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EWCC Annual Meeting – Sunday, January 28, 2018

Call to the annual meeting at 11:40am by John Davis. John Davis served as acting moderator. Pastor Sue Foster offered a prayer. The minutes of the January 29, 2017 annual meeting were reviewed. **Motion to accept the minutes as presented made by Dawn Adiletta, seconded by DeEtta Spalding, and passed.**

Review of Annual Reports:

- Nominating** – Report filed.
 - o Pastoral Relations needs 1 new member.
 - o Altar Guild needs 1 new member.

A motion was made by Kerstin Forrester to accept the nominating report, seconded by Heidi Tucker, and passed.

- Pastor** – Report filed.
 - o 2/14: joint worship with First Congregational Church of Woodstock (Hill Church) and Church of the Good Shepherd.
 - o 3/23-3/24: Womens Retreat at Camp Wightman.
 - o Sue explained the concept Prayer Partners where a covenant is made to pray with and for another member of the congregation. Sue will pick names to make partners. This is a great way to get to know another church member.
 - o Books for sale for Lent, \$15.00 each. “Holy Solitude” by Heidi Havercamp
 - o Sue offered thanks to all for answering the call. She is humbled and privileged to be Pastor of EWCC.
- Deacons** – Report filed.
- Council** – Report filed. Christine Armstrong will be stepping down as Chair. Lynn Looby will be stepping in as Council Chair. All church members invited to council meetings. Kerstin Forrester offered thanks to Christine for her service as Chair.
- Stewardship** – Report filed.
- Auditors** - Report read verbally:

EWCC Auditors’ Report – Monday, 01/16/18

The records and financial reports of East Woodstock Congregational Church dated 01/01/2017 through 12/31/2017 were audited on Tuesday, January 16th, 2017. The audit was limited to testing the transactions and balances. This would not necessarily disclose all errors, but there was no indication of errors or omissions.

DeEtta Spalding does a fabulous job taking care of the church’s financial records and accounts. She volunteers countless hours and we greatly appreciate her.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Reed, Audit Committee

- Missions** – Report filed. Lisa Hibbard said this is her last year as chair of the committee. Valerie Law will be the new committee chairperson. Lisa thanked the congregation for all they do to support the community.
- Memorial** - Report filed.
- Music** – Report filed. Nancy Ducharme said that funds were running low in the “Gift of Music” and any contributions would be greatly appreciated. There is currently \$40.00 for Vocal Choir and \$60.00 for Bell Choir.
- Christian Education** – Report filed.
- Youth Ministries** – Report filed. Anne Sorensen said this has been a transition year as the “Hill” Church no longer has a youth group. Committee positions which were filled by Hill Church members now have to be filled by EWCC members. She offered thanks to the Youth Ministry team and the congregation for all their help with the transition.
- Historian** – Report filed. Mary Ellen thanked church members for donating old articles, booklets, pictures, etc. If anyone has more items, then the church would be happy to accept them.

- ☐ **Cradle Roll** - Report filed.
- ☐ **Jamboree** – Report filed. Christine Armstrong said the church had an awesome jamboree. There was beautiful weather and all the booths did great. The committee needs a co-chair for this years jamboree. Meetings will begin in March.
- ☐ **Ladies Benevolent Society (LBS)** – Report filed. Kerstin Forrester said everyone is welcome to LBS. The committee is working on relating the history of the church to members. The committee purchased a new kitchen floor for the church and are looking into new chairs for Fellowship Hall.
- ☐ **Altar Guild** – Report filed. Sue Foster thanked the committee for the beautiful job they do every week.
- ☐ **Hospitality** – Report filed. Sue Foster thanked the committee for their hard work. It’s their great work that makes us known as a hospitable and welcoming church in the community.
- ☐ **Column Restoration Project** - Glen Lessig said that the church has received a couple grants towards the project. The church currently has on hand half the funds to complete the column restoration. \$28,000 needs to be raised to complete. There is a contractor in place to begin the project in July. On 3/11/18 there will be a presentation from Myron Stachiw about the early design and structure of the church.
- ☐ **UC7C Ministries** - Report filed. A unified conference was formed in 2017 uniting the MA, CT and RI conferences.
- ☐ **Collector** - Report filed.
- ☐ **Clerk** – Report filed.

John Davis asked for a motion to accept all reports filed. A motion was made by Glenn Lessig to accept, seconded by Christine Armstrong, and passed.

Heidi thanked Dot Hill for all her help with the Trumpet.

- ☐ **Society/Budget** – Rick Place reviewed a change in the jamboree projected budget.
 - There is an overall 2017 budget net surplus of \$9,041.01. Rick Place stated that the society committee is proposing that of the surplus \$1,500.00 go to Missions, \$2,000.00 go to the reserve/sinking fund, \$5,000.00 go towards long range planning (rainy day/emergency fund), and \$541.01 go towards Office necessities. **Kerstin Forrester made a motion to accept the proposal, which was seconded by Seth Spalding, and passed.**
 - **A motion was made by Dawn Adiletta to allocate \$20,400 of pastoral salary to pastoral housing allowance, seconded by Christine Lessig, and passed.**
 - **A motion was made by Mary Ellen Blake to accept the proposed 2018 budget, seconded by Bob Rath, and passed.**

Motion made by Glen Lessig at 12:30 to close, seconded by Mark Billings, and passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Reed, Clerk

Nominating Committee Report

Officers & Committees for 02/01/2018 – 01/31/2019

Council Chair: Lynn Looby

Clerk: Jessica Reed

Moderator: John Davis

Treasurer: DeEtta Spalding

Historian: Mary Ellen Blake

Assistant Clerk: Nancy Gale

Collector: Nancy Gale

Asst. Treasurer: John Davis

Committee members may serve up to two 3-year terms (a total of 6 years). Following is the list of current and proposed members for each committee noting which term and the year of that term they will be serving in the upcoming year. Those who are in Term 1, Year 1 with an asterisk next to their name are being proposed as members for this year.

Annual Report of the Pastor

It is good to review how we lived out our identity to be the Body of Christ and how we answered our call to work and worship together as the people of God. As a congregation, we are called to celebrate God's presence and to share God's Good News of hope, love, and forgiveness. As we look back on 2018, we can review our actions and consider how they reflect our purpose and beliefs.

Worship: When we worship, we celebrate God's promise to be Emmanuel, always with us. Our worship is enriched by our choirs – adult, children, and bells – as well as by musicians like Ben Gould and Sarah Jo Burke and others willing to share their gifts. Also HUGE gratitude to Heidi Tucker for producing thousands of bulletins and making our office run so smoothly.

