, and it makes me so grateful to be a part of this faith-filled congregation. I’ve been so blessed to work alongside such an amazing staff as well, who

strive day in and day out to offer the best possible care for our congregation. Many thanks to Pastor Francois, Kate Callahan, Lee Hagon-Kerr, and Leslie Krowchenko for not only their amazing work, which somehow gets better each year, but for their wonderful friendship and camaraderie which makes WPC the absolute best place to be!

This year was absolutely packed with great memories, which include all of my work with the youth group, young adults, the children, Education Council, Session, Staff, special events, baptisms, and more. My biggest challenge this year was when I served as solo-pastor during Pastor

François’ sabbatical. During this time I preached, led funerals, provided pastoral care, and more, but none of it would have been possible without our amazing congregational leaders who helped with preaching, set up of services, unlocking and locking doors, visiting members, and offering support in a multitude of ways. I am so grateful for such a supportive church who truly is not afraid to step up and make it all happen together! Thank you all so much for your help during that time, and also for the many ways you help make this church a blessing to our town all year round!



Here are some highlights from this past year that I want to share:

† *The birth of Kate’s baby, Joshua Hawkins-Callahan! It was such an honor to assist in his baptism and we are so happy for Kate and Meghan as they start this journey together as a family!*

† Celebrating Easter together at our outdoor service as we sung hymns to Jesus full of joy for his resurrection, and also getting to see many families we hadn't seen since the pandemic!

† Watching the kids perform their songs at the last night of Vacation Bible Camp for their parents, and seeing how enthusiastic they were with their singing and dance moves (rambunctious jumps included!)



† Seeing everyone's SMILES for the first time since the pandemic began when we took off our masks in worship, once it was approved by our Session!

† Every year one of my highlights is seeing everyone sing Silent Night in the light of just the candles as we praise

God for the birth of our Savior on Christmas Eve Night. This time there were children sitting up front and to see the light of the candles on their faces as they smiled and sang was too beautiful for words.

† Watching our talented congregants perform at Coffee House night all different kinds of songs was so amazing and fun! (This was the first time we got to do the Coffee House night with actual food and without masks!)



† Hearing the youth, young adults, and children read through the entirety of Jesus's journey on Life of Jesus Sunday was so incredible. To me, it's how he would have wanted it.



† *Watching our little ones surround baby Jesus in the manger at the Christmas Pageant and end with a powerful question to the congregation: “Are YOU on your way to Bethlehem?” and then hear the congregation roar with applause! They deserved it!*



† *Hearing our choir perform such wonderful pieces all year round is always a highlight for me. Many thanks to Lee Hagon-Kerr for her incredible leadership. However, is it possible to mention music without mentioning how we are all reduced to tears when Kara Mudler sings “Oh Holy Night” on Christmas Eve?*



All in all, I am so deeply grateful for the opportunity to have led alongside you all for another year as we strive to seek first the Kingdom of God together. What a gift it is to be called to the one calling together as a church family, and see it bloom in such magnificent ways this past year. I am truly convinced that the Spirit of God is at work powerfully among you, and I have a feeling that 2023 will be one in which God does something marvelous in our midst. Many thanks for all you do to make God's love known among us, and in our community. You are truly a blessing to me.

Warmly,

Pastor Taylor



2022 Report of the Clerk of Session



2022 returned the church to more normal worship services, programs, meetings, etc. Initially, indoor worship was held with masks required but, eventually, masks became optional. Coffee hours resumed. Meetings were in-person but with the option of ZOOMing. At the end of the year, Clerk Judy Kenworthy retired and was succeeded by *Elder Chris Darr.



Annual Statistical Report for Wallingford Presbyterian Church for the Year Ended December 31, 2022

Members on January 1, 2022

393

Gains

Profession of Faith, 17 and under	0
Profession of Faith, 18 and older	0
Reaffirmation of Faith	0
Certificate of Transfer	0
Other gains	0

Total Gains 0

Losses

Certificate losses	0
Deaths	9
Other	0

Total Losses 9

Members on December 31, 2022

384

Infant Baptisms	2
Adult Baptisms	0

Total Baptisms 2



♪ For the fall of 2022, we started implementing “special Sundays” to highlight and explore specific genres of music, including contemporary praise, Taizé, and the casual pajama service on Christmas Day.

♪ The worship staff has continued to offer Thursday meditations to post online, including hymns, prayers and readings.

♪ There have been several Wednesday at Wallingford events involving music, including “Name that Hymn Tune”, a concert featuring Be-sharpe-- a group from Denmark, and other fun events.

♪ We hosted a carol-sing during the annual Advent Open House, which also included adults this year.

♪ We had fantastic soloists and small groups over the summer, including our very own Pastor Taylor!



Music Ministry

Concerts

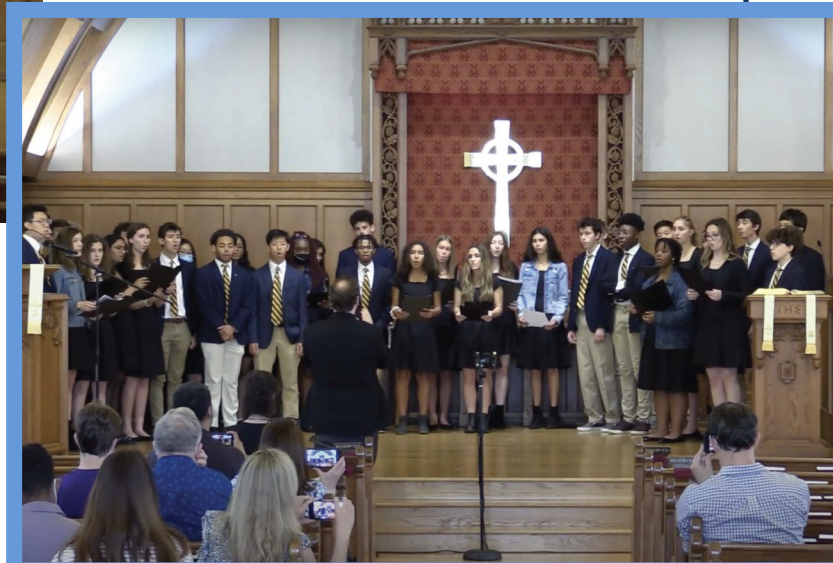
FOR A CAUSE

Celebrate great music
and make a difference
in our community



♪ In March, we hosted a performance by soprano Kara Goodrich, supporting Project W. Performing classical vocal works and featuring compositions written by women, the concert helped support the work that Project W does to lift up and promote underserved women in Delaware County.

♪ We finished the '21-'22 concert season in May with performances by The Notables from The Haverford School and The B-Flats from The Baldwin School, both high school a cappella groups that performed popular and classical works, in support of the Chester Children's Chorus.



♪ In October 2022, we brought tenor Bryan Hoyos to perform a program of Hispanic and Latinx works, in support of Asociación Puertorriqueños en Marcha (APM). Singing art song, opera and music theater, Bryan's performance helped support the work APM does to build, sustain and support the Latinx community in Philadelphia.

♪ To wrap up the 2022 year of concerts, Elisa Muzzillo performed a concert of flute works, featuring compositions by Valerie Coleman, Robert Schumann among others, and some favorite Christmas tunes. The concert benefitted Philabundance to help fight hunger and scarcity in our communities.





Children's Music Ministry

- Our children continue to have fun and informal music opportunities once a month during "Kids' Cafe", where they can sing and play songs with Miss Lee and Pastor Taylor.
- The children's choir has collaborated with the Chancel choir, playing chimes and percussion instruments, as well as singing.
- Music was a big part Vacation Bible Camp, which included a performance at the end of the week.
- They performed during the Advent Open House and were featured as part of the annual Christmas Pageant, *The Way to Bethlehem*.





Adult Music Ministry

- Wallington Winds continued to play for special services at WPC, including Easter, "Music Appreciation Sunday", Christ the King Sunday, and Christmas Eve.



- Our bell choir and chancel choir performed regularly throughout the year in a variety of styles and genres, often featuring solos by our wonderful staff singers, Kara Goodrich (soprano) and Tyler Gibson (tenor).
- Choir members volunteered to carol at Hedgerow Theater, serenading guests on their way to see *A Christmas Carol*.



Staff Musicians



Kara Goodrich
Soprano



Tyler Gibson
Tenor

Communications Coordinator

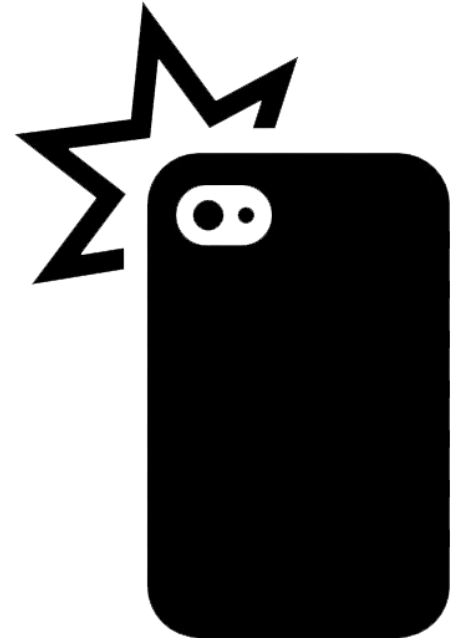
Who knew taking pictures could be so much fun!

Communicating about WPC is an easy assignment – there’s always something happening. Whether on your phone, tablet, laptop or desktop, hopefully you have heard (and will continue to hear) about WPC’s community of wonderful people.

A special shout-out to my partners in communications crime – everyone who sends pics, videos and/or info about upcoming events. It may seem as if I am frequently asking you to smile, but I don’t always deserve the photo credit. Keep those snaps coming!



Leslie Krowchenko



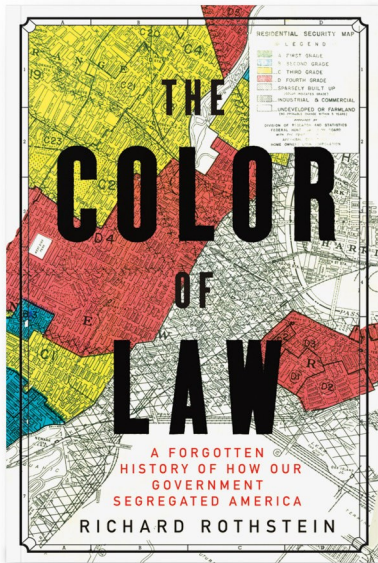
Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee works to identify those individuals whom God is calling to serve the church as members of Session, Deacons, and Trustees. The Committee’s goal is to develop a diverse slate of committed and faithful members who are elected to three-year terms. Our work was handled via in-person meetings, emails, and phone calls. In addition to the usual 13 positions to be filled, five additional positions were vacant due to some members leaving the area or being unable to serve for another reason.

The slate of church officers was presented to the congregation in September and the officers began serving their terms afterwards. Many thanks to the 2022 Nominating Committee for their service:

Joanne Callahan
Mary Lou Day
Chris Darr
Polly Sacco Ezzell
Jenny Montague
Dave Rudd
Pat Tillson
Gail Weaver

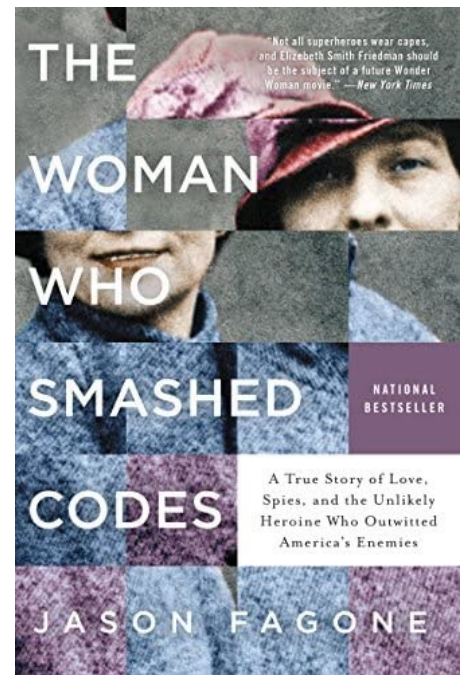
*Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Oetinger
Committee Chair*



BookLook

The BookLook is a group who meets on the fourth Wednesday of odd numbered months to discuss books selected by the group at a previous meeting. The usual pattern is fiction/non-fiction/fiction/non-fiction. The non-fiction books have always been enlightening (and sometimes goad the people in the group to get involved with things they never thought about) and the fiction books have been fun to read (and often enlightening, too, as we have learned about foreign cultures and history). In 2022, we read and discussed these books:

- 🔗 *The Woman Who Smashed Codes* by Jason Fagone
- 🔗 *The Vanishing Half* by Brit Bennett
- 🔗 *The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How our Government Segregated America* by Richard Rothstein
- 🔗 *The White Mirror* by Elsa Hart

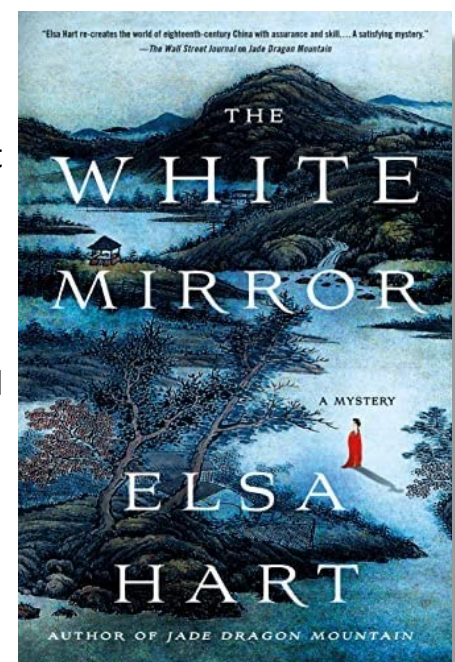


- 🔗 *Tightrope: Americans Reaching for Hope* by Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn

- 🔗 *Jade Dragon Mountain* by Elsa Hart

Anyone is welcome to join the BookLook discussions, whether you have read the book or not. We meet at church, but have Zoom available for anyone who does not want to meet in person. Books can be ordered individually, by contacting Walt Kaminski, or through your local library.

~Walt Kaminski



Education Council

Throughout the year, Michelle George and Shirley Rudd developed new ideas and methods to address the needs of children and adults with physical, behavioral, and cognitive issues. We feel it is important to show our worshippers our belief that “all are welcome here.” Please see their separate report under the heading *Project Disabilities*.