- Sunday mornings: Thank you to Nancy Ducharme, Andy Tomkins, and Rachel Solomon for directing our choirs during all of the church seasons. Some highlights included Jazz Sunday, Music Appreciation Sunday, Easter Sunday and Children's Day. The deacons are experimenting with sharing portions of our worship via "Facebook Live" as a way to widen our outreach.
- Tuesday at Twilight: An opportunity to worship our Creator surrounded by the beauty of creation at beautiful Roseland Park.
- Ash Wednesday: Together with the Church of the Good Shepherd and the First Congregational Church of Woodstock, we worshiped together to begin the season of Lent.
- Maundy Thursday: This powerful service reflects on the final days of Jesus' life as we commemorate the Last Supper and experience "Tenebrae," the deepening of the shadows as candles are extinguished.
- Good Friday: Our sanctuary was open during the day for reflection and prayer as well as for a noontime prayer service.
- Easter sunrise service: All the Woodstock congregations gather together behind the Woodstock Academy for a stunning view of the sunrise as we celebrate Christ's resurrection.
- Quiet Christmas: A service during Advent particularly for those who are grieving or who find the holidays challenging for any reason. This quiet service invites participants to find some quiet peace during the hectic holiday season.
- Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals – these life events were filled with God's blessing and the promise of God to be with us on our journey.

Reflection/Spiritual Growth

- Weekly Bible study: We gather to study the Scriptures that will form the basis of worship for the coming week and reflect on their message for our lives.
- Weekly Confirmation class: Many thanks to Anne Sorensen and Windsor White for working with me and our teenagers as we discuss faith and the living of faith.
- Weekly Sunday School: Louise Labbe-Fahy is doing an excellent job as our interim Christian Education Director. Each week wonderful volunteers find creative ways to teach not only the learning of, but also the living of, the lessons of the Gospel.
- Women's retreat: This annual gathering of women encourages fellowship, relaxation, and reflection and provides an opportunity for participants to get to know one another better as they share about their faith. Our 2018 theme was "experiencing wilderness." We reflected on challenges that are part of life's journey. By reading some of the accounts of the Exodus, we discovered more about God's presence even in dire circumstances.
- Lenten gatherings. Together with the Hill Church, we studied (and experienced) spiritual disciplines such as prayer, meditation, fasting, and celebrating the Sabbath.
- Retreat on the schooner Lewis R. French: 20 participants enjoyed four days sailing along the coast of Maine as we gathered inspiration from God's creation.
- Advent Evening: This special evening of fellowship and reflection took place at the Senexet House and offered participants an opportunity to slow down during the busy Advent season in order to reflect on God's gifts to us.

Mission/Outreach: I will let you read the Missions committee's impressive report of the many ways they shared

God's love in our community and across the globe. In addition, our Youth Group, Sunday School students, and Deacons lifted the spirits of many people with meals, cards, and visits. Our congregation also offered support and comfort to grieving families during times of loss.

Fellowship: Despite living in a hyper-connected world, we live in a society marred by isolation and loneliness. For this reason, events such as the soup lunch following Jazz Sunday, a Tapas party hosted by the deacons at my home, the Ham and Bean supper, Holly Fair, and our Jamboree are vital examples of creating opportunities for fellowship and connection.

Caring for our building: 2018 will be remembered as the "year of the columns." Under Glen Lessig's patient leadership, our congregation responded to the call to refurbish our aging columns. Congregational support together with a grant from the CT SHPO Historic Restoration Fund, we were able to refurbish the columns that grace the front of our beautiful sanctuary. We pray that we may continue to offer a place of worship, comfort, and community for at least another 185 years.

In addition, our Society committee did an excellent job responding to the ongoing demands of our many buildings with all of their quirks and needs. Many thanks to Rick Place for completing his term as Society chair with wisdom and dedication.

Additional activities of the pastor:

- Chaired the Spiritual Care Advisory Committee at Day Kimball Hospital.
- Member of the Windham Association Committee on Ministry
- Led workshops on retreat leadership at two "Super Saturdays" (regional educational gatherings)
- Led a retreat for the Kensington Congregational Church
- Supervised monthly gathering of ministers for conversation and learning
- Published my book *Retreats to Go: Twelve Creative Programs that Renew and Refresh*
- Shared reflections through my blog, fosteringyourfaith.com

We live in a turbulent world that is often divisive and divided. The role of the church and its importance in society is changing. Programs and ideas that "always" worked no longer have the same impact. We will continually need to experiment with new ways to communicate and to share the hope and new life promised to us through Jesus. Yet the promise is sure – no matter how much the world changes, God's steadfast love endures forever. That is our inspiration and the reason for our existence.

Yours in Christ,



Rev. Dr. Susan J. Foster

Annual Report of Deacons 2018

The deacons worked closely with Pastor Sue to assist in the spiritual leadership of the church. This included:

- ❖ Met monthly to review events for prior months, preparing for upcoming services, brainstorming ways to meet the needs of our ever-changing church body, and discussing suggestions/concerns received from the congregation.
- ❖ Assisted Pastor Sue in conducting Sunday worship services and special events i.e Easter, Prayer Shawl Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Quiet Christmas, Star Gift Sunday.
- ❖ Arranged for greeters for worship services each Sunday
- ❖ Participated in communion, baptisms, funeral services.
- ❖ Coordinated with Deacons from the Hill church to provide coordinated summer services with the First Congregational Church
- ❖ Assisted in Twilight services at Roseland Park
- ❖ Addressed the needs of the amplification system in the sanctuary, nursery and fellowship hall including equipment upgrades and maintenance.
- ❖ Assisted with a Kate Campbell Concert to benefit Jasmin Floyd
- ❖ Hosted a soup luncheon after Jazz Sunday
- ❖ Met with new members joining the church

- ❖ Revised the Deacon Committee's portion of the bylaws and the Deacon's Mission Statement.
- ❖ Assisted Sue in visiting members of the congregation in need.

We were very pleased welcome Val Law and Lisa Hibbard as Deacons at the beginning of the year.

Diane Billings, Mary Ellen Blake, Ben Gould, John Davis, Amy Hiller-White,
Dorrie Scranton, Kerstin Forrester, Valerie Law

Council Annual Report 2018

The Church Council met eight (8) times during the year. The meetings were held on January 14, March 12, April 9, May 20, August 27, September 24, October 15, and November 18.

Council consists of the officers of the church and a representative from each of the boards and committees. It is the responsibility of each board or committee to designate a representative to the Council from its membership. The Council is responsible for coordinating and supporting all program activities and policies of the church. It is important that each committee have representation at the meetings to not only provide an update on what their committee is doing and any concerns, but to also report to their committee any items of interest from other committees. Attendance has increased slightly with an alternating meeting schedule of Monday evenings and Sundays after the worship service. Committees have also been rotating members for representation at the meetings which has helped with attendance. For 2018, committees were asked to submit, prior to the meeting, three (3) items/events they have been working on between meetings and any concern/challenges they are facing. This has created a more efficient meeting and allowed those attending the opportunity to review Committee updates before the meeting.

In 2018, the focus of Church Council was to work on revising the church Bylaws (last update was in 2011) and establishing an Employee Annual Review form and process. Other topics of discussion during the meetings included: the Gifts of Music process, Safe Church Policy, church maintenance, use of the kitchen and safe food handling, Christian Education program and revising the Christian Education Director job description/contract, the Church calendar, filling vacancies on committees, youth group activities, and a preliminary discussion on establishing a Memorial Garden – an area designed as a special quiet place among the interred ashes of loved ones to allow quiet contemplation and remembrances by family and friends.

The Church Council looks forward to the year ahead and continuing to support church programs, policies, and the work of our committees. We want to acknowledge and thank Pastor Sue, the church staff, and all of the members and volunteers for their dedication, hard work, and commitment to the church.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Looby, Council Chair

CRADLE ROLL REPORT 2018

Our Cradle Roll includes all children under the age of 4 (as of the beginning of Sunday School) who have been baptized in our church. There are currently 15 children listed on the Cradle Roll. They are:

Asikainen, Sydney Jeanne	04-28-15	Plona, Emmitt Ray	03-10-15
Billings, Jack Paul	01-27-16	Plona, Owen Andrew	03-24-17
Chamberlin, Dustin Reid	10-28-15	Sampson, Zayne Benjamin	09-01-15
Hermonot, Benjamin George	06-24-16	Shemansky, Wrenna Patricia	08-28-17
Integlia, Arabella Marie	09-30-15	Tolentino, Victoria Ann	12-02-15
Johnston, Blake Keegan	04-04-16	Waufle, Brinley Grace	04-13-15
Mondino, Athena Ophelia Rain	10-18-17	Waufle, Jaxson Thomas	03-07-18
Morin, Landen James	01-17-15		

In late August, a letter is sent to the parents of all 4-year-olds to invite them to Sunday School. Parents are invited to come with the child to a Rally Day breakfast. There they can learn more about our Sunday School Program, register their child, meet the teachers, and talk with the Directors of Christian Education.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heidi Tucker

EWCC Missions Committee 2018 Annual Report

In 2018, the Missions Committee updated our mission statement:

“The mission of the Missions Committee is to assist others less fortunate than ourselves. We serve as the outreach arm of our Church to assess the needs of members of our community, our Church, and the world; and to gather and distribute gifts accordingly. We partner with our congregation to share the joy and grace of generous giving.”

2018 has been a year of gratitude and generosity. The Missions Committee continues to be amazed at the congregation’s unconditional and consistent generosity and support of our outreach near and far. Whenever a plea goes out, we are always touched by the outpouring of love and support in whatever form we are need of at the times. For this the entire Missions Committee says, Thank you!

As is vividly displayed in the 2018 Missions Committee Financial Report, EWCC has provided monetary support to many individuals, groups and organizations. In addition to the specifics in the report, the following efforts were also supported through the generosity of our congregation by monetary and in-kind donations:

FOOD SUPPORT: Examples of God’s love in action right here in Northeastern CT and in Woodstock:

- Food Pantry provides food to a wide variety of needs in our community.
- 33 Thanksgiving Baskets were delivered Covenant to Care and local families.
- Monetary support to EWCC’s monthly Community Kitchen support.
- Donations to TEEG & Daily Bread
- Periodic cooking nights provide a stock of delicious meals and soups, which are kept in the freezer for times of need and comfort.
- The congregation also helps with meals when longer-term needs arise.
- “Caring Families Woodstock”: Our congregation partners with the Covenant Church and other groups to provide weekly staples of food for local Woodstock families experiencing food insecurity. This past year we provided jelly and assisted with assembling packages, which are distributed by the Woodstock Elementary and Middle school nurse and counselor.

COVENANT TO CARE FOR CHILDREN:

Our DCF Social Worker, Judy Castonguay, has partnered with EWCC to provide needed resources throughout the year to Northeastern CT Children who are neglected, abused or impoverished.

- 25 Easter Baskets delivered
- 27 Thanksgiving baskets delivered
- The Giving Tree - 25 Christmas gifts for children and families
- Gift cards and gas cards to help those in transition

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTER:

- Fresh eggs, bread, butter, vegetables, fruit, and food
- The Giving Tree – 12 Christmas gifts
- Bedding, baby items, gas cards, and gift cards

HOMELESS SHELTER

- The Giving Tree - 25 Christmas gifts to the men, women, and children
- Toiletries and hygiene items donated

COAT DRIVE: Winter coats, hats, and gloves were collected and distributed to the local Woodstock Public Schools, DVS (Domestic Violence Shelter), IHSP Interfaith Human Services of Putnam Clothes Closet, and TEEG.

WORLD VISION: We continue to celebrate the birthday of our adopted sponsor child, Luis Angel Gonzalez, in Mexico, who turned 12 in 2018.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY: Compassion and the love of knitting/crocheting have been combined into a prayerful ministry which reaches out to those in need of comfort and solace, as well as in celebration and joy. Many blessings

are prayed into every stitch. The Mission Committee continues to provide yarn as needed and appreciates all our volunteers who knit or crochet these wonderful comforting shawls.

WAIM (Windham Area Interfaith Ministries): EWCC continues to partner with WAIM in Willimantic to provide another avenue of support for those in need through monetary support, hands-on work days, and donations of used clothing and bedding. As a result of our partnership, any resident of the Woodstock area or friend of EWCC is able to utilize WAIM's resources of household items, clothing, and food.

KIVA: We continue to support two agricultural micro-businesses with \$25 loans through Kiva to low-income/underserved female entrepreneurs in Peru and Ecuador. These loans are paid back and reinvested to help alleviate poverty.

TEEG – Back-to-school backpacks and school supplies:

In partnership with the Woodstock Hill Church, EWCC collected donated 50 backpacks and school supplies which are distributed by TEEG to school children in Thompson, Woodstock, and Pomfret.

CWS – Church World Services – Special Collections and Donations

- One Great Hour of Sharing Collection: \$300.
- Blankets – Christmas Cards – Collected \$630
- CROP Walk – EWCC raised \$515 – 25% of funds were donated to Northeast CT Community Kitchens

JASMIN'S TEA: Through the cooperative effort of many church and community members \$1,500 was raised to assist Jasmin Floyd as she battles the debilitating disease FOP, Fibrodysplasia Ossificans Progressiva. A lovely tea was enjoyed by over 23 people with delicious scones, delicate sandwiches, and scrumptious desserts being served.

A sincere thank you is extended to the EWCC congregation from the Missions Committee for their continued and generous support. We look forward to providing assistance to our community and beyond and know we could not do it without the love of the congregation. Thank you!

Respectfully Submitted,
Christine Lessig, Co-Chair

MISSIONS COMMITTEE Treasurer's Report for 2018

CHECKING ACCOUNT

December 31, 2017 Balance \$ 2,357.03

INCOME:

Church Budget 8,400.00

Donations and Special Collections

Individual Donations 1,832.00

Back Bay Mission 174.00

Blankets + Program for Church World Service 380.00

Jasmin Floyd Benefit Tea 315.00

Jasmin Floyd Benefit Concert (Jan 2019) 580.00

One Great Hour of Sharing Collection 284.00

Veterans of the Cross 634.92

TOTAL INCOME: **\$ 12,599.92**

EXPENSES:

Back Bay Mission 250.00

Blankets + Program for Church World Service 380.00

Camp Care Kids 100.00

Camp Quinebaug 100.00

Community Kitchens, Inc.	1,212.17
Day Kimball Healthcare (Appeals Campaign)	600.00
Disabled Veterans	100.00
East Woodstock Cemetery Fund	100.00
East Woodstock Library	50.00
Gay-Straight Alliance Club at WA	200.00
Heifer International	120.00
Holy Joe's Café - Memorial Day	100.00
Hospice (Tree of Life Ceremony)	100.00
Interfaith Human Services of Putnam	75.00
Jasmin Floyd Benefit Concert 2018	315.00
Lancaster Seminary	100.00
Misc. One-Time:	
UCC-US Emergency Fund (\$100); Individuals (\$29.99 + \$50 + \$15.97 + \$300);	
Cooking Night (\$4.25); CROP Walk (\$100); Postage for college student care	
packages (\$112); Music Committee (\$35); Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (\$100);	
UCC Emergency Fund (\$300) – CA Fires Caring Continues Woodstock –	
Jelly (\$100); Northeast Placement Services (\$490); Roseland Park Tree	
Fund (\$100)	1,601.03
Miscellaneous, Postage & Cards	211.86
WAIM Puerto Rican Refugees	500.00
Muddy Brook Fire Department	100.00
One Great Hour of Sharing Collection	300.00
Our Piece of the Pie	100.00
Prayer Shawls (& Cards)	306.26
Robert Lawrence Klimaytis Funds - Paralyzed Boy	100.00
Salvation Army	300.00
Scholarships	1,500.00
Shelter – United Services domestic violence shelter	102.44
Silver Lake Campground	75.00
TEEG - Woodstock Fuel Assistance Fund	350.00
Thanksgiving Baskets	223.39
Thompson Congregational Church (Fire)	400.00
Treehouse Foundation (Tom Stokes)	150.00
True Colors	76.55
TVCCA (Veterans Coffeehouse in Danielson) – Veterans Day	100.00
Veterans of the Cross	650.00
Why Me & Sherry's House	100.00
Windham County 4-H Foundation	100.00
World Vision (Luis Angel Gonzalez in Mexico)	357.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>11,205.70</u>
Balance as of December 31, 2018	<u>\$ 3,751.25</u>
<u>RESERVES (included in Final Balance, but reserved for future use)</u>	
\$500.00 minimum balance	\$ 500.00
\$125 / month for Scholarships (7 months in 2018)	875.00
\$100 – Oct & Dec payment for Community Kitchens	190.33
Syrian Refugees (2 months in 2016 and 12 months in 2017 & 2018)	<u>1,800.00</u>
	<u>\$ 3,365.33</u>
Balance left to Spend	<u>\$ 385.92</u>

EWCC Missions Committee Donations from Congregation

	<u>Cash Donations</u> <u>Through Missions</u>	<u>Additional</u> <u>Donations</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u># of Items</u>
<u>INCOME:</u>				
Church Budget	\$ 8,400.00		\$ 8,400.00	
Individual Donations	1,832.00		1,832.00	
<i>Income through Additional In-Kind Donations</i>				
Food Pantry		\$ 5,000.00	5,000.00	
Winter Coats		2,500.00	2,500.00	100
Christmas Presents		1,975.00	1,975.00	79
Jasmin Floyd Tea	315.00	1,375.00	1,690.00	
Thanksgiving Baskets		1,650.00	1,650.00	33
Easter Baskets (\$25 each)		625.00	625.00	25
Backpacks for School Children		625.00	625.00	25
Jasmin Floyd – Dep. for 2019 event	580.00		580.00	
CROP Walk		515.00	515.00	
Meal Program		500.00	500.00	
Bedding		500.00	500.00	
3-Year Old – money & gift cards		140.00	140.00	
<u>Special Collections</u>				
Veterans of the Cross	634.92		634.92	
Blankets + Program for Church World Service	380.00	250.00	630.00	
One Great Hour of Sharing Collection	284.00	75.00	359.00	
Back Bay Mission	174.00		174.00	
	<u>\$ 12,599.92</u>	<u>\$ 15,730.00</u>	<u>\$28,329.92</u>	

Music Committee Annual Report 2018

The Music Committee successfully completed all specified responsibilities including:

1. Music Appreciation Sunday Presentations (May)
2. Completed Performance Evaluations (June)
3. Dry Clean Choir Robes (June)
4. Jamboree Entertainment Arrangements (July)
5. Summer Music Arrangements (August)
6. Coffee Hours Sponsored (October)
7. Holly Fair Basket Donation (November)
8. Proposed 2019 Budget Submitted (December)
9. Annual Report Submitted (January, 2019)
10. Representation at Scheduled Council Meetings

The Music Committee had a busy year, with a focus on understanding the impact and organization of the Gift of Music program. There is now a system in place to track and acknowledge donations and better publicize the program, including a beautiful new bulletin board in Fellowship Hall, and revised forms to submit and confirm donations. This is an ongoing process that will continue in 2019. There was also a concerted effort to better organize the music library, another project that will require additional attention in 2019. Many people from our congregation contributed to the Gift of Music program* and we are enriched by Andrew Tompkins and Rachel Solomon who have worked musical magic with the Bell Choir and the Children's Choir, and Music Director Nancy Ducharme's talents that allowed the choir to present more difficult pieces this year. Special thanks go out to Sarah Jo Burke and Ben Gould who contribute music to our worship services on a regular basis. We expect that 2019 will bring another year of wonderful music to our church.

Barbara Morse (Music Committee Chairman)

*Please note the following list of Gift of Music donors:

GIFT OF MUSIC DONORS, 2018*

Barbara Bocchino	Laurie Edwards	Looby Family	Gordon Smith
Susan Converse	Forrester Family	Morse Family	Tompkins Family
Desjardin Family	Barbara Hackett	Rath Family	Windsor White Family
Nancy Ducharme	Kelly Family	Joyce Rivers	Wong Family

*If your name was inadvertently left off this list please inform the committee.

Annual Report of the Christian Education Committee 2018

It has been a busy year for the Christian Education Committee. The number of families and children enrolled in the Christian Education of our congregation has been increasing steadily for the past couple of years. The Christian Education of our children has always been important to us as a congregation and continues to be. As the community in and around Woodstock sees that, our program has grown. We as a congregation, should take pride in how strongly we value our children and young families, for they are the future leaders of East Woodstock Congregational Church.

We have continued to use the *Kid's Travel Guide* curriculum for the younger grades. This curriculum not only looks at the bible stories in a way that the children can understand, but also helps them live out the messages in their own lives. For the older children we have been using the *Grapple* program. Once again, this curriculum allows the children to really look at how they can be "changers" to those they encounter in their daily lives. Some things and situations may be difficult at times but by "grappling" about different situations with each other they are preparing to be tomorrow's leaders.

Once again in the spring Christine Armstrong taught the 4th graders about communion. Not only did they attend classes outside of Sunday School but together with Christine made Challah bread that was used as part of the communion celebration in April. Thank you to Christine for all the work she does in preparing our children to take part in this sacrament.

In addition, throughout the year the children have continued to play an active role in the life of our congregation. Whether it was welcoming us all by waving palms on Palm Sunday, the children's choir blessing us with song (thank you to Rachael Solomon and Nancy Ducharme), or sharing with us on Children's Sunday or the Christmas Pageant. This year Noah Tomkins worked with the children on the pageant as part of his Youth Internship. He did a fantastic job. I am always blown away when I see our teens grow into young adults and begin to be tomorrow's leaders.