In July, Vacation Bible Camp welcomed around 20 children as we returned to a Monday through Friday evening format. On the last night, the children enthusiastically sang the songs they learned to their parents and caregivers in the sanctuary. Older children recreated the story of Joseph the Dreamer (the one with the coat of many colors) as all the children had learned how his faith in God enabled him to save Egypt from famine.



In September, we were able to resume weekly Faith Formation classes for children concurrent with the worship service. Attendance is markedly improved from last year which both children and teachers enjoy.

In October, we joined the Mission and Service Committee to encourage the donation of new socks to be distributed to local organizations. Together we collected over 450 pairs for adults and children.



In December, the Education Council hosted an Advent Open House where many children, parents, and other guests heard a Christmas story after enjoying craft-making, snacks, and singing, along with a preview of a Christmas pageant song. It was a multigenerational event enabling older and younger members to reunite or meet for the first time.

Project Disabilities



The WPC Education Council has been supporting and sponsoring the efforts of Shirley Rudd and Michelle George during 2022 in researching ways to enhance the worship and community experience at Wallingford Presbyterian Church. What started out as an education tool for our volunteer teachers dealing with various learning disabilities has turned into other ways to enhance the worship and participation experience as well.

This initiative has led to offering fidget toys for folks of all ages (positive comments from parents let us know they are appreciative of having

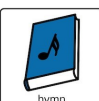
them available). A visual schedule has been available each week for children to anticipate the order and events of our worship service. Our registration cards have been updated to include a thorough and open-ended survey for parents to share pertinent information for volunteers to better serve their children during WPC events such as Faith Formation and youth group. The font on WPC printed materials has been changed to an ADA compliant font that make reading easier. A Sanctuary Committee has been established to look into better sound in the sanctuary for people with hearing challenges. The Sanctuary Committee is researching other ways to make seeing and participating in the life at WPC easier for everyone including a "disabilities" library for our congregation to learn about different disabilities and how to help those experiencing them as well as upcoming trainings on specific disabilities that our congregation members are currently experiencing.



One challenge we've experienced is what to title our efforts/projects. We have been saying Disabilities Project, Disabilities Initiative, or Disabilities Program. We are sensitive to those who would prefer not to be labeled as "disabled" as well as those who prefer that language.

While we are continuing to learn about disabilities, we are certainly not experts and enthusiastically welcome suggestions, help, and ideas. What we do know is that all of us know someone, friend or relative, who has a disability of some sort. We may not know what it is because we can't see it. If we can see it, we know they are not looking for sympathy but for understanding of what is happening to them. The hope of our ministry is to provide empathy and understanding to all with the goal of making it easier for folks to continue participating in the life of WPC.

Our Church Schedule

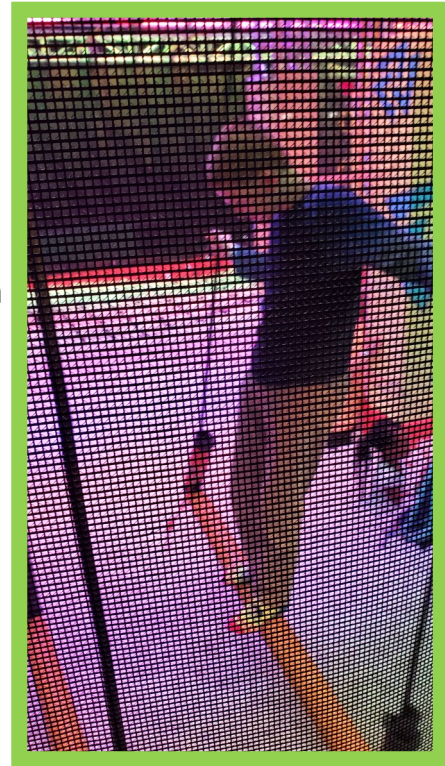
1	 prayer	☐	6	 choir	☐
2	 hymn	☐	7	 sermon	☐
3	 reading	☐	8	 offer	☐
4	Is there a baptism? Yes or No	☐	9	Is there communion? Yes or No	☐
5	 lesson	☐	10	 hymn	☐



This past year our youth and young adults have proved to be some of the greatest kids and young adults I have had the pleasure of knowing. They not only love to attend things, but they have hearts for service. I am continually inspired by their kindness, selflessness, and love toward others. We have multiple programs for our younger members as well as opportunities to serve and participate in the larger life of the church, and this past year, they really stepped up!

✖ Youth Group is a monthly program which focuses on giving the youth opportunities to have fellowship and time for reflection. Each month the youth gather for an outing in the community where they can have fun and fellowship and share a meal together.

✖ Highlights include our Urban Air Field Trip where the kids got to jump



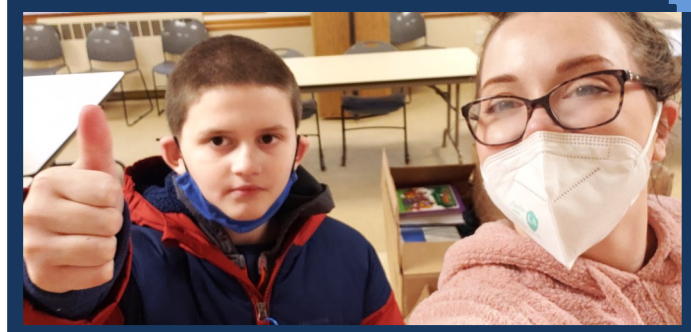
on trampolines and do obstacle courses together, Trunk or Treat day when the youth decorated the youth group trunk so well, and Movie Night at AMC when they got to see Wakanda Forever and get to know some of our young adults!



✖ The Young Adult Group is comprised of college-aged young adults who meet during their breaks in school. We have all kinds of events which include meals together, outings, and more.

✖ Highlights from this year include our Friendsgiving Dinner where we went out to eat together, seeing the Young Adults lead crafts at Advent Fest, and going Ice Skating at the Ice Works rink!

✖ Youth and Young Adult Service in the church expanded this year as they helped out at many events to benefit those other than themselves. The youth and young adults helped out at:



- ✖ *Advent Open House as crafters and set-up helpers*
- ✖ *Vacation Bible camp as shepherds and decorators and helpers all week*
- ✖ *The Christmas Pageant where they served as co-directors and shepherds for the little ones to know their cues*
- ✖ *Sunday Morning services where they served as liturgists and ushers and Souperbowl of Caring helpers*
- ✖ *Sprouts where the young adults regularly come as leaders to help the children with their crafts and help with set-up and breakdown (Many thanks specifically to Zoe Andrews and Noel Petherbridge for their commitment to this program!)*
- ✖ *Youth Events where young adults come to help set up and be supervisors and helpers for the youth*



✖ Confirmation is a program we run every-other year where we invite all highschoolers (specifically focused on freshmen) to have lessons and dinners throughout the year to explore their faith in preparation for joining the church. This year we have a fantastic group of young people who have really stepped up and committed to the process. We have six kids which is the largest group I have had since coming to WPC, and all of them are lovely to talk to and get along well. Many thanks to the students, their parents, and our great group of mentors for helping make this year wonderful so far!