During the summer both Dawn Morin and Sherry Magnan stepped down as our Co-Directors of Christian Education. At that time the Christian Education Committee made the decision to take some time and just look at how our program is structured. We made some small changes to how we could structure Sunday School to allow the teachers to have the opportunity to remain in worship (at least once per month) while allowing more members of the congregation the opportunity to be involved in the Sunday School Program. The results have been a "win, win" for everyone. Thank you to everyone for embracing the changes. Lastly the committee asked Louise Labbe-Fahy to take the position as Interim Director of Christian Education, while we search for a permanent Christian Education Director for our congregation.

Respectfully submitted,
Louise Labbe-Fahy, Interim Director

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRIES

As the Director of Youth Group, an important part of my position at our church is helping our high school students know that they are always welcome no matter what is going on in their lives. I try to let them know that they are cared for and loved just for who they are. The students have many demands on them at school, home, and work. I am hoping at our church they can just be themselves and experience God's love.

As I think about youth group in 2019, I wonder about how to reach out to high school students in our church community. The students seem to be busier and busier with more demands. With the increasing popularity in social

media and technology, how do we as a church, keep the youth engaged with worship, church activities and community service? How do we keep the personal connections strong? How do we as a church, help them experience God's love and forgiveness?

In 2018, the youth ministry team offered our high school students opportunities to volunteer at church and in the community. The youth group helped with coffee hour one Sunday, served and cleaned up at the Ham and Bean Supper, staffed the cold drink booth at the 4th of July Jamboree, and helped on Jeans Sunday. Working side by side with members of the church gives the students a chance to get to know some of the adults in our congregation.

The Youth Internship Program is offered to all high school students. I work with students who would like to volunteer at our church for 15-20 hours. After completing a questionnaire, we talk about what areas of interest they have. After pinpointing their interests, we design a project for them. Their parents are also helpful in planning an internship that will work with their family's schedule. This year **Corinne Child** started a youth internship. She planned for, shopped for and cooked meals for people in our church who could use a warm meal and a visit. The youth group also met on a Saturday to help her cook meals for 6 households. The meals are a wonderful way for Corinne to reach out to people. The time she spent visiting with the recipients was truly the most important part of her youth internship. I would like to congratulate Corinne on a wonderful internship.

One of the highlights of the year was our trip to Boston for City Reach on May 11-12th. It was a joint trip with the Hampton Congregational Church. Eight youth and five adults travelled to Boston with cars overflowing with donations of food and clothing for City Reach. On Friday night, we heard first hand stories about how the individuals became homeless and how they survived on the streets of Boston. We also went on a walking tour of the city. While walking in Boston, we heard more stories of survival, but also heard how they helped each other. The next day we gave away clothing and served lunches to the guests of City Reach. One of the hardest parts of the weekend was saying no to people who wanted more clothes than they were permitted to take. This was a challenging lesson for all of us. Luckily, the City Reach staff was available to help us when it was hard to say no. I want to thank **Christine Armstrong** and **Daniel Solomon** for being chaperones for the weekend. Trips like this one are only possible with the support of caring adults like Christine and Daniel.

This November, the youth group went out on a soggy day to rake leaves for several members of our church. We raked leaves at three households one afternoon for several hours. I know the work the youth put in was appreciated by the homeowners. I want to thank **Tom Converse** for helping with this project.

I would like to thank the youth ministry team who help plan and chaperone our youth group events. **Christine Armstrong, Jaime Boisvert, Kristen Child, Jen Dutson, and Taryn Tomkins** have offered their support, ideas, and volunteered all year. Without their help, our church could not offer as many amazing opportunities to our youth. I would also like to thank **Pastor Sue** and our congregation for continued support of our youth ministry.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Sorensen, Director of Youth Group

Church Historian Report – 2018

This year with the restoration on the columns now complete, our little church on the green has been much admired. The new ramp and entrance continue to be most helpful.

January with Communion then Epiphany and our new star gifts started off the year. The Annual Ham & Bean Supper was held with the Annual Meeting following it the next day. Our Youth were busy with Breakfast Club and Community Service Project. We celebrated the baptism of Benjamin Edward Hermonot, son of Erica and Jon. We celebrated Kenny Marvin's 90th birthday. Our men gather for a monthly breakfast with fellowship before church.

We opened February with Communion and later celebrated Jazz Sunday. Our men continued to enjoy their monthly fellowship and breakfast. The Youth group was busy with the Breakfast Club, a Baked Potato Bar and helping during our worship services. Missions had a successful coat drive. We shared Ash Wednesday Service with the Church of the Good Shepherd and the Hill Church. Our bell ringers continued to share their talents with us during morning services. Logan Thomas Billings was born to Greg and Angela Billings. Our Lenten gatherings this year were a time for

reflection and spiritual disciplines.

March opened with the celebration of Communion. The next week we had the blessing of our prayer shawls. There was a book discussion on [A Wrinkle in Time](#) followed by a group going to see the movie. The bell choir was active as we prepared for the coming of Easter. Our men's choir was a delight for Palm Sunday with the singing of The Palms. We celebrated Maundy Thursday with the help of our youth and Good Friday service at the Hill Church. The ladies had their annual retreat at Camp Wightman. The Youth were busy with Breakfast Club and community service project. Our kitchen got a long-needed update to the cabinetry with a coat of stain, thanks to Richard Forrester – looks great! A new project by Missions of a Weekend Food Support had us collecting Grape Jelly which goes to a central location for distribution along with what other churches have collected. A program on Early New England Religious Structures was presented following church as part of the Columns Restoration Project.

April opened with the Celebration of Easter with its bright Tulips, Lilies and Hyacinths that decorated the Sanctuary it was cold but a feeling that Spring was coming. The annual clothing sale was a huge success with clothing piled high on tables throughout the Fellowship Hall. Our youth helped Corrine Child with the prepping of food, and had Breakfast Club. We received the following new members into our congregation, Pete & Cindy Cavagnaro, Jeff & Wendy Chambers, Anne Dilko, Linda Felt, Deborah Hervieux, Andy & Lynn Heschles, and Debbie Vuillemot. Welcome all! Elam Jackson was born to Jeremy & Carla Lessig Jackson on the 28th.

In May as we celebrated Communion, we welcomed the 4th & 5th graders who shared what they have learned about communion. The following week we celebrated Covenant to Care. Music Appreciation Sunday found the bells ringing. We had service for Memorial Day to remember those who have or are serving our country. An afternoon Tea was enjoyed at Pastor Sue's home for Jasmin Floyd. Youth Group was busy with Breakfast Club, and the Outreach to Boston. Society worked on funding a Scout project by Kaleb Morin for a garden at the front of the church.

June opened with the celebration of Communion. The following Sunday was Children's Day with the service led by the children, then Father's Day with the bell choir ringing. We are proud of our Graduates from 8th Grade, High School, and College and other degrees. Stacy Neely & Pete Vogt were married June 23rd. We celebrated the life of Jack Relahan. As part of his Youth Internship Aidan Boisvert helped spread the mulch that was donated for the play yard.