✖ *Highlights include seeing the confirmands get excited to see one another as they know each other from school, watching the mentors and confirmands really hit it off at their first meeting – so much so that they wanted to keep talking!*



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Here at Wallingford Presbyterian Church we welcome all children, and strive to offer kids of all ages opportunities to learn and grow in their faith and in fellowship with one another. This year we refreshed our programs to offer new ways for our kids to become integrated into the life of the overall church family. This past year we were blessed as many of our families came back to church following the pandemic, and we also have had many new families join in the fun! This year we offered many children's activities including:



★ Sprouts Monthly Program (K-5th) which is a themed night full of fun and friends where the kids get to eat dinner together, do activities and games, and end with a devotional and prayer. This year we added in more themes and activities for the kids to try something new!

★ Highlights included Pumpkin Painting Day (where the kids got to paint their own pumpkins and take them home) and Movie Night (where the kids got to have pizza and popcorn while watching *Encanto* with new little friends!)



★ Kid's Café: Sing and Play! (All ages) which is a program run concurrent with Coffee Hour when the children get to have their own mini "coffee" hour of sorts with kid-friendly snacks and drinks, a chance to sing with Ms. Lee, and a time to play some games while their parents enjoy chatting with their church family.

★ Highlights included the chance for the kids to play the hand chimes to practice for the Christmas pageant, and when they learned their Anthem to sing for the congregation!



★ Vacation Bible Camp was a huge success this year as we had a great turn-out post-pandemic! We had our first week-long VBC in three years, and the kids had so much fun! Our theme was Monumental: Celebrating God's Greatness!

★ Highlights were when the new boys came and told their shepherds it was "the best week of their lives!" and when the children performed all their songs and skits on the last night in front of their parents, all dressed up as characters from the Joseph story!



★ The Children's Christmas Pageant was loads of fun for the children this year as well! Our theme was *On the Road to Bethlehem* and we acted out all the different characters, animals, and angels who came from afar to see baby Jesus! We had the largest Christmas pageant in my time there with twenty children!



★ Highlights include: watching the little ones look so proud when they said their lines, seeing how happy the kids were when they got assigned their parts, and having the parents clap and cheer at the end of the pageant – so beautiful!



the past few years! During lock-down we had a virtual Advent Fest, which was small yet adorable, and following that we had small in-person one, but this past year we FILLED the reception room and Fellowship Hall with over 100 attendees! Many thanks to Shirley Rudd and Gail Weaver for helping make the event an adult-friendly space as well, and many thanks to Lee Hagon-Kerr for a very powerful hymn-sing as the Fellowship Hall boomed with excited voices!

★ Highlights include: seeing all the adults mingling and enjoying food and drink together, watching the kids and new families make many crafts, seeing the youth and young adults help the little ones make their ornaments, and watching the toddlers dancing up front during the hymn-sing together!

★ Advent Open House was so exciting this year as it was a big turn-around from



★ Time with Young Disciples is a time when children come forward during the worship service to have a little mini-sermonette just for them. The kids enjoyed little scavenger hunts around the sanctuary, exploring and talking about the teaching windows, and learning through play!

★ *Highlights include: hearing their genuine, stark, and adorable answers to the questions, watching them set up the nativity set in chancel, and making their Advent wishes together to be hung in the sanctuary!*

★ Worship Involvement increased this year, as we had many children take part of our services in different ways. We had children serve as liturgists, hand-bell ringers, choir members, pageant participants, ushers, and Souperbowl of Caring helpers!

★ *Highlights were seeing the children sing their anthems and ring their handbells for the*

service, seeing the children and youth read all of Jesus' journey during Life of Jesus Sunday, and hearing the children read the Christmas story on Christmas Eve! No better way to hear the story of the birth of Jesus than through the voice of a child, amen?



★ Faith Formation (Sunday School) is a program we offer during our 10am Sunday Services for ages 18 months all the way up to 12 years. We changed it this year to have two rooms available: Young Disciples and Junior Disciples and this format works much better for our teachers.

The program has really flourished this past year because the teachers can rotate better, and also the turnout has been absolutely fantastic now that we have many people coming back to church after the pandemic. Many thanks to our teachers and our Sunday School Superintendent Sally Flemer for all their help making this program so fantastic!

★ *Highlights include: having many children come each Sunday, seeing the children look proud to show their parents their crafts after church, and watching how they make new friends in their classes and then seeing them interact in coffee hour!*

Wallingford Presbyterian Church Deacons

2022 Annual Report

Blood Drive- Deacon Tom Erickson coordinates the Blood Drives at the WPC with the American Red Cross, which are held in the fall and spring of each year. In October 2022, only 55 People showed up for our usual 85 slots. The publicity for the blood drives could be improved by signs advertising the dates.

Care Networks-Each deacon is provided with a list of families in our congregation. Quarterly letters are mailed from the church to update the members on current events and to remind them deacons are available to help. Deacons serve as a link to see if there are any services needed that could be provided by the Deacons Helpers such as phone calls, visitation, meals, rides to church or medical appointments, companionship, errands, household tasks, outdoor chores, or pet sitting. Our goal is to foster better communication between the deacons and our congregation.



Deacon Helpers-When the church administrator receives a phone call from a member of our church community, she contacts the moderator with the request by e-mail. The requests may include transportation to medical appointments, church services or church events, meals, companionship, visits, phone calls, household tasks, outdoor tasks and pet sitting. An updated list of Deacon Helpers has been provided for each deacon, the ministers and the church administrator.

General Mission-The church office may receive a phone call for a request from the WPC congregation or the community. The church administrator contacts the moderator and the general mission committee. These requests may include food baskets, holiday gift cards, financial assistance, help to pay for medication, etc. A record of the calls and the outcome is kept in a binder in the church office. Deacons are encouraged to have the family come to our church to pick up gift cards for their own personal security. A list of county resources may also be given to the family requesting help.



Red Wagon-The Red Wagon is available for members of the community and WPC to drop off non-perishable items to be distributed by the deacons to The Foundry Church in Garden City, City Team and the Media Food Bank. During the school year the items are sorted in the reception room by BSA Scouts who meet at our church. A list of items is on the WPC website. A committee of deacons and volunteers delivers the donations to the appropriate places on a monthly schedule. The Foundry Church is delivered noon the 3rd Sunday of the month by a deacon, Media Food Bank is delivered by Todd Darr and City Team is delivered by Harold Floyd.



Giving Tree-The Giving Tree is an activity that Deacons host every Christmas season. An artificial Christmas tree is displayed in the Narthex beginning the Sunday before Thanksgiving and the following two Sundays. Names are obtained from the school nurses at the Elementary schools. Gifts tags are hung from the tree so people can choose any number of tags. Then tags are returned the following Sunday with the gift cards being donated. Gift cards are delivered to City Team, Chester Eastside, NPE, WES, SRS, and families suggested from Care Networks. This year we helped 100 children with gift cards for Christmas.

Holiday Gift Cards-Names of families who need gift cards for Christmas and Easter meals are provided by the school nurse in each elementary school in the Wallingford-Swarthmore School District. The deacons purchase the \$25.00 and \$50.00 gift cards from Walmart and Target. They are given to the school contacts to distribute to each family.

Angel Tree-This mission supports local prison inmates who want to give gifts to their children. The gift requests include the age of the child, and suggested gifts. Gifts were provided for 9 children.





Visitation- An email is sent weekly to all the deacons with suggestions for visitation on Sundays. After the worship service, two deacons remove the flowers in the sanctuary and bring them to the kitchen to put in multiple vases. Visitation can occur on another day if the deacon has a schedule conflict. Flowers may be given in

honor of a birthday, an anniversary, a birth, an illness, a hospitalization, a death or just to thank someone for their help. Visitation may include a personal visit, leaving flowers at the home of the recipient or giving them to the recipient in church. The donation and purchase of smaller vases allow us to make more deliveries.

Membership Fellowship-Deacons continue to organize coffee hour quarterly.

Mission Requests-The deacons have requested an increase in their annual budget to support the increased need in our community for meals during the holidays, Christmas gift cards, and community requests.

Dottie Celebre
Deacon Moderator

Congregational Wellness Ministry

Coming out of Covid brought much more contact and busyness with our members this past year. It was a happy day when the Covid task force made the decision to make masking a choice once our wee ones were able to get vaccinated. I continued to encourage people to get all the boosters that were available and to get their flu shots and pneumonia vaccines as well. I believe Covid will always be with us in one form or another but I am sure that being boosted will keep us out of the hospital or from becoming so very ill.

We had new babies born to our congregation which brought an opportunity to help new mothers with breast feeding issues and new baby questions.

Our church family also had members who were diagnosed with cancer and undergoing chemo or radiation or immune therapy. Being able to be available for questions and listening ears kept me on my toes and on my knees often.

I went to doctor's appointments to be another set of ears for some and being an advocate for others as they navigate the health care system.



I continue to work in concert with the Stephens Ministers, Deacons, and Session for the needs of our congregation.

Every two years I have to get 30 hours of continuing education in order to renew my license to practice my nursing. I try very hard to pick subject matter that will enhance my knowledge of the things that will best serve me in taking care of all of you not as a practitioner but as an advisor and listener. 2023 is my year to do that labor of love.

It is with a full and grateful heart that I submit this; thanking God for each and every one of you every single day.

Cyndi Lacroix, RN, WPC Congregational Wellness Ministry



STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

We enjoyed the post pandemic celebration of the Strawberry Festival on Monday, June 6, 2022 and it was a day filled with wonderful sunshine, many volunteers, so many guests, and of course, lots of strawberries!

The total sales were \$10,427.21 with expenses being \$6,222, leaving a profit of \$4,500. which we was distributed as: \$750.00 to our Scout Troops, and \$3,750.00 to Chester Eastside Inc.



Worship Council

The purpose of the Worship Council is to support the pastors and music director in planning worship services to provide meaningful worship experiences. In coordination with the staff, we make recommendations, and arrange for all aspects of our services to make worship more meaningful for our entire congregation.

- ✦ While Francois was away on Sabbatical the Council supported and helped Pastor Taylor in leading worship.
- ✦ The Council sets the communion schedule and Barb Demos, Karen Emmons, and Chris Dearnaley plan for the preparation of the elements and arrange for a group of Elders and Deacons to serve communion once a month.
- ✦ Danielle Haury arranges for volunteers to serve as liturgists to assist in worship services.
- ✦ Lin Floyd researched and contracted for a new florist (Marcus Hook Florist) to supply chancel flowers for our Sunday services and for our Deacons to use for visitation to members.
- ✦ Judy Kenworthy coordinates volunteers to serve as usher during worship services.
- ✦ Shirley Rudd, with support from members of the Christian Ed Council, is working to make worship more inclusive to those of all abilities. This work has given rise to a Sanctuary committee which is focusing on audio-video enhancement and new seating possibilities.
- ✦ The Council bought a new keyboard for Lee to use during these outdoor services and around the church; researched and purchased new Paraments which were presented to the congregation upon Pastor François' return from his Sabbatical; purchased holiday flowers; and decorated the sanctuary for Christmas and Easter.
- ✦ The council is working to make our church more "user friendly" for those who are new to our congregation and denomination.
- ✦ The council is always looking for new members to help assure that all aspects of worship are made available to our community.



*In his service,
Christine Dearnaley, Chairman, Barb Demos, Lin
Floyd, Lee Hagan-Kerr, Danielle Haury, Judy
Kenworthy, Jennifer Miller, Shirley Rudd, Gwyn
Vernon, and Pastors François and Taylor*



Christ caring for people through people

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Ministry is a complete system of training and organizing lay persons for caring ministry in and around their congregations. Stephen Ministers provide distinctively Christian care to those among us who are experiencing a time in their lives when they need to have a committed Christian friend journey with them for awhile. WPC has been enrolled as a Stephen Series congregation since 1997. In 2022 the combined Stephen Ministry programs of WPC, Swarthmore Presbyterian Church (SPC) and Trinity Episcopal Church (TEC), continued to provide this care to all in our congregations and who

requested it. With the increasing control of the Covid virus in the year 2022, we were able to resume in-person meetings with care receivers. This was particularly important as the pandemic created isolation was hard on many people.

While the confidential nature of what we do prevents us from sharing the details of any of our relationships and makes providing photos difficult, this ministry is deeply fulfilling to those providing care as well as to the care receivers. Over the 25+ years that WPC has been enrolled in Stephen Ministry, scores of care receivers have been helped and over 35 WPC members have been involved in providing care. The currently serving Stephen Leaders from WPC are Roger Demos, Russ Kinder, and Bob Kenworthy.

Fellowship of Friends

The Fellowship of Friends is a group of men who meet on Wednesday mornings to discuss whatever is on their minds-politics, religion, current events, etc. One of the best parts of FoF is the candor of the group. This is one of the few spots where two people with radically different views can express them in a way that promotes understanding and does not engender anger or name calling. Since we have highly diverse views on most things, especially politics, discussion are often lively and informative. Have a point of view but are afraid to share it? Come out to FoF and speak your mind.

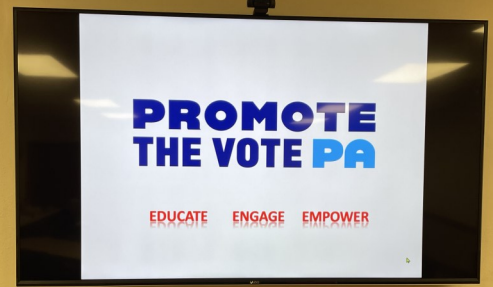
Adult Bible Study

The Adult Bible study is a group of people who are interested in learning how the Word of God as expressed in the Bible can be applied to everyday living. We have been discussing the 12 minor prophets of the Old Testament as well as working in some fun: celebrating birthdays and having an Ugly Sweater Christmas luncheon. Now that COVID has lessened, we plan to reinstitute some of our field trips in 2023 (e.g. Sight and Sound). No Bible knowledge needed, just an interest in learning what God has to say.



Peacemaking and Social Justice

In 2022, Peacemaking and Social Justice pursued two different paths. In the first half of the year, we highlighted different social justice causes each month. We celebrated things such as Black History month, Second Chance month, and Gay Pride month. In the second half of the year, we focused on Government and Democracy by having presentations encouraging people to vote, helping with voter registration, and explaining the status of the Equal Rights Amendment.



Celebrating
Black History

www.wallingfordpres.org or follow us on Facebook 

Mission and Service Committee

The Mission and Service Committee continues to be able to provide ongoing support for the amazing work of local and worldwide missions because of your generosity. Our church leadership faithfully includes our work in the budget and your additional gifts of money and time have made it possible for us to reach out in times of great need.