Summer Union Services at 9 AM started in July with Pastor Sue up at the Hill and then in August Pastor Jocelyn came to East for services. The Annual Jamboree on the 4th was most interesting as the day was extremely hot. Of interest, were the sermons sharing "Wisdom from Children's Literature". Each week a book was related to the Scriptures. We would become the owners of 21 new 8 ft. tables thanks to the LBS. Two Tuesdays at Twilight were held at Roseland Park, of course you brought your own chair and a supply of bug spray! It really was a delightful service with Celtic Traditions and music by Ben Gould. July welcomed the birth of Mila Jane daughter of Ryan & Melissa Johnston. We celebrated the lives of Esther Foskett and Jotham Reynolds.

Back in September, we celebrated Communion with Pastor Jocelyn. The following Sunday being Rally Day, everyone got back to the activities of the church. The Youth gathered for fellowship and had Breakfast Club. Missions did a collection of backpacks. Community Kitchen continues as our members do one meal a month. Wrenna Patricia Shemansky, daughter of William & Venessa was baptized. Two marriages occurred, Michele Integlia & Myles Connolly September 1st and Kerri Thibault & John Deorsey September 22.

October found the church celebrating World Communion Sunday. Youth Group had their Breakfast Club, did the Crop Walk at Fort Hill Farms in Thompson, and Community Service help. Our church continues our hunt for a Sexton! Men's Fellowship worked on good food and fellowship. Caring Continues Project again started collecting Grape Jelly. Missions again collected coats for Covenant to Care. Owen Andrew Plona, son of Adam & Ashley was baptized the 14th. We celebrated the life of Doris Durst.

In November we had celebration of Communion. The following Sunday was Jeans Sunday to do cleaning inside and the leaf cleanup outside, also Stewardship Sunday. Thanksgiving Sunday was November 18. The Ladies Annual Holly Fair was a great success with luncheon served, candies, sweets, silent auction, jewelry and so much more. Missions collected frozen turkeys and staples for Thanksgiving meals. Congratulations on the marriage of Alana Spalding & Christopher Workman on the 24th.

In December the celebration of Communion was the First Sunday in Advent. The first two Sundays were Blanket Sundays. The Christmas Pageant was held during morning service on the Third Sunday with the Youth helping with the post pageant party of drinks and cookies. This year a “Quiet Christmas” service was held for those who are grieving or find the holidays a challenge. The 4th Sunday we celebrated Christmas with the Sanctuary decorated with the Nativity, wreaths, window candles, and beautiful red, white, and multicolored Poinsettias. We came together on Monday for Christmas Eve family service at 5 PM and the 11 PM Candlelight Service with Communion which is always is very moving.

We have come to the end of another year and one can't help but stop and give thanks and thought with fond memories of those who each month have left us and taken the next step in their journey of life. Each will be missed in their own way, but the memories will create moments of laughter for each of us. Our sympathies go out to their families and we hope that in some small way we were able to be of help. Those in our thoughts are Jack Relahan, Esther Foskett, Doris Durst, Jotham Reynolds, R. Lansing Jones, Amber Lizotte, Dennis Pedersen, and Annette Young.

As we go forth into the New Year, best wishes, good health, and prosperity to all our church community of the Village on the Green.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ellen Blake, Historian

Memorial Committee Report

With love and appreciation, we acknowledge those members and friends listed in our Memorial Book in 2018:

Doris Durst

The family has been notified of your gifts and a note of appreciation sent to the donors.

Jamboree Report 2018

As the Chair of the Jamboree Committee, I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to everyone who helped make the 62nd Jamboree an extraordinary success! Thank you all for your tireless efforts from the months leading up to, from morning until night on Jamboree day, and for the days following. It was a very hot and humid day, but it felt great in the shade and it didn't rain! It was great to see friends, neighbors, and families making memories and enjoying our 4th of July tradition together! The food was amazing, the music was amazing, and the crowd enjoyed all of the activities that we offered. The parade had great participation, and Attic Treasures, books, games, and the hayride were busy all day! Due to the 4th being mid-week, and the blistering heat, many booths had a dip in sales, so our net profit was a little shy of our goal! Please congratulate Tammy LaCoille and Cindy Morse (coffee/donuts), Susan Converse (Ice Cream), and Lisa Gould (Jewelry) which had significant increases in net profit from the previous year. Additionally, we had some big expenses this year like the purchase of our own snow cone machine and 200 Jamboree t-shirts. Regardless, we still were able to raise over \$13,000 in one day for our amazing church! We are truly blessed to be surrounded by such a generous and dedicated church community.

We tried a couple of new things this year: a photo booth which didn't make a lot of profit but was super fun for those attending with great props and festive decorations. We brought back the Jamboree tee-shirts this year and sold almost \$700, which is nearly 60% sold the first year. If you weren't able to make the Jamboree and would like one, just see Christine Armstrong or Lynn Looby and they would be happy to get one for you. Youth sizes are \$10, and Adults are \$15. They are available in red and navy blue and have the Jamboree logo on the upper left-hand front side.

Finally, I'd like to give a special thank you to Pastor Sue, Heidi Tucker, DeEtta and Seth Spalding, the Jamboree committee, and the booth chairs who went above and beyond working diligently to make the day so incredibly fun. Please contact Lynn Looby or Christine Armstrong if you are interested in serving on the Jamboree committee, and helping our church continue this most honored and beloved tradition.

Christine Armstrong, Chair

East Woodstock Congregational Church
2018 JAMBOREE REPORT

	Wed 2018			<u>Best out</u> <u>Past 10yrs</u>	
	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>EXPENSE</u>	<u>NET Profit</u> <u>(Loss)</u>	<u>Inc/Dec</u> <u>over Prior</u> <u>Year</u>	<u>Highest Amt/Year</u>
Attic Treasurers	\$ 4,184.36	\$ -	\$ 4,184.36	-18%	\$5,0791/ 2017
Baked Goods	529.00	(13.73)	515.27	-24%	\$679/ 2017
Beverage Station	1,115.00	(122.00)	993.00	3%	\$1,139/ 2017
BBQ Pulled Pork	669.00	(315.21)	353.79	-51%	\$765.8/ 2016
Books	2,520.60	-	2,520.60	-9%	\$2,764.15/ 2017
Cake Walk	226.00	-	226.00	29%	\$336/ 2011
Coffee	300.00	(50.00)	250.00	86%	n/a
Chicken BBQ	4,976.00	(3,602.57)	1,373.43	-15%	\$2,227/ 2004
Games/Contests	507.00	(200.00)	307.00	-28%	\$1,005/ 2013
Hamburgs & Dogs	1,922.75	(569.43)	1,353.32	-25%	\$1,806/ 2017
Hayrides	232.00	-	232.00	-34%	\$272/ 2009
Ice Cream Social	580.00	(208.90)	371.10	83%	\$738/ 2011
Jewelry	1,191.64	-	1,191.64	55%	\$769.7/ 2016
Pie Eating/Sales	-	-	-		\$279/ 2016
Photo Booth	70.00	-	70.00		New This Year
Silent Auction	437.00	-	437.00	-13%	\$1008/ 2009
Strawberry Shortcake	1,597.00	(339.28)	1,257.72	-26%	\$2,106/ 2016
T-Shirts	685.00	(1,200.50)	(515.50)	0%	
Snow Cones	588.00	(415.83)	172.17	-63%	\$438/ 2011
Sub Total	\$ 22,330.35	\$ (7,037.45)	\$ 15,292.90	-17%	
Donations, Cash	200.00	-	200.00	100%	
Donations, Ads	1,580.00	(614.80)	965.20	84%	
General Expenditures					
Porta Potty	\$ -	\$ (800.00)	(800.00)	0%	
Paid Entertainers	-	(625.00)	(625.00)	0%	
Police Security	133.45	(1,383.38)	(1,249.93)	22%	
Rubbish Removal	-	(49.15)	(49.15)	-91%	
Tents	-	(375.00)	(375.00)	0%	
Volunteer Shirts	30.00	(360.50)	(330.50)	48%	
Expenditures - Prior Year	-	-	-		
	\$ 163.45	\$ (3,593.03)	\$ (3,429.58)	-4%	
Total	\$ 24,273.80	\$ (11,245.28)	\$ 13,028.52	-16%	
BUDGET			14,000.00		
SURPLUS/(SHORTAGE)			(971.48)		