- The 2022 Christ Market raised \$3,457, in support of 15 organizations and their ministries to help those in need during these very difficult times. This is doubled with a matching gift from Mission and Service funds.



- In the Fall, M&S partnered with the Sunday School and congregation for Socktober where socks for adults went to Savage Sisters in Kensington. Children's socks went to Chester Eastside. We also had a last-minute clothing drive to support Savage Sisters.
- We partnered again with our music director, Lee as she hosted four "Concerts for a Cause" throughout the year. We matched donations dollar-for-dollar up to \$500.

Your contributions to WPC continue to support our missionaries in their varied and much-needed ministries around the world: John Stauffer and The America Team for Displaced Eritreans, Jeni Pedzinski and New Life Center Foundation in Asia, Corey Booker and the Making a Change Group in Chester, and Presbyterian Mission worker Melissa Johnson in Africa. We spent time reviewing and revising our support as needs and conditions have changed.

Committee Members during 2022: Roger Demos, Lisé Meloy, Shirley Rudd, Gail Weaver and François Lacroix

Respectfully submitted, Roger Demos, Chairman

WPC Connections



WPC Connections is chartered with strengthening ties with WPC's neighbors and within the congregation. As we learn to live with COVID, we have started to increase activities again. We held the Annual Easter Egg-stravaganza in the spring and Trunk or Treat in the fall. Both were extremely well attended by the community and highly supported by the congregation. PrimeTime Luncheons have restarted with presentations on recovering airmen lost during the Second World War, Chester Eastside and the history of trolleys in Delaware County. We have begun work on a new all-church directory that we expect to roll out in the spring of 2023. We have also developed a plan for a new, conforming sign to replace the deteriorating sign on the corner of Brookhaven and Avondale Rds. Finally, we continued working with the Education Council to improve the experience of those who participate in kids' programs.





Women of Wallingford



The purpose of the Women of Wallingford (W.O.W) is to bring together all the women of our church who care for one another's spiritual growth. We find amazing joy in being able to be together after a long time of separation. Beginning in September, Cyndi reached out to ALL the Women of Wallingford, young and old alike to come together once a month for refreshments and chatter, a time of sharing, lessons, and prayers. This year we looked at Prayer – What we Bring to Prayer, as well as Patience, Gratitude, and Responsibility in Prayer. We also brought stories of our grandmothers and found much similarity in the struggles that these women experienced in their lives. We were so inspired by our grandmothers that we followed up by sharing stories of our mothers.





Because we were still in Covid protocol in the spring, we had our pot-luck luncheon in the garden of the Manse. Fortunately, by Christmas we were able to share in the joy of the season with a gathering inside the beautifully decorated Manse. We had forty-six women of all ages celebrating Christ's birth by sharing in a pot-luck dinner, reading the Christmas story, and singing Christmas Carols – a heart-warming way to begin the holidays.

For the 1st time since 2020 we will be going to the IHM Conference Center in Bryn Mawr for a retreat focusing on "Awakening" having been isolated for so long.

*Blessings,
Christine Dearnaley and Cyndi Lacroix*

Stewardship

As stewards of the church, Stewardship Council oversees its financial resources and the application of church funds toward purposes approved by Session. It has two subcommittees—Annual Giving and Capital Campaign (currently inactive). It coordinates with the Legacy and Financial Oversight committees and works closely with the church treasurer to develop and monitor the annual budget. Stewardship had an active year, managing the church resources as we have come back to full operation after the Covid pandemic.

Annual Budget

The church ended 2022 with plate and pledge income higher than budgeted by almost \$15,000, a great end of the year boost. Overall, income was slightly below expenses, but considerably better than the original budget forecast. There were two unbudgeted expenses during the year—funds for the maternity leave replacement for the office administrator and a bonus for Pastor Taylor to thank her for her extra work during Pastor Francois' sabbatical. The Stewardship Council meets every couple of months (more toward the end of the year) to monitor income and expenses.

For 2023, Stewardship Council recommended, and Session approved, an optimistic budget that supports our efforts to continue to expand our vibrant, active church as we emerge from the pandemic. It has an increased investment in our staff, who have maintained our church program with minimal salary increases over the last several years. The budget reflects our desire to advance our mission within the church and in the community, and it requires the continuing generosity of the Congregation. Stewardship Council and Session will continue to look for ways to support and expand our growing mission and program.

Annual Giving Committee

The Annual Faith Giving Campaign was successful again this year. Based on the words of Paul in his letter to the Philippians, "*let each of you look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others,*" we asked the congregation to be **Caring Sharing and Daring**. Giving to the church is **caring**. We all need to be nurtured and cared for by one another, and this means the people within and beyond our congregation, as well as our church building and grounds. We have all been blessed in one way or another with abilities that we can offer. This is **sharing**. As good stewards of the church we each need to reach out and offer to use our talents and resources to guide and support the many activities and programs within our church and in the community beyond our walls. Both *caring* and *sharing* require funds to keep them active and growing. Our growth depends on adding new members and doing so requires us to offer innovative programs, activities, and opportunities for worship. These changes and additions are **daring**. We need to *dare* to honor God's blessings and continue the work He has chosen for us to do. We are deeply grateful to the 74 families and individuals who responded to the call by pledging a total of \$338,000.

Thank you to new co-treasurers Ed Mattote and Todd Darr as well as our counters and bookkeeping staff.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Stewardship Council,
Helen Picher and Jim Oetinger, co-chairs
Council members: Pat Tillson, Leslie Krowchenko,
Chris Dearnaley, Elizabeth Hansen, Andy Yost,
Dave Shipman

Memorial Committee

The Memorial committee recommends to Session ways to use moneys in the Memorial Fund to better the worship experience at WPC. Funds are from donations to the church in memory of loved ones. We would like to thank those who donated funds in memory of their loved ones.

Members of the committee include Marty Ashenfelter, Chris Dearnaley, Roger Demos, Alva Hayes, Judy Kenworthy, Jenny Miller, and Pastor François Lacroix.

Respectfully submitted, Roger Demos, Chair

WPC Board of Trustees

The Trustees are responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the Church's property and buildings to ensure that 1) they are safe for use and meet the needs of the many individuals and organizations that use them throughout the year and 2) that WPC is a good neighbor property owner within the surrounding community. Routine maintenance of the Church building, the two Manses and the grounds, along with all utility systems, mechanical equipment, and fixtures is ongoing, along with larger repair projects

and planned enhancements as determined necessary to meet anticipated future needs. Much of this work is done by members of the Trustees and volunteers from the congregation, often behind the scenes, who donate their time and expertise. Valuable assistance is also provided by members and leaders of our several Scouting troops at our Spring and Fall grounds cleanup days.

Some highlighted projects undertaken during 2022 include:

- ☒ exterior waterproofing of portions of the Sunday School building basement walls



- ☑ refurbishing the exterior lantern lights over the narthex doors



- ☑ installing a new concrete curb section to direct water runoff away from the Sunday School building

- ☑ installing a baby-changing table in the bathroom next to the kitchen



- ☑ repairing the Narthex doors

- ☑ re-sodding and watering affected lawn areas following the foundation waterproofing excavation



- ☑ designing, fabricating, and installing two new wooden railings for the chancel steps at the front of the sanctuary.

Many thanks to outgoing 2022 Trustees Sallie Anderson, Stephen Gibson and President Lise Meloy for their years of dedicated service, and welcome to incoming Trustees for 2023 Tony Tolomeo, Mary Payne, John Tiedeck (remaining on the Trustee Board for another term), and Bruce Clark.

*Submitted,
Bruce Clark, President*



The Wallingford Cooperative Nursery School: 2021-2022



Wallingford Cooperative Nursery School 2021-2022

In September of 2021 we welcomed students inside the classrooms. Teachers, students, and parents were all excited about the idea of a normal school year. In many ways it was just that. A 2.5 hour school day that included learning, laughter along with lots of playing, creating, and fun. Parents once again co-oped in the classrooms. The one thing that kept it from being a normal school year was that everyone over the age of 2 was masked all the time to reduce the spread of the Covid-19 virus. Masks were worn while inside for the entirety of the school year however, while everyone was willing and happy to wear a mask in September by May the tolerance was waning. The health policy was such that if there was an exposure in the classroom the classroom would be shut down for 6 days and everyone was expected to take a test for the Covid19 virus. Luckily, this did not occur too often and was manageable.

The enrollment for the 21/22 school year was close to capacity with both a morning and afternoon kindergarten complement

program. Financially the year was a strong rebound from the previous year. Most teachers and staff remained with only one change. Theresa Burch left her aide position and Jess Trout joined the MMO room staff.

MMO: Julie Abrams (T), Jess Trout (A), Alison Schilero (A), Abby Finney (A)

Hippos: Emma Clausser-Schwartz (T), Abby Finney (A)

Elephants: Jodi Dawes (T), Kami Rose (A)

Giraffes: Stephanie Dykes (T), Olivia Miller (A)

Lions: Katie Crawford (T), Shelley P. (A)

Zebras: Jeannie Wynn (T), Sam Mirante (A)

KC – AM and PM – Allison MacCallum (T), Shelly Pellegrini PM (A)

Jodi Dawes, Director



TROOP 277 & PACK 228 : REVIEW OF 2022

In 2022 both Pack 228 & Troop 277 came back strong post pandemic growing membership of both programs. Troop 277 is now 35 scouts (the largest it has been for many years) and Pack 228 is 60 (over pre-pandemic levels). We continue to welcome new members to the Troop & Pack with their families, and the Pack is now a Family Pack enjoying both Boys & Girls aged 5 through to 11.

The installation of the Scout shed at the Church, mostly funded by the scouts, has been a **massively important improvement**; we are now able to much better access, organize, and store the scouting equipment and gear. This has made us much more capable in handling our growth. Both Troop & Pack made a significant contribution to the annual Cradle of Liberty Fundraising effort – being the top troop & pack in the district, and the 3rd largest Troop across the whole council.

The highlights of the year include:

Community Service & Outreach

- Trunk or Treat at WPC
- Running stands at WPC Strawberry Festival
- Scouting for Food & ABC's Thanksgiving Day Parade – food collection
- Media Food Bank Collection – Scouting For Food
- Upland Baptist Church - Scouting For Food
- Weekly Food sorting to support the Church Food drives
- Conservation hours at Tyler Arboretum opening up trails in the North Woods
- Spring & Fall WPC leaf cleanup and mulching

Troop 277 Camping Trips highlights

- Gettysburg and 10 mile hike
- Summit High Adventure Camp in West Virginia
- Resica Falls Summer Camp
- BSA District Camporee
- Ricketts Glenn Camping
- Shot Gun & Rifle event at Delaware Field & Stream

Troop 277 Meetings & Events (some highlights)

- Orienteering Event in Smedley
- White Water Rafting on New River, WV
- Climbing Merit Badge at The Vault
- Quarterly PLC meeting led by the Scout Leadership
- Planning for a Philmont 2023 63 mile 12 day hike in New Mexico
- Fundraising efforts for Philmont – Centerpiece selling & leaf clearing



Eagle Scout Projects

- Trey Ford - Eagle Ceremony
- Andrew Barnett – Eagle Ceremony
- Will Badura – completion of Ridley Creek State Park 200 tree planting Eagle project

Pack 228 Meetings & Events

- Media Scavenger Event in Media
- Rocket launch event to welcome new cubs at Smedley Park
- Rain Gutter Regatta held outside at WPC in the fall
- Pinewood Derby
- Media Fire & Ladder Visit
- Battleship New Jersey Sleepover
- Trunk or Treat Event
- Helping to run Strawberry Festival
- Jim Thorpe Fall Camping
- Ridley Creek Spring Camping



TROOP 2019 : REVIEW OF 2022



GROWTH defined 2022 for Troop 2019

we have **22 Scouts**, Ranging from 10 - 17 years old,
65% earned rank advancements

including **4 Life rank** (next step Eagle!)

Our community is expanding with scouts from Delaware to Drexel Hill who attend **10 different schools.**

7 Service Projects including:

- Superbowl of Caring food drive
- Spring and Fall Clean Up at WPC
- Strawberry Festival

9 Camping trips

Highlights include:

- Week of summer camp at the Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia
- Winning the Tri-district Camporee (out of 50 troops)
- Backpacking on the Appalachian Trail at Hawk Mountain (amazing views) ➡



Part of scouting is earning your way, Troop 2019 had **3 fundraisers**:

- Popcorn sale, 2 scouts earned their annual dues through popcorn commissions
- Pumpkin Sale, look for us next fall at the corner of Brookhaven and Rose Valley Road
- Flower and Plant Sale, scouts earned more than \$600 for their summer camp



Coming Up

This summer the troop is looking forward to a week of summer camp at Resica Falls in East Stroudsburg, PA. We are selling plants and flowers starting in February to support this adventure. **To support scouts summer camp and get ready for your summer garden Visit: BSATroop2019.FPfundraising.com**

Girl Scout Troop 518

From January 2022 - March 2022 Troop 518 engaged in the annual fundraising of cookie sales including holding a cookie booth following service. Beyond fundraising for the troop and Girl Scouts as a whole, the function of the cookie sales also includes social skills, mathematics and marketing.

Outside of cookie sales, the troop worked on activities addressing various scientific principles by making their own bubble solution, Diet Coke rockets and rock candy; aerodynamics of flight through paper airplanes and origami. In addition the girls engaged in a community service project and made dog beds and dog toys that were donated to a local shelter. The end of the Girl Scout year (June) was celebrated by joining with other local troops for a weekend of camping including canoeing, swimming, gaga ball, archery as well as singing and s'mores.

Over the summer, based on the needs and desires of the girls within the troop, the difficult decision was made to have the troop be absorbed into a larger troop to allow for all of the girls to have more time with peers their age while also having opportunities for multi-age activities as well as a better focus on skills and interest by age.

This troop has been a part of the Wallingford Presbyterian Church community for at least a decade and we thank you for the support given to the troop as a whole, the scouts and the leaders during our time with you.

Sarah McHugh

Income Statement

Wallingford Presbyterian Church continued to recover from the disruptions caused by the pandemic and returned to essentially normal programming and operations throughout 2022 which positively impacted income. Overall income returned to the level that it was at in 2019 (\$526,000 in 2022 vs. \$529,000 in 2019) prior to the onset of the pandemic, albeit unadjusted for the impact of inflation. Total income in 2022 increased by \$48,000, or 10%, from 2021 excluding the benefit from the forgiven Payroll Protection Program (PPP) loan. Likewise, offering and pledge income was also approximately at 2019 levels (\$480,000 in 2022 vs. \$473,000 in 2019) and increased substantially from 2021 by \$52,000, a 12% increase.