EWCC Auditors' Report – Monday, 01/14/19

The records and financial reports of East Woodstock Congregational Church dated 01/01/2018 through 12/31/2018 were audited on Monday, January 14th, 2019. The audit was limited to testing the transactions and balances. This would not necessarily disclose all errors, but there was no indication of errors or omissions.

Thank you to DeEtta Spalding, EWCC Treasurer, who does an exceptional job maintaining the church's financial records and accounts. She volunteers countless hours and we greatly appreciate her. Also, thank you to John Davis for volunteering his time in making the necessary bank deposits.

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Reed, Audit Committee

Ladies Benevolent Society Annual Report for 2018

Looking back on 2018, the LBS ladies met for seven monthly meetings, and six meetings were held in Fellowship Hall. The March 21st meeting was canceled due to a Nor'easter. On April 25th fifteen ladies were present for John Lorusso, who is the Master Gardener Program Coordinator at the UCONN Windham Extension Office in Brooklyn and has been active with the Peoples' Harvest Garden in Pomfret. The produce from this garden is donated to kitchens that serve meals in the northeast. During his PowerPoint presentation he showed plants that are pollinators, told stories, and answered our garden questions. (In the past Compassion Camp teenagers have helped in the garden.)

On May 1st Lorene Matsen had a DVD and shared her experiences about the Blue Ridge Parkway, the Biltmore Estate and the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia with sixteen ladies present. We contributed \$100 to Kaleb Morin's Eagle Scout garden to be constructed in front of the church as part of the column restoration project.

Twenty ladies gathered for a luncheon and meeting at Our Father's Table located in North Grosvenordale. Kerstin Forrester was elected President, Lynda Higgins Vice President, Marian Hallowell Secretary, Deborah Sherman Treasurer, and Nancy Gale Chair of Programs.

It was a sad day on August 1st when President Emeritus of thirty years Esther Foskett passed away at the age of 99. She was a great gardener, baker and a loyal church member, and she is missed. On September 19th eighteen ladies were present for the potluck luncheon to celebrate Esther's 100th birthday posthumously with her famous white cake baked by Deb Sherman. Esther lived her life well.

Charla Beattie, Director of the Memory Cafe of Day Kimball Hospital in Putnam, came on October 17th with twenty-one ladies in attendance. She gave us background information about the social program to provide interaction for registered clients to make a difference.

Donna Baldyga and Pat Ziemba were Co-Chairs for the November 3rd Holly Fair. Thank you, Donna and Pat, for your time to plan and organize a successful fundraiser with proceeds of \$6,201.80! Thanks to the many volunteers who made it possible. We appreciate your efforts, support and generosity.

On November 14th Sarah Jo Burke entertained us with stories about the Burke Family Singers from her audio book "Don't Think It Hasn't Been Fun" with Karen Ryker assisting with the PowerPoint presentation. We enjoyed learning about the Burke Family's travels, music recordings, appearances on TV, good humor and great memories of twelve years. A motion was approved to pay for the repair of one floor in one of the bathrooms.

Our annual Christmas Party at Nancy Young's home was held on December 19th with sixteen ladies. Each attendee brought gift cards for a supermarket or gas station given to Pastor Sue to help people in need in our community. We celebrated with fun games, music, and delicious food. A motion was approved to give \$2,000 to the church general fund. Please join us for fellowship and to hear about our interesting speakers for 2019. All are welcome.

Marian Hallowell, LBS Secretary

LBS 2018 Annual Report of Receipts and Expenditures

RECEIPTS:

Holly Fair net profit	\$ 6,203.80
Total Receipts	\$ 6,203.80

EXPENDITURES:

Church Garden, Kaleb Morin	100.00
Jasmin Floyd Trust.	100.00
Muddy Brook FD/memory of Esther Foskett	50.00
EWCC, replacement of lavatory floor	850.00
Flowers in sanctuary/memory of Esther Foskett.	53.17
EWCC General Fund	<u>2,000.00</u>
Total Expenditures	\$ 3,153.17

The LBS has pledged to pay for new chairs for Fellowship Hall.

ALTAR GUILD ANNUAL REPORT – 2018

This is a wonderful way to serve your church with a small amount of time. Members pair up to serve a couple of months during the year and at other times when help is needed after service or special events. We are responsible for the setup and the cleanup of communion, the care of the candles used on the altar, changing of the paraments (altar and lectern cloths) for different seasons, Special Services, ordering of the flowers for the Easter and Christmas seasons, seeing that flowers are in place for the Sunday Service, and the placement of the candelabras as needed.

We oversee the Flower Calendar which is on our wall section in Fellowship Hall for individuals who wish to place flowers in the Sanctuary on the altar for Sunday Service. These flowers may be in memory of, or in honor of, a loved one or a group of individuals.

Thank you to everyone for your dedication to a job well done.

Members:

Mary Ellen Blake	Marian Hallowell	Brenda Tremblay
Donna Baldyga	Mary Place	Karen Tourtellotte
Laurie Edwards	Judy Schumacher	Patricia Ziemba

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ellen Blake

Hospitality Committee Report 2018

The Hospitality Committee had a relatively quiet year. The Committee provides assistance for funeral receptions or other services. The committee members assist with the making of sandwiches, cookies or other refreshments and set up and serve during the reception.

Each church committee is signed up to provide coffee and goodies for coffee hour after church. It's not a difficult task, but many people enjoy the time of fellowship following worship. Anyone is welcome to sign up for a Sunday on the signup sheet by the side door. If you've never done it before, ask someone on the committee whose names are listed on the sheet to explain the procedure to you and they will suggest someone to do it with you.

As always we try to maintain a clean and well-stocked kitchen for everyone's use. We have a wonderful group of women who are dedicated to making others feel comfortable and welcome in our church.

Nancy Young, co-chair Hospitality

EWCC Column Restoration Committee - Annual Report

Column Project Completed – November 2018

Beginning on January 26, 2014, when our Annual meeting approved pursuing a Historic Preservation Technical Assistance Grant from the CT Trust for the study of the degradation of our four columns, our congregation continued to demonstrate its resolve to preserve our 1830s meeting house to the highest historic standards.

The need for this effort began when we discovered the damage to our four staved columns while completing our Capital Improvement Campaign in 2012. The campaign included: returning all windows to the original 6 over 6 wood windows, replacing 26 badly compromised 20th-century two over two windows; repair and replacement of all damaged wood siding and frieze boards; complete painting of all structures; and construction of an ADA compliant ramp without impacting the historic integrity of the 1830's meeting house/sanctuary or the 1790's brick school house.

After the Technical Assistance grant funded study and documentation of the column disrepair, extensive research by Myron Stachiw, our Historic and Architectural Research Consultant (and neighbor), was completed providing insights into the process of transformation of form and design from the 18th-century meeting house to the 19th-century church - specifically an analysis of our church building and its columns. This research was critical in informing us into the historically correct construction of the column staved bases. Myron's paper, *From Meeting House to Church: The*

Evolution of Early New England Religious Structures, was presented to the church and the community on March 11, 2018. Our church is indeed fortunate to have Mr. Stachiw as a friend and neighbor, this project would not have been possible without his generous contributions.

Our church then applied and received a CT SHPO Historic Restoration Fund Grant, and the church approved a campaign to raise the matching amount of \$45,000, this was accomplished with the generous support of the church membership. In early 2018 we began the repair and rebuilding of the four monumental staved Tuscan columns that are the central feature to our meeting house/sanctuary. Qualified historic restoration carpenters repaired the deteriorated central column post bottoms, produced and sistered in new radial supports in each column, produced and fastened new staves where necessary and reattached old staves when possible, installed ventilation, realigned the columns vertically to their original positions, and restored the original form and configuration of the columns, with the staves extending down to the stone plinths without intervening bases. This grant allowed EWCC to contract with highly skilled craftsmen who completed an excellent and remarkable repair and restoration.

Glen Lessig and Dawn C. Adiletta
Co-Chairs Column Repair Sub-Committee/Society

COLLECTOR’S REPORT- 2018

Sunday Morning Collections

Pledges	\$140,795.00
Non-pledged donations	11,209.00
Unidentified loose cash donations	7,373.15
Prepaid 2019	<u>6,650.00</u>
<u>TOTAL</u>	\$166,027.15

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy M. Gale, Collector

Annual Report of the Clerk – 2018

Number of Members who joined during 2018: 8

By letter of transfer: 0 By Confirmation: 0 By Confession of Faith: 8

New Members: Cindy & Pete Cavagnaro, Jeff & Wendy Chambers, Anne Dilko, Linda Felt, Deb Hervieux, and Debbie Vuillemot

Number of Members lost during 2018: 2

By letter of transfer: 0 By Death: 2 Other: (moved out of area)

Funerals

Memorials: Doris Durst, R. Lansing Jones, Amber Lizotte, Dennis Pedersen, Jack Relahan, Jotham Reynolds, Annette Young

Baptisms

Infant Baptisms: Athena Ophelia Rain Mondino, Owen Andrew Plona, Wrenna Patricia Shemansky, Brinley Grace Waufle, Jaxson Thomas Waufle

Weddings: Stacy Neely & Peter Vogt, Michele Integlia & Myles Connolly
Kerri Thibault & John Deorsey, Alana Spalding & Christopher Workman

Society Committee Annual Report- 2018

The Society Committee continued to oversee the Church's finances and the physical plant. The following is a partial list of the committee's 2018 activities:

- Review the Church's income and expenses, finances and personnel concerns on a monthly basis.
- Review of various long-term church investments and analysis of investment strategies.
- Preparation of the 2019 Church Budget for approval at the Annual Meeting.
- Coordinating and performing various repairs to the Parsonage grounds and facility.
- Coordination of renting the Parsonage and working with the tenants as landlords.
- Coordinated the maintenance and repairs of all the church furnaces, replacement of thermostats, replacement of all Fire Extinguishers, Repairs made throughout the year for issues that need repairing including floors, plumbing, lights, leaking ceilings, repairing computer and phone issues, maintaining microphones.
- **Judith Wong** coordinated Jean's Sunday - where we were able to clean most areas of the Church and complete the pickup of the leaves. Thanks to **DeEtta and Seth Spalding** for the use of the equipment needed that saves many hours of work!
- Manage and maintain employees along with their contracts and their concerns.
- We organize an annual Ham and Bean Supper every January to help with our church budget. Thanks to **Glen Lessig** and **Dawn Adiletta** organizing the repair and restoration of the Historical Columns in front of the church. Thanks to **Glen** again for analyzing and ordering the new Fellowship Hall tables and to **Valerie Law** for all the preparation on managing our Janitorial supplies.

The work of the Society Committee is enhanced by the efforts of many church members, volunteers and committee members. A special thank you to the following individuals that help make our church a better place:

- **DeEtta Spalding** has done an incredible job as the Church Treasurer again in 2018 as she has for the last 15 years. DeEtta has worked tirelessly managing our accounting systems and handling all the income and expenses. The Treasurer is an extremely important and time-consuming volunteer position at the church. We are indeed fortunate to have a professional with DeEtta's knowledge and professionalism donating her skills to us. Society is so grateful for her organization throughout the budget process. And throughout the year!
- **Glen Lessig** for all his help, guidance and responsibilities that get thrown his way because he lives next door to the church. (Too many to list here) Also, for volunteering to mow the grass of the church grounds throughout the summer at no cost to the church and the shoveling during the winter.
- **Christine Lessig** for those tireless hours working on the grounds to make them beautiful.
- **Heidi Tucker** for her exceptional office management and her helpfulness with maintenance needs, scheduling and coordinating. And other Society duties that might arise.
- **Mark Billings and Dennis Kelly** for their continued snowplow service to the Church and **Mark** for all the other miscellaneous jobs that he is asked to perform throughout the year.
- **Seth Spalding** for always being available when needed to help Society with many tasks, jobs and maintenance. He is always willing to volunteer time, equipment, knowledge and expertise as needed. **Seth and DeEtta** for their unending hours of working on cleaning the leaves in preparation for Jean's Sunday.
- **Pastor Sue** for always keeping us informed and updated with issues that affect the Church finances, expenses, physical plant, procedures and any other item that allows Society to be effective and timely in addressing these concerns and issues as they arise.
- **Jeff Wong** for all his expertise with our telecommunications and internet.
- To all those volunteers that put their time and efforts with all the church's fundraisers. The chair people who organized and led these fundraisers- Jamboree-**Angela Young, Lynn Looby** and **Christine Armstrong** as chairperson, the Holly Fair – **Donna Baldyga** and **Pat Ziemba**, the Art Show Fundraiser- **Karen McFarlin**, Clothing Sale- **Dorrie Scranton**, there cannot be enough said for all your hard work and time!
- Thank you to all those that I mistakenly left off this list! Thank you all so much!

Respectfully submitted;

Rick Place, Chairperson, DeEtta Spalding-Treasurer, Dawn Adiletta, Judith Wong, Valerie Law, Kerstin Forrester, Asa Scranton, Allan Walker, Calvin Neely, Glen Lessig.