Expenses for the year ended essentially flat with budget (\$5,000 under budget). Actual total expenses for 2022 were \$31,000 higher than 2021 (6%). The only significant variance from budget was in staff salaries where there was an overspend of approximately \$5,000 for an unbudgeted substitute for the church administrator during her maternity leave. However, this was largely offset by an underspend in music due to lower spending on guest soloists and musicians.

Balance Sheet

At year end 2022 total assets were \$972,466, a decrease of \$182,434, 16%, over 2021. Net assets (equity) at the end of the year was \$150,238, a decrease of \$2.647 from 2021. The decline reflects the weakness in returns in the value of investments which was offset by \$57,440 in interest, dividends and capital gains generated throughout 2022. Cash balances held at the end of 2022 were \$94,187.

2023 Budget

With the return to more normal levels of activity and financial support that existed prior to the onset of the pandemic, future planning can

2021 Treasurer's Report

reflect a return to growth and development of programming and mission of the church. To that end, Session has adopted a budget that reflects a 6.5% increase in spending over 2022. Total income is projected to increase to \$543,000 in 2023, or 5.4%. Expenses are budgeted to increase to \$571,000. The majority of the increase in expenses is driven by increases in staff salaries by 7% across the board to reflect an increase in inflation and to adjust salary levels to more competitive levels which in previous years lagged, especially given the increased efforts required over the last several years. Notably, the associate pastor's compensation was increased 15% to reflect a promotion given her time and achievements in the role and to comply more closely to Presbytery guidelines for her experience level. Other expenses remained near or below 2022 levels with the exception of fuel and utilities which are expected to increase in 2023.

Like most previous years there is projected to be a deficit. This year the gap is approximately \$28,000. Session hopes that as in previous years where such deficits are projected, the congregation will generously close the gap and continue the growth in the mission of the church to a higher level in 2023.

As in past years we are grateful for the many members who have provided their time, money and support. We are especially thankful for the help and support of Michelle Hall, Kate Callahan, Stewardship Council and the counters for their assistance throughout the year.

Financial Oversight Committee

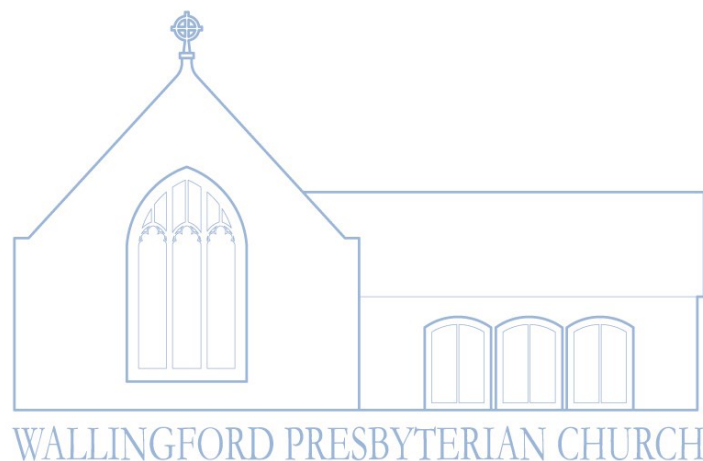
The Financial Oversight Committee is charged with ensuring that the church financial assets are prudently invested to support the day to day as well as long term financial needs of our congregation. The committee meets once a year to review the performance of the existing investments as well as the amount allocated to short term spending needs versus long term funding needs. Currently the church's portfolio consists of a checking account, a savings account and several Vanguard mutual funds - Money Market, UltraShort Term Bond and the Star Fund which is a balanced Stock and Bond fund.

In 2022 total assets decreased approximately 16%. The sole cause of this was an 18% drop in the value of the church's Star Fund holding which represents approximately 70% of the total financial assets. The Star Fund is composed of 40% domestic equities, 20% international equities and 40% bonds and cash, all of which (except cash) suffered in the market collapse in 2022 (versus the 10% gain recorded in 2021). The church's balance sheet is still healthy since this fund is used primarily for the MEND, Legacy, Hayes and Memorial reserve funds which are Long Term Liabilities.

The other function of this committee (as assigned by Session) is to recommend the amount to be allocated from the reserve funds (Legacy, MEND, Landscaping and Hayes) each year for use by the responsible committees (Trustees, Legacy and Worship). At the time of the meeting (December 14, 2022) it was decided to transfer 4% (based on the 3 year average balance) of the MEND Fund and the Hayes Fund to the respective Available to Spend accounts. Based on the lack of activity in the Legacy Available to Spend account, the committee decided not to transfer any money from the Legacy Fund.

Jim Oetinger Chair

**Annual Meeting of the
Congregation and Corporation
Wallingford Presbyterian Church
Wallingford, Pennsylvania
January 30, 2022**



Moderator the Reverend François Lacroix called the meeting to order, welcomed attendees and opened with prayer. He reminded everyone that only members have the responsibility and privilege to vote. Clerk Judy Kenworthy certified that, counting those present and those attending via ZOOM, there was a quorum.

New Business: None

Pastor Lacroix reviewed 2021 mission and ministry. Both Pastor Lacroix and Associate Pastor Cornelius commented on their work.

Nominating Committee Chair Chris Darr thanked Sally Clyde, Carol Dotts, Walt Kaminski, Pam Mattote, Jenny Montague, Diane Nixon, Mary Payne and David Rudd for their service and stated that they officially are relieved of their duties. She then presented the slate of the 'at large' nominees to the 2022 Nominating Committee: Joanne Callahan, Mary Lou Day, Polly Sacco Ezzell, Cyndi Lacroix and David Rudd. Alternate members are: Jeni Albany and Gail Weaver. She also noted that each of the three boards will add representatives to the committee. There were no nominations from the floor. The congregation voted to approve the nominees.

The meeting of the congregation was suspended so that the meeting of the corporation could be held.

Corporation Meeting President of the Board of Trustees Lisè Meloy called the meeting to order. The Clerk certified that a quorum was present. There was no new business. Meloy highlighted the 2021 work of the Board as presented in the Annual Report, thanked outgoing Trustees Sally Clyde and Kevin Montague and welcomed Pat Tillson and Vicki Lovecchio. The congregation voted to receive the report.

The Congregational Meeting reconvened and Pastor Lacroix outlined plans for his sabbatical this summer, to include Geneva, his birthplace in Belgium and the reformation in Scotland.

Treasurer's Report Treasurer Ed Mattote reviewed 2021. (See Annual Report) There were no questions. He then commented on the 2022 Budget which had been approved by the Session. (See Annual Report.) Mattote also thanked Financial Secretary Michelle Hall for her help and Pastor Lacroix thanked Mattote.

Pastoral Terms of Call for 2022 Personnel Committee Chair Kevin Switala reviewed the terms (See Annual Report) after Pastor Lacroix and his wife Cyndi left the sanctuary and Pastor Cornelius excused herself from ZOOM. After Switala moved that the terms be approved, the congregation unanimously approved them.

Pastors Lacroix and Cornelius returned to the meeting, the congregation voted to receive reports of the Boards, Councils and organizations and to adjourn the meeting.

Pastor Cornelius closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith K. Kenworthy, Clerk



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